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Members of Parliament congratulate their Ruungwa constituency colleague, Kassim Majaliwa, inside the National Assembly in Dodoma yesterday moments after Speaker Job Ndogai announced that President John Magufuli had recommended his re-appointment - which the House went on to endorse unanimously. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Majaliwa joins Sumaye - after he is named as premier again

By Guardian Reporter

KASSIM Majaliwa has joined a short list of individuals appointed to serve as Prime Minister for two consecutive terms, the only other being Frederick Sumaye.

The Ruungwa lawmaker was yesterday confirmed by the National Assembly as Prime Minister for the next five years after being nominated by President John Magufuli.

If he completes the term, he will have fully matched Sumaye who served under the late Benjamin Mkapa for 10 sold years—from 1995 to 2005.

His predecessor Mizengo Pinda was picked at mid first term of President Jakaya Kikwete after

the dramatic resignation of Edward Lowassa, proceeding to serve for seven years.

Cleopa Msuya served as PM twice: first for two years under the late Julius Nyerere from November 1980 to February 1983 and then for a year, from December 1994 to November 1995 during the transition to multiparty system, under second phase President Ali Hassan Mwinyi.

Also serving twice was the late Edward Sokoine, first from early 1977 to polls 1980 and from early 1983 to early 1984 when he died in a road accident in Morogoro Region, travelling from Dodoma to Dar es Salaam.

The doyen of prime ministers however is the late Rashidi Kawawa, first serving from January

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Biden picks White House insider as next chief of staff

WASHINGTON DC

US President-elect Joe Biden yesterday picked veteran political operative Ron Klain to be White House chief of staff.

Klain has served as a top aide to Biden since the 1980s in the Senate and later when he was vice-president.

The ultimate Washington insider, Klain was also a senior White House aide to Barack Obama and chief of staff to Vice-President Al Gore.

He was played by actor Kevin Spacey in the movie Recount, about the presidential election of 2000.

The White House chief of staff - who manages the president's daily schedule and is often described as his gatekeeper - is a political appointee who does not require confirmation by the Senate.

Biden paid tribute to Klain in a statement issued by his transition team on Wednesday.

"His deep, varied experience and capacity to work with people all across the political spectrum," said Biden, "is precisely what I need in a White House chief of staff as we confront this moment of crisis and bring our country together again."

In the same statement, Klain said he was "humbled" by the president-elect's confidence in him.

"I look forward to helping him and the vice president-elect assemble a talented and diverse team to work in the White House, as

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Upbeat MPs give work plans after swearing-in

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

A SECTION of newly elected members of Parliament yesterday expressed optimism that they will serve to the satisfaction of their voters, highlighting development priorities for the next five years.

Speaking in separate interviews in Parliament grounds soon after the swearing in ceremony, the lawmakers vowed to spend much of their time to solve constituency challenges and bring positive changes countrywide.

Aida Khenani, (Nkasi North-Chadema) told The Guardian that despite the atmosphere being lonely for the opposition, she is going to collect energies, increase cooperation with other MPs to push Tanzania forward.

"My people in Nkasi North have been grappling with accessing safe and clean water for years, which has also affected development. So, during my tenure I will work hard to address this challenge," she said.

She also pledged to fight hard to ensure that



He said his office is going to ensure that it comes up with innovative solutions to address chronic floods in the constituency

farmers access farm inputs on time and at a fair price.

Dr Charles Kimei (Vunjo) expressed his vision to address unemployment among young people.

"I will also work hard to facilitate improvement of infrastructure in the constituency," he said, noting that it was dominated by the opposition for the past 20 years but nothing significant was done.

Kinondoni MP Abbas Tarimba said that he has already conducted an intensive study on various problems facing the area.

"We will develop short and long term plans to ensure that all challenges are resolved, we are well prepared to make Kinondoni the best residential area while capacitating our people to grab various economic opportunities to improve their lives," he said.

"The public, our voters out there are the ones who we are prioritizing. Whenever I plan, I mostly focus on how I am going to fulfill all the promises I made during the election campaign," said Josephat Gwajima, the newly elected MP for Kawe.

He said his office is going to ensure that it comes up with innovative solutions to address chronic floods in the constituency.

"I will not stay aside while my people

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USAID: Conservation model extensively curbed poaching

By Guardian Reporter

A CONSERVATION project that has been ongoing for the past five years that employed strategies such as involvement of MPs, magistrates, the private sector and the media managed to reduce poaching by 80 per cent.

A statement released yesterday by the United States Embassy in Dar es Salaam said that the project supported various targeted initiatives, such as interregional exchange programmes and trainings to fight poaching.

The project is a brainchild of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), named 'Promoting Tanzania's



Environment, Conservation, and Tourism' (PROTECT), implemented at a cost of \$19.1 million (over 40bn/-)

"As a result, Tanzania was better prepared to fight wildlife crime on all levels through stronger wildlife crime policies, a better understanding of how to identify wildlife trafficking and try wildlife crimes," it reads, as part of a virtual seminar held yesterday to celebrate five-years of safeguarding Tanzania's biodiversity and tourism-driven economy.

The digital event, "Celebrating USAID PROTECT: Five Years of Conserving Tanzanian Wildlife," highlighted successes of the project, citing the reduction of poaching in the country by 80 percent, on the basis of affirmations by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

"Many of USAID PROTECT's interventions

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High Court deputy registrar Devotha Kamuzora makes remarks in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a workshop on "Wills and Inheritance" organised by the Tanzania Gender Networking Programme. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

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will leave a lasting foundation for Tanzania's conservation. The project has engaged national level membership bodies and locally based companies to leverage their influence and assets for conservation efforts. This has resulted in the preservation of more than 300,000 hectares of biologically significant areas and a considerable reduction in poaching and unregulated fishing," said USAID Acting Mission Director, V. Kate Somvongsiri, who opened the webinar.

The USAID PROTECT project was conceived in the middle of a poaching crisis in Tanzania with a loss of 60 percent of the country's elephant population between 2009 and 2014, the director noted.

USAID: Conservation model extensively curbed poaching

To effectively address this problem, USAID PROTECT partnered with Tanzania to improve a policy framework on wildlife corridors through the development of Wildlife Conservation Regulations (Wildlife Corridors, Dispersal Areas, Buffer Zones and Migratory Routes), as well as the Wildlife Corridors Assessment Prioritization and Action Plan.

This was intended to ensure that wildlife movement corridors, dispersal areas and buffer zones are secured to allow wildlife to freely move between protected areas, the statement noted.

As part of preparing future

managers of natural resources, the USAID PROTECT supported three wildlife training institutions namely the College of African Wildlife Management - Mweka, Pasiansi Wildlife Training Institute and the Likuyu Sekamaganga Community-Based Conservation Training Centre.

The colleges developed key institutional outlays like strategic plans, business plans and fundraising strategies, which are key to ensuring an effective learning environment that can produce knowledgeable, skilled and committed future conservators, it added.

Upbeat MPs give work plans after swearing-in

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continue starving due to floods, so this will be one of my priority areas to start with, as these people have encountered losses for years as properties and houses were flushed by floods. I will also work hard to ensure that I address water blues among Kawe dwellers," he said.

Artiste Hamis Mwinjuma alias "Mwana FA" of Muheza constituency, promised his fellow artists that he would work hard to ensure that they benefit from their activities and the industry as whole.

Another lawmaker, Hamis Taletale of Morogoro South-East said that despite being dominated by ruling party MPs, they will make sure that they spend their time in the House to bring changes in the country.

Majaliwa joins Sumaye - after he is named as premier again

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1962 to December 1962, remaining vice president for ten years, and then from 1972 to 1977 took the title of Prime Minister and Second Vice President, under founder President Nyerere.

The father of the nation also served as prime minister for a few months, from Madaraka Day on May 1 to Independence on December 9 and up to January 1, 1962 when he resigned to build up TANU, leaving the post to Kawawa.

The latter all the same served under Governor General Sir Richard Turnbull, who was commander in chief of the armed forces.

Judge Joseph Warioba served a full term as premier from late 1985 to polls 1990, while John Malecela served for most of the second term of President Mwinyi, from late 1990 to late 1994.

Dr Salim Ahmed Salim served briefly as premier, from April 1984 to polls 1985, following the death of Sokoine.

In the third session of the first meeting of the 12th Parliament yesterday, Speaker Job Ndugai received a handwritten nomination letter from President Magufuli.

Majaliwa was then confirmed by MPs, taking all 350 votes cast by the lawmakers who were in the House, equal to 100 percent of available votes.

Presenting the biography of the Prime Minister as well as the Parliament's declaration, Attorney General Dr Adelardus Kilangi described Majaliwa as a good and hardworking leader who will help the country to achieve its development goals in time.

He said that Majaliwa has proved to be a good leader due to initiatives he took to improve government performance, helping to bring about an economic revolution in the country.

"He has respectable experience to serve in this post, he is a real hard worker, he has in the past five years supported President Magufuli to implement his vision including the fight against corruption and embezzlement of public funds, thus restoring respect for the public service," he said, urging the House to endorse Majaliwa in the post.

In his remarks, Majaliwa said that the appointment has been a surprise as he wasn't expecting to be re-appointed.

"I am here as per God's will. I really appreciate President Magufuli for having high faith in me; I am so humbled by this trust. This is not a minor thing, I will work hard to prove right his faith in me and the nation at large," he said.

He vowed to serving the post well and deliver the best so as to achieve the goals that the government has set out in the coming years.

Speaker Ndugai hailed President Magufuli's decision to re-appoint Majaliwa as Prime Minister.

"I'm sure that through you, Tanzanians will benefit a lot. I assure you, premier, that the House is going to provide full support to achieve our goals," he declared.

A section of MPs also expressed their confidences in the reappointment of premier Majaliwa.

William Lukuvi (Ismani) commended President Magufuli for bringing back the hero to serve in the post.

"Majaliwa has performed higher, contrary to what others were thinking of him. His performance in the first five years of the fifth phase government surprised many, we are ready to provide him close support," he said.

George Mkuchika (Newala Urban) described Majaliwa as having supervised and contributed immensely to transform the country and achieve its middle income status.

"I know Majaliwa very well. He is a good person, he implemented his duties fairly without discrimination inside and outside the legislature. He spent hours and hours travelling all over the country to address people's problems; he has indeed done a wonderful job," he said.

Majaliwa made numerous efforts to ensure that farmers and livestock keepers reap big from the sector, he affirmed.

Salma Kikwete (Mchinga) urged MPs and the general public to support Majaliwa and thus enable him implement his duties well for the country's development.

David Silinde (Tunduma) said Majaliwa has proved to the legislature and the public that he can do the impossible.

The premier has been able to walk the talk and vision of President Magufuli thus bringing relief to people locked in various challenges that were chronic to Tanzanians for years, he stated.

"He is humble, faithful and a hard worker. I am sure that in the next five years he will prove to Tanzanians how good he is, in transforming the country's economy," he declared.

Majaliwa was first elected to the House in the 2010 general election from Ruungwa constituency. He was Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) from 2010 to 2015.

In the 2015 general election, Majaliwa was reelected in Ruungwa, defeating Omari Makota of the Civic United Front (CUF) with 31,281 votes for the opponent's 25,536 votes.

After Dr Magufuli was sworn in, he nominated Majaliwa as Prime Minister on 19 November 2015.

Biden picks White House insider as next chief of staff

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we tackle their ambitious agenda for change, and seek to heal the divides in our country," said Klain.

He served as chief counsel on the Senate Judiciary Committee from 1989-92 when Biden was chairman. He was also an adviser and speechwriter on Biden's unsuccessful 1988 and 2008 White House campaigns.

Klain served as chief of staff to Biden from 2009 to 2011, the first few years of Biden's tenure as vice-president in the Obama White House.

He later served as President Obama's "Ebola czar" during a minor outbreak of the deadly disease in 2014.

The longstanding Democratic operative was also involved in both of Bill Clinton's presidential campaigns and was an adviser to John Kerry's failed White House run in 2004.

He has been a presidential debate coach for Bill Clinton, Al Gore, John Kerry, Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden.

Meanwhile, Biden's transition team announced he had spoken with the

leaders of Australia, Japan and South Korea

All three are key US allies in the region, and the president-elect told Australia's Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga and President Moon Jae-in of South Korea that he wanted to deepen those ties.

Trump made security in the region - particularly against a nuclear-armed North Korea - a key feature of his presidency, holding historic meetings with its leader Kim Jong-un. But he also clashed on occasion with traditional US allies in the area, including Australia. Trump infamously rang then-Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull at the start of 2017 over the fate of some 1,000 refugees - a call Turnbull called "very frank and forthright".

On winning the election, US presidents call up their peers around the world. Whom they speak to and what they talk about can show their foreign policy agendas for the years ahead.



Zlatan Milisic (L), the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Tanzania, has a quick word with Kigoma regional commissioner Thobias Andengenyne in Kigoma municipality yesterday shortly after a meeting called to assess progress in the implementation of jointly-run projects in the region. Story on Page 4. Photo: Correspondent Anthony Kayanda

Speaker Job Ndugai warns over truancy in Parliament

By Getrude Mbagu, Dodoma

SPEAKER of the National Assembly Job Ndugai has warned over chronic truancy among Members of Parliament (MPs), saying that there are special equipment installed in the area to monitor attendance of the lawmakers.

He made the remarks yesterday in the House soon after the MPs had casted their votes to elect the Deputy Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson.

According to him, the Parliament has installed several gadgets to track the attendance of the MPs so every

lawmakers should attend all meetings or else get ready to face stern measures.

"All records on the attendance of MPs here are well kept, we will not hesitate to report the absentees to the party, since this Parliament has been dominated by the ruling party it will be easy also to control their discipline, it is easy to send to the party all stubborn ones, so let's do our best and if you have an excuse let us know," Ndugai insisted.

Ndugai also expressed his displeasure over some of the opposition parties who had boycotted the Parliament meetings with others denying their elected and

Special Seats MPs to come in the House which is not good. "By being elected as an MP means that you are going to be the voice for the voiceless, so for an MP being here, a number of challenges facing Tanzanians will be presented for the government to take action and address them," he said.

He urged the parties to change and allow the MPs to attend the parliamentary sessions so as to present Tanzanians problems in the House. "But even if they will totally fail to attend, nothing will be stopped, all the House's procedures will go on as usual," he added.

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

OFFICIALS of the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) have been urged to work diligently and refrain from corruption, which is a menace to conservation.

TAWA acting Commissioner for Conservation, Mabula Nyanda made the call here yesterday when wrapping up a four-day meeting of TAWA officials and heads of various reserve centres from across the country.

He said that the authority in collaboration with the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) has been working hard to address corruption.

"We've mobilised our selfs to tackle the issue of corruption and began by holding to account heads of reserve centres who fail to submit reports

Work diligently and desist from corruption, TAWA staff advised

of the said challenges on time," he said, noting: "It's shame for the big institutions like TAWA to be involved in issues of corruption."

Nyanda said following reported cases of corruption at various reserve centres, TAWA had taken various steps to unfaithful wardens, including dismissal, and had now started training all heads of the centres to educate their wardens as well. Between August 2018 and December 2019, fifteen staffs were taken to court over corruption allegations. They were from Maswa, Swagawaga, Moyowosi, Rungwa/Muhesi/Kizigo, Liparamba, and Selous Game Reserve and from Bunda and Manyoni anti-poaching units.

"If you, as heads of a reserve centre do not report corruption under your charge, and if we at headquarters come to know about it, we shall start with you, we are tired of dismissing those in the lower ranks," Nyanda said.

He however said that between July and October this year, the authority had trained 351 staffs with anti-poaching skills and on corruption awareness.

TAWA acting Assistant Commissioner for the south east zone Henock Msocha said they will make sure they enhance cooperation in the anti-poaching thrust including well utilising the knowledge they had received from the meeting on the issues mentioned.



Hussein Ibrahim Makungu, Zanzibar House of Representatives member for the Mtoni constituency, signs a visitors' book at the NMB Bank PIC pavilion outside the House yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Angola ready for joint railway project with Tanzania, states envoy

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government of Angola has said it is ready for engagement with Tanzania on planning and implementation of a railway project to link its port of Lobito to Dar es Salaam so as to boost trade between the two countries and create jobs for their citizens.

Angola's ambassador to Tanzania, Sandro De Oliveira, disclosed the plan at the occasion to mark the country's 45th independence anniversaries held in Dar es Salaam.

He said currently, the largest part of goods transportation takes place by land, where certain patches are difficult for the users due to the bad roads, especially during the rainy season.

He said the referred railway corridor will connect the important ports of Lobito and of Dar es Salaam, allowing the transit of goods from and to the markets in America, Asia and Europe that utilise the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, respectively.

"Angola is ready to carry out at least two experimental trips, as soon as the logistical and institutional conditions are created, for which we count on Tanzania's collaboration in these efforts," he said.

Oliveira hinted that Angolan economy has an enormous potential of underexplored natural resources in the sectors of agriculture and livestock, extractive and manufacturing industries, fishing, tourism, energy, water, transport, logistic, civil construction among others.

"We want to count on the Tanzania experience and investment in the aforementioned sectors which possess great feasibility and strong probabilities of profitable returns, thus supporting the creation of competitive domestic industries," he stated.

"We are working towards the creation of Tanzania-Angola business forum, whose first edition should take place in Dar es Salaam in May next year. It is a priority initiative for us because

it will establish a platform for direct interaction of business people from both countries," he added.

According to him, the embassy has invited Tanzanian business to the existing opportunities for private Angolan investment towards the Tanzania economy.

For his part, the director for Africa at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation, Mkamba Dahari said that Tanzania was ready to strengthen its diplomatic economy for the mutual benefit of the people in the two countries.

He said the increase of intra-Africa trade was the only viable way to achieve economic independence adding that will help to open more new employment opportunities whether direct or indirect from the investment.

"As embassy, our noble mission is to contribute to the ever-increasing betterment of relation between the two countries and to increment the extremely low levels of trade exchanges, giving way to a greater movement of people and goods among sectors that promote development for social wellbeing of our people," he insisted.

Earlier in his presentation, Nguza Mauricio, the Counselor-Business affairs in Angola said that there was a huge potential, social economic stability and political will.

The counselor said there are specific investment opportunities like agriculture, vegetable production and fisheries.

Others are textiles, hospitality, basic sanitation collection tourism, production and distribution of electricity, education, and reforestation.

"We are looking for external expansion opportunities, new markets for the exports of goods and services, international partnerships and openings to finance profitable projects and or ventures," he explained.

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

President Mwinyi pledges to build a new Zanzibar via blue economy

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has pledged to build a new Zanzibar through modern blue economy that ranges from fishing to extractive industry.

He gave the pledge here on Wednesday in his speech to inaugurate the 10th meeting of the House of Representatives at Chukwani.

Dr Mwinyi said one among his campaign pledges that was also spelled out in the CCM election manifesto was to build modern blue economy.

He said blue economy or sea economy entails the fishing sector, fish farming, establishing fish processing factories, seaweed farming, oil and gas drilling and the utilisation of various marine resources as well as seashore tourism.

He said the blue economy cannot be attained without having modern ports.

He added that among things that undermine good foundations for good governance include corruption, negligence, lack of accountability, lack of ethics, hence he insisted that his Phase 8 government will tackle all issues that undermine the principles of good governance.

He repeated his pledge to the people that he would fight against the corruption activities without mincing words and called on the Representatives and the people in general to support him.

"We shall win this war if all Zanzibaris support us. I have no doubt that since they hate corruption they will be ready to cooperate in this war," he said.

He said the Phase 8 Government will closely oversee discipline on public officials and will not tolerate any one of them who will fail to perform his/her duties.

He called on all officials he will appoint in various positions to be creative and be able to advise the government on issues in their fields of professionalism.

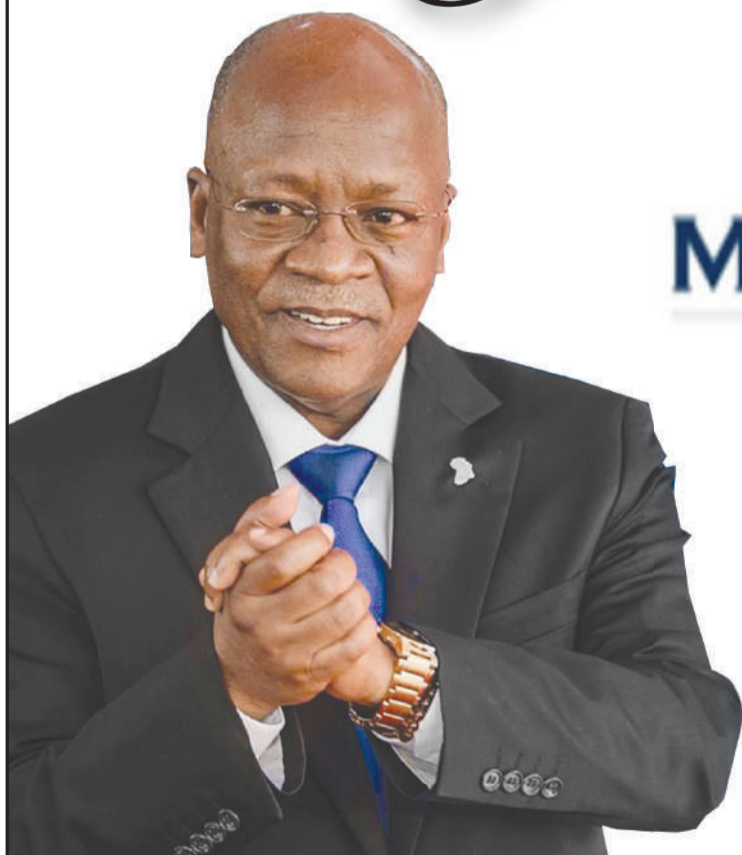
In regard to the oil and gas sector, Dr Mwinyi said his government

will empower, both financially and workforce the Zanzibar Petroleum Development Corporation (ZPDC) and Zanzibar Petroleum Regulatory Authority (ZPRA) to implement its duties effectively.

He also said his government will work together with all companies that show interest to invest in the sector.

He said his government has plans to build a big modern port at Mangapwani area that would consist of various sections for service delivery including servicing oil and gas tankers, dry dock for servicing ships and areas for storing containers.

Congratulations Message



Hon. Dr. John Pombe Magufuli



Hon. Samia Suluhu Hassan

The Chairman, Board of Directors, Management and Staff of MAUREL & PROM would like to congratulate President H. E. Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli and Vice President H.E Samia Suluhu Hassan of the United Republic of Tanzania for the outstanding re- election into office.

Your call for a more united nation and your earnest dedication in service is an inspiration.

We wish you a prosperous term ahead.

Speaker saddened seeing opposition parties' reluctance over Special Seats

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE National Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai has expressed dismay over the act of opposition political parties to boycott nominating their women members to legislative special seats saying it is against the constitution and limits efforts to enhance their rights.

Political parties that gain more than five per cent in the general election are required by the constitution and country laws to nominate female candidates to become Special Seats MPs. But speaking in the National Assembly here yesterday the Speaker said the political parties would have hurried to nominate their names if it was to include men in the nomination process.

"We have parties that have not submitted the names of their MPs and are urging on social media and other platforms not to submit Special Seats lawmakers," he said shortly after the election of Deputy Speaker in which Dr Tulia Ackson was re-elected.

Dr Ackson who is the MP for Mbeya-Urban (CCM) was re-elected with 350 votes out of 354 valid votes counted. The Speaker said it was shocking and disgrace among the political parties to hold names of women who qualify to be Special Seats MPs.

"How do you prevent women from coming to defend the rights of fellow Tanzanians," he said. "This is unacceptable and does not qualify to be debated." Ndugai was explained that the nomination process was

an opportunity enshrined in the constitution.

He noted that whether the parties nominate or boycott it does not affect or limit the Parliament to proceed.

On another development the National Assembly Speaker said the parliamentary committees will be formed during the forthcoming parliamentary session, hoping the president will have completed naming the cabinet.

The parliamentary committees are expected to be formed based on the ministries set by the president.

"We have ongoing elections including getting representatives for the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the East African Community (EAC) and Great Lakes," he said requesting MPs to explore the opportunities that come with the regional cooperation. "All this comes with the elective position," he added.

The Parliament, however, cautioned MPs especially the newly elected first comers for unnecessary non-attendance of parliamentary proceedings, saying permanent and frequent absentees will be reported to their parties for further decision.

