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ISSN 0856 - 5422 ISSUE No. 8930 · PRICE: Tsh 1,000, Kenya sh100



WEDNESDAY 16 AUGUST, 2023

National Pg 3













EAC to host first China-US, Africa business summit

By Guardian Reporter

THE secretariat of the East African Community (EAC) is expected to host the Africa and China - US business summit sometime next year.

It said in a statement yesterday that Dr Peter Mathuki (pictured), the secretary general, made this affirmation in Arusha yesterday after a meeting with Robert Sun, the American Chinese CEOs Society president, where they discussed investment opportunities in the EAC partner states.

The summit is expected to attract over 500 CEOs and investors from China and the United States evaluating investment opportunities in the trading bloc, he said, pointing at the EAC's strategic location and its expansive market as key investment attractions.

The EAC is committed to providing a conducive environment for businesses, having in place an adequate legal framework, a big market with a population of 283.7m. The EAC has a GDP of \$305.3bn and low costs of doing

We are ready to do education and promotion for investors in China and the US, and share the opportunity presented by the EAC market

business, he said.

"This presents immense opportunities for business and the region is ready for investment," he said, laying stress on the bloc's immense natural resources as with the Democratic Republic of Congo

It has a total land area of 2.3m square kilometres with \$24trn worth of minerals that are yet to be exploited, he elaborated, noting a presentation of bankable projects across the partner

For his part, Sun expressed interest in bringing investors to the EAC, affirming his being impressed by the region's economic potential, amplifying that a united East Africa, free from trade barriers, will mean business.

"We are ready to do education and promotion for investors in China and the US, and share the opportunity presented by the EAC market," he said.

The CEOs society was looking at investing in hospitality, agriculture, health, real estate, insurance and others. US President Joe Biden had declared intent to facilitate upwards of \$50bn

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Quadruple coalition wants activists freed



India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan, officiates at the hoisting of the national flag of India in Dar es India. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

FOUR prominent groups of human rights defenders have condemned the detention of noted activists by the police.

In a joint statement issued in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the groups said the action is contrary to current government efforts to streamline civic prerogatives in the criminal justice system.

The Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC), Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) and the Tanzania Constitution Forum (TCF) called on President Samia Suluhu Hassan to resolve the issue.

They urged the president to intervene in the matter and facilitate the release of the detained activists, namely, former Chadema secretary general Dr Willibrod Slaa, advocate Boniface Mwanukusi and activist Mpaluka Nyagali popular as 'Mdude'. Anna Henga, the LHRC executive director, said at a press conference that efforts by the government to improve access to justice in the country were being undermined.

She said police still apply excessive force in arrests of suspects fighting for human rights. "Human rights defenders honestly believe in

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NHC defaulters pay 23bn/-in one month

By Correspondent James Kandoya

NATIONAL Housing Corporation (NHC) tenants paid rent debts amounting 23bn/during a one-month campaign to collect rent from tenants countrywide.

Muungano Saguya, the NHC public affairs and information manager, said at a press conference yesterday that the corporation has listed a number of measures to compel defaulters to pay up.

This move is related to instructions by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa when winding up parliamentary business at the end of its past sessions in which he gave a three month ultimatum to defaulters to clear their arrears.

NHC wishes to design a formula to prevent further accumulation of rents, he said, affirming that NHC initiatives to ensure

tenants pay their rent arrears include forming a virtual task force, a committee to oversee debt collection.

So far NHC has collected 5bn/- out of the 28bn/- it is owed by ex-tenants and active tenants, he said, noting that the measures include reaching agreements with tenants to

pay their rent arrears in instalments. In order to collect debts and avoid disturbances, from now on tenants will not be rented before paying a three-month security deposit, which will help NHC to use the security deposits when the rent defaulter is no longer visible, he said.

"From now NHC will not take up a tenant who has a bad record of not paying rent on time to avoid unnecessary inconveniences," he said.

Active tenants who will fail to pay their TURN TO PAGE 2

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Samia seeking church help, hails self-reliance

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has tasked religious leaders with a leading role in addressing moral deterioration in the society by directing their preaching on the youth.

Officiating at the launch of a new commercial complex built by the Anglican Church in Dodoma, she said rising moral decay calls for everyone's involvement,

including the church. The church should take a leading role in

speaking against bad manners. We should teach the youth and even the elderly, arguing against those who use the church to do things which are outside the scope of that

She called upon religious leaders to urge their followers to work hard and tap opportunities emanating from shifting the government's seat to Dodoma.

"Dodoma will not be built in a day," she stated, promising that she will find time to explain to the people of Dodoma what has

TURN TO PAGE 2



President Samia Suluhu Hassan is witnessed by Anglican Church of Tanzania bishops as she cuts the ribbon in Dodoma city yesterday to inaugurate an investment complex known as Safina House – property of the church's Diocese of Central Tanganyika. Photo: State House

uadruple coalition wants activists freed

the views issued by the commission formed to investigate state organs responsible for dispensing criminal justice," she declared.

She said the commission, chaired by ex-Chief Justice Mohammed Chande Othman, emphasized that police need to respect the public through fair execution of duty.

TCF executive director Bob Wangwe said they are working on a possibility to submit a request to meet President Samia for an audience on various issues going on in the country "to further help strengthen human rights and access to justice."

Paul Kisabo, a THRDC official,

said that they will ensure that they monitor the case to its end so as to ensure that the arrested activists access all the legal pursuits for justice.

Those arrested have been burdened with crimes which are not theirs, he said, affirming that on the basis of police explanations, "they should be charged for provocative statements and not treason."

Meanwhile, Dickson Matata, an advocate directly representing Dr Slaa, has expressed concern over the whereabouts of his client.

He said that Dr Slaa was previously reported to be under custody at the Oyster Bay police station, but he has since been shifted to an undisclosed

custody, even as he has spent over 24 hours in the police remand without being taken to court.

"We haven't seen Dr Slaa, the last time I saw him was on Monday when I went to the police station and was told that police will take him back to his residence in Mbweni. When I returned there I didn't find him; we are still making follow-up to know exactly where he is," he said.

Dr Slaa was reported to have been arrested on Sunday and detained at the Oysterbay police station, a day after the advocate Boniface Mwabukusi and activist Nyagali Mpaluka alias Mdude were arrested.

Another Emmanuel was

Masonga, the Chadema southern zone secretary, at Mikumi in Morogoro Region as they drove to Dar es Salaam, well past midnight Saturday.

Inspector General of Police Camilius Wambura said at a media briefing in Dar es Salaam on Friday that activists planning to organise and coordinate illegal nationwide demonstrations in the wake of a negative court ruling for them, will have no chance to do so.

He asked members of the public to avoid being trapped by such people in the planned demonstrations as police would not spare anyone found taking part in any illegal walk.



Asim Mehmood Butt (in black suit), President of the Welfare Association of Pakistan in Tanzania, feeds a cake to Pakistan's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Siraj Ahmad Khan. This was at an event held in Dar es Salaam on Monday to mark Pakistan's Independence Day. 🖡

Ruto back in Kenya after 2-day state visit in Mozambique

NAIROBI

PRESIDENT William Ruto arrived back in the country on Saturday evening after a two-day State Visit in Mozambique.

He was received at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport by Interior Cabinet Secretary Kithure Kindiki, Chief of Defence Forces Gen Francis Ogolla, service commanders and other top government officials.

Ruto, accompanied by First Lady Rachel and top officials from the Foreign Office, departed from Maputo at 13.44 ending a visit that saw him commit to eight bilateral agreements.

During talks with his host Felipe Nyusi, Ruto called for the opening

saying both Kenya and Mozambique to exploit opportunities in the will utilize the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) framework to spur economic growth.

The two leaders endorsed the reciprocal recognition of driving licences, a move that will allow citizens of both countries to use their licences both in Kenya and Mozambique.

Ruto rallied Africans to make deliberate decisions to increase trade among its nations.

Speaking at the Joaquim Chissano International Conference Centre, Maputo, during the Mozambique-Kenya business investment forum, President Ruto said African countries should eliminate barriers

continent.

Dr Ruto rooted for the promotion of intra-continental trade to facilitate efforts by investors to harness the continent's potentiality.

"I want to persuade the business people here to look beyond our two countries and explore opportunities in the continent," he said.

Ruto said there is the desire and aspiration that the continent should create a common market free from obstacles if 'we have to prosper'.

The Head of State reiterated the need to empower Pan- African Parliament to make Africa Union (AU) accountable in its operations.

"We must have a strong body that can be the continent's stand bearer of African borders to enhance trade, to trade in order for investors on issues affecting the region," he

President Nyusi said there were opportunities for investments in the field of agro-processing, production flowers and infrastructural development among other sectors.

"We have improved our business environment for investments to thrive," said President Nyusi.

President Ruto assured Kenyans in diaspora that the Government will continue to carry out reforms aimed at improving service delivery.

He promised to digitize all government services to support the

Ruto urged the diaspora to embrace the culture of saving terming it as "[the] only sure way for us to succeed."

AGENCIES

Samia seeking church help, hails self-reliance

been completed and what is still in developing Tanzania. progress.

The commercial complex is a stepping stone to self-reliance for the church, she said, affirming government delight at selfreliance initiatives by the church, underlining that the government recognizes the role played by the Anglican Church in supporting developing initiatives.

They have been helpful in promoting the provision of services, similarly hailing the church for venturing in agriculture, complementing government efforts in the Building a Better Tomorrow (BBI) programme.

It involves supporting the youth in agriculture and livestock farming, she told the gathering, vowing that the government will see how best to work with the church and related institutions in ensuring that more youth benefit from the programme.

The Rt. Rev. Dr Maimbo Mndolwa, the head of the Anglican Church in Tanzania, asked the president to endure criticism from the public 62.5 percent, she added.

on some issues while focusing on

Earlier, Bishop Dr Dickson Chilongani of the Central Tanganyika Diocese said the church has been playing a key role in facilitating national development through education and health in particular.

The diocese will celebrate its 91st anniversary in November, as the oldest diocese of the church in the sub-region and well beyond, he said.

In the new complex, there is a hall for the youth to meet and discuss key themes of life that help to shape their orientation, development.

Rosemary Senyamule, regional commissioner, said the region has received substantial funds from the government for education infrastructure, with the region expected to enrol more secondary school students than in the past.

Building Msalato International Airport has now reached 40-percent, with construction work in the government city reaching

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EAC to host China-US, Africa business summit

FROM PAGE 1

investments into Africa within the current presidency ending late next year, he said.

Officials said the meeting was a positive step towards promoting investments in the EAC, enhancing expectations of increased trade and cooperation between EAC, China and the United States.

The meeting was attended by Andrea Malueth, deputy secretary general for infrastructure in particular, American Chinese CEOs Society official Jerry Shang and the EAC acting director for Customs and Trade, Flavia Busingye.

NHC defaulters pay 23bn/-in one month

FROM PAGE 1

debt within the announced period will have their leases terminated and evicted from NHC buildings, he said, highlighting that NHC has Credit Information Bureau to send the names of defaulters to bar them from seeking services in other financial institutions.

Tenants who have not completed paying their security deposits need to comply before December 31 to avoid lease termination, he stated, hinting at possible measures to list names of defaulters in the newspapers to co-opt other companies not to do business with them.

Elias Msese, the NHC director of must be increased.

property management, said that at present NHC has 3000 defaulters for from 18,000 houses leased countrywide, with

18bn/- owed by ex-tenants.

Upwards of 3bn/- is owed by entered into a contract with the public institutions, with the bulk of their arrears slated for payment during the current financial year, he said.

> Last year, the Public Investments Committee (PIC) of the National Assembly directed NHC to speed up debt collection from defaulters for it to smoothly implement large scale projects.

PIC chairman Ierry Silaa (Ukonga) said that despite the good work being done by the corporation, the speed of recovering the money

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Ecowas military leaders to discuss Niger coup at Ghana summit Thursday

MILITARY leaders from the West African ECOWAS bloc are to meet in Ghana on Thursday to discuss a possible intervention to resolve the coup in Niger.

President Mohamed Bazoum has been held under house arrest with his wife and son since the armed junta overthrew him on 26 July.

ECOWAS, backed by France and the US, has said the junta's leaders should restore the democratically elected president to power.

This meeting, initially scheduled for 12 August, had been postponed and will finally take place on 17 and 18 August in Accra, the Ghanaian capital, according to a regional military source and a source within ECOWAS.

It will be held a week after the organisation's decision to deploy a "standby force" to restore President Mohamed Bazoum.

On Tuesday, during a telephone conversation, Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Malian counterpart Assimi Goïta, who came to power by a putsch in

2020, stressed "the importance of resolving the situation" in Niger, "only by means peaceful politicodiplomatic".

Mali, a neighbouring country of Niger, very quickly showed its solidarity with the military in power in Niamey.

The latter also raised their voices on Monday evening in the face of the threat of armed intervention.

They recalled Niger's ambassador to Abidjan for "consultation", after remarks by Ivorian President Alassane Ouattara who, according to them, "apologised for armed action" against their country.

AGENCIES

The latter also raised their voices on Monday evening in the face of the threat of armed intervention



Jessica Greene (2nd-R, foreground), Coordinator of the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) in Tanzania, symbolically presents biometric fingerprint kits to Simiyu Regional Medical Officer Richard Marwa (to her right) and acting Mara regional administrative secretary Dominick Lusasi at the Tarime District Hospital yesterday. Left is the Director of the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Tanzania, Dr Mahesh Swaminathan. The PEPFAR and CDC officials are in Mara Region chiefly to highlight the impact the plan has had in Tanzania in the last two decades.

Pakistan envoy expresses wish to see govt open Commission in Islamabad

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PAKISTAN High Commissioner to Tanzania Siraj Ahmad Khan has expressed a wish to see Tanzania opens High Commission in Islamabad to further bolster diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The envoy made the statement in Dar es Salaam on Monday when addressing Pakistanis living in Tanzania as part of the commemoration of 76th Pakistan Independence Day.

The new High Commissioner presented his credentials to President Samia Suluhu Hassan at have a joint commission in future.

the State House in Zanzibar on July 24, this year.

"In my desire to stay here, I wish to see Tanzania opening the embassy in Islamabad next year, I requested President Samia Suluhu Hassan during our talks," he said.

"In our meeting with the minister for Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation, we discussed how to enhance our bilateral cooperation not only on trade but also in defence culture education," he added.

Khan said they have also agreed to expand the scope of cooperation and increase the country's interactions and have planned to

The envoy said that his country has been collaborating on economic development, business textiles,

shipping industries, mining and

automobiles.

The envoy said the Pakistan Diaspora in Tanzania play a vital role in promoting bilateral relations and fostering a strong bond between our two countries.

"Pakistan and Tanzania stand poised to navigate the future together, building a world that epitomizes peace, prosperity, and unity. This day holds immense significance in the history of Pakistan, as it marks the dawn of our nation's freedom and the beginning

of a remarkable journey towards peace, progress and prosperity," he

According to the envoy, Pakistan intends to strengthen commercial ties with Tanzania to enhance the amount of trade volume is projected to reach over U.S \$ 400 million noting that currently, stands at US \$ 224 million

The two countries have also collaborated effectively on regional and international platforms, advocating for shared interests and concerns

In 2021, the main products that Tanzania exported to Pakistan were Raw Cotton (\$27.5m), Prepared Cotton (\$23.1m), and Dried legumes (\$7.22m) while imports of Pakistan from Tanzania mainly include tea, raw cotton, tobacco, edible oils and tanning materials and with a lot of potential to explore.

Agriculture stakeholders call upon Africa to invest in research on indigenous seeds

By Guardian Reporter

AGRICULTURE stakeholders have called upon African countries to heavily invest in research on indigenous seeds which guarantee better nutrition, food security, and safety for consumers' health.

The stakeholders are meeting for three days in Dar es Salaam to discuss the future of indigenous seeds in their respective countries and globally.

Speaking at the conference, Paul Chilewa from the Tanzania Organic Agriculture Movement (TOAM) stated that the conference, which involved over 100 participants from 25 countries, is crucial for all stakeholders in indigenous seeds to discuss how to protect indigenous seeds.

Chilewa mentioned that Africa currently faces significant challenges with indigenous seeds, which could lead to food insecurity over extended periods.

He emphasized that indigenous seeds offer abundant and safe nutrition for consumers, thus research is necessary to ensure their sustainability. He suggested that if governments conduct research involving farmers who use indigenous seeds, the challenge could be addressed effectively.

Chilewa further noted that if there are no efforts to tackle the challenge of indigenous seeds, farmers might resort to purchasing seeds that require toxic pesticides and fertilizers, leading to various health issues.

Abdallah Mkindi, Coordinator of the Tanzania Alliance for Biodiversity, emphasized that research shows that 80-percent of African farmers use indigenous seeds.

He also highlighted that indigenous seeds contain nutrients, and if society is encouraged to use them, it could address malnutrition issues prevalent in those countries. "Indigenous seeds have a significant role in combating climate change impacts, which have shown severe consequences globally. Therefore, I urge African governments to allocate funds for research on these seeds," Mkindi said.

Mkindi mentioned that TABIO,

in collaboration with the African Food Sovereignty Alliance (AFSA) and SwissAid, brought together stakeholders to discuss the fate of indigenous seeds, which are often overlooked by policymakers and regulations.

Hamisa Abdallah, Member of Parliament for Lindi Town, stated that traditional seed farming could bring productivity to the sector, as historical practices have shown.

She pointed out that traditional seed farming is cost-effective compared to modern methods, urging communities to embrace the old system.

She emphasized that due to the negative effects of modern agriculture, the world is shifting towards traditional systems cantered around indigenous seeds. "I live with subsistence farmers, collaborating with them to promote the use of indigenous seeds. I support other stakeholders in calling for investment in research on these seeds, which are safe for human health," she said.

She added that the conference sends a clear message to world leaders to prioritize agriculture based on indigenous seeds, which are safe for both human health and the environment.

Beatrice Banzi from the ministry of agriculture mentioned that Tanzania has been encouraging researchers to study the field of indigenous seeds and other seeds.

Famara Diédhiou, Program Officer at AFSA, stated that it is the right time for African countries to unite in prioritizing indigenous seeds in the agriculture sector. He said, "We've gathered here in Tanzania, and I believe it's the right time for us to advocate for the presence of nutritious food by promoting the use of indigenous seeds."

Participating countries in the conference include Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Spain, Norway, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Australia, Togo, Mali, Benin, Chad, Tunisia, Niger, South Africa, Botswana, Malawi, Egypt, Rwanda, DR Congo, and Gabon.



The Guardian newspaper managing editor Wallace Mauggo (R) pictured in The Guardian Limited (TGL) newsroom in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting an award and a letter of special recognition to Nipashe newspaper subeditor Sanula Athanas, who emerged Overall Winner in the 2022 edition of the Excellence in Journalism Awards Tanzania (EJAT). The list of the winners was released at a ceremony held in the city late last month. Other winners from TGL similarly awarded yesterday are Francis Kajubi, Shaban Njia, Rahma Suleiman, Augusta Njoji and Elizabeth Kilindi. Witnessing the event are Nipashe newspaper managing editor Beatrice Bandawe (2nd-R) and the TGL Administrative Officer Rehema Shadrack Songoro. Photo: John Badi

Traffic Police to install CCTV cameras at major highway black spots

By Guardian Correspondent, Iringa

THE Police in Iringa Region are in the process for the implementation of the grand plan to install modern CCTV cameras at all road black spots along the main road connecting the region and other regions.

The devices will first be installed at Majinja area in Mufindi District and Mt Kitonga in Kilolo District to reduce road accidents at the area,

Salim Abri Asas, Iringa Region Road Safety Committee chairman said the black spots with frequent road accidents will be installed at once as part of his panel's

The committee made a three-day tour in company with the traffic police officials in Iringa region for assessment of the situation.

Abri said traffic police cannot be stationed along the road 24 hours but cameras will help to nab drivers who violate road safety laws.

"We are therefore warning all drivers that any time CCTV cameras will be installed their time is up to arrest their uncouth behaviour," he said. Several black spots areas visited by the committee include the Kitonga area, Kawre Ruaha, Mbuyuni, Mazombe Gradient in Kilolo District, Mt Ipogoro and Tosa Junction

Others were Tanangozi Dome Hill, Mt Ihemi/ Kichakani, Klibena Tambarare, Mt Ny'ang'oro, Mtera Bridge, Mt.Ipwasi and Zizi Corner in Iringa District, Rungemba, Mt Majinja/Changarawe, Nyololo Corner and Mbalamaziwa in Mufindi District.

For his part, Iringa Regional Road Traffic Officer Mossi Ndozero who is also the Committee executive secretary said during the two-day visit they conducted a patrol in some of the areas beginning last Saturday.

Road accident "black spots" are locations which witness more accidents by comparison to other similar locations on the road system, or locations which have accidents greater than a defined minimum.

In 2015, more than 41 people died at the Changarawe black spot in Mafinga District after a Majinja Express bus they were travelling in collided head on with a truck.

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SAVING LIVES CHANGING

Expression of Interest

Grain Warehouse Storage Facility in Dodoma

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in Tanzania seeks to identify potential grain warehouse storage facilities in Dodoma Municipal from a reputable companies that have operational and in good condition warehouses. The warehouse Facility will mainly be used for the storage of food commodities and some related non-food items.

WFP hereby invites qualified companies to express their interest by emailing to sarah.bairu@wfp.org with the Subject: Expression of Interest - Warehouse Storage Facility in Dodoma - Tanzania until 21st August 2023, 10:00 hours (local time). The interested companies will receive a questionnaire to be submitted back to WFP by 25th August 2023, 10:00 hours (LMocal time) as part of the preliminary vendor shortlisting.

The Expression of Interest will be followed by the physical inspection of the warehouse facilities and other amenities to the potential vendors based on the questionnaires.

All requests for clarifications and questions strictly relating to this invitation only, should be sent via e-mail to: Hafeez.saka@wfp.org.

Please note that this is not an Invitation to Tender. Rates/prices are not required at this stage, and this invitation does not bind the World Food Programme to issue any tenders or contracts to the companies expressing their interest.

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15 August 2023

SAGCOT calls farmers to tap opportunities during Dar es Salaam Global Food Summit

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) has called upon farmers in the country to tap opportunities in the coming Global Food Summit to be held in Dar es Salaam to expand their network for market access.

executive director Geofrey Kirenga said the meeting, which is set to take place in September this year, offers an opportunity for farmers in the country to seek local and foreign markets for their produce.

"President Samia Suluhu Hassan has welcomed everyone to register for the summit, which offers room for farmers to market their products," he said.

He said the government has welcomed various leaders from across the globe saving it is time for farmers to attend the summit and widen their network.

He said the meeting will see heads of state from various countries across the globe, heads of international organizations, investors, ministers and other stakeholders targeted to reach

Kirenga said the summit will also offer room for investment from agriculture stakeholders to invite investors into the country's agriculture through idea exchanges and business ventures.

He said as part of the invitation to the summit, president Samia has put Tanzania on a world map as a country which prioritises agriculture.

He said the 2023 Summit theme is' Recover, Regenerate, Act: Africa's Solutions to Food Systems Transformation' which is anchored around building back better food systems with youth and women at the center.

He added that during the summit, public and private sector attendees will actively engage in dialogues and re-energised commitment in the food systems conversation with a focus on regeneration as a means of wealth creation for the continent.

Kirenga said SAGCOT being an umbrella body of agriculture companies, was ready to work with various stakeholders to ensure that every opportunity available reaches a farmer in Tanzania.

"We have every reason to mobilise farmers and other stakeholders to take part in the summit so that they market themselves," he said.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan has welcomed everyone to register for the summit, which offers room for farmers to market their products

Ugandan govt sets new rules for online lending of money

KAMPALA

NO digital or online money lender will be allowed to charge a defaulting customer a penalty fee exceeding 50 per cent of the total amount they lent them once new operating guidelines come into play in less than six months' time.

