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ISSN 0856 - 5434 ISSUE No. 8609 • PRICE: Tsh 1,000, Kenya sh100

TANZANIA

SATURDAY 13 AUGUST, 2022

BUSINESS



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EDUCATION



YOUTH ENCOURAGED TO INCULCATE CULTURE OF WRITING NOVELS PAGE 4

DEVELOPMENT



SADC TO MANUFACTURE MEDICAL, PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS PAGE 5



BUSINESS

Oil racks up for biggest weekly gain since April

Oil prices rose sharply on Friday, ending a week of volatility. The benchmark Brent crude oil price rose 1.2 percent to \$94.45 a barrel. It was the biggest weekly gain since April.



TBL Group records 260bn/- revenue in second quarter

TBL Group has recorded a revenue of 260 billion shillings in the second quarter of 2022, up from 240 billion in the first quarter.

Global gold price set for fourth weekly increase

Global gold prices are set for a fourth weekly increase as investors continue to hedge against inflation.

'Rich Kenyans saved Sh2.1bn in dollars daily before polls'

Rich Kenyans saved Sh2.1 billion in dollars daily before the polls, according to a report. This is due to the high value of the Kenyan shilling.

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Protect Ruaha River sources, urges Samia

By Henry Mwangonde

President Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday tasked authorities in the Southern Highlands zone to set up strategies to conserve water sources

environment endangered by farming activities.

Addressing a rally at the Samora Stadium, the president expressed worries over increased unmonitored farming activities along the Ruaha River that threaten

streams building up the river, noting that it constitutes 15 percent of the water relied upon for power generation at the Julius Nyerere hydropower plant, now under construction.

The river is also a major source of water

for residents of the city of Dar es Salaam and several regions, thus failure to conserve it would jeopardize the wellbeing of millions of people, she stated.

She praised Iringa region for being at the forefront in environmental conserva-

tion, despite that there are elements of environmental degradation in the region. Iringa is among the leading regions in

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VP asks mining companies to check vast dust pollution

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango (pictured) has called on mining sector stakeholders to ensure environment protection as frequently mining puts people's health at risk. He made these remarks when visiting Kibong'oto hospital in Kilimanjaro region, where was told that 25 youths working in the mines report at the hospital on a daily basis suffering from silicosis, a disease arising from silica dust pollution mostly in the mining areas.

Mining firms need to control polluting the environment especially through dust, by coming up with im-

mediate measures to control dust, to stem the silicosis disease which afflicts youths of 20 to 40 years of age. Dr Mpango directed that a team be formed involving ministries of health, labour, youth and employment as well as minerals to ensure occupational safety and health requirements are observed in mining areas. Mining firms need to provide for the protection of persons at work against hazards to

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Tabia Maulid Mwita, Zanzibar's Information, Youth, Culture and Sports minister, presents to Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi yesterday a specially framed photo of himself. A gift from Zanzibar youth, it was handed over shortly after Dr Mwinyi addressed the climax of International Youth Day celebrations. Looking on is Zanzibar First Lady Mariam Mwinyi. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Conjoined twins surgical feat lapses as other twin also dies

By Henry Mwangonde

NINE months old twin Rehema, who survived the conjoined twin separation surgery at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) has passed away, the hospital confirmed yesterday.

Rehema died several weeks af-

ter the separation, while the other twin, Neema, passed away ten days later on July 10 while in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

MNH spokesman Aminiel Eli-gaisha told this paper that Rehema died yesterday at around 11am, having stayed at the

hospital since being admitted for the surgery.

They were separated on July 1 at MNH in a surgery conducted by 31 medical experts from Tanzania and Ireland.

The procedure to separate them included the separation of critical

internal organs such as the liver, heart sack, arteries and some chest bones which the twins shared.

MNH pediatric surgeon Dr Zaitun Bokhary said after the surgery that the team took time to separate the liver, apart from other shared

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CCM Vice Chairman (Mainland) Abdulrahman Kinana (C) and Chief Sheikh Alhaj Dr Abubakar Zubeir bin Ally (L) exchange ideas with Dr Sidi Mohamed Rifki, Secretary General of the Mohammed VI Foundation of African Oulema, in Dar es Salaam yesterday. It was shortly after the opening of a major Holy Quran reading, memorising and reciting competition organised by the foundation at the National Muslim Council of Tanzania (Bakwata) headquarters. Photo courtesy of Issa Michuzi



Media centres now abandon live streaming of results flow

Kenyatta aides raise suspicions, candidates Odinga, Ruto silent

NAIROBI

NERVES were jolted among election observers and sections of the public late on Friday as live streaming of results stopped in key media houses, and disappointed stakeholders started to cry foul.

Ending the live streaming of results raised issues of 'what is lurking behind,' such that - without providing any proof - the secretary-general of the party to which outgoing President Uhuru Kenyatta belongs, made allegations of rigging. He intimated that there was election rigging, fuelling public anxiety on Friday as media outlets significantly slowed down their unofficial tallies from Tuesday's tight vote.

Only the electoral commission is authorised to declare a winner, but the tallies done by media were seen as a bulwark against the kind of rigging allegations that have previously sparked violence.

While Kenya is East Africa's richest country and with a stable democracy it also has a history of violent election disputes. More than 1,200 people were killed after the 2007 elections and more than 100 after the 2017 elections.

The race to succeed President Uhuru Kenyatta, stepping down after serving two five-year terms, pits former prime minister and veteran opposition leader Raila Odinga and deputy president William Ruto.

Kenyatta reached a pact with the opposition in 2018 to reunify the country, which Ruto rejected, and subsequently Kenyatta endorsed the Odinga candidacy.

Media tallies, which had nearly stopped by Friday morning, showed Odinga and Ruto neck and neck, just under the 50per

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WASHINGTON

US move to negotiate drug prices a rare defeat for Big Pharma

BIG Pharma spent more than any other industry to lobby Congress and federal agencies this year, a Reuters analysis shows, but is still on course for a major defeat by failing to stop a bill that allows the government to negotiate prices on select drugs.

Despite the pharmaceutical industry spending at least \$142 million on lobbying efforts, the \$430 billion Inflation Reduction Act to change climate, health, and tax policies cleared its largest hurdle last week when Democratic lawmakers passed it in the Senate.

The U.S. House of Representatives is also expected to pass it on Friday, allowing President Joe Biden to sign it into law.

Its enactment would represent a rare legislative defeat for the pharmaceutical industry and set a new precedent for curbing drug prices in the world's most lucrative market for medicines, according to congressional and industry officials.

"This is a major first step forward," Democratic Senator Patty Murray, chair of the Senate's health committee, told Reuters. "It is the first time we've been able to make this kind of step to lower prices on pharmaceuticals ... which will set the stage for us to do more." Health policy experts say the bill reflects the pharma industry's weakening influence on the Democratic Party and that its main argument against price negotiation - that it stifles innovation - is no longer persuasive for the public.

A Kaiser Family Foundation poll in October found that 83% of Americans, including 95% of Democrats and 71% of Republicans, want the federal Medicare health plan for seniors to negotiate prices.

"The pharma guys upped the ante in throwing everything but the kitchen sink against this," said Senator Ron Wyden, a Democrat who chairs the finance committee.

The industry's powerful trade association, Pharmaceutical Research and



Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), urged senators in a public letter to reject the bill. Its president, Stephen Ubl, told Politico that lawmakers who vote for it would not "get a free pass."

"Few associations have all the tools of modern political advocacy at their disposal in the way that PhRMA does," he said.

A PhRMA spokesperson said that the group would continue to work with all lawmakers. He did not address Ubl's comments about holding lawmakers

accountable.

"We may not agree on every issue, but we believe engagement and dialogue is important to promoting a policy environment that supports innovation, a highly-skilled workforce and access to life-saving medicines for patients," said spokesperson Brian Newell in an email.

PHARMA'S PLAN A Reuters analysis of lobbying and campaign contribution data from OpenSecrets shows that the pharmaceutical industry has spent at least \$142.6 million on lobbying Con-

gress and federal agencies in the first half of 2022, more than any industry, and at least \$16.1 million on campaign contributions during the current mid-term election cycle that started in January 2021.

Almost two thirds of the money spent on lobbying, around \$93 million, came from PhRMA and its member companies.

The pharma campaign argued that prescription drugs do not contribute to inflation, citing an average 2.5% rise

in drug prices in the past year compared to a 17% rise in health insurance prices.

Critics say the figures combine high-priced brand name drugs with much lower-cost generics, masking the impact on patients' costs. A KFF study estimated that prices increased faster than inflation for half of all drugs covered by Medicare in 2020.

The industry has long warned that price curbs in the U.S. market would hamper its ability to invest in develop-

ing new drugs.

With help from Democrats backed by the industry, the bill's provision for drug price negotiations was scaled back in November, allowing Medicare to focus on an annual maximum of 20 of the costliest medicines by 2029, instead of an initial proposal to help reduce prices for 250 treatments.

Opponents to the more dramatic curbs included Senator Kirsten Sinema and Representative Scott Peters, two of the biggest recipients of industry donations, at more than \$201,000 and \$320,000 respectively, according to OpenSecrets data.

"We created a good space for investors to be able to recoup their investment which continuously has set out to develop new drugs," Peters told Reuters.

"I still think they came out okay on this."

WHAT NOW?

Democratic staffers, industry executives and policy experts said that the bill's broad popularity, combined with pressure on Democrats to pass meaningful legislation ahead of midterm elections in November, helped overcome the pharma industry campaigning.

"With this vote I would imagine Pharma realizes they do not have a lot of friends left among Democrats," said Larry Levitt, vice president for health policy at KFF. "Pharma sees this as the camel's nose under the tent, and it probably is."

The industry will likely try to mitigate the effects of the bill as much as possible, policy experts said.

"They will prosecute this through the courts. And they will, I suspect, try and alter the legislation," said Mark Miller, a former government health policy official who is now executive vice president of healthcare at Arnold Ventures.

The extent to which the bill might stoke fear for investors remains to be seen, given many of them view pharmaceutical stocks as among the safer bets during an economic downturn.

"Sentiment is at a multi-year high for the US Pharma and we do not view the IRA drug reform as significantly changing investor positioning," a note from JPMorgan analysts said.

US monetary policy changes have knock-on impacts on euro zone

ROME

THE United States' monetary policy adjustments by the Federal Reserve are having huge and largely negative impacts on the 19-nation euro currency zone, especially high-debt countries like Italy, a leading economist has said.

Marcello Messori, director of the School of European Political Economy at Rome's LUISS University, said that in Italy and in the wider euro zone, the short-term gains represented by a relatively weak euro currency, such as making euro-priced Italian exports cheaper and attracting more tourism from outside the euro-zone, would not be enough to counterbalance the currency's weakness.

"It is difficult to conceive that the long-term prospects of an important economic area such as the euro area can be based on growth led by exports," Messori said in an interview with

Xinhua.

The U.S. Federal Reserve hiked interest rates by 75 basis points in both June and July as part of its broad efforts to increase borrowing costs and slow down inflation. The move in June was the largest single rate hike in the U.S. since 1994, and after the July increase the U.S. benchmark interest rate is at its highest level since December 2018.

The European Central Bank has followed suit, raising its own benchmark interest rate by 50 basis points in July, which was the first rate hike for the euro zone in 11 years.

Both the U.S. Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank said further rate hikes are likely.

One result of the moves is that the dollar has strengthened against the euro, briefly surpassing the value of the euro several times in mid-July and since then trading broadly in step with the euro.

According to Messori, the moves by the U.S. Federal Re-



serve may have helped force the hand of the European Central Bank.

"The European Central Bank had to strengthen its restrictive monetary policy to avoid lagging behind in terms of interest rate structure because of the restrictive monetary policy of

the Federal Reserve," Messori said.

He said another motive behind the European Central Bank's move was to provide support for the euro, without which the currency could have lost even more ground to the dollar.

Messori said the inflation-related challenges the European Central Bank is facing are greater than those in the U.S. because European countries are more dependent on energy imports and international supply chains which are now disrupted by the ongoing Ukraine

crisis, which has sparked an increase in energy prices and limited food supplies.

"Handling supply bottlenecks is harder to confront with monetary policy than rising prices created by higher demand," the professor said.

While Italy -- the European

Union's second largest exporter after Germany and a major global tourism destination -- will see some short-term gains from a weaker euro, Messori said long-term problems for the country stemming from the European Central Bank's monetary policy could be difficult because of the country's high deficits. A weaker currency makes servicing debts and selling new debts more expensive.

Italy has one of the highest levels of public debts in the world when measured as a percentage of the country's gross domestic product.

"Countries with high public debts don't have a significant fiscal capacity to help handle a possible recessionary phase or to handle a possible stagflation," Messori said.

"In the case of Italy, it seems to me that the possible impact from changes in European Monetary Policy and the impact of changes in U.S. monetary policy is particularly significant." **Xinhua**

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAYYO 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

Repair works on TAZARA railway line almost complete

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

REPAIR works on the damaged Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) Railway line across Chambeshi River in Muchinga Province, are nearing completion.

The government engaged a Chinese company, Jiangsu Gold Civil Construction to carry out the repair works at a cost of 1.6 million United States dollars.

Muchinga Province Assistant Secretary, Chivele Kondomone who inspected the repair works today has confirmed that government wants the repair works completed as soon as possible.

Kondomone said suspension of train movements has greatly affected the movement of goods and services to and from the port of Dar-salaam in Tanzania.

Accompanied by Kanchibiya district commissioner Chrispin Chilekwa, the Assistant Secretary said asked the contractor to ensure that works are completed within August as scheduled.

"Government want to see this project completed as soon as possible so as to allow the resumption of both goods and passenger trains which were suspended last year," said Mr. Kondomone.

TAZARA Clerk of Works Sternly Shimishi said progress has been made on the project adding that from the time steel members fabricated in South Africa arrived on site, much progress has been made on the project.

Project Consultant Caron Kasumba said repairs works are expected to be completed on August 30 this month.

Kasumba said works are progressing well with all engineering details required being taken seriously stressing that the contractor is determined to deliver a quality product at the end of this month.

"Since the arrival of the steel members which were fabricated in South Africa, great progress has been made and the project is nearing completion," said Eng. Kasumba.

The TAZARA bridge across Chambeshi river in Kanchibiya was damaged in May last year after a goods train hit into the steel members. The development resulted into the suspension of movements of both goods and passenger trains.

Repair works on the damaged TAZARA bridge commenced in May this year and were initially expected to be completed in July last month.



Stakeholders call for review of laws, policies to increase women participation in elections

By Getrude Mbagu

WOMEN rights campaigners have underscored the need for the government to review current policies, laws and guidelines governing the country's both general and local government elections as well political parties so as to increase women participation in various leadership positions.

Reports show that although women representation in various sectors was increasing, the pace is still very slow, something which needs more efforts to support their participation.

Ana Kulaya, national coordinator at the Women in Law and Development Africa (WILDAF) said improving the laws and policies will create a more attractive environment for women to vie in positions and participate

in decision making.

"Women representation in various sectors is still low, we need more joint efforts to address the gap. Tanzania still needs more women in top leadership positions for the country to make progress in its various development initiatives," she said.

She noted that various studies have proved that having more women in top leadership positions speeds up the pace of development, so investing in them should be reemphasized.

She said women can do wonders if they are trusted in top positions and people should ignore perceptions that women can't handle complicated executive positions like men.

"Leadership is not gendered, so everyone has the right to be a leader as long as he/she meets

the criteria set, so we have to increase efforts to ensure that we bring more women in leadership positions," Kulaya said recently in an interview with this newspaper.

Kulaya said representation of women in local government offices was still very low.

"Women councilors are at 29 percent only, village leadership positions are also dominated by men, this needs to change," she said.

She said for over 20 years, WILDAF has been working closely with the government and various development stakeholders to improve the environment and increase women participation in various fields such as of the economy, political; and social.

She said WILDAF has reviewed and analyzed various policies,

laws and guidelines governing general and local government elections to identify advantages, limitations and opportunities in gender equality.

Kulaya said based on these analyses, the institution and other stakeholders have developed recommendations on how best to improve the safe structural and institutional environment that will stimulate women's participation in leadership and decision-making.

Dr Ave Maria Semakafu, country coordinator of the Tanzania Women Cross Party (TWCP) - Ulingo platform said many positions in political parties are taken by men with women having low representation.

She urged political parties to stop giving hard times to women who are interested in leader-

ship but rather support them to realize their goals.

Dr Semakafu noted that political parties are the major gatekeepers in determining which candidates have qualifications to vie for election. They play a critical role in enabling or blocking women's participation in decision-making processes, so they must ensure they increase the number of women in those positions.

"Top leaders in political parties have a big role to play to make sure that women are given opportunity without facing any kind of setbacks, because for a long time women have been complaining of being mistreated or given fewer chances to vie for leadership positions," she noted.

She encouraged women in the country to work hard, be

confident and not hesitate to vie for leadership positions in the forthcoming elections so as to bring out their personal best to serve the public.

Deus Kibamba, executive director and policy analyst at Tanzania Citizens' Information Bureau said the patriarchy system is mostly rooted in policy makers, budget planners and decision making positions.

He said the poor system of choosing and putting leaders in various positions has hampered many things both in political parties and country's in elections because it has created fear among women in vying for leadership positions especially during elections period at party, local government or national level.

Khadija Shabani (Keysha), Special Seats MP said despite

various challenges, women participation in the election and various leadership positions has increased compared to previous years.

She said many women have now woke up and recognized their value and capacity, something which should be commended and supported by all.

"As we now have a good number of women in leadership positions doing well, many women in the field are also waking up and putting efforts to achieve their dreams, they are working hard to bring positive changes in their families and communities," she added.

She however said more concerted efforts are still needed to further support women and prioritize them in various leadership positions for the country's development.

Climate change, urbanisation increase flooding in Africa

DOUALA, Cameroon

SEVERAL African countries have been suffering every year and especially since June this year from heavy rains followed by deadly and devastating floods that are caused by climate change and other urban realities, experts told Anadolu Agency.

Senegalese authorities reported the death of at least one person from floods on Friday. In Ivory Coast, at least 19 people died and several were injured in July due to the same phenomenon, which also killed around 20 people recently in Uganda.

"In 2020 in Niger, we had 88 deaths due to floods, while 77 people died in 2021, and this year, we already have 24 deaths for the same reasons," Katiellou Gaptia Lawan, the director of Niger's national meteorology office, told Anadolu Agency.

This situation causes losses of several million dollars annually in Niger, he noted, citing infrastructural damage and the destruction of farms and habitats.

Other African countries are experiencing similar challenges, which experts say are linked to climate change which increases rainfall intensity.

"Extreme rainfall is increasing, now affecting cities that were not previously affected by flooding," said Katiellou, illustrating the case of River Niger, where in 2019 and 2020 records of river flow were seen.

He said it is a reflection of global warming.

"It is undeniable that these heavy

rains followed by floods are linked to climate change," said Arnel Yobo, a Cameroonian environmentalist.

In Cameroon, floods also destroy transport infrastructure and habitats every year.

Yobo believes that beyond climatic hazards, overpopulation, lack of urban development, absence of adequate infrastructure, and poor waste management are also factors causing flooding.

He said several African cities limit themselves to creating an agglomeration of effects without real planning.

"Flooding in Africa is due to climatic variations inherent in the disturbance of atmospheric conditions. But it is mainly the result of a rural exodus that leads to the development of cities with housing systems that are not adapted to natural drainage systems," said Abdoulaye Faty, a hydrologist who teaches at Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar, Senegal.

There is also a combination of negative factors that stem from natural soil conditions, infrastructural deficits, rampant urbanization, and insufficient urban planning, observed Beaugrain Doumougue, a Togolese construction engineer and head of the Building for Tomorrow, an organization that campaigns for sustainable cities in Africa.

"For example, drainage systems are undersized and poorly used by people, who block them by throwing waste," he noted.

This urbanization is motivated by the poverty of people who, in search of a means of survival, exploit the forests



abusively by cutting down trees to sell wood, according to Katiellou.

"They destroy ecosystems by denuding watersheds, while the destroyed vegetation causes scouring that carries water and sand that will raise the level of rivers. By doing this, people are also increasingly creating a flood-prone environment," he said.

For Beaugrain Doumougue, people are not aware of the usefulness of green spaces

"The ability of these green spaces to retain water is not sufficiently taken into account, whereas they could al-

low for better infiltration of water and limit the runoff that occurs when soils are artificialized and flooding abounds," he said. Facing these various hazards, experts called for urgently creating sustainable cities.

This requires real political will, a general risk awareness in the era of climate change, and redevelopment of cities through the implementation of warning systems on meteorological risks under sustainable urban planning, according to Doumougue.

"This promotes better mapping of sensitive areas, active information, and

remediation processes, and thus helps to build resilience. At the very least, we should opt for multifunctional approaches to stormwater management, combining all forms of vegetated development which are generally more economical," he said.

Calling for awareness-raising among the population, Katiellou also recommended rethinking urban planning.

"Infrastructure must be contextualized to take into account climate change and the pressures of extreme events. Laws must be passed to prohibit housing in flood-prone areas. Vigilance and

warning systems must be put in place to warn people and prevent hazards from becoming disasters," he said.

For Arnel Yobo, too, there is a need to adopt sustainable cities and what they entail in controlling population growth.

The experts warned of the risk of greater climate damage if these various measures are not put in place.

"African populations must therefore be aware that recent disasters in Abidjan, Dakar, Niamey, and elsewhere are likely to become more frequent and common to most sub-Saharan countries," said Doumougue.

Tragic irony of hunger deaths in Karamoja, Uganda amidst plenty of Climate adaptation technologies

KAMPALA

HUNDREDS of people have died of famine in Uganda's Karamoja region, and local leaders say that some people are now eating grass to survive.

The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET) estimated that about 518,000 people from Karamoja's poorest families face critical food insecurity resulting from two seasons of crop failure.

Of the 518,000 people with high levels of food insecurity, 428,000 are experiencing phase three (crisis levels of food insecurity), and 90,000 are at phase four (emergency levels of food insecurity).

For the first time in three years, all the nine districts of Karamoja: Kaabong, Moroto, Kotido, Napak, Nabilatuk, Amudat, Karenga, Abim and Nakapiripit are at crisis level or worse according to IPC classification.

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) uses a scale of one to five to measure food insecurity. The situation in Karamoja has reached a crisis level close to catastrophe level.

Nakut Faith Loru, a Member of Parliament for Kabong district, told IPS that the number of those dying from starvation was rising despite efforts by the government to deliver some food relief.

"The hunger situation in Kaabong district is getting worse, especially for the elderly people. They are dying in large numbers due to starvation, with those



Failed crop in Southwestern Uganda. While there is a lot of focus on Karamoja, most parts of Uganda have been affected by erratic rains leading to crop failure. File photo

on the verge of dying avoiding sleep because they fear dying while asleep," she said

By the end of July, all the districts were facing acute malnutrition at critical levels.

Four-year-old Aleper is among the children under treatment for malnutrition at Kabong general hospital. He is

emaciated, a living symbol of the horrors of starvation again killing people daily in remote northeastern Uganda. Aleper's every rib is visible, his stomach is descended, and tinny folds of skin cover where his buttocks should be.

High food prices have left many families unable to afford nutritious foods - forcing them to find other ways to cope.

"The situation in Karamoja is an example of how a perfect storm of climate change, conflict, rising food costs, the impact of Covid-19 and limited resources is increasing the number of hungry people," said Abdurahman Meygag, WFP Uganda Representative.

Shocking images of the Karamojong children and the elderly starving to

death have exposed how ill-prepared the government has been in response to a situation that some experts say was very predictable.

The Speaker of Uganda's Parliament, Anita Among, is one of those that have expressed concern about the deplorable situation in the Karamoja region.

"We have seen so many starving people, malnourished children. The government needs to come out clearly on how to address this issue. In the short, medium, and long term," said Anita Among. The opposition leader in Parliament, Mathias Mpuuga agreed that providing relief aid was not sustainable. "We have a general drought and widespread crop failure in the country. Many people are already reaching out for food," said Mpuuga.

Farmers from regions other than Karamoja have complained of poor or no harvests. Kaleb Ejioninga from the West Nile region along the border between Uganda and DRC is among those whose crops have withered before harvest.

"We planted maize and sorghum. They all wilted. The government should come to our rescue. If possible, they should find us quick-maturing seed varieties. Because even when the rain comes, if we plant the same seed, they may not grow," Ejioninga appealed.

Another farmer, Joseph Indiya, told IPS that many farmers were surprised by the rate of crop failure.

"Actually, the soil here is very fertile. We have rivers around. Production has been so high, but this has surprised us this time. There used to be some rain in June and then rain throughout July. But now, there is not even a single drop of rain," said Indiya. The irony is that while most of Karamoja and other part is dry, catastrophic flooding in the Eastern Region's Mbale district killed 29 people and left hundreds homeless after heavy rain, which caused rivers to overflow.

Uganda's Minister for Agriculture, Frank Tumwebaze, said the situation in Karamoja and elsewhere in Uganda is not different from that in the Horn of Africa where countries like Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, and Sudan are faced with food insecurity due to failed rains across four rain seasons.

"The problem is known. Climate change is real. We are going to work with the ministry of finance to see how to make irrigation equipment more accessible. Farming must continue while aware that we cannot continue depending on chances of nature," Tumwebaze told journalists in Kampala.

UNICEF Representative to Uganda, Munir Safeldin, agrees that the crisis in Karamoja is not different from the situation in the Horn of Africa. He believes the situation could have been averted.

"We must not wait for thousands of children to die. We have said 'never again' too many times. We need long-term and predictable funding to help these children and their families," said Munir Safeldin.

Amidst the crisis of crop failure in Karamoja and other parts of Uganda, there is debate on whether it is caused by climate change or variability. A number of experts believe the situation was highly predicted. They argue farmers have not been helped to adapt or cope with resultant changes.

One of such scientists is Ugandan plant biologist Dr Ambrose Agona, the Director General of the National Agricultural Organisation (NARO).

"I would like to say that Uganda doesn't suffer much from climate change but suffers from climate variability," explained Agona.

"Studies conducted recently demonstrated that the total amount of rainfall meant for this country has not changed in terms of volumes. It is not true that we have not had rain during the two failed seasons," said Agona, whose body is charged with guiding and coordinating all agricultural research in Uganda.

He told IPS that farmers in most parts of Uganda have long thought that the first rain season begins typically around March, and then it continues to June, so they don't take advantage of the rain that sometimes sets in as early as January. Agona told IPS that farmers that have taken advantage of the onset of the rain actually harvest, especially when they plant drought-resistant and early-maturing crop varieties.