"We have parties that have not submitted the names of their MPs and are urging on social media and other platforms not to submit Special Seats lawmakers"



Education, Science and Technology ministry permanent secretary Prof James Mdoe (R) has a word in Dar es Salaam yesterday with Higher Education Students Loans Board executive director Abdul-Razaq Badru (2nd-L) and loans allocation director Dr Veronica Nyahende. Photo: HESLB

RC warns officials against theft of farmers' cashews

By Guardian Correspondent, Kibiti

COAST Regional Commissioner Evarist Ndikilo has warned top officials of cooperatives against embezzlement of cashew nuts belonging to farmers.

He said he would not like to hear the issue of cashew nuts loss due to wilting, and stern steps would be taken against those responsible.

The RC was speaking at the first

cashew nuts auction launched early this week in Kibiti District, saying he would not close his eyes to any official who would be involved in such kind of theft.

He urged farmers to ensure they dry their crop including classification according to quality.

He said farmers will go on complaining about the market due to the poor quality crop they take to the

auction for sale.

At the auction, farmers agreed to sell grade 1 cashew nuts at 2,153/- per kg while grade 2 crop was transferred to another auction because they were not satisfied by the price offered by buyers of 1,400/- per kg.

Said Seif, one of the farmers said farmers cannot agree to sell their crop at 1,400/- claiming it was too low compared to the production costs they

had incurred.

Earlier the Assistant District Administrative Secretary (Economy and Production) Shangwe Twamala said the auction planned to sell 2,073,293 kgs of the crop, are 55.9 per cent of all the cashew nuts collected by Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS)

He said from the quantity, 512,786 kgs was grade 1 and 1,560,507 grade 2.



Chief Richard Luwawo of the Matumbulu tribal community (seated) receives traditional weapons during his installation in Dodoma on Wednesday. Photo: Correspondent Eleuteri Mangi

By Special Correspondent

THE greater horn of the Africa region may not realize food and nutrition security for farmers and herders amid suppressed October to December rains, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) said in its latest weather forecast released on Wednesday.

According to IGAD, a drier than usual season linked to the La Nina phenomenon is expected in large swathes of the east and horn of the Africa region in the last quarter of this year, hence posing risk to crops and pasture for livestock.

"The drier than usual season might impact southern Ethiopia, northern and western Somalia, eastern and western regions of Kenya, northern

Food security in peril amid suppressed rains, intergovernmental authority says

Tanzania, and other sparse areas around the region," said IGAD.

"For farming communities, this could lead to poorer than usual harvests, due to reduced rainfall when crops are at the reproduction stage," it added.

The horn of African region is already battling multiple shocks like COVID-19, desert locust invasion, civil unrest and recurrent droughts that have undermined efforts to eradicate hunger and malnutrition.

IGAD said the drier than usual weather is likely to last till January, thereby complicating efforts to feed

vulnerable demographics like children and the elderly.

"The resulting poor nutrition status may reduce the immunity of all age-groups, further complicating the vulnerability to the possible effects of COVID-19," said IGAD.

It singled out nomadic communities as likely to bear the brunt of suppressed rains amid shortage of pasture and water for their livestock that could lead to widespread hunger and skirmishes.

"The overall poor food and nutrition security could increase the levels of

acute malnutrition among infants and young children. Atypical cross-border livestock migrations may spark resource-based conflicts," said IGAD.

Statistics from IGAD indicate that currently, about 29.5 million people in the horn of African region are in urgent need of food assistance due to the negative impact of climatic shocks and COVID-19 pandemic.

The bloc urged countries in the region to establish robust mitigation measures in order to avert a humanitarian crisis amid an extended drier than usual season.

UN ready for full implementation of projects meant to help refugees

By Guardian Correspondent, Kigoma

THE United Nations (UN) has pledged to continue with the implementation of projects under Kigoma joint programme meant to assist refugees in camps and villagers in their vicinity.

The remarks were given by the UN projects coordinator in Tanzania Zlatan Milisic here this week at an evaluation meeting that brought together government officials and nations that sponsor refugees.

Projects under Kigoma joint project were established in 2017 and end in 2022 and aimed to help communities in issues of energy and environment, economic empowerment to various vulnerable groups, and tackle gender based violence and child abuse.

Others include girls' education, modern farming practices and looking for reliable markets, education against HIV/Aids and the importance of using clean and safe water.

Milisic said the main responsibility

when you decide to assist refugees is to also ensure people living close to refugee camps get assistance due to the presence of refugees in their areas.

He praised Norway, Sweden and Ireland for providing assistance to ensure the project was fully implemented.

Kigoma Regional Commissioner Thobias Andengenyne said the government will continue to offer cooperation to ensure the successful completion of the project.

An official from the Norwegian embassy in Tanzania Bjørn Midthun pledged his government will provide financial assistance towards the project.

Chlöe Horne, an official from the Irish embassy called on stakeholders to fully implement the project in order to benefit those targeted.

The project is expected to cost USD 63 million and so far money provided by donors totaled USD 30.6 million and two years remain before completion.

Kyela District officials embark on revamping water infrastructure

By Guardian Correspondent, Kyela

AUTHORITIES in Kyela District, Mbeya Region have assured residents it will improve water infrastructure to enable them get the basic commodity at affordable cost.

The remarks were given by Kyela District Commissioner Claudia Kitta during her inspection visit of various water sources used in the district, many of which are located in Busokelo, Rungwe District.

Shesaidthegovernmenthasprovided Kyela District Council adequate funds for the construction and refurbishing of many water projects some of which have been completed while others were in various stages of completion.

Kitta said for the government implemented projects to be of any benefit to the people and last longer, every person should participate in the protection of water sources by

stopping cutting trees near them.

He called on water consumers communities in the district to make sure they pay for their water bills the money which will be used for refurbishing the infrastructures and purchase of essential equipment.

A cross section of residents thanked the government for the projects saying at the moment water supply service has increased as compared with the situation in the past.

Joseph Mwakifuna, an Ipinda resident said earlier they used to get water from wells whose safety was not guaranteed for their health, but as for now they are getting clean piped water.

Last year the former Minister for Water Prof. Makame Mbarawa made an inspection tour of water projects in Kyela District during which he inaugurated the Kapapa group Water Project costing more than 3.5bn/-.

Paying tax is a noble and patriotic cause, says TRA

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

The Commissioner General of the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) Dr Edwin Mhede has appealed to business people in the country to be patriotic by continuing to pay taxes on time so as to speed development. Speaking yesterday during a meeting with traders in Iringa Region, he said the issue of tax payment is a sign of patriotism and should be done without pressure as it is something that has a positive

contribution to development of the country.

Dr. Mhede noted that paying taxes is trustworthy, so people who are paying taxes should also be trustworthy, adding that businesspeople need to keep record of their businesses so that it can be easily conducted smoothly.

The money you pay in taxes goes to many places. In addition to paying the salaries of government workers, your taxes also help to support common resources, such as police and firefighters. Tax money helps to ensure the roads you travel on

are safe and well-maintained. Taxes fund public libraries and parks.

Taxation is one of the government's main sources of revenues and it uses tax money to pay for government workers and fund state-owned services like security or defence forces, healthcare, and education.

For his part, the guest of honour for the one-day meeting, Iringa Regional Commissioner Ally Hapi said the time has come for the ministry of education to introduce tax education in the curriculum, so that the education provided to children is in line with the

importance of paying taxes.

Education could be one of the most deserving recipients of tax money. Governments put a lot of importance in development of human capital and education is central in this development. Money from taxes is channeled to funding, furnishing, and maintaining the public education system.

He explained that if taxes are not paid properly, the government will be losing a lot of its revenues and may increase taxes to meet its expenses.

Hapi urged that without taxes,

the government will be unable to meet the demands of this society, adding that taxes are crucial because the government collects that money and uses it to finance social projects.

Some of the projects include health, education, infrastructures, communication and good governance.

However, governments impose charges on their citizens and businesses as a means of raising revenues, which is then used to meet their budgetary demands.

This includes financing government and public projects as well as making the business environment in the countries conducive for economic growth.



Masasi Mtwara and Nanyumbu Cooperative Union Secretaries, chairpersons and members pictured earlier this week engaged in discussions on ways to end the shortage of sacks, a problem which has made the harvesting, collection and marketing of their crops especially challenging. Photo: Correspondent Hamisi Nasri

A LEADING GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY IN TANZANIA INVITES APPLICATIONS FROM QUALIFIED TANZANIAN CANDIDATES FOR THE POSITION OF:

GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Playing a pivotal role, the Group CEO is expected to define Company business strategy and direct business plan implementation by leading all function leaders in the company to ensure the achievement of company's objective and vision.

The expected end result is achievement of company business objectives and vision.

JOB DESCRIPTION

The role entails managing the following key aspects within the company:

- Strategy & Governance
- Business Operations & Growth
- Key Stakeholder Relationship Management
- Team Leadership & Culture
- Compliance
- People Management

POSITION REQUIREMENTS

EDUCATION: Degree in insurance or ACII/FCII certifications or equivalent

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: Minimum 15 years of which at least 5 years in a leadership position in the General and Medical Insurance Industry

EXPERTISE

- Strong competency in corporate management
- Good knowledge of General Investment and Financial Service Products
- Solid knowledge and strong competency of General Insurance business
- High energy professional with a strong business acumen and a strategic vision
- Strategic thinking, planning and execution skills
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Strong in catalysing high performance (change & team leadership) and people management capabilities

TO APPLY:

If you are confident that you match the above-mentioned criteria, please send your C.V within 15 days to the following email address mentioning the position in the subject line to: jobsinsurancetz@gmail.com

HALMASHAURI YA JIJI LA DODOMA



TANGAZO LA MNADA WA KUKODISHA BUSTANI YA MAPUMZIKO - CHINANGALI

Mkurugenzi wa Jiji la Dodoma anawatangazia wananchi wote kuwa kutakuwa na mnada wa hadhara kwa ajili ya kukodisha eneo la Bustani ya Mapumziko ya Chinangali (Chinangali Recreational Park) iliyopo jirani na uwanja wa Ndege wa Dodoma. Mnanda utafanyika tarehe 21 Novemba, 2020 katika eneo la bustani kuanzia saa tatu kamili (3.00) asubuhi.

Bustani hiyo ni mradi mpya na ni eneo linalovutia sana kwa mapumziko na burudani mbalimbali ikiwemo uwanja wa kisasa wa mpira wa kikapu, Uwanja wa Tenisi, Mpira wa Wavu, mabwawa ya kuongelea wakubwa na Watoto, eneo la michezo ya watoto, jukwaa la sanaa na GYM. Pia kuna maeneo ya kuuzia vyakula na vinywaji pamoja na eneo kubwa la mae- negesho ya Magari.

Siku ya mnanda kila mshiriki atatakiwa;

- Kujisajili kwenye regista.
- Kulipa dhamana ya fedha taslimu Tsh. 2,000,000/ (Millioni mbili) ambayo itarudishwa mara baada ya mnada kwa mshiriki ambaye hatafanikiwa.
- Mshindi atalipa asilimia 25 ya kodi ya pango ya kipindi cha miezi mitatu siku ya mnada na kumaliza asilimia 75 kabla ya kuanza kuendesha bustani hiyo. Aidha, atawajibika kulipa kodi zote za Serikali kwa mujibu wa Sheria za nchi.

Kwa maelezo zaidi piga simu namba **0622 020211**

Tangazo hili limetolewa na:
**MKURUGENZI WA HALMASHAURI
HALMASHAURI YA JIJI LA DODOMA**



REQUEST FOR QUOTATION RFQ 2020- 11/01

Closing Date: Monday 30th November 2020, 11am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

Pact Inc. is an international non-profit organization with its headquarters in Washington, DC. Pact serves communities challenged by poverty and marginalization because we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and government. Our goal is thriving, resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant.

Pact Tanzania now invites quotes from eligible, registered companies to supply below listed items.

Lot1. Re-usable sanitary pad kit

No of kits required	Kit contents
48,847	8 reusable sanitary pads, 3 underwear, 1 mche of Bar soap, Re-usable pad user instruction, 1 small storage bag (for storing used pad), Re-usable cloth bag to store all kit contents

Lot2. Printing IEC Materials

No of items to be printed	Materials to be printed
As per ToR	HURU Training Manual, HURU Lesson Book, HURU Pre assessment forms and HURU Post Assessment forms

- Interested vendors should request for the full Terms of Reference through email to procurementTZ@pactworld.org before **Thursday 26th November 2020**.

Interested, eligible vendor should deliver their quotation to:

**The Tender Committee
Pact Tanzania
74 Uporoto Street, Victoria
P. O. Box 6348, Dar es salaam, Tanzania**

All quotes must be enclosed in a plain sealed envelope. The deadline is 11am EAT Monday 30th November 2020.

Please note:

1. Late or incomplete bids will not be accepted.
2. The quote that complies with all the specifications/requirements and offers value for money, as well as all other evaluation criteria indicated in the TOR, shall be selected.
3. Pact may cancel solicitation and not award.
4. Pact may reject any or all responses received.
5. Issuance of request for quotes does not constitute a contract commitment by Pact.
6. Pact reserves the right to disqualify any offer based on offeror failure to follow the solicitation instructions.
7. Pact reserves the right to waive minor proposal deficiencies that can be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition.
8. Pact will be contacting all offerors to confirm contact person, address and that the proposal was submitted for this solicitation.



ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED

**CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC NOTICE**

SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS FOR CUSTOMS AGENCY LICENSE FOR THE YEAR 2021

Following our earlier Public Notice inviting applications for Customs Agency Licenses for the year 2021, we hereby inform the applicants and the general public that after a thorough scrutiny of the applications, the following 167 applicants have been shortlisted and are hereby invited for a written interview. The interview will be conducted on 5th December, 2020 at the Institute of Tax Administration (ITA), Mikocheni Industrial Area, Dar es Salaam.

N	COMPANY NAME	INTERVIEWEE NAME
1	A & F CO. LTD	SALHA ALI MUSA
2	A&A FREIGHT FORWARDERS LTD	DAUDI ALLY MWINYI
3	A&E INTERNATIONAL (T) LTD	OCTAVIOUS BAHEHE
4	ADEN FREIGHT LTD	LADSLAUS J. MTEI
5	ADRAS LOGISTICS LTD	JOSEPH JOHN MALIWA
6	AEM FREIGHT FORWARDERS LTD	JACKSON B. TEMU
7	AFRICA STABLE LOGISTICS CO. LTD	STEPHEN JOSEPH MBUGANI
8	AFRI-COGEN INVESTMENT LTD	DORICE KAINDOA
9	ALAQ FREIGHT AGENCY LTD	GOODLUCK W CHARLES
10	ALSAF CARGO LTD	GODFREY MASILAMBA
11	AMAFIL C&F AGENT LTD	HUSSEIN ATHUMAN SHEKIKA
12	AMOTO INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS LTD	AWADH MOHAMED SHABAN
13	ANGELMAGA LOGISTICS LTD	GERALD GEOFFREY MASSAWE
14	ARRAYS (T) LTD	ROY TIMOTHY KINGU
15	ASNATH LOGISTIC LTD	THERESIA NOVART DOMICIAN
16	ATHLET CLEARING AND FORWARDING CO. LTD	ATULINDA MEDARD MUTAKYAHWA
17	AVIOCEAN CO. LTD	SAIDI BAKARI
18	AZLAD GROUP CO. LTD	AMAN KHALID AZIZ
19	B.H.AME CLEARING & FORWARDING CO. LTD	ALI SAID ABDALLAH
20	BAHDA CLEARING AND FORWARDING SERVICES CO. LTD	ESSAU MWATONOKA
21	BEEMOX CO. LTD	ONESPHORO FANUEL
22	BEVANCE INVESTMENTS CO. LTD	ALLY SARAHAN
23	BIAZO ASA (T) INVESTMENT LTD	ROSEMARY JOHN MBOGONI
24	BIN SULEIMAN CO. LTD	JEREMIA ELIA SWILIMBA
25	BIOSEPTIC CO. LTD	EMLINO B. EPHRAHIM
26	BIRKA FREIGHT FORWARDERS LTD	SABRINA OMARY IDDI
27	BIZMANIA CO. LTD	SIMON ERICK
28	BLUPEAK INTERNATIONAL CORP LTD	SAMWEL NAGABONA JUSTINE
29	BRICARGO LTD	ZAINABU RAMADHANI NDINDI
30	BUGSNET CO. LTD	JUMA SALUM OMARY
31	BZM LOGISTIC CO. LTD	SAULI GWAHULA
32	CABLE - WEB TZ CO. LTD	RUTH KISINGA
33	CARGO HUB LTD	MOSES RENATUS MASANJA
34	CARLITO LOGISTIC LTD	MODEST MOSES LYIMO
35	CFA LOGISTICS AGENCY LTD	MOHAMED HASSAN
36	CHARITYOMBA CO. LTD	JAMES PAUL NTELYA
37	CHIMBA LOGISTICS LTD	ELIZABETH PAUL OSAKA
38	CHUCHI FREIGHT LTD	WILLIAM SIRI MALAI
39	CLOE TRADERS CO. LTD	CLAUDIA KAPEMBA MAPALALA
40	COAST CAPE CO. LTD	AMANI JUMANNE
41	COLVIS LOGISTICS LTD	EVERIUS GORDIAN
42	CORBRAL INVESTMENT CO. LTD	ALI ABDALLA
43	CORNERSTONE LOGISTICS (T) LTD	SAFINA MICKY MOYE
44	DANEVA WORLDWIDE (T) LTD	DAMSON DARIO
45	DAPROT CO. LTD	GEOFFREY LUTAIHWA
46	DEKAS CO. LTD	SAUMU MANGA
47	DELIMATECH GROUP LTD	JOYCE .PMASSAWE
48	DIJAVA CO. LTD	ADELA RICHARD SINGANO
49	DOLPHIN CUSTOMS AGENCY LTD	JAMES DOTTO JAMES
50	DSA LOGISTICS CO LTD	AUGUSTINO SAMKY ALEX
51	EBS LOGISTICS CO. LTD	ABEID M. MWANGUFYA
52	ELMART CUSTOMS AGENCY LTD	MARCHEL PETER ELKANA
53	EM FASTFRET BUSINESS & SERVICES CO. (T) LTD	SALVANUS E. NGAMESAI
54	ENKONAGROUP CO. LTD	PILI MAULIDI KISSARU
55	ESSE & GENERAL SUPPLIERS LTD	PROSPER CHARLES
56	FAHAM LOGISTICS AND FREIGHT LTD	MOHAMED SAID MAJONDE
57	FAST DELIVERY CO. LTD	NEEMA A MHANDO
58	FEXMON LOGISTICS & FREIGHT LTD	DANIEL FLORIAN BWILO
59	FREESTAR HOLDINGS & LOGISTICS (T) LTD	NELSON KASERWA
60	GAMBIRA LOGISTICS LTD	KELVIN RUTTA
61	GITEGA CO. LTD	SALEHE JUMANNE MSHANA
62	GNK ENTERPRISES AND LOGISTICS CO. LTD	KELVIN ELIAH MWANSULE
63	GREEN NATURE CO.LTD	YONA JOHN KINGAI

64	GREEN RIVER CLEARING & FORWARDING LTD	INOCENT KISHALU GERVAE
65	GULACK INTERNATIONAL LTD	ASHURA SEIPH
66	HAZI FREIGHT CO. LTD	JOHANNES ANDREW ALEXANDER
67	IKONDA LOGISTICS LTD	BENO ALPHONCE
68	INTELLIGENCE GROUP LTD	MWITA J. MAGIRA
69	INTERBLESS LOGISTICS CO. LTD	ANTHONY EMANUEL MUSHI
70	INTERLECK GROUP FORWARDERS LTD	YASIN MWAFUMO RAMADHAN
71	JAFKO CO. LTD	FREDRICK SIMON MANTAGO
72	JENEFA CO. LTD	HEMEDI ABDUL
73	JH FUTURES LTD	HAMIDA MDIM
74	JLAX C&F LTD	MAXWELL JOSEPH PUKA
75	JTM CLEARING AND FORWARDING LTD	RAYMOND J MWAKIPONYA
76	JUCOMA CLEARING AND FORWARDING CO. LTD	SCHUSTER P. KUSAGA
77	JUMIGO LOGISTICS LTD	EMMANUEL MROSO
78	KABOMBE LOGISTICS LTD	MWINYI KAIMA
79	KALUKWA CLEARING & FORWARDING LTD	TUTINDAGA LASTON MWAKAJILA
80	KENGARO LOGISTICS & FREIGHT FORWARDERS LTD	LADISLAUS E MUSHI
81	KHAMOS CARGO CO LTD	FRANK JOSEPH SHOO
82	KIBOGATE (T) LTD	HASHIM MOHAMED
83	KINEVE FREIGHT FORWARDERS LTD	JAMES MAIMU
84	KIVULA MARITIME CO. LTD	AMISA RAJABU HABIBU
85	KREEN LOGISTICS CO. LTD	HAPPINESS EMMANUEL GHERABASTER
86	KSM ENTERPRISES CO. LTD	RAMADHANI MOHAMEDY SAIDI
87	KWALUK'ONGE CO. LTD	BRASIO ROMWALD MBILINYI
88	LAMAKA LOGISTICS CO. LTD	REMIUS ERASTO KOMBA
89	LAODA LOGISTICS & GENERAL SERVICES LTD	GEORGE NDEKWA
90	LEPROSHINE CO. LTD	LEILA SAID OMARY
91	LOGISTICAL LEGENDS CLEARING AGENTS LTD	GOODLUCK GEORGE MUSHI
92	LUTNA TRADING CO. LTD	LATIFA OMAR HABIBI
93	MAKONDOLA GROUP CO. LTD	SHASHI MALALE PHILIPPO
94	MALINDI CLEARING AND FORWARDING CO. LTD	MOHAMED ALI MASOUD.
95	MASHMATA INVESTMENT AND GENERAL SUPPLIES LTD	JUMA SHOMARI
96	MASHUA FREIGHT (T) LTD	RICK JOHN NSABE
97	MATAGE LOGISTIC CO. LTD	MKIDADI A. KIDANGA
98	MAWEI CO. (T) LTD	ABDUL MAULID
99	MEGIDO TRADING CO. LTD	WININSIA MARCO MASSAWE
100	MEZE LOGISTICS LTD	ELIKANA HEZRON
101	MICKRASH LOGISTICS CO. LTD	MIKIDADI JUMA
102	MKUU LOGISTICS AND SERVICES CO. LTD	DIDAS MICHAEL NGOWI
103	MKWELI CLEARING AND FORWARDING CO. LTD	HAFIN MOHAMED MBARAKA
104	MOD SERVICES LTD	OMARY YUSUF ABDULY
105	MOIL LOGISTICS CO. LTD	MAJALIWA JULIUS MGALA
106	MOMBA FREIGHT LTD	PHANUEL BENKU
107	MOMBAI INTERNATIONAL LTD	PETRO MWITA MGENDI
108	MORONAI CLEARING AND FORWARDING CO. LTD	MOHAMED SALUM
109	MOTELA CLEARING AND FORWARDING FREIGHT LTD	AUDIFAS PRIVATUS LIGALLAMA
110	MOUMARIE LOGISTICS CO. LTD	EVANCE MORIS DADI
111	MSK MOVERS CO. LTD	OMARI S. JUMA
112	NARA LOGISTICS LTD	SAMWE L JULUS FUNDI
113	NEIGHPI CO. LTD	YASSIN IBRAHIM
114	NEXT COURIERS & LOGISTICS LTD.	ROCKY J.KITHAMA
115	NICE LOGISTICS CO. LTD	MIRAJI JUMA NANYANJE
116	NJERAN LOGISTICS CO. LTD	ANJELA CHIWEKA
117	NOLANT CUSTOMS AGENTS LTD	SEIF ALI ABDALLA
118	NSIADEDE ENTERPRISES & CO. LTD	MSAFIRI OMARY HASSANI
119	NYANGI C&F LTD	PHILIPPO P.MAPUNDA
120	ONEWAY LOGISTICS LTD	HOSEA STEVEN SARUNGI
121	PORT MARINE CLEARING AND FORWARDING LTD	SELEMANI ALLY
122	PORTWAYS LOGISTICS CO. LTD	HALIMA ISSA KAGIMBO
123	PWIM CO. LTD	LUKAS SULEIMANI KUNAMBI
124	RAEES LTD	ZENA MESHACK ANANIA