Uganda Microfinance Regulatory Authority (UMRA) Digital Lending Guidelines are almost complete and will be rolled out in December.

The 10 guidelines were developed following public outcry about businesses that run online money lending applications outside the law. Officials at UMRA say they will help restore sanity in the industry, which has been hijacked by quacks and suspected

The rules were developed after a collective effort involving the regulator, the Ministry of Finance, and Bank of Uganda.

They will cover licensing, governance, credit information, place of business, digital credit, consumer protection, an antimoney laundering mechanism, and reporting of requirements.

Rachael Vanesa Nakawooya, a manager in-charge of microfinance institutions at UMRA, told stakeholders during an August 9 consultative meeting that illegal online money lenders had brought shame to the sector.

"We, as regulators, promised in that same article that we shall bring out regulations and here we are about to issue. By December this year, the regulations will be up and running," she said during the meeting held in Najjera, Wakiso

On April 5, Daily Monitor carried a story which showed how some online money lenders were operating illegally and charging extortionate rates.

Operators of some of the applications including Mangu Cash, Fair Credit, Redi Cash, Isente, Quick-Sente, have since registered with UMRA under one company called Volantis Co Ltd, according to the company's legal officer, Milly Nabukeera.

Nabukeera, however, refused to

disclose the physical address of the company saying, "when people are borrowing our money, do they ask us where we are located? Why should someone start asking after failing to pay? Just know we are legally operating now".

But according to UMRA's May 2023 published list of 2,132 licensed money lending businesses, Volantis Co Ltd is recorded under licence number ML2221, located in Kololo Courts P.O. Box 33913, Kampala.

Under the new guidelines, Volantis and any other similar business will be required to register and make public their physical address or risk being deregistered.

Nakawooya said another loophole which will be plugged is one where a majority of the businesses licensed by UMRA only declared either one or two portals, hiding others and thereby dodging payment of necessary fees.

"We found out that some of you come and register with our companies but hide some of your products. For example some of you own over six applications, but you declared one, under the new guidelines we shall disqualify you," Nakawooya said.

She added that online lenders will be regulated under the Tier 4 Microfinance Institutions and Money Lenders Act, 2016.

In cases where the client fails to pay a loan within the agreed timeframe, the new guidelines prohibit the lender from charging more than a half of the total loan principal in penalties.

"They are supposed to register a known business name, and should avoid threats, using obscene language and avail details of the recovery agent to the client prior to executing any arrears recovery plans and the company should provide clear loan terms," the

regulations adds. Nakawoya said the lenders shall declare a monthly interest rate which they shall then divide into four weeks in case they want to recover their money in seven days.

"We don't want to see a company charging clients 30 percent per month. And whoever fails to adhere will lead to revoking of our license," she said.



Tanzania Education Authority director general Bahati Geuzye (R) and Baobab Shalom Limited director Yev Semikov exchange documents in Dodoma city on Monday after signing an MoU involving the distribution of various publications in an effort to encourage students to pursue courses in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Photo: Corresponde

Lands ministry identifies over 3,000 contract land conflicts countrywide

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

LAND, Housing and Human Settlements Development ministry has identified more than 3,000 contract land conflicts that mar the ministry's image.

Among the conflicts is plot No. 118505 involving Valence Matunda and Badi Nkya against the late Zuberi Mwinyimvua.

Land minister Dr Angeline Mabula made the remarks here yesterday on the long-time contract land conflict against the individuals in Mbezi Beach area, Dar es Salaam.

He said out of these land conflicts,

1,000 have been resolved through various committees appointed by the ministry for the purpose in various areas countrywide.

Dr Mabula said the many land conflicts are caused by people trying to con one another during plot sales, others follows families selling land plots twice thereby necessitating cases involving the

"I call on the people to be careful in regard to land plot selling and buying, you are supposed to abide by legal procedures including involving of lawyers," said Dr Mabula.

She explained that due to various

sales of land plots she has appealed to the people to be extra careful in regard to issues of inheritance, including sale of property without family consensus.

In regard to the Mbezi land conflict, the minister said the dispute pitting investors, Matunda and Nkya landowners of the plot, the late Zuberi Mwinyimvua is of long time, since 2007 and the investors were required to be paid 250m/- in order to implement the condition to get back the title deed.

She said what surprised many, Matunda, one of the investors was paid 1bn/- but did not implement

problems that emerge regarding the condition he was told to implement hence the ministry will collaborate with other state organs to make sure the issue is addressed.

> She further said the government has reached a good stage regarding conflicts in reserve areas involving 975 villages inside the reserves and so far the people are waiting to be compensated while President samia Suluhu Hassan providing 2,500 acres that the villagers will

> However, when located, Matunda told this paper that he asked to be paid 2.3bn/- in order to implement the directive requiring him to surrender the plot.



Raymond Zakayo (R, foreground), Barrick Bulyanhulu Gold Mine's acting production manager, briefs senior officials from the Minerals ministry who

Dr Mwinyi: Z'bar continues to boost basic health services

By Guardian Reporter

THE Zanzibar Government says it will continue to boost basic health services in all areas of both Unguja and Pemba in tandem with the strengthening of safe maternity, dental, orolingual, ultrasound and laboratory services.

Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi made the remarks on Monday at the inauguration of Bubwini Makoba health centre in North Unguja "B" District, North Unguja Region.

President Mwinyi said the government continues to improve infrastructures, availability of essential drugs, medical devices and human resources including

doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other health specialists.

He explained that the aim of the government is to construct houses for health staff in some district hospitals in both Unguja and Pemba so as to reduce the shortage of staff houses in the health sector.

According to him, the step will boost the referral system and to a great extent reduce the congestion of patients at the Mnazi Mmoja hospital.

He said various challenges in the health sector still exist including the shortage of medical specialists in various cadres, the situation, he said, compels the government to spend a lot of money for the people to be treated outside Zanzibar.

in addressing the issue, the government has decided to collaborate with the private sector whose health staff continue to offer health services in government hospitals. He said the aim of the government is to attain its set goals in assuring the people of better health services within the time needed at all hospitals and health centres countrywide.

"I have decided to give this elaboration because there are some people who deliberately have started to mislead the people, and this procedure has begun to be used in great success at the Mnazi Mmoja Hospital and will be extended to all our district hospitals as well as districts and one regional.

Dr Mwinyi explained that the Lumumba Regional Hospital in Unguja Urban West Region," he said.

In another development, President Mwinyi instructed all staff who will be assigned to work at Bumbwini Makoba Health centre to make efforts in taking care of the infrastructures, work diligently and be kind to patients and abide by work ethics.

Speaking at the event, Zanzibar Minister for Health Nassor Ahmed Mazrui said the construction of the health centre is in line with the implementation of the Zanzibar Government to boost health centres for basic health services countrywide, as well as the building of 11 other hospitals including 10



Exim Bank CEO Jaffari Matundu (2nd-L) and the bank's longest-serving employees cut a cake in Dar es Salaam yesterday to mark the bank's 26th

ATCL to offer special discount for Tanzanian patients' travel to India

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE national flag carrier,Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) has entered into agreement with Indian based hospitals to offer discounts to Tanzanians travelling to India for treatment.

ATCL managing director, Eng Ladislaus Matindi made the revelation in Dar es Salaam yesterday when briefing journalists on his recent visit to India to promote tourism.

He said Tanzanian patients travelling to India with the company's flights will be provided with a discount on travel expenses as well as medical costs while in

"We already have a commercial relationship with the Kokilaben 2023, the company increased the travellers feel proud and special.

hospital in Mumbai, travellers who use our flights get a discount on medical expenses when they are treated in that particular hospital," he said, adding they are finalising processes to sign new agreements that will be beneficial to both Tanzanians and Indians.

He said India is a new tourism market for Tanzania and Air Tanzania is paying special attention to the Indian market due to opportunities available. He said there is a market potential of 1.4 billion people in India.

Eng Matindi said in 2019, Air Tanzania expanded its travel network by entering the markets of Mumbai, India, adding they started with one trip a week, but due to increased demand, in October

flights to five per week.

"We intend to further increase the trips, our target is to make sure that 80 percent of passengers travelling from Tanzania to Mumbai and India use TACL, an average of more than 66,000 passengers per year," he said.

He said despite the fact that the number is very small compared to all the passengers who travel outside the country every year, especially tourists, ATCL managed to own 80 percent of all passengers traveling between Tanzania and Mumbai due to the quality of

He said that ATCL has Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner aircraft which are modern, quiet in the air and with a large space and the ability to make

"Passengers traveling with our planes have continued to enjoy internet services 'Wi-Fi' in the air, natural food as well as refreshments," he said.

On the new modern cargo plane Boeing 767-300F which started flying recently; Matindi said the plane continues to transport cargo including perishable products, general cargo and products that require temperature Control such as medicine.

He said the presence of the plane with the capacity to carry 54 tonnes at once has enabled the Glenmark Pharmaceutical Company, one of the largest human drug manufacturing companies in India to use ATCL planes to distribute its drugs within Africa.

He said that they have entered into commercial cooperation negotiations for carrying passengers (Interline Agreement) with Vistara Airlines, which has a large network for domestic flights in India.

TOSCI planning to construct ultramodern seed laboratory worth 980m/- in Morogoro

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

THE Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) is planning to construct a state-of-theart seed laboratory worth 980m/in Morogoro Region as part of its efforts to digitise seeds inspection and certification in the country.

The development is being implemented under the Agricultural and Fisheries Development Programme.

The vital programme which focuses to help increase the performance of the two key economic sectors in the country, agriculture and fisheries, is coordinated by the office of the Prime minister whereby the ministry of agriculture is the main implementer.

Speaking during a special televised session at the Tanzania Information Service (MAELEZO) headquarters in Dodoma city, the TOSCI director general, Dr Patrick Ngwediagi unveiled that construction of the high-tech facility will go in tandem with the general work for the construction and rehabilitation of the institute's zonal seed laboratories. "We have decided to implement the project in order to improve our internal seeds inspection and certification standards. Currently, there is a potential increase in seed demand in the country so that we must stand on a better and equipped side to assure the farmers are reached with quality seeds for the general improvement of the country's agriculture sector," he said.

He informed that during 2023/24, TOSCI received a total of 12.6bn/from the state coffer as its annual budget, saying the amount will wisely be used to implement several projects, all with an eye to improving the seed sub-sector in the country.

"Amongthetargeted programmes, involve also efforts to educate the farmers across the country on how to identify and make use of certified (labelled) seeds varieties," he said.

TOSCI's chief boss communicated that the institute has so far inspected and registered more than 647 seed varieties for diverse crops in the country. "The future focus is to ensure Tanzania becomes a counterfeit seeds-free country through capacitance of our seeds inspection and certification facilities," he added.

Dr Ngwendiagi said TOSCI was working to assure all seed varieties being certified and registered in the country are of high quality, basically in terms of yields and resistance to diseases insisting that seed quality attributes are expressed in terms of germination, purity, vigor and seed

In a further effort to help improve performance and standards of the seed sector across the country, Dr. Ngwediagi informed that the institute had implemented a special program to capacitate the seed dealers across the country to deliver services in accordance with the Seed Act, 2003 and its regulations.

With its headquarters in Morogoro region, the institute is now recognized internationally since it has been accredited to International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) admitted to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Seed Certification Schemes, whereby seed produced in Tanzania and certified by TOSCI can now be sold in the country and the excess can be exported to other countries.

TOSCI is responsible for field and seed inspection, sampling, seed testing, variety evaluation and verification through National Performance Trials Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability tests (DUS) and control plot testing.

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Construction of gender-sensitive and inclusive grassroot sports grounds in Pemba and Unguja, Zanzibar, Tanzania

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is currently implementing its project sport for development in Africa (S4DA) in Tanzania. As part of this project GIZ intends to award a contract for for the new construction of gender-sensitive and inclusive grassroot sports grounds at Unguja and Pemba, Zanzibar, Tanzania. The scope of work includes:

- 1. The new construction of three (3) multipurpose courts for handball, volleyball, basketball and netball with excellent concrete surface finish as per the drawing and bill of quantities including rubber painting works and design.
- 2. The construction of three (3) WASH facilities including changing rooms, storage unit and sanitation facilities.

Tender procedure from invitation to tender until signing of contract is expected to take place between 25th August 2023 and 30th October, 2023. Construction work is expected to be performed and completed approximately within 8 months from signing of contract.

The following Information and documents for eligibility assessment are required to be submitted by the interested companies to qualify for consideration in the tender procedure:

- 1) Official letter expressing interest
- 2) Company details including full company name, full address, phone and email
- 3) Copy of Tax Identification Number (TIN) from Zanzibar Revenue Authority AND Tanzania Revenue Authority
- 4) Copy of Certificate of incorporation or registration from Zanzibar Business and Property Registration Agency (Registrar of Company)
- 5) Copy of Certificate of registration from Zanzibar Contractors Registration Board minimum class 3 registration
- 6) Company profile including number of employees (permanent / temporary in total) and number of professional staff qualified to perform the works, each for the last five (5) years
- 7) References of works of similar nature as specified above (performed within the last five (5) years)
- 8) Total value of works of similar nature as specified above (for each of the last five (5) years)
- 9) Annual total turnover for each of the last three (3) years

The information and documents specified above shall be submitted to GIZ in PDF format by 25th August 2023 at the latest to the following email address:

Tz_quotation@giz.de

The subject line must be clearly marked as follows:

"GIZ-S4DA-2023-83441447-E0I-Construction of gender-sensitive Sports Grounds

Please do not send technical or financial offer or other documents not requested. Kindly note that complete tender documents will be sent to all companies that will be assessed as eligible by GIZ based on the information and documents submitted as specified above.

TIRA motivates public to invest in innovation

By Getrude Mbago

Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) has encouraged players in the sector to invest in innovation and bring new insurance products that will benefit Tanzanians both in urban and rural areas.

Dr Baghayo Saqware, TIRA Commissioner made the call in Dar es Salaam on Monday when officiating the launch of Wakandi Tanzania life insurance product.

The product launched by Wakandi Tanzania in partnership with Sanlam Life Insurance Tanzania Limited will focus on saving and credit cooperative organisations (SACCOS) and micro finance Institutions (MFIs).

"The insurance companies have to continue to be innovative and bring new insurance products that I firmly believe in one way or another will be able to help the people as well as promote and develop the insurance industry," TIRA Commissioner underlined.

He urged the companies to work hard and be more creative so as to support the achievement of the goals highlighted in the country's Financial Sector Development Master Plan of 2020-2030 which aims to expand services to reach more people both in urban and rural areas.

According to him, insurance is key to the country's financial inclusion agenda considering the fact that the bulk of growth of the financial sector in the coming decade is hinged on insurance.

Dr Saqware said TIRA will continue to create an enabling environment for the insurance market, while calling the insurance Tanzanians, especially low-income

TIRA boss said he is optimistic that the product will improve the financial security and well-being of SACCOS members and increase contribution to the growth of the insurance sector.

He also called on insurance companies to raise insurance awareness and encouraged all Tanzanians to have various insurance including life insurance and to protect themselves from various disasters.

Sanlam Life managing director, Julius Magabe said to ensure the penetration increased stakeholders must ensure the products reach more people by creating various ways of selling.

He said the partnership with Wakandi will further strengthen provision of insurance services reaching more people with on time digital services.

Wakandi Tanzania, Country Manager, Daudi Boaz said the fintech company is aimed at creating equal opportunities for finance through technology and accelerating the digital transformation of the informal economy.

He said the newly launched product intended at improving the financial security and well-being of savings and credit of SACCOS and MFI by giving them the opportunity to protect themselves from financial risks through insurance.

"We are moving on a road to a technology-enabled financial world, Wakandi provides the opportunity for informal financial groups to manage their finances as easily as sending a text message",

Wakandi Tanzania has been licensed for online insurance activities by Tanzania Insurance

companies to increase creativity in designing various insurance products that are beneficial for Regulatory Authority (TIRA). African Union convenes

talks amidst Niger crisis

held talks on the Niger crisis as postponed for "technical reasons." the country's post-coup rulers

diplomacy for a potential solution. But talks at the AU's headquarters in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa coincided with a flare-up over threats by the regime to prosecute

showed defiance yet also pointed to

Niger's deposed president. "AU's Peace and Security Council meets to receive an update on the evolution of the situation in Niger and the efforts to address it," the pan-African body said in a post on

Those attending included AU Commission Chief Moussa Faki Mahamat as well as representatives from Niger and the West African bloc ECOWAS, it said.

President Mohamed Bazoum, whose election in 2021 was a landmark in the country's troubled history, was toppled on July 26 by members of his presidential guard.

His ousting unleashed a shock wave around West Africa, where Mali and Burkina Faso – likewise battered by a jihadist insurgency have also suffered military takeovers.

Seeking to stop the cascade of coups, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) slapped sanctions on Niger and last week approved deployment of a "standby force to restore constitutional order."

But uncertainties hang over any intervention – from operational feasibility to internal divisions within ECOWAS – and the bloc also says it wants a peaceful outcome.

On July 30, it issued a sevenday ultimatum to restore Bazoum or face the potential use of force, but the deadline expired without

Mixed signals have emerged from the regime as the crisis nears the end of its third week.

At the weekend, the coup leaders said they were open to a diplomatic push after their chief, General Abdourahamane Tiani, met with Nigerian religious mediators.

Those talks came after a scheduled meeting of ECOWAS THE African Union on Monday military chiefs in Ghana was

> But on Sunday night, Niger's rulers declared they had gathered sufficient evidence to prosecute Bazoum for "high treason and undermining internal and external security."

The legal threat was angrily condemned by ECOWAS.

In a statement, the bloc said it had learned of the threats "with stupefaction."

"It represents yet another form of provocation and contradicts the (regime's) reported willingness... to restore constitutional order through peaceful means."

Washington said it was "incredibly dismayed" by the plan to try the detained president.

Bazoum's foreign minister said on Monday that there were "pogroms" in the capital Niamey, but did not specify against whom they were directed.

"Currently in Niamey... there are pogroms with hordes of young people excited by racial and ethnic hatred," Hassoumi Massaoudou, the foreign minister in the ousted civilian government said.

"That is why there is an urgent need to stop this and put Niger back on a path of peace, stability and economic progress."

In a further sign of mounting acrimony between the leaders of Niger's coup and regional powers, the generals recalled Niamey's envoy to Ivory Coast after they said that country's president had shown "eagerness" for military intervention against them.

Referring to the greenlight given by Niger's West African neighbours for possible armed intervention to restore democracy, the generals said President Alassane Ouattara wanted to "see this illegal and senseless aggression against Niger come to pass."

Bazoum, 63, and his family have been held at the president's official residence since the coup, with international concern mounting over his conditions in detention.



Elias Msese (C), National Housing Corporation's director of property management, briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on reports about chronic debtors. He is with head of communications and relations Muungano Saguya (R) and finance director Adolph Kasegenya. Photo: Correspondent

500 artisanal, small-scale gold miners issued with licences in Msalala District

Guardian

Shinyanga

Correspondent.

MORE than 500 small miners in Msalala District, Shinyanga Region have been issued with gold mining licences during FY 2023/24 in order to stop the practice of removing small miners from areas they themselves discover and taken up

by miners with large capital. One of the miners issued with a mining licence, Maziku Wilson said

curbing disputes in mining areas while they have enabled them to get loans.

"We have to thank the government for this important step as it continues to recognize and empower us, the situation that will help us conduct our mining business without bother, access to loans from banks and other financial institutions as compared to the situation in the past.

For his part, Msalala district sector benefits small miners and

the licences has helped them in Executive Director, Hamisi Katimba said they will make sure they create a friendly environment for conducting their activities including building of roads and toilets so that they collect revenues without any hindrances.

Speaking about miners who received licences, Msalala Member of Parliament, Iddi Kassim who is also member of the parliamentary mining Committee said that in the step is to make sure the mining eradicate the practice of chasing away small miners from mining areas they themselves discover.

He said the 500 miners have been issued with mining licences and now the work remaining is to educate and supervise them on mining activities by adhering to mining and environmental protection laws, regulations and procedures.

He said the licences will also reduce conflicts among themselves and with large miners.

He added that the government, through its State Mining Corporation (STAMICO), expects to construct gold processing plants at Segese Town where small miners without processing equipment can process their minerals.



Health minister Ummy Mwalimu (C) has a word with journalists in Tanga yesterday on the arrival of Afyacheck Institute health experts now camping in the city. She is with Afyacheck chief coordinator Dr Isaac Maro (L) and CRDB official Samson Keenja. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla

Youths advised to start business tech startups

Ву Correspondent

Mwendapole

YOUTHS in the country have been encouraged to invest in science and technology to come up with tech-start up ideas that will help address various business challenges in the society as well as increase income.

Director of Science, Technology and Innovation in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology,

Prof. Maulilio Kipanyula made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking at a short ceremony to distribute 700 educative magazines issued by Baobab Shalom Limited in Dar es Salaam.

The magazines were issued after a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by the Director General of Tanzania Education Authority, (TEA), Bahati Geuzye and the Director of Baobab Shalom Limited, Yev Semikov at the TEA offices in Dodoma.

Prof. Kipanyula said Science and will support students who utilize Technology has brought about a great revolution nationally and internationally and especially in the sectors of education, information, business and various social services.

He added that the sixth phase government has prioritised the education sector by investing heavily in building classrooms, providing learning and teaching materials to encourage students to study hard and be creative.

Semikov said the magazines

them to be creative and curious to conduct big and innovative things that will improve their lives.

TEA director general, Bahati Geuzye thanked Baobab Shalom Limited for providing the magazines through the Education Fund managed by TEA assuring full support from the authority.

He assured them that education aids that go through the Education Fund are fully managed and used as per intended goals.



Tanzania Seed Quality Control Institute (TOSCI) director general Patrick Ngwediagi briefs journalists in Dodoma city yesterday on progress in the execution of the institute's duties responsibilities and its projections for financial year 2023/2024. Photo: Correspondent Paul Mabeja

Ewura warns unlicensed technicians over electricity installation in homes

By Guardian Correspondent, Babati

ENERGY and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) has given a stern warning to people who use middlemen to install wiring systems in their buildings and homes, saying severe legal steps will be taken against them.

The warning was issued here on Monday by EWURA manager for northern zone, Lorivii Long'idu when providing training to VETA students studying craftsmanship on the importance of having licences in order to reduce the importance number of the middlemen.

However, Long'idu said the practice by some people using the middlemen has caused disasters are not licensed by EWURA. from electrical short-circuiting in various areas including residences technicians to go to VETA and factories.

EWURA, has begun to implement a term courses for those who have plan that aims to curb middlemen been working as licensed electrical who install electricity in residential and other areas.

electrical technicians to be licensed and warned all the people who continue using technicians who

"I advise these unlicensed colleges which have procedures He said the government, through to formalise them including short contractors.

For his part, senior electrical He said the plan includes engineer for EWURA northern providing education on the zone, Tegemea Kamando has

called on the trainees to be good ambassadors to other technicians to stop using other people's licences while looking for contracts.

He said it is an offence under Section 5 of the Electricity Act (Cap 131) for anyone to install electrical wiring in a building without having a licence.

He further said section 8 (a) subsection (1, 2(h) of the Act empowers EWURA to issue licences to all electric technicians in Tanzania Mainland.



Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Albert Chalamila (3rd-L) cuts a cake in Dar es Salaam yesterday in launching an ALAF Ltd product warranty programme as members of the firm's management team look on. Story on Page 15. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Speed up work on Nzovwe Folks Development project'

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Government has directed the building committee of Nzovwe Folk Development College being built at Idiga village, Songwe valley ward, Mbeya District to complete the project soon to start operating.