In June, the FAO office in Uganda released the IPC classification for Karamoja, warning of the crisis.

"The IPC results we have released today are not so different from what we have seen in the last few years. We need to shift our focus from responding to this food insecurity crisis every year after it has already happened," said Antonio Querido, FAO representative to Uganda.

How does a farmer cope with climate variability?

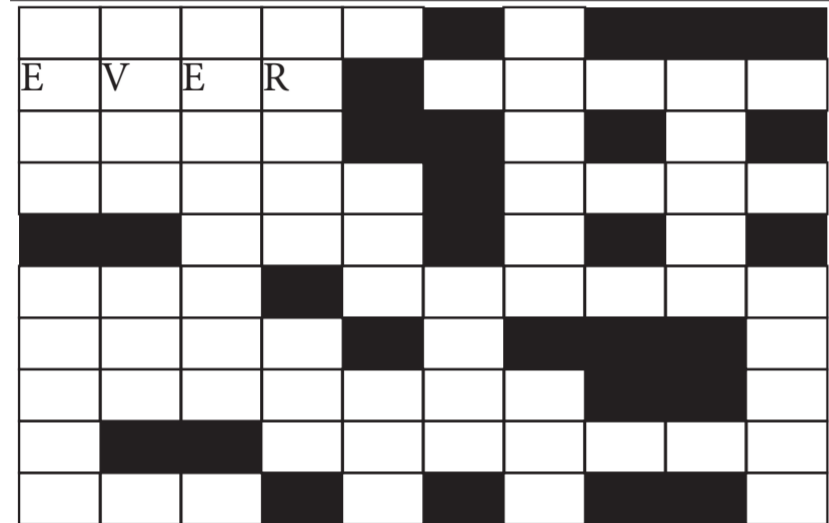
Veterinarian and researcher Dr William Oluho-Mukani told IPS that the problem in Karamoja and Uganda generally had been the failure to deploy technologies to help farmers farm when there is no rain.

"This is where the problem is. Don't firefight. Give farmers technologies for water harvesting, quick maturing, and drought-resistant crops," said Oluho-Mukani. "Karamoja has a lot of water when it rains. The challenge has been technology transfer. There is a lot of research by NARO, but transferring technology to the farmer has been a problem. We must ensure that they are available at affordable prices."

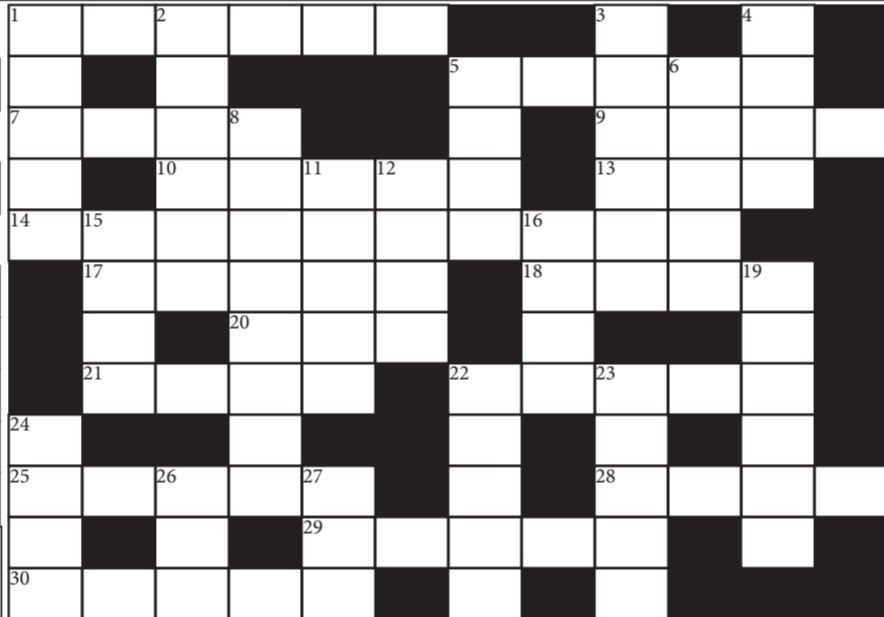
In June 2021, Uganda adopted a Technology Action Plan for climate change adaptation. It noted: "The increase in temperature due to climate change will potentially change rainfall seasonality. The erratic and unpredictable weather patterns are likely to disrupt farm calendars with high-level of field-based post-harvest losses."

The plan, developed with assistance from UN Environment and Global Environment Facility (GEF), suggests surface runoff water harvesting for communities living in uni-model rainfall belts in northern and eastern Uganda and crop breeding technology to have improved seed varieties supplied to 200,000 smallholder farmers. **IPS**

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 341 00--



- 3 letters EVE, EID, EEL, ION, END, PEA, TUG, GNU,
- 4 letters LESS, AVOW, EVER, NARK, HIDE, RONE,
- 5 letters GREEN, SWINE, NERVE, NEEDY, SWEET, PHASE,
- 6 letters MWANZA, GRABEN
- 7 letters DOE-EYED, ADENINE,



- CLUES: Across**
- a building for housing cars
 - an expression of grief
 - Muscat is the Capital city
 - carry or convey
 - Name of lake Malawi in Tanzania
 - Monetary unit of Japan
 - largest Island in Africa
 - Maasai
 - a semi-precious variety of agate with different colours in layers
 - trouble or afflict in mind
 - a furnace
 - permitted by law
 - large machine for moving heavy objects
 - sound of a pig
 - unattractively large
 - carry to a place
- Down:**
- train for a purpose
 - Kigali is her mother city
 - Native of Libya
 - unwilling to share things
 - able to move quickly and easily
 - cautious
 - modern Malawi
 - once more
 - cast or weigh anchor
 - amuck
 - arrive
 - a volatile liquid hydrocarbon obtained by distilling wood or petroleum
 - citrus fruit
 - a spirit or soul
 - a dry, rough protective crust that forms over a cut or wound during healing
 - black long-tailed bird
 - object laid by female birds

WORD-FIT

CROSSWORD

SOLUTIONS

MONESCOWFERM
ONERACAREEA
MENACEED
EREWHILEA
NOGEDAM
TUAREGM
SLAKEAA
ALINONES
MARSIS
PEVENTS

HARTCANADA
IDEA O EMU
DATATROPP
EBELITELENT
BRINKIER
AZWEDGIES
AZUREEASTS
IOLEGRAIN
LILLEGALLA
LALLOK
MANYNERNIE

RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
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Oil racks up for biggest weekly gain since April

TEXAS

Oil headed for the biggest weekly gain in four months on interruptions to supply and speculation fuel switching will buoy demand.

West Texas Intermediate edged below \$94 a barrel in Asia, but is still up more than 5% this week. Six oil and gas fields in the Gulf of Mexico have been shut after a leak at a Louisiana booster station halted two pipelines. The conduits are expected to resume service on Friday, according to Shell Plc.

The International Energy Agency boosted its forecast for global demand growth as soaring natural gas prices and heat waves spur demand. Global consumption will rise by 2.1 million barrels a day this year, up 380,000 a day from the agency's previous forecast.

In addition, the IEA said OPEC+ is unlikely to increase output in the coming months because of limited spare capacity.

Crude's substantial weekly gain follows a drop to a six-month low last week as investors fretted about the outlook for slower economic growth and

weaker consumption. Prices have also benefited in recent days from a brief halt to supplies along a pipeline that carries crude from Russia to central Europe, as well as a weaker dollar after data showed an easing in the pace of US inflation.

"Oil's macro sentiment improved this week as inflation worries in the US eased with a drop in gasoline prices," said Gui Chenxi, an analyst at CITIC Futures Co.

While futures have risen this week, widely-watched time spreads have narrowed, suggesting that market tightness is easing. Brent's prompt spread -- the difference between the global benchmark's two nearest contracts -- was at \$1.30 a barrel in backwardation on Friday, down from above \$3 a month ago.

In contrast to the view from the IEA, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries struck a more pessimistic tone.

The global oil market is expected to tip into a surplus this quarter, the group said in its monthly outlook on Thursday, trimming its forecasts for the amount of crude it will need to pump.



IEA said OPEC+ is unlikely to increase output in the coming months

Global gold price set for fourth weekly increase

NEW DELHI

Gold headed for a fourth weekly gain -- the longest winning streak in almost a year -- as cooling inflation in the US suggested rate hikes might not be as aggressive as anticipated.

American producer prices unexpectedly fell for the first time in more than two years in July, while consumer prices also decelerated last month.

The data supported the case for the Federal Reserve to be less hawkish, but resulted in gold consolidating just below \$1,800 an ounce rather than pushing higher.

Swaps referencing the Fed's September meeting signal some uncertainty over whether a half-point or another 75 basis-point rate hike is on the cards.

San Francisco Fed President Mary Daly said while the fight against rapid price growth is far from over, a half-point hike in September is still her base case, although she's open to an increase of three quarters of a percentage point.

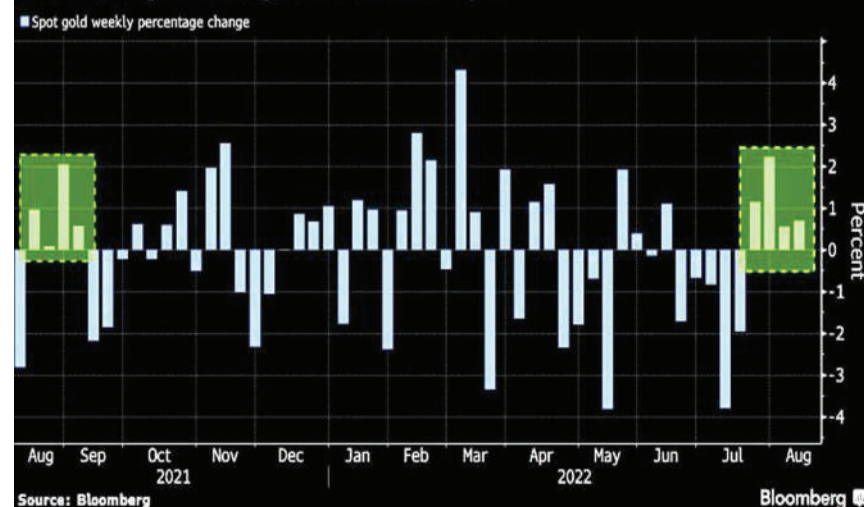
The precious metal has now rebounded around 6 percent from a low in mid-July on a combination of fears of a global recession and heightened US-China tensions over Taiwan. It's also been aided by declines in the dollar in recent weeks.

Gold has struggled to keep up its recent bullish momentum, despite inflation data supporting the view that the Fed's rate hikes are likely to slow, said Fawad Razaqzada, a market analyst at StoneX. Some consolidation may be needed for the metal to gear up for a clean breakout above \$1,800 an ounce, he said.

Spot gold rose 0.1% to \$1,791.92 an ounce as of 12:31 p.m. in Singapore, and is up 0.9% this week. The Bloomberg Dollar Spot Index slipped 0.1%. Palladium and platinum fell, while silver advanced.

Gold Heads for Fourth Weekly Gain

Bullion in longest winning streak in almost a year



TBL Plc has a controlling interest in Tanzania Distilleries Limited, Darbrew Limited and Kibo Breweries Limited with total assets of more than one trillion shillings

TBL Group records 260bn/- revenue in second quarter

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) Group recorded a revenue amounting 260.1bn/- during the second quarter of this year, higher than 247.5bn/- recorded during the first quarter of this year, with its subsidiaries injected nearly 40bn/-.

Unaudited quarterly financial statement shows costs of sales increased to 162bn/- from 154.1bn/- respectively which translated into increase of gross profit to 98.1bn/- from 93.4bn/- respectively.

Operating profit fell to 40bn/- from 53bn/- respectively due to slight increase of sales and distribution costs, administrative costs

and other expenses.

Administrative expenses nearly doubled to 28.3bn/- from 14.5bn/- respectively while selling and distribution costs slightly increased to 28.9bn/- from 25.4bn/- respectively.

Profit for the period slowed to 27.7bn/- from 36.8bn/- attributable to slight increase of non-controlling interests during the second quarter of this year amounted 2.3bn/- and equity holder of a company amounted 25.4bn/-.

The statement shows both diluted and basic earnings per share went down during the reported period to 345/- during the second quarter from 469/- during the second quarter of this year.

Net cash inflows from operating activities slowed to 43.5bn/- from 45.9bn/- respectively due to decrease of cash generated from operations, increase of interest and income tax payments.

Cash generated from operation for the group slowed to 62.7bn/- from 63.7bn/- respectively while interest payment slightly went up to 1.08bn/- from 807bn/- and income tax payment amounted 17.4bn/- from 16.9bn/- respectively.

The statement shows net cash used investing activities nearly doubled to 13.1bn/- from 7.3bn/- respectively due to increase of the amount for purchasing property, plant and equipment which nearly doubled

to 15.6bn/- from 8.6bn/- respectively, amid nearly doubling of interest received.

Cash or cash equivalent at the end of the period increased to 289.2bn/- from 260bn/- respectively compared with 260.9bn/- from 224.6bn/- at the beginning of the quarter. Retained earnings amounted 556.8bn/- as at June 30 this year.

TBL Plc has a controlling interest in Tanzania Distilleries Limited, Darbrew Limited and Kibo Breweries Limited with total assets of more than one trillion shillings. TBL Plc's most popular clear beer brands include Safari Lager, Kilimanjaro Premium Lager, Castle Lite, Balimi Extra Lager, Castle Lager, Flying Fish, Safari Double Malt

and Ndovu Special Malt.

Other prominent brands associated with the TBL Group are Konyagi, Dodoma and Imagi wines and Redds Premium Cold.

The TBL Group is the largest listed company on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange with the market capitalization of 3.2trn/-, accounting for nearly 20 percent of the market total capitalization, and has the second highest share price.

The Group employs about 1,267 people and is represented throughout the country with four clear beer breweries, a spirit manufacturing facility, and traditional beer manufacturing facilities and 8 distribution depots.

'Rich Kenyans saved Sh2.1bn in dollars daily before polls'

NAIROBI

Well-off individuals and companies banked a record Sh63 billion more in dollar accounts in June as they searched for safety for the investments ahead of this week's elections.

Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) data show that foreign currency bank deposits held hit a historic high of Sh891.5 billion in June, up from Sh829.50 billion in May, making it the biggest monthly jump on record.

The Sh63 billion increase in dollar deposits, equivalent to Sh2.1 billion daily, is an indication that rich individuals and big companies sought a safe haven for their wealth in the wake of uncertainty linked to the polls.

The elections have largely been peaceful so far in a country where street protests and clashes usually only follow result announcements.

More than 1,200 people were killed after the 2007 elections, and more than 100 after the 2017 polls.

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) had yet to announce who is leading in the nail-bitingly close race.

The extra Sh63 billion in dollar deposits reflected a 7.6 percent increase and shows that the jump was not influenced by the strengthening of the greenback against the shilling, which shed 1.7 percent against the US currency in June.

"The jump is big so I would not attribute it to the weakening of the shilling but rather hard currency conversions as we moved towards the elections with the risk of a protracted election in mind like was witnessed in 2017," said Churchill Ogutu - Economist IC Group.



Central Bank of Kenya (CBK)

"The jump also coincided with the Fed rate hike so some speculators may have been angling to make some gains from the strengthening of the dollar."

The shilling has declined to an all-time low of 119.3 against the dollar having depreciated from Sh113.13 at the start of the year and Sh104.44 at the end of March 2020.

Demand for dollars locally has gone up significantly this year in line with surging imports following the full reopening of the economy, which has unleashed pent-up demand for both consumer and capital goods.

Global shocks sparked by Russia's invasion of Ukraine have also increased the prices of imported com-

modities, driving up dollar demand.

The shilling has also suffered from a stronger dollar as the US Federal Reserve hiked interest rates by 0.75 percentage point for a second consecutive time in July to fight inflation.

This was the largest rate hike since 2000 of 0.5 percentage point.

The rate hikes tend to spark dollar outflows to safe havens in the developed world, increasing demand for the greenback and depressing the value of the local currency.

In times of trouble, all sorts of companies, banks and investors want to hold dollars. It is the world's reserve currency and considered the safest. The dollar has become the curren-

cy of choice for worried investors because the US economy is seen as the most sheltered in the event of a damage to the global economy.

Investors are known to hoard dollars for speculation purposes in the wake of forecasts showing that the shilling would remain weak against the US currency.

With the expected decline, those holding dollars would be able to later convert their money to shillings at a gain or would not suffer conversion losses when importing.

The frontrunners in Kenya's presidential poll, opposition leader Raila Odinga and Deputy President William Ruto, were neck-and-neck based on results tabulated by media houses.

EABL's Kisumu and Nairobi biomass plants almost ready

NAIROBI

East African Breweries Plc (EABL) is set to complete the setting up of its biomass-fired energy plants as it accelerates its shift to renewable energy.

Diageo Plc, a majority shareholder of EABL says the Kenya biomass plants in Nairobi and Kisumu are in the final stages.

"Tusker and Kisumu breweries in Kenya are in the final stages of commissioning new biomass facilities, using sustainable local by-products to produce renewable energy," said Diageo in its latest annual report.

"Our biomass investment in East Africa, and other projects like it, are critical enablers in reducing GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions and using 100 percent renewable energy across all our direct operations by 2030."

Biomass power is generated from burning organic waste that would otherwise be taken to landfills or disposed of by other means. The beer manufacturer, which uses raw materials such as sorghum and barley, is expected to use the waste of its production processes to fuel the biomass plants.

For EABL, the biomass plants are

part of its plans to cut costs and reduce reliance on Kenya Power which distributes electricity through the national grid.

The plants also fit into the company's plans to cut carbon emissions.

Diageo had announced in 2019 an investment of Sh22 billion in renewable energy across EABL's brewing sites to deliver new solar energy, biomass power, and water recovery processes.

EABL Managing Director Jane Karuku said the biomass plants would help the brewer achieve a net-zero status and reduce its carbon emissions by 48,000 tonnes annually. Ms Karuku added that EABL has facilitated more than a 20 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in the last two years in its switch to low carbon operations.

"We continue to identify the right technologies to support our decarbonisation journey across our global portfolio of sites," said Diageo in its latest report.

"Given the varying maturity of renewable infrastructure across our markets, and the time it takes to build and commission large decarbonisation assets, we acknowledge the acceleration needed to deliver these projects in time for 2030."



Diageo announced in 2019 an investment of Sh22 billion in renewable energy



UN trade, development agency: Ban banks from using crypto

NEW YORK

Developing countries should introduce widespread restrictions on crypto usage given the risks to tax collection, monetary policy and financial stability, and ban banks from holding crypto, the United Nations' development arm said in three reports published Thursday.

The UN Conference on Trade and Development, UNCTAD, warns that the rising use of crypto for domestic payments, and by migrant workers sending funds back home, challenges states' authority in monetary matters, and may cause "leakage" of development funds.

The agency advised imposing higher taxes on crypto transactions, requiring exchanges and wallets to register with regulators, and curbing or forbidding

crypto ads.

"The benefits that cryptocurrencies may bring to some individuals and financial institutions are overshadowed by the risks and costs they entail, particularly in developing countries," UNCTAD said, citing risks such as tax evasion and losses from price swings that might need to be bailed out by central banks.

The document advises countries to "ban regulated financial institutions from holding stablecoins and cryptocurrencies or offering related products to clients."

Stablecoins are cryptocurrencies that seek to maintain their value with respect to an established fiat currency such as the US dollar - but they don't always succeed, as the recent collapse of terraUSD showed.

Figures cited by UNCTAD show crypto is particularly popular in Russia, Ukraine and Venezuela, three countries affected by sanctions, war and hyperinflation.

As of November 2021, 41 developing countries had either prohibited banks from dealing in crypto or prevented exchanges from offering crypto to retail investors, and nine have banned crypto outright, the report said.

Standard-setters are reviewing how conventional banks should interact with the world of crypto, and are leaning toward imposing a cap on holdings of assets such as bitcoin.

Other international organizations have proposed extra curbs intended to shore up money-laundering rules, capital controls and tax collection.

Ethiopia urged to harness tourism sector potential

ADDIS ABABA

Experts and policymakers attending an event on tourism and technology have called for concerted efforts to harness Ethiopia's untapped potential in the tourism sector.

They made the call Wednesday during the opening of the Tourism and Technology Week that aims to create a policy discussion platform for tourism-related issues, enhance networking opportunities for tourism digital champions and innovators, as well as bring together partners in the tourism sector.

Ethiopian Minister of Tourism Nasise Chali said that Ethiopia is working to add value to its natural and historical tourist attraction sites so as to fully tap the tourism sector.

As part of the event, panel discussions will be held focusing on tourism in the Ethiopian macroeconomic policy framework, the nexus between tourism and technology, as well as job creation, among others.

Shimelis Abdisa, president of Ethiopia's Oromia regional state, said that the East African country, despite being naturally endowed with potential tourist attraction sites, is yet to tap into its huge potential due to various hurdles.

Abdisa said the challenges include lack of adequate funding, insufficient travel marketing, and infrastructure deficits along the tourist attraction areas. He



A woman wearing traditional costume is seen during the Tourism and Technology Week in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on Aug. 10, 2022. Experts and policymakers attending the opening of the Tourism and Technology Week on Wednesday have called for concerted efforts to harness Ethiopia's untapped potential in the tourism sector. (Xinhua/Michael Tewelde)

said concerted efforts are currently underway at the national and regional levels to harness the country's untapped tourism endowments.

According to the organizers, with the advent of technological advancements and rapid digitali-

zation, all travel companies have shunned geographical barriers and are adopting online methods to approach their clients.

Lack of finance, high training costs, the rapid pace of technological change, and the cost of high-speed broadband, however,

are some major obstacles to further the implementation of digital technology in tourism.

Ethiopia's tourism sector has suffered from recurrent conflicts, which were exacerbated by the socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Asian LNG prices up on rush buying by Japan

TOKYO

Japan, one of the world's top buyers of liquefied natural gas, is rushing to secure supply for winter, exacerbating a global shortage and driving prices of the super-chilled fuel higher.

The Asian benchmark spot price has jumped this week though is still almost 70% off the record set in early March, when Russia's invasion of Ukraine upended markets.

Several Japanese utilities accelerated discussions with suppliers in the past week to purchase additional

shipments for winter, according to traders with knowledge of the matter.

Supply disruptions from Russia to the US have importers worried that there won't be enough natural gas for everyone when demand peaks in the northern hemisphere winter.

That's intensified competition between Asia and Europe for LNG shipments, sending spot prices in both regions to unprecedented heights for this time of year.

The two largest LNG importing companies -- Korea Gas Corp. and Japan's Jera Co. -- are both in the pro-

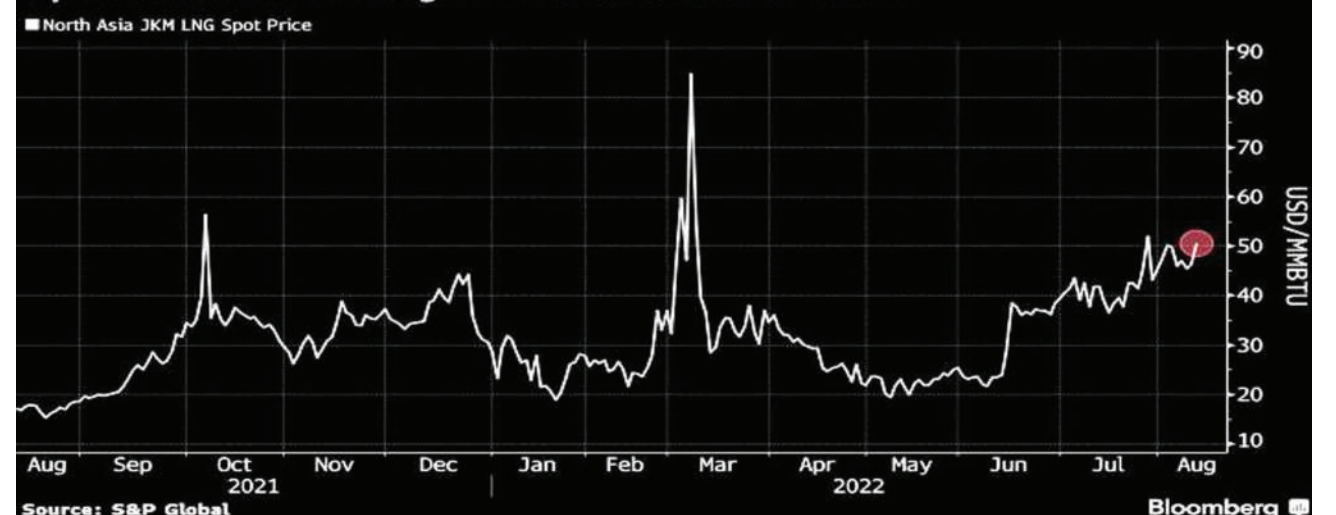
cess of buying more cargoes for winter. That prompted smaller Japanese utilities to dive into the spot market to also secure shipments while supply is still available, traders said.

The Japanese government has been urging the nation's utilities to stock up inventories before winter amid an outlook for tight power supply, according to the traders.

The Japan-Korea Marker, the spot LNG benchmark for North Asia, surged 9% to \$50.628 per million British thermal units on Thursday, the highest since July 27, according to S&P Global.

Asian Natural Gas Prices Jump as Supply Tightens

Japan's utilities are looking to secure more LNG for winter



Source: S&P Global

Bloomberg

Ukraine's creditors agree 2-year freeze on \$20bn debt

LONDON/NEW YORK

Ukraine's overseas creditors backed its request for a two-year freeze on payments on almost \$20 billion in international bonds, a regulatory filing shows, a move that will allow the war-ravaged country to avoid a messy debt default.

With no sign of peace or a ceasefire on the horizon nearly six months after Russia's invasion began, holders of around 75% of the outstanding total agreed to Kyiv's proposal, documents showed.

"Ukraine will save almost \$6 billion on payments," said Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal in a statement. "These funds will help us maintain macrofinancial stability, strengthen the sustainability of the Ukrainian economy and improve the power of our army."

The solicitation needed approval by holders of at least two-thirds of the total and more than 50% of each issue.

"The two-year debt freeze makes sense because even if the war ends soon, Ukraine's situation is not going to improve overnight," said Stuart Culverhouse, chief economist at London-based research firm Tellimer. "Creditors were even surprised that the country decided to be current on the bonds until now."

BlackRock Inc, Fidelity International, Amia Capital and Gemstock Ltd are among the biggest holders of Ukraine's debt, whose market value has slumped by more than 80% since a build-up of Russian troops on its borders began late in 2021.