125	RANASA CLEARING & FORWARDING CO. LTD	.DIANA PHARES JUMBE
126	RED FOX INTERNATIONAL LTD	RAJABU RAMADHANI MALANDA
127	REVOEST CO. LTD	ANJEO S. NCHILO
128	RKM KIMESO (T) LTD	MOHAMED NASSOR
129	ROSHIMYA LOGISTICS CO. LTD	JOHN PETER MSUYA
130	ROUTE CARE LOGISTIX CO. LTD	TWALIB ALLY PAZI
131	SAFETY DELIVERY (T) LTD	AMRI KAGHEMBA SUFIANI
132	SALZBURG CO. LTD	ABELY REVOCATUS
133	SAMBO CONSOLIDATION LTD	GLORIA DISRAE L NATAI
134	SANGU INTERNATIONAL LTD	KHALIDI ABDALLAH
135	SCHOSI CLEARING & FORWARDING CO. LTD	CHAKUPEWA MSHANA
136	SD CLEARING AND FORWARDING AGENT LTD	GERYSON LAVIAN SHAYO
137	SHARP SPEAR LOGISTICS CO. LTD	SEKIRITO AZZA KARIA
138	SHECHE LOGISTICS LTD	BENJAMIN JUSTINE MWEGOHA
139	SIHA CLEARING AND FORWARDING CO. LTD	SIRAJU SAID ATHUMANI
140	SIMBA SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTIONS LTD	SELEIMAN KASSIM
141	SKYWORTH FORWARDERS CO. LTD	NSANGALUFU LOTH
142	SOUTHWAIVE COASTAL FREIGHT LTD	GIFTI A KAPILIMBA
143	SPESH CO. LTD	ANAMARIA ZAPOKA
144	SPOT ON FREIGHT & LOGISTIC LTD	MOHAMED HAMAD
145	STARLINK LOGISTICS AND TRADING CO. LTD	SEIF ALI ABDALLAH
146	SUBA LOGISTIC LTD	SUBIRAH HASSAN KAHOYE
147	SUMAJKT CLEARING & FORWARDING AGENTS CO. LTD	TWENE YESSE TULAMBONA
148	TANPEAK BUSINESS AND LOGISTICS LTD	LUCAS MKUMBO KIULA
149	TANTEKCO. LTD	MAGRETH OTHMAN MAGEHEMA
150	TEMITO FREIGHT AGENCY LTD	SIXTUS WARIOBA WANCHOKE
151	THE SHIPPING SAINTS LTD	GEORGE GOD FREY
152	THUDA LOGISTICS CO. LTD	EDSON PETRO
153	TRADELAND COMMODITIES LTD	LUTFIA SAID
154	TRANSMISSION LOGISTICS CO. LTD	ZAKAYO ZABRON MPEFO
155	TRENDY VENTURES LTD	HADJIA MOHAMED
156	USEI LOGISTICS LTD	MICHAEL A.MWAKASENDILE
157	WALLMARK GROUP CO. LTD	AWLA KASSIM SAIDY
158	WARAMU LOGISTICS LTD	DANIEL MORGAN KWAYU
159	WARRIORS LOGISTICS AND BUSINESS CENTER CO. LTD	ISMAIL AZIZI KADUMA
160	WATERLAND INVESTMENT CO. LTD	WILSON JACOB KOMBA
161	WAVEGALA INTERTRADE LTD	ROSEMARY SHAWA
162	WHITE KNIGHT CO. LTD	ROBERT KASULWA
163	WIHAB GROUP LTD	RICHARD CLEMENCE HILLARY
164	WINCARD INTERNATIONAL LTD	AUDIPHAS BUZUKA
165	WORLD LINK GROUP LTD	AMOUR ABOUBAKAR SULEIMAN
166	WORLD LOGISTICS CO. LTD	JOHN MHAGAMA
167	ZARA FREIGHT FORWARDERS CO. LTD	ZUWENA KISAKENI

GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR THE SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS

- Each interviewee should appear with company identity card and introduction letter signed by the Director of the Company and affixed with his/her recent passport size photograph.
- Interviewee is required to come with a pen, pencil, ruler and calculator.
- The interview will start at **08:30 a.m.** All candidates should report and register at the Institute of Tax Administration (ITA) at least an hour before commencement of the interview.
- The following persons are not allowed to appear for this interview even if their names might have inadvertently appeared in the list above:
 - A candidate who previously sat for similar interview under another company and passed the interview.
 - A director or a shareholder of a Clearing and Forwarding Agent company whether currently in operation or is suspended or revoked for violation of Customs laws and procedures

- NB:**
- Companies not listed in this notice did not qualify for the interview.
 - This notice is also published in the TRA website www.tra.go.tz

"Together We Build Our Nation"

Juma B. Hassan

For: COMMISSIONER FOR CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

Tanzanians encouraged to value writing of wills

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

DEPUTY Registrar of the High Court Devotha Kamuzora has encouraged Tanzanians to take up the culture of writing will, a document which expresses the wishes of a person after death.

The official made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking at the seminar on inheritance Law and Will writing organised by Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP).

The seminar was meant to educate participants on the importance of writing Will, taking into account that people have been associating Will with bad omen.

She said the society has an obligation in seeing that writing Will was their responsibility so that those who remain should oversee their implementation in accordance to the wishes of the deceased.

"Since every human being is on a journey towards death, it is better for one to prepare himself during lifetime so that after his death those left behind have security by avoiding unnecessary

conflicts among family members," Kamuzora stressed.

He said that was the time when document will become important as they enable to file an inheritance case as early as possible.

"There are two kinds of Will, verbal and written, but the written one should be given in front of not less than two witnesses, one family member and another from outside. It should be using indelible ink and the witnesses should be literate," she added.

She said the Will should be dated and bear the signature of the one writing it, and if he is illiterate he should put his right thumbprint.

On verbal Will, she said this should be given in front of not less than four witnesses, two of whom were close family members.

On the issue of the inheritance supervisor, she said when selected, he should ensure the family left behind does not come into any conflicts.

"The supervisor is not allowed, and it is against the law to grab the deceased's property, utilise them for his own or other people's benefit who are not

inheritors or beneficiaries thereof," Kamuzora explained.

He said it was essential for the inheritance supervisor to be trustworthy and who must not be showing favour to any one among the inheritors.

She said for the society that respect justice and equality should not stick to customary and traditional considerations for classifying inheritance among the beneficiaries.

Selemani Bishagazi, seminar participant, from Information and Knowledge Centre in Kipunguni in Dar Salaam said there were some inheritance supervisors who have been disconcerting widows.

"You find a woman whose husband died, but the supervisor introduces sex corruption on promise that she can quickly help her to get her inheritance in court, this is not right," he said.

Fatuma Mapunda, another seminar participant said education on issues of inheritance should be provided in its entirety as some widows have been living in hard times for lack of legal knowledge on the subject.



Jason Benedict (L), a representative of the US-based Regent University, signs a partnership contract with Kingdom Leadership Network Tanzania (KLNT) at the launch of a business development centre. The facility will be running business leadership short courses and an entrepreneurship programme for 14 weeks. This was at the 2020 Leadership Summit held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on are Tanzania National Business Council executive secretary Godwill Wanga (C) and KLNT founder and CEO Isaac Mpatwa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Undergo routine medical check-ups to curb diabetes, medical expert advises Tanzanians

By Correspondent James Kandoya

A DAR ES SALAAM-based medical expert has called on the community members to help fight increasing levels of diabetes by going for routine check-ups at the country's health facilities.

Director of Diagnosis and Nursing Services at Shree Hindu Mandal Hospital Dr Kishan Mistry made the call yesterday when speaking at free diabetes and hypertension screening as part of commemorating the World Diabetes Day, themed 'nurses and diabetes', highlighting the role of nurses in prevention and management of diabetes.

Dr Mistry said diabetes is a non-communicable disease but is currently gaining momentum as most people do not monitor their eating habits especially when it comes to avoiding foods that cause the disease.

He said routine checks on sugar levels will help reduce the vice and that negligence over the disease can cause health complications.

THE public has been reminded to adhere to regular medical check-ups to keep them free from Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) which are reported to have increased causing deaths.

He said that there were already initiatives to control the burden of NCDs, noting: "There is a need to focus more on primary prevention at population level targeting interventions to reduce

exposure to tobacco, reduce alcohol intake, reduce salt intake, promote healthy diets and physical activity."

He mentioned main risk factors for NCDs namely smoking, alcohol intake, unhealthy diet and low physical activity are prevalent in both rural and urban communities.

"NCD have an economic impact on the community since they take longer time and leave the patient and family bankrupt," he said.

According to him, diabetes and other NCD affect people of all ages adding that early diagnosis will help to control it.

Globally there is evidence of the growing burden of Non Communicable diseases (NCDs) especially in developing countries including Tanzania.

Historically, acute illnesses have been the most important health problems in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). However, there is growing evidence that the burden of chronic diseases (CDs), in particular that of NCDs, is increasing rapidly in the country.

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that deaths from NCDs in the African region will increase by 27 percent by the year 2030, which is 28 million additional deaths.

Calling for urgent action to prevent and control NCD. It highlights solutions to tackle the NCD epidemic and help deliver health for all.

In Tanzania, at least 31 percent of

all deaths have been associated with NCDs, with the main killers identified as Cardiovascular Diseases at nine percent and Cancers at five percent.

According to latest estimates at Dar es Salaam Ocean Road Cancer Institute, Tanzania registers around 50,000 new cases of cancer every year.

But the country's largest cancer referral hospital can only handle 5,000 patients. Cancer is just a fraction of the burden of non-communicable diseases in the country.

Astrider Batista who was screened for diabetes and hypertension thanked for the free services.

She said after the screening, she was given medical advice on how to be free from diseases including using a healthy diet.

Philemon Matiko, a resident of Kinyerezi called on the community to go and test their body to diagnose if there are diseases at an early stage.

Matiko said that he was tested and given consultation to avoid the NCD attack.

Every September 7013 each year, Tanzania joins other country in the world to mark the Global Week for Action on NCDs.

The campaign draws on energy, inspiration, determination, optimism, and outrage to focus efforts on ensuring NCD prevention and control get the attention and action they deserve from governments



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES TENDER No. EA/AAPH/2020/001

1.0 Background

Africa Academy for Public Health (AAPH) is an independent non-profit, non-governmental organization registered in Tanzania with the mission to address public health priority challenges in sub Saharan Africa through innovative scientific evidence, training & capacity building and knowledge translation. AAPH provides a platform for north-south and south-south learning to develop collaborative and sustainable research and programs, with the aim of benefiting population health. Headquartered in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, AAPH aims to contribute to the development of public health professionals who are equipped to address identified gaps in delivery of health systems and health services research.

AAPH wishes to engage a reputable Audit Firm to carry-out statutory audit for AAPH for the year ending 2020. The successful External Auditor will be provided with a renewable three-year contract. The audit will be performed in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and International Standards of Auditing (ISA).

The objective of the AAPH audit is to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements reflect a true and fair view of the financial position of the organization.

2.0 Scope of the Audit

The auditors will be required to conduct an audit review as follows:

- I. The auditors shall express an Independent professional report (opinion) on the financial statements according to International Standards of Auditing (ISA) expressing whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of AAPH in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).
- II. The audit shall be carried out in accordance with the National Standards of Auditing as issued by National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBA).
- III. The audit shall be carried out by an external, independent and qualified auditor (Certified Public Accountant).
- IV. The auditors shall examine, assess and report on the organization's compliance with relevant policies/process/procedures and applicable laws and regulations regarding accounting.
- V. All necessary supporting documents, records and accounts have been kept in respect of all center ventures. Clear linkages should exist between the books of accounts and financial statements.

3.0 Eligibility Criteria

- I. Compliance with legal requirements of registration.
- II. Audit firm's demonstrated experience with audit reporting under ISA and IFRS.
- III. The audit report shall contain details regarding used audit methodology and scope of the audit.
- IV. The aim and scope of statutory audit, the criteria applied, where relevant and any restriction/s imposed on the scope of the audit.
- V. The financial statement with disclosures and the accounting principles applied.
- VI. Audit firm staff must be independent of AAPH and any conflict/s of interest must be declared in the response to the Expression of Interest.

4.0 Deliverables

4.1 Audit Opinion and Report

The auditors shall provide an Independent Auditor's report (opinion) on financial statement and detailed report as follows:

- I. The audit report detailing the used audit methodology and scope of the audit.
- II. The aim and scope of statutory audit, the criteria applied, where relevant and any restriction imposed on the scope of the audit.
- III. The Audited Financial Statements with disclosures and the accounting principles applied.
- IV. A report stating clearly the auditor's opinion of the financial statement.

4.2 Management Letter

- I. In addition to the audit report, auditors will prepare a Management Letter which will: give comments and observations on the accounting records, system and controls that were examined during the course of the audit.
- II. Identify specific deficiencies and areas of weakness in systems and controls and make recommendations for their improvement.
- III. Communicate matters that have come to the auditor's attention during the audit which might have a significant impact on the implementation of the centre activities.
- IV. Bring to attention any matter considered pertinent during the course of the audit.
- V. Examine, assess and report on compliance with the terms and conditions of the agreement between funding partners and AAPH as well as compliance with applicable national laws and regulations.
- VI. Examine and report on appropriateness of the supporting documents, records and books of accounts relating to centre activities.
- VII. Present the report to the AAPH Board of Directors.
- VIII. Complete the audit within 2 months after end of the year.

5.0 Selection Criteria

Interested parties are welcome to apply and should be ready to provide the following information:

- I. Certificate of Registration and authorization to conduct audits by the National Board of Accountants and Auditors.
- II. Profile of the audit firm including personnel and their qualifications.
- III. References and details of the similar work undertaken within the last three years (2016 and beyond)
- IV. Proposed fee for the engagement including a schedule for additional services that may be necessary beyond the scope of the audit engagement such as declarant for AAPH online filling of Tax returns. The proposal should also indicate anticipated fees for the second and third years should they be appointed.
- V. Detailed audit plan/methodology including your approach to risk and fraud detection.
- VI. Estimated time required to complete the audit by classification of your employees.
- VII. Availability to start the auditing process from Jan 2021.

5.0 Submission Guidelines

- I. The proposal should have a maximum of 25 pages exclusive of statutory requirements that need to be attached separately.
- II. Submit, one complete Technical and one Financial proposal documents identified with **TENDER No. EA/AAPH/2020/001 "EOI: EXTERNAL AUDITOR"**.
- III. Mode of submission: ONLY electronically submitted proposals will be accepted.
- V. Submit to the following email: info@aaph.or.tz
- VI. Deadline for submission of the proposals is: **Monday November 30th 2020 at/or before 12:00 PM East African time.**
- VII. Only shortlisted firms will be contacted. For any questions, send an email to: info@aaph.or.tz not later than 5 days of the advert.
- VIII. Please note that this advert contains full Terms of Reference, hence no further tender documents are available.

The Guardian

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FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2020

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Awareness key to ending harassment at workplace

A new Convention and accompanying recommendation to combat violence and harassment in the world of work have been adopted by the International Labour Conference (ILC).

It is against this backdrop that representatives from government ministries responsible for gender and other stakeholders are meeting in Arusha to discuss measures on the first International Labour Organisation (ILO) labour standards that address violence and harassment at workplace.

The Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019, and Violence and Harassment Recommendation, 2019, were adopted by delegates on the final day of the Centenary International Labour Conference, in Geneva. For the Convention, 439 votes were cast in favour, seven against, with 30 abstentions. The Recommendation was passed with 397 votes in favour, 12 votes against and 44 abstentions.

The Convention recognises that violence and harassment in the world of work can constitute a human rights violation or abuse...is a threat to equal opportunities, is unacceptable and incompatible with decent work. It defines violence and harassment as behaviours, practices or threats that aim at, result in, or are likely to result in physical, psychological, sexual or economic harm. It reminds member states that they have a responsibility to promote a general environment of zero tolerance.

The new international labour standard aims to protect workers and employees, irrespective of their contractual status, and includes persons in training, interns and apprentices, workers whose employment has been terminated, volunteers, job seekers and job applicants. It recognises that individuals exercising the authority, duties or responsibilities of an employer can also be subjected to violence and harassment.

The new standards recognise the right of everyone to a world of work free from violence and harassment, according to Guy Ryder, ILO Director-General.

The standard covers violence and harassment occurring in the workplace; places where a worker is paid, takes a rest or meal break, or uses sanitary, washing or changing facilities; during work-related trips, travel, training, events or social activities; work-related communications (including through information and communication technologies), in employer-provided accommodation; and when commuting to and from work. It also recognises that violence and harassment may involve third parties.

ILO Director-General Guy Ryder welcomed the adoption. "The new standards recognise the right of everyone to a world of work free from violence and harassment," he said. "The next step is to put these protections into practice, so that we create a better, safer, decent, working environment for women and men. I am sure that, given the co-operation and solidarity we have seen on this issue, and the public demand for action, we will see speedy and widespread ratifications and action to implement."

Manuela Tomei, Director of the ILO's Work quality Department, said: "Without respect, there is no dignity at work, and, without dignity, there is no social justice. This is the first time that a Convention and Recommendation on violence and harassment in the world of work have been adopted. We now have an agreed definition of violence and harassment. We know what needs to be done to prevent and address it, and by whom. We hope these new standards will lead us into the future of work we want to see."

The Convention will enter into force 12 months after two member states have ratified it. The Recommendation, which is not legally binding, provides guidelines on how the Convention could be applied.

Rise of candida auris fungus attributed to global warming

CANDIDA auris is a species of fungus that grows as yeast. It is one of the few species of the genus Candida which cause candidiasis in humans. Often, candidiasis is acquired in hospitals by patients with weakened immune systems. It has attracted widespread attention because of its multiple drug resistance. Treatment is also complicated because it is easily misidentified as other Candida species.

Global warming may have played a pivotal role in the emergence of Candida auris, according to a new study. C. auris, which is often multi-drug resistant and is a serious public health threat, may be the first example of a new fungal disease emerging from climate change.

Scientists have a new theory about the origins of a dangerous, drug-resistant fungus that can strike the sickest patients in hospitals and other facilities that provide long-term care: global warming.

The fungus, a type of yeast called candida auris, was discovered just 10 years ago in a Japanese patient with an ear infection. (auris is Latin for ear.) Since then, it has been diagnosed in patients around the world.

But candida auris didn't spread like a virus would, radiating out from one location. Instead, it popped up simultaneously in different parts of the world, including India, South Africa and South America.

"It was really mystifying that Candida auris appeared at the same time in three continents," said lead study author Dr. Arturo Casadevall, chair of the molecular microbiology and immunology department at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Casadevall and his team thought the fungus's emergence must have been the result of some kind of change in the

Earth's environment - in this case, a gradual rise in temperature.

That's odd for fungi, which generally like ambient, cooler temperatures, like a cool forest floor where you might find a toadstool. Indeed, most fungal infections in people are found on the coolest parts of the human body, including the feet and in nail beds. The fungus tends to stay on the skin and doesn't cause an internal infection because it can't survive the warmer temperatures inside the body, where it is around 98 degrees Fahrenheit.

Candida auris is different. While it poses no threat to most healthy people, it can survive inside the bodies of very sick people with weakened immune systems and cause serious complications.

Casadevall's research involved what's called a phylogenetic analysis of C. auris and its closest relatives in the fungi world. The researchers compared different types of fungus related to C. auris, looking at whether each fungus could survive at higher temperatures. C. auris was the only one that was able to do it effectively.

The teams say it's evidence that fungi have begun to adapt to live at hotter temperatures. In theory, that makes them much more likely to make the jump from living on cooler skin, to warmer temperatures inside the body.

C. auris first showed up in the United States in 2016. Since then, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention have recorded 716 cases of the infection.

Climate change has been implicated in other changes in disease-causing pathogens, especially bacteria that like to live in warm water, and the spread of mosquito-borne viruses such as Zika and West Nile. And a recent report from the CDC also suggested climate change has played a role in the emergence of drug-resistant fungal infections.

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By Mmusi Maimane

AFRICAN leadership has become a 'boys' club' of former liberation movements intent on holding on to power at all costs. The locations change, yet the story is similar in all cases. Liberation movements using violence and suppression to hold on to power, regardless of the will of the people.

In a week where the world was intensely focused on the US presidential election between Donald Trump and Joe Biden, political unrest is intensifying on our very own continent and is being met by detached platitudes from the African Union (AU) under Cyril Ramaphosa's chairmanship.

It appears each week, as Africans, we are forced to witness the undoing and undermining of democracy on our continent. The locations change, yet the story is similar in all cases. Liberation movements using violence and suppression to hold onto power, regardless of the will of the people.

This past week the Ivory Coast was the latest edition in this unfolding story as the country held its presidential election.

The election was marred by violence, killings and an eventual boycott by opposition voters. Over 30 civilians were killed in protests. But that is not where the matter ends. According to

'Big Man' politics still destroying Africa: The AU must speak out and intervene

the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) more than 3,000 people have fled Ivory Coast to seek refuge in neighbouring countries such as Liberia, Togo and Ghana.

In a brief two-paragraph joint statement with Ecowas and the United Nations, the AU called for Ivorians to accept the result of the election, and, well, move on. This is not only impotent leadership; it conveniently ignores the humanitarian crisis that is unfolding in the region as a result of the election which saw Alassane Ouattara win a third term with over 94% of the vote.

The apposite point here is that such occurrences are constantly and increasingly unfolding in Africa and the AU is either unwilling or unable to tackle the matter in an effective manner.

It is now over 270 days since Ramaphosa assumed the role of AU chair. During that time, we've witnessed a spate of alleged human rights abuses - illegal detentions, tortures and suppression of rights - that have gained international attention. From #EndSARS in Nigeria, to human trafficking, to the politically motivated

arrest of the Zanzibar presidential candidate, the human rights abuses continue unabated. The AU has failed "to promote and protect human rights on the continent" as per Article 3(h) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union.

This is because African leadership has become a "boys' club" of former liberation movements intent on holding on to power at all costs. And the story for most post-colonial nations in Africa is the same.

First comes the era of colonial rule - unjust and exploitative. Then comes independence along with a new, democratically elected government. And then follows years, even decades, of oppression by the very same people who were meant to deliver freedom. This is the story of our continent: liberation movements that fail in their role as governing parties.

We have seen, time and time again, the liberators come to power amid fanfares of revolution, only to bow to the temptations of patronage and corruption. We have seen a litany of Big Man presidents amassing wealth on a scale unimaginable to ordinary citizens. We have seen decades of

one-party rule, across the length and breadth of our continent, obliterate any sense of accountability to the people.

This is why I have called for an urgent sitting of the African Commission to intervene in the rapid escalation of human rights abuses across Africa.

This quasi-judicial body is tasked with holding African governments to their human rights obligations as parties to the African Charter and we will implore it to formally hold a sitting - whether virtually or in-person - to urgently address the myriad abuses in several member states.

As Nelson Chamisa, Zitto Kabwe, Bobi Wine, Hakainde Hichilema and many others across the African continent stand up to dictators and continue the fight for democracy, they require the institutional support of the very bodies mandated to do so.

Now is the time we end the cycle. Africa requires fresh, young and able leadership without any ties to the liberation movements of the past. We acknowledge their contribution to our continent, but we now boldly proclaim it's time for a break with the past and a commitment to the future.

A few thoughts on national unity and identity

By Hakeem Belo-Osagie

THERE are many who refer to the amalgamation documents as if they tell us something about the unnatural nature of present day Nigeria. For me, the amalgamation document is simply a document of some historical interest. It doesn't say anything to me about whether Nigeria should or should not be one. Briefly put, these are my rough views. I invite other views from fellow countrymen and women.

The British declared a Southern Nigeria state. That was an artificial creation. It created a Lagos colony. That was an artificial creation. It merged the two into a Southern Nigeria. That was artificial. The British then merged a Southern Nigeria with a Northern Nigeria. That was artificial. I do not believe that the amalgamation of North and South Nigeria was any more artificial than the British grouping together of various groups into a Southern Nigeria.

There is a common misperception that there is such a thing as a natural nation as opposed to an artificial nation. There is no such thing as a natural nation in my mind. Differences

and commonalities are selected and defined and heightened by elites and leaders. If you look at virtually any country, you will see a history of differences and commonalities. Nigeria is no different.