The government picked the area to build the college complex in order to shift the college's activities from Nzovwe ward in Mbeya city as the college was housed in Catholic Church buildings.

The directive was given here on Monday by Deputy Permanent

Education, Science and Technology, Dr Franklin Rwezimula during his visit to inspect the project progress and listen to various challenges facing the workers.

Dr Rwezimula also directed that various irregularities identified in some buildings be rectified in order to make the project go in tandem with the money value.

"I am not satisfied with the work speed, work day and night to enable its completion in time, but also make sure you build to the required standard, there are areas that need

Secretary in the Ministry of rectification, do so as quickly as on village officials to convene a possible," he said.

He said when completed the College will help the youth roaming in nearby villages to get the right skills so that they can employ themselves and get income.

He also commended the college for interpreting the empowerment concept for the youth by coming up with attractive courses for them and should make sure they produce good experts in the course they

In regard to the expansion of the College area, Dr Rwezimula called

meeting with the villagers and ask them to increase land area to the college, as the present college area is only 10 acres.

The college's principal, Nickson Mandele appealed to the education ministry to increase the number of staff and to speed up delivery of funds for shifting college and staff property.

He pledged to supervise the project to its completion in time and move their activities to the new area so that the old buildings go back to the Catholic Church.

NGO launches young women programme for green actions

By Henry Mwangonde

Non-Governmental Organisation Environmental Conservation Community of (ECCT) Tanzania yesterday launched the second cohort of a programme designed to empower young women in Tanzania to become champions of green actions and environmental stewardship.

The programme dubbed 'She Leads Green Action Programme' is aimed at empowering young women to participate in environmental conservation actions through mentorship and practical training.

Speaking yesterday, ECCT executive director Lucky Michael said her organization is dedicated to promoting sustainable practices and raising awareness about the of environmental importance conservation.

"So far, we have been able to organise several environmental and health-related programs that have become synonymous with our commitment to environmental conservation and today 40 students are graduating," she said.

She said the programme targets young women with an aim providing them with a comprehensive understanding of green actions and the environment, empowering them to become catalysts for change and promote gender equality in taking the lead in environmental actions.

"Through a combination of backto-back interactive workshops, field trips, and hands-on projects, we will foster a deep connection with nature and inspire a lifelong commitment to environmental conservation," she said.

She gave an example of the Green Hangout programme which she

said has provided a platform for like-minded individuals to engage in meaningful discussions, share ideas, and collaborate on initiative solutions that address the pressing environmental challenges.

"Through initiatives like the Beach clean-up extravaganza, we have rallied volunteers from all walks of life to come together and restore the natural beauty of our coastal areas," she said.

Another programme according to her was the Sanitation and Hygiene by Handwashing in Schools in Kisarawe District to Prevent COVID-19 Infections Project.

Marsha Yambi, executive director of UN Global Compact Network Tanzania said her organisation was a champion for sustainable development saying environment conservation was key to achieve it.

"Achieving the SDGs requires all partners, namely the private sector and others, because we believe through imparting knowledge to this group, we will reach out to many," she said.

She said women and the first victims of climate change due to various factors including their biological needs.



Through initiatives like the Beach clean-up extravaganza, we have rallied volunteers from all walks of life to come together and restore the natural beauty of our coastal areas

......

CBT embarks on big project to establish major industrial park

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Emirates and South Africa," he

Dodoma

THE Cashew Board of Tanzania (CBT) is working to embark on a grand project for the establishment of a major Industrial Park (IP) at Malanje area in Mtwara Region.

The envisaged \$116 million (273bn/-) worth project will incorporate installation of more than 30 processing plants to facilitate processing of various crops including cashew nuts and sesame.

CBT's director general, Alfred Francis told this paper in an interview that the investment, which expects to occupy at least 1,500 hectares, will involve construction of ten plants for the processing of ten factories for processing of 300,000 tonnes of cashew annually.

He said ten other factories will process sesame at the capacity of 300,000 tonnes per year.

"Not only that, but as per the project's design, there will be another ten factories that will be producing oil from cashew nuts," he informed.

The CBT's chief boss added that the investment which is projected to create a total of 3000 employment will involve installation of special facilities for the production of sacks.

"The general vision behind the project is to ensure the country discloses a poor economic trend of exporting raw cashew. Huge per cent of the cashew produced in Tanzania and marketed to the world market, at least 98 per cent, are at the first grade but the problem is that we export them raw, prompting a low price," Francis expressed.

He added that the board was working round the clock in cooperation with the ministry of agriculture to heighten cashew processing and value addition in the country in order to allow the country's cashew to enjoy a wider market in the world market.

"Through selling raw cashew, we're minimising our market scope as we are being compelled to sell only to India and Vietnam, but if processing, we can sell our cashew into many more countries including USA, Germany, the United Arab unveiled.

Under the coming investment, he said the focus was to attain other possible cashew value addition, including production of cashew

juice and wine. Moreover, he communicated that establishment of the Industrial Park will go in tandem with special programs to assist the cashew farmers to adopt cultivation of other economic cash crops that

thrive in their producing zones. "The focus is to ensure the farmers are not end-up cultivating cashew per se, but also grabs the economic fortune of growing other crops, the development which will generally improve their livelihood," he said.

According to him, the helpful program which aims to improve food security, will see the CBT assist the cashew farmers with seeds varieties for the other cash crops that flourishes in their areas.

"Through producing marketing other crops, the farmers would stand a possible chance to raise money to help them procure enough inputs for caring for their cashew plantations," he observed.

Cashew is currently produced within more than 12 regions across the country. Tanzania is one of the largest cashew producers in Africa, with exports providing between 10 and 15 per cent of the country's foreign exchange.

The country is the eighth-largest grower of cashew nuts in the world and ranks fourth in Africa.

However, further statistics depict that Tanzania provides at least 20 per cent of Africa's cashew nuts and only trails in production of Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, and Guinea-Bissau, according to figures by United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO).

However, despite such excellence in the production of the cash crop, only 5 percent of the raw cashew nuts are being processed locally, with the other 95 per cent being exported all the way to Vietnam or India for value addition before reaching consumer markets of Europe and America.

It is estimated that this created a loss of around 216bn/- (equivalent to 83 million EUR) in the season.

Wednesday 16 August 2023

Guardian

EDITORIALS.OPINION

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Taking A New Look At The News ESTABLISHED IN 1995

City secondary schools with boarding option a good idea

hardships.

perennial nightmares of many secondary school goers in the city of Dar es Salaam. It is the endless drudgery of walking long distances to nearest bus stop, face discrimination on entering the bus as usually it is peak hours, and being rather tired on arrival in school. That is the lot of many students; they will themselves and their parents be truly relieved to obtain a boarding option that is affordable.

The government announcement wasn't a finished deal where all the money is available or the dormitories have all been built, so it is uncertain how long it will take for the plan to be accomplished. But from the record it is easy to say that the public can expect that the government will do it, even if that involves seeking some assistance from well-wishers. It is for once unlikely that this is singularly an idea of the regional authorities, without having checked it with the highest authorities for its feasibility, but that awaits more elaborate clarification,

RC Albert Chalamila explained the move with an assessment that Dar es Salaam Region has many schools that are not boarding schools and the streets are rampart with challenges like vehicle congestion, so it is better that students study in boarding schools. He asserted that the schools will improve the task of managing the upbringing of young people and for teachers to closely coordinate their lessons. At times teachers can conduct some evening lessons after students had had time to rest, the way university students hold informal group seminars.

He handed a project document teachers provide.

TEW initiatives are being to the visiting Local Governments mooted that have minister, airing the view that in the capacity to end case there will be sponsorship from various sources the city boarding schools plan needs to be taken up with a fresh mindset. It might have been a moment to set the ball rolling, so that when the government moves to make the change official, or takes a loan to that effect, the public will know the idea was generated in regional councils, in view of the perennial

> There is probably no dispute that boarding schools are better performing than day schools, as the wider civic environment where the young people live is rife with people with negative interest in one way another. Impediments to quiet study are numerous even at home, without adding bothers on the street and in buses, along with the fatigue. And while we are at it, the food is often sparing and not all students get the coins to buy supplements regularly, against fatigue.

> To an extent the move has to do with levelling up study conditions for city secondary schools as for high schools, which are largely boarding schools already as high schools select students from

different regions countrywide. Secondary schools have students that are in most cases locally based but that doesn't mean they study easily because home is 'just within the city.' Paying fees were recently removed for high schools, and now boarding comes to secondary schools as a matter of policy due to the city environment. It all fits into a pattern as the whole issue of improving educational output has to do with whether students can actually deliver on what the

Trailblazers empower women to boost clean energy workforce

for skills and training is an essential step to ensuring clean and affordable energy for all. Tanzania solar panels, mini-grids, modern cookstoves and other proven technologies can bring power to even the most remote Tanzanian communities. But this won't happen without trained engineers, salespeople, and many others playing crucial supporting

The skills challenge is so enormous that innovation is needed at every level from government ministries to off-grid villages in order to transform the lives of millions Tanzanians.

The biggest skills gap is in Tanzania of about 60 million people is lack access to electricity, and there are only few jobs in renewable energy across the country. Gender inequalities are a huge factor in this skills challenge. Worldwide, only 32 per cent of renewable energy jobs are held by women.

Barriers to progress include a disconnect between training and the 'real world' requirements of employers and their clients or customers. And while the skills to install solar panels and other technologies are crucial, so are the skills to run or finance clean energy

In many parts of the world, the burden of building a skilled workforce often falls on frontline organisations - whether they are businesses selling clean energy products and services, or nonprofits powering up marginalised communities.

The best trailblazers show that the skills and training challenge can be tackled - and also reveal the economic and social benefits action will bring. In particular, they show what's possible with an approach

HE government's support that takes on the skills gap and gender inequality.

Many frontline organisations are taking a holistic approach to tackle the skills shortage, often working in partnership to achieve impact. Italian NGO Fondazione ACRA is working to empower 1,200 women in rural Senegal as clean energy entrepreneurs and technicians. These women sell or maintain technologies used by local households and businesses, from tailors and hairdressers to goat farmers. Crucially, ACRA's training ranges from basic engineering to business skills.

Electrifying health facilities is another area where progress is held back by skills shortages. NGO We Care Solar has a long history of tackling gender equality by electrifying off-grid maternity services. Its work includes projects in Sierra Leone, where more than 3,000 lives are lost each year from complications of pregnancy and childbirth.

There, a We Care Solar scheme aimed at boosting the number of women technicians includes handson 'labs' passing on practical skills, and supervised sessions delivering real installations.

Another organisation focused on tackling gender barriers is Kenya's Women in Sustainable Energy and Entrepreneurship . This network of energy professionals offers technical training and mentoring, providing hands-on installation experience, to

help women enter the sector. At the heart of its work are strong partnerships with local universities, energy companies, NGOs, officials, faith groups and community leaders. These allow it to recruit women and girls from marginalised communities, and link them with practical training and employment opportunities.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

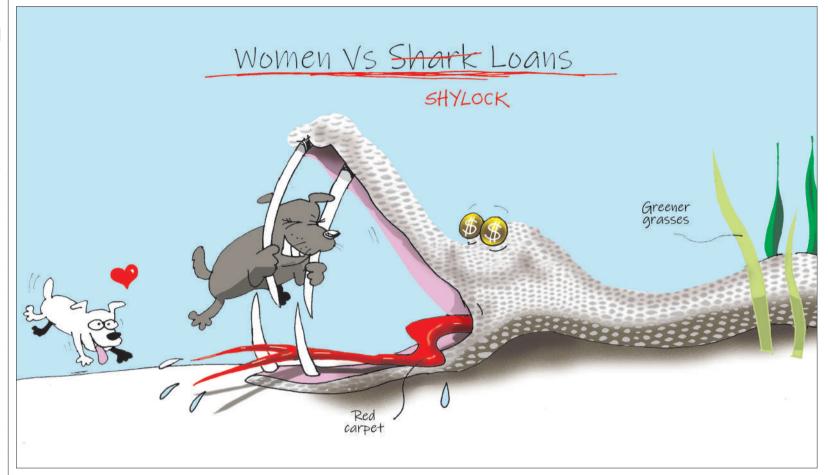
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By Special Correspondent

AST Thursday's (August 10, 2023) bloody clash between rival supporters of opposition Candidate Joseph Nyumah Boakia of the Unity Party (UP) and the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) in Electoral District , Montserrado County left zealous youth wounded in a campaign for the October 10th elections was totally unwarranted. No Liberian or partisan of a political party has to die or has to be disfigured just for the love of a candidate.

After it all, we Liberians have to coexist as one nation whether members of a winning party or losing parties. And there will be many losing parties as only but one out of the 20 candidates in the race, including incumbent President Weah will be declared winner either in the first or second round.

So why do we inflict injuries on one another during campaigns for the sake of rival candidates? Do Liberians have to go to such extreme to demonstrate love and

Bloody campaigns are unwarranted in Liberia

loyalty for a particular candidate? We think not.

As LPP's Presidential Candidate Cllr. Tiawan S. Gongloe has pointed out, political campaign should not be about enmity, but competition of ideas, ideas of how our candidates or candidates of our choice intend to improve the nation and all of its people, not only partisans, if elected President or member of the legislature.

However, the violence that transpired on August 10th in District #9 barely five or six days into the campaign was not only unfortunate but highly disappointing especially, after political parties' leaders and candidates had expressed before the citizenry and international partners their commitment to violence-free elections.

leadership demonstrated at the highest level of the political parties that were involved in the clashes except denial by the ruling CDC and threats from the opposition UP that it would use every means at its disposal for self-defense.

We think that was below the belt. Both the incumbent administration and those desiring leadership should exercise tolerance and maturity in responding to crisis, which is one of the marks of good leadership.

In our wisdom, all that was needed is for leaders of the two parties, thank God, they both have served our country at the highest level - President Weah being at the helm of power for six years and is seeking a second term and Amb. Boakai, who had served as Vice

Sadly also, we did not see President for 12 years and wants to come to the presidency.

So why was it so difficult in calling their respective followers and supporters to order, that citizens had to suffer wounds? Why was it so difficult for both leaders to call each other before coming out? Campaign should not be about enmity, but in Liberia, dare say Africa, this is what it is.

There is yet a long way to go, as campaign is officially expected to endonOctober8,2023,forElections Day on October 10th. The denial and the threat coming from both sides are sending wrong signals to the electorate and creating fear in the entire population of the kind of canvassing to expect, one mar by terror and blood perhaps, as we go to the polls, which is absolutely

By Special Correspondent

did not escape the attention of millions of people across the world Lthat at a time when many countries pulled resources together to rescue five wealthy men who went missing aboard a Titanicbound submersible, hundreds of poor migrants were drowning on the Mediterranean Sea without much attention.

According to statistics from the United Nations' International Organisation for Migration (IOM), no fewer than 2000 migrants died between January 1 and June 26 of this year, mostly from drowning. In the same period last year, 1,358 died.

The migration crisis, as we have reiterated several times, is a cruel twist of the logic of the transatlantic slave trade. In the old trade, African agents of European slave traders hunted men and women and forcibly sold them off to be transported across the Atlantic. In the new 'trade', Africans are willingly subjecting and submitting themselves as fodder and merchandise for enslavement across the Mediterranean. From the accounts of some of the returnees, many who make it to Europe or the Middle East are usually forced into prostitution, used as mercenaries,

Central Africa remains in the migration crisis

deployed as household servants, due to lack of electricity. factory workers, drug couriers, and even as organ donors.

Driven by economic desperation, thousands of able-bodied young men and women are, almost on a daily basis, embarking on suicide missions in the bid to migrate towards the northern hemisphere in search of opportunities that have since disappeared in those very societies. While only few of these migrants eventually reach their destinations where they face disappointments and frustrations, majority of them usually perish on

In Nigeria, it is important to interrogate the conditions that create the desperation to leave the country for unknown destinations. Today, we live in a country where many are not only poor but cannot find jobs. Factories are closing down and selling their warehouses to promoters of religious organisations down or moving out of the country or killed in recent migration

Meanwhile, there is also a criminal dimension to the problem with some unscrupulous people now recruiting from their villages and towns young girls with the promise of securing for them good jobs abroad only to turn them to prostitutes.

There are chilling statistics which suggest that human trafficking has become one of the biggest money-making businesses after drug trafficking. Today, our country is regarded not only as a transit route for this illegal trade but also a source as well as a destination with children and young adults, especially of the womenfolk, now becoming merchandise for what has become a cross-border crime.

Curiously, hardly any African country has embarked on a conscious effort to address the scourge of the new migration. Yet the increasing number of our citizens while several businesses are shut being humiliated, repatriated

reversals places a heavy burden on leaders within the continent. In what is clearly an organised crime involving international syndicates, human traffickers move their victims to Europe through North Africa by caravan, most often forcing their victims to cross the desert on foot. In the process many die even as the survivors are subjected to all forms of indignity, in the bid to repay the heavy debts owed their "benefactors" by way of travel expenses. But the trade is thriving because most of the people involved wield powerful influence with which they circumvent the law.

While we condemn this modernday slavery to which our young men and women are unwittingly submitting themselves, there is an urgent need for a demonstration of political will to examine the cause. There is also a need for a sustained sensitisation campaign to let our young men and women know that the grass is not necessarily greener on the other side.

A common African approach to environmental challenges now and in the future

By Elizabeth Maruma Mrema

HERE has never been a time in human history when collaboration between nations was more sorely needed than now, and there is no place that would benefit more from it than in Africa.

As 54 of our Environment Ministers gather this week (August 14-15) in Addis Ababa for the next session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), their agendas are packed with a long list of burning environmental issues. They will need to act in unison and with determination to achieve positive movement on these challenges.

We live in an era of climate change-induced hunger, of collapsing ecosystems - the continent's forests are disappearing, and we face the bleak prospect of dwindling biodiversity.

We experience killer floods from Senegal to Nigeria to Malawi, Mozambique to South Africa, lethal heat and fires in North Africa, and drought across East Africa, and suffocating air and plastic pollution from Cairo to Ouagadougou.

As nature erodes, food security is undermined by climate-induced locust attacks, conflicts between humans and wildlife closer encounters with some species that risk the spread of deadly viruses.

But we also live in an exciting era of opportunities, one of information and innovation, and one in which African policy leadership - nationally, regionally and continentally - is increasingly cognizant of the challenges presented by the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and waste

Cognizant that despite the African continent contributing the least to climate change, Africans are already facing some of the worst impacts of the climate crisis, which must be urgently addressed.

This awareness is already translated into actions, from the Tarfaya and Ras Ghareb wind farms in Morocco and Egypt, through massive solar projects in South Africa, Namibia, and Ghana, to pioneering use of geothermal energy in Kenya. Restoration initiatives like the Great Green Wall aim to halt desertification and support livelihoods across the entire width of Africa. And a majority of African governments already banned single-use plastics, albeit with mixed results.

In September, we expect leaders to convene in Nairobi for an Africa Climate Summit and in November, a meeting - also in Nairobi - will continue negotiations on a global treaty to end plastic pollution.

The UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai will cap a year of multilateral and national work to strengthen global action on climate, while one year following the historic Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, we'll be closely monitoring its implementation.

At these meetings, Ministers and their governments the climate crisis carries more weight



Climate change has already led to increased temperatures and rising sea-levels in Tanzania and without major investments in adaptation, nearly a million Tanzanians in coastal towns are at risk of exposure to floods caused by rising sea-levels between 2070 and 2100, says the UN Environment Programme. Credit: United Nations

will flesh out the details of a legally binding international agreement - will single-use plastic polluters have to own the brunt of its costs?

They will address natural resources how will the extraction of critical minerals benefit a rapid global shift away from carbonized economy, while respecting human rights and maximizing the economic benefits to resource-rich nations?

Other issues may be less contentious, but are vital for a just transition and a sustainable environment for Africans: a common African demand for climate finance and contributions for a fund for the loss and damage resulting from the climate crisis carries more weight

than such a demand made by individual governments. When setting up early warning systems against extreme weather events, like those adopted decades ago in Bangladesh, it is much more beneficial to gather data across regions and even the entire continent. When it concerns biodiversity, protected areas restricted along the lines of national borders can overlook how endangered species move about and neglect conserving crucial corridors.

We are not short of forums to churn out resolutions - it is just critical that decisions already taken are implemented. The African Forum of Environment Protection Agencies is a forum to enhance the implementation of important work that is already underway.

And that must guide the ministerial meeting in Addis Ababa. As the seat of the African Union, it is the ideal location to advance a united African approach. Decades ago, Kwame Nkrumah, former President of Ghana, said: "We face neither East nor West; We face forward."

More recently, UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, similarly said of a Climate Ambition Summit next month in New York: "There will be no room for back-sliders, greenwashers, blame-shifters or repackaging of announcements of previous years."

And Kenyan President William Ruto, during the last Africa Energy Forum in Nairobi (home to the UN Environment Programme) reminded us: "This is not the time for finger-pointing and passing blame. We want to have a conversation of equals."

To deliberate as equals is essential within Africa, as it is for when Africa's leaders embark on engagements and partnerships beyond the continent. It means grounding positions and commitments in science and on a breadth of issues that are too important to the continent's people to be split on.

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema of Tanzania, is Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Deputy Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme

IPS UN Bureau

Is red meat bad and does it make a difference if it's processed?

By Katherine Livingstone

ESEARCH shows that regularly eating red meat can increase your risk of developing type 2 diabetes, heart disease and certain cancers. But is eating a beef burger worse for your health than eating a lean grass-fed steak? And how much red meat should we be eating?

Types of red meat

First of all, it's good to clarify that red meat refers to all mammalian muscle meat. So that includes beef, lamb, pork, veal, mutton and goat. Then we can distinguish red meat types by how the animal has been raised and how the meat is processed.

Here are some key terms to know: Conventional meat, also called grain-fed, is meat from animals that are grass-fed for part of their lives and then given a grain-based diet for the remainder. Most red meat available in major supermarkets is grain-fed. Grass-fed meat comes from animals that have grazed on pasture for their entire lives. This means grass-fed meat tends to have higher levels of unsaturated fats than conventional meat, and this is why some research suggests it's healthier. Grass-fed meat is also likely to cost more.

Organic meat is seen as a premium product as it has to meet government standards for organic produce. For example, meat labelled as organic cannot use synthetic pesticides or use hormones or antibiotics to stimulate growth. Processed meats have been preserved by smoking, curing or salting, or by adding chemical preservatives. Examples include sausages, ham, bacon and hot dogs.

What is the nutritional value of red meat?

Red meat contains many nutrients that are important for health, including protein, vitamin B12, iron and zinc. Red meat is a good source of iron and zinc as they are more easily absorbed by the body from meat than from plant foods.

Red meat is often high in saturated fats, but this can range widely from less than 1% to over 25% depending on the cut and whether it's trimmed of fat or not. Minced meat typically ranges from 2% to 9% saturated fat depending on whether it's extra lean or regular. To limit your intake of saturated fats, opt for leaner mince and leaner cuts of meat, such as pork tenderloins or beef steak with the fat trimmed off.

Wagyu beef (which simply translates to Wa = Japanese and Gyu = cow) has been touted as a healthier alternative to conventional red meat, as it tends to be higher in unsaturated fats. But research is limited, and ultimately it still contains saturated fat. Processed meats, such as bacon, salami and sausages, contain



Many dietary guidelines around the world now recommend limiting red meat consumption for environmental reasons. (Photo:

beneficial nutrients, but they are also high in saturated fat, sodium and contain preservatives.

Is red meat bad for your health? And does the type matter?

It's widely reported eating too much red meat is bad for your health because it can increase your risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes and some cancers. But most of the evidence for this comes from observational studies, which cannot determine whether red meat intake causes the condition. Most evidence is observational because it's simply not ethical or feasible to ask someone to eat large amounts of meat every day for many years to see if they develop cancer.