"Creditors made some suggestions during the process that were reasonable, so



Ukraine's international reserves fell to \$22.4 billion at the end of July from \$28.1 billion in March

the consent moved forward," Stefan Weiler, head of CEEMEA debt capital markets at JP-Morgan, said on Thursday. "There was more sensitivity in the short-term bonds."

A separate but related consent solicitation approved by creditors allows changes to about \$2.6 billion of GDP warrants, a

derivative security that triggers payments linked to a country's gross domestic product.

Creditors of Ukravtodor and Energo, two state-owned firms that have government guarantees on their debt, have approved separate solicitations similar to the one proposed by the sovereign.

With Ukraine facing an estimated economic contraction of as much as 45% in 2022, bilateral creditors including the United States, Britain and Japan had also backed a debt repayment delay and a group of governments in the Paris Club agreed to suspend payments until the end of 2023.

"This will improve the foreign currency cash flow for Ukraine, but by itself it's unlikely to be sufficient to stabilize FX reserves," said Carlos de Sousa, emerging markets debt portfolio manager at Vontobel Asset Management.

Ukraine's international reserves fell to \$22.4 billion at the end of July from \$28.1 billion in March.

A comprehensive debt restructuring is expected following the debt freeze, De Sousa said, as it is "unlike-

ly" that Ukraine will be able to regain market access in two years.

Ukraine completed a \$15 billion debt restructuring in late 2015 after an economic crisis linked to a Russian-backed insurgency in its industrial east. The deal left it with a large number of payments due annually between 2019 and 2027, and it returned to international markets in 2017. With a monthly fiscal shortfall of \$5 billion, Ukraine is heavily reliant on foreign financing from Western allies and multilateral lenders including International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

It has so far received \$12.7 billion in loans and grants, Finance Ministry data shows.

The United States said this week it would provide an additional \$4.5 billion to Ukraine's government, bringing its total budgetary support since Moscow began what it calls a "special military operation" to \$8.5 billion.

Ukraine also aims to agree a \$15 billion-\$20 billion IMF programme to help shore up its economy, its central bank governor said, and the government expects to receive this assistance before the year-end.

Asian stocks mixed, European futures flat

WASHINGTON

Asian stocks were mixed and the yen fell on Friday, capping off a back-and-forth week that saw investors split on how aggressively the Federal Reserve would raise interest rates to tackle inflation.

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan gained 0.1 percent, and Australia's AXJO was down 0.72 percent.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index rose 0.35%, but Chinese blue-chip stocks fell 0.1%. Japan's Nikkei was the major outlier, surging 2.43% to its highest level since January as markets reopened following a national holiday. The yen fell 1.14% and was trading at 133.245 per dollar.

European stock futures gave little indication of major moves for the day ahead. FTSE 100 futures were down 0.01%, with Britain set to report second-quarter gross domestic product later in the day, while Euro Stoxx 50 futures were down 0.03%.

Markets were tentative early this week ahead of key economic data out of the United States. The consumer price index (CPI) report on Wednesday showed inflation was slightly lower than expected in July, while the producer price index (PPI) unexpectedly fell for the first time since April 2020.

The slight easing of inflation readings had driven global stocks higher and capped a rising dollar, until a string of Fed speakers put paid to expectations of the central bank going slow on further policy tightening.

"The Fed is going to do what they said, which is whatever it takes to address inflation, so you are seeing some repositioning around that out of U.S. equities," said Carlos Casanova, senior economist at UBP. The S&P 500 closed down 0.07% and the Nasdaq Composite lost 0.58% overnight, though the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 0.08%. San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank president Mary Daly said on Thursday

that while a 50 basis point rate hike next month "makes sense" given economic data, she'd be open to a bigger hike if necessary. The rate is currently in the 2.25%-2.5% range.

Chicago Fed President Charles Evans said he believed the Fed would likely need to lift its policy rate to 3.25%-3.5% this year and to 3.75%-4% by the end of next year, in line with what Fed Chair Jerome Powell signalled after the Fed's latest meeting in July.

Furthermore, Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari said he hadn't "seen anything that changes" the need to raise the Fed's policy rate to 3.9% by year-end and to 4.4% by the end of 2023.

Chewing over those comments, investors are still unsure how set the Fed is.

Odds of a 75 bps hike in September were as high as 68% earlier in the week, but are now around 34%, where they were a week ago.

"There are too many uncertainties to know the path of oil and other CPI prices ahead, but the peak of inflation is clearly behind us," Nikko Asset Management chief global strategist John Vail wrote in a note.

"The key question is how far and how fast it will fall. We believe inflation will be quite sticky and central banks will need to be more hawkish than consensus." U.S. 10-year Treasury yields held firm after rising overnight and were last trading at 2.8765%. The yield plummeted on Wednesday's CPI data but rebounded to a near three-week high on Thursday.

In commodities, Brent crude oil futures fell 54 cents to \$98.06 a barrel. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude was also down, dropping 55 cents to \$93.79. Brent is still on track to gain more than 4% this week, while WTI looks likely to mark a weekly climb of 5%. Bitcoin, the leading cryptocurrency, shaved some overnight gains and lost 1.10% to trade at \$23,943. Spot gold was up 0.11% at \$1,791 an ounce.



TUESDAY 9 Aug	THURSDAY 11 Aug	SATURDAY 13 Aug	SUNDAY 14 Aug
5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI
6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha
6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	7:00 Habari	7:00 Habari
7:30 HABARI	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Al Jazeera	8:00 Al Jazeera
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	9:00 Watoto Wetu	9:00 Watoto Wetu
8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa	9:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	9:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:55 Habari za saa	9:55 Habari za saa
9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty	9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty	10:00 Watoto Wetu	10:00 Watoto Wetu
10:00 Watoto Wetu	10:00 Watoto Wetu	10:30 Shamba lulu	10:30 Shamba lulu
10:25 Jagina rpt	10:25 Jagina rpt	10:55 Habari za saa	10:55 Habari za saa
10:55 Habari za saa	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 The Base	11:00 The Base
11:00 The Base rpt	11:00 The Base rpt	11:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa
11:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera
12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	12:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty
12:30 Afiya ya jamii	12:30 Afiya ya jamii	12:45 Habari za saa	12:45 Habari za saa
12:55 Habari za saa	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Jarida la wanawake rpt	13:00 Jarida la wanawake rpt
13:00 Ripoti Maalum	13:00 Ripoti Maalum	12:55 Habari za saa	12:55 Habari za saa
13:40 Shikabamba	13:40 Shikabamba	13:00 Shamsam rpt	13:00 Shamsam rpt
13:55 Habari za saa	13:55 Habari za saa	13:40 Igizo rpt: Rebeca	13:40 Igizo rpt: Rebeca
14:00 Shikabamba	14:00 Shikabamba	13:55 Habari za saa	13:55 Habari za saa
14:15 Igizo rpt: Rebeca	14:15 Igizo rpt: Rebeca	14:00 Igizo rpt: Rebeca	14:00 Igizo rpt: Rebeca
14:40 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Brela	14:40 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Brela	14:30 Kipindi maalum rpt: NSSF	14:30 Kipindi maalum rpt: NSSF
14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru	15:00 Meza Huru	15:00 Meza Huru	15:00 Meza Huru
16:00 Watoto Wetu	16:00 Watoto Wetu	16:30 Watoto Wetu	16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base	17:00 The Base	17:00 The Base	17:00 The Base
17:30 Jiji Letu	17:30 Jiji Letu	17:00 The Base	17:00 The Base
18:00 Mapishi	18:00 Mapishi	18:15 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	18:15 Igizo rpt: Uzalo
18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ - Live	18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ - Live	18:45 Kipindi Maalum: Brela	18:45 Kipindi Maalum: Brela
19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	19:00 Usafiri Wako	19:00 Usafiri Wako
20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari
21:30 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF	21:30 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt
21:45 Chetu ni chetu	21:45 Chetu ni chetu	21:15 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:15 Igizo: Mizengwe
22:30 Soap: Uzalo	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	21:30 Mjuzi Zaidi	21:30 Mjuzi Zaidi
23:00 Habari	23:00 Habari	22:15 Soap movie:	22:15 Soap movie:
23:30 The Base	23:30 The Base	23:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	23:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt
00:30 Al Jazeera	00:30 Al Jazeera	02:05 Al Jazeera	02:05 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTV	02:00 DWTV	02:05 Al Jazeera	02:05 Al Jazeera
10:00 Watoto Wetu	10:00 Watoto Wetu	11:50 Bongo Movie rpt:	11:50 Bongo Movie rpt:
10:30 Usafiri Wako	10:30 Usafiri Wako	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
10:55 Habari za saa	10:55 Habari za saa	15:30 Mwangaza	15:30 Mwangaza
11:00 The Base rpt	11:00 The Base rpt	16:30 ITV Top 10	16:30 ITV Top 10
11:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa	17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo	17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo
12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu
12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi
12:55 Habari za saa	12:55 Habari za saa	18:30 Matukio ya wiki	18:30 Matukio ya wiki
13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt	13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt	19:30 Igizo: Rebeca	19:30 Igizo: Rebeca
13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ	13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari
13:55 Habari za saa	13:55 Habari za saa	21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko
14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ	14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ	21:10 Kipindi maalum: Reflexology	21:10 Kipindi maalum: Reflexology
14:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ	14:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ	21:15 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:15 Igizo: Mizengwe
14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa	21:30 Mjuzi Zaidi	21:30 Mjuzi Zaidi
15:00 Meza Huru	15:00 Meza Huru	22:15 Soap movie:	22:15 Soap movie:
16:30 Watoto Wetu	16:30 Watoto Wetu	23:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	23:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt
17:00 The Base (DJ Show)	17:00 The Base (DJ Show)	02:05 Al Jazeera	02:05 Al Jazeera
17:30 Kisilam	17:30 Kisilam	08:00 Al Jazeera	08:00 Al Jazeera
18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	09:00 Rev rpt	09:00 Rev rpt
18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe	18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe	9:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt	9:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt
18:30 Uchumi wetu	18:30 Uchumi wetu	10:00 Culinary delight rpt	10:00 Culinary delight rpt
19:00 Shamba lulu	19:00 Shamba lulu	10:30 Innovation rpt	10:30 Innovation rpt
19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	11:00 Out n' about rpt	11:00 Out n' about rpt
20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	11:30 Sports Gazette rpt	11:30 Sports Gazette rpt
21:05 Kipima Joto	21:05 Kipima Joto	12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt	12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt
23:00 Habari	23:00 Habari	12:30 Our Earth rpt	12:30 Our Earth rpt
23:30 The Base	23:30 The Base	13:00 Business edition rpt	13:00 Business edition rpt
00:30 Al Jazeera	00:30 Al Jazeera	13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Hwarang 14:30	13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Hwarang 14:30
02:00 DWTV	02:00 DWTV	Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 17:15	Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 17:15
14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa	17:45 Bundeliga kick off	17:45 Bundeliga kick off
15:00 Meza Huru	15:00 Meza Huru	18:15 Capchat rpt	18:15 Capchat rpt
16:30 Watoto Wetu	16:30 Watoto Wetu	19:15 Mizengwe	19:15 Mizengwe
17:00 The Base	17:00 The Base	19:30 The Decor	19:30 The Decor
17:30 Jiji Letu	17:30 Jiji Letu	20:00 Korean Drama: Hwarang 21:00	20:00 Korean Drama: Hwarang 21:00
18:00 Mapishi	18:00 Mapishi	Out n' About	Out n' About
18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ - Live	18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ - Live	21:30 Music Club 101 rpt	21:30 Music Club 101 rpt
19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	23:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind	23:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind
20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	01:00 Al Jazeera	01:00 Al Jazeera
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba	08:00 Al Jazeera	08:00 Al Jazeera
21:30 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF	21:30 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF	09:00 In good shape	09:00 In good shape
21:45 Chetu ni chetu	21:45 Chetu ni chetu	10:00 Capchat rpt	10:00 Capchat rpt
22:30 Soap: Uzalo	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	11:00 Sports Gazette rpt	11:00 Sports Gazette rpt
23:00 Habari	23:00 Habari	11:30 Korean Drama rpt: Hwarang 12:00	11:30 Korean Drama rpt: Hwarang 12:00
23:30 The Base	23:30 The Base	Jagina rpt	Jagina rpt
00:30 Al Jazeera	00:30 Al Jazeera	12:30 Bundeliga Kick Off rpt	12:30 Bundeliga Kick Off rpt
02:00 DWTV	02:00 DWTV	13:00 In good shape rpt	13:00 In good shape rpt
5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	16:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind	16:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	15:15 Albu yako	15:15 Albu yako
6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	15:30 Rev rpt	15:30 Rev rpt
6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	16:00 Dakika 45 rpt	16:00 Dakika 45 rpt
7:30 HABARI	7:30 HABARI	16:45 Mizengwe rpt	16:45 Mizengwe rpt
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	17:00 The Decor rpt	17:00 The Decor rpt
8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa	17:30 Meza Huru	17:30 Meza Huru
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	19:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt	19:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt
9:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	9:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	19:30 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights	19:30 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights
9:55 Habari za saa	9:55 Habari za saa	20:00 Korean Drama: Hwarang 21:00	20:00 Korean Drama: Hwarang 21:00
10:00 Watoto Wetu	10:00 Watoto Wetu	Dw News Africa	Dw News Africa
10:25 Uchumi wetu	10:25 Uchumi wetu	21:30 Capchat live	21:30 Capchat live
10:55 Habari za saa	10:55 Habari za saa	22:15 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love	22:15 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love
11:00 The Base rpt	11:00 The Base rpt	00:00 Al Jazeera	00:00 Al Jazeera
11:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa		
12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera		
12:30 Bundeliga rpt	12:30 Bundeliga rpt		
12:55 Habari za saa	12:55 Habari za saa		
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt	13:00 Dakika 45 rpt		
13:55 Habari za saa	13:55 Habari za saa		
14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt	14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt		
14:40 Mapishi	14:40 Mapishi		



WORLD

Report: FBI sought nuclear documents in search of Trump's home

WASHINGTON

US federal agents were looking for documents relating to nuclear weapons when they raided former president Donald Trump's home in Florida this week, the Washington Post reported on Thursday.

It was not clear if such documents were recovered at the former president's Mar-a-Lago resort in Palm Beach, the Post said. Reuters could not immediately confirm the report.

The US Justice Department asked a judge on Thursday to make public the warrant that authorized the FBI search of Mar-a-Lago, after Trump, a Republican, portrayed it as political retribution.

The request means the public could soon learn more about what investigators were looking for during the unprecedented search of a former president's home.

The search was part of an investigation into whether Trump illegally removed records from the White House as he left office in January 2021, some of which the Justice Department believes are classified.

Attorney General Merrick Garland, the top law enforcement officer and an appointee of Democratic President Joe Biden, told a news conference that he had personally approved the search. The Justice Department also seeks to make public a redacted receipt of the

items seized.

"The department does not take such a decision lightly. Where possible, it is standard practice to seek less intrusive means as an alternative to a search, and to narrowly scope any search that is undertaken," Garland said.

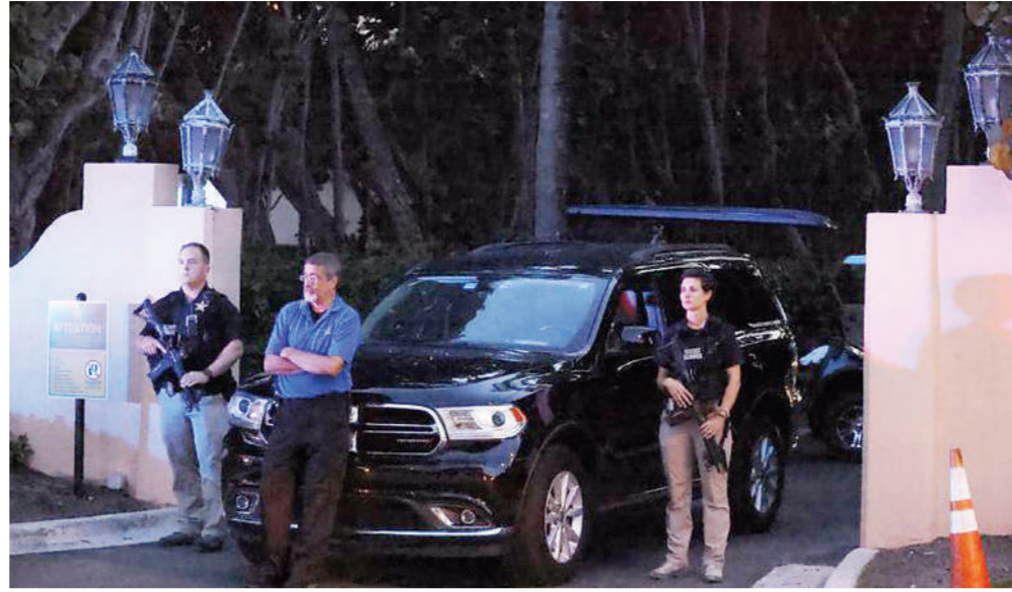
His decision to publicly confirm the search was highly unusual. US law enforcement officials typically do not discuss ongoing investigations in order to protect people's rights. In this case, Trump himself announced the search in a Monday night statement.

Garland said the Justice Department made the request to make public the warrant "in light of the former president's public confirmation of the search, the surrounding circumstances and the substantial public interest in this matter." A source familiar with the matter said the FBI retrieved about 10 boxes from Trump's property during the search.

Trump was not in Florida at the time of the search.

Late on Thursday, Trump called for the immediate release of documents related to the search.

"Not only will I not oppose the release of documents related to the un-American, unwarranted, and unnecessary raid and break-in of my home in Palm Beach, Florida, Mar-a-Lago, I am going a step further by ENCOURAGING the immediate release of those documents, even though they have been drawn up by radical left



Armed Secret Service agents stand outside an entrance to former US president Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate late on Monday, in Palm Beach, Florida. AP

Democrats and possible future political opponents, who have a strong and powerful vested interest in attacking me, much as they have done for the last 6 years," he said on his Truth Social platform.

The government has until 3 pm (1900 GMT) on Friday to let the court know whether Trump's attorneys will object to unsealing the warrant. The case is before US Magistrate Judge Bruce Reinhart, who reviewed the warrant to ensure the Justice Department had sufficient probable cause for the search.

While seeking to unseal the warrant, the Justice Department has not asked the judge to unseal the sworn statement in support of the warrant, the contents of which could potentially include classified information.

Two of Trump's attorneys, Evan Corcoran and John Rowley, did not respond to a request for comment.

In a statement earlier on his Truth social network, Trump said: "My attorneys and representatives were cooperating fully, and very good relationships had been established. The government could have had whatever they wanted, if we had it."

Locked storage room

The unprecedented search marked a significant escalation in one of the many federal and state investigations Trump is facing from his time in office and in private business, including a separate one by the Justice Department into a failed bid by Trump's allies to overturn the 2020 presidential election by submitting phony slates of electors.

The investigation into Trump's removal of records started this year, after the National Archives made a referral to the department.

Former archivist David Ferriero has previously said that Trump returned 15 boxes to the government in January 2022. The archives later discovered some of the items were "marked as classified national security information."

A couple of months before the search, FBI agents visited Trump's property to investigate boxes in a locked storage room, according to a person familiar with the visit.

The agents and Corcoran spent a day reviewing materials, the source said. A second source who had been briefed on the matter told Reuters the Justice Department also has surveillance footage from Mar-a-Lago in its possession. Garland's Justice Department has faced fierce criticism and online threats since Monday's search. Trump supporters and some of his fellow Republicans in Washington accuse Democrats of weaponizing the federal bureaucracy to target Trump.

In Cincinnati, Ohio, on Thursday, an armed man suspected of trying to breach the FBI building died following an exchange of gunfire with law enforcement officers, an Ohio State Highway Patrol official said.

Garland condemned the threats and attacks against the FBI and Justice Department. "I will not stand by silently when their integrity is unfairly attacked," he said.

Some Democrats have criticized Garland for being overly cautious in investigating Trump over his attempts to overturn his 2020 election loss to Biden.

Agencies

At least five people killed, 100 hurt in Somaliland protests

MOGADISHU

At least five people were killed and 100 injured in Somalia's breakaway Somaliland region when security forces clashed with protesters demanding presidential elections be held in November, a regional leader said late on Thursday.

Somaliland broke away from Somalia in 1991 but has not gained widespread international recognition for its independence. The region has been mostly peaceful while Somalia has grappled with three decades of civil war.

Majority of those who were injured were security forces "who were attacked with clubs, metal bars, and stones," Muse Bihi Abdi, president of Somaliland said in a Facebook post late Thursday. He did not say whether those killed were civilians or security personnel.

"We shall not allow chaos and demonstration in any town or in any village. They will be confronted. Unauthorized violent demonstration to destroy the nation will not be accepted."

The president's current term ends in November but the opposition suspect Abdi wants to delay that election and accuse him of seeking an extension of his term through "Guurti", a council of elders that acts as the de facto parliament in Somaliland.

Opposition leaders said some of the deaths occurred after security forces beat and then opened fire on demonstrators in Somaliland's capital Hargeisa and two other towns.

Videos shared on social media showed protesters throwing stones and burning tires in the streets of Hargeisa, while some security forces fired weapons and tear gas. Reuters was unable to independently authenticate the videos.

Abdirahman Cinro, a presidential hopeful and former head of Wadani, one of the two opposition political parties championing the protests said six people were killed.

"The demos will continue and it is just the beginning until we get full democratic space and freedom from dictatorship and bad leadership," he said.

During the clashes dozens of security personnel were injured by protesters who were armed with knives, catapults and clubs, said Abdi Hassan Mire, deputy commander of the Somaliland police. Some carried weapons and fired bullets, he said.

Property and vehicles were also destroyed, according to police.

At least 100 people suspected of involvement in the clashes were arrested and will be charged soon, Ibrahim Abdi Haji, head of operations in Somaliland Police, said.

In a statement on Thursday six foreign diplomatic missions, including the US, UK and EU, condemned what they called "excessive use of force" during the demonstrations.

Refused by buyer, first Ukraine grain vessel docks in Türkiye

ISTANBUL/MOSCOW

THE first grain ship to depart from Ukraine under a UN-brokered deal docked in Türkiye on Thursday after 11 days at sea, Refinitiv data showed, and the ship's agent in Türkiye said it would continue to Egypt after unloading part of its cargo.

The Razoni set sail from Ukraine's Odesa port on Aug 1 under a deal brokered by the United Nations and Türkiye between Russia and Ukraine. Eleven other ships have left since then. While the Razoni was initially headed to Lebanon's Tripoli, Ukraine's embassy in the country said the buyer had refused delivery due to a five-month delay and the ship was looking for a new customer.

The ship, which had since been at anchor off Türkiye's southern coast,

entered the port in Mersin Thursday afternoon, Refinitiv ship tracker data showed. Kadir Soyer, agency director at Mersin-based shipping agent Toros, said the ship would offload 1,500 tons of corn in Türkiye and later continue to Egypt with the rest of its 26,527-ton load.

"1,500 tons will be offloaded in Mersin and the rest will go to Egypt," he told Reuters via phone.

Toros was only handling the docking and offloading in Türkiye and would not be involved in the ship's trip to Egypt, he said.

'Facilitate grain export'

Moscow asked Western countries on Thursday to contribute to the full implementation of the Istanbul grain deal, which includes the export of Russian food and fertilizers.



The Sierra Leone-flagged cargo ship Razoni sails under Yavuz Sultan Selim Bridge after being inspected in Istanbul, Türkiye, on Aug 3, 2022. AP

The package of agreements not only allows grain export from three Ukrainian ports but also stipulates the promotion of Russian food and fertilizers on global markets, which is not implemented, said Ivan Nechaev, deputy director of the Information

and Press Department of the Russian foreign ministry.

"We expect that all provisions of the food agreements will be implemented in full and Western countries will create the necessary conditions for access of Russian fertilizers and

food to global markets," Nechaev told a briefing. "Unfortunately, not a single vessel with (Ukrainian) grain has yet reached the shores of starving countries in Africa or South Asia. They went mainly to Western ports."

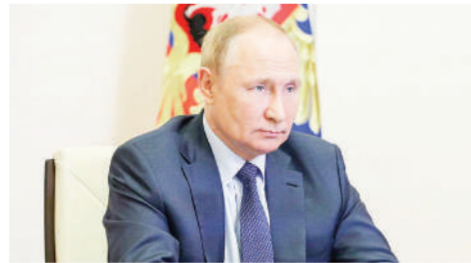
Agencies

Russian public's confidence in Putin surpasses 81%, poll reveals

MOSCOW

THE level of Russian citizens' confidence in President Vladimir Putin has increased by 0.5 percentage points to 81.3% over the week, according to a poll by the All-Russian Public Opinion Research Center published yesterday.

"When asked about [their] confidence in Putin, 81.3% of the Russians polled answered positively (+0.5 percentage points over the week). The level of approval of the Russian president's activities was 78.3% (+0.2 p.p. over the week)," the results of a survey con-



ducted among 1,600 Russian adults from August 1 to August 7 showed.

Positive assessment figures for the activities of the Prime Minister and the Russian

government over the past week dropped to 52.6% (-0.2 p.p.) and 52.2% (-0.6 p.p.), respectively. "Mikhail Mishustin is trusted by 63.1% of respondents (-0.5 p.p. over the week)," the report said.

The respondents also expressed their confidence in the heads of parliamentary factions. According to the pollster, 33.8% of respondents trust CPRF leader Gennady Zyuganov (+1.8 p.p. over the week), Sergey Mironov, the leader of A Just Russia - For Truth, gained 31.3% (+0.7 p.p. over the week), the leader of the New People party, Alexey

Nechayev, received 11.6% (+2.7 p.p. over the week), and 18.6% of respondents (+0.9 p.p.) said they trusted Leonid Slutsky, leader of the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia (LDPR)," the pollsters noted.

The level of support for the United Russia party stood at 40.7% (+0.4 p.p. over the week), with the CPRF supported by 10.8% (+0.2 p.p.). The New People party's figures came at 4.2% (-0.2% p.p.), while the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia (LDPR) got 7.5% (-0.4 p.p.), and A Just Russia - For Truth was supported by 5.7% (+0.2 p.p.).

Agencies

British PM candidate Sunak plans to cut energy costs

LONDON

FORMER British finance minister Rishi Sunak, who is competing to be the country's next prime minister, on Thursday set out a plan, including a reduction in energy bills, to tackle rising costs for households.

Writing in The Times, he said every household would get savings of around 200 pounds (US\$244) on their energy bills with a reduction in value-added tax (VAT).