Outstanding leadership brings together people by stressing commonalities and uniting with a vision and provide purpose that enables us all to move forward together. Italy was for 30 centuries plus fiercely antagonistic city states. Germany was a collection of Kingdoms. India was created by the British, uniting many kingdoms. Spain arose after the marriage of two people heading different kingdoms. China was not united until the 20th century.

The only country in the world that had a single tribe, a single religion was Somalia. It has become one of the worst examples of state failure. Somali leaders discovered and stressed new differences. They stressed clans within tribe and that became the dividing line.

I believe that the search for a natural basis for the division of the country based on a common identity is a doomed exercise. Because identities are socially constructed. You can continue to subdivide ad infinitum. Agitation for state creation has shown this.

My father used to tell me that when he grew up he was told that he was a Bini man. He later on arrival at Kings College became a Westerner. (Western Region). He then became a Mid-Westerner in 1963. He was later renamed a Bendelite. His son Keem started as a Bendelite and then later became an Edo man. And now in his old age, he is a South South man. All these identities are fluid and made by men and women. I have decided to be a Nigerian and an African. I have no reason to question that choice. I have embraced it for all time.

My father used to tell me that even the words Igbo and Yoruba are relatively recent terms. He told me that when he was in Kings College, a man told you he was from Onitsha or Aba, and he referred to himself as an Easterner. He hardly referred to himself as Igbo man. Other friends would refer to themselves as Egbas or Ijebus, not as Yorubas. If we had a leader like Nkrumah, or Nyerere, or Nehru who stressed national commonalities, we would have made progress as a country. Instead, we had leaders who united the Ijebus and Egbas into Sons of Oduduwa. We had leaders who united the competing kingdoms of Bornu, Katsina, Zaria, Kano into a North. They had competed

for centuries. The villages and towns of Onitsha and Aba were turned into an Igbo nation. They did not think on a large enough scale.

Our leaders in the 1940s and 1950s made choices. There was nothing natural about the decisions they took. The divisions they met were no greater than in Ghana, China, India, Tanzania or Uganda. They simply lacked a national or continental vision. We must not repeat their mistakes.

The failure of Nigeria is, for me, not so much a failure of structure but more of values and vision. The study of businesses and political systems confirms that values always outweigh structures as the determinant of success. My time in university over the last few years has led me to the same conclusion. That is why I am sceptical of the current rush for restructuring along lines of identity. Or rather a supposed common identity.

We should be able to have multiple identities and a common Nigerian identity. I do not think it is too late. In fact, I think that heading anywhere else is the beginning of a never ending set of subdivisions birthed and accompanied by violence until we become 20 or 30 Benin or Togo republics. Irrelevant. And still badly governed."

Interrogating the responsibilities of education authorities to ensure schools are safe

By Demichelle Petherbridge and Julia Chaskalson

ON 30 January 2017, a Grade 12 learner attending Geluksdal Secondary School in Brakpan on Gauteng's East Rand ran into a mobile classroom during break time to shelter from a heavy thunderstorm. As she entered the doorway, the 17-year-old touched the metal door frame and was electrocuted. She died on the scene.

This was not the first death or injury to occur in a school environment as a result of unsafe infrastructure.

Due to the apartheid system's underspending on, and neglect of, schools for black learners, South Africa has a substantial backlog in providing decent school infrastructure.

Unsafe and unlawful structures and neglected electrical equipment and sanitation facilities remain a persistent problem in schools across the country.

While our current government may have inherited a schooling system with poor and unsafe school infrastructure, it has nevertheless failed to adequately remedy this state of affairs for more than two decades.

Therefore, a fundamental question that needs to be asked is: What role do education officials have today in keeping learners free from harm while at school?

To what extent can authorities at various levels of the basic education system be held accountable for the deaths of learners like the girl at Geluksdal Secondary, or others, including Michael Komape, Enoch Mpianzi and Lumka Mkhethwa?

The continued lack of concern for pupil safety and neglect of school infrastructure are systemic problems for which structural redress is urgently required.

It is also crucial that those responsible for these constitutional violations are held accountable.

These are some of the questions SECTION27 will raise before the Gauteng local division of the high court in Johannesburg, where we have been admitted as an amicus curiae (friend of the court) in the matter of the death of the learner at Geluksdal.

The learner's family, represented by Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr Inc, is claiming damages from the department of basic education, the head of the department, the MEC for basic education, the school governing body (SGB) and the principal at Geluksdal Secondary School.

SECTION27 aims to argue that the common law should be developed in accordance with Section 39(2) of the Constitution, so that an individual is allowed to claim for the grief they have suffered as a separate head of damages, rather than as part of their claim for damages for pain and suffering.

Alternatively, SECTION27 will argue that, within the context of ongoing and systemic deaths and injuries of learners due to unsafe infrastructure, claims for constitutional damages should be recognised so as to hold education officials accountable for their failure to comply with their constitutional obligations.

In the Supreme Court of Appeal's judgment on the case concerning the death of five-year-old Michael Komape, the court avoided the development of these questions by including grief as part of the family's claim for pain and suffering.

The teenager at Geluksdal Secondary died because the electrical equipment necessary for a safe environment - circuit breakers, cables, earth leakage and distribution boxes - were repeatedly stolen or vandalised.

This meant that while mobile classrooms, like the one she sought shelter inside back in 2017, were provided with electricity for power and lighting, nothing was earthed and the distribution boxes (which help send electrical current to different points in the classroom) had no circuit breakers.

Circuit breakers are essential protective devices that cut off the electrical current when a fault is detected; without these, the potential for fires or electrocution is significantly increased.

According to an investigative report undertaken by independent attorneys on behalf of the Gauteng department of education (GDE), the SGB made clear that it had periodically fixed and replaced electrical wir-

ing and circuit breakers at the school.

The principal reported the theft of the circuit breakers to the GDE as early as March 2016, and repeatedly flagged the issue in monthly reports.

Despite escalating the problem, the electrical equipment was not replaced. The report found the GDE liable for the learner's death, stating that:

"[T]hey should reasonably have foreseen that harm may occur, and having a duty of care as diligens paterfamilias, and as envisaged in the Regulations... should have replaced the safety mechanisms, and ensured that the classrooms were safe for learning and teaching. They failed in this regard."

The report illustrates that officials in various departments of the GDE did not think it was their duty to replace the electrical equipment, and because of the lack of clarity, several officials shrugged off the responsibility.

Worryingly, as the roles and responsibilities of officials in the basic education system are unclear, no one at the district, circuit or provincial level has answered for what happened at Geluksdal.

Many schools, particularly in Gauteng, are ravaged by theft and vandalism.

This has not only robbed schools of the equipment and resources necessary to ensure proper teaching and learning, but on occasion has left schools unsafe for learners.

While the school environment is also the responsibility of the community, and issues such as theft may need to also be addressed at a community level, stakeholders such as the DBE, provincial education departments, school governing bodies and school management teams are not absolved of their responsibility to ensure that learners and school property are kept safe.

Regulatory framework for accountability

Our law speaks to the need for public officials to ensure learners are safe at school.

The courts have, through their jurisprudence, recognised that public officials,

while fulfilling their roles in loco parentis (in the place of a parent), have certain duties to keep learners safe.

The courts have pronounced on these roles to ensure authorities are held accountable for failing to ensure the school environment is safe.

Section 195 of the Constitution obliges all those engaged in public administration, such as DBE officials, to promote and maintain a "high standard of professional ethics".

Very specific obligations are also placed on provincial MECs to institute measures promoting school safety.

In this regard, regulations 4(3)(c) and 4(1)(b)(ii) of the Regulations Relating to Minimum Norms and Standards for Public School Infrastructure, published by the minister of basic education in 2013, state that the MEC must provide perimeter security within seven years of the publication of the regulations, by 29 November 2020.

In addition to this, the regulations indicate that every school site, including outbuildings and sporting and recreational facilities, must be surrounded by appropriate fencing, and that school buildings must have at least one safety and security measure in place, such as burglar proofing, a security guard or an alarm system.

Geluksdal Secondary School was not properly secured.

Had Geluksdal been secured against theft and vandalism, this tragedy is unlikely to have occurred.

Over and above the duties of MECs, officials at public schools, like educators and principals, also have a role to play in protecting learners, and are required to adhere to the obligations imposed upon them by the Bill of Rights.

As organs of state, public schools must "respect, promote and fulfil" the rights enshrined in the Bill of Rights, which include everyone's right to an environment that is not harmful to their health and wellbeing, as well as a child's right to appropriate alternative care when removed from the family environment, as they are at school.



A destroyed roof at Mohloping Primary School in Motlouela village near Burgersfort in Limpopo on 17 January 2018. (File photo)

In addition to these, Section 28(2) of the Constitution stipulates that the best interests of the child must be of paramount importance in every matter concerning the child, which includes all decisions taken by a school in relation to learner safety.

Significantly, the minister of basic education published regulations dedicated solely to safety measures in public schools, and which detail the steps these schools must take to address learner safety.

Notably, Regulation 8A(2) provides that a public school must take measures to ensure the safety of learners during any school activity.

SGBs have a statutory duty to en-

sure that schools are well maintained, repairs are attended to and security is provided. In particular, Section 20(1)(g) of the South African Schools Act states that the SGB of a public school must "administer and control the school's property, buildings and grounds occupied by the school, including school hostels, if applicable".

With regard to funding school maintenance and repairs, the National Norms and Standards for School Funding also state that funds received by school governing bodies from a provincial education department must, among others, be used for items including services relating to repairs and maintenance, as well as security

services. This legislative and regulatory framework establishes that there is an obligation to keep learners safe from the dangers that arise from poor maintenance and the lack of security. When a learner's life is taken at school as a result of a wiring problem that could have been fixed, it signals a carelessness that violates every child's right to basic education.

We need to hold role players accountable for failing in their responsibilities to prevent senseless accidents and losses in the school environment, and to ensure that school infrastructure challenges are addressed in a sustainable way. **DM**

Focus on forests key to survival amid pandemic

ROME

WHILE the world grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic, forest loss is also an ongoing emergency that directly affects human survival, said a senior official of the Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in a recent interview with Xinhua.

A call to focus on forests during a deadly global pandemic with devastating economic consequences may seem contradictory, but the opposite is true, according to FAO Forestry Division Director Mette Wilkie.

"There is a clear tendency to focus on the immediate needs in response to COVID-19: human health, food security, getting people back to work - this is not surprising and of course these should be the primary concerns," Wilkie said.

However, she added, the pandemic is "providing an opportunity, where the wheels of the economy are turning much slower than normal, to design new pathways" to a sustainable future.

"We must make sure we don't repeat past mistakes, but build back better - and this means tackling the economic crisis, the climate change crisis and the biodiversity crisis all at the same time," Wilkie explained.

"Focusing on forests helps us do just

that," she said, adding that investing in forest restoration now makes sense on many levels because it creates jobs while mitigating climate change and preserving biodiversity - all key actions on the path to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Ultimately "societies worldwide will need to be convinced of the global restoration imperative by rational economic argument, compassion for current and future generations, and an emotional connection to nature," Wilkie said.

CHINA

The warning on forest loss also appeared in the latest edition of FAO's quarterly forestry publication Unasylva, which dedicates a chapter to China's successful reforestation efforts.

Titled "Restoring the Earth: the next decade," the new Unasylva edition points to China's successes in reforesting vast tracts of its national territory since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949.

Along with countries such as Costa Rica and Vietnam, China is one of a few countries to have reversed centuries of forest loss in recent decades, increasing its forest cover from 8.6 percent of the national land area in 1949 to 23 percent today.

Overall, between 1978 and 2015

China invested US\$378.5 billion in 16 major sustainability programs - including reforestation - across more than 600 million hectares, or about 62 percent of China's land area.

ALSO READ: Zoonoses a clear and present, growing danger

Wilkie pointed out that, according to data reported to FAO's Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA 2020), China has been continuously increasing its forest cover - from 152 million hectares in 1986 to 220 million hectares in 2020.

Much of this expansion has been driven by large-scale eco-forestry projects designed to control erosion and desertification, protect watersheds, reduce sediment in major rivers, and restore animal and plant habitats while increasing crop production and food security.

"China's success in reversing centuries of forest loss shows that large-scale restoration is possible," according to the Unasylva report.

Among the reasons for that success is that "China had the political will at the highest levels - including a strong, long-term commitment by the government - plus the expertise and the human and financial resources" as well as a strong local community involvement, Wilkie explained.

Xinhua



INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS FOR INSURANCE BROKERAGE SERVICES FOR THE BANK

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 - Detailed write up on policies /claims processing timelines.
 - Must be a member of Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) and a copy of the current Membership certificate submitted together with the tender.
 - Copy of valid certificate of registration with insurance regulatory Authority as an insurance broker.
 - Tenderer may provide any other information together with the above to support the application.
- All Tender documents to be submitted in one original plus two (2) copies, properly sealed in plain envelopes delivered to the address below;

Head of Administration,
Exim Bank Tanzania Limited
4th Floor Exim Towers, 1404/45 Ghana Avenue (Off Ohio Street),
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So as to reach before 2:00PM, 23rd November 2020
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EXIM BANK
Innovation is life

South Africa playing catch-up to secure access to Covid vaccines, including the Pfizer version

By Adele Baleta

THIS week's announcement of a breakthrough in development of a Covid-19 vaccine is "a massive development", according to Dr Essack Mitha, a clinical trial specialist whose team has helped with the clinical trials.

"It's very exciting, and the interim results are very promising. It leaves me with lots of hope as this could pave the way for a vaccine to be developed before the end of the year," says Mitha, owner of Newtown Clinical Research in Johannesburg.

Pfizer and BioNTech, a German company, announced this week that their vaccine candidate was successful in preventing symptomatic Covid-19 disease in the first interim analysis from the Phase 3 trial that includes 44,000 people across a range of countries.

While the news has been largely well received and global stock markets surged after the announcement, there has been some caution and criticism. There is consensus that more data is needed and some commentators have said the companies' announcement via press release (and not peer-reviewed publication) is neither good scientific practice nor does it help to build public trust in vaccines.

Will South Africa have access?

Pfizer and BioNTech have said they will have 500 million doses of the vaccine available by end-December and 1.3 billion doses in early 2021. Several countries have already entered into deals with the manufacturers for access to the vaccine.

Thus far, South Africa has not secured doses of candidate vaccines from Pfizer or any other manufacturer.

The country also missed the first deadline to commit to Covax - an initiative co-lead by the World Health Organisation that aims to ensure developing countries get access to Covid-19 vaccines.

Spokesman for the Department of Health, Popo Maja, confirmed South Africa had not concluded any vaccine deal, but added negotiations with manufacturers and Covax were underway.

Reuters news agency has reported that Botswana made an upfront payment to Covax this week, giving it the option to secure more than 940,000 doses of a Covid vaccine under a two-dose regimen for 20% of its population.

Early analysis

Early analysis of the Pfizer results

showed that individuals who received two injections of the vaccine three weeks apart experienced over 90% fewer cases of symptomatic Covid-19 than those who received a placebo (a dummy, usually salt water). Researchers have consistently cautioned that a vaccine might only be 60% or 70% effective.

Pfizer and BioNTech have so far analysed the data from 94 individuals who developed Covid-19 and the study will close with analysing data from 164 trial participants who developed the disease. The primary end point of the trial is not prevention of infection with SARS-CoV-2 but rather prevention of clinically recognisable disease (i.e. Covid-19).

There are still many unanswered questions.

Although there have not been major safety issues to date, the safety of the vaccine needs to be assessed continually and this would include during a Phase 4 study as well as with post-marketing surveillance.

It is not yet known if the vaccine works in elderly people, those with HIV, Hepatitis B and C infection and those with co-morbidities such as diabetes and hypertension.

It is also not yet known if a vaccinated person who has symptoms can spread it to others. It is also not known whether the vaccine equally protects against mild, moderate and severe cases of Covid-19.

The South African arm of the trial includes 800 participants at four sites in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Western Cape and Limpopo.

"I have so much pride for our teams in South Africa that have pulled together with this particular protocol," comments Mitha. "It has been very hectic over the last few weeks because timelines are short, but things like this make it all worthwhile."

South Africa joined the trial at the end of September, a month after the global study had started.

Mitha, who has been doing clinical trials since 2004, says he was hoping to recruit more than 800 participants.

"We completed our recruitment ahead of schedule hoping that the company would allow us more patients, but there were delays in our Department of Health approving additional numbers, which actually limited us. It was sad, because at the end we had queues of people lining up to take part in the study and we had to turn them away."

According to Maja, clinical trials are a regulatory issue over which the na-



tional Department of Health has no jurisdiction. "It does not give permission for trial participation."

Trial participants were given the first dose at the end of September and the second dose at the end of October. Mitha believes some data from early participants in South Africa were included in the interim data analysis presented this week.

The selection of South Africa as one of the global hosts of the study was based on local scientific expertise and capabilities, the epidemiology of the disease, and South Africa's prior experience in running clinical trials.

Mitha adds that other factors to include in the trial were that "we have a diverse genetic profile and a high prevalence of HIV, people with Hepatitis B and C infection and co-morbid diseases such as hypertension and diabetes".

Cold chain concerns

A major concern is future distribution of the possible vaccine in low-income countries. The vaccine has to be transported and stored at an extreme temperature of minus 80 degrees Celsius.

"This does pose a challenge, but there is a flicker of optimism. These types of vaccines are able to be manipulated. It's likely that in the next few months the vaccine will be tweaked to make it more stable at different temperatures," Mitha explains.

Pfizer is working on improving the cold-chain requirements to 2°C to 8°C, according to STAT news.

Director of Africa Health Research Institute, Professor

Willem Hanekom, says the results are "very exciting" and "encouraging".

"It is unlikely that the storage of the vaccine has been a priority until now because they first had to see if the vaccine works, but future development will look at making it accessible in terms of distribution."

The mRNA vaccine

The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine is based on the genetic material mRNA (or messenger ribonucleic acid). The mRNA vaccines have a piece of genetic material that codes for viral proteins, or parts of them. Once inside the cells, the mRNA instructs the cells' protein factories to make copies of the viral proteins. These then stimulate the immune system to mount a protective immune response.

Hanekom says interim results are also encouraging for most of the other candidate vaccines that want to induce similar kinds of immunity against the spike protein. The Pfizer trial is "a proof of concept that immunity against the spike protein may be important for protection and therefore we are optimistic that other approaches will also work".

Hanekom and Mitha agree that the exciting part of the mRNA vaccine platform, which has never been used before, is that it is cheaper and faster to develop a vaccine than it is traditional vaccines.

Hanekom says safety data still needs to be looked at comprehensively.

Commenting on lasting immunity, Mitha says the ques-

tion of how long immunity lasts can only be determined over a period of time. "Our time frame is to check antibody levels at six months, 12 months and two years. This type of data will come about as the study progresses."

Mitha says while there are pockets of vaccine hesitancy, "more than 90% of the people I have engaged with would accept vaccines. While there may be financial implications, and they may not receive the vaccines, the will is there and they want a vaccine."

The South African arm of the trial will continue seeing patients and ensure that all the data is captured for final study results.

"For me, the main issue here was offering our patients a chance to take part in the trial, and realistically we've offered our patients the vaccine prior to it being released globally. That is very exciting for me and my patients are very happy."

"There has also been interest from a few other companies to engage on other vaccine studies, so it looks like it's going to be a busy 2021," he says.

DM

Disgraceful state of the nation's federal roads

By Eugene Enahoro

FOR the sake of being polite and not using appropriately abusive language, the best way to describe the state of the nation's highways is to use words such as deplorable, terrible, awful, dreadful, shocking, lamentable, disgraceful, shameful and unpardonable.

If there is one single factor that indicates the imperative to restructure the nation's finances and politics and bring government closer to the people, it's the unpardonable state of the nation's federal road network.

It's unpardonable simply because the nation is structured in such a manner that the Executive and National Assembly allocate to themselves a disproportionate share of the budget, while serially failing to alleviate the suffering of ordinary citizens.

It simply doesn't make sense to expect anyone sitting down in Abuja to have any idea of the atrocious conditions of so called "federal roads" nationwide. What is worse is that in most states of the federation, these federal roads are the major roads, which the federal government has neither capacity, nor plan to repair, leaving citizens to suffer unconscionably.

The abysmal conditions of federal roads are a stain on the reputation of the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA). However, to be fair, FERMA officials have said time and again that the budget needed to maintain federal roads nationwide is approximately four times what is allocated. In 2020, they claimed they needed N125 Billion not the N36 Billion earmarked in the budget. For reasons best known to the federal government and officials of the Federal Ministry of Works, the cost of constructing and maintaining roads in Nigeria is much higher than in other African countries. Even if there are justifiable reasons for this



anomaly, federal government's excuse that there is no money for road maintenance is not tenable. An analogy is in order. Consider the case of a family man who insists on consuming two bottles of beer and fish-head pepper soup daily as his self-granted reward for being head of the family. If such a man claims he has no money to pay his children's school fees or his wife's hospital bill, would he not be called irresponsible? This is akin to the federal government's attitude towards providing for citizens welfare. They design lopsided budgets to ensure funds are available to maintain luxurious presidential jets to galivant all over the world, sometimes on unofficial jaunts, ensure there are fleets of brand new multi-million Naira executive jeeps to carry assorted self-important political office holders to social functions

nationwide, and ensure there are private jets to carry governors and political godfathers around the country to attend their children's weddings. After this they take foreign loans to construct railway lines to other countries, and universities in rural areas which cannot boast of 100 qualified secondary school leavers annually. The truth is that the federal government has money; what political leaders lack is compassion towards mass suffering and a willingness to sacrifice their personal comfort for the public good. The African Development Bank's 2018 report on Nigeria's economic outlook stated that over 80 percent of the population lives on less than N1,000 per day. Yet in the 2020 budget, N2.5 billion was allocated for the President's local and international travels, and N98 million for catering and foodstuff supplies.

Astoundingly, the budget for refreshments and meals in the Presidency is approximately N68,000 per day! The totally inappropriate budgeting at federal level is highlighted by the fact that total revenue cannot cover recurrent expenditure. Nevertheless, rather than tighten their belt, government is increasing its allocations to itself! In 2020, the National Assembly's budget was increased by N3 billion to N128 billion.

Despite this, there is also a budgetary provision for N36 billion to "renovate" their luxurious offices! In addition to government preferring to spend money on itself rather than on road maintenance and citizens' welfare, there are several other important reasons why Nigerian roads routinely fall into disrepair. Whenever the Minister of Works talks about the

rainy season, one would think that perhaps it's a new phenomenon. It isn't and should not be used as an excuse for the collapse of roads. The fact is that there are many nations worldwide in which it rains almost daily, yet their roads are in good shape. Cost cutting measures are allegedly standard practice when constructing Nigerian roads which are poorly designed without adequate drainage. Corruptly constructed at the cost of billions they were never designed to stand the test of time. Whereas in Germany, all roads are laid with a concrete base and are higher in the centre than the edge to ensure that water drains naturally off the road, Nigerian roads are flat ensuring that even the newest ones hold water and quickly develop potholes.

In addition to defective design, another important consideration is overloaded trailers. When Nigerian "Express Roads" were built, there were weighbridges which trailers had to pass through before commencing their journey. All that has gone by the wayside and anyone who travels by roads can testify to the carnage done by overloaded trailers.

They turn small potholes into large craters, and convert tarred roads into laterite swamps within no time. It seems nothing short of unwise if not foolhardy for government to even consider building new roads when existing ones are in such a state. US President Trump is loved by Nigerians simply because he says there is no country run by a black man which is an example of how to manage the nation's finances prudently and in a principled fashion to place citizens' welfare in the front-burner.

Stanbic Bank wins 2020 best investment Bank award

By Guardian Reporter

STANBIC Bank Tanzania has been named Best Investment Bank in Tanzania for the year 2020 by EMEA Finance-a journal dedicated exclusively to reporting financial events and triumphs in the international

finance industry.

The results of Best Investment Banking award are based on the degree to which the selected banks demonstrate their exceptional depth of market understanding and excellence in offering services to investors to contribute to the

development of the national economy. Bank's chief executive, Kevin Wingfield said winning the award reiterates the bank's continued leadership in the investment banking landscape of the country.