So let's take a look at the evidence

Heart disease and type 2 diabetes: In a review of 37 observational studies, the authors found weak evidence of an association between eating unprocessed red meat and heart disease and type 2 dia-

betes. But for processed meat, a recent review showed that for each additional 50g of processed meat consumed per day, the risk of heart disease increased by 26% and the risk of type 2 diabetes increased by 44%, on average.

Cancer: Leading international organisations have declared there's strong evidence consumption of red and processed meat increases the risk of colorectal cancer. For example, in a study of nearly 500,000 people, each additional

increased the risk of colorectal cancer by 18%. And each additional 25g of processed meat consumed per day, equivalent to a slice of ham, increased the risk by 19%. While research has linked consumption of red and processed meat with increased risk of other types of cancer, such as lung, pancreatic and breast, the evidence is not consistent.

It also matters how red meat is cooked. For example, cooking a steak over high heat, especially an open flame, chars the outside. This causes chemical compounds to form that has been shown to cause cancer in very high doses in animal models, and some studies in humans have found an association with increased cancer rates.

When it comes to how the animal was raised or its breed, based on current evidence, it's unlikely the nutritional differences will have a substantial impact on human health. But research is limited in this area.

How much red meat should you

Many dietary guidelines around the world now also recommend limiting red meat consumption for environmental reasons. To optimise both human nutrition and planetary health, the EAT-Lancet Commission recommends consuming no more than 98g a week of red meat and very low intakes of processed meat.

So what does all of this mean for your diet?

The bottom line is that red meat can still be enjoyed as part of a healthy diet, if not eaten in excess. Where possible, opt for unprocessed or lean cuts, and try to grill less and roast more. Consider swapping red meat for lean chicken or fish occasionally too. If you are looking for meat alternatives that are better for your health and the environment, minimally processed plant-based alternatives, such as tofu, beans and lentils, are great options. DM

#AfghanGirlsVoices campaign to elevate voices of young Afghan girls on global stage

By Joyce Chimbi

WO years ago, the then 19-year-old Somaya Faruqi and the Afghan Robotic Team travelled from Herat City to Kabul, the heart of Afghanistan-the Taliban had taken over Herat city, cutting off electricity and internet. The all-girls team's great passion for science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) had driven them to Kabul to rehearse for a competition.

"After three days, I woke up, looked outside the window, and saw the Taliban in the streets. I was very shocked and could not believe it. I never imagined that the Taliban could take over Kabul. There were thousands and thousands of people trying to flee the country, and after three days of trying, we flew to Qatar with the help of the Qatari government. I wondered what would become of my sister and classmates who were left behind," Faruqi tells IPS.

It did not take long for the de facto authority to unveil their plans. One month after the takeover, the de facto Taliban authorities banned girls from accessing secondary schools. In December 2022, university education for women was also suspended until further notice. After year six, they are to stay at home, says Yasmine Sherif, Executive Director of Education Cannot Wait (ECW)-the United Nations global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises.

"Afghan girls and young women are banned from accessing secondary and tertiary education because of their gender, and this is the most ruthless form of discrimination. They cannot understand why they are not allowed to attend school like their brothers. Their pathway to education has been cut, and they are in pain, suffering and (often) struggling with suicidal thoughts. We must stand in solidarity with them, for in the words of Martin Luther King Jr, injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere. Their distress should shake us to the core," Sherif tells IPS.

She says that the situation in Afghanistan is one of the worst in the world. To elevate Afghan girls' voices on the global stage, ECW has launched the #AfghanGirls-Voices Campaign. It is a compelling, poignant campaign developed in collaboration with Faruqi, who is an ECW Global Champion.

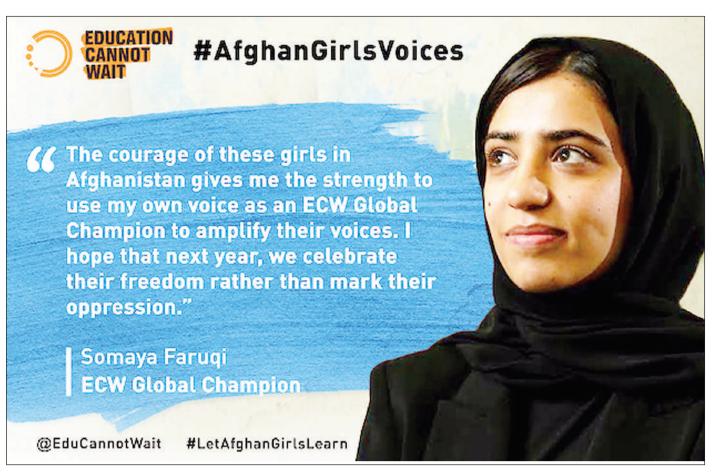
Faruqi finished her 12th grade in Qatar, from where she applied to college and received a scholarship from the Qatar Fund for Development to pursue mechanical engineering studies in the United States. Her astounding progress and brilliance are a testament to the devasting blow being dealt to millions of Afghan girls.

"The situation in Afghanistan gets worse from one day to the next. Women and girls are prisoners in their own homes, in their own country. They cannot leave their homes without a male guardian - a father, brother or rela-

They have been denied the freedom to pursue any interest outside their home, and they sit around with nothing to do. Through this campaign, I want the world to know that there is a country today where girls are denied fundamental human rights, forced out of school and into marriages," Faruqi explains.

The campaign is to be launched on August 15, the second anniversary of the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan. Gordon Brown -UN Special Envoy for Global Education and Chair of ECW's High-Level Steering Group - on the eve of the launch, stressed the need for the international community to hear this poignant call from the heart of Afghan girls and young women. Faruqi affirms the need to hear from those inside Afghanistan, at the very heart of the ongoing injustice, to hear how their lives have been turned upside down and how a fragile future now hangs in the balance if the global community remains silent.

According to a recent UN experts' report, the systematic restrictions of the fundamental rights of girls and women and the severe discrimination they experience under the de facto Taliban authorities' regime could amount to "gender apartheid" and "gender persecution."



The #AfghanGirlsVoices Campaign is a compelling and poignant campaign developed in collaboration with ECW Global Champion, Somaya Faruqi. CREDIT: ECW

Sherif says the situation is an unacceptable violation of girls' fundamental right to education, making Afghanistan the only country in the world where girls and young women are forbidden from attending secondary school and higher education institutions.

alized for girls' education in Afghanistan over the last 20 years. Between 2001 and 2018, the number of girls in primary school in Afghanistan increased from almost zero to 2.5 million. By August 2021, 40% of students in primary education were girls, and there

The ban is a significant setback to the important progress re-

were over 100,000 female students in Afghan higher education. The campaign uses moving imag-

es by a young Afghan female artist and determined testimonies from Afghan girls. It features a series of equally inspiring, heart-wrenching and determined testimonies from Afghan girls whose lives have been abruptly upended by the ban preventing them to pursue their education and dreams.

Their powerful words are conveyed together with striking illustrations depicting both the profound despair experienced by these Afghan girls and young women, along with their incredible resilience and strength in the face of this unacceptable ban on their education.

ECW invites partners and the wider public to stand in solidarity with Afghan girls by posting messages from Afghan girls across social media every day-from 15 August, the date when the de facto Taliban authorities came into power in Afghanistan 2021, until 18 September, which marks the start of the official ban on school for adolescent girls.

Sherif says the campaign is in line with Sustainable Development Goal 4 and will run through the UN General Assembly and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Summit. The Summit aims to mark the beginning of a new phase of accelerated progress towards the SDGs with high-level political guidance on transformative and accelerated actions leading up to 2030 - progress that cannot be achieved with Afghan girls left behind.

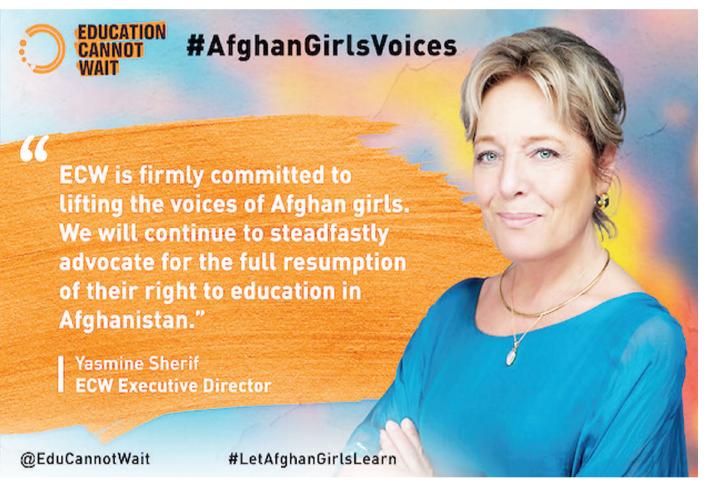
"ECW, through our in-country partners, has been supporting education in Afghanistan since 2017, first through a mix of formal and non-formal education and now exclusively through programming outside the formal education sys-

More than 70 percent of the Afghan population is in dire humanitarian need. It is a country on the brink of collapse in terms of people's well-being. We are therefore calling for urgent funding to continue to fund community-based education through our grassroots partners," Sherif emphasizes.

The ECW-supported extended Multi-Year Resilience Programme (MYRP) in Afghanistan aims to support more than 250,000 children and adolescents across some of the most remote and underserved areas of the country.

The programme delivers community-based education, organised at the local level with support from local communities, and is critical to keep education going. Girls account for well over half of all the children and adolescents reached by the

IPS UN Bureau Report



Yasmine Sherif, Executive Director of Education Cannot Wait (ECW)—the United Nations global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises, says the ban on girl's and women's education has the effect of forcing them to live once again in the shadows. **CREDIT: ECW**

CAPITAL RATIBAYAVIPIND

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

MONDAY

TIME PROGRAMME

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)

TUESDAY 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 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

MCHAGANGANYIKO)

WEDNESDAY 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 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME

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21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

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 SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME

07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA

18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKITIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME

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 👩







Chinese empower Tanzanian teachers on teaching maths

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

ORE than 100 Tanzanian mathematics teachers have been trained under a Tanzania-Shanghai mathematics programme focusing on methodologies for teaching mathematics in secondary and primary schools.

The two-week training, which ended Friday, was undertaken by a team of Chinese mathematics teachers from Shanghai.

The Shanghai team was headed by Huang Xingfeng, a professor with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Teacher Education Centre (TEC). The UNESCO-TEC aims at promoting the development of teacher education worldwide, with a particular focus on supporting developing countries in Asia-Pacific and Africa to improve education quality and teacher quality.

According to Huang, during the two weeks, the Shanghai mathematics teachers' team collaborated with Tanzanian mathematics teachers at a school located in the Dar es Salaam University College for Education (DUCE) compounds to improve the Tanzanian teachers' professional development.

"We talked and discussed how to improve mathematics teaching," Huang told Xinhua in an interview

at the end of the Dar es Salaam Regional Teacher Workshop held at the DUCE compounds Friday.

He said that the training focused on supporting teachers to understand the curriculum and use of textbooks, improve teaching quality, develop teaching materials, share teaching experiences, organise examinations and provide intervention for students learning.

Ding Ruoxi from UNESCO-TEC talked about a hybrid model for teacher professional develop-

Ding said in May, 40 Tanzanian policymakers, mathematics teachers, and educators visited six Shanghai local schools. "Especially for teachers and educators, we arranged for them to observe classroom teaching and teaching research group activities," she said.

Jacob Dibogo, a mathematics teacher at Chang'ombe demonstration secondary school and one of the beneficiaries of the training, said he learned a lot of things in connection to teaching mathematics during the programme.

"I learned how to teach mathematics in a class, how to prepare a lesson, how to interact with the students and how to give students a chance to participate in acquiring mathematics content," said Dibogo who teaches mathematics in Form Four.

He said the programme was a re-



A Chinese teacher instructs a Tanzanian math teacher during a training session under a Tanzania-Shanghai mathematics programme in Dar es Salaam.

sult of the wonderful cooperation that exists between China and Tanzania. "Chinese and Tanzanian teachers have benefited from how they teach using technology and how we teach without technology."

Coleta Kitule, a mathematics teacher at Chang'ombe demonstration primary school, said she has learned that pupils should be involved when preparing a mathematics lesson. Both

Fika Mwakabungu, director of Curriculum Training at the Tanzania Institute of Education (TIE), said the Tanzania-Shanghai Mathematics programme traced back to 2021 when collaboration between TIE and Shanghai was initiated in facilitating Teachers Continuous Professional Development (TCPD) programmes.

Under the programme, TIE was responsible for collecting the needs and requirements of Tanzanischools are under the supervision of DUCE. an primary and secondary schools, while the UN- for its contribution.

ESCO-TEC developed a mathematics educational resource system containing textbooks, learning materials, teaching videos, and lesson plans and motivated professional development for teachers in schools where the resources have been adapted to teaching practices, she said.

"It's my hope that the learning opportunities for our children will be improved by this facility," said Mwakabungu while thanking the Shanghai team

UN sets October 29 as annual day of care work

By Moraa Obiria

IN the early 2000s when proponents of men's care work started introducing the conversations at global conferences, including UN meetings, on gender equality, they became victims of ridicule.

Nevertheless, the fire had been lit by MenCare and MenEngage, among other global communities and cam-

In 2021, UN Women launched Equality, under which it calls for a annually. It acknowledges the dis-

way of promoting equal socioeconomic growth of a woman.

Now, a day has been set aside for the global population to focus on unpaid care and domestic work, a milestone in the push for recognition, reduction and redistribution of care work.

The resolution calls upon member states, the UN system, civil society, the private sector, academia. a five-year campaign, Generation and the public to observe the day

global shift to equal sharing of un- proportionate burden of unpaid lecting water, and fetching firepaid care and domestic work, as a care and domestic work on women and girls and highlights the need to address these structural barriers to women's empower-

In Oxfam's 2021 report on Addressing unpaid care and domestic work for a gender-equal and inclusive Kenya, UCDW is defined as the often-invisible work of caring for children, the elderly and sick people.It is also caring for those living with disability, as well

wood, among other tasks.

In Kenya, findings from Oxfam's 2019 household care survey show women spent 11.1 hours per day on care compared to just 2.9 hours per day for men. But men spent almost double the time that women spent on paid work.

When women spent 5.3 hours, men spent 10.5 hours. This means a woman would earn less if they were on an hourly wage.

Going by the Gender Gap calculator created by Code for Africa, sider men's caregiving.

on average, a man in Kenya earns 39 per cent more than a woman. This implies that when inflation hits, women's pockets are wiped faster than those of men.

On February 8, 2020, UN Secretary-General António Guterres' said 127 women for every 100 men aged between 25 and 34 lived in extreme poverty in sub-Saharan Africa.

The report said too few workplaces support men's care just as a handful of politicians don't con-

According to Taveeshi Gupta, the director of research, evaluation and learning at Equimundo and one of the report authors, care work and men's emotional self-care are interlinked.

"Men who say they take care of their emotional selves are eight times more likely to report caring for a partner," she said. They are also six times more

likely to report caring for a child's emotional needs or tend to older family members' physical needs, she said.

Over 1000 stakeholders, partners to participate in this year's 'CSO Week'

By Getrude Mbago

OVER 1000 stakeholders from inside and outside the country including development partners and officials from the government and private sector are set to take part in this vear's Civil Society Organisations-CSO Week expected from October 23 to 27 in Arusha Re-

The week-long event will bring stakeholders from inside and outside the country including civil society organisations, development partners and officials from the government and private sector are set to take part in this year's

Justice Rutenge, coordinator of CSOs Week 2023 told this paper that the participants will come from 500 organisations including civil society organizations (CSOs), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), partners and stakeholders from inside and outside Tanzania.

Rutenge said this important week, which builds upon the success of its previous editions in 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2022, is expected to forge strategic collaborations and chart a path towards collective representation and independence within the civil society landscape.

He said the event will be conducted with an aim of catalysing for transformative change, fostering a deeper understanding of the impact of technology on society and its potential role in shaping the future of Tanzania.

Under the theme: "Tech and Society: Then, Now, and Beyond," the CSOs Week 2023 will delve into the crucial intersection of technology and society, equipping CSOs with the knowledge and tools to navigate the opportunities and challenges that arise from the everevolving world of technology.

He noted: "Digital transformation that we're experiencing has drastically changed our societal frameworks and has the potential to continue reshaping our world in profound ways. Discussions on the intersection of tech and society are vital to understanding these changes, navigating the challenges they pose, and leveraging the opportunities they present."

Also, speaking recently in Dar es Salaam during the launching event, Rutenge stated that the week seeks to empower civil society organizations with the insights and expertise needed to advise both the government and private sector on the advantages and potential pitfalls of technology for the country's development.

Moreover, it aims to inspire CSOs to embrace technology's transformative power, leveraging it to serve the best interests of the communities they support, while remaining vigilant about its potential risks.

"The intertwining of technology and society is undeniable, having significantly altered the way we interact, communicate, work, and perceive the world around us. To ensure continued relevance and impact, civil society organizations must adapt, innovate, and proactively navigate these shifts," he said.

He explained that the theme "Then" component encourages CSOs to reflect on the historical relationship between technology and

"By examining past technological advancements, civil society can gain valuable insights into how they have influenced societal structures, systems, and processes, including the work of CSOs in effecting positive change," he

The "Now" component of the theme urges CSOs to critically analyse the current state of affairs, focusing on how technology impacts societal dynamics and the opportunities and challenges it presents for their work in driving meaningful change.

"And the "Beyond" component prompts civil society to envision the future, acknowledging that the interplay between technology and society will continue to evolve. Embracing this forward-looking approach, CSOs can proactively anticipate and prepare for future technological trends, ensuring they remain at the forefront of progress."

Francis Kiwanga, Foundation for Civil Society (FCS) executive director said that investing in technology to boost various development



initiatives and create a tech-empowered society is of paramount importance.

He noted that in a broader perspective, the CSO Week seeks to create and deepen a sustainable model for growth fuelled by civil societies effective engagement in efforts to achieve Tanzania's development vision through collaborations that can enable CSOs to effectively serve excluded, marginalised and vulnerable populations in the interest of development in Tanzania.

He urged stakeholders in the development sectors to participate in the CSO Week 2023 and explore the transformative power of Tech and Society and work together towards a brighter and more inclusive future for Tanzania.

Kigamboni MP, Dr Faustine Ndugulile urged CSOs to utilize information and communication technology (ICT) opportunities to address unemployment problems.

Stakeholders in the development sectors were urged to participate in the CSOs Week 2023 and explore the transformative power of tech and society and work together towards a brighter and more inclusive future for Tanza

He also urged stakeholders in the development sectors to participate in the CSOs Week 2023 and explore the transformative power of tech and society and work together towards a brighter and more inclusive future for Tanza-

According to him, the use of ICT in increase ing employment opportunities is not as effective in the country compared to other nations. Ndugulile said there was still a dire need to utilise ICT to increase job opportunities for the youth.

The CSO Week is an annual event organized by a consortium of Tanzania-based local and international civil society organizations. The CSO Week started in 2018 as a brainchild of a number of CSOs whose reflections revealed the need to convene sectoral players in a weeklong event that would enable them to forge stronger partnerships with each other, and with other key development actors.

Kenya reinstates subsidy to stabilise fuel prices amidst public outcry

NAIROBI

KENYA has reintroduced a small subsidy to stabilize retail fuel prices for the next 30 days, according to the country's energy regulator. President William Ruto had previ-

ously removed fuel and maize flour subsidies when he came into office The decision was made in an effort to redirect funding towards produc-

tion rather than consumption, as well as to address the government's mounting debt repayments. However, these subsidy cuts, along

with recent tax hikes, have led to a rise in living costs and sparked violent anti-government protests. In response to public anger over

the high cost of living, the energy regulator has announced that the maximum retail price of a litre of petrol will remain constant at 194.68 shillings (\$1.35) for the next month. The government will cover the

cost of any price increase, shielding consumers through a price stabilization fund. Additionally, small subsidies will also be implemented for kerosene and diesel.

This decision by the government marks a reversal of its previous stance and reflects the impact of public pressure.

However, the energy regulator has not provided any explanation for this change in policy. As of now, there have been no comments from EPRA, the energy ministry, or the finance ministry regarding this decision.

The removal of subsidies and subsequent tax hikes resulted in a significant increase in fuel prices. The situation worsened in July when a law was passed that doubled the fuel

Small-scale fishers struggle to survive while facing a litany of regulations

By Naledi Sikhakhane

HOKO Ntimbane (58), a small-scale fisher in Kosi Bay, KwaZulu-Natal, holds up a 4kg spotted grunter that is about 40cm long. Beaming, she talks in detail about the species and others that she catches.

Ntimbane goes to great lengths to catch these fish. A fishing day starts at 4am. She walks for two hours to get to the coast and crosses through bushes to get to her fishing spot.

Depending on her catch of the day from straightline fishing, she could be carrying anything from 15-35kg back home.

But this is not her biggest challenge on fishing days, as she can be arrested if she's found with the wrong species, fish that are too small, or if she has crossed over into the Marine Protected Area (MPA).

"We have lost the sea. We have no water with life that we can touch now. Unemployment is already high in Kosi Bay, and we have a lot of crime as a result. Fishing is one of the last ways we have to make money, it is the only way right now," Ntimbane said.

Kosi Bay is part of the iSimangaliso Wetland Park World Heritage Site. It is about a five-hour drive from Durban. The Mozambique border forms the northern boundary of the MPA and the Indian Ocean the east-

Despite being granted fishing rights, small-scale fishery (SSF) cooperatives face obstacles in exercising them because of restricted access to water bodies and limitations imposed by MPAs.

Compound threats to livelihoods

Estuary management plans, limitations due to working in MPAs, and now concerns around oil and gas developments in the sea are ongoing challenges for small-scale fishers.

According to MPA regulations, only subsistence fishing is allowed and it's limited to personal consumption. Fishers are limited to straight-line fishing and butterfly net fishing.

Ntimbane's daughter, Nompilo Ntimbane (28), also a fisher, said: "The challenge is when we get to the water, we are not allowed even when we have a permit. The people from Nature (nature conservation officers) have their way of thinking, [but] straight-line fishing and butterfly [net] fishing make it hard to get fish.

"We used to use fish kraals in high seasons for grunt-



Women sell fish on the side of the road in Kosi Bay, KwaZulu-Natal. They say climate change and environmentalists' limitations have threatened their livelihood. (Photo: Zukiswa Pikoli)

ers and stumpnose but we can't use that due to the regulations. If we were allowed to use the gillnets we could come back with the fish the customers want," said Nompilo, who is part of the cooperative Inhloso YamaK-

The concern from the Department of Fisheries and conservation experts over gillnets is that they catch everything, including species that are at high risk, and undersized fish.

Ntimbane says the nets can be created so that smaller fish pop through the mesh and back into the water. Communities have used this method for more than a century.

Ntimbane catches grunter, kingfish, rock salmon, red snapper and yellowfin bream. She is a third-generation fish farmer – her father and

grandfather were fishers and passed on the traditional methods of fishing she uses today to sustain herself and her family.

She has educated two children through the income she earned from fishing, but notes that this has become a sore point for her community, where many young adults are unemployed.

"Two of my children went to tertiary [education] from the money I made from fishing, selling the fish fresh or preparing it for them in my kitchen," Ntimbane

Nompilo Ntimbane has a diploma in Tourism Management, but after her in-service training, she hasn't been able to get a job, making the success of the fishing venture even more crucial to her.

"Mom has taught us a lot, she is always trying. We have this kitchen, she also makes arts and crafts for tourists and I am now looking into selling bottled chilli sauce to create an income," Nompilo said.

Fishing for survival

Lindani Ngubane is a fishing rights activist and community facilitator for the Masifundise Development

"People can't catch fish to eat only, they need to be able to catch fish for trading - they have other needs," Ngubane said.