The UK is bracing for already high energy bills to more than triple this year, with charities warning that millions of people could be forced into poverty if the government does not launch a multi-billion pound support package to soften the blow.

Sunak, an underdog in the leadership race behind front-runner Liz Truss, said his plan would cover "support for the most vulnerable, support for pensioners and some support for everyone."

The former finance minister said the most vulnerable group of people and pensioners would get the money to meet their energy costs through the welfare system.

Sunak also said that he will pay for the plan by driving a program to identify savings across the government. "That may mean we have to stop or pause some things in government."

He added that he is prepared for "some limited and temporary, one-off borrowing as a last resort to get us through this winter."

"Given energy prices continue to rise, it is also likely the government will raise more revenue from the Energy Profits Levy that I introduced," he added, referencing a 25 percent windfall tax on oil and gas producers' profits he previously introduced as finance minister.

Agencies



China inaugurates world's first 'gene bank' of ancient ceramics

THE world's first "gene bank" of ancient ceramics was recently inaugurated at the Jingdezhen Imperial Kiln Museum in Jingdezhen, east China's Jiangxi province.

The "gene bank," co-built by the museum and multiple top Chinese universities and relevant organizations, will carry out research programs on nearly 20 million pieces of ceramic specimens unearthed.

Researchers will use modern sophisticated equipment to make "gene" specimens in both physical and digital forms to decode the origin and development of the ancient ceramics civilization.

Jingdezhen is a renowned historical town that has made its name through ceramic-making. Its history of ceramic-making dates back over 2,000 years.

Known as the "porcelain capital," Jingdezhen also has a 1,000-year history of official-run kilns and a 600-year history of imperial kilns.

Tens of millions, maybe even hundreds of millions of pieces of ceramic specimens are buried at the imperial kiln site of Jingdezhen and surrounding areas. Kiln slag there is even as thick as a dozen meters.

The Jingdezhen Imperial Kiln Museum is built on the ruins of the imperial kiln site, and most of the exhibits displayed at the museum were spliced with ceramic fragments unearthed at the site.

Weng Yanjun, head of the Jingdezhen Imperial Kiln Museum, told People's

Daily that intact collections of ceramics produced at the imperial kiln site are too precious to be broken for studies. According to Weng, ceramic specimens are a better choice, and at least 100 pieces of information can be extracted from one single piece of specimen.

Over the past years, the museum has launched academic exchanges and archaeological cooperation with multiple organizations, including Peking University, the Palace Museum, UCLA, the University of Tokyo and the Institute of Archaeology under the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

They have collected nearly 20,000 pieces of data from over 10 kilns, which has preliminarily established a basic

data base for the studies of ancient Chinese ceramics.

The preparations for the "gene bank" started in July last year and were joined by the universities and organizations in cooperation with the Jingdezhen Imperial Kiln Museum.

The "gene bank" integrates data collection, archaeological studies, scientific analysis, ceramics restoration and achievements demonstration.

It is scheduled to complete the first batch of nearly 10,000 ancient ceramics specimens fabricated in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) in a year and a half, and will spend another three to five years completing all the rest unearthed in Jingdezhen, Weng said.

Xiong Zhe, who heads a lab at the Jingdezhen Imperial Kiln Museum, told People's Daily that the "gene bank" mainly collects ceramic specimens in fragment, section, slice and powder forms.

The "gene bank" will share information about ceramic specimens with other institutions, Weng said. The information can be used to build elaborate models of exhibitions, cultural relics protection and 3D printing, and also offer science-based support for the development of ceramic cultural products, as well as the construction of digital museums.

The techniques of Jingdezhen's imperial kiln site have profoundly impacted

the global industrialized development of ceramic-making. Blue and white porcelain wares produced in Jingdezhen are considered fine examples and replicated around the world. Today, the physical remains of ceramic works produced at Jingdezhen kiln sites are kept in many countries including Türkiye, Egypt, Japan, Vietnam, North Korea, Italy, France and the Netherlands.

"After the completion of the 'gene bank,' we'd like to carry out active cooperation with academic institutions at home and abroad," Weng said, adding that they would also like to foster research projects on global ceramics civilization and build an international platform for ceramics-related cultural exchange.

People's Daily

Russia in talks with US about potential prisoner exchanges, says diplomat

MOSCOW

COMPETENT authorities in Russia and the United States are in talks to discuss potential prisoner swaps, the Russian Foreign Ministry's Deputy Spokesman Ivan Nechayev said at a briefing on Thursday.

"We have repeatedly commented on this. On August 5, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov confirmed that Russia is ready to discuss the issue, but only within the channel negotiated by Russian President [Vladimir Putin] and US President [Joe Biden]. Let me remind you that corresponding competent authorities have been instructed to negotiate the issue. Competent agencies are in talks," the Russian diplomat said.

He also recalled Moscow's plea to Washington "not to speculate on the sensitive issue affecting specific individuals."

"We would recommend abandoning futile attempts to put pressure on us and we are calling on them to concentrate on practical work along the available channels. There is no other way," Nechayev concluded.

"We proceed from the fact that the negotiations should take the interests of both sides into account," the diplomat emphasized.

Earlier, Washington offered Moscow to exchange Russian businessman Viktor Bout, who is serving a prison term in the US for arms trafficking, for basketball player Brittney Griner, sentenced to jail for drugs trafficking, and Paul Whelan, convicted in Russia of spying.

The exchange of prisoners was one of the topics discussed in a telephone conversation between Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in late July.

American media reported later, citing unidentified sources, that Russia had proposed to include another Russian prisoner jailed in the West in the prisoner swap.

Agencies

African observers laud Kenya for holding free, fair elections

NAIROBI

KENYA'S general elections, held on Tuesday to choose the fifth president, county governors, senators and members of the National Assembly, were largely peaceful, free and fair, pan-African blocs said on Thursday.

The joint election observation mission to Kenya from the African Union (AU) and Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), and election observation missions from the East African Community (EAC) and Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) said in their preliminary statements that they were satisfied by the voting exercise amid a lack of major glitches or security lapses.

Ernest Bai Koroma, the head of the AU-COMESA Election Observer Mission and former president of Sierra Leone, said Kenya's electoral body had demonstrated improved capacity to conduct a seamless national voting exercise.

"There was (a) notable improvement in the overall voting exercise across the country. Polling stations opened on time, voters were identified easily by digital kits and no major security incident was reported," Koroma said at a briefing in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital.

Statistics from Kenya's Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) indicate that 64.4 percent of 22.1 million registered voters, translating into 14.2 million votes, had been cast. Counting of votes is underway, with electoral agency officials calling for calm to ensure the results for the presidency and other local elected leaders were credible in order to avoid costly litigation.

Jakaya Kikwete, the head of the EAC Observation Mission and former Tanzanian president, noted that the voting exercise adhered to local laws and international best practices, earning the confidence of voters and foreign monitoring groups.

Kikwete lauded Kenya's electoral body for investing in modern technology and skilled manpower to ensure that the election of new leaders was inclusive, smooth, transparent and verifiable.

"We are satisfied by the manner in which polls were conducted. We hope the subsequent process of transmitting and tallying votes will be above board and a reflection of the will of the people," said Kikwete, noting that despite being highly competitive, Kenya's seventh general elections under a multiparty system of governance were devoid of polarization that could jeopardize national security and cohesion.

Kikwete (pictured) acknowledged that voter turnout was lower compared to the 2013 and 2017 general elections, adding that there was a need to expand outreach to the youth and ensure they took part in the civic exercise. Mulatu Teshome, former Ethiopian president and the head of the IGAD Election Observation Mission, said that adequate preparations ensured that the voting exercise in Kenya met the globally recognised threshold.

According to Teshome, the outcomes of a free, fair and inclusive electoral process in Kenya would be critical to sustaining regional stability, growth and cohesion.

Xinhua



Wildfires burn, farmers struggle as another heatwave bakes Europe

HOSTENS

EUROPEAN nations sent fire-fighting teams to help France tackle a "monster" wildfire on Thursday, while forest fires also raged in Spain and Portugal and the head of the European Space Agency urged immediate action to combat climate change.

More than 1,000 firefighters, backed by water-bombing planes, battled for a third day a fire that has forced thousands from their homes and scorched thousands of hectares of forest in France's southwestern Gironde region.

With a dangerous cocktail of blistering temperatures, tinderbox conditions and wind fanning the flames, emergency services were struggling to bring the fire under control.

"It's an ogre, a monster," said Gregory Allione from the French firefighters body FNSPF said.

Heatwaves, floods and crumbling glaciers in recent weeks have heightened concerns over climate change and the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather across the globe.

The head of the European Space Agency, Josef Aschbacher, said rising land temperatures and shrinking rivers as measured from space left no doubt about the toll on agriculture and other industries from climate change.

ESA's Copernicus Sentinel-3 satellite series has measured "extreme" land surface temperatures of more than 45C in Britain, 50C in France and 60C in Spain in recent weeks.

"It's pretty bad. We have seen extremes that have not been observed before," Aschbacher told Reuters.

In Romania, where record temperatures and drought have drained rivers of water,



Sunflowers suffer from lack of water, as Europe is under an unusually extreme heat wave, in Ury, south of Paris, France on Monday. AP

Greenpeace activists protested on the parched banks of the Danube to draw attention to global warming and urge the government to lower emissions.

Climate change risks

With successive heatwaves baking Europe this summer, searing temperatures and unprecedented droughts, renewed focus has been placed on climate change risks to farming, industry and livelihoods.

Severe drought is set to slash the European Union's maize harvest by 15 percent, dropping it to a 15-year low, just as Europeans contend with higher food prices as a result of lower-than-normal grain exports from Russia and Ukraine.

Swiss army helicopters have been drafted in to airlift water to thirsty cows, pigs and goats sweltering under a fierce sun in the country's Alpine meadows.

In France, suffering its harshest

drought on record, trucks are delivering water to dozens of villages where taps have run dry, nuclear power stations have received waivers to keep pumping hot discharge water into river, and farmers warn a fodder shortfall may lead to milk shortages.

In Germany, scant rainfall this summer has drained the water levels of the Rhine, the country's commercial artery, hampering shipping and pushing freight costs.

However, as Europe contends with another heatwave, one group of workers has little choice but to sweat it out: gig-economy food couriers who often fall between the cracks of labor regulations.

After the mayor of Palermo on the island of Sicily in July ordered horses carrying tourists to be given at least 10 liters of water per day, bicycle courier Gaetano Russo filed a suit demanding similar treatment.

"Am I worth less than a horse," Rus-

so was quoted as saying in a Nidil CDIL union statement.

'Heartbroken'

Britain's Met Office on Thursday issued a four-day "extreme heat" warning for parts of England and Wales.

In Portugal, more than 1,500 firefighters spent a sixth day fighting a wildfire in the central Covilha region that has burned 10,500 hectares, including parts of the Serra da Estrela national park.

In Spain, electrical storms triggered new wildfires and hundreds of people were evacuated from the path of one blaze in the province of Caceres.

Macron's office said extra fire-fighting aircraft were arriving from Greece and Sweden, while Germany, Austria, Romania and Poland were all deploying firefighters to help tackle wildfires in France.

"European solidarity at work!" Macron tweeted.

Firefighters said they had managed to save the village of Belin-Beliet, which emptied after police told residents to evacuate as the flames approached. But the blaze reached the outskirts, leaving behind charred houses and ruined tractors.

"We've been lucky. Our houses were saved. But you see the catastrophe over there. Some houses could not be saved," said resident Gaetan, pointing to houses burnt to the ground.

The Gironde was hit by big wildfires in July.

"The area is totally disfigured. We're heartbroken, we're exhausted," Jean-Louis Dartailh, a local mayor, told Radio Classique. "(This fire) is the final straw."

Agencies

Pelosi's visit an ugly political show and vain attempt

SPEAKER of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi's visit to China's Taiwan region, which risked universal condemnation, was a seriously violation of the one-China principle and the three China-U.S. joint communiqués.

The visit seriously infringed on China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, sparking strong resentment of the Chinese people and wide opposition of the international society.

Pelosi's visit was a deliberate and vicious act to escalate tensions across the Taiwan Strait. The Taiwan question is the most important and sensitive issue at the very heart of the China-U.S. relations, and the one-China principle remains the political foundation for China-U.S. relations.

The U.S. Congress, as a part of the U.S. Government, is inherently obliged to strictly adhere to the political promises made by the U.S. Government concerning the one-China policy in the three China-U.S. joint communiqués.

However, Pelosi claimed her visit didn't contradict the U.S. policy towards China and the U.S. would not abandon its commitment to Taiwan. This in essence instigated "Taiwan independence" and once again revealed the scheme of the U.S. to strategically contain and consume China with the Taiwan question. Such mean trick fully exposed the hypocrisy of the U.S. on the Taiwan question.

The U.S.-Taiwan collusion and provocation came before China's legitimate countermeasures, which is an undeniable fact. However, Pelosi, to deflect the blame on China, accused Beijing of dramatically increasing tensions with Taiwan in recent years.

The Taiwan Strait is facing a new round of tensions and severe challenges, and the fundamental cause is the repeated moves by the Taiwan authorities and the U.S. to change the status quo. The Taiwan authorities have kept seeking U.S. support for their independence agenda.

They refuse to recognize the 1992 Consensus, go all out to push forward "de-sinicization," and promote "incremental independence."

The U.S., for its part, has been attempting to use Taiwan to contain China. It constantly distorts, obscures and hollows out the one-China principle, steps up its official exchanges with Taiwan, and emboldens "Taiwan indepen-



dence" separatist activities.

Pelosi noted her visit aimed at promoting regional peace, but it exactly proved that the U.S. has become the "biggest destroyer" of peace across the Taiwan Strait and for regional stability, as well as the chief culprit escalating tensions across the Taiwan Strait. China's countermeasures are justified and necessary, and it's a right enjoyed by any independent sovereign country.

Pelosi's visit to Taiwan, disregarding the general picture of the China-U.S. relations, was totally an ugly show of her to seek personal political profits. The U.S. mid-term elections are approaching but there have been scandals around the Pelosi family. To divert attention and gain an advantage in the elections, Pelosi resorted to the "Taiwan card," sowing discord between China and the U.S. to leave a so-called political legacy. She claimed to "stand with Taiwan," but is indeed taking Taiwan as a pawn on her chessboard. Her "democracy" and "human rights" are in essence private profits and businesses. U.S. mainstream media and the international society have widely criticized Pelosi for her irresponsible act, saying the visit was stupid, dangerous and unnecessary.

The political farce cannot change the historical and legal fact that there is but one China in the world, Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, and the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legitimate government representing the

whole of China. It is a consensus of the international community and a basic norm governing international relations.

On the day of Pelosi's visit to Taiwan, the spokesperson for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, reiterated UN's support for the one-China policy, and many countries also expressed their support for the one-China policy.

Violating the one-China principle and the "five noes" commitment, the U.S. showed no sense of responsibility as a major country and further damaged its credibility.

People with insight from the international community believe that any U.S. attempt to distort and break the one-China policy, directly or indirectly, would stain the history and law, break the promises made by the U.S., and hurt the international credibility of the U.S.

The People's Liberation Army are currently conducting joint military operations around Taiwan Island, which are a stern deterrent against the recent major escalation of the negative acts by the U.S. on the Taiwan question, and a serious warning against separatist activities seeking "Taiwan independence."

These operations demonstrate China's firm resolve, determination and capability to safeguard its state sovereignty and territorial integrity, and the country's responsible manner in protecting peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.

The Chinese government is capable of building a strategic environment for national reunification and defeating "Taiwan independence" separatist forces in any form. Any foreign intervention is doomed to failure.

China's reunification is inevitable. It is an unstoppable trend of history that will never be changed because of Pelosi's visit. Any individual or country that attempts to reverse the trend and play the "Taiwan card" to undermine China's sovereignty and territorial integrity will pay a huge price.

People's Daily

S. Korea's Yoon pardons Samsung leader Jay Y Lee

SEOUL

SOUTH Korea's President Yoon Suk-yeol pardoned Samsung Electronics Vice-Chairman Jay Y Lee yesterday, with South Korea's Justice Ministry saying the business leader was needed to help overcome a "national economic crisis".

The pardon is largely symbolic, with Lee (pictured) already out on parole after serving 18 months in jail for bribery relating to his time leading the world's biggest smartphone and memory-chip maker.

However, it should mean Lee will be able to carry out business activities more freely and could herald some big moves from Samsung, analysts said.

"With urgent needs to overcome the national economic crisis, we carefully selected economic leaders who lead the national growth engine through active technology investment and job creation to be pardoned," Justice Minister Han Dong Hoon told a briefing.

Also pardoned by pro-business President Yoon was Lotte Group chairman Shin Dong-bin, who was sentenced to a two-and-a-half-year prison sentence on charges of bribery.

"We sincerely thank the government's and people's decision to grant pardon, and Chairman Shin Dong-bin and staff members at Lotte will contribute to overcoming the complex global crisis," Lotte said in a statement.

Samsung did not immediately comment.

Even before receiving the presidential pardon, Lee had returned to the limelight, appearing in May with President Yoon and US President Joe Biden when they visited Samsung's Pyeongtaek chip production facilities.

He has also visited Europe in June to meet ASML Holding NV CEO Peter Wennink, discussing the adoption of key high-end chip equipment.

Analysts have long expected decisions on major M&A projects and investments once Lee was reinstated, with company sources



saying such decisions should only be made by Lee.

"This removes the employment restriction Lee was technically under," said Park Ju-gun, head of research firm Leaders Index.

"And projects that were being pursued Samsung, such as major M&A or investments, these could be tied to the pardon. There's a high chance that announcements will be made going forward."

Last November, Samsung decided on Taylor, Texas as the site of a new \$17 billion chip plant in November.

Top Samsung executives have hinted earlier this year at potential upcoming acquisition activity. Samsung Electronics has not conducted a high-profile deal since its completed its purchase of audio electronics maker Harman for \$8 billion in 2017.

Although macroeconomic factors such as a demand downturn may weigh on investment decisions, Samsung has a huge war chest.

Samsung Electronics' cash balance increased slightly to 125 trillion won (\$95.13 billion) as of end-June, from 111 trillion a year earlier.

Shares in Samsung Electronics were trading up 1 percent as of 0245 GMT, versus benchmark KOSPI's 0.1 percent rise. Lotte Corp shares were down 0.8 percent.

Agencies

The Guardian

SPORT

Simba SC, Yanga urged to value proper use of Benjamin Mkapa Stadium

BY CORRESPONDENT ISMAIL TANO

THE management of the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium has continued to complain about the tendency of soccer followers to misuse the stadium's infrastructure, especially the toilets.

The stadium's manager Gordon Nsajigwa said that many soccer fans who regularly turn up at the stadium have developed a habit of failing to take care of the toilet infrastructure.

He said after two celebrations organized by local football big guns, Simba and Yanga, which took place at the venue last week, the washrooms at the stadium were left dirty, which is a shame for everyone who came to the venue.

Yanga had firstly organized the climax of a week of community activities done by its members and fans, dubbed 'Siku Ya Wananchi'.

Simba thereafter hosted a similar celebration known as 'Simba Day' which is also a climax of community activities the club's followers had executed for a week.

Nsajigwa revealed: "It has become a prob-

lem when big ties are taking place here... the fans fail to take care of the toilets, this is a shame for everyone who comes here."

The official stated: "After the two prominent clubs' celebrations, the toilets were left dirty... we have been trying to ensure that they are always clean but the fans are not cooperating with the stadium management."

"There is a need for the government to continue taking care of this stadium, the fans also have every reason to change because this is for them and they should work together to take care of the environment of our stadium," Nsajigwa stressed.

Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Mohamed Mchengera has reportedly instructed the ministry's Permanent Secretary Hassan Abbas to assign Nsajigwa other responsibilities.

The statement issued by Abbas notes that the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium manager is about to be assigned other duties for failing to take charge of the sustainable use of the venue.

Abbas noted procedures have already begun to assign Nsajigwa other duties and his position is expected to be filled immediately.

Serena loses 1st match since saying she's prepared to retire

TORONTO

SERENA Williams wore her game face when she stepped out into the stadium for her first match since telling the world she is ready to leave professional tennis.

Greeted by a standing ovation, the 23-time Grand Slam champion didn't smile. She didn't wave. She took a sip from a plastic bottle as she walked in. Some folks in the crowd captured the moment with the cameras on their cellphones. Others held aloft hand-drawn signs – oh, so many signs – with messages such as "Queen" or "Thank you."

No one knows exactly how many more matches Williams will play before she puts her rackets away for good, and the 40-year-old American exited the National Bank Open on Wednesday night with a 6-2, 6-4 loss to Belinda Bencic.

While there were some familiar fist pumps and yells of "Come on!" during competition, it was only afterward that Williams really allowed her feelings to show, her voice shaking and her eyes welling during an on-court interview when Bencic ceded the spotlight.

"A lot of emotions, obviously," Williams told spectators who offered her encouragement throughout the clear, 75-degree evening.

The second-round match at the hard-court teneup for the U.S. Open came a day after she announced "the countdown has begun" on her playing career, saying she wants to have another child and pursue business interests.

She did not state precisely what her last event will be, but did make it sound as if her final farewell will come at the U.S. Open, which begins Aug. 29 in New York. Williams has won the singles title at Flushing Meadows a half-dozen times – first in 1999; most recently in 2014 – to go along with seven championships apiece at Wimbledon and the Australian Open, plus three at the French Open.

"It's been a pretty interesting 24 hours," Williams said after Wednesday's match.

"I'm terrible at goodbyes," she added, her hand on her chest, "but goodbye, Toronto!"

Next up on her schedule is the Western & Southern Open in Cincinnati next week, an-

other event that serves as preparation for the year's last Grand Slam tournament.

Williams, a three-time champion in Canada, started this match, fittingly enough, with an ace. Delivered another later in that game, too, showing off the superb serve that helped her to so many match victories, so many tournament titles, so many weeks at No. 1 in the rankings.

That elite ability showed up occasionally against Bencic, whether the trio of unreturnable serves to close out that opening game or a later putaway swinging volley accented with a shout and a tug on the brim of her white visor.

But because of a leg injury that sidelined her for the last half of 2021 and first half of 2022, she was playing for only the third time in the past 12 months. There were signs of that, as well, and of why Williams is no longer the dominant force she was for so long.

The breaks of her serve that were never quite so frequent when she was younger and at the height of her powers. The not-quite-on-target groundstrokes. The inability to offer up too much resistance while receiving serve; she only earned one break point in the first set, missing a return long to fritter away that chance, and none in the second.

"I wish I could have played better," Williams said, "but Belinda played so well today."

It did not help Williams that she was facing an opponent 15 years her junior and quite talented, to boot: Bencic is ranked 12th, won a gold medal for Switzerland at the Tokyo Olympics last year and has been a Grand Slam semifinalist.

"It's always an honor to be on the court with her," Bencic said, "and that's why I think tonight is about her." Bencic took home the Toronto trophy at age 18 in 2015, when she eliminated Williams in the semifinals to earn the distinction of being the youngest woman to beat a player many consider, as one homemade poster in the stands declared Wednesday, the "GOAT" – the greatest of all-time.

In the late match, Bianca Andreescu – the final Canadian left in the singles draw – beat Alize Cornet 6-3, 4-6, 6-3. Andreescu won the tournament in 2019 when Williams retired in the final match because of back problems.

AP

Tenga set the standard, current TFF officials should not be overstretched

BY CORRESPONDENT NASSIR NCHIMBI

IF Tanzania's soccer followers reminisce and carefully look seriously and closely, Leodegar Chilla Tenga, the former Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president, can even lead the country, he has wisdom, dignity, and integrity.

Time has passed and now the sport's enthusiasts can all remember what kind of person Tenga was.

I cannot believe if Yanga's spokesman Haji Manara could have approached Tenga and either pointed a finger at him or shout at him.

There was never that person in football even though it is a dirty game, there are people that football lovers ought to let be the way they are.

Whenever Tenga appeared in public, people smiled and shook his hand, he certainly now misses football and the game's local fraternity misses him.

There would not have been an incident like the one that involved current TFF president, Wallace Karia, and Manara which took place in Arusha when Yanga came up against Coastal Union in the 2021/22 Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) final last month.

After the incident involving Manara and Karia, in which the two engaged in a heated argument that ended with Manara facing punishment from TFF, many issues have brought questions about the country's football and its people.

Manara has been banned for two years and he deserves the punishment, Manara is merely a carefree person but in other areas, people should not have a nonchalant perspective about him.

Maybe soccer lovers ought to have a look at Manara. He is known to have made mistakes, these mistakes though did not start several days ago.

There are times when he goes out of line, it is like he went out of line in Arusha but since he was serving Simba SC, he had been going beyond boundaries.



Former Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president, Leodegar Chilla Tenga.

The soccer administrator is now working for Yanga and he always goes out of line.

Surprisingly, soccer fans rooting for Simba SC today believe that Manara has done a strange act in local football, an incident the latter was hardly involved in when their outfit had hired him.

I wonder how can Yanga supporters cheer at him when he keeps on doing strange acts, the enthusiasts were in the past not happy with his actions.

It is a form of hypocrisy built

in local football but it is also a kind of act that proves the love for Simba SC and Yanga cannot end.

Domestic football fanatics look at everything concerning Simba SC and Yanga but this is also the time to discuss TFF president Karia.

The TFF president must be careful with his actions. Why is he easily accessible? It is so because he speaks simply, and he looks like an individual that can easily mingle with other people.

He cannot keep quiet and diplomatically approach issues. Some TFF leaders develop fear when Karia talks to the media.

Even in the whole saga involving Manara, Karia was heard saying to Haji 'I will ban you.'

This is not right, Karia is not the one who bans local football fraternity members, Manara was supposed to be banned by the relevant committee according to the law.



Dar es Salaam's Kivukoni Ward Councillor, Sharik Choughule (L), holds a poster bearing a picture of President Samia Suluhu Hassan whilst cheering at Simba SC when the club took on Ethiopia's St. George in an international friendly game that took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam recently. Simba SC won 2-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

2022 Qatar World Cup finals inch closer

BY GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

THE countdown clock in Qatar's capital, Doha, as of yesterday exceeds 100 days before the first whistle for the 2022 World Cup to be played in Qatar.

It is a moment that will constitute a prominent point in the history of the Middle East, as it lays solid foundations for a sustainable legacy that will bring about an important transformation and positive change in the country and the region.

As World Cup approaches, the pace of enthusiasm and suspense is rising throughout Qatar, as the world awaits November 20, the largest football

event on earth, and an amazing historical version of the tournament being held for the first time in the Arab world and region as a whole.