"Over the years, Stanbic has been supporting the growth

objectives of both Government and our corporate customers looking for a banking partner focused on delivering tailored solutions for our clients. Having built strong in-country advisory capabilities supported by global sector expertise, we have been deliver-

ing a full range of investment banking services to our clients and this award is a testament to this," said Wingfield.

"We have partnered with our clients in supporting a number of projects including; infrastructure, power, mining, telecoms, construction and

trade. Many of these projects are key drivers of economic growth and tools towards achieving Tanzania's industrialization goals," added Wingfield.

Wingfield further highlighted that the award was as a result of mutual efforts between

the bank's customers and partners, and that we are all committed to continue finding innovative ways of making dreams possible by enabling key projects to materialize. This award aligns closely with our brand promise of "IT CAN BE".

British Fund to address climate change threat to cultural heritage in E. Africa

By Special Correspondent

THE British Council's Cultural Protection Fund has awarded funding to five global heritage projects, which will use technology, skills development and community engagement to respond to the risk of climate change to heritage in East Africa.

Selected as part of the Cultural Protection Fund's Disaster and Climate Change Mitigation round, the projects will address the threat to valuable cultural heritage in Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda by increasing capacity and resilience through risk planning, training programmes and digital innovation.

The fund continues a partnership between British Council and UK Government's Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport partnership to protect threatened heritage in and around the Middle East and Africa. East African organisations and experts will partner with counterparts in the UK and Italy to support the exchange of knowledge and shared solidarity within the global heritage community.

The partnerships aim to advance regional cultural protection by further engaging communities and empowering local organisations with the skills to protect tangible and intangible cultural heritage, such as restoration techniques, digital documentation and traditional crafts.

Fund recipients

Five projects have been awarded funding. Partners in Ethiopia will receive £106,700 to support risk assessments and action planning for 23 ancient rock churches. Plans include production of conservation manuals and local skills training to protect traditional conservation materials and techniques.

In Kenya, partners will receive £109,744 for photographic history preservation. The money will be used to digitise and protect the physical collection of late 19th Century paper and photographic collections at the Mc-



Millan Memorial Library chronicling key Kenyan historical events, which is at risk from climate-related heat and moisture.

Another project in Kenya has also received £109,430 to develop disaster risk

management strategies for preserving Kenyan coastal heritage sites at risk due to rising sea levels, coastal erosion, salt evaporation and storms. Plans include the development of site staff to manage risks,

implement interventions and host community training programmes to support local engagement.

Coastal heritage is also the focus of the heritage project awarded £60,501 in Tanza-

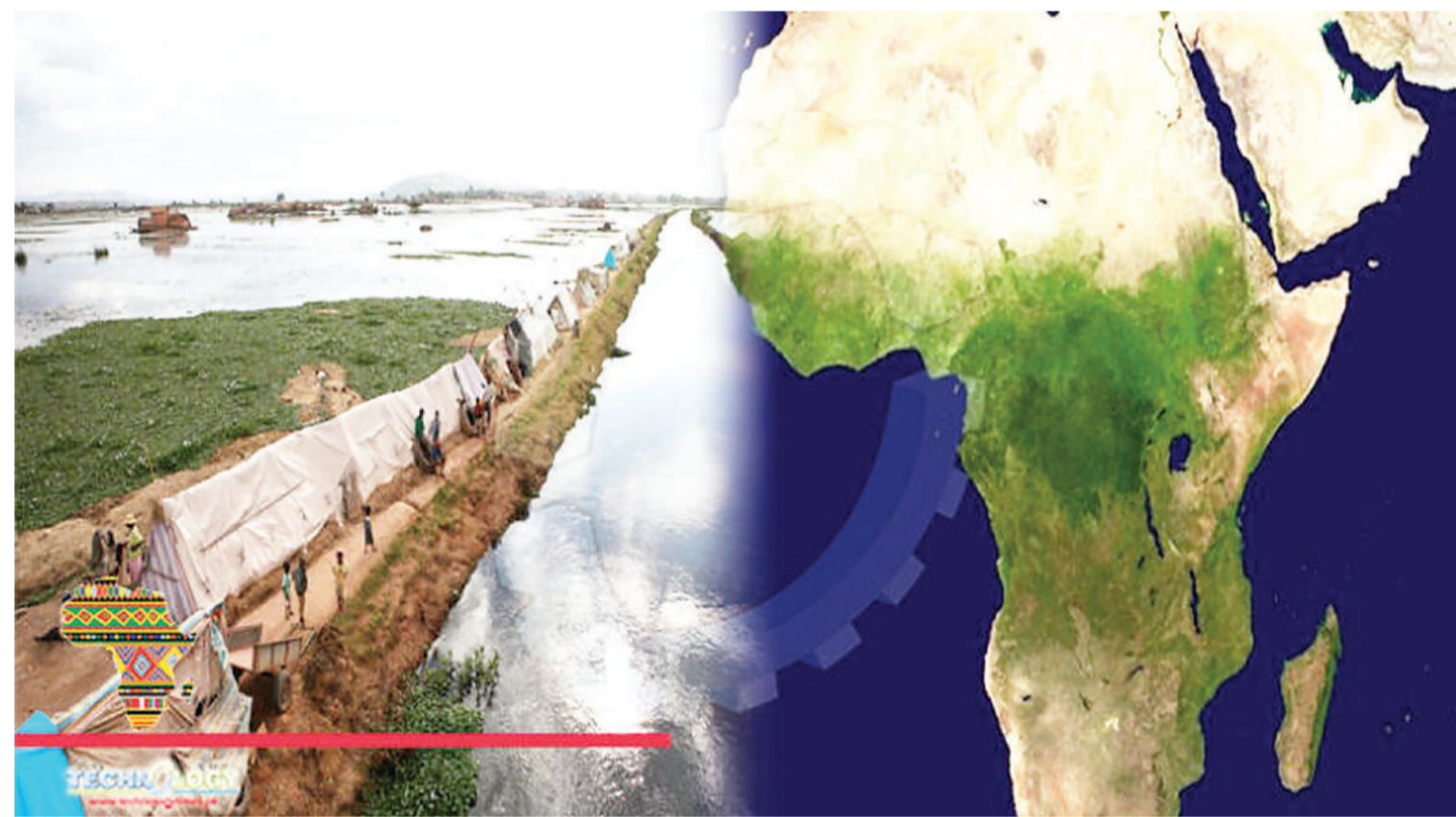
nia. The funds will the assessment of risks and digitisation of the UNESCO World Heritage coastal sites of Kilwa Kisiwani and Bagamoyo, Tanzania. Mitigating against future rising sea levels will run alongside documenting risk to intangible heritage of coastal communities, such as oral traditions and craft skills.

The focus of the project awarded funding (£76,447) in Uganda is flood threats to communities and monuments. The money will go towards protection against the impact of melting snow and flooding rivers on Uganda's Bakonzo and Alur communities due to global warming. Interventions to protect national monument Wang Lei will support knowledge sharing with Fountains Abbey in Yorkshire, UK. Additional recording of tangible and intangible cultural heritage will run alongside community training and awareness initiatives.

Stephen Stenning, head of arts and society, British Council, said: "The Disaster and Climate Change Mitigation pilot to support cultural heritage at risk from climate change is an urgent area of focus for the global heritage community. With continued support from DCMS, this alert to our shared environmental vulnerabilities has resulted in some extraordinary international partnership projects.

"Sharing concerns and solutions around the impact of climate change, from North Yorkshire in the UK to the Rwenzori Mountains in Uganda, is a great example of the mutually beneficial collaborations at the heart of the Cultural Protection Fund."

Intensifying weather events threaten the most vulnerable in Africa



By Special Correspondent, Johannesburg

A Greenpeace scientific report released yesterday reveals that extreme weather events such as heat waves, floods and intense rain are increasing in intensity, frequency and severity across many parts of Africa, gravely threatening human health, food security, peace, and biodiversity.

Weather across sub-Saharan Africa has become more extreme and unpredictable in the twenty-first century, a trend that climate scientists project will become more pronounced in future decades. This is the key finding confirmed by the comprehensive report published yesterday by Greenpeace Africa and the Greenpeace Science Unit.

The report 'Weathering the Storm: Extreme Weather and Climate Change in Africa' explores the relationship between extreme weather events and climate change in Africa and summarises the scientific data on how the climate crisis is spiralling out of control across Africa, including irregular extreme heatwaves, floods, droughts and cyclones at a scale hitherto unknown. Climate-

related problems can often be disproportionately felt in the poorest communities because they are least equipped to cope with and adjust to changes.

"Science shows there is very little that is natural in the disasters striking our continent. A human-made crisis requires a human-made solution. Africa is the cradle of humanity and it shall be the cradle of climate action for our future. Health, safety, peace and justice will not be achieved only through prayers and bags of rice and maize in the aftermath of a disaster. Only the one who preserves has no misfortune - and African leaders must declare a climate emergency to preserve our collective future," said Melita Steele, Greenpeace Africa Programme Director.

Key findings of the report include future average temperatures in Africa are projected to increase at a rate faster than the global average in all warming scenarios, the mean annual temperature increase for much of Africa is projected to exceed 2 or to fall within the range of 3 to 6 by the end of the twenty-first century if high emissions continue - two to four times beyond the rise permitted in the Paris Agreement.

The rising temperature is likely to lead to deaths, displacement, climate-related conflict, irregular rainfall, drinking water shortages, and obstruction of agricultural production and accelerated extinction of endemic African species.

The frequency, intensity, and duration of extreme heat events are expected to increase, following trends already observed in Southern, East and Northern Africa.

Climate Scientist, founder of Black Women in Science and co-author of the report Ndoni Mccunu: "There needs to be better incorporation of indigenous knowledge in scientific evidence on extreme weather events in Africa.

"African countries need to be more involved in leading the development of new databases and models rather than being dependent on countries outside Africa. This will ensure better communication, planning and future projects of events. Access to information needs to be provided at a community level," he said.

Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Director of the Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad (AFPAT): "Over the last 50 years, we have already experienced a warming of 1.5C, well over the world average. In the Sahel, climate change destroyed our crops, our homes and tore families apart through forced migration."

"But Africa is not only the stage where the worst climate impacts will play out; it is a continent of millions of citizens determined to stop climate change, to move away from fossil fuels, who will stand up to protect our forests and our biodiversity from industrial agriculture."

ERI 2020 report: Uganda tops African states with well-developed electricity regulatory frameworks

ABIDJAN

UGANDA has for the third time in a row emerged as the top performer in this year's Electricity Regulatory Index Report published by the African Development Bank (AfDB).

The East African country, along with Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Kenya, the other top performers, have regulators with the authority to exert the necessary oversight on the sector. However, the overall electricity regulatory frameworks of African countries is poorly developed, and most countries experience major regulatory weaknesses.

The ERI, a flagship report of the African Development Bank, is a composite index which measures the level of development of electricity sector regulatory frameworks in African countries against international standards and best practice.

"The African Development Bank has been at the forefront of efforts to mainstream electricity sector regulation issues in Africa within the broader sector discourse, recognizing the importance of establishing robust legal and regulatory frameworks to support the financial sustainability of the sector and attract private sector investment," said Dr. Kevin Kariuki, Vice President, Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth, at the African Development Bank.

The third edition of the ERI report was launched during the Digital Energy Festival of the Africa Energy Forum, on 5 November 2020. The event brought together more than 70 stakeholders in the energy sector, regulators, international organizations, and development finance institutions like Africa50 and the World Bank.

Wale Shonibare, Director for Energy Financial Solutions, Policy and Regulations, at the Af-

rican Development Bank, said COVID-19 related restrictions had increased residential electricity demand and decreased industrial/commercial demand. This had resulted in shortfalls in the projected revenues of utilities.

"To address these challenges, regulators will be required to play an even more critical and central role post-COVID-19, to ensure that the sector recovers with minimal and controlled impact on consumers and utilities," Shonibare said.

Koffi Klousseh, Director of Project Development at Africa50, praised the ERI as a great tool for assessing the readiness of the electricity sector for private sector investments.

According to the report, 69% of countries surveyed have regulatory mechanisms in place to facilitate electricity access. In 21 of the 36 countries surveyed, the utility is not involved in funding rural electrification. The government, NGOs and consumers do this.

In 90% of the countries surveyed, the Executive holds the power to appoint board members and heads of regulatory institutions who report to them. This removes the core of decision-making independence from regulators, who are subjected to subtle and direct political pressure to skew key regulatory decisions towards the political inclination of the government in power.

Most countries have legislation to deal with conflict of interest among commissioners and heads of regulatory institutions while in office. However, few have adequate mechanisms to regulate conflict of interest and other ethical issues, affecting the integrity of regulatory decisions.

Political authorities have significant influence on the finances of regulatory authorities. In

many instances, laws establishing regulatory institutions do not clearly indicate sources of funds for the institution.

Ziria Tibalwa Waako, CEO of Uganda's Electricity Regulatory Authority: "Regulation is a catch-up game. If there are gaps, be happy to review your process and methodology."

Foibe Namene, CEO of Namibia's Electricity Control Board: "Regulatory independence is a balancing act between multiple stakeholders while maintaining high level of integrity in the regulatory processes and actions."

Peter Twesigye, Head of Electricity Regulation Programme, Power Futures Lab, at the University of Cape Town: "Regulators should support utilities through tariffs to finance investments in the backbone feeders with outage management systems that will enable them to monitor reliability and the quality of power on these feeders."



The African Development Bank has been at the forefront of efforts to mainstream electricity sector regulation issues in Africa within the broader sector discourse, recognizing the importance of establishing robust legal and regulatory frameworks to support the financial

As long as we men turn a blind eye to the hyenas in our midst, the GBV plague will continue

By Omphehmetse Sibanda

WHAT are we men and boys doing to combat gender-based violence? Come on, rise up. Stop talking, singing and marching. Do something tangible. Call perpetrators out - at home, at work, church, school, and your social circle.

A protest action led by the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) early in October highlighted once more the problem of gender-based violence (GBV) in South Africa. Narratives of the suffering of women in South Africa and the yearly escalation of GBV can make even a stone weep. In 2018, for example, the Crime Against Women in South Africa report by Statistics SA (Report No 03-40-05 of June 2018), showed that femicide in South Africa is five times higher than the global average.

In August 2019, the Constitutional Court in the case of Tshabalala versus the State heard of a group of heartless men who went on a late-night reign of terror in Umthambeka in Tembisa, which included the gang-raping of a visibly pregnant woman and a 14-year-old girl. Justice Rammaka Mathopo noted in this case that women in South Africa have been relegated to second-class citizens through acts of GBV, by men who think they are entitled to have control over women and who suffer from "the social construction of masculinity in South Africa".

As a man, husband, father, brother and uncle of dandelions, I am lost for words in writing about GBV. Luckily I have found a solution by troubleshooting my writer's block through musical lyrics to write this opinion dedicated to women and children in South Africa suffering from GBV.

Normally, the perception - and rightly so - is that men just stand by as attacks on human rights, life and limb, and bodily integrity take place. Murders, abusers, rapists, paedophiles and other perpetrators of GBV thrive in contexts of complacency, disregard for the rule of law, continuing discriminatory practices, other occupational segregation practices, and the use of women's suffering for political expediency. Those close to women have been their deadliest predators. Every protest in South Africa is marked by people singing their lungs out and followed by little or no action at all.

Why not express my continuing contribution to the movement against GBV with reference to musical tapestry? As eloquently said by the late Busi Mhlongo in her song ukuThula, "Bantu bakith' kumnand' uk'hlala ngok'thul' ezweni". (My people, "people of our land", it's nice to live in peace in our nation.) However, living in peace will never be nice if made the preserve of men only. Women deserve peace too. "Nom' ungang'bulala ngeke' uwathol' amandl' ami. ...Kummandi ukuhlala ngokuthula." (...It's nice to live in peace.) Women have the right to live in peace and harmony too. As the legendary Caiphus Semenya said: "Woman got a right to be."

The strength of our sisters, mothers and grandmothers who are gruesomely killed at the hands of men does not have to be gone with the wind. It is for us as a society to take it into our hearts and continue the fight against GBV. The lyrics of Mhlongo's song further say: "Noma ungang'bulala ngeke uwathole amandle ami." (Though you may kill me, you will never gain my strength.) This truth is explained by Siphokazi in her song Ubuntu Bam (meaning, My Humanity), which should be shared with every man and boy, particularly the lyrics that: "My humanity is in my rhythm, my view of life and nature can't be taken away. It's engraved in my soul."

Another lyrical masterpiece by Mhlongo, "We Baba Omncane" (meaning, father's younger brother ["small father" or uncle]) illustrates what women and children have to go through for the rest of their lives. They are chased from their homes, with no good reason. "We bab'omncane, Wang'xosha kabuhlungu" (You chased me away so sorely.) "Kodwa yini na?" (What's the matter?/But what is it?) The behaviour of men, particularly those whom girl



children call uncles or "small fathers" is far from exemplary of what being a father means.

We are a society with the hyena-like behaviour of men steeped in the culture of patriarchal behaviour. A society where girl children are subjected almost daily to every imaginable form of GBV, including rape, femicide, sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. A non-profit organisation called Matla A Bana - A Voice Against Child Abuse once estimated that 50% of South Africa's children will be abused before the age of 18 and that 85% of them will be by perpetrators known to them. Matla A Bana reports that every three minutes a child is raped in South Africa, most being girls between three and 12 years of age, and by men known to them.

Nobody can deny the truth in Siphokazi's 2007 song Amacala, that women always have to explain themselves nonstop ("Seng' thetha amacala ekuze kuse"), so much so that her home has turned into a courtroom ("Usephenduk' inkantolo umuzi wam"), and she has no way but to go back home ("Ndibuyel' ekhaya"). Unfortunately, a society that is ready to always excuse GBV will mock and shun a woman as a "returnee" when in fact her parents' house should be her fortress.

The scourge of GBV in South Africa has been highlighted over many years, but it is not abating. Although we recognise the need to do something to safeguard the rights of women and children and eradicate the harms and dangers they are faced with daily, our efforts are often meaningless. We are like empty tins making the loudest of noise and promises, but carrying nothing to show for it.

In Africa, the elephant in the room is the endless promises that things are about to change, and governments not delivering on their promises to end GBV. Can we trust what we are being told by gov-

ernments across Africa to end or combat GBV? I do not have an answer to this question. However, I am inclined to borrow from the lyrical prowess of the late Brenda Fassie in her song Promises, when the Queen of Pop sang: "Standing back I can't believe how you've led me on... Your promises have never been anything you made them seem."

You will pardon me using the lyrics of musical greats to drive my point home. I love music that is lyrically meaningful, and listening to the likes of women such as Busi Mhlongo, Brenda Fassie, Miriam Makeba, Siphokazi, and other contemporary artists such as Kanyi Mavi is listening to artists who sang back at GBV.

... African Union must lead the continental fight against GBV. Already there are best practices continentally and globally that have paved the way for something to be done.

I also marvel at the artistic creations of women who depict in some way women suffering, including artists like Lungiswa Gqunta who has the audacity to tackle issues of the post-colonial cultural landscape regarding inequality and patriarchy; Zanele Mhohli, whose portraits form an important part of the discourse on black lesbian, gay, transgender and intersex people; and the fabulous holder of The Order of Ikhamanga in Silver, Dr Esther Mahlangu, one of whose works adorns the walls of a New York boulevard.

In the same way, music and other artistic creations can plant the seeds of negative attitudes towards women and children, it is through music that we can start challenging the widely held attitudes and beliefs that provide fertile germination ground for GBV. Young artists like Liricas del Caos, a feminist rap group from Colombia, have succeeded in promoting a hip-hop scene free of sexist violence and profanities against women through the composition of anti-patriarchal lyrics. As did the musical offering of Andy Mkosi following the rape and murder of another dandelion, Uyinene Mrwetyana in 2019.

The Minister in the Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, officially launched the 365 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) on 10 December 2019 in part-

nership with UN Women and First for Women Insurance. At the time the minister uttered comforting words, giving a commitment that "enough is enough" and that "together, we need to play our part, not just for 16 days but for 365 days a year, every year".

On a different perspective, I am reminded of a colleague who said to me that society is always willing to excuse the predatory behaviour of men. And further, that the plight of women and children has been worsened by having to work from home amid Covid-19 with the general workplace protections and basic conditions of work not equally extended to the "work-from-home" environment. What has the government done to ensure that working from home is not a GBV trap for many women?

What I know is that governments have a much bigger role to play in the fight against GBV. In 2013 the World Health Organisation reported that about 35% of women worldwide had experienced GBV in their lifetimes, and that the highest proportion of GBV incidents happened in Africa.

This brings me to my next point: the African Union must lead the continental fight against GBV. Already there are best practices continentally and globally that have paved the way for something to be done. For instance, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) on its 100th anniversary on 21 June 2019 adopted the first legally binding Violence and Harassment Convention. Notable is that article 4(2) of the convention states that, "Each Member shall adopt, in accordance with national law and circumstances and in consultation with representative employers' and workers' organisations, an inclusive, integrated and gender-responsive approach for the prevention and elimination of violence and harassment in the world of work."

The ILO took this bold step to answer the call by millions of women around the world to be protected from the sharp claws of GBV in the workplace, and so should African governments and the AU take the lead.

What are we men and boys doing to combat GBV? In the words of Minister Nkoana-Mashabane:

"Men can do this by calling out other men who insult, denigrate, abuse, or treat women like objects."

Having started and pitched this opinion against the backdrop of some lyrical foundations by some of the best musicians of all time, I should conclude with the call to men taken from the song My City of Ruins by Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band - "My city of ruins. Dear men and boys, come on, rise up" against GBV. Stop talking, singing and marching. Do something tangible. Call perpetrators out. You know who they are - at home, at work, church, school, and your social circle.

To the African Union leadership: if the Council of Europe could establish a convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, why cannot you? What have you done since the ILO established a binding GBV convention?

A seven-point plan to increase revenue for Indian news publishers

By Elizabeth Shilpa

"OVER the last ten years, pre-Covid, the time spent on digital consumption went up by ten per cent. Print and radio have continued to decline in terms of consumption and advertising spend. We see it likely to continue."

This is according to Nithin Chandalia, Managing Director and partner at Boston Consulting Group India.

Chandalia made these remarks when taking part in a discussion with Krishna Prasad, former editor at Outlook magazine, during WAN-IFRA's (World Association of Newspapers) recent Indian Media Leaders eSummit.

Likewise, substantial growth in digital media spend during the past decade underscores the need for news media organisations to ratchet up the digital portion of their revenues, Chandalia said.

Globally, for media organisations, one-third of their revenue comes from advertising. In India, however, this has been about two-

thirds.

During the coronavirus pandemic, overall advertising budgets have dropped drastically. Despite some signs of economic revival, sectors such as tourism, hospitality and retail, all of which contribute significantly to print, continue to struggle. This calls for a rethink of news publishing business models.

A plan for digital growth

According to Chandalia, digital in India is expected to grow close to three times in the next five years - and Covid-19 is expediting this. Most news media players in India today operate in digital, but the size of their digital business is fairly small.

"The one thing each player has to look at is 'How do you drive the digital part of the revenue up across different formats?'" he said, offering a seven-point agenda for future operating models for news publishers.

One: Put your audience first. Almost 75 per cent of a publisher's revenue should come from sub-



scribers and readers for a sustainable future. That means that you have to put your reader at the centre of your business.

Two: Transform advertising sales. Create an efficient advertising sales organisation. Media sales organisations have worked in very different formats. Between 2005 and 2015, when advertising

growth was just beginning, advertisers often came to publishers.

Today, like the audience, the advertiser is also a stakeholder. Publishers, therefore, need to think of how to create products that drive more outcome-oriented pricing instead of mere display advertising.

Three: Investing in marketing

technology. Many global players, in the move to performance-driven marketing, have invested in creating digital assets and capabilities. These are meant to help them leverage not just the print reach but also the reach of the digital business to help boost performance-driven marketing and advertising

solutions.

Build scale quickly through alliance. Google and Facebook are the two stalwarts in the digital marketing space and everyone else is a minor player compared to them. So how do you compete in this space?

There has been a lot of talk about creating alliances and joint go-to-market platforms where publishers can come together, offer the inventory and get a fair price. In Europe, some publisher alliances have been able to create a reach that is equal to the big platforms within their markets.

Four: Cost optimisation. The cost optimisation cannot be just incremental; rather, the entire cost structure needs to be rethought.