"Children need school clothes and school fees and that's where our idea for the small-scale fishing policy came about. We challenged the department and forced the department to listen to fishers, and we won. We were happy to eat and to sell."

Wilmien Wicomb from the Legal Resources Centre (LRC) says the policy falls short because regulations in the Marine Living Resources Act (MLRA) forced people into cooperatives. She says that treating cooperatives like corporations doesn't speak to the intention of the policy, which was for communities to work together.

"The regulations also locked out many other people who are part of the fishing industry ... who maybe fillet, cook, fish or make nets, and none of them were recognised. This structure that forces people to be commercial entities didn't work and left thousands of people out without fishing permits."

Wicomb says Kosi Bay is in a special position because it's part of the iSimangaliso Wetland Park Heritage

Site, which makes it harder to find a compromise between conservation and allowing communities adequate access to the water.

"The problem is layered. iSimangaliso [management] has always kind of taken the position that these other laws don't apply there, that they make the rules and that's it, so for a long time they didn't care if the Department of Environmental Affairs gave someone a fishing permit, they decided they made the rules and it wasn't for the department to give people permits around the site.

"In 2017, the fishers went to court asking for clarity because they had permission, but the rangers would show up and say another thing; it would get serious – some people have died. We have tried multiple times to get clarity from iSimangaliso for the fishers," Wicomb said.

The challenge in iSimangaliso is finding the right balance. Estuary management plans deal only with the protection of parks, river systems and sea. They don't deal with the impact on fishers and "they didn't communicate with the community on how they can find a joint solution", Wicomb said.

The small-scale fishing policy manifests in different ways across the province and the country as a whole. For example, fishers in some places on the West Coast are permitted to use gillnets.

Acknowledging historical dispossession

The abstract from the government's Policy for the Small-Scale Fisheries Sector in South Africa acknowledges the long history of dispossession in the sector.

"During Colonial times and more recently during the Apartheid era, many traditional fishing communities were dispossessed of their lands adjacent to the coast. In the 1890s, South Africa introduced policy and legislation to establish a fisheries management system. However, this system was aimed mainly at the growing commercial fisheries sector and largely neglected the Small Scale fisheries sector.

"The commercial sector was dominated by wealthy white capital, which from the 1940s onwards was assisted by the range of measures that the Apartheid regime introduced to support the establishment of a flourishing export-oriented commercial fishing industry," the policy says.

Although Ngubane, Ntimbane and fishers from other communities have pushed to be acknowledged and given fishing rights tailored to the small-scale fishing industry. Ngubane notes that the policy is not a quick fix and will need further work to curb exclusion.

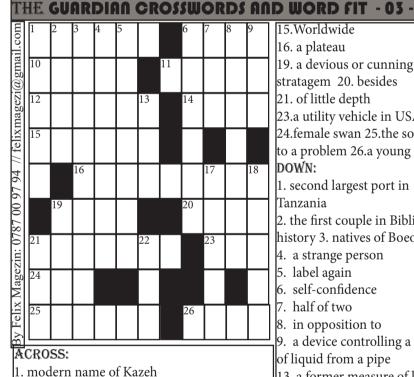
"Fishers need to raise their hands and advocate for themselves - you cannot let the struggle go. The policy was not a silver bullet, more can be done to make sure communities don't go hungry," Ngubane said.

TIME PROGRAMMI

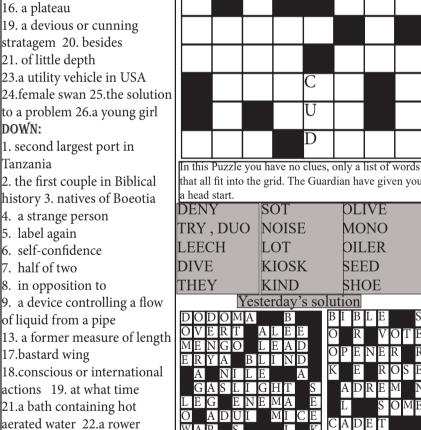
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- 14.gather a crop



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Guardian www.ippmedia.com

BUSINESS

New food crops harvest season, NFRA's stock selling ease prices

By Guardian Reporter

THE wholesale food prices have eased over the last three months, ended in June 23, this year, thanks to an ongoing crops harvests in different parts of the country.

To ensure food availability and stability in food prices, the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) has also continued to supply food to councils facing shortages at subsidized prices.

Data by the ministry of trade and industry and Bank of Tanzania (BoT) computation show the wholesale prices of maize, rice, beans, sorghum and finger millet decreased in June, compared to the prices recorded in April.

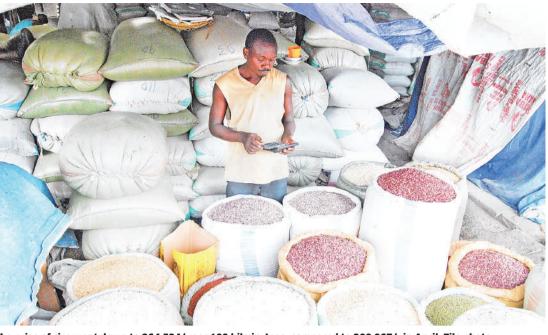
According to the ministry and BoT data, the price of maize, the main staple for both rural and urban consumers declined to 102,073/- per 100 kilogramme in June this year, compared to 108,048/- recorded in

However, the wholesale maize price for June this year still higher than 78,163/- recorded in June last year.

According to data from US department of agriculture (USDA), maize production in Tanzania during 2022/2023 amounted to 5.9 million metric tonnes from cultivated 4,000,000 hectares of farmlands, with the average yield of 1.5 tonnes per Ha.

The production was however; lower than 5-year average of 6.3 million metric tonnes and an average yield of 1.5 tonnes per hectare, according to the US department's online update on August 11 found on its website.

Tanzania has three main maize harvest season including January to mid-February for September and October Vuli rains' plating season and the second harvest happen from May to June for November to March msimu rains' planting season.



The price of rice went down to 264,534/- per 100 kilo in June, compared to 300,067/- in April. File photo

The third maize harvests, according to the US department of agricultural services occur in July and August for the crops planted during mid-February to March masika rains.

According to the USDA, during the last ten years the highest average yield was 1.9 tonnes per hectare recorded in 2018/2019 and the lowest was 1.2 tonnes per hectare recorded in 2012/2013 harvests season.

According to USDA, the production of corn in MY 2023/24 is anticipated to increase roughly 3 percent to 6.1 million metric tons (MT), as more farmers switch to corn production in response to high prices.

The trade and industry data also show the wholesale price of rice went down to 264,534/- per 100 kilo during the period ended in June 23, this this year, compared to 300,067/- recorded in April 23, this year; but higher than 202,331/- recorded in June last year.

This has also lowered the retail price of rice, the second main staple, by between 5 to 15 percent in some of the regions of Tanzania mainland over the last six months.

In some parts of Dar es Salaam region, one kilogramme of quality rice is now ranging from 2,400/- to 2,700/-, lower than previously highest price of 3,300/-

In 2022-23, rice production was estimated to decline by 15 percent to 2.2 million tons compared with the prior year due to dry weather and low input application because of the removal of fertilizer price ceilings in mid-2021.

Data by the US organization also shows rice production is forecast to increase from 2.2 to 2.4 million MT in 2023/24, as farmers join new irrigation schemes in the Southern Highlands and Northern Regions.21 Mar 2023. Rice cultivation occupies over 1 million hectares in Tanzania producing 2.2 million tons, establishing rice as Tanzania's second-most important crop, next to maize.

Rice production in Tanzania is mostly rain-fed and irrigation systems largely consist of channeling rainwater to rice fields, making them vulnerable to low rainfall.

In 2023-24, rice imports are forecast to decrease slightly to 180,000 tons from 200,000 tons as increases in domestic production account for a larger share of Tanzania's available supply. The price beans, also slightly decreased to 273,349/- per 100 kilogramme in June this year, compared to 278,991/- recorded in April this year, although was higher than 186,985/- recorded at the end of June last vear.

The ministry report shows the wholesale price of sorghum also recorded similar declining trend after closing at 141,131/- in June this year, compared to 148,010/- recorded in April this year.

However, the price of round potatoes, mainly consumed in major cities for fries increased during the reported period to 108,364/- compared to 98,158/- respectively.

Norway seen lifting policy rate to 4.0 per cent this week

OSLO

NORWAY'S central bank is expected to raise its benchmark interest rate by 25 basis points (bps) to 4.00 percent this week to curb inflation, economists polled by Reuters unanimously

Norwegian core consumer

prices rose 6.4 percent yearon-year in July, more than three times the central bank's goal of 2 percent annual price growth but down from a record 7.0 percent in June.

The July inflation print was broadly in line with Norges Bank's own 6.3 percent forecast and policymakers are thus un-

likely to repeat their hawkish June move, when they opted for a 50 bps rise, also referred to as a "double" hike, economists said. "The risk of another double rate hike is clearly reduced," Handelsbanken said in an Aug. 11 note to clients.

Norges Bank's monetary policy committee has said it will likely hike the policy rate to 4.25 percent in the course of this year to prevent a continued rapid rise in prices and wages that could see inflation become entrenched.

"The recent economic trend has in our view increased the probability of a September hike following a hike in August, and

we expect Norges Bank to signal this," DNB Markets said on Aug. 11.

The Norwegian currency, which strengthened against the euro during the early parts of summer, has weakened following the release of the milder July inflation data.

The European Central Bank

last month raised its key policy rate to 3.75 percent, but a narrow majority of economists polled by Reuters expect the ECB to temporarily pause its rate-hiking campaign at its September meeting.

All 31 economists polled in the Aug. 10-15 period said Norges Bank would announce on

Thursday that it will increase its policy rate by 25 bps to 4.00 percent.

The poll's median prediction showed that the policy rate is expected to hit a peak of 4.25 percent later in the third quarter, although some predicted it could rise to 4.50 percent by the end of the year.

Absa group reports 2 pct earnings gain

By Guardian Correspondent

THE South Africa headquarfrom a high base a year earlier, as strong revenue growth of 16 percent higher credit impairments, the group's interim financial re-

Speaking on a virtual conference from South Africa, Absa Group Chief Executive Officer, Arrie Rautenbach said that with resilient results in an increasingly challenging operating environment during the first half of

"With the right strategy in place, an experienced and diverse leadership team, a strong balance sheet and consistent execution, Absa remains positioned for growth," Rautenbach

well-diversified franchise helped a natural performance hedge for tered Absa Group recorded a 2 mitigate the earnings impact the group, while continuing to percent earnings to R11.2 billion of the increasing strain on coninvest in South Africa." sumers in South Africa, which is Absa's largest market.

Headline earnings in South Africa declined 17 percent, given elevated credit impairments, while earnings for regions outside of South Africa, collectively known as Africa regions, almost doubled.

"Our deliberate diversification strategy stood us in good stead in the first half of 2023, given weaker economic conditions and significant pressure on consumers in South Africa," said Arrie Rautenbach, Absa Group Chief Executive Officer. "We will further diversify going forward by deploying resources and capital

into attractive growth prospects He noted that the Group's on the continent which provides

> The Group's underlying performance during the period is reflected by 16 percent higher pre-provision profit, which is profit before setting aside money for bad debts, tax and other

> "We are executing consistently against our strategic focus areas, as we strive to become a leading Pan-African bank. This is evident in the continued progress we have made against key targets,' said Rautenbach.

"We are seeing tangible progress in becoming the primary partner for our customers, which is shown by improved client experience, accelerated cus-



Absa Group Chief Executive Officer, Arrie Rautenbach

tomer growth and solid deposit growth," said Rautenbach.

Absa continued to grow as a primary partner, with a focus on building its transactional business through investments across its businesses, notably in Private & Wealth, Youth propositions, Bancassurance and Business Banking during the period.

Communities will also benefit from the launch of one of the largest broadbased black economic empowerment

transactions in recent times.

The transaction sets aside 7 percent of Absa Group shares for the benefit of staff and communities in South Africa, underscoring our commitment to transformation. Staff outside of South Africa will be able to participate in a cash-equivalent scheme, pending local approv-

"We are particularly pleased with our return on equity of 16.7 percent and with our cost-to-income ratio improving further to 49.8 percent, driven by solid revenue growth,' said Jason Quinn, Absa Group Financial Director. "We remain well capitalised to fund growth opportunities," he said.

Meanwhile, the financial performance in Absa Tanzania remains promising as the bank recorded T32.720bn/- before tax in June this year compared to 17.953bn/- in June last year which reflected to 82.2 percent increase.

"The great achievements we have made in the last six months for doubling the profits within a short period of time, says Head of Marketing and Corporate Relations, Absa Bank Tanzania, Aron Luhanga.

SINGAPORE

AS headline oil prices edge ever closer to \$90 a barrel, there's little sign of a let up in the day-to-day demand that's underpinned the rally.

Across the global market, record crude demand has driven up the premiums that traders pay to get

The differentials for spot cargoes from the Middle East have surged in recent days as buyers in China grab supplies. In the North Sea, a vital window has seen a spate of bidding, while Asian buyers have also bought millions of barrels of US crude. Those are all signs that the latest cycle is off to a strong start, even as Chinese data highlight its economic challenges remain potent.

The move comes as refining margins – the profit processors make from buying crude and making fuels

have increased in recent weeks. The International Energy Agency said on Friday that global oil consumption surged to a record in June and should rise further on average

later in the year. London's Brent crude has climbed almost 20 percent since late June, as Saudi Arabia and Russia prolong their voluntary supply curbs and further tighten international oil markets.

"The driver of the tightness is the Saudi production cut, with refineries looking for alternative barrels," said Giovanni Staunovo, an analyst at UBS Group AG. "Demand is solid in large parts of Asia as well as the US, mostly mixed in Europe."

Chinese mega-refiner Rongsheng Petrochemical Co. secured millions of barrels from the spot market last week. That's in addition to the nation's refiners having been given about 40 percent more crude from the Saudis month-on-month for September loading after asking for extra barrels.

Across Asia, plants already snapped up about 40 million barrels from US crude for November arrival this month in what's seen as a robust pace of purchasing following the previous month's massive buying spree.

In the Middle East, the premium of Abu Dhabi's Murban crude also soared against the Dubai benchmark despite Asian buyers picking up comparable-quality West Texas Intermediate crude from the US



Oil price edges closer to \$90 a barrel

earlier in the month.

The premium was near \$3 a barrel on the ICE Futures Abu Dhabi exchange on Monday, about 30 cents higher than the start of the month, according to PVM Oil As-

sociates data compiled by Bloomberg. The more sulfurous and dense Upper Zakum also surged in earlycycle trading.

Production cuts from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting

Countries and its allies and steady price increases from Saudi Arabia have been a major driver behind the move, forcing refiners to hunt out supplies in key pricing regions.

There have also been low-level disruptions in major producing nations from Nigeria to Kazakhstan,

further tightening balances. To be sure, China – the world's principal engine of growth for oil demand - is battling a worsening property slump, and consumer spending has also weakened, troubling signs for world's second-largest economy. While recent crudeimport figures point to strong demand, China's oil demand for this year may already have peaked, according to Energy Aspects Ltd.

The recent physical-market rally has also had varied impacts on different grades of crude. The OPEC+ cuts and subsequent price hikes have made medium-sour barrels like Norway's Johan Sverdrup more expensive.

That has led to a slow pace of sales for Northern Europe's largest crude stream, and also pushed some buyers to seek cheaper light alternatives instead.

Even so, grades like Forties that is part of a basket of crudes that makes up the Dated Brent - the world's most important benchmark has strengthened.

Forties last traded at a premium of 85 cents a barrel to Dated Brent on Thursday on a pricing window run by S&P Global Commodity Insights, better known as Platts. This compares with a discount of 35 cents on July 31.

"Much of the strength in global physical markets this year has been driven by the medium and heavy, sour barrel," RBC Capital Markets LLC analysts including Michael Tran wrote in a report. "That said, key global light, sweet marginal barrels have shown strong signs of tightening so far in August.'

The current enthusiasm may be reduced in coming months; however, as US fuel-makers, the largest buyers of crude after China, prepare to halt refineries for the upcoming fall turnaround season at a time when drilling in the Permian

The restart of oil sands production in Canada, which is undergoing summer maintenance, should also help to beef up supplies.

Major minerals, tourism boost exports income

By Guardian Reporter

EXPORTS of goods and services amounted to US\$12,767.6 million in the year ending June 2023, higher than US\$11,004.1 million in the previous year, driven by non-traditional exports, in particular minerals and services receipts.

Export of non-traditional goods recorded an annual growth of 4.2 percent largely driven by minerals, particularly gold, coal and diamonds.

Coal exports increased to US\$229 million in the year to June 2023, from US\$57.6

million in the previous year, due to growing demand in the wake of supply shortages following the war in Ukraine.

Exports of diamonds almost doubled to US\$46.9 million from US\$29.6 million in the year ending June 2022, largely due to price effects.

As for gold exports, the increase was largely on account of volume effects.

According to data by Tan-

zania Revenue Authority (TRA) gold exports amounted to US\$2.9 billion, more than twice of the amount obtained from exporting manufactured goods and more than three times of earnings



from traditional exports. Manufactured goods exports also

recorded an annual growth of 6.1 percent to US\$1,402.2 million, largely

driven by fertilizers and cement. Exports of traditional goods slightly

increased to US\$752.3 million from US\$737.8 million. The increase was mostly manifested in exports of tobacco, cotton, and coffee.

On monthly basis, traditional goods worth US\$21.5 million were exported in June 2023 compared with US\$30.9 million in the similar month in 2022, while non-traditional exports increased to US\$584 million up from US\$545.3 million.

Services receipts amounted to US\$5,398 million in the year ending June 2023, higher than US\$3,906.7 million in the year ending June 2022, driven by travel (tourism) and transportation re-

The increase in travel receipts is mostly explained by the escalation in tourist arrivals, which rose by 45.9 percent to 1,638,850-the highest level reached historicallyas the tourism sector continues to recover.

On monthly basis, services receipts were US\$513.7 million in June 2023 compared with US\$390.5 million in June 2022.

NCBA commits to arousing Zanzibar economy

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

IN a move set to cement a positive impact on the socio-economic landscape of Zanzibar, NCBA Bank has reignited its commitment to strengthen its substantial contribution aimed at driving growth and development in the region.

Recognizing the potential for collaboration and growth in the islands, NCBA has extended its support to Zanzibar through a range of innovative products and services designed to empower local communities and foster economic progress.

This new reinvigoration aligns with NCBA's commitment to inspiring change and enabling sustainable development in the areas it serves.

'I am thrilled to announce that we will be running new innovative initiatives that will set new standards for the tourism industry in Zanzibar.

Our reimagined tourism services have been designed with your success in mind, tailored specifically to empower business owners in this vibrant sector', said the new NCBA Managing Director and CEO Claver Serumaga as he reiterated the bank's position at a customer gala dinner graced by Dr. Saada Mkuya, Minister of State President's Office Finance and Planning Zanzibar.

The Director underscored recent accomplishments and achievements to drive financial inclusion in the region.

He said, 'through platforms like M-Pawa, that has opened doors to financial inclusion for over seven million Tanzanians, empowering both the unbanked and transforming lives. We have also taken great pride in supporting micro and small businesses, providing them with the resources they need to flourish and contribute to the fabric of Tanzania's economy'.

The Minister applauded NCBA's resilient commitment to helping the Zanzibarians. She elucidated, 'I would like to commend NCBA Bank Tanzania for its significant contributions to our local economy.

Through their innovative financial solutions, tailored services, and steadfast support, they have empowered individuals, businesses, and communities in Zanzibar to reach new heights of success.

By fostering an ecosystem that nurtures entrepreneurship, they have unlocked doors of opportunity for aspiring business owners, igniting the spark of economic empowerment and transformation'.

As a renowned financial instituresponsible banking and driving

SGE vs. LBMA spot price (premium/discount)



a customer event organized by the bank to announce their intention to continue investing in the tourism sector in Zanzibar over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent

tion with a deep commitment to financial inclusion, NCBA's robust offering hasn't the best digital bank in Tanzania. gone unnoticed, picking up an award in 2022 as

The bank anticipates further investments to

catalyze progress and uplift the quality of life for its customers and the entire nation.

China's gold prices rising higher than rest of world

China's Gold Gains in Value Versus World's

Traders say supply is tighter due to import curbs

Mar

CHINA'S gold price is rising against levels in London, a trend that local traders say is due to government curbs on imports of the precious

than \$40 an ounce higher than that in London on Aug. 14, according to Bloomberg calculations based on exchange data. That's the biggest premium in

The Shanghai spot price was more

more than five months, with the gap steadily widening from late June even as consumer demand in China remained sluggish.

Authorities moving to limit gold imports appears to be a major driver behind the growing gap, according to traders and importers.

The government has reduced or stopped issuing import quotas to some local banks, according to people familiar with the matter, who asked not to be identified as the information is private.

That's resulted in a drop in flows over the last few months, two of the people said, and there's no immediate prospect of the affected quotas being issued again. The reason for the curbs isn't clear.

China vies with India as the world's biggest buyer of gold, so demand and supply trends there can influence global prices for the

Chinese demand has struggled to regain momentum as the country's economic jitters turn consumers off gold jewelry or investments in the metal, with purchases in those categories still below long-term averages.

Source: Shanghai Gold Exchange, London Bullion Market Association As recently as June, prices in Shanghai were at a discount to the international mar-

Feb

Jan

The swing to a premium is being driven by tighter supply in China, the World Gold Council said in a report last week, without elaborating.

While some bullion is still making its way to China, the volume of orders is weak, one of the people familiar with the

The country's imports of non-monetary gold fell 35 percent in June from the previous month to the lowest level since Janu-

2023

May

The People's Bank of China typically issues quotas to financial institutions for the amount of gold allowed to enter the country, though the exact details of permitted volumes are never publicly disclosed.

The PBOC didn't respond to a faxed request for comment.

Gold could be an attractive investment for Chinese facing a weaker domestic currency, and authorities may potentially stymie that trade – lending some support to the yuan – by squeezing import quotas.

Jul

Jun

-20

Aug

Bloomberg ...

The offshore yuan fell toward its weakest level this year on Monday after an array of disappointing economic data fueled worries about sputtering growth.

The outlook for Chinese gold demand looks fairly lackluster, according to Nikos Kavalis, managing director at consultancy Metals Focus Ltd. "It's not great, it's not bad," he said. "But what we're definitely seeing is tighter supply conditions.'

Exim Bank (T) marks its 26th anniversary strong

By Guardian Reporter

EXIM Bank Tanzania yesterday celebrated 26 years of being more than a bank and reaffirmed its commitment to continue supporting Tanzanian's socio-economic de-

Speaking during a brief event held at the bank's head office in Dar es Salaam, the Exim Bank Chief Executive Officer Jaffari Matundu said throughout the 26 years of the bank's existence, the bank has become a trusted partner playing a pivotal role in the growth of the country's econ-

"Over the past 26 years, Exim Bank Tanzania has evolved to become a trusted financial partner for our clients, providing a comprehensive range of services tailored to their unique needs. We are not limited by the confines of a traditional bank. We have transcended the boundaries of banking to become a catalyst for growth, innovation, and progress within our nation," he said.

Matundu said the bank has consistently embraced the values of integrity, trustworthiness, and customer-centricity that has helped to win the loyalty of its customers.

"We have recognized the responsibility we hold in contributing to the socio-economic development of Tanzania and empowering individuals and businesses alike," he added. Matundu noted that the bank has invested in projects that foster entrepreneurship, support sustainable development, and promote financial literacy.