According to the Supreme Committee for project and legacy, the 2022 World Cup in Qatar has not been considered an event whose importance and activities are limited to global football competitions within 28 days, but rather it is an exceptional event that leaves a social, human, economic and environmental impact.

The State of Qatar, by organizing this tournament wants to leave an immortal legacy and a title for an exceptional stage in the history of the re-

gion, and a unique opportunity that constitutes a window for the people of the world to get to know Qatar and the region closely.

The showdown provides a new model for achieving the concept of human peace at the world level and confirms Qatar's readiness to host the tournament at the end of this year.

It should be noted that the movement and events in this season's finals will not be limited to football competitions in the stadiums, given the outdoor spaces will turn into theaters to enhance the festive atmosphere during the upcoming football festival.

Doha will turn into a creative theater that offers a cultural and artistic experience full of diversity and creativity, inviting artists from all over the world to showcase their talents and creativity in front of the 2022 Qatar World Cup audience.

This artistic initiative comes within the framework of ongoing efforts of the Supreme Committee aimed to make the World Cup a unique platform for cultural exchange and promoting rapprochement between people from all over the world, by presenting a variety of live and interactive art activities to the audience of the tournament.

Furthermore, the showpiece is keen on shedding light on the cultures of people from around the world and striving to involve talented and enthusiastic artists to contribute to hosting an impressive version of the historic tournament.

Hosting the tournament in Qatar brought about a major transformation in the country's infrastructure, through many major projects, including the expansion of Hamad International Airport, new road networks, hotels, and others.

The infrastructure will greatly contribute to enhancing the long-term economic growth process after the

closing of the tournament on December 18, 2022.

The State of Qatar once again welcomes football fans to world-class facilities that were built and developed specifically for the 2022 World Cup.

The infrastructure constituted sustainable development, as either new training sites, or those that witnessed renovation work would serve clubs and local communities in the long term.

The new hotels will also contribute to the boom of the growing tourism in the country after the curtain of the tournament had been brought down.

How soon could Real Madrid win the 100th trophy in their history?

BY ALEX KIRKLAND, ESPN FC

REAL Madrid's UEFA Super Cup triumph in Helsinki on Wednesday -- with David Alaba and Karim Benzema scoring in a 2-0 win over Eintracht Frankfurt -- was the first of six possible trophies that Los Blancos will be hoping to lift this season, with LaLiga, the Copa del Rey, the Champions League, the Spanish Supercopa and the FIFA Club World Cup all up for grabs.

It was also another step toward Madrid becoming the first club in Europe's big five leagues to have won 100 official trophies. It's a race that they lead ahead of fellow giants Barcelona, Bayern Munich, Juventus, Liverpool and Manchester United -- but how close are they to reaching that landmark figure?

Spanish newspaper Diario AS called the 100-trophy target Real Madrid's "new challenge" on its front page on Tuesday, saying that the Spanish champions would make it 98 trophies won with the 2022 Super Cup.

Take a look at Real Madrid's own website, though, and a different figure can be found. The club now names 99 national and international trophies, including this latest win over Frankfurt.

Meanwhile, a glance at the club's entry on Wikipedia (which, as we all know, is the most reliable source possible) lists 96 competitive honours.

Why the difference? It comes down to your definition of what constitutes an "official" trophy. Of course there's no dispute about the number of LaLiga titles Madrid have won: a record 35. The same goes for their 19 Copa del Rey triumphs and 14 Champions Leagues. There's no debate about their 12 Spanish Supercopas, five UEFA Super Cups, four Club World Cups or two UEFA Cups (now the Europa League). That takes us to a total of 91.

Here's where it gets more complicated. Football's evolution has seen a number of historic competitions disappear -- but that doesn't mean they're not recognised by the sport's governing bodies.

That applies to the Intercontinental Cup, which was played between the winners of the UEFA Champions League and CONMEBOL's Copa Libertadores between 1960 and 2004, when it was replaced by the Club

World Cup. Real Madrid won it three times: in 1960, 1998 and 2002. The same goes for Spain's short-lived League Cup, played between 1983 and 1986 before being discontinued. Madrid won that in 1985. We've now reached 95 trophies, and it's time to look at some other historical tournaments whose "official" status is less clear-cut. The Latin Cup was played between teams from Spain, France, Italy and Portugal -- a kind of predecessor to the European Cup -- between 1949 and 1957. Real Madrid won it twice. UEFA and FIFA have both recognised the Latin Cup as an official competition, so we can add those to the list. That's 97 trophies for Real Madrid.

Next up, it's the Ibero-American Cup, played once -- in 1994 -- between the winners of Spain's Copa del Rey and CONMEBOL's Gold Cup, with Madrid beating Boca Juniors over two legs. Madrid don't mention it on their website. But they "do" list two victories in the Small Club World Cup: a tournament you've probably never heard of.

It took place in Venezuela between 1952 and 1957, a private venture approved by the Venezuelan Football Federation, and was won twice by Real Madrid. It isn't recognised by FIFA, but Madrid consider it a competitive trophy, and that's where the confusion lies.

Regardless of whether Madrid have 96, 98 or 99, they're not the world's most successful club in terms of trophies won. Scottish giants Rangers and Celtic lead the way in Europe, with 117 and 113 official trophies, respectively. Uruguay's Nacional -- who recently welcomed Luis Suarez back to the club -- boast an incredible 163 trophies, making them the most successful club in South America.

So, when could Madrid break that 100-trophy barrier? Depending on which figure you accept, it could come in the Spanish Supercopa in January, or the FIFA Club World Cup -- for which a date is yet to be set -- or next May, come the end of the 2022-23 season.

Considering that Madrid have won 17 of the 19 finals they have contested since 2014, it probably won't be too long before they bring up their century of trophies, no matter whose count you're following.

Africa Super League: What we know and don't know

ARUSHA, TANZANIA

THE Africa Super League was launched in Tanzania this week amid much fanfare, with huge prize money for the 24 clubs who qualify for the first edition next year.

Teams winning the current marquee competition, the CAF Champions League, pocket \$2.5 million (2.4 million euros). Winners of the Super League will be \$11.5 million richer.

The first edition of the Super League is set to kick off in August 2023, continue until May 2024 and culminate in a "Super Bowl-like" final.

Here, AFP Sport tells what is known about the Super League and also what is not known about a competition set to give football in Africa a considerable boost.

*KNOWN

The Super League will begin with three eight-club regional groups -- north, west-centre, south-east -- and each team plays the other seven at home and away.

The top five finishers in each section plus the best sixth-placed side advance to a knockout phase consisting of a round of 16, quarter-finals and semi-finals over two legs and a final.

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Qualifiers will be decided by rankings based on results in CAF competitions over a period of time yet to be announced.

There will reportedly be clubs from 16 countries in the launch edition with a maximum of three from a nation. Morocco could provide Casablanca clubs Raja and Wydad plus Renaissance Berkane.

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The original plan to have 20 permanent Super League members with a few additional clubs qualifying has been scrapped.

Instead, promotion-relegation playoffs from the end of the first edition will determine the make-up.

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CAF president Patrice Motsepe said each qualifier would receive \$3.5 million up front to cover travel and accommodation costs and to strengthen squads.

Travel costs severely deplete the funds of Champions League competitors with only the 16 clubs who reach the group stage receiving prize money,



starting at \$550,000.

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VAR will be used in all 197 group and knockout matches, which CAF hopes will dramatically reduce the number of complaints about biased refereeing.

FIFA president Gianni Infantino has proposed creating an elite panel of full-time African referees, who would be funded by the world body with poor performances triggering demotion.

UNKNOWN

Who will make the cut is uppermost in the thoughts of African football followers, and Raja, Wydad, Berkane, Al Ahly and Zamalek from Egypt and Esperance Tunis seem certainties.

Mamelodi Sundowns and Orlando Pirates of South Africa, TP Mazembe from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Horoya of Guinea are also likely to be included judged by recent CAF results.

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South African outfit Kaizer Chiefs reached the 2021 Champions League final, but otherwise have made little impression in Africa, often making early exits after fielding below-strength teams.

But Chiefs are among the biggest football brands in Africa, are professionally run and boast world-class facilities. That said, will they be ranked high enough to secure inclusion?

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The Nigerian national team is among the strongest in Africa, but local clubs have fared poorly in CAF competitions for many seasons, with only Enyimba making any impression.

Enyimba, based in southeastern city Aba, should make it, but they will probably be the only club from the most populous country in Africa to feature in the maiden Super League.

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CAF are desperately seeking a worldwide TV audience for the Super League, but must compete with a flood of national team and club coverage from Europe.

Mondays and Fridays are the least congested days when it comes to TV, and the best options for Super League matches, but no plans regarding match days have been disclosed.

+++

CAF say they will retain the Champions League and second-tier Confederation Cup competitions, possibly as knockout competitions with the current group stages ditched.

Add the Super League, where the finalists will fulfil 21 fixtures, and officials running domestic championships and cups must fear fixture congestion.

AFP

FIFA moves World Cup start in Qatar up 1 day to Nov. 20

GENEVA

FIFA has formally moved the World Cup start up by one day to give host nation Qatar an exclusive Sunday evening slot with a global audience.

Qatar will now play Ecuador in Doha on Nov. 20 -- just 101 days after FIFA's decision Thursday -- stretching the World Cup to 29 days from the 28 agreed seven years ago when a June-July tournament was pushed back to avoid the searing desert heat in mid-summer.

The surprise late switch was signed off by a FIFA committee comprising its president Gianni Infantino and presidents of the six continental soccer bodies. FIFA said the vote was unanimous.

The plan was revealed Wednesday after several rounds of ticket sales for fans worldwide since last year.

"FIFA will seek to address any issues arising from this change in a case-by-case basis," soccer's world body said Thursday regarding fans whose travel plans are affected.

The risk to fans "is sufficiently outweighed by the value and benefits of the proposal" commercially, FIFA previously said this week in a letter to soccer officials proposing the switch.

The date change was said to be supported by tournament organizers in the tiny gas-rich emirate, South American soccer body CONMEBOL and the two teams' national soccer federations.

Qatar will now make its World Cup debut kicking off against Ecuador at 7 p.m. local time on Nov. 20 after an opening ceremony on the field at the 60,000-capacity Al Bayt Stadium.

The meeting of the world's No. 49 and No. 44-ranked men's national teams was originally scheduled 24

hours later on Nov. 21 after the finals tournament draw was made April 1 in Doha.

In the original schedule, the opening ceremony was still planned to take place before Qatar-Ecuador despite it being the third game of the tournament, and with just an hour of free time after the final whistle of the second game on the schedule, England vs. Iran.

It is unclear why Qatar's first game was not scheduled in April as the tournament opener.

FIFA acknowledged in its letter this week the "significant value from a ceremonial, cultural and commercial point of view," to have the opening ceremony before the tournament's first game featuring the host nation.

The first game until Thursday's decision was Netherlands-Senegal in Qatar's Group A, starting at 1 p.m. local time on Nov. 21. That now moves back to the cooler hours of the 7 p.m. Monday slot vacated by Qatar-Ecuador.

Sponsors could also have their plans disrupted, according to Ricardo Fort, a former marketing executive with World Cup top-tier backers Coca-Cola and Visa, who described the late date change as "a huge problem."

"They (sponsors) invited and confirmed hospitality guests, booked flights & hotels, and contracted with all the necessary logistics. Imagine changing it all!" Fort wrote on his Twitter account.

Changing the opening game does let FIFA follow recent trend of the host nation having an exclusive day to play the first of the 64-game tournament.

Still, it marks another way the first World Cup in the Middle East and the first of the 22 World Cups ever played



FILE - Branding is displayed near the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center where soccer World Cup draw will be held, in Doha, Qatar, on March 31, 2022. The final draw will be held on April 1. This season will be unique in the 135-year history of domestic leagues in Europe. They will stop for a month or more while players leave for Qatar and the first World Cup ever in the European winter. (AP Photo)

outside of the northern hemisphere summer is upending soccer tradition.

FIFA got agreement from soccer officials worldwide in 2015 to delay the tournament previously set for the usual June-July period when temperatures routinely hit 45 degrees Celsius (113 degrees Fahrenheit) in Qatar.

Qatar committed to stay on soccer's normal calendar and promised innovative stadium cooling technology when it bid for World Cup hosting rights in 2009-10.

When FIFA accepted the inevitable need to delay until Qatar's cooler months, a tough negotiation with European leagues and clubs led to the 2015 agreement for a shorter, 28-day

program to minimize disruption for domestic soccer that relies on weekend games. European leagues such as England's Premier League, Germany's Bundesliga and Italy's Serie A will play through the Nov. 12-13 weekend, just seven days before the new opening game date.

Those leagues will shut down during the World Cup, which ends with a Sunday, Dec. 18 final on Qatar's National Day. The Premier League is the first to resume on Dec. 26.

While an opening game on Sunday evening in Qatar should play well with viewers in Asia and Europe, in the United States the kickoff will be 11 a.m. EST. That puts the World Cup opener in direct competition with NFL pre-game coverage.

The U.S. soccer team plays its World Cup opener against Wales in the late Monday game in Qatar.

Meanwhile, the coach who helped Morocco qualify for the World Cup was fired Thursday, barely three

months before the start of the tournament in Qatar.

The Moroccan soccer federation said the decision to fire Wahid Halilhodzhi was because of disagreements in preparing the team for the tournament. Morocco is scheduled to play its first match on Nov. 23 against 2018 World Cup finalist Croatia. The team will also play Belgium and Canada in Group F.

Halilhodzhi's exit opens the way for Hakim Ziyech to return to the squad. The Bosnian had cut the Chelsea winger from the squad last year in a dispute over a supposed unwillingness to play in a friendly game.

It's the third time the 69-year-old Halilhodzhi has been fired by a team he helped qualify but could not coach at the World Cup itself. He led Ivory Coast through qualifying for the 2010 tournament and Japan for the 2018 edition but lost his job each time before getting to the final tournament.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Protect Ruaha River sources, urges Samia

FROM PAGE 1

food production, she said, urging extension officers to provide guidance to farmers on new methods of agriculture to avoid environmental degradation.

"I therefore ask all of you including traditional leaders to join forces in conserving the environment because Iringa is among the regions that are blessed with forests and rivers which are a source of life to others," she emphatically appealed.

The government is implementing various projects in Iringa where 75 percent of people in the region were involved in farming, with the region a major food basket, she said.

Responsible ministers need to ensure that they oversee the implementation of projects for institutions now handed plots in the vicinity of the airport now in the course of construction.

She assured the 'marching guys' that the government will build markets for them to conduct businesses as part of the formalisation process, citing the chance to grab opportunities for hawking as the government has lined up various projects in the region.

The government was now looking for contractors to build irrigation schemes, with the scrutiny likely to be completed in September, she said, while Water minister Jumaa Aweso said water availability in the region stands at 75 percent.

Water drilling projects were also being implemented, he said, noting that the polls manifesto for 2020 projects water availability at 97 per cent by 2025.

Earlier, when laying a foundation stone for the expansion of Nduli airport in Iringa, President Samia said the airport will help to improve transportation and logistics in the region, especially in the movement of food crops.

"Work hard. Farmers should work hard and use the infrastructure and projects being launched countrywide to generate incomes," she said.

The new airport is being expanded with a World Bank loan to host regular passenger and cargo planes, boosting international trade.

Rogatus Mativila, the Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tan-Roads) chief executive said the 63bn/- project will be completed by August 2023.



Fatma Mohammed Rajab (R), Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation ministry, is gifted a souvenir in Dar es Salaam yesterday by Abdulaziz Bin Abdulrahman Al-Huwaish, head of a delegation of Saudi Arabian experts who have been exploring investment opportunities in the agricultural and livestock sectors in Tanzania. Photo courtesy of Foreign Affairs ministry

Conjoined twins surgical feat lapses as other twin also dies

FROM PAGE 1

organs.

The surgery started around 9 am and ended at around 3 pm with radiologists, anaesthetists, hematologists, plastic surgeons and others being involved.

Out of the 31 specialists, 26 were Tanzanians, making the operation a learning moment for doctors, the lead surgeon noted, elaborating that the team had a liver specialist "who has done a

great job on separating the organ in collaboration with other specialists."

Prof Martin Corbally, a liver specialist from Bahrain, said the surgery was complex and it has been successful with the help of other specialists. The anatomy inside can be distorted and not predictable, such that "things that you think will be in the same place are not in the same place, so the complexity was a shared liver and other sensitive organs inside," he stated.

MNH announced the surgery plan in

June on the twins from Mwabayande village at Mwigwa Ward in Maswa District, Simiyu region. They weighed 4.9 kilograms at birth last September 21, sharing the liver to an extent, and a bone in the chest.

Specialists at Muhimbili examined the twins after they arrived from Bugando referral hospital in Mwanza on November 12, weighing 7kg, and by the time they were going into surgery they weighed 13.3 kilos.

Similar cases occurred in 1994 and in

2019, where in the first case one of the twins died and the other is now aged 28. In the second case, the conjoined infants both survived, and are now three years old.

The surgery was another milestone for the key referral hospital which has in recent years enhanced its capacity to provide major services. The first was a cochlear implant, radiology intervention, kidney transplant and then bone marrow transplants.

Media centres abandon streaming results flow

FROM PAGE 1

cent mark they needed to win. Less than a percent was divided between two other marginal candidates.

If no candidate wins more than 50 per cent plus one vote, the two frontrunners will have a run-off.

On Friday the election commission chairman Wafula Chebukati blamed party agents for the slow pace of the official count, which has not yet topped 1.5 percent of the vote.

"Agents in this exercise cannot proceed in the manner which we are proceeding, as if we are doing a forensic audit," he told a news briefing at the tallying centre.

"We are not moving as fast as we should. This exercise needs to be concluded as soon as possible."

Late on Thursday, the chairman of Kenya's Jubilee party, which has backed Odinga, issued a statement alleging 'massive subtle rigging' and claiming the 'electoral process was highly compromised' after Ruto's new party made a strong showing in an area traditionally dominated by Kenya.

The statement alleged voter intimidation, bribery, illegal displaying of campaign materials in polling station, mishandling of party agents and incorrect use of election materials. It provided no evidence and did not explain why the allegations had been made so late. Reuters could not reach party officials for comment.

International observers have generally praised the proceedings in the election run.

Previous elections have largely been determined by ethnic voting blocs, while this time it was first angled on 'bridge building' and the fight against corruption, both of which put the incumbent deputy president in a bad corner.

So he sought to change the tone of the campaign and espoused a radical protectionist outlook, while seeking to make the most of his more humble origin compared to the two titans ranged against him.

He portrayed himself as a self-made hustler, which an online dictionary says is a person adept

at aggressive selling or illicit dealing, a combatant and business person, in a word.

He contrasted this background with those who belong to political dynasties as his rival Odinga like Kenya are the sons of Kenya's first vice president and president, respectively.

Ian Dan, a parcel service attendant in the main bus park in Odinga's stronghold of Kisumu, said business was very slow.

"We are in darkness and this is not good for us. People are anxious and need to have a clear picture," he said. "There are allegations of rigging flying in social media, but many people are waiting to hear from Raila Odinga or William Ruto. Their word will influence people's reactions."

The electoral commission is the only body legally authorised to declare a winner. It initially uploaded images of results forms from more than 46,000 polling stations, but had not tallied them. Instead, media houses employed teams to download forms and enter them into a database.

More than 99.7 per cent of polling station results are in but thousands have not been counted by the media. The abrupt slowdown started when around 80 per cent of the vote had been counted.

But executives from Citizen and Nation media groups said exhausted staff needed a rest.

"Now we have about a third of people working that we started with and we intend to pick up pace in the next few hours when the rest of the team come back," said Linus Kaikai, director of strategy at Citizen.

Stephen Gitagama, the CEO of Nation Media group, said his staff also needed a rest and that they focused on quality control. He referred Reuters to the election commission, known as the Independent Elections and Boundaries Commission.

"IEBC bears the responsibility of providing the results, not the media," he said.

On Friday morning, the election commission displayed an official count of presidential results on a board at the main tallying center. It had counted 1.5 percent of the vote. The commission has seven days to announce a winner.



This is the wreckage of the Jamba Food Products staff bus gutted by fire at Bugweto in Shinyanga municipality yesterday but without incident. Sources said only the driver, Sylvester Derefa, was on board - and he escaped unhurt. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

VP asks mining companies to check vast dust pollution

FROM PAGE 1

health and safety arising out of risk factors like dust, he specified. "There are using a minimum of 30 oxygen gas cylinders a day, costing the government 500m/-annually for such treatment" he said.

A majority of those being treated for silicosis are subjected to oxygen machines for two years, which call for urgent measures to control the situation, he stated. A study conducted in 22 mines at Mimerani area has shown that the level of silica is 25 per cent above internationally recommended averages of silica dust in the mining areas, he said. The highest silica dust level in the mining is supposed to be 0.03 milligram but a sample

taken among 330 miners in 2021 showed silicon dust presence of 1.227 milligrams, far above healthy levels/ Upwards of 30 per cent of the miners sampled were found with silicosis and 20 per cent with tuberculosis, he said, raising alarm that silicosis has resulted in an increasing number of respiratory diseases along with cancer, kidney and heart failure. The VP instructed NEMC, the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) and the Ministry of Minerals to audit the environmental situation at mining sites to ensure they observe anti-pollution guidelines. He demanded that large scale miners come up with plans to rehabilitate the environmental situation at the sites to avoid leaving behind 'holes' as they later impact the environment.

Some experts have at times wondered if those sites can be leased to fish farmers to pump water from wells or lakes and start major fish farming projects, while greening a wide section of the surrounding environment. While the link between small scale mining and dust pollution needs to be studied, there is need for financial institutions to come up with a friendly soft loans programme to enable small miners to move up, which can be done at nine percent interest rate, he said. Child labour at mining sites similarly needs to come to an end, he said, affirming that regulatory agencies and mining companies have been instructed to ensure this habit comes to a complete stop. The VP took a moment to salute the mining entity, STAMICO which

turned 50 years yesterday, demanding synergies with the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) to solve mining and value addition technology accessible to small-scale miners at low cost. He pointed at poorly performing public entities saying their days are numbered, while rewards await those doing well. Minerals minister Dr Dotto Biteko commended efforts to uplift small-scale miners, as their contribution to the economy was rapidly increasing. Government efforts to transform STAMICO had paid off as the corporation now runs profitably and pays dividends, he said. The entity conducted innovations in its operations, thus being in position to compete with other mining companies, he added.

SPORT

Africa Super League: What we know and don't know

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Bongo Flava musician seeks to propel Tanzania to success

By Guardian Correspondent

A few days after releasing his album, titled 'The Beginning', Tanzanian artist, Hennessey Hennessey, has expressed a desire to have the country win fame in music circles.

The artist that has dwelled in new generation music, Bongo Flava, said his album is made up of different genres such as Singeli, Bangra, Trap, Pop, Afro-pop, Amapiano, and different melodic songs with real-to-life lyrics.

The artist noted: "It is a kind of album that you just don't get tired of listening to because it is made up of a variety of fusions to make it unique."

Hennessey revealed: "The Beginning' has 18 tracks that get you to just want to repeat listening to each of them."

According to Hennessey, he has, in his album, shown his political views about Africa, adding its songs have humour, and fun, which anyone can enjoy.

Hennessey revealed he has creatively crafted his work that can easily be played anywhere.

He noted: "If you haven't heard it you can easily access it on all digital platforms."

Hennessey revealed: "The Beginning' is an album that puts Tanzania on the map because shortly after it was put on the air it entered various music charts inside and outside Africa."

According to the musician, he has collaborated with various artists on the album including Khery Sameer 'Mr. Blue', 'Mzee wa Bwax', Lunar Miguel, Akil Mohamed 'Akil The Brain', Arafat Papati, 'Mkali Wenu', Vyaiper Ranking, 'Baddest 47', and Ibrahim Mandingo 'Country Boy'.

Hennessey further noted despite many domestic artists releasing albums, 'The Beginning' is the best and has already received great feedback from fans.

"It's a different album, since I entered music in 2018, I'm proud to change music, I'm not saying I'm number one but I have set the standard," Hennessey disclosed.

Hennessey revealed that 'The Beginning' can competently battle albums produced by popular domestic performers, 'Darassa' and Ali Kiba in the music market.

The artist stated: "My album and those produced by popular rapper 'Darassa' and Ali Kiba are great, the others are normal."

"They have no surprises, they cannot compete with 'The Beginning', such a situation is not good because the industry should have many good artists, it should not rely on either one or two artists."

"We should emulate Nigerian artists, they are many and they are holding sway in the world music market," Hennessey disclosed.



Bongo Flava artist, Hennessey Hennessey.

Yanga vs Simba SC: First trophy of 2022/23 season up for grabs



Yanga midfielder, Farid Mussa (C), dribbles past Simba SC center back, Pascal Wawa (R), when the outfits locked horns in the 2021/22 Community Shield match, which took place in Dar es Salaam on September 25 last year. Yanga won 1-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE first trophy of the season is up for grabs when Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, and Simba SC meet in the Community Shield today afternoon at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The annual match witnesses Yanga, last season's Premier League champions, and Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) winners confront the previous season's Premier League runners-up, Simba.

The curtain raiser ahead of the new season traditionally involves the Premier League champions and the Federation Cup winners Ço or the league runners-up, in the case

a team wins the double as was the case last season.

Today ÇOs match comes two days before the 2022/23 NBC Premier League season gets underway.

The traditional curtain-raiser gives new signings a chance to get their first taste of life in the encounter, popularly known as Dar es Salaam Derby.

It will be the first Dar es Salaam Derby for new signings Stephane Aziz Ki, Moses Phiri, Gael Bigirimana, Nelson Okwa, Joyce Lomalisa, Mohamed Outtara, and others.

The new arrivals will give fans a first chance to see them in a competitive game, to compare and

contrast and despair if they do not deliver to expectations.

Once again, these two sides are the favourites to win the Premier League going into the new season.

Their last meeting in the Community Shield was a cracker and a delightful appetizer for the campaign that followed.

Yanga is the defending champion in the Community Shield after a 1-0 victory against Simba SC in last season ÇOs edition saw the former win the trophy for the first time since 2015.

Fresh from a historic invincible season which included sweeping all the domestic trophies avail-

able in Tanzania football, Yanga head coach Nasredine Nabi and his charges will hope to repeat their heroics from the previous edition of the competition by vanquishing Simba SC once again.

All eyes will be on Yanga's top signing Aziz Ki as he makes his competitive debut for the record champions.

The recently crowned Ivorian Premier League's Footballer of the Season's signature was coveted by many clubs before Yanga eventually won his transfer race from ASEC Mimosas.