Five: Accelerate to consumer pay models. In India, most readers refrain from paying for content from Indian news media, but at the same time many consumers will pay for subscriptions to international publications, such as The New York Times. So publishers need to think about how to get

readers to pay by providing them differentiated quality content.

Six: Leveraging analytics. Use insights and analytics to understand how to make news more relevant for readers and drive engagement.

Chandalia noted that, globally, consumers have been demonstrating a greater willingness to pay for content. "Whether it's about news, OTT, Pay TV, consumers have shown an appetite to pay for content," he said.

He added: "And wherever that has happened it has been through differentiated content which is driven and led by a point of view, and offering a unique perspective to the reader."

According to him, whether it is through digital or print, publishers need to make reader revenue the main share of their revenue mix. "Companies that get to that point faster will be the ones that would be able to operate profitably and survive not just the pandemic, but the long run," he noted.

EQUITY BANK PARTNERS ZOLA TO LIGHT UP 8M HOMES WITH SOLAR POWER

By Property Watch Reporter

SOME eight million people who have no access to national power grid in the country will be connected to off-grid solar power thanks to a partnership forged by Equity Bank Tanzania and Zola Electric.

Announcing the partnership in Dar es Salaam earlier this week, Equity Bank Managing Director, Robert Kiboti said under the deal, the families will access Zola's solar power system devices at affordable prices of between 332,000/- and 2m/-.

"Today we are here to announce partnership between Zola and Equity Bank that aims to facilitate Tanzanians acquire solar system for domestic use at very affordable price and to contribute to solving the energy deficit sustainably," said Kiboti.

He pointed out that by investing in solar energy system, the public will avert the likelihood of outages associated with the national grid-tied system while depending on professionals and use particular infrastructures to make use sun generated electricity.

The Equity Bank chief further noted that investment in Zola Electric's solar energy system is a one-time cost for customers because the production relies only on sunshine to generate energy for a household without paying any



Equity Bank Tanzania managing director Robert Kiboti (R) exchanges contract documents with Zola Electric East Africa MD, Johnson Kiwango in Dar es Salaam earlier this week.

monthly bills.

"With this partnership between Equity Bank and Zola, Equity Bank will provide a loan to eligible customers to purchase the solar system and be installed at their homes immediately after Equity pays Zola," Kiboti added.

Speaking at the same event, Zola Electric East Africa's Managing Director, Johnson Kiwango said their research into major challenges facing off-grid rural families in accessing solar energy established that financing is paramount.

"This agreement with Equity will ensure that the majority low income families in off grid areas get genuine Zola solar products at

affordable prices," said Kiwango who noted that because of lack of financing, most consumers buy cheap fake solar systems.

He said his company has enough supplies of solar products and manpower to enable quick installation arguing that solar power will help wean rural based families from using fossil fuels including kerosene and firewood.

"We know that many rural areas have no access to electricity and hope to work with government agencies to ensure that such areas get solar power access," the Zola EA chief added while stressing that apart from lighting rural homes, solar power will also allow rural folks start businesses to generate income.

RETRACTION OF STORY ON TRA

THE Business Section of yesterday's issue of The Guardian carried an editorial item headlined: 'TRA targets multinationals in new tax evasion, avoidance crackdown'. The said item was mainly attributed to Richard Kayombo, the Tanzania Revenue Authority's (TRA) Director for Taxpayer Services and Education. He has, however, distanced himself from - and taken exception to - the report.

Furthermore, we have since established

that the report was seriously wanting in terms of facts, which rendered it inaccurate and otherwise defective. Accordingly, we retract the item in full and sincerely apologise for any inconveniences its publication will have caused. Additionally, we are studying the circumstances under which the piece was written and published, with a view to taking further remedial and other measures as will be deemed appropriate. -

Editor.

Petra Diamonds investigates charges Tanzanian subsistence miners abused

DAR ES SALAAM

PETRA Diamonds said it was investigating allegations by a British non-governmental organisation that subsistence miners who trespassed on the firm's Williamson mine in Tanzania were detained, beaten and shot at, with at least seven of them killed.

The RAID report, based on research conducted between September 2019 and November 2020, alleged that security contractors and security employees of Petra's subsidiary Williamson Diamonds Limited (WDL) used excessive force.

Petra Diamonds told Reuters a specialist external adviser was conducting an investigation and said an external consultancy had been appointed to assess WDL's management of its security. "The board of Petra Diamonds finds the allegations of human rights abuses at the Williamson mine in Tanzania to be deeply concerning and is taking the matter extremely seriously," said Petra Diamonds, which owns 75% of WDL. The state owns the rest.

It said the investigation would be completed by the end of 2020. Simon Msanjila, a permanent secretary at Tanzania's Ministry of Minerals, told Reuters he had not seen the RAID report and could not comment on it.

WDL has suspended the mine chief security officer and the

support services manager, an interim measure taken "whether or not there is any substance in the allegations", Petra Chief Executive Richard Duffy said in a letter to RAID dated October 13.

In its report, RAID said it had "found evidence indicating that since Petra Diamonds acquired the Williamson Mine in 2009, there have been at least seven killings and 41 assaults of local residents, many leading to life-changing injuries." Zenith Security Services Ltd, the security contractor named in the report, did not respond to a Reuters request via email for comment.

The allegations highlight tensions caused when mining companies co-exist with communities who rely on subsistence mining to supplement their income, as in other parts of Tanzania and across resource-rich countries in Africa.

Subsistence or "artisanal" miners, who typically use rudimentary techniques, number around 40 million worldwide, according to a 2019 estimate by Delve, an artisanal mining database. Britain-based law firm Leigh Day had filed a claim in the High Court of England and Wales in September on behalf of more than 30 Tanzanians who alleged "abuse breaches of human rights at the Williamson mine," Petra previously said. The Williamson mine, active since 1940, is in Shinyanga, one



A man brandishes diamonds.

of Tanzania's poorest regions. It produced a 54.5-carat pink diamond presented to Queen Elizabeth for her wedding in 1947. The mine has been shut since April, when Petra put it on "care and maintenance"

after the coronavirus pandemic caused rough diamond prices to plunge. Petra also operates mines in South Africa.

Joy in Nairobi as plan to uproot iconic fig tree abandoned

NAIROBI

ENVIRONMENTAL activists in Kenya have hailed an official decision to save an iconic, century-old fig tree from being taken down to make way for a highway in the capital, Nairobi.

A decree issued by President Uhuru Kenyatta described the famed tree - the height of a four-storey building - as a "beacon of Kenya's cultural and ecological heritage." Kenya's roads agency had said in October that it planned to uproot and transplant the fig tree in order to erect a pillar to support the Chinese-funded expressway built to reduce traffic jams.

In response, environmentalists launched a campaign to protect the tree, which stands on Waiyaki Way in the west of the city, where engineers are building the expressway above the existing road on pillars.

"We did it!" Elizabeth Wathuti, a prominent environmental activist and head of campaigns at the Wangari Maathai Foundation, wrote on Twitter on Wednesday after the issuing of the declaration. "We'll keep doing it for all green spaces!" Activism works! We did it! We'll keep doing it for all green spaces!

We took to the streets to march for this iconic fig tree & all trees being felled to pave way 4 #NairobiExpressway! Today, NMS DG Gen Badi has issued a presidential declaration to conserve the iconic fig tree! pic.twitter.com/bVsh6IUd3-Elizabeth Wathuti (@lizwathuti) November 11, 2020.



Thank you for sharing <https://t.co/tL4J9GK5u> - Dr. Paula Kahumbu (@paulakahumbu) November 1, 2020.

Mohammed Badi, director general of Nairobi Metropolitan Services (NMS), had earlier told a news conference next to the tree "It is now a

presidential declaration that this tree will be conserved."

The tree will be adopted by the NMS on behalf of the city's residents and both the China Road and Bridge Corporation and the Kenya National Highways Authority have agreed to

reroute the road. The tree will now stand as a sign of the city's aspirations, added Wathuti. "This particular fig tree is just a symbol of the bigger picture of what we are asking for," she said. "We want a green and clean city, and clean Kenya."

ArcelorMittal SA says it's addressing a crippling shortage of steel products

JOHANNESBURG

JSE-listed steel producer ArcelorMittal South Africa is implementing a number of measures to address the critical shortage of steel products, which has severely negatively impacted the building and construction and manufacturing sectors.

ArcelorMittal SA group manager stakeholder engagement and communications Tami Didiza said the company aims to significantly reduce the temporary supply backlogs during December, which is traditionally a quieter period for the industry.

He added that the company's second blast furnace in Vanderbijlpark will be restarted in December and, with all three of its furnaces fully operational from January 2021, ArcelorMittal South Africa "will be able to meet more than the steel requirements in South Africa and neighbouring countries." He confirmed that ArcelorMittal SA is experiencing temporary backlogs in supply, adding that a range of flat and long products are in short supply locally and globally from most steel mills.

Lockdown and 'other factors' to blame

These shortages are attributed to almost three months of lockdown-related disrupted production and "other temporary production delays caused by external factors".

"There are increased lead times for the supply from steel mills around the world, with most mills now quoting delivery in Q1 of 2021 or for some specific products even into Q2 of 2021. "Similar shortages are [being] experienced in many other industries and ArcelorMittal South Africa is also battling to receive certain input material," he said.

Didiza added that the company ceased operations at all its blast furnaces as required by the Covid-19 lockdown regulations and completely stopped production "for the first time in the history of the integrated steel industry in the country." This resulted in an abrupt disruption in the entire steel supply chain, the effects of which the company is progressively addressing, he said.

Didiza said the lockdown also resulted in depleted inventories at every stage of the supply chain and Arcelor-

KLNT AND US-BASED REGENT UNIVERSITY LAUNCH ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME

By Property Watch Reporter

US-based Regent University has teamed up with Kingdom Leadership Network Tanzania to launch a 14 week business leadership short courses to be conducted locally.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam during launch earlier this week, KLNT Founder and CEO, Isaac Mpatwa said through Regent University's Center for Entrepreneurship, a local affiliate known as KLI-Regent Business Development Centre that will run the short courses.

"The Business Development Centre in Tanzania is promoted by Kingdom Leadership Institute (KLI) and the Regent University of USA. The is an interdisciplinary think tank and training institution established to develop and support value-based ethical leadership in Tanzania and across Africa," Mpatwa said.

He said the KLI-Regent Business Development Centre presents a rare and exciting opportunity for local leaders to tap into the experience and wisdom of some of the finest world class speakers, global change makers and visionary leaders.

"KLI exists to prepare leaders to excel holistically through moral guidance, mentoring, coaching and effective leadership training," he added while stressing that the BDC includes two and three-day executive short courses centring on performance management for leaders, customer care skills and customer care strategies for leaders, business model audit and key success factors diagnostics.



Former Prime Minister, Mizengo Pinda (L), who is also patron of Kingdom Leadership Network Tanzania, in the company of its founder and CEO, Isaac Mpatwa (R) and other dignitaries at a past event.

"BDC provides a unique opportunity to impact the leadership and economic transformation on Tanzania for present and future generations whilst having the opportunity to influence, inspire and impact others at

the same time to learn and grow from the experience," the KLNT chief noted.

Speaking the same event, guest of honour former Prime Minister, Mizengo Pinda who is also Patron of KLNT, acknowledged the profound and patriotic contribution of the new Business Development Centre in Tanzania.

"Regent University tops the list of best online bachelor's programs in Virginia and is ranked among top national universities by US News and World Report. Regent will equip students to put their knowledge and skills into practice with integrity, compassion, and purpose while KLNT has been successful in running various programs," Pinda said.

He pointed out that the courses offered will promote integrity, value-based practical leadership, business economic growth and investment in the country since 2013. "Therefore, the new partnership is invigorating and inspiring for the better future of our beloved country," he added.

Other prominent figures and distinguished guests who attended the launch included Dr Godwill Wanga, Executive Secretary of Tanzania National Business Council, Angelina Ngalula who is Chairperson of Tanzania Private Sector Foundation, Prof John Mulford Jr who is Director of Regent University Center for Entrepreneurship and Jason Benedict, a Strategist with Regent University Center for Entrepreneurship.

The new centre is expected to make the growth of small and medium size enterprises, a priority by running real-life programs that will help businesses to acquire skills for their sustainable growth.

Moroccan King orders nationwide vaccination to combat coronavirus

RABAT

MOROCCO'S King Mohammed VI has ordered a massive vaccination campaign against the coronavirus on Monday this week as the North African kingdom struggles to contain a rapid surge of the virus.

The Moroccan monarch chaired in Rabat a working session that discussed the vaccination issue, the Royal Palace said in a statement. The meeting was part of the King's continuous monitoring of the progress of the pandemic and the measures taken in the context of the fight against its spread and the protection of the life and health of citizens.

King Mohammed VI's decision was based on the advice by National Scientific Committee which stressed that the vaccination campaign was a real response to end the surging of the virus. The King did not set a specific date for the launch of the massive vaccination campaign against Covid-19, but Moroccan media said it would likely start mid-December.

The government extended an emergency decree to December 10 giving it leeway to restore restrictive measures in areas with high coronavirus infections, including the Casablanca region, which is currently the hotbed of infections.

Based on the results of clinical studies that have already been completed or are still ongoing, the safety, efficacy and immunogenicity of the vaccine have been proven. The vaccination operation will have to cover citizens aged



King Mohammed VI of Morocco

over 18, according to a vaccination schedule in two injections.

Front line staff, including health workers, public authorities, security forces and national education employees, will get the vaccine first besides the elderly and people

vulnerable to the virus before extending it to the rest of the population.

His Majesty the King thus gave instructions to the competent authorities to ensure the proper preparation and the smooth running of the large-scale national operation

especially logistically and technically. Particular emphasis was laid on the accessibility of the vaccine, within a social and supportive framework, and its availability in sufficient quantities, as well as on the medical logistics of transport, storage, and administration of the vaccine throughout the country and the establishment of an efficient system of pre-registration of beneficiaries.

To this end, the King Mohammed VI has called for the mobilization of all the services and departments concerned, in particular health workers, territorial administration and security forces, as well as the necessary support from the Royal Armed Forces, in accordance with the missions entrusted to them by himself who is Supreme Commander and Chief of General Staff of the Royal Armed Forces, as part of the fight against Covid-19.

Morocco managed to secure the supply of vaccine against the Covid-19 thanks to the King's personal involvement with the country taking part in clinical trials of the vaccine candidate developed by Sinopharm's China National Biotec Group (CNBG), which has agreed to provide with 10 million doses before the end of the year if results are positive.

Health minister Khalid Ait Taleb told parliament last week the imminent arrival of a COVID-19 vaccine in December. "All the available information we have tells us that a promising vaccine is expected towards the end of 2020 after reaching advanced stages of development," Ait Taleb told lawmakers.

New Chinese cafes serving Rwandan coffee exclusively KIGALI

THE foot-hold of Rwanda's coffee in China is expected to grow even more as one Chinese investor looks to open coffee shops in his city, serving exclusively Rwandan coffee.

Anthony Chen, 27, a businessman from Hangzhou has recently opened business dealings with Rwandan coffee producers, and in August this year, he imported up to 5,000 kilograms of Gorilla Coffee Beans which he rebranded into various products for his country's market.

Speaking to Doing Business last week, Chen said he is looking to do more business in this kind, promoting Rwanda's coffee further and showcase its quality to the Chinese consumers, in the country that has many international coffee brands competing for clientele.

For starters, the coffee market in China is a very competitive one. Given the country's huge population of over a billion people, a number of local and multinational coffee companies are operating there serving a largely youthful market who have adopted a coffee drinking culture.

With companies ranging from home-grown coffee shops to big Western coffee businesses such as USA's Starbucks, UK's Costa Coffee, Canada's Tim Horton's, among others; the Asian country seems a good place for the industry. The opportunity is also dependent on sufficient, timely and credible awareness about Rwandan coffee as well as reliable delivery avenues and mechanisms.

Malawi abandons Shire-Zambezi waterway project

MAPUTO

MALAWI has dropped its proposal to use the rivers Shire and Zambezi for its imports and exports, according to a report in the Maputo daily "Noticias."

The decision follows a recent understanding between Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi and his Malawian counterpart, Lazarus Chakwera, on facilitating increased use of the Mozambican port and rail systems for Malawian trade.

The project to use the rivers was the brainchild of a previous Malawian President, Bingu wa Mutharika, who considered the "Shire-Zambezi Waterway" as key to lowering transport costs to the Indian Ocean.

Malawi even went as far as building a port at Nsanje, on the Shire, at a cost of twenty million US dollars. In October 2010 it actually held an inauguration ceremony attended by VIPs, including the then President of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, and Zambia's for-



Shire is the largest river in Malawi

mer president Rupiah Banda.

But Mutharika had not bothered to consult Mozambique, through whose territory the two rivers run. So the launch of the Nsanje inland port became a huge embarrassment when the Mozambican authorities blocked fertilizer laden barges that were en route to the ceremony.

The whole scenario was bizarre as the Mozambican government has always been crystal clear that its waterways can only be used after the correct steps have been taken, which include environmental impact assessments.

At the time, the then president of Mozambique, Armando Guebuza, explained that, while he understood Malawi's desire to use the two rivers for its trade, that could only happen after viability and environmental studies.

These were undertaken - and showed that the Malawian proposal would have enormous environmental costs, particularly because it implied continually dredging the Zambezi. In 2015, the then Mozambican Transport Minister, Carlos Mesquita,

pointed out "Mozambique would need to spend 100 million dollars to dredge the Zambezi and deepen the waters. This is not economically viable."

The need for the Shire-Zambezi Waterway was always highly questionable, since all of Malawi's trade can be handled comfortably by the Mozambican ports of Beira and Nacala and the railways that connect them to Malawi. The new Malawian government seems to have come to terms with this reality, and accepts that the Mozambican ports are quite capable of dealing with Malawian exports and imports.

Nacala is generally regarded as the best deep water port on the east African coast, and its broad access channel never requires dredging. The Mozambican authorities assured their Malawian counterparts that they will continue the programme to rehabilitate and modernise Nacala, costed at around 300 million US dollars. This will raise the handling capacity of the port from 100,000 to 250,000 containers a year.

TECHNOLOGY

HOW CHINA COULD BECOME A ZERO-CARBON COUNTRY BY 2060

BEIJING

FOLLOWING President Xi Jinping's surprise announcement that China would aim to be carbon neutral by 2060, a Chinese climate research institute has set out a roadmap to achieving that goal.

Xi's pledge, made during his video speech to the UN General Assembly on 22 September, said the country would fully offset its carbon emissions within 40 years. "We aim to have our carbon dioxide emissions peak before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060," he said.

The announcement was welcomed by climate scientists around the world as a "very significant" step, and one that may prevent global warming from passing the 2°C threshold set by the 2016 Paris agreement.

A big ask

However, commentators also noted the immense scale of the task, given China's reliance on fossil fuel for electricity and transportation. From 1990 to 2018, China increased its coal consumption from 1 billion tonnes to 4.6 billion. In 2018, coal made up 59% of China's energy use, or more than the rest of the world combined.

At present, China produces about 10 billion tons of carbon dioxide a year, about 28% of the global total, and almost double that of the US although America's cumulative emissions are about twice those of China. Now the Tsinghua University's Institute of Energy, Environment and Economy (Tsinghua 3E) has set out a plan for how Xi's goal might be achieved.

Quadruple the nuclear

The institute, which works closely with the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, envisages a gradual transition over the next 15 years, with a rapid acceleration after 2035.



Coal ash at Pingyao, in Shanxi Province, northern China.

Zhang Xiliang, the institute's director, said in a webinar that coal would be removed from the energy mix by 2050. According to He Jiankun, another Tsinghua researcher, this would require investment in the renewables and nuclear energy in the order of \$15 trillion over the next 30 years.

Tsinghua 3E estimates that China's demand for energy will double between 2025 and 2060. To meet this need, and to replace coal and gas, China's nuclear capacity will quadruple between 2025 and 2060, taking it to about 200GW, or twice the size of the US' present fleet.

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Peaking late

According to the institute's calculations, China's annual carbon emissions will peak at 10.2 billion tons before falling to about 9 billion tons in 2035 before decline to 3 billion by 2050, 900 million by 2055 and 200 million by 2060. This residual amount would then have to offset by carbon capture and sequestration to meet Xi's timetable. The share of non-fossil fuels in total energy demand will grow from about 15% last year to 20% by 2025, 24% in 2030, 62% in 2050 and 84% in 2060.



Investcorp's garden and townhome-style apartment buildings in Arizona.

Investcorp sells US residential property for over \$900 million

ABU DHABI

THE company acquired the apartment buildings in 2016 and 2017 and increased average monthly revenue per unit by about 20%

Bahrain-listed private equity and alternative asset manager Investcorp said on Tuesday it sold eight multifamily properties in the US to multiple buyers for more than \$900 million. The garden and townhome-style apartment buildings were located in major metropolitan areas in Arizona, California, Florida and New York, Investcorp said.

"The sales are a testament to our ability to consistently execute on our investment thesis to target strong cash flow-generating assets with opportunities for further capital appreciation through active, hands-on management," Khulood Ebrahim, real estate product specialist at Investcorp, said. Investcorp acquired the assets in 2016 and 2017 and increased average monthly revenue per unit by about 20 per cent, through amenity upgrades and interior unit renovations.

"We are pleased with the outcome of these investments and we remain focused on identifying additional properties that generate solid cash flows

and offer further potential upside," Tarek AIMahjoub, head of UAE and Oman for Investcorp's private wealth division, said.

Investcorp has been actively investing in the US and Europe, snapping up residential property as well as industrial warehouses with total investments of about \$6 billion. It invested about \$5bn in the US market and \$1bn in Europe.

The company, which counts Mubadala Investment Company as its biggest shareholder, is looking to spend about \$4bn in buying residential property and warehouses in the US and Europe over the next two years, Jon Dracos, head of real estate investment at Investcorp told The National earlier this month. With a presence in 12 countries across the US, Europe, the GCC and Asia, Investcorp Group has \$32.2bn of assets under management.

Last month, the asset manager acquired 32 industrial properties in the US for more than \$280m, growing its industrial real estate portfolio to about \$2bn. Since its inception in 1996, Investcorp's global real estate investments have totalled about \$18bn in over 800 properties across the US, Europe and India.

Heathrow calls for judicial review of UK's decision to do away with tax-free shopping

LONDON

HEATHROW, Britain's biggest airport, is preparing a legal challenge against the government's decision to scrap VAT-free shopping for international tourists on goods such as perfume, clothes and electronics.

In a letter to UK finance minister Rishi Sunak from Heathrow's chief executive John Holland Kaye, co-signed by tax refund specialist Global Blue and the World Duty Free Group, the airport said it wants a judicial review of the decision to abolish the VAT Retail Export Scheme and withdraw airside tax-free shopping in all UK airports at the end of this year.

The move, which comes as the aviation and retail industries are already struggling amid a second Covid-19 lockdown, would cause "irreparable and unnecessary damage to high streets and airports across the UK."

"We believe there are solutions available that can address concerns, while protecting the UK's competitiveness as a shopping destination and airport retail in a year that will be so critical as it recovers from the worst year in history," the claimants involved said, in a joint statement sent to The National. "All are responsible for employing thousands of people and securing billions of inward spend each year. We are exploring all options available to us on this decision."

In September, the government said tax-free shopping would end for all visitors to the UK after the end of the Brexit transition period on December 31. The move will prevent non-EU visitors from receiving a VAT refund on items they buy in Britain and take home in their luggage. It will also stop tax-free sales on goods such as clothes, electronics and perfumes bought at airports. VAT stands at 20 per cent.

Industry bodies had expected the government to extend the scheme to include EU nationals once the Brexit process was completed. Now they fear



Duty-free shopping at Heathrow Airport in London.

that wealthy Middle East and Chinese travellers will be discouraged from flying into the UK to shop once the tax rebates are abolished.

"In this consultation period the Government stated in March that "following the transition period, the UK is minded to extend airside tax-free sales to those travelling to the EU," John Holland Kaye said in the letter.

"We were therefore deeply shocked and concerned to learn that the Government will instead withdraw tax-free shopping altogether, making the UK the only country in Europe not to offer such a benefit to international visitors."

In September, the government said the post-Brexit changes would also bring benefits, with EU passengers travelling from the UK able to buy alcohol and tobacco without paying VAT and excise duty once they have passed through security controls.