"We are committed to uplifting the society and we have undertaken numerous initiatives to contribute to the progress of Tanzania through our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs in sectors including education and healthcare, and environmental sustainability. By doing so, we have not only fulfilled our obligations as a bank but have actively become agents of positive change within our communities," he stressed.

He said the bank has demonstrated unwavering commitment to technological advancement by embracing digital innovation to provide seamless, convenient, and secure banking solutions to its customers.

"By staying at the forefront of technological advancements, we have not only enhanced our banking experience but have also transformed our own internal operations to become more efficient and agile," he added.

Guardian

Russian central bank jacks up rates to support rouble

RUSSIA'S central bank hiked its key interest rate by 350 basis points to 12 percent on Tuesday, an emergency move to try and halt the rouble's recent slide after a public call from the Kremlin for tighter monetary policy.

The extraordinary rate meeting came after the rouble plummeted past the 100 threshold against the dollar on Monday, dragged down by the impact of Western sanctions on Russia's balance of trade and as military spending soars.

The rouble pared gains after the decision to stand 0.5% weaker at 98.16 by 1056 GMT, but still significantly above lows near 102 on Monday which had not been hit since the early weeks after Russia invaded Ukraine.

President Vladimir Putin's economic adviser Maxim Oreshkin on Monday rebuked the central bank, blaming what he called its soft monetary policy for weakening the rouble.

Hours after Oreshkin's words, the bank announced the emergency meeting, throwing the currency a life-

"Inflationary pressure is building up," the bank said in a statement on Tuesday.

"The pass-through of the rouble's depreciation to prices is gaining momentum and inflation expectations are on the rise.'

Though stopping the rot, analysts largely agreed that the move would not have a long-lasting impact.

"As long as the war continues it just gets worse for Russia, the Russian economy and the rouble," said Timothy Ash, senior EM sovereign strategist at Bluebay Asset Management.

"Hiking policy rates won't solve anything - they might temporarily slow the pace of depreciation of the rouble at the price of slower real GDP growth unless the core problem, the war and sanctions are resolved.'

ECONOMICS OR POLITICS

In its original statement, the bank removed its usual hawkish guidance that it would consider future rate hikes, leading some analysts to speculate that interest rates had peaked.

But a little after the decision, the bank issued an additional statement: "In the case of strengthening pro-inflationary risks, an additional increase in the key rate is possible."

Central Bank Governor Elvira Nabiullina has won plaudits for her handling of the economy since Russia began what it calls a "special military operation" in Ukraine, but the plunging rouble and high inflation have put her on the back foot, especially among pro-

The Kremlin's public criticism of her monetary policy adds further pressure as Russia heads towards a presidential election in March 2024, with consumers battling rising prices for basic goods.

"While such a depreciation risks boosting inflation, it is also the signal it sends out to the Russian public about the costs of the invasion of Ukraine," said Stuart Cole, chief macro economist at Equiti Capital in London.

"As such, today's decision will likely have had an

ALAF unveils products warranty programme

By Guardian Reporter

ALAF Limited, a member of Safal Group has announced the launch of its product warranty aimed at reinforcing the superior quality of its products and assuring consumers of its commitment to quality.

This comes in the wake of a growing issue on substandard goods and counterfeit products in the Tanzanian market and beyond.

The ALAF marketing manager, Isamba Kasaka, said the product warranty, which will be rolled out across the country, is aimed at providing consumers with peace of mind when purchasing ALAF products while reassuring them of the quality and authenticity of their products.

She said ALAF has become increasingly concerned about the growing prevalence of substandard and counterfeit products and this is unfortunately affecting all sectors and societies in Tanzania. "These products also pose a serious risk to the health and safety of consumers" she said.

She further noted that the warranty initiative also serves as platform to educate consumers on the pitfalls of sub-standard and counterfeit products.

"The company is also working closely with the government, law enforcement agencies and regulatory bodies to take on the challenge of Sub-standards and counterfeits head-on," she said.

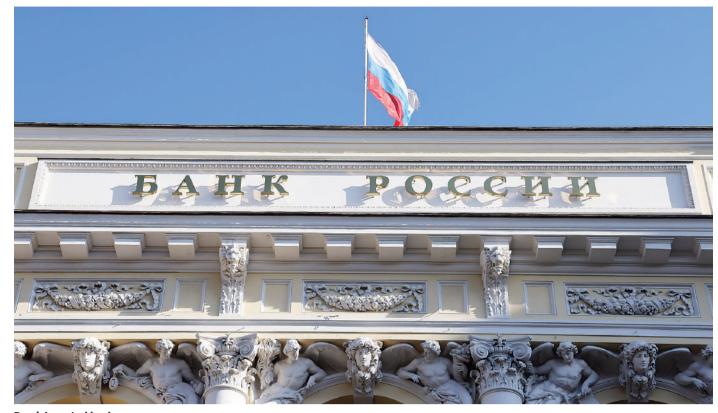
The Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Albert Chalamila, commended the effort by ALAF in bringing this conversation to the fore.

He also urged other key stakeholders and regulatory bodies present at the event to be vigilant in their efforts to deal with the sub-standards and counterfeits chal-

He called on the relevant bodies among other including TBS, FCC, OSHA and other institutions to ensure manufacturers adhere to quality in order to protect the

"Consumers should take advantage of the warranty and to verify the authenticity of products before purchasing," he said and stressed that the government will continue advocating for adherence of quality by all man-

According to the RC, lack of quality has a lot of negative implications including posing health and safety threats to consumers who are supposed to be protected



Russia's central bank

element of politics behind it as well as economics.'

Andrei Melaschenko, economist at Renaissance Capital in Moscow, said the bank was right to react to inflation risks, but that the meeting, being announced so soon after Kremlin criticism, raised questions about the bank's independ-

"(Nabiullina) has built quite a strong team around her and the central bank has been a strong regulator and I think and the market, both the domestic and international market, sees it that way." INFLATION PRESSURE

The bank last made an emergency rate hike in late February 2022 with a rate raise to 20 percent in the immediate fallout of Russia's despatching troops to Ukraine. The bank then steadily lowered the cost of borrowing to 7.5 percent as strong inflation pressure eased in the second half of 2022.

Since its last cut in September 2022, the bank had held rates but steadily increased its hawkish rhetoric, eventually hiking by 100 basis points to 8.5 percent at its last scheduled meeting in July. The next rate decision is due on Sept. 15.

Russia saw double-digit inflation in 2022 and after a deceleration in the spring of 2023 due to that high base effect; annual inflation is now above the central bank's 4 percent target once more and quickening.

In annualised terms on a seasonally adjusted basis, current price growth over the last three months amounted to 7.6 percent on average, the bank said.

Promsvyazbank analysts said an additional hike may be required if the rouble does not stabilise and that measures to reduce the rouble liquidity surplus were also needed.

'SLOW THE BLEEDING'

Russia's widening budget deficit and stark labour shortage have contributed to rising inflationary pressure this year, but the rouble's rapid slide from around 70 against the dollar at the start of the year to more than 100 on Monday pushed the central bank to act.

The bank, which blames the rouble's slide on Russia's shrinking current account surplus - down 85 percent year-on-year in January-July - has already tried to limit the rouble's decline.

Last week, it halted the finance ministry's FX purchases to try to reduce volatility, a step that effectively saw Russia abandon its budget rule. Analysts widely agreed that those measures alone were too minimal in scope to significantly support the currency.

"Today's rate hike will only temporarily slow the bleeding," said Liam Peach, senior emerging markets economist at Capital Economics in London.

"Russia will struggle to attract capital inflows because of sanctions," he said. "And there's little ammunition for FX intervention - the central bank has some unfrozen renminbi assets and gold reserves, but the bar for using these is likely to be high."



WEDNESDAY 16 August

Uwanja wa Mazoez 6:00 6:40 7:30 8:00 8:55 9:00 9:30 9:55 10:00 10:25 11:00 Kumekucha HABARI Kumekucha Michezo Habari za saa Kumekucha Kishindo Habari za saa Watoto wetu Jungu kuu rpt Habari za saa Hawavumi lakini wamo rp Habari za saa

11:55 12:00 12:30 12:55 13:00 13:55 DWTV Afrimaxx rpt Dakika 45 rpt Habari za saa Chetu ni chetu rp Habari za saa Watoto Wet Music: The Base Jiji Letu Igizo: Mizengwe

Soap: In Love with Ramo Kipindi maalum: Tanesco Ripoti maalum Music: The Base

Jarida la wanawake

Uwanja wa Mazoez Kumekucha HABARI Kumekucha Michezo Habari za saa Kumekucha Kishindo Habari za saa Watoto wetu 10:30 10:55 11:00 Shamba lulu Habari za saa Ripoti maalum rpt

Jarida la wanawake rp

Kipindi maalum Habari za saa 14:00 14:55 15:00 16:30 17:00 18:00 18:15 18:30 19:00 19:30 Shamsham za pwani rg Watoto wetu Jiji Letu Mapishi Soap: In Love with Ramon Malumbano ya hoja

Habari

Music: The Base

5:00 5:30 6:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 6:40 7:30 8:00 9:00 9:30 10:00 Kumekucha Kumekucha Michezo Kumekucha Kishindo Soap rpt: In Love with Ramor 10:30 Usafiri Wako Jungu kuu 12:00 12:30 13:00

13:30 14:30 15:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt; Sema na Mahakama 16:30 17:00 17:30 Watoto Wetu The Base (DJ Show) 18:00 18:15 18:45 Jiji Letu 21:05 23:00 23:30 Kipima Joto 00:30

Uwanja wa Mazoez

Kumekucha Habari 10:05 Shika Bamba 5

Art and Lifestyle Soap: In Love with Ramon rp Igizo: Mizengwe 18:00 18:15 19:00 Jiji Letu ITV Top 10 rpt Shika Bamba Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka Igizo: Slay Queen

22:50 Hawayumi lakini wami Uwanja wa Mazoez Kumekucha Habari Watoto Wetu

10:00 11:50 14:00 Bongo Movie rpt: Tamasha la Michez 15:30 16:30 Mwangaza Kipindi cha kikrist Jiji Letu Mapishi Matukio ya wiki 19:30 Igizo: Slay Queer Igizo: Mizengwe Soap: Uzalo rpt

Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt

07:00 09:00 11:00 11:30 12:15 Al Jazeera Spots gazette 12:45 Filler doc Club 101 (via Capital Radio)

Capchat rpt Our Earth 21:30 Capital Prime News

23:00

Al Jazeera Tomorrow Today rpt Dw News Africa rpt 12:30 13:00 14:00 Our Earth Telenovela rpt The Three Sides of Ana Club 101 (via Capital Radio) Bussines Edition Rp 16:00 16:30 17:00 17:30 19:00 19:30 Meza huru Sports Gazette Chetu ni chetu Monday Agenda Rpf 22:00 Dakika 45:

07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio Spots gazette Innovation Culinary 13:00 14:00 16:00 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana Club 101 (via Capital Ra Tommorrow Today 16:30 17:00 17:30 19:00 19;30 20:00 Business edition rp Out & About Rpt

Eco@Africa Our Earth Rpt Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana Capital Prime Nev Capchat rpt 23:00 Frid 18 Aug Al Jazeera Al Jazeera

Club 101 (via Capital Radio The Monday Agenda rpt Meza huru Out & About Rp Aibu Yako Local Pgm: Business Edition
Telenovela The Three Sides of Ana

Capital Prime News

22:00 00:00

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Sat 19 Aug Rev rpt Jagina rpt Culinary delight rpt 10:30 Out n'about rpi Sports Gazette rpi Shamba Lulu rpt Our Earth rpt Business edition rp 13:30 Telenovela rot The Three Sides of An Eco@Africa Bundesliga kick of

> The Decor Ripoti Maalum

Out n' About

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Capchat Rpt 01:00 Al Jazeera In good shap Capchat rpt 11:00 Sports Gazette rp Jagina rpt 12:30 Bundesligga Kick Off rpt

15:15 Aibu yako Rev rpt Dakika 45 rpt 19:00 Eco@Africa Out & About rpt

Capchat live Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana

Guardian

WORLD

PM Modi on 77th Independence Day says World is facing inflation but India...

NEW DELHI

MOSCOW

pendence Day.

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi, yesterday, said the world is facing inflation but India has taken several measures to tackle inflation and will continue to do

In his 10th address from the ramparts of the Red Fort today, PM Modi said, "The world has still not recovered from Corona. The war gave rise to another crisis.

Today, the world is facing the crisis of inflation. Inflation has the entire global economy in its clutches...It is unfortunate that when we import goods of our necessity, we also import inflation."

"But, India made all efforts to control inflation...We can't be content just because our situation is better than the rest of the world. I have to take more steps to see that the burden of inflation goes further down on the citizens of my country. We will take those steps and my efforts

INDIA "enjoys well-earned

respect" in the world arena and

plays an important "constructive

role in international affairs," Rus-

sian President Vladimir Putin said

on Tuesday in his congratulatory

message on the occasion of Inde-

"Please accept cordial con-

gratulations on the occasion of the Indian national holiday - the

Independence Day. Your country

has achieved universally acknowl-

edged success in economic, scien-

tific and technical, social and other

India enjoys well-earned respect

in the world arena and plays an

important constructive role in in-

ternational affairs," Putin said in

his message to President Droupadi

Murmu and Prime Minister Naren-

"We attach great importance

to the relations of the special and

privileged strategic partnership

with New Delhi. I am confident that

with joint efforts we will further

enhance fruitful bilateral coopera-

will continue...," he said.

Recalling the era of COVID-19, the Prime Minister said that India helped different countries during the time of crisis and that India has emerged as a "Vishwa Mitra" (friend of the world).

"We have to make our country so strong that will contribute to Vishwa Mangal (Global welfare). After Covid, the way India helped the world during the time of crisis, India has emerged as Vishwa Mitra. When we talk about Vishwa Mangal which is India's basic idea that we have to expand," PM Modi said while addressing the coun-

"We have presented philosophies and the world is now connecting with India over them. For the renewable energy sector, we said 'One Sun, One World, One Grid'. After Covid, we told the world that our approach should be of 'One Earth, One Help'. We can solve the problem when we address the issues of people, animals and

partnership in solving topical is-

sues of regional and global agenda.

core interests of our friendly na-

tions and contributes to the secu-

rity and stability of the planet," he

He wished the best of health

and every success as well as hap-

piness and well-being to all Indian

citizens. As India celebrated its

77th Independence Day yesterday,

various world leaders have sent

their warm wishes to the people

Earlier, French President Em-

manuel Macron congratulated In-

dia on its 77th Independence Day

and said New Delhi can count on

"friend" and said that they had set

new ambitions for Indio-French

"Congratulations to the Indian

people on your Independence

Day! A month ago in Paris, my

friend @narendramodi and I set

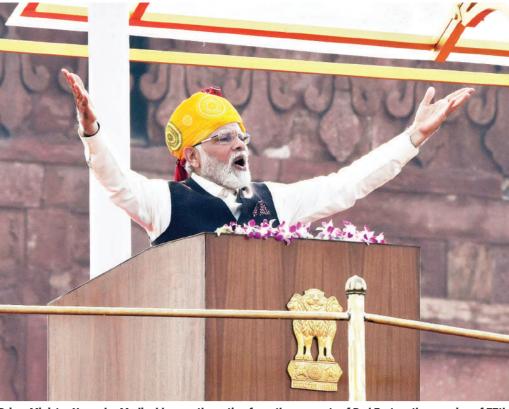
new Indo-French ambitions all the

cron called Priem Minister Modi a and partner, always."

Paris as a "trusted friend."

added

This, undoubtedly, meets the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the nation from the ramparts of Red Fort on the occasion of 77th Independence Day, in New Delhi yesterday. ANI

plants equally. For the G20 Summit, we should focus on the idea of 'One World, One Family, One Future," the prime minister he added.

He also stated that India has launched Mission LiFE for the climate issues that the world is facing. And also made the solar alliance which now many countries are becoming part of.

India plays an important constructive role in international affairs - Putin

In his 10th consecutive Independence Day speech, the Prime Minister said that after the COV-ID-19 pandemic, the world order and the definition of the geopolitical equation have changed and India has become the voice of the global south.

Earlier, PM Modi hoisted the national flag and after this flower petals were showered at the

venue by two Advanced Light Helicopters Mark-III Dhruv of the Indian Air Force.

PM Modi, in his speech, also lauded the contribution of youth and said those from tier 2, and tier 3 cities are also making a lot of impact in various fields, including

Independence Day and said that

he is confident that bilateral ties

will be "further strengthened" be-

"Warm Greetings, Foreign Min-

ister @DrSJaishankar and the Gov-

ernment & people of #India on the

occasion of your Independence

Day. I am confident that in the

years ahead our bilateral ties will

be further strengthened between

our two nations India and Sri Lan-

ka," Sabry said on the social media

Nepal's Foreign Minister Nara-

yan Prakash Saud also extended

"As India celebrates its 77th In-

dependence Day, I would like to

convey warm greetings and felicitations to H.E. @DrSJaishankar,

External Affairs Minister of India.

Wish Happy Independence Day to

the people and Government of In-

Australian Foreign Minister

Penny Wong wished India and said

that the relationship between the

two countries is growing from the

foundation of the "three 'Ds': de-

mocracy, diaspora and dosti - or

wishes on the occasion.

dia!" he tweeted.

tween the two nations.

account X.

Majority of countries prepared to stand up for their sovereignty in shaping future, says Putin

MOSCOW

MOST countries are prepared to stand up for their sovereignty and the times call for the international community to work together in shaping the world of the future, Russian President Vladimir Putin said in a video



address to participants and guests of the 11th Moscow Conference on International Security.

"We are seeing consistent movement toward the emergence of a multipolar world order. Most countries are prepared to stand up for their sovereignty, national interests, traditions, culture and way of life," he emphasized.

The Russian head of state underscored the fact that new centers of economic and political authority were gaining in strength. According to him, all of this "can provide an important basis for stable, progressive global development and, most importantly, for efforts to find genuine solutions to social, economic, technological and environmental issues, as well as for improving the quality of life and well-being of millions of people."

Putin stressed that open, honest and unbiased discussions, such as the Moscow conference, were highly important and relevant because "the entire international community will need to work together on an equal footing to shape the future."

Swahili version of Chinese President Xi Jinping's book on governance launched in Kenya

NAIROBI

THE Swahili version of Volume One of The Governance of China by Chinese President Xi Jinping was launched at a seminar here on Monday.

Experts and scholars



The publication of the Swahili version is an important achievement of the cooperation between the publishing and translation circles of the two countries, serving as a vivid example of bilateral exchange and mutual learning of the experiences on state governing.

Experts said that the publication of the book will help African readers understand the historical backgrounds and cultural roots of China's path of development, the governing philosophy of the Communist Party of China and the Chinese wisdom about building a better world.

As this year marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of China-Kenya diplomatic relations, both sides will take this event as an opportunity to deepen peopleto-people exchanges, promote traditional friendship and contribute to the comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership between China and Kenya, said the partici-

The Swahili version of the first volume of The Governance of China was jointly translated and published by China's Foreign Languages Press and the Kenya Literature Bureau, a state agency in the Kenyan Ministry of Education. The first volume of the book has so far been published in 37 languages, covering more than 180 countries

Monday's event was attended by about 500 people from

all walks of life. *Xinhua*

tion in all areas and constructive way to 2047, the centenary year of "On the auspicious occasion of Sabry on Tuesday wished India friendship." ANI Macron congratulates India on its Independence Day, says it can count on France as trusted friend, partner

in New Delhi yesterday. ANI

On the social media account, X India's Independence. India can the 77th Independence Day of In-

He reshared his old video of

dated July 15, where he shared the

highlights of Prime Minister Modi's

Apart from them, Nepal Prime

Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal

wished India on the occasion of

2-day official visit to France.

the 77th Independence Day.

(formerly known as Twitter), Macount on France as a trusted friend dia, I extend warm greetings and

PARIS

dra Modi.

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron congratulated India on its 77th Independence Day and said New Delhi can count on Paris as a "trusted friend."

On the social media account, X (formerly known as Twitter), Macron (pictured) called Priem Minister Narendra Modi a "friend" and said that they had set new ambitions for Indio-French relations.

"Congratulations to the Indian people on your Independence Day! A month ago in Paris, my friend @ narendramodi and I set

all the way to 2047, the centenary year of India's Independence. India can count on France as a trusted friend and partner, always."

eo dated July 15, where he Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 2-day official visit to France.

13 and 14.

Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Ali Sabry on Tuesday

He reshared his old vid-

shared the highlights of PM Modi was on a two-

day visit to France on July

Apart from France, the US, Sri Lanka and Nepal's Foreign Ministers also extended warm wishes to In-



Day and said that he is confident that bilateral ties will be "further strengthened" between the two nations.

"Warm Greetings, Foreign Minister @DrSJaishankar and the Government & people of #India on the occasion of your Indepennew Indo-French ambitions wished India Independence dence Day. I am confident

that in the years ahead our bilateral ties will be further strengthened between our two nations India and Sri Lanka," Sabry said on the social media account X.

Dignitaries listen to the 10th address of Prime Minister Narendra Modi (Unseen)

from the ramparts of the Red Fort on the occasion of the 77th Independence Day,

Nepal's Foreign Minister Narayan Prakash Saud also extended wishes on the oc-

"As India celebrates its 77th Independence Day, I would like to convey warm greetings and felicitations to H.E. @DrSJaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India. Wish Happy Independence Day to the people and Government of India!" he tweeted.

best wishes to PM @narendramodi

ji and to the friendly people of In-

dia for continued peace, progress

and prosperity @PMOIndia," Ne-

Nepal's Foreign Ministers also ex-

tended warm wishes to India.

The US, Sri Lanka, Australia and

Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Ali

pal PM said in a tweet.

The United States Ambassador to India, Eric Garcetti, attended the Independence Day celebration at the Red Fort here today and extended his greetings.

He also said that it is an "honour" to be present at the "iconic Red Fort."

Earlier, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken extended his wishes on India's 77th

Independence Day.

"On behalf of the United States of America, we send our warmest wishes to the people of India as they commemorate 76 years of independence this August 15. On this momentous day, we reflect on the depth and breadth of our strategic partnership, and we celebrate the proud history of the Indian people, who are the key to the bright future we are building together," Antony Blinken said in a statement.

Blinken noted that the relationship between India and US has grown "deeper" and it has become "more expansive than ever."

July 2023 marks hottest month on record since 1880

LOS ANGELES

IULY 2023 was hotter than any other month in the global temperature record since 1880, according to analysis released by the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)'s Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) on Mon-

July 2023 was 0.43 degrees Fahrenheit (0.24 degrees Celsius) warmer than any other July in NASA's record, and it was 2.1 degrees Fahrenheit (1.18 degrees Celsius) warmer than the average July between 1951 and 1980, according to the analysis. "NASA data confirms what billions around the world liter-

ally felt: temperatures in July 2023 made it the hottest month on record. In every corner of the country, Americans are right now experiencing firsthand the effects of the climate crisis," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson. Parts of South America, North Africa, North America, and the Antarctic Peninsula were especially hot, experiencing temperature increases around 7.2 degrees Fahrenheit (4 degrees Celsius) above average, according to NASA data.

China boosts in-depth integration of information technology into transportation sector

CHINA is making great efforts to promote the in-depth integration of information technology (IT) into its transportation sector. With new products and new business models continuously emerging across the country, people across China are benefiting from improved travel experiences in various scenarios - from city streets to intercity

expressways. This summer, many people in China have found that map apps can display shaded "sun protection" routes for pedestrians in real-time and automatically recommend a shady route based on user's destination.

"By leveraging remote sensing technology, our app can intelligently identify the distribution density of trees around roads, and calculate the dynamic light and shadow condition of road sections based on relevant factors of specific locations," said an executive of leading Chinese mapping service provider Amap.