In the 2021/22 campaign, the two great rivals played out four epic fixtures in the Community Shield, Premier League, and the Federation Cup where Yanga managed to win two games while the other two ended in goalless stalemates.

As for Simba SC, it will be making its 11th appearance in the traditional season-opening fixture while chasing a record-extending 10th title.

It will also serve as the first competitive fixture for Simba's newly appointed head coach Zoran Maki who replaced Pablo Franco Martin.

The Msimbazi Street side took a flight to Egypt in a bid to build fitness ahead of another Premier League title hunt and showcased a confident performance against visiting St. George, beating the Ethiopian side 2-0 with goals from Dennis Kibu and substitute Okwa in Dar es Salaam on Monday.

Having already hit the ground running with a goal Ço expectations are already huge for Okwa to shine this season.

Although he is not a like-for-like replacement for the departed Zambian Larry Bwalya, Simba SC's new No.8 can be expected to chip in with a sizeable portion of goals this season, while his creativity and link-up play should be the barometer to judge him.

Azam FC's friendly match perfect test, says official

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MAINLAND Premier League giant, Azam FC states the international friendly duel that will see the club take on Zambia's ZESCO United FC is a perfect test ahead of the coming season.

The two sides will lock horns at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam tomorrow on a day that will as well have Azam FC announcing its registered footballers for the 2022/23 season.

Azam FC's information officer Thabit Zacharia said the match is imperative for building confidence for the team ahead of the 2022/23 NBC Premier League and other local and international tournaments.

He said the game against ZESCO United FC is a huge one for his side as it will also help the hosts' coach have a good picture

of his side ahead of the NBC Premier League which kicks off next week.

Azam FC which finished third in the 2021/22 Premier League, will kickstart the 2022/23 season with a home game against Kagera Sugar scheduled for Wednesday next week.

Zakaria revealed: "We were in Egypt where we camped at EL Gouna, we planned to play either three or four friendly games, but due to circumstances beyond our expectations we so far played two games."

The official pointed out: "We took on Grand FC and won 1-0, and lost 1-0 to Wadi Degla, the two games were not enough for the coach and his technical staff to have a clear picture of the team."

"The technical panel and management agreed that we should return home and look for a strong team which can give us a



Tanzania's Azam FC players participate in a recent training session in Egypt ahead of the 2022/23 season. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

good test, ZESCO United FC is a big team which will give us what we want and helps us be ready for the coming season," he said.

The official said in tomorrow's match which will be part of Azam FC's celebration known as 'Azamka', the side has lined up several activities which include a performance by musician Rayvanny that is also known as 'Azam Boy'.

The club will also use tomorrow event to introduce its players, the side led by gaffer Abdihamid Moallin has boosted its squad by

signing many new players.

Some of the new faces in the team include Tape Edinho, Kipre Junior, Malickou Ndoye, Ali Ahamada, James Akaminko, Cleophae Mkandala, Nathaniel Chilambo, Issa Ndala, Abdulhamis Suleiman, and others.

They have also improved the technical panel by adding fitness coach Mikel Guollen, goalkeeping gaffer Dani Cadena, and strikers' coach Kalimangonga Ongala. Charles Kalala, Chief Executive Officer of ZESCO United FC, nine-time Zambia Premier League win-

ners, is reported to have been delighted with the friendly game and thanked Azam FC for the gesture.

"It's an excellent opportunity for us to play a friendly game against one of the biggest teams in Tanzania. The game has come at a good time as we are preparing for the coming season," Kalala added.

ZESCO United FC's head coach Numba Mumamba is elated with the match, saying it has come at a good time and it will help him prepare well ahead for the coming league.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



TRA outlines strategies as roadmap towards meeting set target of contributing 23.65trn/-

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

THE Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) yesterday outlined strategies as a roadmap towards meeting the set target of contributing 23.65trn/- in the national budget for the 2022/2023 financial year.

Richard Kayombo, TRA Director for Taxpayer Services and Education made the remarks in Dar es Salaam when addressing

journalists at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Center (JNICC).

"We are tasked to make a 23.65trn/- contribution to the 41.4trn/- national budget this financial year. We have a number of strategies to achieve this goal which includes strengthening the management of receipt issuance through Electronic Fiscal Devices (EFD's)," said Kayombo, adding they have put in place

measures to curb tax evasion.

He said the current tax collection system would be further strengthened by launching new systems which are expected to enhance efficiency, ease tax payment and collection, save time and cost to taxpayers and TRA.

To achieve the revenue collection goal, he said they have come up with tactics to control smuggling of goods at all the en-

try points across the country. He said the steps are a medicine to tax evasion loopholes.

"We will also deal with the people pretending to be TRA officials because they ruin the authority's image to the public. They are the ones who have been contributing to some traders accusing our officers of demanding bribes," he added.

Kayombo said that TRA has introduced an EFD lottery game of

which its major players are tax payers. He said the new game is likely to boost revenues, adding that it is now implemented as a pilot in the Tegeta tax region.

He added: "We will continue to educate Tanzanians on the importance of paying taxes through our various educational campaigns. Our door to door education campaign on tax payment has proved success as collections have been increasing

on every quarter."

The National Assembly approved the central government budget of 41.48trn/- for the 2022/2023 financial year an increase from 37.8trn/- allocated in 2021/2022.

Of the money, 26.48trn/- are for recurrent expenditures which is equivalent to 63.8 percent of the total budget. Some 11.3trn/- will be used to service government debt and other ex-

penditure under Consolidated Fund while 9.83trn/- for salaries, promotions for existing employees and new recruits.

A total of 15trn/- was allocated for development expenditure equivalent to 36.2 percent of the total budget whereas 12.31trn/- (82 percent) of the development budget is from domestic sources and 2.70trn/- (18 percent) of development budget is from external sources.

Two dead and five injured after passenger bus plunged into ravine

By Guardian Correspondent,

Morogoro

TWO people including a driver have died and five others injured after a bus they were traveling from Dar es Salaam to Mbeya rammed into a ravine.

Morogoro Regional Police Commander, Fortunatus Musilim said the accident occurred mid-morning on Thursday at Msimba area, Mikumi division, Kilosa District along the Morogoro-Iringa highway.

Musilim said the accident involved a passenger bus, property of New Force company with registration numbers T207 DPB which was heading to Mbeya from Dar es Salaam.

The RPC linked the accident with the driver's reckless driving whereas he was attempting to overtake other vehicles without taking precautions.

He said bodies of the deceased—Martha Mapunda and the driver, Samuel Likuku (40), a resident of Manzese in Dar es Salaam have been preserved at St Kizito hospital, Mikumi.

Those injured are Stanford Mgunda(27) a resident of Njombe, Kiswigo Mwaipagata (44) from Mbezi, Dar es Salaam, Sifa Petter (19) and Mami Ngalila from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). He said the patients are still admitted at St Kizito hospital, and that they are all progressing well.

20 people were killed and 15 injured on Monday this week at an accident where four vehicles were involved in a crash that occurred in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan sent her condolences to Shinyanga Regional Commissioner Sophia Mjema, wishing the survivors a quick recovery.

"I pray for all the deceased to rest in peace and I join the families of the deceased and their relatives in this hard time," the president said in a statement issued by the presidential communications directorate.



Arusha regional commissioner John Mongella (R) pictured yesterday having a word with clerks undergoing training in Arusha city ready for the national Population and Housing Census slated for August 23. He underlined the need for them to refrain from anything that could impede the smooth implementation of the operation. Photo: Correspondent

Govt eases conditions for youth seeking loans

By Correspondent James Kandoya

MINISTER of State, Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability), Prof Joyce Ndalichako has said that the government has lifted conditions for youth seeking loans, allowing individual applicants to get up to 50m/- .

Prof Ndalichako said the loans will enable them to expand their business projects and contribute to the country's economy.

She made the remarks yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the climax of the International Youth Day which brought together more than 600 young people and stakeholders from across the country.

She said that the aim of the government was to enable individual young people who have capacity to run their own economic projects to access funds easily and develop their projects.

This is contrary to how it was before where youth were only allowed to request loans in groups.

Prof Ndalichako said that experience has shown that most youths given loans in groups have failed to repay back debts due to several reasons including unfaithfulness among them.

"We have lifted restrictions on the youths seeking loans to expand their projects as individuals to get loans after meeting all criteria set by skills development Levy," she said.

She called on all the young people acquired loans from other sources including Municipal councils to repay back for others to benefit from the funds.

According to her, there are a number of youths who are yet to pay back their loans, something that hinders others from accessing it.

Prof Ndalichako also urged youths to report to gender desks all evils related violence.

"In case of any evil related to violence, let us report immediately to the nearest gender desks so as to end the growing problem. Youth should be in the forefront in this," she said.


United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) country representative Christina Musisi said most face many problems including degradation of the planet, consequences of Covid-19 pandemic, access to finance and rising cost of living.

She said that UNDP is working hand in hand with the Tanzania government to create an enabling environment for youth to access financial resources.

UNFPA country representative Dr Wilfred Ochang highlighted the need to empower youths to realize their dreams.

"We need to fully empower youths financially to realize their dreams," he said

He further urged the youth to get prepared and ensure that they participate well in the forthcoming Population and Housing Census.



UNHCR
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

Call for expression of interest (CEOI) for 2023-2025 projects with UNHCR in Tanzania.

The office of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Tanzania is launching its call for expression of interest (CEOI) for 2023-2025 for 7 project lots and invites interested and eligible non-governmental organizations and non-profit organizations to submit concept notes not later than **8th September 2022, 17:00 hours**. Applicants are required to submit a concept note for each lot they want to implement with UNHCR.

Partners are requested to apply for a full lot using the **Concept Note Template** found on the UN Partner Portal on this CEOI. The CEOI is open to all existing and/or new prospective partners who wish to participate in UNHCR's operations in 2023-2025 in one or more projects listed below.

UN Partner Portal
All potential partners are requested to register on the UN Partner Portal <https://www.unpartnerportal.org> and complete a self-declaration of eligibility for establishing a partnership with the UN. This self-declaration must state that the Organization's values and conduct are compatible with those of UNHCR/UN (humanitarian, non-discriminatory, safeguarding refugees and human rights), confirming that the organization has not been barred or sanctioned by the United Nations Security Council, and abides with the Principles of Partnership.
You may watch this video for additional information:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDQdDKrTMk&feature=youtu.be>

All submissions and annexes must be submitted in English through the UN Partner Portal: <https://www.unpartnerportal.org> If applicants are not able to complete the Portal registration process by the submission deadline, submissions via email will not be accepted. Therefore, all applicants are urged to initiate and finalize the portal registration requirements at the earliest possible in order to avoid any issues.

The UN Partner Portal allows an upload of only one file. Therefore, for submissions with several documents, place all documents in a folder, zip the folder and upload the zipped file. If there are technical issues in submitting on the portal please address your questions to: tandaeoi@unhcr.org copying kubini@unhcr.org , watchipa@unhcr.org

Please contact tandaeoi@unhcr.org copying kubini@unhcr.org if you would like to be included in the session that will be organized to provide more information on how to apply. Your email should come with a Ref: CEOI/UNHCR/2023 plus name of your organization.

Prevention of sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Capacity Assessment

The prospective Partner shall comply with the UN Protocol on Allegations of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) involving Implementing Partners (2018), which outlines requirements for the UN and its implementing partners to ensure adequate safeguards and appropriate actions related to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA). Adequate capacity to prevent, manage the risk of and response to allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse is one of the eligibility criteria for the selection of partners and a mandatory part of the due diligence process. Prospective partners should complete and upload the PSEA self-assessment with supporting documents considered as proof of evidence of meeting the required standards to the UN Partner Portal <https://www.unpartnerportal.org> as part of submission for this Call for Expression of Interest. Alternatively, evidence of an assessment already undertaken by another UN entity would be sufficient. Self-assessment form should be submitted by the partner as one of the mandatory pieces of documentation at the time of registration. Following the evaluation of concept notes, UNHCR will undertake a vetting of the self-assessments and make a preliminary determination of the PSEA capacity of the potential partners who have been shortlisted. The preliminary decision for the selected Partner will be uploaded on the UN Partner Portal.

The preliminary decision for the selected Partner will be uploaded on the UN Partner Portal.

Timeline for CEOI	
Posted	8 th August 2022
Request to be included in the CEOI information session	12 th August 2022
Clarification request deadline	20 th August 2022
Application deadline	8 th September 2022
Notification of Results	8 th October 2022
Start date	1 st January 2023
End date (subject to performance and operational needs)	31 st December 2025

NOTICE OF AUCTION SALE OF PROPERTIES OF MOUNT MERU FLOWERS LIMITED AND TANZANIA FLOWERS LIMITED (the "Companies")

1. Notice is hereby given that I, **DANIEL B. WELWEL of ASYLA ATTORNEYS**, duly appointed by TIB Development Bank Limited ("TIB") as Receiver and Manager of properties of the Companies intend to dispose by way of auction sale all properties of the Companies on the date and time to be notified.

The properties to be auctioned are:-

- (i) Farm No. 105/1/1; CT No. 15434, L.O. No. 178328, of 16.184 hectares located at Nduruma Area, Arumeru District in Arusha.
- (ii) Farm No. 105/1/2; CT No. 15048; L.O No. 178344, of 12.036 hectares located at Nduruma Area, Arumeru District in Arusha
- (iii) Farm No. 105/1/2/1; CT No. 19569, L.O No. 178344 of 19.55 acres located at Nduruma Area, Arumeru District in Arusha

These are joined flower farms with necessary infrastructure for horticulture including greenhouses, storage and cooling facilities, workshop, office structure, sundry buildings and irrigation system.

- (iv) Dolly Farm; CT No. 19889, L.O No. 178328, of 55.4 acres located within Dolly Estate, East Bank of the Maji ya Chai River Area, Arumeru District in Arusha.

This farm has 15 greenhouses, grading and office building, sundry buildings and irrigation system.

- (v) Mungushi Farm No. 112/1/2; CT No. 15048, L.O No. 178344, of 46 acres located at Nduruma Area, Arumeru District in Arusha

This farm has 22 greenhouses, grading/cold room, office and workshop structures, manager's residence, sundry buildings and irrigation system.

- (vi) Farm No. 139/1/2; CT No. 13695, of 10.3 acres located at Nduruma Area, Arumeru District in Arusha

This is an open farm (without greenhouses) with grading grading/office building, residential housing structures and irrigation system.

- (vii) Farm No. 112/1/1A; CT No. 15622, L.O No. 178328, of 54 acres located at Nduruma Area, Arumeru District in Arusha

This property is dominated by residential buildings and open farm. It has no irrigation system.

- (viii) Assorted moveable assets to be particularized in slots.

2. The public is further notified that:-

- (i) the properties are sold on as-they-are-basis;
- (ii) there is no reserve price for any of the properties offered for sale;
- (iii) neither TIB nor the Receiver and Manager shall be bound to accept the highest bid or any bid at all; and
- (iv) date and other auction conditions will be communicated;

3. All inquiries and requests for onsite inspection should be addressed to the Receiver and Manager at **ASYLA ATTORNEYS, 1ST FLOOR, ALFA HOUSE, NEW BAGAMOYO ROAD, KINONDONI, P. O. BOX 80496 DAR ES SALAAM; Email: welwel@asylattorneys.co.tz and info@asylattorneys.co.tz**

Issued at Dar es Salaam this Monday 15th day of August 2022
Daniel B. Welwel
Receiver and Manager

MAHAKAMA KUU YA TANZANIA
KANDA YA BUKOBA
NAOIBI NA 12/2022
YANAYOTOKANA NA KESI YA KUHUUJUMU UCHUMU NA 14/2011
ya
Resident magistrate Court Bukoba)
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTION MUOMBALI
DHIDI
YASIR AZMI
RESPICIUS ABEL RICHANGULA)
WAJIBU MAOIBI AFIDHU ABUL KALUGIRA)
WITO/KUITWA SHAURINI.

Kwa YASIR AZMI
Papate ulipo
Hii nikuutairifu kwamba shauri la Mambi ya rufaa tajwa juu
imepangwa Kusikilizwa tarehe 18 mwezi Agosti mwaka 2022
saa 3:00 asubuhi, mbele ya MH. Jaji KILEKAMAJENGA wa
Mahakama Kuu, Kanda ya Bukoba.

Kwa hiyo, unapaswa kuhudhuria wewe mwenyewe au
mwakilishi wako anayeruhuswa kisheria.

Endapo hutohuhuria wewe mwenyewe au mwakilishi Wako
shauri hili litasikilizwa bila wewe kuwepo.
Imetolewa kwa mikiti wangu na chapa ya mahakama leo hii
tarehe 8 mwezi Agosti mwaka 2022.

NABU HSAJILI
MAHAKAMA KUU YA TANZANIA
BUKOKA.

216985101

216987001

THE BILATERAL RAILWAY PROJECT BETWEEN THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



TENDER NO. PA/154/HQ/2022-23/W/03

FOR



DESIGN AND BUILD CONTRACT OF AN ELECTRIFIED STANDARD GAUGE RAILWAY (SGR) LINE UNDER DESIGN AND BUILD (D& B) ARRANGEMENT FOR UNDER DESIGN AND BUILD (D& B) ARRANGEMENT FROM UVINZA (TANZANIA) TO GITEGA (BURUNDI) VIA MUSONGATI (282 KILOMETER MAINLINE AND 85 KILOMETER SIDING/PASSING LOOPS) LOT 1: UVINZA TO MALAGARASI (TANZANIA-180KM) AND LOT 2: MALAGARASI TO MUSONGATI-GITEGA (BURUNDI-187KM)

Invitation to Tender (ITT)

Date: 12th August, 2022

- This Invitation for Tenders follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) which advertised via Tanzania National e-Procurement System (TANePS), www.taneps.go.tz and TRC website www.trc.co.tz on 12th July, 2022.
 - The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Burundi has set aside funds for the Bilateral Railway Project during the financial year 2022-2023. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the fund will be used to cover eligible payment under the contract for Design and Build Contract of an electrified Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) Line under Design and Build (D& B) arrangement from Uvinza (Tanzania) to Gitega (Burundi) via Musongati (282 Kilometer Mainline and 85 Kilometer Siding/Passing Loops) **Lot 1: Uvinza to Malagarasi (Tanzania-180KM) and Lot 2: Malagarasi to Musongati-Gitega (Burundi-187KM).**
 - On behalf of two Governments, Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) a Government Entity formed under Railways Act No. 10 of 2017 and incorporated in the United Republic of Tanzania under the Companies Act No.10 of 2017 will be the **implementing Agent** of all procurement on behalf of parties. TRC is wholly owned by the Government of United Republic of Tanzania and is under the Ministry of Works and Transport. The major responsibilities of TRC as provided in the Act are principally, to develop, promote and manage the railway infrastructure assets in Tanzania Mainland. TRC in collaboration with ARTF (Burundi) intends to construct an approximately 367KM, whereby **282KM is for Mainline and 85KM for sidings** Railway line between Uvinza and Gitega via Musongati in Burundi and other railway facilities enroute to Standard Gauge, based on American Railway Engineering Maintenance of Way Association (AREMA) and UIC standards
 - Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) now invites sealed Tenders from Contractors for carrying out Design and Build Contract of an electrified Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) Line under Design and Build (D& B) arrangement for 282 Kilometer Mainline and 85 Kilometer Siding/Passing Loops, Lot 1: Uvinza to Malagarasi (Tanzania-180KM) and Lot 2: Malagarasi to Musongati-Gitega (Burundi-187KM).
 - Tenderer shall bid for one or both Lots with separate package requirements and the award shall be upon each Lot.
 - Tenderers must provide recent information of the following minimum experience:
 - Experience in Detailed design
 - Minimum of five (5) Projects for 10 years of experience in the detail design of UIC Standard gauge Railway track
 - Minimum of ten (10) Project for 10 years of experience in detailed design of Heavy Railway Civil Works such as Tracks, Tunnels, Viaducts, Flyovers, Bridges, etc.
 - Minimum of Five (5) Project for 10 years of experience in Railway tracks design (Light Rail and/or Heavy Rail.
 - Minimum 10 years of experience in railway Stations design (Light Rail and/or Heavy Rail)
 - Minimum of Five (5) Project for 10 years of experience in design of Signaling and Telecommunication systems i.e., ERTMS Projects
 - Minimum of Five (5) Project for 10 years of experience in design of Electrification Railway systems (Light Rail and/or Heavy Rails)
 - Experience within the last 5 years on the detailed design of a Single Railway line Project with a Capital cost of at least US\$ 1,000 million.
 - Experience in Construction
 - Minimum of five (5) Project for 10 years of experience in Construction of Heavy Railway Civil Works such as tracks, tunnels, viaducts, flyovers, bridges, etc.
 - Minimum of five (5) Project for 10 years of experience in Electrified Rail track and railway station Construction
 - Minimum of five (5) Project for 10 years of experience in Construction and Installation of Electrification Railway systems (Light Rail and/or Heavy Rails)
 - Minimum of two (2) Project for Previous Experience in SGR Project adopting ERTMS systems.
 - Minimum of 5 years cumulative experience on Construction of Railway line and associated facilities of Minimum Capital cost of US\$1.0 billion in Africa or other developing countries with a similar environment
 - Financial Capacity
 - Minimum average turnover in the last 5 years on detailed design services of US\$ 60 million
 - Minimum average construction turnover in the last 5 years of US\$ 1.0 billion
 - Demonstrated ability to finance a minimum of US\$ 600 million of design and construction work
- A contractor will be selected in accordance with the **International Competitive Tendering (ICT) procedures** set out in the Public Procurement Act No. 7 of 2011 as amended in 2016 and the Public Procurement Regulations, 2013 – Government Notice No. 446 as amended in 2016 (hereinafter called Procurement Regulations).
- A contractor may obtain a full set of the Tendering Documents in English through TANePS (www.taneps.go.tz)
- Tenders must be accompanied by a Tender security in an acceptable form of Bank Guarantee issued through the correspondent Local Bank in Tanzania in the amount of **USD 11,000,000.00 for Lot 1 and USD 15,000,000.00 for Lot 2.**
- Site visit will be held on **12th to 14th September 2022 at 9:00 AM local time** from Uvinza to Gitega via Musongati 282 Kilometer Mainline and 85 Kilometer Siding/Passing Loops, Lot 1: Uvinza to Malagarasi (Tanzania-180KM) and Lot 2: Malagarasi to Musongati-Gitega (Burundi-187KM) following by a pre-tender meeting which shall be held on **15th September, 2022 at 9:00 AM** at Musongati-Gitega. Contractors will bear their own travel and upkeep costs, while one-way rail transport shall be provided by the TRC.
- Submission of Tender (TECHNICAL and FINANCIAL) must be submitted online via TANePS (www.taneps.go.tz) at or before 10:30 AM local time on 15th November, 2022 and explicitly bear the mention of **"TENDER NO.: PA/154/HQ/2022-23/W/03 FOR DESIGN AND BUILD CONTRACT OF AN ELECTRIFIED STANDARD GAUGE RAILWAY (SGR) LINE UNDER DESIGN AND BUILD (D& B) ARRANGEMENT FROM UVINZA (TANZANIA) TO GITEGA (BURUNDI) VIA MUSONGATI (282 KILOMETER MAINLINE AND 85 KILOMETER SIDING/PASSING LOOPS) FOR LOT 1: UVINZA TO MALAGARASI (TANZANIA-180KM) AND LOT 2: MALAGARASI TO MUSONGATI-GITEGA (BURUNDI-187KM).**
- Tenders will be opened promptly thereafter online via TANePS (www.taneps.go.tz)
- Electronic, telegraphic, telefax will not be accepted. Late submission of tenders outside of system shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
- TRC is not bound to accept any tender submitted and non-compliance of the above stated conditions shall automatically disqualify the Bid proposal.

Director General
Tanzania Railways Corporation
Plot No. 438/128, Sokoine Drive/Railway Street
P.O. Box 76959
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, East Africa

EAC election observation mission satisfied with Kenya 2022 General Election conduct

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) Election Observation Mission (EAC-EOM) has expressed satisfaction at the manner in which the voting exercise in the Kenya 2022 General Election was conducted calling for Kenyans to continue maintaining peace after results of the elections are declared.

Releasing the preliminary findings of the EAC-EOM in Nairobi, Head of the Mission, Dr Jakaya Kikwete lauded the Independent Electoral Boundaries Commission (IEBC) for the improvements made in regards to transparency, preparations, and management of the 2022 Kenya General Election.

"We commend the IEBC on the successful use of technology in voter registration, voter identification and transmission of results. It has improved efficiency, and increased transparency of the election process," said Dr Kikwete.

The former Tanzania president cited challenges in the identification of voters using the KIEMS kits and recommended for prompt identification and resolution of the problems relating to the kits for better performance in future elections.

"The mission noted that at various stages of the electoral process, there were problems associated with social media, particularly regarding disinformation, misinformation and hate speech," he said.

Dr Kikwete added: "The mission commends various stakeholders for their efforts to address these challenges and more so the mainstream media for voter education and coverage of the electoral process."

He said that the EAC-EOM witnessed a calm, peaceful, and orderly environment.

"Most polling stations opened on time, but there were a few which opened late for various reasons including late setting up of the station, late arrival of polling materials or polling officials. We were pleased to note that the time lost was compensated by late closure of polls in the concerned polling stations. It is recommended that the IEBC should take corrective measures to ensure that these deficiencies do not recur in future elections," he remarked.

The Head of Mission said that at all polling stations, security personnel were present and highly professional in the discharge of their duties and responsibilities.

"The security personnel did not interfere with electoral processes nor did they intimidate voters. The mission commends the Kenya Police Service for a job very well done," he said.

Dr Kikwete said that the mission observed that agents of political parties and candidates were present at polling stations and were not encumbered in performing their duties.

"It was a bit concerning that it was only the major political parties that were able to deploy agents and also intriguing to note the presence of many agents of independent candidates," he said, adding that the protocols and procedures for opening and closure of polling were observed.

The EAC observers noted that party agents were placed too far from the polling official identifying the voters and called on the IEBC to consider placing party agents close to such officials to ascertain the authenticity of the voters.

Dr Kikwete released the preliminary findings at a joint media briefing with Ernest Bai Koroma (former President of Sierra Leone and Head, AU-COMESA Election Observer Mission) and Mulatu Teshome (former President of Ethiopia and Head, IGAD Election Observer Mission).

The East African Election Observation Mission was deployed in 16 teams in 27 Counties in Nairobi, Central, Nyanza, Eastern, Western, Rift Valley and Coastal regions. On polling day, they were able to observe elections in 218 polling stations.

Youth encouraged to inculcate culture of writing novels

By Correspondent Vitus Audax, Mwanza

YOUTH have been challenged to build a culture of writing novels for purposes of solving various challenges in the community.