It said overseas visitors would still be able buy VAT-items in stores and have them sent directly to their overseas addresses. With less than 10 per cent of non-EU visitors to the UK using the VAT refund shopping scheme, extending the scheme to EU visitors could cost up to £1.4bn (\$1.8bn) a year, according to HM Treasury.

In the letter, Mr Holland Kaye said the government was yet to publish a comprehensive economic impact assessment of its decision, and said the Treasury had "failed to take in to account a second wave which has

plummeted millions more into lockdown and unable to work as hotels, 'nonessential' retail and tourism numbers remain decimated."

"Coupled with slow progress behind a testing regime that will facilitate safe tourism into the UK, and no meaningful recovery plan for struggling sectors, this decision will put us on the back foot as the world looks on post-Brexit," he wrote.

Last month, UK retailers, hoteliers and airports said scrapping VAT-free shopping would put 70,000 jobs at risk and trigger a £10bn reduction to spending in British stores and cost the UK finance ministry £2bn in lost tax revenue. Mr Holland Kaye's letter said a further 25,000 UK jobs reliant on tourism spend, such as positions in theatres, restaurants and hotels, would also be put at risk from the move.

"It is not too later for the government to review this decision," Mr Holland Kaye said. Heathrow was overtaken as Europe's busiest airport for the first time by Paris Charles de Gaulle late last month, amid falling air travel demand during Covid-19, as almost 200 airports in the continent face going bust by the end of the year, according to ACI Europe.

Retail executives including leaders from Fortnum & Mason, Ted Baker and Paul Smith said last month that the tax changes would encourage tourists to "spend their money in Paris, Milan or Madrid" rather than Britain.

Airbnb to reveal its financials next Thursday - ahead of IPO

NEW YORK

AIRBNB is opening its books as soon as next Thursday ahead of a much-anticipated initial public offering, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

The home-rental start-up, which said in August it filed confidentially for a listing with the US Securities and Exchange Commission, will show the public the listing documents and its financial information for the first time as it seeks to woo investors. Airbnb is aiming to raise as much as \$3 billion in an IPO before year end, Bloomberg has reported. Timing of the IPO filing could still change, said the people, who declined to be named discussing private information.

Airbnb's listing will come in a tight window for public debuts during an eventful year. Covid-19 has led companies to think twice before tapping the market, while the holiday calendar in the remainder of the year means there is

a shorter time frame to get deals done. A representative for Airbnb declined to comment. Reuters earlier reported on the filing coming next week.

While Airbnb had been sending incremental updates to the market signalling its debut is on the way, such as announcing that it has chosen Nasdaq Global Select Market to host its listing, the public filing will serve as the key milestone. It will be allowed to start taking orders for shares from investors 15 days after the documents are available.

The San Francisco-based company was valued at \$18bn in April when it raised \$2bn in debt from investors at the depth of the pandemic. That was a significant drop from its earlier peak valuation of \$31bn in a 2017 fundraising round.

A quicker-than-expected rebound from the pandemic has brought the company's valuation back to \$22bn at end of September, based on the value of its common shares at a recent stock split, Bloomberg News reported.



WORLD

Biden reassures US allies in calls with leaders of Japan, South Korea, Australia

SEOUL/TOKYO/WILMINGTON, Del

In their first calls with Joe Biden since the U.S. election, the leaders of Japan, South Korea and Australia yesterday reaffirmed plans to form close ties with the president-elect to tackle issues including climate change and regional security.

The three key Asian allies - Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, South Korean President Moon Jae-in and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison - join other global leaders in recognizing the Democratic challenger's Nov. 3 victory over incumbent Donald Trump, who has so far refused to concede.

Biden's projected win comes against a backdrop of China's growing military and economic assertiveness in the region, and after years of sometimes tumultuous relations between Asian allies and the United States under Trump over issues including trade, defence and the environment.

All sides expressed their determination to strengthen bilateral ties as well as tackle global issues such as the coronavirus pandemic and climate change, Biden's office said.

Japan's Suga said he spoke with

Biden by telephone and confirmed the importance of bilateral ties.

"President-elect Biden said that he looks forward to strengthening the U.S.-Japan alliance and working together on achieving a free and open Indo-Pacific," Suga said to reporters, in separate comments made at the Prime Minister's Office.

Biden had earlier spoken to the leaders of Germany, the UK, Canada and France, but China and Russia have so far held off passing on their congratulations and speaking with the President-elect.

SECURITY AND PROSPERITY

Biden on Wednesday named Ron Klain as his White House chief of staff, his first major appointment as he builds his administration. Anthony Blinken, a diplomat and longtime confidant of Biden is seen as a likely pick for Secretary of State or National Security Adviser, both key roles for Asian allies.

Speaking to South Korea's Moon, Biden reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to defend South Korea, highlighting the Asian ally as a "lynchpin of the security and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific region," Moon's spokes-

man Kang Min-seok said.

"President Moon asked for close cooperation for the forward-looking development of the bilateral alliance, and the denuclearisation and peace on the Korean peninsula," Kang told a briefing. "President-elect Biden said he would closely cooperate to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue."

Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un vowed to work towards denuclearisation at their unprecedented summit in 2018, but little progress has been made since their second summit and working-level talks collapsed last year.

While Biden has said he would not meet with Kim without preconditions, he has also said he would embrace "principled diplomacy" with North Korea.

South Korean officials are also hopeful that Biden will quickly resolve a drawn-out, multi-billion dollar dispute with Washington over the cost of thousands of U.S. troops on the peninsula.

Agencies

Ethiopian military has 'liberated' west Tigray, PM says

ADDIS ABABA

ETHIOPIA'S military has defeated local forces in the west of Tigray state, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said yesterday, accusing his foes of atrocities during a week of fighting that threatens to destabilize the Horn of Africa.

Air strikes and ground combat have killed hundreds, sent refugees flooding into Sudan, stirred Ethiopia's ethnic divisions and raised questions over the credentials of Abiy (pictured), Africa's youngest leader who won a Nobel Peace Prize in 2019.

"The western region of Tigray has been liberated," tweeted Abiy, 44, who comes from the largest ethnic group the Oromo and once fought with the Tigrayans against neighboring Eritrea.



"In those liberated areas, the army is now providing humanitarian assistance and services. It is also feeding the people," he added.

With communications down, transport blocked and media barred, independent verification of the status of the conflict was impossible. There was no immediate response from the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which rules the mountainous northern state of more than 5 million people.

Abiy accuses the TPLF of starting the conflict by attacking a federal military base and defying his authority, while the Tigrayans say his two-year rule has persecuted them.

Abiy said some of his soldiers had been found dead in the town of Sheraro, shot with their legs and

arms tied behind their back. "This kind of cruelty is heartbreaking and the goal is to destroy Ethiopia," he said.

Abiy did not say how many bodies were found or provide proof in his Twitter comments in the local Amharic language.

Reuters could not verify his allegation and there was no immediate response from the TPLF, which has also accused federal troops of being "merciless" in bombing Tigrayans.

Humanitarian emergency looms More than 10,000 Ethiopian refugees have crossed into Sudan since fighting started and aid agencies say the situation in Tigray appears to be becoming dire. Even before the conflict, 600,000 people there were reliant on food aid.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said aid agencies were unable to restock food, health and other emergency supplies in Tigray due to lack of access.

"Shortages of basic commodities are reportedly appearing, impacting the most vulnerable first and the most," it said.

The United Nations' refugee agency's representative in Ethiopia, Ann Encontre, told Reuters negotiations were underway with both sides for humanitarian corridors to be opened.

A "major emergency" may be brewing with so many people escaping to Sudan, she warned.

Abiy has so far resisted calls by



Amhara militia men, that combat alongside federal and regional forces against northern region of Tigray, receive training in the outskirts of the village of Addis Zemen, north of Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, on Tuesday. (AFP)

the United Nations, the African Union and others for a ceasefire and talks.

His army chief of staff Birhanu Jula was quoted by state-affiliated Fana broadcaster as saying that the federal troops' Northern Command had resisted a five-day siege and was now recapturing many places including Dansha, Humera airport and Baeker.

"I would like to thank these members of the army for being a model of our heroic defense force and their persistent battle though deprived of food and water for four or five days," he said, accusing the TPLF of using people as a human shield.

There was no immediate response to that accusation.

Ethiopia's parliament stripped 39 members, including the Tigray regional president Debretsion

Tackling the global coronavirus pandemic and climate change were key themes in Biden's calls with all three leaders, readouts from Biden's office showed.

Australia's Morrison said he spoke with Biden about emission reduction technology, though a target for zero net emissions by 2050 was not discussed.

"I raised with the president-elect the similarity between the president-elect's comments and policies regarding emissions reduction technologies that we needed to achieve that, and we look forward to working on those issues," Morrison told reporters in Canberra.

Both Moon and Suga said they agreed to arrange summits with the new president shortly after his inauguration in January.

Biden will also face the challenge of managing unresolved political and economic disputes between South Korea and Japan, which have threatened a military intelligence-sharing arrangement and complicated U.S. efforts to counter China.

Agencies

Russia set to establish naval logistics base in Sudan

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin approved a draft agreement on establishing a naval logistics base in Sudan and gave instructions to submit a proposal to the president on signing the document, according to the information posted on the government's legal information web portal on Wednesday.

The draft agreement between Russia and Sudan on the naval logistics facility was submitted by Russia's Defense Ministry, approved by the Foreign Ministry, the Supreme Court, the Prosecutor General's Office and the Investigative Committee of Russia and preliminary agreed with the Sudanese side.

As the draft agreement says, the Russian Navy's logistics facility in Sudan "meets the goals of maintaining peace and stability in the region, is defensive and is not aimed against other countries."

The naval logistics base can be used for carrying out repairs and replenishing supplies and for the crewmembers of Russian naval ships to have a rest.

The Russian Navy's logistics base in Sudan is expected to embrace the coastal, water and mooring areas.

"The Sudanese side has the right to use the mooring area upon agreement with the authorized body of the Russian side," the document reads.

The draft agreement stipulates that a maximum of four warships may stay at the naval logistics base, including "naval ships with the nuclear propulsion system on condition of observing nuclear and environmental safety norms."

During a visit by then-President of Sudan Omar al-Bashir to Moscow in November 2017, agreements were reached on Russia's assistance in modernizing the Sudanese armed forces. Khartoum also said at the time it was interested in discussing the issue of using Red Sea bases with Moscow.

In May 2019, a bilateral agreement on military cooperation for a term of seven years came into force. It stipulates, in particular, "an exchange of opinions and information on military and political issues and the issues of strengthening mutual trust and international security, an exchange of the experience of peacekeeping operations under the UN aegis, interaction in the search for and rescue at sea and the development of relations in the troops' joint training."

Palestinian peacemaker Saeb Erekat laid to rest after military honours

RAMALLAH, WEST BANK



AS the sun began to set over his home city of Jericho, veteran Palestinian peacemaker Saeb Erekat was laid to rest on Wednesday after a memorial ceremony and funeral attended by hundreds.

Erekat, 65, died on Tuesday in Jerusalem - the city whose eastern half he had claimed throughout a lifelong struggle for a negotiated Palestinian state that he never lived to see.

"To all the Palestinian people, my father is also your father and the father of the Palestinian cause," his daughter, Dr Salam Erekat - her first name means 'Peace' in Arabic - said by his graveside in the Jordan Valley, her voice breaking into tears.

A long-serving member of the nationalist party Fatah, Erekat was secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Organization and a confidant and adviser to its former leader Yasser Arafat and his successor, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

He announced a month ago he had contracted the coronavirus, and died on Tuesday after three weeks in a coma in an Israeli hospital in Jerusalem.

Erekat led the Palestinians in peace talks with Israel for many years until negotiations collapsed in 2014. In the final year of his life, he was the main public face of Palestinian opposition to US President Donald Trump's blueprint for the Middle East, which would leave Israel in control of large parts of the occupied West Bank where Palestinians want a state.

Presidential ceremony

Erekat's memorial took place on the anniversary of Arafat's death in 2004, marked in a separate ceremony earlier in the day. In Ramallah, a procession of Palestinian soldiers carried Erekat's coffin through an outdoor plaza in Abbas's presidential compound. A military honor guard laid a wreath over his coffin. Abbas and other senior officials waved goodbye as the body was driven to Jericho for burial.

A large crowd gathered outside Erekat's Jericho home as his coffin was carried inside and his family privately bade him farewell.

Hundreds of mourners waving Palestinian flags and chanting "God is greatest" later joined in the funeral as he was buried in a palm tree-lined cemetery. Soldiers fired a rifle salute as a prayer was recited over the grave.

Agencies

US cultural hegemony threatens global cultural security

THE White House recently designated another six Chinese media outlets in the U.S. as "foreign missions," the latest move of the U.S. political oppression and stigmatization against Chinese media outlets and journalists.

It serves as another proof to the U.S. severe disruption of normal cultural exchanges and adoption of cultural hegemony based on Cold War mentality and ideological prejudices.

The U.S., on one hand is taking cultural export as a national strategy, and on the other hand is oppressing others in the cultural and ideological spheres, trying to transform other countries' values. It exposed its nature of cultural hegemony and

seriously threatens international cultural security.

Cultures shall be diversified, equal and inclusive. Civilizations have become richer and more colorful with exchanges and mutual learning. The long human history has already proved that exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations are an important power driving human progress and peaceful development of the world.

To enhance cultural and people-to-people exchanges is a common aspiration of all the people across the world and conforms to the common inter-

ests of all countries. However, some U.S. politicians are incredibly taking normal cultural and people-to-people exchanges as a thorn in the flesh. Cultural hegemony is flowing in their blood. Last year, they even blatantly announced to launch a civilization competition between China and the U.S., and build a frame of U.S.-China relations based on the clash of civilizations. Such practice received broad criticism and condemnation from the international society.

This year, the U.S. further intensified its efforts in this regard and escalated its political oppression against Chinese

media outlets in the U.S. It forcefully interfered and even hindered the normal operation of China-U.S. cooperation programs including the Confucius Institutes, monitored, harassed and detained Chinese students and scholars in the U.S., and frequently launched unreasonable lawsuits. These practices have severely undermined the normal exchanges and cooperation between the two countries, which obviously went against mainstream public opinion, indicating that some U.S. politicians are standing on the opposite side of the Chinese and American people.

Containment and infiltration are conventional combination used by the U.S. to shape and dominate international orders with Western culture and values. Some U.S. politicians, stubbornly believing in American exceptionalism, hold that the U.S. must make its values and democratic system universal. They believe that's the only way to maintain their national security.

Driven by cultural hegemony, the U.S. is massively selling its own ideology in the world and fanning up ideological confrontation. After the September 11 attacks, the White House

launched the Greater Middle East Initiative, taking Iraq as a test field for American democracy. However, the initiative only brought infinite religious conflicts, ethnic confrontations and violence to Iraq. The U.S. also sent its troops to Afghanistan, and launched armed intervention in Libya and Syria, in the name of helping them building so-called democratic countries, but only opened one and another "Pandora's boxes" followed by continuous disasters.

The U.S. export of so-called democracy and freedom has become a symbol for disorder, hunger, poverty and blood. Re-

cently, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo even shamelessly acted as a spokesperson for democracy and freedom, but it is evident to all that these U.S. politicians are instigating ideological confrontation and promoting cultural hegemony to serve the interest groups behind them.

It is alarming that the U.S. cultural hegemony has threatened global cultural security. The White House has long taken educational and cultural exchanges as its fourth dimension of its diplomacy. It has cultivated non-governmental organizations and funds, trying to spread the seed of "American worship" to every corner of the world, and it's no secret. **People's Daily**

Donations under \$8K to Trump 'election defence' instead go to president, RNC

WASHINGTON

AS President Donald Trump seeks to discredit last week's election with baseless claims of voter fraud, his team has bombarded his supporters with requests for money to help pay for legal challenges to the results: "The Left will try to STEAL this election!" reads one text.

But any small-dollar donations from Trump's grassroots donors won't be going to legal expenses at all, according to a Reuters review of the legal language in the solicitations.

A donor would have to give more than \$8,000 before any money goes to the "recount account" established to finance election challenges, including recounts and lawsuits over alleged improprieties, the fundraising disclosures show.

The emailed solicitations send supporters to an "Official Election Defense Fund" website that asks them to sign up for recurring donations to "protect the results and keep fighting even after Election Day."

The fine print makes clear most of the money will go to other priorities.

A large portion of the money goes to "Save America," a Trump leadership PAC, or political action committee, set up on Monday, and the Republican National Committee (RNC). Under Federal Election Commission rules, both groups have broad leeway in how they can use the funds.

The Trump campaign, the RNC and

Trump's new Save America PAC did not respond to requests for comment.

Leadership PACs such as Save America are often set up by prominent political figures to spend money on other candidates, while also paying for personal expenses, such as travel and hotel stays.

The disclosures would allow Trump and the RNC to channel the donations into other political causes or campaigns, such as the two high-stakes January Senate runoff races in Georgia that could determine control of the Senate and are likely to rank among the most expensive races in U.S. history.

Trump's solicitation website carries a banner headline that says "OFFICIAL ELECTION DEFENSE FUND" and "CONTRIBUTE NOW."

Scrolling down the page would take a donor to the fine print, which shows that donations are split between "Save America," which gets 60% of the money, and the RNC, which gets the other 40%. None of the money flows to Trump's official "recount" committee fund until Trump's Save America share reaches the legal contribution limit of \$5,000, according to the disclosures.

That means that, before a dollar goes into the recount fund, Save America would receive \$5,000 and the RNC around \$3,300. Donations to the recount committee are legally limited to \$2,800.

If a Trump donor gave \$500, for



President Donald Trump

instance, \$300 would go to Trump's Save America PAC, \$200 would go to the RNC - and nothing would go to his election defense fund.

One Republican political strategist said Trump is misleading supporters who might give small donations to whatever cause he approves.

"It's important to be up front with people - especially those who are digging deep into their pockets to come up with \$25," said Michael DuHaime,

a former political director at the RNC. "If you tell them it's going for legal fees, well then it should go for legal fees."

Darrell Scott, an Ohio pastor who helped found the National Diversity Coalition for Trump and served on the president's 2016 transition team, says he sees no problems with diverting the money to the leadership PAC or the RNC.

"I see this as two pockets on the

same pair of pants. It doesn't matter if it goes into the left or the right pocket," Scott said. "In the end, the money will be used for a legitimate purpose that his supporters will get behind."

FLURRY OF LAWSUITS

The fundraising pitches have channeled Trump's rage and his refusal to accept the results of an election that major media outlets called on Saturday for his Democratic opponent Joe Biden, the former Vice President. Most of the Republican Party has fallen in line with Trump's rhetoric, either by staying silent or publicly supporting the election challenges.

Trump's campaign has filed a flurry of lawsuits to overturn the results in key states without producing evidence to back his charges of illegal voting. Trump's lawsuits have instead generally alleged violations of process, such as a lack of access for Republican observers. Legal experts said none of the cases were broad enough to invalidate the number of votes required to overturn Biden's presumed victory.

Judges have quickly dismissed many of the lawsuits. State election officials, including Republicans, have said there was no widespread fraud. Just a handful of Republican senators have recognized Biden's win. Many more have not but some Republicans have suggested their patience with Trump's legal fight may run out soon.

Agencies

China, Burundi need to keep close coordination, safeguard multilateralism

BEIJING

CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said Wednesday that China and Burundi need to keep close communication and coordination in global and regional affairs and firmly safeguard multilateralism, so as to preserve the common interest of both countries as well as developing nations.

Wang made the remarks during a phone conversation with Burundian Foreign Minister Albert Shingiro.

China-Burundi relations remain at a high level, with strong political mutual trust having been forged and fruitful results achieved in all-around cooperation, he said.

Burundi has become an "all-weather" friend as well as an "all-round" partner of China, Wang said, adding that China will, as always, support Burundi in safeguarding national sovereignty and opposing external interference.

Wang voiced confidence that Burundi will continue to stand together with China over issues concerning China's core interests.

Practical cooperation between China and Burundi has been steadily progressing despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, he said.

China, Wang said, stands ready to strengthen communication and coordination with Burundi, and to closely synergize the practice of jointly building the Belt and Road and implementing the outcomes of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) Beijing Summit with Burundi's six major tasks on economic and social development, such as developing agriculture and husbandry, supporting the youth cause and adopting good policies, so as to continuously deepen mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries.

Xinhua

East African bloc says food security in peril amid suppressed rains

NAIROBI

THE greater horn of the Africa region may not realize food and nutrition security for farmers and herders amid suppressed October to December

rains, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) said in its latest weather forecast released in Nairobi on Wednesday.

According to IGAD, a

drier than usual season might impact southern Ethiopia, northern and western Somalia, eastern and western regions of Kenya, northern Tanzania, and other sparse areas around the region,"

said IGAD. "For farming communities, this could lead to poorer than usual harvests, due to reduced rainfall when crops are at the reproduction stage," it added.

The horn of African region is already battling multiple shocks like COVID-19, desert locust invasion, civil unrest and recurrent droughts that have undermined efforts to eradicate hunger and malnutrition. IGAD

said the drier than usual weather is likely to last till January, thereby complicating efforts to feed vulnerable demographics like children and the elderly.

Xinhua

Cargo vessels witness green development of Yangtze River

"TO see crystal clear water in the Yangtze River, it used to be unimaginable" said Wang Shunhua, captain of a shipping company based in southwest China's Chongqing municipality, when his vessel entered the Three Gorges Reservoir and rippled the water surface.

"The water in the reservoir has a high visibility. Sometimes I can see beyond 2 meters under the surface," Wang noted, standing on the deck and looking at the green mountains on the bank. These mountains were barely stones in the past, but now they have been fully covered by trees.

Earlier this year, Chongqing municipality unveiled an "ecological protection red line," an "environment limit," a "cap for natural resource exploitation," as well as an ecological environment access list, becoming the first one to do so among the 11 provinces and municipalities along the Yangtze River Economic Belt.

According to an official from the municipality's ecology and environment bureau, Chongqing will keep banning industries that pose pollution risks within a range of 1 kilometer from the banks of the mainstream and major tributaries of the Yangtze River, including chemical engineering, textile and papermaking. In addition, new industrial parks will not be allowed to be built within a range of 5 kilometers from the river banks.

Riverside parks have been



The water level of the Three Gorges Reservoir dropped in June 2020, which created a fluctuating zone all covered by vegetation with a height of 30 meters. (File photo)

built to green the urban area. Outside the cities, river banks are also covered by shades of green. "Narrow-ridged finless porpoise, a first-grade state protection animal, were seen jumping above the river in January this year," Wang told People's Daily.

Wang introduced that when he was just employed, his vessel was powered by diesel. In June 2018, two diesel vessels of his company were added with liquefied natural gas (LNG) power system, and the vessel he now works on is one of them. Now the two ships consume less fuel compared with traditionally powered ships, which significantly reduce the cost for the company.

According to Wang, it saves over 3,000 yuan for a trip from Chongqing's Guoyuan port to Yichang port in central China's

Hubei province. In addition, the LNG-powered vessels are more environmentally friendly. They can reduce 90 percent of oxynitride emission, and almost 100 percent of sulfur oxide and PM2.5.

"Our crew members live on the deck, and due to the lack of the awareness of environmental protection, we used to pour our sewage into the river," he said. Thanks to continuous persuasion, education and supervision, now the crew members would throw nothing into the river, he said.

Today, nearly 120,000 cargo vessels are running in the Yangtze River system, which means hundreds of thousands of crew members are living on the rivers. This would produce massive pollutants. Therefore, regions

concerned are implementing increasingly stricter regulations, with some even requiring zero discharge from these vessels.

"When our ship arrives in Jiangsu province, we are asked to first deal with our garbage at port terminals before starting working," Wang told People's Daily. Other provinces are also following Jiangsu's practice, he said, adding that similar terminals have been put into service in Chongqing, Yichang and Anqing in east China's Anhui province.

In recent years, the provinces and municipalities along the Yangtze River, by implementing green development vision, has constantly improved local ecology and nurtured prospering green industries.

Zhacai, a kind of Chinese preserved pickles, is a well-known product of Chongqing's Fuling district. However, the water used to make zhacai was always discharged into the Yangtze River in the past. Nowadays, the water is used to make high-quality seasoning sauce, which makes the industry greener and more sustainable.