Thanks to the application of intelligent mobile terminal technologies, urban transportation services in China have witnessed significant improvement in quality and efficiency.

"There are peaks and valleys in urban travel demand. The waiting time for taxis spike during rush hour," said Li Xinhua, general manager of the taxi division of Amap's ride hailing services.

In an effort to improve the supplydemand matching efficiency, Amap has leveraged big data to predict congestion and adjust pricing in real time, according to Li. IT is penetrating every corner of urban transportation in China, continuously meeting people's diverse and individualized travel needs.

Data released by China's Ministry of Transport (MOT) showed that over 300 Chinese cities have ride-hailing services, to enhancing the service capabilities of with over 25 million daily orders; and that a total of 15 million shared bikes have been deployed nationwide, generating over 28 million orders on a daily

"Rapid economic development has stimulated more demand for transportation, while challenges like congestion, accidents and pollution have become increasingly prominent," an official of the science and technology department of the MOT pointed out.

IT, represented by artificial intelligence (AI), can provide new approaches

transportation infrastructure, the official noted.

By building and transforming intelligent facilities, which enable dynamic adjustment of signals based on real-time vehicle flows, at 332 intersections, Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area, also known as E-Town, in China's capital city Beijing, has achieved remarkable results in addressing traffic congestion.

The intelligent facilities have reduced queue length by 30.3 percent and unnecessary time of green lights by 18.33

percent in relevant areas.

Xiangyang Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone in Xiangyang city, central China's Hubei province, has seen autonomous driving services expanding to over 140 application scenarios of the Internet of Vehicles (IoV), 234 intersections, 510 kilometers of two-way roads, and an environment for large-scale citylevel application covering an area of 150 square kilometers, according to an executive of a project of the Central and Southern China Municipal Engineering Design and Research Institute Co., Ltd.

People's Daily

West ignores Russia's warning weapons supplied to Kiev may spread – Lavrov

PATRIOT PARK

THE Western countries ignore all sobering signals from Russia about the risk the weapons being supplied to Kiev may spread around the world, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told the 11th Moscow Conference on International Security.



"Today the United States and NATO as well as the European Union for the sake of saving their own geopolitical project of containing Russia and splitting the Russian world are pumping ever more sophisticated weapons into Ukraine, thus fueling the conflict and pro-

voking uncontrolled spread [of weapons] around the

world," Lavrov said. "All of our sobering signals are being ignored or grossly distorted for propaganda purposes," he emphasized. "Quite a few facts illustrating this have been presented. [The West] is irresponsibly and significantly increasing the threat of a direct military clash between nuclear

At the same time, Lavrov remarked, it is obvious that "the attempt to break Russia with the hands of Ukrainian Nazis is an element of the strategic policy of reanimating the unipolar world order."

"The same aim is being pursued in other regions, where any dissent becomes a target for threats and blackmail with the aim to remove obstacles in the way of Washington's hegemonic plans," Lavrov concluded.

Kenya, UN ink deal to roll out digital identity

NAIROBI

KENYA and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) on Monday inked an agreement that will see the UN agency support the rollout of the planned digital identity (Digital ID).

Under the deal which was signed in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, the UNDP will provide technical assistance and work with the government to mobilize funding and other resources to support the development and implementation of Digital ID.

"This is a crucial project and that is why we are leveraging the partnership and technical advice of UNDP to realize a solid fool-proof digital identity," Immigration and Citizen Services principal secretary Julius Bitok said.

The Digital ID will be the virtual digital identity for registered persons to support online authentication (using a scanner to pick out biometric features for instance).

According to Bitok, Kenya hopes to benefit from the UN's vast experience gained from supporting at least 25 countries across the world to develop their own digital ID sys-

He said the partnership will be key to the implementation of the proposed Maisha Namba (life number) which will be the official name for the unique personal identifier (UPI) that will be integral to the Digital ID whose official launch is set for Oct. 2.

Maisha Namba will be a unique personal number assigned to each individual and that will be the personal identity number from birth to death.

Bitok said going digital with personal identity is also intended to make the country compliant with international standards on cross-border travel set by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and other agencies.

UNDP Resident Representative in Kenya Anthony Ngororano described the Digital ID as the missing link between citizens and accessible digital services and said the UNDP was keen to support the government to bridge the gap.

He said the objectives of the ongoing digitalization of government services will only be achieved if there was a reliable and compatible personal identification system in

place. "Onboarding 5,000 services online will not, of themselves, resolve development if important segments of the population are left out. And they will be left out if the Digital ID architecture does not have this at its center," Ngororano

The two officials said the partnership will also factor in the role of stakeholders and interest groups to ensure that the envisaged Digital ID gained from a broad inclusion of ideas and acceptance. In addition, Kenya hopes to launch the Maisha Card which will be the document that will bear the Maisha Namba and will replace the current secondgeneration ID.

The government will also launch the National Master Population Register which will consolidate existing and independent databases into a single integrated register of data on Kenyans and foreigners resident in the country.

Air force helicopter crashes in north-central Nigeria **ABUJA**

A Nigerian Air Force helicopter crashed in the northcentral Nigerian state of Niger on Monday, with sources saying it had come under fire from armed bandits.

The helicopter crashed near Chukuba village in the Shiroro local government area of the state, air force spokesperson Air Commodore Edward Gabkwet said.

An investigation was under way, he said. It was not known how many people were on board.

Niger state lies hundreds of kilometres southeast of Niamey, the capital of the country of Niger where a junta seized power in a coup last month.

Two military sources said bandits fired at the helicopter which had been sent to evacuate victims of an attack on Sunday that killed at least 10 soldiers caught up in an ambush.

Armed gangs are rife across Nigeria's northwest where they rob and kidnap for ransom. Thousands of people have been killed in attacks in recent years.

Islamist group Boko Haram is also active in northern Nigeria alongside the Islamic State of West Africa, a regional affiliate of Islamic State. **Agencies**

Ethiopia ratifies state of emergency in troubled Amhara region

THE Ethiopian House of People's Representatives (HoPR) on Monday ratified a six-month state of emergency rule in the northern Amhara region amid the prolonged conflicts between the military and local militiamen.

In its extraordinary session, the HoPR, the lower house of the Ethiopian parliament, examined and ratified the rule following Ethiopian Council of Ministers' announcement of a state of emergency on Aug 4, pending endorsement by the

While explaining the necessity of the rule to members of the parliament, Chief Government Whip Tesfaye Beljige said that the armed illegal activities in Amhara have become impossible to control through the regular law enforcement sys-

The armed confrontation has greatly threatened the constitutional order of the East African country and disrupted the overall economic and social activities of the residents in the region, he said.

The Council of Ministers said it is necessary to take emergency measures to maintain public peace and security and enforce law and order.

It also disclosed that the move followed the formal request by the Amhara regional government, calling on the federal government to "take appropriate measures" in response to the expanding clashes.

Suspected air strike kills 26

A suspected air strike at the weekend in Ethiopia's Amhara region killed at least 26 people, a hospital official said on Monday, as a state-appointed rights group detailed widespread killings of civilians since fighting broke out this month.

Federal forces managed late last week to push Fano militia-



Members of the Amhara militia ride in the back of a pick up truck in the city of Gondar, Ethiopia, on January 17, 2022. File photo

men out of most major towns in Amhara, but clashes continue in other parts of the region, the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) said in a statement.

The fighting, which has been fuelled by Fano accusations that the federal government is trying to weaken Amhara's defences, is Ethiopia's biggest security crisis since a two-year civil war in the northern Tigray region ended last November.

Ethiopia's government denies the allegations by Fano, an informal militia that backed federal forces during the Tigray war. Spokespeople for the government, the military and Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed did not respond to requests for comment on Monday about the suspected air strike or EHRC's statement.

The suspected strike hit the town centre of Finote Selam on Sunday, said the hospital official, who asked not to be named for security reasons.

The hospital official said four people died at the hospital and another 22 either at the scene or on their way to hospital. Fifty-five more are being treated for injuries sustained in the explosion, the official said. Tikikil Kumlachew, a university teacher

who was visiting a relative in the hospital from an unrelated incident, said he had seen 14 bodies there and been told by a medical worker that another 12 had

"The explosion shook the city. I don't know if it was a drone or something else.

But it fell from the sky," he said. In its statement on Monday, the EHRC said it had received credible reports that strikes and shelling in Finote Selam and other towns had resulted in civilian casualties, without specifying when these events occurred.

EHRC's statement said its investigators had documented a variety of incidents since the conflict started, including the killing of protesters who blocked roads, the looting of weapons and ammunition from police stations and prisons, and the targeting of Amhara regional administration officials.

In Amhara's capital Bahir Dar, civilians were killed on the streets or outside their houses, EHRC said, adding there were credible reports of "many civilian casualties" in Gondar, the region's second biggest city, and extra-judicial killings by

security forces in Shewa Robit. In Addis Ababa, the capital, there have also been widespread arrests of civilians of ethnic Amhara origin, it

Agencies

Zimbabweans remember departed liberation veterans on Heroes Day

HARARE

Atop a hill about six km south of downtown Harare, Zimbabwe's capital, lies a revered shrine where Zimbabwe's departed heroes are laid to rest.

Every second Monday of August, Zimbabweans gather at the shrine that overlooks Harare to pay tribute to liberation war fighters who took up arms and fought colonialism to deliver the country from the shackles of British colonial

The day comes as a reminder to Zimbabweans, particularly young people, that the freedom they enjoy today in an independent Zimbabwe came at a cost, therefore should be cherished.

celebrations, which were held Monday, also witnessed the burial of two national heroes, Johannes Tomana, who was Zimbabwe's Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Milton Siziba, a retired Brigadier General.

Tomana died on Aug. 6 at

the age of 55, while Siziba died on Aug. 1 at the age of 71. As per tradition, thousands of Zimbabweans, some clad in national colors, converged at the summit of the hill to mark the important day at an event that was addressed by Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa and attended by senior government and security officials.

In his national address, Mnangagwa reiterated that the freedom that Zimbabwe enjoys today did not come on a silver platter, but rather was attained through blood-

ines we are honoring today a legacy of resilience and unflinching patriotism to save and protect our moth-This year's Heroes Day erland," Mnangagwa remarked.

war for 16 years until independence and freedom and democracy, we the current generation shall defend our dence, our sovereignty with



"The heroes and heroplayed their part and left us

"After waging a protracted democracy, our indepenour blood."

He said despite sanctions



Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa inspects guard of honour to start the 43rd Heroes Day commemorations at the National Heroes Acre in Harare, Zimbabwe, on Monday. Every second Monday of August, Zimbabweans gather at the National Heroes Acre to pay tribute to liberation war fighters who took up arms and fought colonialism. Xinhua

imposed on the country by Western nations, an independent Zimbabwe continues to record notable achievements, including the attainment of food security.

"Twenty-three years after ruinous sanctions imposed on our country, we will conare transforming our infrastructure as well as industrializing and modernizing our country, in spite of these sanctions imposed by the West," said Mnangagwa.

tinue to defy all odds as we of the liberation struggle, Zimbabweans should maintain peace and harmony as the country heads for the general election on Aug. 23.

Youth who spoke to Xinhua after the commemora-In addition, he said in the tion event said Heroes Day is spirit of preserving the gains a reminder to young people

to cherish national freedom and the tranquil environment that persists today.

"Heroes Day reminds us of the heroes who died for us so that we can attain political freedom by participating in the liberation struggle so that we can enjoy freedom in a free Zimbabwe," said Abigail Muteremuka.

Her sentiments were shared by Isaac Dzenga, another youth attendee. "Heroes Day is an important day for us as a youth when we remember our forefathers who fought for this country -- the dead and living." Brenda Magriva, a young woman who also attended the commemorations, said those who sacrificed their lives so that Zimbabwe could be free should be honored. "We are grateful that lib-

eration war fighters fought for us. We are now living in an independent Zimbabwe due to their sacrifices," she said.Zimbabwe attained its independence in 1980 after a long and arduous war of liberation, which resulted in tens of thousands of people losing their lives.

Trump and 18 others charged in Georgia election inquiry

FORMER US President Donald Trump has been charged with attempting to overturn his 2020 election defeat in the state of Geor-

brought against him in as many months Trump, who is the leading Re-

It is the fourth criminal case

publican candidate for president in 2024, was indicted along with 18 He denies all 13 charges against

him, which include racketeering

and election meddling. He has said they are politically motivated. Georgia prosecutor Fani Willis first launched an investigation in February 2021 into allegations of election meddling against Mr

Trump and his associates. In a 98-page indictment made public late on Monday, prosecutors listed 41 charges against the 19 defendants.

Willis announced she was giving defendants the opportunity to voluntarily surrender no later than noon on Friday 25 August. She said she plans to try all 19 accused together.

The list of alleged co-conspirators includes former Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani, former White House chief of staff Mark Meadows and former White House lawyer Iohn Eastman.

Others include a former justice



department official, Jeffrey Clark, and Sidney Powell and Jenna Ellis two Trump lawyers who amplified unfounded claims of widespread voter fraud.

The indictment says the defendants "knowingly and willfully joined a conspiracy to unlawfully change the outcome of the election in favour of Trump".

The former president is accused of the following felony counts, including:

Violating Georgia's racketeering Solicitation of violation of oath

by public officer Conspiracy to impersonate a public officer Conspiracy to commit forgery in

the first degree

False statements and writings

and filing false documents

The indictment refers to the defendants as a "criminal organisation", accusing them of other crimes including influencing witnesses, computer trespass, theft and periury.

The most serious charge, violating the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (Rico) Act, is punishable by a maximum of 20 years in prison.

The act - designed to help take down organised criminal syndicates like the mafia - helps prosecutors connect the dots between underlings who broke laws and those who gave them orders.

In a statement, the Trump campaign described the district attorney as a "rabid partisan" who had filed "these bogus indictments" to interfere with the 2024 presidential race and "damage the dominant Trump campaign".

"This latest co-ordinated strike by a biased prosecutor in an overwhelmingly Democrat jurisdiction not only betrays the trust of the American people, but also exposes the true motivation driving their fabricated accusations," said the statement.

He is the first former president in US history to face criminal

There was confusion earlier on Monday when a list of a criminal charges against Trump appeared on a Fulton County website before the grand jury had voted to return an indictment.

The filing said Trump had been charged with racketeering, conspiracy to commit fraud and making false statements.

A spokesperson for Willis said the document was "fictitious" but did not explain how it ended up on the court's website.

Trump and his allies seized on the apparent clerical error to claim the process was rigged.

Earlier this month, Trump was charged by federal prosecutors in Washington DC with conspiring to overturn the 2020 election, which he lost to President Joe Biden, a Democrat.

That charge sheet devoted significant time to the Trump team's activities in Georgia. Mr Trump has

pleaded not guilty in that case.

Willis' investigation focuses specifically on Georgia, a key battleground state for the US presidency that Trump narrowly lost.

In January 2021, Trump was

recorded on a phone call asking

Georgia Secretary of State Brad

Raffensperger to "find" 11,780 votes - the number he would have required to beat Mr Biden in that The indictment outlines an al-

leged scheme to tamper with voting machines in one Georgia county and steal data. It also mentions an alleged

scheme to submit false lists of electors, officials who make up the Electoral College that elects the president and vice-president. There are key differences between state charges such as those

in Georgia and federal ones. Significantly, if Mr Trump were to become president again in 2024, he would not have the power to pardon himself from state charges. Trump also faces a New York

state trial on 25 March next year involving a hush money payment to a porn star. And he is due to go on trial in Florida on 20 May on allegations related to his handling of classified documents found at his Mar-a-Lago residence after his presidency.

In both cases Trump also pleaded not guilty.

Agencies

SPORT



Ballers making Dynamos hoops side are pictured engaging in training at Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Youth Park's courts in Dar es Salaam last weekeend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Dar boxers start camp for 2024 Olympics' qualifiers

By Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's boxers enter camp today to prepare for qualifiers for the 2024 Olympics slated for next month in Dakar, Senegal.

Federation Boxing Tanzania (BFT) president Lukelo Wililo said the qualifiers will be held from September 9-15.

He said seven pugilists that are under coach Samuel Kapungu are currently attending non-residential training at JKT Mgulani in Dar es Salaam.

BFT official The mentioned male Yusuf boxers as Changalawe (80kg), Mwalani Salum (57kg), Abdallah Abdallah (51kg),Ilankunda Nkundabanyanka (71kg), and Mussa Malegesi (92kg).

Female boxers making the squad are Grace Mwakamele, fighting in 66kg, and 50kg boxer Zulfa Macho.

Wililo said the seven pugilists are expected to depart for Senegal on September 6.

The official expressed his confidence that many local boxers will qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Wililo said: "Our seven boxers enter camp today to start preparations for the continental boxing championships set to be used as qualification for next year's Paris Olympics."

"I'm confident that many of our boxers will qualify for the 2024 Olympics to be held in France," he said.

Three out of the seven boxers, Changalawe, Grace, and Zulfa, represented the country in the just-ended AFBC African Boxing Championships in Cameroon.

Changalawe lifted a bronze medal in Men's Cruiserweight category, and Grace grabbed a silver medal in the Women's Light

Middleweight category of the continental showpiece. According to International Boxing Association (IBA), this year, there will be seven weight categories instead of eight for the elite

male pugilists in Olympics qualifiers. The weight categories are 51kg, 57kg, 63.5kg, 71kg, 80kg, 92kg, and +92kg, the middle points have simply been removed.

The 2020 Olympics qualifiers had allowed 22 male boxers to qualify in eight categories but the 2024 Olympics qualifiers will only qualify seven male boxers that are winners of their categories.

As for the elite male pugilists, there will be six weight categories instead of the five that were arranged for the 2020 Olympics

The weight categories for female pugilists in the 2024 Olympics qualifiers are 50kg, 54kg, 57kg, 60kg, 66kg, and 75kg. The 54kg category has been added to the list.

The 2020 Olympics qualifiers allowed 11 female boxers to obtain their qualification in five categories, in contrast, the 2024 Olympics qualifiers will qualify 11 female boxers from six categories. Thereafter, two world events will allow African boxers to snatch

SPORTS

NBC Bank sponsorship for NBC Premier League drives economic growth, sporting success



Tanzania Football Federation (TFF)'s president, Wallace Karia (L), and NBC Bank's Managing Director, Theobald Sabi (R), display signed sponsorship contracts for the NBC Premier League spanning five years-starting from the 2023/24 Premier League season. Others witnessing are senior officials from both sides. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

By Guardian Correspondent

THE recently announced extension of NBC Bank's sponsorship contract for Mainland Tanzania's NBC Premier League has set the stage for immense economic benefits and sporting achievements in Tanzania.

The contract, valued at 32.56bn/-, not only secures the future of the Premier League but also paves the way for the development of the U-20 Premier League and Championship League, now rebranded as the 'NBC Championship'.

In an enthralling signing event held in Tanga last weekend, Managing Director of NBC Bank, Theobald Sabi, expressed elation about the extended partnership.

He emphasized the bank's unwavering support and sponsorship of the esteemed NBC Premier League, highlighting its significance.

NBC Bank MD revealed: "As time has passed, the league has evolved into a hub for socio-economic development, creating employment opportunities, promoting financial inclusion, and facilitating economic activities throughout the value chain."

"Our collaboration amplifies the bank's pledge to actualize possibilities for the Tanzanian community, and we eagerly anticipate witnessing the sustained progress of football and the expansion of economic opportunities in our nation," Sabi exclaimed.

One of the remarkable benefits of NBC Bank's sponsorship lies in the job creation it has catalyzed.

The sponsorship has directly generated employment opportunities for over 7,000 individuals and has indirectly created millions more jobs.

These positions span players, coaching

staff, doctors, stadium workers, journalists, leaders, and dedication to promoting team employees, among others.

Moreover, the ripple effect of the NBC Premier League has stimulated job growth in various sectors such as industry, transportation, food, and lodging, thereby establishing the NBC Premier League as a vital contributor to the economy.

The lender has also experienced a prodigious boost in brand growth through its association with the NBC Premier League.

The NBC Bank boss noted: "The league's unparalleled popularity has inclined it to become a subject of fervent daily discussions in media, workplaces, schools, and even places of worship."

"Consequently, NBC Bank's brand has become intertwined with the lives of countless Tanzanians, thereby propelling the bank towards the attainment of its business goals," the MD acknowledged.

Furthermore, sponsorship has played a pivotal role in financial empowerment and inclusion.

According to Sabi, NBC Bank's association with the NBC Premier League has facilitated the reach of the institution's financial services to a wider audience, integrating it into the formal financial system.

This progressive step has promoted financial inclusion and empowered individuals across the nation. The NBC Premier League's contribution to national income and tourism demands recognition. The league has been a substantial contributor through taxes and various fees.

Additionally, the growing acclaim of the NBC Premier League has attracted top-tier players from neighbouring countries and regions, elevating the international recognition and reputation of Tanzanian football.

Simultaneously, it has enticed tourists, invigorating the tourism industry of the country.

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president, Wallace Karia also conveyed gratitude towards NBC Bank for the institution's steadfast commitment to Tanzanian football.

Karia believes that with NBC Bank's sponsorship, Tanzanian football is poised to reach unprecedented

The TFF leader noted: "The extended partnership with NBC Bank is a testament to our shared vision and

excellence in football."

He said: "Through our unwavering we will continue to nurture the growth of the NBC Premier League, elevating it to new levels of competitiveness and entertainment."

"NBC Bank's sponsorship is a gamechanger, enabling us to unleash the full potential of Tanzanian football and inspire generations to come," he stated.

NBC Bank's continued sponsorship of the NBC Premier League has resulted in significant economic impact and outstanding achievements for both the bank and Tanzania.

sponsorship The not only creates job opportunities but also cultivates brand growth, financial empowerment, national income, and tourism.

With the extended partnership until the 2027 season, it is anticipated that these economic benefits will reverberate further, positioning the NBC Premier League as an indispensable pillar of the Tanzanian economy.

ZFF lines up strategies for excelling in 2023/24 CAF inter-club tourneys

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

ZANZIBAR Football Federation (ZFF) is set to meet leaders of the Isles' Premier League outfits, KMKM FC and JKU SC, to look into the clubs' strategies for the 2023/24 CAF Champions League and 2023/24 CAF Confederation Cup preliminary stages.

Suleiman Jabir, ZFF president, stated that the plans between his federation and the teams' leaders are aimed at ensuring that they represent the Isles well in the continental tournaments.

Jabir added that KMKM FC, this season's Zanzibar Premier League champion, will represent the Isles in the 2023/24 CAF Champions League whereas JKU SC will battle it out in the 2023/24 CAF Confederation

"Immediately after coming to power in the recent election, we have planned to talk to the leaders of KMKM and JKU, our goal this season is to support the teams so that they at least play in the Group Stage, not the other way around," the ZFF president pointed out.

He also said the 2023/24 Zanzibar Premier League is scheduled to start on September 9, adding each of the participating teams will be allowed to register nine foreign players.

Jabir said that the move is aimed at strengthening the Isles' soccer clubs so that they can successfully compete internationally.

The ZFF leader noted: "I believe this is just the beginning, we have started by allowing each of the Premier League clubs to register nine foreign players."

"ZFF will continue to make changes and introduce various regulations, we need to make more improvements so that it (the league) can be highly competitive," the official said.

JKU SC will represent Zanzibar in the 2023/24 CAF Confederation Cup, whereas KMKM FC is scheduled to start in the 2023/24 CAF Champions League preliminary round.

KMKM FC is, on August 18, slated to come up against Saint George SC of Ethiopia in the first leg of the First Preliminary round at the former's home venue, Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

JKU SC will lock horns with Mainland Tanzania's Singida Fountain Gate FC in the 2023/24 CAF Confederation Cup's First Preliminary round's first leg at the latter's home ground the same day.