The call was made here yesterday by Vice Chancellor of Saint Augustine University of Tanzania (SAUT) Mwanza campus, Prof Costa Mahalu when speaking shortly after he visited the grave of a Tanzanian book writer-Aniceti Kiterenza who was the first novel author in East Africa. Kiterenza originated from Ukerewe inland in Mwanza Region.

Prof Mahalu said that Kiterenza saw the challenges facing people in his community as well as the cultures and decided to put them into writings so that they are read by people from across the world.

"We are currently lacking people to raise our voices through writings; young people should use these opportunities by coming up with books which could enable them to earn money instead of spending time on social networks," said Prof Mahalu.

Former Speaker of the National Assembly, Pius Msekwa raised concerns that youth are now controlled by social media, the thing that destroys their creativity.

"We are going to lose some important history in this generation; young people don't want to research and develop interest in writing for the community. We need people like Kiterenza who wrote books in various languages including his native Kerewe language," he said.

Chairman of SAUT students' alumni, Pius Lufutu said: "I have been impressed to learn about Kiterenza; I want to read his books to broaden my understanding of Tanzanian cultures."

Professor Charles Musiba, historical researcher from Colorado University in the United States of America, said they have decided to bring back Kiterenza's novels documents at SAUT University.

"In collaboration with SAUT we have decided to put a mark by visiting the historical author's grave. He had done a great work in and outside the country," he said.

"We have brought back the historical novels of Kiterenza at SAUT after it has been translated in English and being published for the first time in 1945 before it was published in Kiswahili language in 1981. He died before the novel was released but we still remember his work," he added.

Mar Oomen is a journalist born in Ukerewe Island but he lives in Amsterdam, Netherlands, she also composed a novel Aniceti Kiterenza to demonstrate the work he did for Kerewe culture.

"I was born here in Ukerewe and due to the work done by Kiterenza I decided to compose a novel that explains his vision on the presence of Ukerewe Island," he said.

Kiterenza was the first Tanzanian writer in East Africa where in 1945, he published his novel handwritten in Kerewe language called 'Myombekere na Bugonokana Ntulanalwona Bulihwali' elaborating an extended story depicting historical life of the Kerewe through three generations. The novel was later on translated into seven international languages.

Shinyanga police hold six people allegedly for smuggling gold ore

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

POLICE in Shinyanga Region are holding six people for smuggling 930.88 grams of gold along the Ilogi road in Kahama District.

The suspects were arrested in possession of the minerals worth 93m/- but also carrying 972m/- cash in their bags, according to Shinyanga Regional Police Commander Janeth Magomi.

The RPC told journalists at a press conference on Thursday that the suspects were arrested on August 10th after an operation carried out by the police.

"During the operation, police stopped the suspects who were in a Toyota vehicle which upon inspection and search they found the minerals within the car," she said.

She said that police also found an electronic mineral meter and another meters used in measuring the quality of gold.

The regional police boss said preliminary investigations shows that the suspects were taking the minerals abroad

and that they wanted to evade taxes and levies, which is against the law.

She added that the suspects will be taken to Court upon completion of investigations calling upon the general public to refrain from such malpractices as the force is determined to ensure every citizen including traders obey the laws.

"People should follow all the procedures required to acquire and sell minerals because taking the minerals outside the country denies the government the required taxes, thus derailing development."



People should follow all the procedures required to acquire and sell minerals because taking the minerals outside the



Sheikh Juma Kidunda (2nd-L, gesturing), secretary of the Muslim Council of Tanzania (Bakwata) for Kilindi District in Tanga Region, shares a light moment with Sheikh Omar Nguzo (2nd-R) shortly after arriving at Majengo Mosque Songe Ward on Thursday for the handing-over of religious books. Right is Bakwata district council member Sheikh Ally Mbwego. Photo: Correspondent Dege Masoli

New methods to save thousands of newborns annually

By Special Correspondent

PRELIMINARY findings indicate that it is possible to achieve a 50 percent reduction in newborn deaths, 25 percent fewer stillbirths, and 10 percent reduction in maternal deaths.

The University Stavanger-based research collaboration Safer Births has developed into the Safer Births Bundle of Care (SBBBC) programme, led by the Tanzanian doctors Benjamin Kamala, Robert Moshiro, Estomih Mduma and Paschal Mdoe.

For more than a decade, based out of the Haydom Lutheran Hospital in Arusha, the safer births research and in-

novation project has been developing new knowledge, training approaches, tools and practices to optimise labour and newborn care.

The safer births project is led by Hege Ersdal, anaesthesiologist and Head of simulation and global health research at Stavanger University Hospital, and Professor at the University of Stavanger (UIS).

Safer births are a close collaboration between Stavanger University Hospital, Laerdal Global Health, Stavanger Acute Medicine Foundation for Education and Research (SAFER), University of Stavanger, and Haydom Lutheran Hospital.

"Most research and development projects are struggling to become part of a national health programme. Currently, we are about to succeed in integrating Safer Births in the Tanzanian health programme and national health budget. This is largely enabled by the funding from the World Bank," said Ersdal.

The World Bank has now awarded NOK 125 million in total to the project.

Safer births researchers and engineers have been working for over a decade developing new knowledge, technologies and innovations to find better ways of monitoring fetal and newborn heart rate than the tradition-

al 150 year-old method of using a stethoscope. One of the tools developed by Safer Births is Moyo, which helps healthcare professionals to detect abnormal fetal heart rate more often and earlier.

Effective simulation-based training programmes have also been developed in collaboration with SAFER learning centre in Stavanger, a foundation established by Stavanger University Hospital, the University of Stavanger and Laerdal Medical AS. So far, the safer births project has resulted in 12 doctoral degrees, several technological innovations and almost 100 scientific papers.

The programme is probably the largest ongoing global research programme

on newborn transition and resuscitation, with 16 ongoing PhDs - 8 of these in Tanzania. UIS has contributed with research expertise on biomedical data analysis and medical statistics.

The World Bank first round of funding made it possible to roll out the Safer Births Bundle of Care to 30 hospitals in the five poorest regions in Tanzania. Prof Ersdal is leading the work in collaboration with the Tanzanian doctors and Laerdal Global Health.

The preliminary results are promising and have attracted the interest of the Tanzanian Ministry of Health and the programme will now be implemented at all (around 100) hospitals in the five

regions. "If the early results are maintained, this will likely pave the way for a full national scale-up which could potentially save over 25,000 lives per year in Tanzania alone," explains Prof Ersdal.

Safer births is a very good example of the fact that we have succeeded with a different approach than usually adopted by academia and donor countries. Universities and donors often want to own and manage project and project funds themselves. We have managed - by engaging in systematic work for over 10 years - to build expertise and give Tanzanians the opportunity to manage the project very successfully themselves," she said.



Shinyanga Regional Police Commander Janeth Magomi shows journalists in Shinyanga municipality yesterday cash amounting to 97.2m/- which she said police officers impounded from six people attempting to flee - but later arrested - while in possession of 930.88 grammes of gold ore worth 93m/- for which they had not paid tax. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

African court on human and peoples' rights to undertake sensitisation mission in Mauritania

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights will undertake a three-day sensitisation mission to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to encourage the government to deposit the declaration to allow individuals to access the court directly.

The sensitisation mission will be in Mauritania from August 15 to 17, 2022.

A press statement issued by the President of the Court, Lady Justice Imani Daud About yesterday stated that the mission will be led by the President and will include Judge, Lady Justice Chafika Bensoula and some Registry staff.

She added that the success of the Court as a human rights protection mechanism requires a wider ratification of the Protocol by Member States, as well as their acceptance of the competence of the Court, by making the declaration under Article 34(6).

This 'universal' ratification will give the Court the legitimacy it needs to effectively discharge its mandate, she said.

Mauritania acceded to the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights on 14 December 2005 but is yet to deposit the Declaration under Article 34(6).

The States that have deposited the Declaration so far are Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Malawi, Mali, Niger and Tunisia.

The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights was established by virtue of Article 1 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, to complement the protective mandate of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, with a view to enhancing the protection of human rights on the continent.

The main objective of the sensitisation visits is to enhance the protection of human rights in Africa.

Specific objectives include raising awareness about the Court; encouraging the ratification of the Protocol and deposit of the Declaration that allows individuals and NGOs direct access to the Court; sensitising would-be applicants on how to access the Court and the procedures before the Court; encouraging the public to utilise the Court in settling human rights disputes and encouraging the utilisation of the Court for advisory opinions.

The Court is composed of 11 Judges, nationals of Member States of the African Union elected in their individual capacity.

Moshi District authorities plan to establish special tourism museum

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

AUTHORITIES in Moshi District, Kilimanjaro Region have embarked on a process meant to establish a special tourism museum so as to promote various tourism destinations in different areas of the region.

Tourism Officer at Moshi district council, Beno Chuwa unveiled this recently during the closing of the comedy art training, which involved a new type of comedy performance known as 'IMPROV' from Germany, provided to students of Mpirani and Mabogini secondary schools located in the district.

"Moshi district and the region in general have a lot of historical items and infor-

mation that are major tourist attractions that even people from outside do inquire about; the establishment of the museum will aim at using this important opportunity to promote tourism and also let the next generation of Tanzanians get to know about the good history left to us by our forefathers," he said.

District education officer Benedict Sandi said that the training of the new type of art comedy clearly showed that there were many hidden talents among the students.

"The performance you made this year showing what you learned from the training, have clearly shown that there are talents that, if worked on, can be sources of employment for young people through the art of comedy in the coming years," he

said.

He urged the relevant authorities to make sure that they do everything possible to ensure that the new art education that was provided to the students becomes sustainable and also reaches more students in other schools.

One of the facilitators of the training conducted by the Tante Salzmann institute from Germany, Nicklas Berger, said that it was done through a programme which has been facilitated under the sister ship cooperation between the Moshi District Council and the City of Kiel in Germany.

"This training which is conducted through a project named 'With Salt and Pepper' was aimed at providing training in a new type of art comedy known as Improv whereby

comedians do not perform using performances prepared in scripts and rehearsals, instead they perform from comedy related ideas created on the spot," he said.

He added: "This type of art has been very successful and this has been proved by the reception and acceptance of the art by many people in all the areas where it has been introduced inside and outside Germany."

He said that the programme will also help Tanzanian teachers and students from MDC and Kiel to learn and exchange experiences about the cultures of their two geographical areas.

"This programme will also be a good example of cooperation between the two countries which is happening at the council level through the education sector," he

said.

"The new form of comedy art introduced in Moshi, will also help students build their future lives through performing art comedies instead of relying on jobs once they complete their education," he said.

Berger further continued explaining that, the training of the new type of art comedy will build among students self-confidence as well as making them become creative and thus enrich their lives through performing arts.

Heaike Weise, district development advisor, said the new programme will help strengthen the relationship between Moshi and Kiel not only at administration level but also at community level where she said involved people of all levels of life

Katavi RC instructs leaders to reassess themselves

By Guardian Correspondent, Katavi

KATAVI Regional Commissioner Mwanamvua Mrindoko has instructed leaders in Tanganyika district to assess themselves for failing to supervise the reimbursement of loans issued to various business groups.

Mrindoko claimed that huge amounts of funds issued to women, youth and persons with disabilities are not being reimbursed due to poor monitoring by district authorities.

She made the statement here when handing over a cheque of loans totalling 342,359,000/- to 14 entrepreneurship groups in the district so as to lift their income generating projects.

"These loans that we are issuing today were supposed to be released in the last fiscal year, why are we doing this, I am disappointed with this, so work hard to prepare yourself to ensure that the loans are issued and collected on time," she said.

Mrindoko said; "I will not agree for this system to continue, other districts are do-

ing well, we need to issue these funds on time so as to support development of our entrepreneurs, collection of the loans should also be strengthened."

Halima Katumba, district community development officer, said the loans have greatly helped to improve people's livelihoods thus reducing poverty and robbery acts.

"Many youth were engaging in criminal acts such as robbery but others staying in streets jobless, but after we educate them on the importance of joining in development groups, the majority of them are now engaging in income generating projects and benefiting from the loans issued by the district council," she explained.

Katumba said despite recording a number of achievements, the groups face a big challenge of trust where others end up getting the funds and leaving the groups.

David Richard and Hellen Joseph, some of the beneficiaries of the loans commended the government for valuing youth, women and persons with disabilities as the funds are going to lift up their economic projects.



Manyara regional commissioner Charles Makongoro Nyerere (2nd-L) presents a trophy and a certificate to Mbulu Town Council executive director Yefred Myenzi at a ceremony held in Babati town on Thursday after the council was reported to have emerged top nationally in revenue collection. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Farmers warned to seek expert guidance before planting

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

WITH the ever changing climate conditions in the country and beyond, farmers have been urged to seek expert guidance before planting in order to boost agricultural productivity.

Such advice include knowing the fertility of land, the right fertilizer to apply, the right seeds and which crop is suitable for the type of soil.

The call was made here by the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI)'s Director General, Dr Geoffrey Mkamilo, noting that current effects of climatic change has hampered agricultural activities.

He noted that his institution has

established offices in different parts of the country in effort to bring services close to farmers.

"I appeal upon farmers to contact our officers near them before engaging in farming activities as this will help boost productivity and help bring about development," he said.

Dr Mkamilo made the remarks while briefing journalists on the institute's activities and the 2022/23 plan. He said they are optimistic that more farmers will adopt modern technology in the new year.

"We expect to see the number of farmers adopting technology increase from the current 34.2 percent to at least 50 percent," he

noted.

This, he said will go together with the increased maize productivity from 1.5 tonnes per hectare to 4.0 tonnes, 2.3 tonnes to 4.5 tonnes per hectare in rice production and 1 tonne to 2 tonnes per hectare in millet production.

He explained that the institute was established by the Parliamentary Act No. 10 of 2016 to enhance and strengthen of agricultural research system in Tanzania.

According to Dr Mkamilo, TARI is a semi-autonomous body under the Ministry of Agriculture, responsible for all agricultural research activities conducted by the National Agricultural Research System (NARS).

He said its mandate is to conduct, regulate, promote and coordinate all agricultural research activities conducted by public and private research institutes or organisations in the country

TARI aims at strengthening national agricultural research system to enhance development and dissemination of technologies, innovations and management practices (TIMPs) to address the real needs of farmers and other agricultural stakeholders.

TARI has a network of 9 research centres. The centres in Makutupora, Ilonga, Selian, Ukiriguru, Naliende, Mlingano, Tumbi, Uyole and Kihinga.

The sub centres are in Hombolo, Dakawa, Maruku, Mikochehi, Tengeru, Kifyulilo, Ifakara and Kibaha. The DG added that activities of TARI are in line with the implementation of the ministry's agenda 10/30.

The agenda is to ensure that agricultural sector budget reaches ten percent of the total budget by 2030, and research activities have been given priority.

The DG noted that the ministry has increased research budget and production of seeds from 11.63bn/- in 2021/2022 to 40.73bn/- in 2022/2023, being an increase by 250 percent.

He said the budget is used to strengthen availability of improved

seeds of cereals from 226.5 tonnes to 1,453 tonnes. TARI plans to produce 17,000 of such trial cotton seeds as well as 50 types of fruit seeds.

"TARI also plans to use different technologies to produce high yield seeds than those available in the market currently," he noted, adding that some 35 new technologies will be established in 2022/2023.

Out of that 15 will be improved seeds, five on agronomy, five on soil health and ten others on harvesting. On the other hand, some 5,000 farmers and 500 extension officers will be trained on modern farming as 2,000,000 food processors shall be given new technology for value addition.



Dr Selemani Jafo, Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment), plants a tree at Thursday's launch of a tree-planting campaign in Dodoma city's Ipagala ward. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

African wildlife parks now face climate, infrastructure threats

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

AFRICA'S national parks, home to thousands of wildlife species such as lions, elephants and buffaloes, are increasingly threatened by below-average rainfall and new infrastructure projects, stressing habitats and the species that rely on them.

A prolonged drought in much of the continent's east, exacerbated by climate change, and large-scale developments, including oil drilling and livestock grazing, are hampering conservation efforts in protected areas, several environmental experts say.

The parks at risk stretch all the way from Kenya in the east home to Tsavo and Nairobi national parks south to the Mkomazi and Serengeti parks in Tanzania, the Quirimbas and Gorongosa parks in Mozambique and the famous Kruger National Park in South Africa, and west to the KahuziBiega, Salonga and Virunga reserves in Congo.

The parks not only protect flora and fauna but also act as natural carbon sinks – storing carbon dioxide emitted into the air and reducing the effects of global warming.

An estimated 38% of Africa's biodiversity areas are under severe threat from climate change and infrastructure development, said Ken Mwathe of BirdLife International.

"Key biodiversity areas over the years, espe-

cially in Africa, have been regarded by investors as idle and ready for development," said Mwathe. "Governments allocate land in these areas for infrastructural development."

He added that the "powerlines and other energy infrastructure cause collisions with birds, due to low visibility. The numbers killed this way are not few."

In their quest to bolster living standards and achieve sustainable development goals, such as access to clean water and food, boosting jobs and economic growth and improving the quality of education, African governments have set their sights on large building projects, many of them funded by foreign investments, especially by China.

The proposed East African Oil Pipeline, for example, which the Ugandan government says can help lift millions out of poverty, runs through Uganda's Kidepo valley, Murchison Falls and Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, threatening species and drawing criticism from climate campaigners.

The growth of urban populations and the building that goes with it, like new roads, electricity grids, gas pipes, ports and railways, have also added to the pressure on parks, conservationists said.

But they add that replacing wildlife with infrastructure is the wrong approach for economic growth.

Uganda scraps tax on imported rice from Tanzania

By Jane Nafula

THE government in Uganda has scrapped the Value added Tax (VAT) on imported rice from Tanzania.

The development comes two weeks after President Museveni appealed to all the seven East African Community (EAC) member states to remove all non-tariff barriers, saying they were hampering economic integration and development in the region.

In a July 29 letter addressed to the customs staff, the Assistant Commissioner for Trade at Uganda Revenue Authority, Alexander Rubanda, said all rice originating from Tanzania will attract a zero percent tax duty.

"All rice originating from the Republic of Tanzania and with a certificate of origin according to preferential treatment will effec-

tive July 27 attract a 0 percent import duty in accordance with paragraph 1(L) of the third Schedule to the VAT Act and Article 15 of the Protocol establishing the East African Community Customs Union," Rubanda said.

While addressing journalists in Kampala yesterday, the secretary general of Kampala Rice Traders Association, Robert Ssentongo, commended the government for scrapping VAT of Shs180,000 per tonne of rice, which he said was affecting traders.

Ssentongo also announced that the Parliamentary Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry had recommended in their report that the Rice and Agribusiness Development Foundation (RADFO) stops collecting money from rice traders at various border points.

The August parliamentary committee report on the alleged unfair trade practices in the rice subsector indicated that RADFO has been conniving with URA officials to fleece rice importers of Shs180,000 per tonne of rice imported from Tanzania compared to Shs4,000, which the traders were paying before.

The committee recommended that civil action be taken against RADFO with the aim of obtaining compensation amounting to Shs17.8b, which was unlawfully and fraudulently collected from the traders.

The Speaker of Parliament on May 5 instructed the Tourism, Trade and Industry Committee to probe the alleged unfair trade practices in the rice subsector following a petition by the traders.

During their investigations, the MPs inter-

acted with various stakeholders and took a fact finding field visit to Mutukula Border from August 3 to August 6 before coming up with recommendations.

"RADFO has been collecting money from the traders. They have been paying Shs180,000 per tonne of rice in addition to paying withholding tax of 6 percent to URA, when you reach the customs gate, you find the RADFO officials and you pay them Shs180,000 per tonne. A vehicle loading 30 tonnes goes for about Shs5.4 million," Mr Ssentongo said.

"The Parliament has recommended in their report that RADFO should stop collecting the money from us. RADFO has also been asked to return the more than Shs17 billion collected in the last two months," he added.

While emphasising the need for East African Community member states to allow free trade recently, President Museveni said: "The other time I told Samia Suluhu (Tanzania's President) that I had pressure from my inefficient farmers in Uganda who said they had started growing rice. I asked them why they are growing rice. They are now telling me Tanzania is growing a lot of rice, which is cheaper, and that I should put a tax on it. I have told them, don't tell me that nonsense. If you can't produce cheap rice, go to Tanzania. There must be free trade," he said.

According to statistics from the Ministry of trade, Uganda consumes about 300,000 tonnes of rice a year and this demand has largely been supplemented by imported rice.

TGGA conference set to host members from 33 countries

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Girl Guides Association (TGGA) will this month host the 13th Africa Regional Conference with delegates expected to discuss lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and put in place new strategies to enable girls and women become nation resources.

The conference to be held from August 22nd to 26th 2022 will bring together girl guides from 33 African countries, according to TGGA Commissioner General, Mary Richard.

Briefing journalists on the conference in Dar es Salaam on Thursday, she said that in 2019 Tanzania emerged winner to host the meeting which is expected to be attended by 120 people.

Theme for this year's conference is: 'Unified development: Restore Africa's Destiny via Knowledge, Skill and Women Talents'.

Mary named some of the countries who will participate as including Angola, Burundi, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Uganda, Kenya, Madagascar, South Africa, Nigeria, Ghana and Botswana.

Others are Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, DRC, Gambia, Guinea, Lesotho, Liberia, Mauritius, Namibia, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudani Kusini, Swaziland and Togo.

"The aim of the meeting is to assess the steps we made for the past three years, assessing the chal-

lenges and lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, to put in place new strategies and to elect new leaders for the next three years beginning now," she said.

She added that the meeting is an opportunity for learning from other countries on how they conduct their business in strengthening their associations and will also visit various attractions.

He further said TGGAs aim is to ensure a girl has good ethical upbringing to enable her become a national resource as well as providing her with practical training outside formal education.

Mary said TGGA is a member of World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) with 150 members including Tanzania representing over 10 million girls worldwide.



The aim of the meeting is to assess the steps we made for the past three years, assessing the challenges and lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, to put in place new strategies and to elect new



Masasi legislator Geoffrey Mwambe (L) pictured in the constituency yesterday presenting construction materials, including corrugation roofing sheets and 70 bags of cement, to residents of Sululu ward. Photo: Correspondent Hamisi Nasri

Over 300 farmers, SMEs to benefit from organic farming, value addition project

By Getrude Mbagi

OVER 300 farmers and small-scale entrepreneurs from various regions in the country are set to benefit from a two-year project aimed to support and empower them with essential skills to improve farming as well as certify their organic products.

Dubbed: "Organic Value Chain Project (OVCP)", the initiative is implemented by the Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT) in partnership with KaziYetu and IamOrganic (Organic Now Consortium).

Eliminata Marmetus, field facilitator at SAT told The Guardian in an interview at the just ended Farmers

Exhibitions, that the implementation of the project will help intensify awareness of organic products to farmers, entrepreneurs and the public thus increasing production and tapping opportunities in the foreign markets.

She said beneficiaries are from Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Mbeya, Manyara and Morogoro, Dodoma, Tabora and Lindi regions as well as Zanzibar.

She said farmers will be well equipped with knowledge and resources to produce organic products while entrepreneurs being taught on how best to process, certify, brand, and market more varieties of organic products to the local

and international markets.

"We have started by training some of the SMEs on organic agriculture, contract farming, and organic certification where 20 entrepreneurs from different locations across the country participated, we are sure that by equipping more Tanzanians with this important education, they will become good ambassadors by passing the knowledge to others in their areas," she said.

She said the project will also facilitate the opening of four organic supermarkets where the farmers and entrepreneurs will be assured of a market of their products.

Janet Maro, SAT executive director said the initiative is supported

by the Biovision Foundation and called on those who will benefit from the project to utilize the opportunity well by improving their farming and bossiness as well as educating others.

She noted that having a wide variety of well-branded organic products filled on shelves in the supermarkets and local markets can raise more awareness and increase demand for organic products.

"Tanzania can reach somewhere good in promoting organic farming and consumption of natural grown food and products without even having a special campaign but simply having markets shelves filled with organic products. This can

change the mindset of people and result in an increase in demand for these products," she asserted.

According to her, an organic label on a product tells a consumer that the product was produced free of chemicals thus protecting the environment and people's health by guaranteeing high nutritional value.

Maro noted that although organic agriculture is improving across the world, currently the consumption of organic products is limited in the Tanzanian market.

"The lack of a wide variety of organic products in the markets has resulted in a lack of awareness

of the organic products by most local people. Also, there will be no increase in the production of organic products if there is no demand, at present the volume of organic products produced is limited to mainstream grocery chains," she said.

She added: "It's our responsibility to increase demand by increasing awareness about organic products that will lead to impacting more farmers' lives by the rise in uptake of organic farming food, because the biggest challenge facing the organic sector is the knowledge gap that spans between the marketing system, across the whole value chain."



Prof Joyce Ndlichako, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Employment, Youth and People with Disabilities) speaks at the climax of the International Youth Day celebrations held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

SADC region gets boost for manufacturing of leather, medical and pharmaceutical products

By Guardian Reporter

THE Support to Industrialization and Productive Sectors Programme (SIPS) awarded three grants to relevant stakeholders in the leather, medical, and pharmaceutical value chains.

The SIPS programme is one of the programmes that facilitate realisation of the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan 2020-2030 (RISDP), which prioritises Industrial Development and Market Integration and places industrialisation at the Centre of the regional integration agenda.

The grants were awarded to three stakeholders, namely Solidaridad, Namibia Institute of Pathology Limited, and Chemical Process Technologies Pharma Pty (Ltd) on the margins of the 6th SADC Industrialisation Week in Kinshasa, DRC.

The grants launch was graced by Julien Paluku Kahongya, Minister of Industry, the Democratic Republic of Congo, SADC Deputy Executive Secretary for Corporate Affairs, Ambassador Joseph Nourrice and Dr Khutula Sibanda, Director of Industrial Development and Trade at SADC.

Minister Kahongya highlighted that development of grants to re-

spond to the COVID-19 pandemic is a much needed endeavor at the right time and a critical need for the people of the region.

He pointed out that the program demonstrated its relevancy to emerging issues such as the COVID-19 response through grants toward industrialisation and regional integration.

Kahongya commended Solidaridad, Namibia Institute of Pathology Limited, and Chemical Process Technologies Pharma Pty (Ltd) for their achievement to be awarded these grants and wished them well in the implementation of their projects which aligns with the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2063. Director of Directorate of Industrial Development & Trade at SADC Secretariat, Dr Khutula Sibanda pronounced that the grants will foster regional co-operation and strengthening of regional linkages, specifically in the leather and pharmaceutical value chains, within the region.

