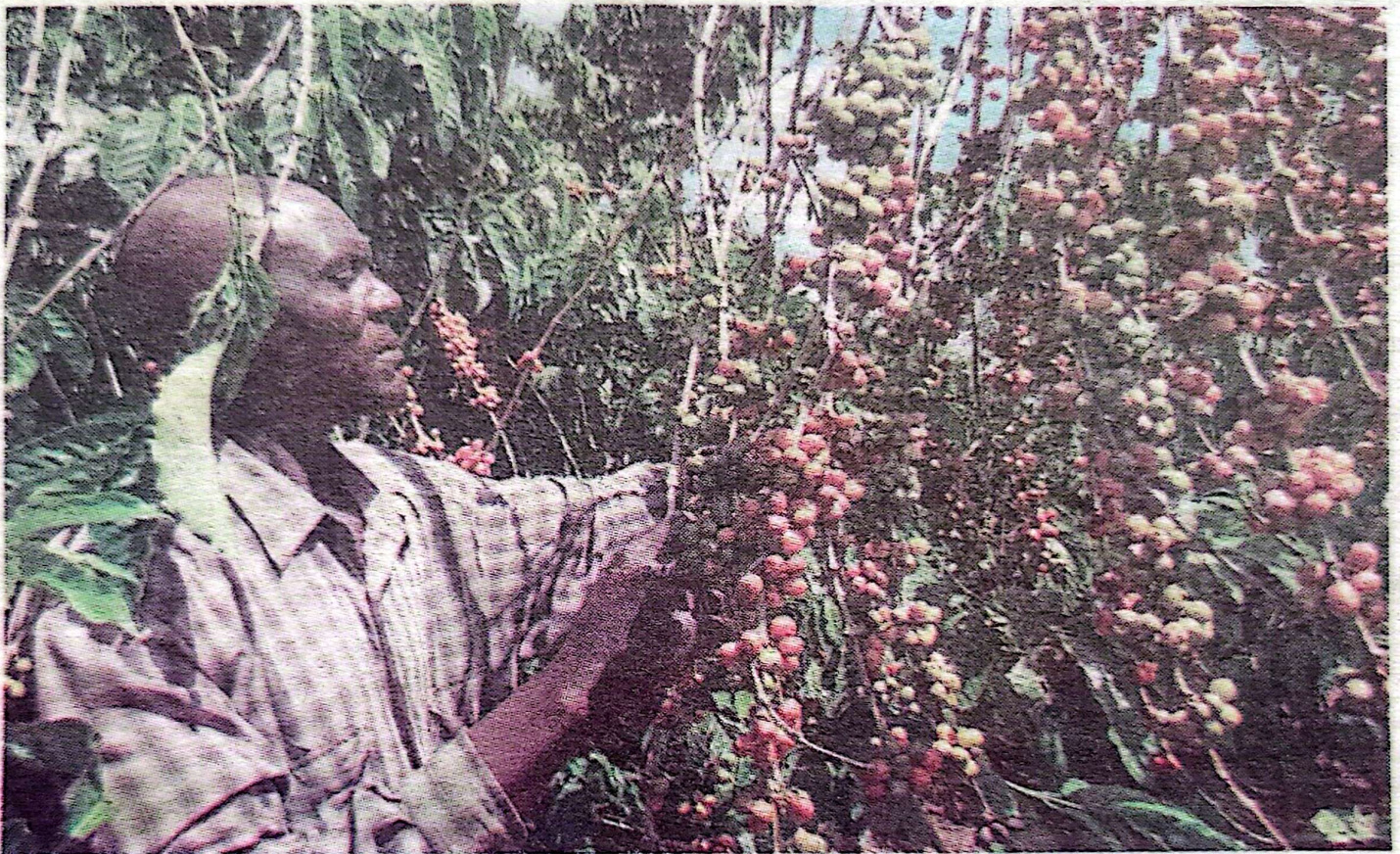


# East Africa coffee market expands

**G**rowth and optimism are two terms that capture, first, the performance of East Africa's coffee sub-sector and, second, its future. Starting with Uganda, which led in performance, recording a 36 per cent growth in production, more than double that of Rwanda and Ethiopia at 17.6 and 16.3 per cent, respectively, the region did well for itself. According to a report released last month by Kenya's Coffee Sector Implementation Reforms Committee (CSIC), Kenya brought the rear at

3.2 per cent growth in the absence of data from conflict-plagued Burundi. It is this positive outlook, especially in the global markets, that has the region's coffee producers considering increased production and expansion to new markets. Uganda, for example, is targeting new markets to grow its exports to 15 per cent -- a fivefold increase of the country's share on the global market.

— East African



**A farmer harvesting ripe coffee beans, PHOTO BY MICHAEL SSALI**