Jabir added that the Isles' squads will play their home fixtures at Azam Complex Stadium because Zanzibar's Amaan Stadium is under major renovation.

He admitted that the Zanzibar teams have not been doing well in CAF inter-club competitions but he promised that they want to, this season, achieve success and that is why they have started preparations early on.

Youths urged to battle it out in marathons

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

TANZANIA's youths with a passion for running have been urged to engage in marathons to fulfill their dreams while enhancing personal growth and fostering their economic prospects.

Athletics Tanzania (AT) vice-president William Kalaghe issued the appeal when he graced the official launch of the 2023 Maendeleo Bank Marathon in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Maendeleo Bank Marathon, themed 'Hatua ya Faraja', is out to raise 200m/- to assist children with special needs.

The AT leader said that running marathons not only helps youths to stay fit and healthy but also helps them become independent and achieve financial freedom.

Kalaghe noted that apart from giving them financial independence, participation in marathons can offer them a chance for personal growth and empowerment because the physical and mental challenges of training and completing a marathon can help youths develop resilience, discipline, and determination.

The AT official noted skillful youths and those desiring to run a marathon should use such organized charity marathons to test their strength by choosing to run distances they are comfortable with so that when presented with real running challenges they can conquer such challenges.

He further noted that preparing for and participating in marathons encourages an active lifestyle with numerous

health, boost mood and reduce stress by advocating healthy living marathon runners set an example for others, inspiring them to prioritize their well-being and make positive choices.

Kalaghe pointed out regular exercises improve cardiovascular

Maendeleo Bank Director, Ibrahim Mwangalaba, appealed

to Tanzanians to continue registering for Maendeleo Bank Marathon, slated for September 2 in Dar es Salaam, saying each of the runners is required to pay 35, 000/- in fees.

Mwangalaba revealed the race's organizers are out to achieve the target of obtaining funds amounting to 200m/-, of which 100m/- will be directed to the KCMC Hospital and 100m/- will be sent to the childcare center for needy children located at Mtoni.

He further noted that marathons, apart from being a good sport, serve as a good charitable cause which is giving a helping hand to needy people. Maendeleo Bank Director pointed out: "This is the charity

marathon and we all know that it activates the power of collective action because when a large group of people come together for a common cause their effort can make a significant impact."

"The funds raised can help in reducing different issues that people in need are faced with," Mwangalaba noted.



The AT official noted skillful youths and those desiring to run a marathon should use such organized charity marathons to test their strength by choosing to run distances they are comfortable with so that when presented with real running challenges they can conquer such challenges

Guardian

'Steely winner' Wiegman England's biggest weapon in World Cup semi-final

SYDNEY

ENGLAND had never won a maor women's football trophy before Sarina Wiegman became coach. Now they are closing on a second in the space of a year.

Wiegman's European champions face co-hosts Australia in the Women's World Cup semifinals today, with the prize a place in Sunday's final against Sweden or Spain.

England's squad is packed with quality but arguably their biggest weapon in Sydney will be the 53-year-old native of the Netherlands standing on the sidelines.

When Wiegman was named to succeed Phil Neville as coach almost exactly three years ago, England's football association described her as "steely and a win-

It turned out to be the perfect description. She masterminded England to European glory last summer on home soil and they are now on the brink of a first World Cup final.

Wiegman smiles easily at press conferences, but gives very little away either about the team or herself.

It is clear, though, that she has the total faith of her squad, who describe her as calm but direct.

Midfielder Georgia Stanway described how Wiegman had fostered a family environment at the World Cup that allows England's squad to thrive while also relaxing when they need to.

That includes allowing the players to have their families with them, rather than isolating the squad.

But even for her players, there is something about Wiegman that is almost otherworldly.

"We've all got families out here even Sarina," said Stanway.

Asked by a reporter to clarify what she meant by "even Sarina", Stanway looked a little sheepishly at her coach sitting next to her and

"Sometimes, er, sometimes you don't realise that your head coach is actually human," she said.

- Worth the wait -

The strength of the Women's Super League and the game's growth has a deep pool of players from which to choose.

Even prior to leading England to European glory last summer, there was a feeling that Wiegman could be the difference between this Lionesses side and those that went

The former PE teacher led the Netherlands to the European title in 2017, then did the same with England. She also guided the Netherlands to the final of the 2019 World Cup, where they lost 2-0 to the United States.

England had to wait more than a year between Wiegman agreeing to the job in August 2020 and taking charge in September 2021, because of her commitments with the Dutch at the pandemic-delayed Tokyo Olympics.

But she proved worth the wait and England have lost only once under Wiegman.

That sole defeat suddenly becomes more relevant -- it was to Australia, a 2-0 loss in London in April that ended the Lionesses' 30game unbeaten run.

- Cutting her hair short -

Because of her success, Wiegman has long been seen as the standard-bearer for women coaches.

She noted with a hint of disappointment how, following results in the last 16, she was the only woman coach left at the World

England have certainly not been perfect in getting to this stage -they were the inferior team before squeezing past Nigeria on penal-

ties in the last 16. But they have reached the last four without two of their best players -- skipper Leah Williamson and star striker Beth Mead, both missing the tournament with serious

knee injuries. Much of the credit must go to Wiegman, who as a child cut her

hair short so that she could play football with her twin brother.

The former defender went on to become the first Dutch player to be capped 100 times.

Asked on the eve of the quarterfinal against Colombia -- which England went on to win 2-1 -- to describe her football journey, Wiegman was typically recalcitrant.

"I'm not really busy with my journey at the moment," she told the Colombian reporter, looking a little unimpressed at the line of questioning. "I'm really busy with the game tomorrow and my team."

Meanwhile, Captain Millie Bright says England thrive in big games and will not be intimidated by the Sydney crowd when they face Australia in their Women's World Cup semi-final on Wednes-

England have been in this position before, in 2015 and 2019, losing 2-1 on both occasions, with a third-place finish their best World Cup so far.

But coach Sarina Wiegman led them to the European title last year on home soil and Bright said they were well prepared to handle another blockbuster game in front of an expected 75,000 partisan fans at Stadium Australia.

"We are just super-excited to play in front of a really intense full stadium. That's what we want, that's what we expect now," the 29-year-old defender said on Tues-

"At these big tournaments, especially a semi-final, we thrive in these moments. We know as an England team there's always pressure and it's something we embrace and deal with.

"I think we've experienced moments like this, a tense environment, big stadiums, big crowds, and we do thrive in those moments, it gives us energy," she added.

"But ultimately it's about sticking to the task and executing the game plans very well."

England are six places above Australia at four in the FIFA rankings and this will be the home side's first World Cup semi-final.

But contrary to what her opposite number Tony Gustavsson said, Wiegman does not believe in England means that Wiegman her team are favourites, especially with the home support roaring the Matildas on.

"I don't think they are underdogs," she said. "They are playing at home, the stadium will be really

"We are two teams who I think have grown into the tournament so I think it's going to be very tight and very, very competitive.

"We approach the game as any other game and we expect a very strong Australia."

England will again be without the banned Lauren James, who was replaced by Ella Toone in their 2-1 win over Colombia in the quarter-finals.

If Wiegman starts with the same 3-5-2 formation she has been favouring, she is likely to select an unchanged team for a clash pitting a possession-based England against a side that likes to counter-

Australia may be into their first semi-final but they beat England 2-0 when they last met, ending the Lionesses' 30-match unbeaten streak in a friendly in April in Lon-

They are likely to have fit-again star striker Sam Kerr available to start after playing 65 minutes against France in their penalty shootout win to reach the semi-

Bright and Kerr are Chelsea teammates and she knows better than anyone the danger the prolific forward poses.

"I mean, everyone knows her pretty well on a worldwide stage, it's pretty hard not to know Sam

and her abilities," Bright said. "But there's other players in the team and we're prepared to play against Australia the team. We know everyone's individual traits,

strengths and weaknesses. "But we are fully focused on our-

selves."

Carmona's late stunner takes Spain into maiden Women's World Cup final

Wednesday 16 August 2023

AUCKLAND

OLGA Carmona's stunning late strike gave Spain a 2-1 win over Sweden yesterday to propel them into the Women's World Cup final for the first time in their history.

SPORTS

Spain's thrilling victory at Eden Park sets up a showdown in Sydney on Sunday with either Australia or England, who meet in the other semi-final on Wednesday.

The semi-final in Auckland seemed to be drifting towards extra time before suddenly bursting to life when substitute Salma Paralluelo put Spain ahead with nine minutes left.

Rebecka Blomqvist equalised for Sweden in the 88th minute only for full-back Carmona, Spain's captain, to score with a superb shot in off the underside of the crossbar from the edge of the box.

It has been a remarkable run for a nation who had never previously gone beyond the last 16 at a Women's World Cup, and for a team who had been in disarray in the months leading up to the tournament.

Fifteen Spanish players told their federation last September that they no longer wished to be considered for selection, principally out of unhappiness with coach Jorge Vilda, and only three of them returned for this World Cup run.

While their dream of World Cup glory remains alive, Sweden are left with a familiar feeling after going so far at another major tournament before falling short.

This is the third time in four World Cups in which they have reached the semi-finals, only to lose on each occasion.

Peter Gerhardsson's side also lost in the last four at the European Championship last year, having been beaten in the final of the Tokyo Olympics on penalties against Canada in 2021.

- Super-sub Paralluelo -

Vilda decided against handing a start to Paralluelo, after she came off the bench to score the winner in the quarter-final against the Nether-

Instead he recalled Alexia Putellas and the reigning Ballon d'Or winner started for the first time since Spain were walloped 4-0 by Japan in the group phase.

The plan was clearly to dominate possession and make a more physically imposing Sweden do the chas-

Spain had far more of the ball in the first half yet neither Putellas nor Aitana Bonmati were allowed the time and space to really influence



The closest they came to breaking the deadlock was from long range, when Jennifer Hermoso laid the ball back to Carmona, whose shot whistled wide.

Sweden had taken the game to Japan in an impressive 2-1 win in the quarter-finals but they offered next to nothing here until suddenly they almost struck three minutes before half-time.

Nathalie Bjorn sent a hanging cross from the right to the back post for Fridolina Rolfo -- facing seven of her Barcelona club colleagues in the Spain starting line-up -- but her side-foot volley was saved by Cata

Vilda's plan was clearly to save the pacy Paralluelo for when the Swedish defence was beginning to tire, and it was just before the hour mark that he turned to the former athlete.

Paralluelo took the place of Putellas, who has still not completed 90 minutes at this World Cup as she continues to recover full fitness following a serious knee injury.

The substitute's persistence almost brought the opener for Spain with 20 minutes left as she stretched to keep the ball in play following a cross by Hermoso, but Alba Redondo turned her cutback wide.

Paralluelo then struck with nine minutes of normal time remaining, showing a killer instinct to lash a shot low into the corner.

But Sweden did not give up, drawing level in the 88th minute thanks

to two substitutes of their own.

for Blomqvist to fire home, raising the spectre of extra time once again. But Carmona, the Real Ma-

on when she nodded down a cross

she clinched victory for Spain in Meanwhile, teenager Salma Paralluelo gave another reminder of her precious talent by coming off the

drid left-back, had other ideas as

running to play a pivotal role for Spain at the Women's World Cup. Olga Carmona scored a cracker in the 89th minute in Auckland to give Spain a 2-1 victory over Sweden and send them into their first World

bench Tuesday for the second game

Cup final. But it was the 19-year-old Barcelona attacker Paralluelo who lit the fuse for a gripping finale, turning the ball into the Sweden net with a smart finish in the box on 81 min-

Sweden equalised through a Rebecka Blomqvist strike seven minutes later, only for defender Carmona to seal the semi-final in Spain's favour with a rocket.

Paralluelo also came off the bench to score against the Netherlands in the quarter-finals, her classy goal in extra time proving decisive on that occasion.

A starter in every round before that, she also played a big part in the 5-1 demolition of Switzerland in the last 16 with her deliveries from the left wing, two of which led to goals for Aitana Bonmati.

Spain are defined by technique and a mesmerising passing game, Lina Hurtig had only just come but the player who gives them that

European champions England

precious something different with her pace, direct running and power on the flank is Paralluelo.

"She is a player with enormous potential and she is a long way from touching the ceiling in terms of what she can do," coach Jorge Vilda has

"She is very young and has only been focusing fully on training for football for a year. We will see the best of Salma in the future.

"She is already shining now, but I am sure that in the future she will do so even more."

- Athletics star -

Born in the northeastern city of Zaragoza to a Spanish father and a mother from Equatorial Guinea, Paralluelo grew up combining football with athletics.

"I started doing both when I was seven. At first it was just a game for me but little by little as I grew up I started to realise I could go further," she said of her early footballing days in an interview with FIFA.com last

Paralluelo won medals in several different track disciplines, taking part in hurdles and triple jump.

She also competed in the 400 metres at the 2019 European Indoor Championships in Glasgow, when

Paralluelo's budding football career took her to Villarreal, where she suffered a ruptured ACL in her left knee in April 2021 that kept her out for nine months. In July last year she joined Bar-

celona, the emerging superpower of European women's club football, just after another injury ruled her out of the Spain squad for the European Championship in England.

That move meant giving up athletics once and for all.

"It was difficult to give up one sport, but it was a step I had to take and I couldn't be in a better place," she said at the time.

Having helped Barca win the Champions League, Paralluelo is now closing on a third world title with Spain.

She was part of the team that won the Under-17 World Cup in 2018 and scored twice in the final as Spain beat Japan 3-1 to win last year's Under-20 World Cup.

"She is unique. It is difficult to find players like her, whose background is in athletics and who has so much quality on her left foot and a really good shot," said Bonmati.

"When we have played together we combine well and we try to play her in either in space or to her feet. You can do both with her."

Australia to use home support as 'fuel and energy' against England

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA coach Tony Gustavsson says self-belief and massive fan support could make the difference when they meet England for a place in the Women's World Cup final today.

The co-hosts have already created history with their maiden run to the last four, and are determined to keep breaking barriers and go even further.

Gustavsson said Serena Wiegman's world number four England would be favourites at Sydney's Stadium Australia, but the Matildas had something the Lionesses did not.

"If you look at rankings they're favourites, if you look at where their players play in top clubs in top leagues all over the world," he said on Tuesday.

"If you look at all that and the resources financially, obviously they are a massive favourite going into the game.

"But if you add the belief we have, and the one thing we have that they don't -- and that is the support from the fans, that itself is going to be massive tomorrow." The Matildas' exploits have trig-

gered a groundswell of support at home. Their heart-stopping penalty shootout win over France in

the quarter-finals was the most-

viewed television sporting event best at a World Cup, victory for in Australia since Cathy Freeman ran her iconic 400m race at the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

It has sparked so much interest that Prime Minister Anthony Albanese is considering declaring a public holiday should they win the tournament.

"We don't look at it as pressure," Gustavsson said of handling the growing expectations.

"We look at it as a privilege that so many people believe in this team and we feel the support. "We look at it more as fuel and

energy than pressure." Adding to the excitement is the long-standing sporting rivalry be-

tween the countries. Kerr decision -While the 10th-ranked Matil-

das have already achieved their

would also be a landmark, surpassing their third place finish in Australia go into the game after defeating their rivals 2-0 away in

an April friendly, ending the Lionesses' 30-match unbeaten run. They also have striker and skipper Sam Kerr back in the frame for a starting berth after a calf

Gustavsson faces a tough decision on whether to play Kerr from kick-off and potentially have to withdraw her in the latter stages, or use her again as a super-sub to weave her magic.

When the Chelsea star came off the bench against France, she had an immediate impact.

"She pushed through more

minutes than we hoped for," Gustaysson said of Kerr.

"The way she pushed through

was fantastic and impressive, both the mental and physical as-"She recovered well and trained today, so she's available. We will

be meeting tonight to see again the best starting 11 and the best finishing 11. There will be some tough decisions.' Having Kerr back in his arsenal is a boost, given she plays

regularly against many in the England team and has a good record against goalkeeper Mary Earps. Kerr put one past her in that 2-0 friendly win, and did so again a

fortnight later when Chelsea beat

Cup final.

Manchester United 1-0 in the FA **AFP**



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SPORT

Carmona's late stunner takes Spain into maiden Women's World Cup final

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Bulls football team's attacker, Prosper Joseph (2nd L), dribbles past Sportslink Academy's defenders in an U-11 friendly game that took place at Mikocheni ground in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Arusha to host darts team's preparations for 2023 Uganda Open Championships

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THIS season's Tanzania Darts Championship, slated to take place in Arusha from August 25-27, will set the stage for the selection of the country's team to participate in the Uganda Open Darts Championships coming up next September in Kampala.

The Tanzania Darts Championship to be staged at the halls located at the Magereza grounds, Kisongo, is being organized under the Tanzania Darts Association (TADA) and is therefore going to be known as the 2023 TADA Cup.

Joseph Innocent, TADA Secretary-General, explained that the TADA Cup features individual teams from across the country that will be competing to come up with the overall national cham-

Innocent noted: "This TADA Cup is in preparation for the forthcoming Uganda Open darts competition coming up in September... the only challenge facing the event is lack of sponsorship."

"This is because darts events are yet to gain roots in the country," he stated.

Arusha Regional Darts Association (ARDA)'s secretary Yohana Guliku noted for many years the national darts leagues were being staged in Dodoma. Guliku revealed: "This year, Arusha sent a proposal to host the event and has been granted the

The ARDA official said the region has been at the forefront of promoting darts in the country.

According to the ARDA secretary, a total of 10 clubs from Arusha alone will be participating in the 2023 TADA Cup.

It is also expected that the rest of Mainland Tanzania regions will be sending their teams to Arusha for the anticipated 2023 TADA Cup, set to be one of the biggest sporting events in the region

this year. So far, several darts clubs from Tanga, Mara, Mbeya, Mwanza, Dodoma, Manyara, Morogoro, Kilimanjaro, and Dar es Salaam have confirmed their participation.

The 2023 TADA Cup will feature singles, doubles, and team games, with winners set to get monetary prizes and trophies for both men's and women's teams.

Oliveira thrilled with winning first trophy at Simba SC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC Brazilian tactician Roberto Oliveira 'Robertinho' is elated after clinching his first silverware with the Tanzanian football giant.

After playing to a barren draw in regular time, Simba SC beat arch-rivals Yanga 3-1 on post-match penalties of 2023/24 Community Shield final to clinch the showdown's title in Tanga on Sunday

Yanga's Khalid Aucho- also a former Gor Mahia midfielder- saw his penalty saved by Simba SC's custodian Ally Salim alongside the spot kicks by the midfielder's teammates Pacome Zouzoua and Yao Attohoula.

Oliveira won titles in both Rwanda and Uganda during his stints with teams in the two countries but was yet to lay his hands on something in Tan-

Following the victory, the coach believes that the title will help Simba SC visualize the upcoming season as the squad seeks to dethrone Yanga.

The Brazilian gaffer pointed out: "I'm happy to win my first title here, it's a big thing that gives us a vision for the new competition season. I have won three titles while in Rwanda and three while in Uganda, but here in Tanzania, this is my first."

Oliveira pointed out: "I congratulate the players, the technical bench, and the leaders for achieving this. I congratulate our fans, they love their team very much."

"They always show up in large numbers on the field whenever the team is there, this increases the enthusiasm of the players," Oliveira disclosed.

His focus as well as that of the club will be on the league title the outfit last won in 2021 before

Yanga took over in the last two seasons. Simba SC will play the side's first NBC Premier League clash for 2023/24 tomorrow against Mtibwa Sugar at Manungu Stadium in Morogoro as the 2023/24 CAF Champions League draws to a close.

JKU SC ready to face Singida Fountain Gate FC in CAF CC First Preliminary round



Zanzibar's Jeshi la Kujenga Uchumi (JKU) Sports Club will represent the Isles in the 2023/24 CAF Confederation Cup.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ZANZIBAR's representative in the 2023/24 TotalEnergies CAF Confederation Cup, JKU SC, says it is ready for the squad's First Preliminary round match against Mainland Tanzania's Singida Fountain Gate FC slated for Saturday at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Khatib Shadhil Khatib, JKU SC Secretary-General, described the game as very difficult but said his outfit's charges are ready for the encounter and are looking forward to grabbing victory.

He said the team is currently training at JKT Mbweni venue in Dar es Salaam under head coach Salum Ali Haji.

Khatib noted: "It would not be an easy game but my team is training very well, morale in the camp is high and the players are looking forward to the match."

"The good thing is that up to today (Tuesday) we don't have any injury in the camp, it will be a tough game at reaching the Second Preliminary round but the team is ready," he said.

On paper, Singida Fountain Gate FC is favourite but Khatib said JKU SC, having played five times in CAF inter-club showdowns games, has a lot of experience the squad will bank on.

"We know how to handle CAF games, we have played five times in CAF inter-club tournaments' games, and we have experience which is vital," he said.

The Zanzibar club, in the past, played in CAF Champions League preliminary rounds and CAF Confederation Cup first round.

Ahead of the Saturday encounter, IKU SC played some friendly matches including a clash against NBC Premier League defending champions, Young Africans SC, alias Yanga.

The friendly duel, held at Avic Town ground in Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam, witnessed JKU SC settling for a 0-0 draw with

Singida Fountain Gate FC information Officer, Hussein Masanza, said his team is looking forward to the Saturday game against JKU SC, stressing the former aims of the 2023/24 CAF Confederation Cup.

He said after the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Community Shield tournament which took place in Tanga and ended with Singida Fountain Gates ending fourth, the team remained in Dar es Salaam to undergo intensive training.

"The Community Shield tournament which was held in Tanga was an eye opener to our team, the technical panel headed by our head coach Hans van Pluijm is rectifying the mistakes made by the team and I am hopeful our team will proceed to the Second Preliminary round," he said.

We know how to handle CAF games, we have played five times in CAF inter-club tournaments' games, and we have experience which is vital

AT: Three local athletics events certified by WA

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) has said so far three private domestic running events are certified by the World Athletics (WA) and athletes are ranked.

Jackson Ndaweka, AT Acting Secretary-General, disclosed in an interview that out of all private races happening in Tanzania, Kilimanjaro Premium Lager International Marathon, NBC Dodoma Marathon, and CRDB International Marathon are so far the races that have been certified by WA.

Many private races are held for charity purposes, and attract top local and foreign runners while others serve as recreation and opportunity for socializing.

The three private annual marathons certified by WA are held in February, July, and August respectively. Ndaweka said for a running event to be certified by WA it ought to meet some of the conditions including dope testing, standard measurements of routes, and electronic timekeeping.

He pointed out that one of the benefits of race being certified by WA is that athletes earn ranking issued by the World Athletics.

According to WA, in some of the requirements for an athlete to earn WA ranking, the performance must be conducted according to athletic rules, and performance must be achieved on a course that holds a valid international course measurement certificate of no more than five years before the date of the race.

The WA further said athletes' performances can be considered in all competitions from grassroots to elite international level.

However, the results must be by the WA rules and regulations in force and either WA or one of its area associations/member federations must have officially ratified the results. The AT leader noted earning a WA ranking enables an athlete to compete in the world's top prestigious marathons.

The official stated: "Yes, we have many athletics events in our country, most of them are held for charity and fundraising purposes but so far there are three events that are certified by World Athletics."

"Organizers of those running races approached us to help them get certified by WA and they are on the list of WA events," he said.

However, Ndaweka disclosed that many running events in the country meet the AT conditions of registration but the majority have not met WA conditions.

Many marathon organizers across the world are members of the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races

The AIMS was formed in 1982its members are the organizers of over 470 international long-distance races hosted in more than 120 countries.

Some of the association's objectives include sharing and exchanging information and knowledge as well as expanding marathon and road races around the world.

AIMS also established course measurement standards, provided world record certification, and, in cooperation with WA, certified records for marathons/long-distance

Flexibles by David Chikoko