He said this shall be achieved by investing in knowledge and technological uptake, ensuring that the regional industry is competitive and takes advantage of the existing opportunities of the regional market.

In the leather value chain,

Solidaridad received a grant for \$500,000 to promote green innovative solutions in the leather sector of Tanzania and Zimbabwe and create market linkages for leather products at a domestic, regional and international level. Solidaridad is an international civil society organization with over 50 years of experience in developing solutions to make communities more resilient and create more sustainable supply chains.

In the medical and pharmaceutical value chain, two grants of EUR 103,127.00 and EUR 194,650.00 were awarded to Chemical Process Technologies (CPT) Pharma from South Africa and the Namibia Institute of Pathology Limited (NIP) from Namibia respectively to ramp up the production of high-quality products related to COVID-19 clinical management in the SADC region.

South African-based Chemical Process Technologies Pty (Ltd) received a grant of EUR 102,654.00 to work on the development, implementation, and validation of a manufacturing process for Molnupiravir (MOL) in a cGMP pilot plant. Molnupiravir is a medicine for the treatment of non-severe COVID-19 patients with the highest risk of hospitalization.

Use your talents, skills to achieve life goals, youth challenged

By Guardian Reporter

YOUTH have been challenged to use their talents, skills and knowledge in their endeavour to achieve the targeted life goals.

This was said yesterday by Ubungo Deputy Mayor, Hassan Mwasha when speaking at a graduation ceremony of 185 youth who were trained at the Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) centres at Kipawa, Changombe and Buza with support from the Organisation for Community Development (OCODE).

OCODE supports young people who have either been to school or dropped out or have

never gone to school for various reasons through the youth empowerment Bonga programme with funding from Stromme Foundation. "Failure to continue with secondary education or Advanced Level secondary education should not be a reason for you not excelling in life; you must use the skills acquired to add value to whatever you are doing," said Mwasha, urging them to be good ambassadors of the organization.

He commended OCODE for supporting youth because they are important members of the community who needs to be assisted to be able to utilize their talents and contribute to the country's development.

The deputy mayor promised to assist them to secure loans from Ubungo Municipal, saying the government at district level has been allocating money for empowerment of youth, women and people with disabilities.

"You should benefit with the loans; through your groups, you should come up with good business proposals to qualify for the loan. All the equipment you need for improvement of your career can be obtained through this kind of loans," he said.

OCODE Director, Joseph Jackson said they have so far reached 1,206 youth in Ubungo municipal and be able to assist their parents to form groups and establish savings and loan

groups. There are 96 groups with a total of 1,706 members. He added that through the Bonga programme young people are also assisted to identify problems in their communities and possible solutions to bring about change. "We do not only encourage them to join savings and loan groups; we also equip them with entrepreneurship trainings to properly manage their businesses," he said.

OCODE Board Chairman, Godfrey Boniface urged youth to use the gained skills to employ themselves. He said since the organisation spent a lot of money to ensure they successfully complete their vocational trainings, it is their responsibility to ensure proper use of

the gained skills to improve their welfare.

Boniface said that youth have graduated in different capacities including cookery, decorations, driving, welding, automotive electronics and mobile phone maintenance.

In their speech which was read by Mohamed Mtunga, the youth highlighted a number of successes recorded under the programme which includes formation of 10 youth councils in collaboration with Ubungo District and ward community development departments.

Mtunga said through the councils, youth come together and share their skills with fellows who have not benefitted with the Bonga programme.

We also have reason to ponder International Youth Day issues

AUGUST 12 is the day world activists mark International Youth Day, after it was created in 1999 via resolution 54/120 of the United Nations General Assembly. Ministers responsible for Youth Affairs had met in the Portuguese capital of Lisbon from 8 to 12 August 1998, so the last day was adopted for the commemoration the following year. The General Assembly recommended that public information activities be organized to support the commemoration to propel goals set four years earlier.

The commemoration focuses on resolution 50/81 adopted by the General Assembly in 1995 as a way to promote better awareness of the World Programme of Action for Youth.

It involves selecting a theme with input from youth organizations and members of the UN Inter-Agency Network in youth development, mostly having shifted from travel and presentation of printed papers to virtual sessions where materials are circulated on social platforms. It eliminates much of the political presence that makes commemorations noticeable, but public events can at time be organised as well.

The theme selected for commemorating International Youth Day worldwide this year is 'Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages,' which looks at the way youths and adults synergise to cope with a changing global situation.

The focus last year was themed as 'Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health.' This is an area where we can at least register the fact that Tanzania is on the right path owing to strenuous efforts to make the agricultural sector

livable for educated youth in particular. We aren't there yet but laying the basis for usable occupations in agro-sectors, with irrigation and start up capital.

Each year has taken a thematic focus that amplifies the sort of challenges that the youth face, ranging from technical issues of ability of youth to engage profitably in productive or other income generating activities, to fruitful social platforms.

In 2020 the theme was 'Youth Engagement for Global Action,' seeking a sense of direction around the world for what the youth can do either under lockdowns or in unemployment. No hard and fast answers are being sought but ideas for action for which responsible authorities at the policy level can follow up, try to facilitate.

One important area focused upon in the 2019 commemoration was 'Transforming Education,' something that is beginning to sink in administrative think tanks in Tanzania.

Curriculums are being revised in colleges and universities so that the output is better prepared to face a hostile reality but with plenty of opportunities for the clever and sophisticated.

The idea of being able only to file applications to various private or public organisations for jobs is insufficient, though it remains true that it is most preferable. Employment has fewer shocks, bad outcomes.

Looking at the themes that are selected one year to another, it is evident that they explore potentials and drawbacks towards achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, as the youth of 1990 will be the third generation people of the time, 30 years later.

Investors could purchase land from locals, to alter land use dynamics

NEWS that a Saudi Arabian business delegation is exploring agro-sector projects as well as market links in horticultural products, etc. is likely to raise stiff eyebrows in some quarters. It is possible that there is some attitude shift when it comes to reacting to investments that have to do with taking up large tracts of land, as traditionally we are used to seeing industrial investors packed on small land patches close to the main port, or airport. The farming is conducted by locals and mostly on customary law land, with long leases often contested, etc.

The idea that Saudia is seeking land to grow food isn't a result of scarcity of usable land in that country, as all its needs is water and some fertiliser to grow. It is a long running issue in Saudi economic thinking as to how much of its resources it can use to desalinate water from the sea and apply to irrigation. Earlier, Libyan leader the late Col. Muammar Gaddafi was tapping underground water reservoirs, but for a country with a fairly large population, that is too risky.

This pursuit for virgin land to cultivate crops for the domestic market in that country isn't new, though the norm as in its northerly neighbour, Israel, would be to desalinate water and then be a farming powerhouse with its vast stretches of land. Whatever the case the business delegation seeks to invest in agriculture export markets and it is up to authorities here to see how that blends with our agro-sector strategies. Often we don't see the danger of population increase and narrowing stretches of land where more people can farm; that can raise hostility.

The point all the same is that even without a single foreign investor occupying as little as 200 hectares of land, the population vs farming equation will be difficult to solve in the not so distant future. The problem with foreign investments on

land is that they create ready-made scapegoats for land shortages in this or that area, and easily culminate in communal or electoral violence if we can learn from our next door neighbours, who have greater experience on investor-peasant land clashes. It is thus helpful if investors would buy land from local people to earn their respect for having enriched a number of them, instead of enjoying government generosity on land to farm, or to lease for public revenues, and then the blowback would arrive sooner.

If any advice was needed for instance, such investors could be directed to those who control vast stretches of land for livestock rearing, and are often disposed to a migratory habit that causes incessant conflicts with farmers. They can sell their cattle at thrice the market price, as the Middle Eastern country also needs meat plentifully, and then take up much of the land they were holding. With water and such investments it would produce excellent crops, dairy cattle, etc - without need to figure out if the herders use the cash to buy heifers and start again, or change.

The point here is that we need to use such opportunities to set up mechanisms for plenty of cash to flow into private pockets, especially for the more marginalised sections of society who are often prone to resource use violence. Squeezing such investors into available public land while letting population growth and land use mechanisms take their own course isn't exactly advisable. It is more helpful if many peasants or herders are helped to start new activities closer to urban areas with sufficient capital that isn't to be repaid to any bank. It is selling cattle or land that will create a class of small entrepreneurs rather than cattle herders and hoe farmers, not bank borrowing or local government funds that target youth or women.

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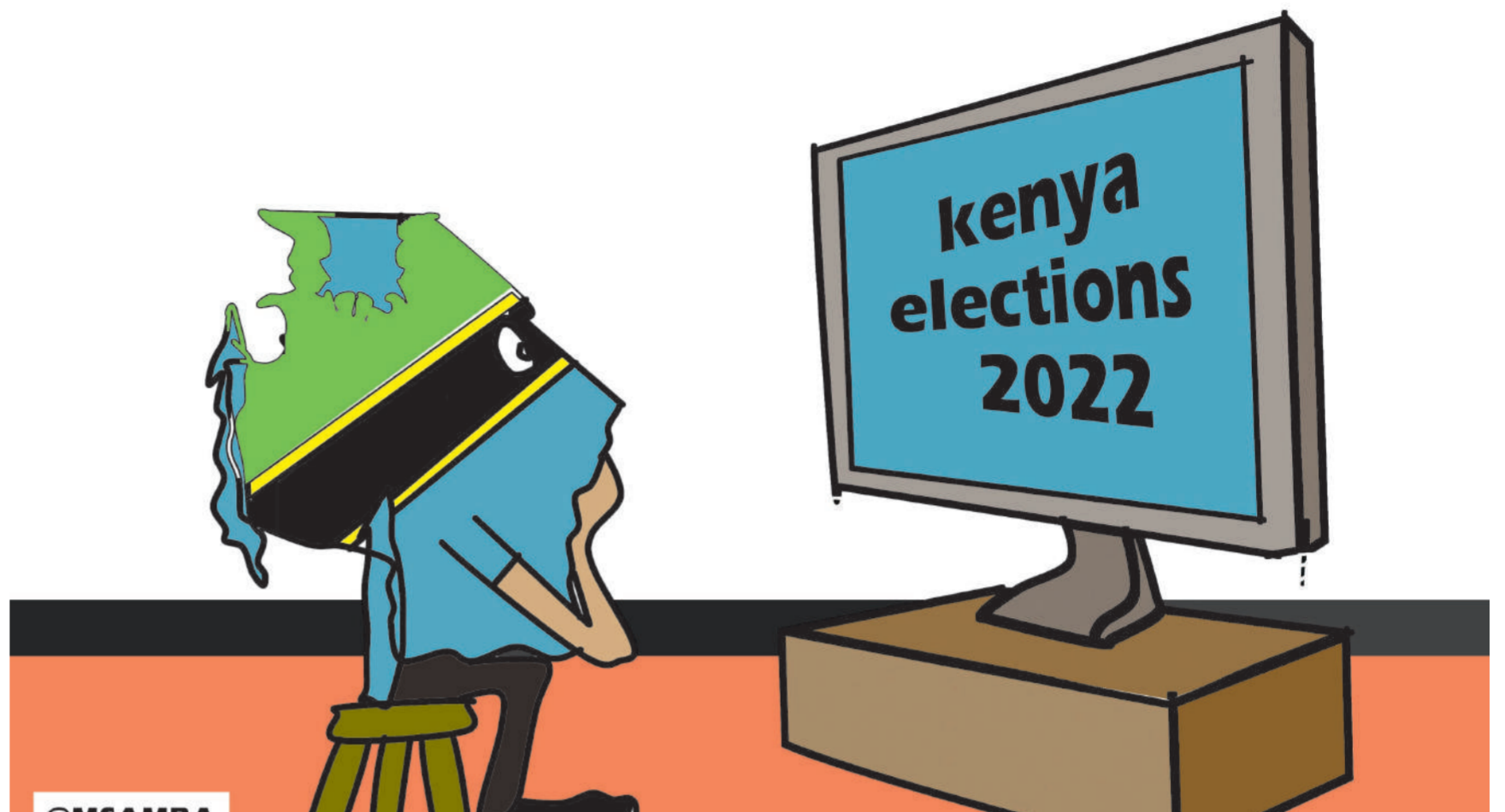
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In US Secretary of State Antony Blinken's visit to Africa: The need for an African policy framework towards the US

By Bob Wekesa

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken is on a tour of Africa with the announcement of the Joe Biden administration's policy towards Africa as a highlight of visit. It is expected that the new strategy will be launched during the South African leg of Blinken's three-nation junket that will also take his entourage to the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda between August 7 and 12. In a briefing on July 29 ahead of the visit, Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Molly Phee stated that "the Secretary ... [will] deliver a speech announcing and describing the U.S. strategy toward sub-Saharan Africa."

Significance of Biden's Africa policy

Blinken's country-specific discussions in South Africa, DRC and Rwanda are not to be waved away as unimportant. Still, the announcement of the new policy for the entire continent is the most significant development with far reaching ramifications in the immediate, medium-term, and long-term. Why is the envisaged policy so consequential?

First, it is a tradition of most American administrations to institute policy postures towards Africa, whether they are well-structured and articulated or merely ad hoc and disorderly. The importance of these policies is that they shape relations across trade and investments, political and diplomatic engagements, assistance through various philanthropic agencies and initiatives and military relations. For African governments, civil society, businesses, and individuals, reading an American policy between the lines can, for instance provide a bellwether on where American dollars are likely to flow.

Second, it is evident that the administration of Donald Trump (2016-2020) was marked by the lowering of Africa in America's global calculus. To be certain, the Trump administration did not entirely neglect Africa. One of the bright spots in the Trump administration's engagement with Africa was the launch in 2018 of Prosper Africa, an interagency entity that provides a coordination mechanism for trade and investment programs. That Prosper Africa continues during the Biden era shows that something good for Africa came from the Trump administration. Nonetheless, the Trump administration did not design a comprehensive strategy, apart from random statements by then officials - such as former National Advisor John Bolton - often predicated on the need for the US to counter China and Russia in Africa. By contrast, the anticipated Biden administration framework is likely to be built around a set of prudently thought-out priorities.

Third, and related to the previous point, the last comprehensive US strategy towards Africa was made a decade ago in 2012 by the Barack Obama administration. That policy prioritized the strengthening of democratic institutions; spurring economic growth, trade, and investment; advancing peace and security; and, promoting opportunity and development through initiatives in health, food security, climate change and others. While these issues remain relevant for Africa-US relations in 2022, it is incontestable that political, economic, security and geopolitical circumstances have shifted



exponentially in the US, Africa and around the world.

The fourth point for why the new policy is important revolves around the unprecedented interest in Africa during the 2020 US election campaigns and the eventual election of Joe Biden as the 46th American president. Throughout the early months of his presidency, optimism was entertained in Africa over better relations with the then new administration. Some of the optimism were underpinned by the appointment of personalities deemed sympathetic to African causes and interests. Space does not allow for mentioning of the hundreds of officials in the Biden administration with a track record in propagating African interests. It can however be surmised that old Africa hands such as Judd Devermont, National Security Council's senior director for Africa; Linda Thomas-Greenfield, US ambassador to the United Nations, and, Molly Phee, Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, among many others, have been busy at work contributing to the formulation of the policy. It is also probable that political support for crafting the policy would have received a boost from leaders with a record of promoting African interests such as New York Congressman Gregory Meeks, chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee; US representative from California Karen Bass, chair of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa; and Delaware Senator Chris Coons. The bigger point is that a US policy towards Africa cannot emerge in a vacuum but must have the stripes of officials and politicians determined to design one. What is left now is to access and analyse the policy once it is publicly accessible, possibly during Blinken's visit.

Policy expectations

While analysts, scholars and strategists await the formal policy,

framework while Africa does not, it follows that the agenda setter in the relations is one party - the US - and that Africa is on the receiving end of things. Yet, African agency in international affairs demands that Africa should be seen as an actor rather than being acted on. Africans cannot expect Americans to develop an engagement framework for them. Americans can be magnanimous in their strategizing towards Africa, but this will always be done with the interests of the American people at the forefront. The onus is on African leaders to strategize for their people.

Third, many asymmetries have been noted in the relations across politics, diplomacy, economics, and culture. As can be expected, Africa is on the backfooting in its relations with the US for the simple reason that the US is a global power. Yet, Africa can benefit more from the US than it currently does. If Africa looks to effectively engage with the US as a partner, then an African policy framework to help structure the relations is a necessity.

The importance of an African policy towards the US cannot be overstated. An opportunity now presents itself as the Biden administration unveils a brand-new policy. It can be expected that tons of ink will be spilled in analyzing the US policy. This is quite in order. However, a more rewarding effort on the part of Africans is to devise their own policy towards the US. The question then is: how would Africans go about designing a US policy? Responding to this question raises the conundrum of developing a policy framework that incorporates the interests of 55 nations across five regions. This complication can be overcome through a three-pronged strategy development process.

At the continental level, the policy could be led by the African Union and draw heavily on the aspirations of the Agenda 2063, the continental developmental blueprint. The African Union representative office in Washington DC would be instrumental in these regards. At the subregional level, the policy would be led by the regional economic communities in the five regions of western, southern, central, northern, and eastern Africa. At the national levels, each country would be encouraged to draw from the continental and sub regional strategies to craft US policies attuned to their national goals. The diplomatic missions of African countries in the US would play an important role in these regards.

Second, if the US has a policy

By Benjamin Fogel

If one were to pick a moment when the narrative of post-apartheid South Africa as a nation, for all its faults, generally stumbling forward in the right direction ended; no moment stands out as clearly as the Marikana massacre, when on 16 August 2012, 34 striking mineworkers were gunned down by the police on live TV. In the week preceding the massacre, 10 others had been killed.

Over the 10 years since the massacre, the country has become poorer, more violent and divided. GDP per capita has declined from just over \$8,000 to under \$7,000, unemployment is now close to 50%, the basic functions of government have collapsed in much of the country, the labour movement has grown weaker and more divided, and the threat of political violence to activists is ever more apparent.

Each week that passes in South Africa seems to bring with it a report of some new atrocity, from mass tavern shootings to xenophobic attacks and political assassinations. Last year's July insurrection reflected that the country faces a growing threat posed by mass unrest, political mafias and right-wing ethno-nationalist politics (most notably by a slate of black majority parties) which the state is evidently ill-equipped to manage; in large part because the influence of these mafias extends across all levels of government. But what does this all have to do with Marikana?

If one were to ask, how did we get to the South Africa of 2022 after State Capture, following the absurdly corrupt and brutal Covid lockdown regulations, the July insurrection, the Life Esidimeni tragedy, and suffering regular blackouts and with a burnt-out hollow shell where there used to be our Parliament? Marikana is a good place to begin.

Marikana was the moment when the core institutions of South African democracy – not just limited to the state – failed. It was the worst massacre of its kind under the democratic order, in which the police – who belonged to Cosatu, the same trade union federation as many of the striking mineworkers – shot and killed striking workers under the auspices of the ANC government that promised a better future for workers. An atrocity that was defended by Cosatu leaders and the SA Communist Party.

In the aftermath of the atrocity, with some notable exceptions, our civil society – from NGOs to media, social movements and trade unions – failed to hold the government to account or even provide meaningful solidarity with the victims of the massacre, either opting for silence or in some cases actively reproducing the state's justifications. The failure of much of the South African media remains even more apparent, given that the killings were broadcast on live television.

The legacy of the Marikana massacre, ten years later



A cross of remembrance during the commemoration on 16 August 2016 of the 2012 Marikana massacre in Rustenburg. File photo

The core institutions of our democracy, from the National Prosecuting Authority to Parliament, failed to hold the government and police to account, even after an inquiry found that former police commissioner Riah Phiyega should be held responsible for the deaths of the 34 mineworkers. Since 2012, no police officer has been charged for any of the shootings. If anything, the police are more violent and incompetent than ever.

Instead, it took the work of a few dedicated journalists and researchers for the actual story of what happened that day to be revealed to the public. It took even longer for the documentary *Miners Shot Down* and the findings of the Farlam Commission to change public consciousness about what transpired on 16 August 2012.

Political amnesia

Marikana stands out as one of the

political moments in South Africa that has fallen victim to the plague of political amnesia that stalks the country, as the warring factions of the ANC use it as a weapon for their internal struggles: members of the pro-Jacob Zuma Radical Economic Transformation faction use it to attack President Cyril Ramaphosa, despite the fact that the massacre occurred under Zuma's watch. Others still refer to it as though it was some sort of natural disaster, a tragedy that ultimately nobody was responsible for.

Ten years later, justice remains elusive for most survivors of Marikana. While 35 families have been paid compensation of approximately R70-million, a larger group of more than 300 miners who were injured during the shooting rampage are still trying to claim compensation of R1-billion. In a recent development, the

high court ruled that Ramaphosa could be found liable for the events that led up to the massacre for his role as a Lonmin director. However, proving civil liability will be up to the mineworkers to try to accomplish in court.

There is also the ongoing trial of former North West deputy police commissioner Major-General William Mpenbe and other police officers for the murder of five people at Marikana on 13 August 2012. Mpenbe and his colleagues face five counts of murder and attempted murder as well as contravening the Commissions Act for giving false information during the Farlam Commission. But 10 years later, public interest has all but dissipated and the old legal maxim could not be truer: justice delayed is justice denied.

While political battles are waged through protracted court proceed-

ings, the workers of the Platinum Belt in North West face ongoing exploitation, dysfunctional government, political violence (at least 22 workers have been murdered since the massacre), material deprivation and the predatory lending schemes of mashonis (loan sharks) and payday loan companies.

For many, including myself, the massacre was the moment when the blinkers were removed and the underlying injustices that have stunted the development of South African democracy were revealed in all their brutality. The lack of public outrage in the wake of the massacre and the absence of mass protests and solidarity remain a cause of shame for the country. The indifference of the public became even starker even as the workers of the Platinum Belt em-

barked on one of the largest wildcat strikes in our history, and in 2014-2015 would win the longest strike in South African history.

Marikana has come to serve as a potent symbol of resistance for the South African working class, employed by protesting students, striking workers and community protests. The Marikana strikes went on to influence and inspire other workers' movements outside the Platinum Belt, like the farmworker strikes in De Doorns in the Western Cape in 2012-13 which galvanised more than 9,000 participants in their mission to improve their working conditions.

The lesson of Marikana is that even under the most difficult circumstances effective mobilisation and organisation are possible – workers across the Platinum Belt opted to join and expand the strike rather than mourn silently or surrender. It is this extraordinary moment that provides a rallying cry for those who still wish to see a more just and equal South Africa

DM

Democracy in Iraq under threat following the storming of parliament

AMMAN

THE storming of the Iraqi parliament by supporters of Al-Sadr was motivated by years of political impasse – threatening Iraq's democracy and peace

Iraq's stricken democracy is being stress-tested once again and the Iraqi population is paying the price. In the past weeks, supporters of Shi'ite leader Muqtada Al-Sadr have stormed the Iraqi parliament and staged a sit-in twice.

Their protest thwarted the scheduled election of Mohammad Shia Al-Sudani as prime minister. Al-Sudani was nominated by the Shi'ite Coordination Framework, which brings together various groups and militias, with the exception of Al-Sadr's party.

A political impasse has gripped Iraq since the election in October 2021, as fragmented, mainly Shi'ite forces have vied for influence. The party of Shi'ite cleric Al-Sadr emerged as the winner, with 73 out of the 329 seats, while two established Iran-backed Shia coalitions – the Fatah Alliance and the Al-Nasr Alliance – suffered major losses.

After the election, Al-Sadr wanted to form a majority government in the shape of a triple alliance comprising his movement, the Sunni Taqaddum Coalition and the Kurdish KDP. The Shi'ite Coordination Framework, however, demanded the continuation of a unity government, which is



A market in Baghdad, Iraq.

common in Iraq, of which it would form part.

After they had failed to form a government, the Sadr party MPs resigned. This left the ball in the Coordination Framework's court. However, Sadr's withdrawal from parliament is regarded as a strategic ploy in an effort to earn credibility as an alleged outsider against a corrupt political elite, enabling it to mobilise popular protests.

Against this background the biggest demonstrations since the mass protests of October 2019, as well as the parliamentary sit-in are scarcely surprising.

No way around Al-Sadr

The current demonstrations are not personally linked to Al-Sudani. The Sadrists portray Al-Sudani as a puppet of Nouri Al-

Maliki, leader of the State of Law Coalition and former prime minister from 2006 to 2014, although Iraq experts cast doubt on this. In any case, Al-Sudani, minister for human rights under Nouri Al-Maliki, would not be a bad choice in comparison with other potential candidates. In the wake of recent events, however, Al-Sudani doesn't have much chance of assuming the premiership.

There appears to be no route around populist king-maker Al-Sadr. On the one hand, he denounces corruption, mismanagement, and Iran's sway over Iraq, but he's hardly Mr Clean himself. His impulsiveness drastically limits Iraq's options for peaceful and democratic solutions.

This threatens to set in motion a spiral of escalation that has so far not cost any lives, but has already injured over 100 people on the side of the protesters and the security forces.

Potential scenarios range from new elections to the resumption of civil war. Two factors make the civil war scenario unlikely, however, at least for now. First, confronting one another here are groups of Iraqi Shia – Al-Sadr and the Shi'ite Coordination Framework – that, although at odds over Iran's influence and the form of government, share religious views and are celebrating the holy month of Mu arram.

This is the first month of the Islamic calendar, in which Shi'ites mourn the family tragedy of usayn ibn Al. Going to war is forbidden during this period. Secondly, the actors in this power struggle are well aware that a civil war could diminish their share of power and curtail their ability to distribute largesse.

People's trust in democracy is shaken

The main victims of this political blockade are democracy and the Iraqi people. In any case, the record low turnout of 43.5 per cent undermined parliamentary legitimacy. Even more so with the Sadrists' withdrawal from parliament, which now represents only a minority of the population.

Popular trust in democracy was already badly shaken. From October to December 2019 the most violent mass protests since 2003 convulsed broad swathes of the country. Young Iraqis expressed their dismay at rampant corruption, paltry government services, high unemployment and the political system.

The protests were violently suppressed by Iraqi security forces, leaving hundreds of protesters dead or injured. The core demands of the Tishreen (October) movement were fundamental reform of the political system (such as abolition of the so-called Muhasasa system, involving ethnic-religious quotas), and a new, non-corrupt government. Both demands remain largely unsatisfied. The Tishreen movement would thus have every reason to take to the streets again.

The movement is more fragmented than ever, however. Radical and religious forces have infiltrated the movement and have tried to impose their aims on it. Some have been co-opted by the government, while others have attached themselves to parties emerging from the protests. We can thus assume that the movement today has less mobilisation potential than hitherto.