Chongqing's Changshou Economic and Technological Development Zone has improved its environmental protection infrastructure and established an incubation platform for circular economy. Over 30 circular economy projects have been launched, and 97 percent of industrial solid wastes are recycled.

People's Daily

No Turkish peacekeepers to be sent to Nagorno-Karabakh – Lavrov

MOSCOW

NO Turkish peacekeeping missions will be dispatched to the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told Russian and foreign media in an interview concerning crucial issues on the international agenda.

"No peacekeeping units of the Turkish Republic will be dispatched to Nagorno-Karabakh. There is a clear provision on that score in the joint statement of the leaders [of Azerbaijan, Armenia and Russia on complete termination of hostilities in Nagorno-Karabakh]," he said.

The boundaries of Turkish observers' mobility will be limited by the Russian-Turkish center for control over the ceasefire in Nagorno-Karabakh located in



Azerbaijan, Sergey Lavrov said.

"The boundaries of Turkish observers' mobility are limited by those geographic coordinates that will be determined for the location of the Russian-Turkish monitoring center, which is being set up in Azerbaijan, in that part of the territory that is not close to Karabakh and that will be agreed on additionally."

Russia sees no attempts of disrupting the agreements reached on Nagorno-Karabakh, the top diplomat said. "As yet I don't see any signs that someone is trying to break these agreements," Lavrov said.

Russian peacekeepers

Moscow is certain that all parties are interested in Russian peacekeepers' presence in Nagorno-Karabakh, the foreign minister stated. "We are fully confident that the parties are interested in the presence of Russian peacekeepers."

We made a reservation about the possibility of terminating their mandate, but let's refrain from making any forecasts now. Let's support Russian peacekeepers in fulfilling their very difficult and important mandate to make sure that peaceful life reigns in. Agencies

Nigeria ratifies membership of AfCFTA

ABUJA

THE Nigerian government on Wednesday ratified the country's membership of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA) created for a single continental market for goods and services, with free movement of business persons and investments within the African region.

With the ratification, Nigeria has beaten the Dec. 5 deadline set for all countries to ratify their membership of the intra-Africa trade deal. President Muhammadu Buhari supervised the ratification process during the weekly Federal Executive

Council (FEC) meeting which he headed at the Presidential Villa, said Lai Mohammed, minister for information and culture. On July 7, 2019, Nigeria signed the AfCFTA agreement in Niamey during the 12th extraordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union. The operational phase of the AfCFTA was launched on the same day.

The effective date for the agreement to come into force ought to have been July 2020, however, it was postponed to Jan. 1, 2021 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. All member states were given up to Dec. 5 to ratify the agreement.

Xinhua

Zimbabwe to start locally manufacturing buses for mass public transport system

HARARE

ZIMBABWE will soon start to locally manufacture buses for the mass public transport system as it seeks to revitalize the once vibrant automotive sector.

The move is part of the government's efforts to promote the consumption of local products and to reduce the import bill. Speaking during a tour of Quest Motors, a vehicle manufacturing company based at the eastern city of Mutare on Wednesday, Finance and Economic Development Minister Mtshali Ncube said the support of local industries by government would boost the economy.

"We, as government, should support local industries in our vehicle sourcing and also in bus manufacturing. We will see more of this happening over time," Ncube (pictured) said.

"We need to promote the 'Buy Zimbabwe' mantra as it is important for us to support our local value chains and industries."

A lot of it has to do with the incentive system that we need to put in place for that to happen.

That is exactly what we are developing and fine-tuning to make sure that we make local goods more attractive than foreign products. So you will find that our policy will be changing in that



direction to make sure we support domestication of local value chains," said Ncube.

In addition to creating employment, the assembling of buses locally is also expected to have ripple effects on the economy since a substantial amount of materials would be sourced locally. Earlier this year, government outlawed the use of privately owned commuter omnibuses on urban routes in a bid to restore sanity in the public transport system and to provide affordable transport to the commuting public.

State-run Zimbabwe United Passenger Company (Zupco) remain the sole provider of urban public transport.

However, the Zupco fleet cannot meet the high demand, and has been operating with buses sourced from the

private sector players under its franchise. In response to the shortage of public transport, the Zimbabwean government has over the past year been facilitating importation of buses from China, South Africa and Belarus.

Local vehicle manufacturers have raised concern over their exclusion from the supply of buses, arguing that they are capable of producing quality vehicles for the local market.

There are three vehicle assembling companies in Zimbabwe, namely AVM Africa, a bus and truck maker, Quest Motors and Willowvale Motor Industries (WMI) including its bus-making subsidiary Deven Engineering.

Quest has over the years assembled Volvo, Leyland and Nissan buses, and currently holds the franchise to build Chinese owned Yutong and Zhong Tong buses.

Through a joint venture cooperation with Belarus, AVM Africa has been roped to assemble 300 of the 500 buses that will be supplied from the eastern European country.

Zimbabwe's vehicle manufacturers have been struggling to stay afloat as the government, which is their biggest customer, has over the years shunned locally produced vehicles preferring imports instead.

Xinhua

SPORT

Pazi seeks re-match with Kassim

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

FAMOUS Tanzanian Super Middleweight boxer, Abdallah Pazi 'DullaMbate', has requested his compatriot, Twaha Kassim, to step into the ring with the former for the third time after having failed to post victory over the latter in the two boxers' previous two bouts.

The first of the previous two bouts was declared a draw whereas the second had Kassim winning convincingly.

Speaking with confidence and pride in Dar es Salaam recently, Pazi, famed for his powerful right-hand punch and uppers cuts, has placed emphasis on Kassim by telling the latter he is ready to fight him anywhere, be it Dar es Salaam or Morogoro where Kassim, aka Kiduku, hails from.

He disclosed: "If he fails to find the promoter for our fight, I will do it for him to promote the fight because I have a lot of efficient people, I know who can coordinate and manage that fight if he fails to find his promoter."

Pazi said he hopes the fight will be his first fight to pay attention to in 2021, after finishing his fight against a Zimbabwean opponent, which will take place at the end of this year.

Asked about the effects of participating in three consecutive bouts within three months, Pazi disclosed he will not be affected by the move.

He noted: "Negative effect might occur, if a boxer does so, because legally and physically he has to rest for three months, but, for me, it will not have much side effects because I have fought 10 rounds against Kassim, I fought six rounds against Kasface Bek Nurmaganbet of Kazakhstan and I will feature in next year's bout."

"In Boxing Day's fight (against Zimbabwean opponent), I will fight 10 rounds, for that division and ratio it will not have as much negative impacts on me as a boxer," he insisted.

Pazi also congratulated Kassim for the first time after the two boxers' latest fight, admitting that the latter used his weaknesses in the previous fight and that is why he was

able to emerge victorious.

He stated he hopes that he will work on the weaknesses, an approach that will enable him to emerge victorious when they meet in the next fight.

Speaking on his previous fight against Kassim, Pazi stated: "I can't blame anyone. I have accepted the results. This is a game like any other sport, it has three outcomes, win, loss and draw, and I have accepted the results, I can't put blame on my coach, judges or promoters of the fight."

He also stressed that the Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, who will be appointed by President John Magufuli, should also put focus on boxing promotion because, if he does not do so, many Tanzanian boxers will perform horribly in their fights.

Pazi also stated domestic boxing promoters in the likes of Shomari Kimbau and Juma Ndambile should resign because they are, according to him, putting domestic boxing into disrepute.

The boxer issued a plea that a respected professional boxing official, Joe Anea, who recently resigned from the Tanzania Professional Boxing Regulatory Commission (TPBRC)'s president's post, should return to the sport's administration, given he is a good leader. Pazi noted that Anea had what it takes to promote professional boxing at the domestic level, since he has a huge exposure and connections with international boxing federations.

He further pointed out that losing his recent bout Nurmaganbet has had negative impact on his ranking in Boxrec.

Pazi, who was placed 92nd in the Super Middleweight boxing ranking globally as per the Boxrec network which keeps records of professional boxers from all over the world, has now dropped to 115th place.

Most top boxers in the world normally change their trainers after losing important career bouts.

Pazi, nevertheless, noted he does not see the need to change his coach, because the latter was the one who discovered his talent and trained him to beat the country's top boxers like Maneno Oswald, Thomas Mashali, Mada Maugo and Francis Cheka.

Mwakinyo faces Paz in WBF Super Welterweight title fight today



Professional boxers, Tanzanian Hassan Mwakinyo (2ndR), and Argentine Jose Carlos Paz, pictured during a weigh-in of a World Boxing Federation (WBF) Intercontinental Super Welterweight and International Boxing Association (IBA) Super Welterweight titles' fight between the two boxers, which took place in on Thursday. The fight will take place in the city today. Others are coaches and the bout's officials. CORRESPONDENT

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

TANZANIA's prominent professional Super Welterweight boxer Hassan Mwakinyo takes to the stage tonight to defend his World Boxing Federation (WBF) Super Welterweight intercontinental title against Argentine Jose Carlos Paz in Dar es Salaam.

The 12-round bout, which will take place at Next Door Arena at Masaki, has been organized by Jackson Group Sport under Managing Director, Kelvin Twissa, and endorsed by WBF and Tanzania Professional Boxing Regulatory Commission (TPBRC).

Another title fight will see Fatuma Zarika of Kenya trade punches with Patience Mastara of Zimbabwe for the vacant WBF Women Bantamweight title.

The schedule, issued by the organizers, shows that there will also

be undercards fights involving two Tanzanians, Hussein Itaba who will take on Alex Kabangu of DR Congo, and Zulfa Macho, who will fight against Alice Mbewe of Zambia.

The Mwakinyo versus Paz fight will be officiated by famous referee, Edward Marshall. The WBF president Howard Goldberg will supervise the bout.

Speaking immediately after the weigh-in, held in Dar es Salaam on Thursday, Mwakinyo said nothing would stop him from winning the bout and he urged fans to attend the fight.

"I will apply Mike Tyson's style, finishing the fight in early rounds while the boxing fans were in the entry queue and others were buying tickets. I urge fans to buy their tickets before the fight," Mwakinyo stated.

Mwakinyo said he would make sure Paz quits professional boxing due to punishment he will mettle out to the Argentinian.

"What I'm talking about is what I mean, I want to show him my true colours and he will tell the story to other boxers in Argentina that he fought against a real professional boxer," he noted.

Pazi insisted that his action will speak in the boxing ring and not words. "I know Mwakinyo talks a lot, it's normal, but I'll show actions and win the title," Pazi said briefly.

Goldberg said preparations were complete and if Mwakinyo will win the match, he would have a chance to compete in the world title against the defending champion, Lasha Gurguliani of Georgia, within three months.

"I would like to thank Jackson Group Sport for organizing this fight and restoring the status of professional boxing in the country," Goldberg disclosed.

He said: "This is my seventh time coming to the country, but I have never witnessed this kind of expertise in organizing a fight."

Jackson Group Sports' Managing Director, Twissa, said preparations were complete and for the first time Tanzania is bringing together boxers from five other countries around the world to make history.

Twissa said tickets continue to be sold through Nillipe and Selcom for 3m/- for one table comprising 10 people and 150,000/- for each of regular seats.



Tanzanian boxer, Abdallah Pazi (L), trades blows with Kazakhstan's Kasface Bek Nurmaganbet, in an international, non-title Super Middleweight bout, which took place in Atyrau City, Kazakhstan recently. Nurmaganbet won by points.

Dar boxing championship preparations hot up

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

PREPARATIONS for the coming Champion of Champions boxing championship, which will take place in Dar es Salaam in December, are at an advanced stage, Tanzania's Open Boxing Federation (OBFT) disclosed yesterday.

The tournament will bring together domestic boxers and boxers from neighbouring countries.

The OBFT secretary general, Lukelo Wililo, said in an interview preparation for the championship is going on smoothly and they are hopeful of successfully hosting it.

He said, so far, three countries, namely Kenya, Uganda and Zambia, have confirmed to compete at the championships slated for December 5-9 at a venue to be disclosed later.

Wililo, however disclosed that they are still hunting for sponsors for the championship, dubbed as 'Dar Klabu Bingwa.'

He asked the corporate world to come forward to help OBFT successfully host the championship.

"All preparations are going on very well, up to now three countries, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia have confirmed to send their teams, the doors are still open for other nations to confirm their participation as we extended invitations to other countries like South Africa and Malawi. We are appealing to the corporate world to support us financially and materially," he said.

The 'Dar Klabu Bingwa' is recognized by the World Boxing Federation (WBF) and the championship's results are ranked by the federation.

In a previous interview, Wililo stated he is confident OBFT will successfully host the event, saying this year's Open Boxing Championship, which was held in Manyara, gave them experience and confidence of hosting an international event.

Cash windfall beckons for Tanzania U-17 women football team

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

AFTER sailing through to the 2020 COSAFA U-17 Women Championship final, Tanzania's U-17 women soccer team stand to rake in US dollars 15,000 in prize, should they lift the competition's trophy. A committee for supporting Tanzania's senior men's national team, Taifa Stars, known as 'Saidia Taifa Stars Ishinde', chaired by Paul Makonda, made the commitment on Wednesday.

And the cash, according to the committee, will be handed over to the Tanzania's U-17 women team, should they cruise to victory over Zambia U-17 side in the final, which will take place in South Africa on Saturday.

Tanzania's U-17 women soccer team have had a string of impressive results in the showdown, trouncing hosts South Africa 6-1, Comoros (6-1), Zimbabwe (10-1) and Zambia (2-1).

The East African side is a guest team in the competition, which started on November 3.

Tanzania's senior national women team 'Twiga Stars' took part in the 2020 COSAFA Women Championship, which is also taking place in South Africa.

The Tanzania senior women squad crashed out of the group stage of the tournament, finishing second in Group C that was led by Botswana, one of the teams which have made it to the knockout stage.

Zambia U-17 women team sealed their spot in the 2020 COSAFA U-17 Women Championship final with a comprehensive 3-0 victory over Comoros Islands, with much of the damage done in the first half.

Comfort Selemani headed them ahead from a corner kick as they put pressure on the islanders' goal, before the lead was doubled just before halftime.

Zambia were handed a spotkick and Tisilile Lungu scored at the third attempt after Comoros goalkeeper Said Amina



Tanzania's U-17 women soccer team's players celebrate when they notched a goal against Zimbabwe U-17 women team in the 2020 COSAFA U-17 Women Championship's tie, which took place in South Africa on Wednesday. Tanzania's U-17 women football team won 10-1.

saved the initial penalty, and then again from the rebound, but the Lungu was able to finally bury the chance as the defence proved too sluggish to clear the danger.

The points were sealed just past the hour-mark when Bupe Banda netted her first goal of the tournament with a looping shot from the edge of the box that nestled in the corner of the net.

Tanzania made light work of Zimbabwe, racing into a 5-0 lead inside 31 minutes and never looking back, claiming a 10-1 success in the end.

The final round will be played on Thursday with nothing but pride to play for and is expected to be played at 6:00 pm Eastern time at Wolfson Stadium.

South Africa will look to finish their disappointing campaign on a high when they tackle Comoros Islands (12h30), having only won one of their three matches to date, it would also ensure the consolation of third place.

No fans will be allowed access into the stadiums, but the senior championship matches will be broadcast live on TV, as well as being streamed live.

Mane scores and creates a goal as Senegal triumph

JOHANNESBURG

SADIO Mane scored the first goal and created the second as Senegal stayed on course to reach the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations finals with a 2-0 home win over Guinea-Bissau Wednesday.

Guinea edged dogged Chad 1-0. Burundi surprised Mauritania by forcing a late draw and Kenya could manage only a 1-1 draw with 10-man Comoros in other qualifiers.

The matches were the first since last November in the Cup of Nations qualifiers as the coronavirus pandemic severely disrupted the African international schedule.

A limited number of socially-distanced spectators were permitted in Mauritania while the other matches went ahead behind closed doors.

Liverpool star Mane converted a penalty just before half-time in Thies near Dakar to give Group I leaders Senegal a half-time advantage.

Victory for the Teranga Lions was sealed on 74 minutes when Mane set up Opa Nguette to score just two minutes after he had come off the bench.

Senegal, whose best Cup of Nations showings were finishing runners-up in 2002 and 2019, are the top-ranked country in Africa and lie 97 places above Guinea-Bissau in the world listings.

The Senegalese have a maximum nine points from three matches in a mini-league they seem certain to win, Congo Brazzaville and Guinea-Bissau have three each and eSwatini none.

Meanwhile, the Comoros overcame having scorer Youssouf M'Changama red-carded just before half-time to keep alive dreams of a first Cup of Nations appearance.

- Eventful first half -

M'Changama was yellow-carded, scored from a deflected free-kick, was cautioned a second time and sent off in an eventful first half for the French Ligue 2 midfielder.

Kenya, with Jacob Mulee starting a fifth spell as national coach, levelled through Masoud Juma midway into the second half in Nairobi.

The Comorans top Group G with five points, Kenya have three, record seven-time African champions Egypt two and Togo one.

Mauritania rank among the most improved African national teams over the past five years with much of the credit belonging to French coach Corentin Martins.

They hit a bump on the road to the Cup of Nations finals, however, when conceding 11 minutes from time after Bakary N'Diaye had given them the lead on 30 minutes in Nouakchott.

Substitute Saido Berahino equalised for Burundi, giving Jimmy Ndayizeye a satisfactory start as coach and the Swallows a first Group E point.

Mauritania have five points, Morocco four, the Central African Republic three and Burundi one, but the frontrunners will view the draw as two points lost rather than one gained. Greece-based Mady Camara, who is attracting attention from clubs in bigger European leagues, netted in the final minute of the opening half to earn pacesetters Guinea a three-point Group A lead.

The Guineans, who kicked off against lowly ranked Chad in Conakry leading Mali on goal difference, found the going as tough as French coach Didier Six expected.

"There are no longer any weak teams," warned the former star before the match. "In Africa, the playing field levels out towards the top and not the bottom."

AFP

Finland ruin Thuram's France bow, Ronaldo inches towards international goals record

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

FINLAND spoiled Marcus Thuram's party on Wednesday after beating France 2-0 on the day the Borussia Moenchengladbach attacker emulated his father Lilian Thuram by making his debut for Les Bleus.

Thuram was picked by Didier Deschamps for the friendly at the Stade de France over 22 years after his dad won the World Cup at the same ground, but despite a strong performance on the left wing could not stop the Finns from coming out on top.

The 23-year-old hit the bar with less 15 minutes gone and soon after flashed a difficult volley over as he and Lucas Digne caused continual problems down the left flank for the away side.

However, Marcus Forss stunned the hosts when he collected the ball after a Moussa Sissoko mistake and rammed home at Steve Mandanda's near post.

France barely had any time to react before Onni Valakari doubled the away side's lead with a stunning effort after being left to stroll towards goal.

Deschamps brought on Antoine Griezmann, Anthony Martial and N'Golo Kante just before the hour mark but could not break down the well-organised Finns.

The result will disappoint Deschamps but he will likely have been happy with the performance of Thuram, who made more of an impression than some of the more established international players on display, including Paul Pogba and Olivier Giroud.

"It was a good first half despite the goals," Thuram told TV channel M6.

"I'm trying to learn a lot alongside the other internationals... and to gain as much experience as possible. I hope that will continue."

He could be in contention for World Cup holders France's upcoming Nations League matches against European champions Portugal and Sweden.

Deschamps said last week that the son of his old France teammate had "gone up a level" since joining Moenchengladbach from French side Guingamp in July 2019.

Thuram has scored three times in 11 appearances for the Bundesliga side this season and was the first footballer in Germany to take a knee in protest following the death of the 46-year-old African American George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis.



Vincenzo Grifo scored his first Italy goals in a 4-0 thumping of Estonia. (Agencies)

Lilian Thuram is the most-capped player in the history of the French national team with 142 appearances and as well as winning the '98 World Cup also triumphed alongside Deschamps at Euro 2000.

- Ronaldo continues goal quest -

Cristiano Ronaldo continued his quest to snatch the all-time record for most international goals when he struck his 102nd Portugal goal in their in a 7-0 win over Andorra.

France's opponents on Saturday in what could be a Nations League A, Group 3 decider strolled past their weak opponents in Lisbon despite not starting a single player from the team that beat Sweden 3-0 last month.

Ronaldo missed that match after testing positive for coronavirus and was introduced at half-time on Wednesday, but had to wait until there were only five minutes remaining to boost his record bid with a close-range header.

Former Iran striker Ali Daei holds the record on 109 goals.

Italy extended their unbeaten streak to 20 games after a second-string line-up comfortably beat Estonia a 4-0.

Vincenzo Grifo scored his first senior international goal with a long-range drive in the 14th minute and Federico Bernardeschi put the hosts two goals ahead 13 minutes later when he drifted in from the right and crashed a low shot past Marko Meerits in the Estonia goal.

Grifo stepped up and scored his second

goal from the penalty spot when Roberto Gagliardini was tripped with 15 minutes remaining and Riccardo Orsolini added a fourth also from the spot four minutes from the end to complete the rout.

Frank de Boer's wait for a first win as Netherlands coach goes on after his team drew 1-1 with Spain in a friendly in Amsterdam on Wednesday.

De Boer has now gone four matches without a victory since being appointed in September to succeed Ronald Koeman, who left to take over at Barcelona.

A first-half goal by Benfica striker Luca Waldschmidt sealed Germany a 1-0 win over the Czech Republic, while two Michy Batshuayi goals helped Belgium to a 2-1 victory over Switzerland.

AFP

Kroos: UEFA treats players like 'puppets'

BERLIN

TONI Kroos has criticised plans for a European Super League, as well as new competitions like the Nations League or an expanded Club World Cup, saying players are being treated as "puppets."

The Real Madrid midfielder, who had been rested by Germany coach Joachim Low for their friendly with the Czech Republic on Wednesday and will join the squad for their Nations League ties with Ukraine and Spain, was speaking to his brother Felix on their podcast 'Einfach mal Lappen.'

"Unfortunately, players don't decide these things," Kroos said. "At the end of the day, when these new competitions are invented, we are just puppets of FIFA and UEFA. They are meant to make as much money as possible, to suck everything out of every player physically."

Kroos, 30, has won four Champions Leagues and five domestic league titles in a glittering club career with Bayern Munich and Real Madrid, as well as the World Cup with Germany in 2014.

"I'm a big fan of leaving things as they are, when they're going well," he said. "The leagues are top products already, together with the Champions League titles and the World Cup."

It was reported last month that plans

for a new Super League which would replace the Champions League were being discussed by Europe's top clubs.

The format would reportedly involve teams from the Premier League, La Liga, Serie A, the Bundesliga and Ligue 1 and feature no promotion or relegation.

On Oct. 27, former Barcelona president Josep Maria Bartomeu revealed that the club had accepted a proposal to take part.

"From a sporting point of view, it would be interesting, because we'd only play top level games," Kroos said. "But the gap between the big and small clubs would grow even more. Everything doesn't always have to be more, faster, more money."

Kroos also criticised the trend of players taking part in elaborate goal celebrations.

"I think rehearsed dances or choreographies are very silly," he said. "Or even worse, if players have things hidden in their socks. [Pierre-Emerick] Aubameyang once celebrated like that, and took out a mask."

"That's where it ends for me... I always liked Gerd Muller, he just jumped up, and pulled up his shorts. That was real joy."

(Agencies)

FA chairman Clarke had no choice but to quit: Southgate

LONDON

ENGLAND manager Gareth Southgate expressed some sympathy for former Football Association chairman Greg Clarke but said he had no option but to leave after a series of inappropriate comments during a parliamentary committee meeting on Tuesday.

The 63-year-old Clarke referred to "coloured footballers" while addressing members of the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee. He also said south Asian and Afro-Caribbean people had "different career interests" and referred to gay players making a "life choice."

"As he said himself, the terminology he used in a number of areas was not acceptable and doesn't reflect the view of the FA and what we as a team stand for," Southgate told a news conference ahead of Thursday's friendly against Ireland.

"I don't think he had any alternative

than to take the decision to resign."

"What's a shame for him is he has done a lot of work behind the scenes to support the diversity code and make inroads into relationships around Europe."

The FA has taken strides to become a more diverse organisation and Southgate said he was proud that its 800 staff represented all sections of the community.

"Unfortunately he is going to be remembered for the comments he made," Southgate said. "There is a balance to that as I don't like to see people suffer so publicly as he has. But what he said wasn't acceptable."

Clarke will be replaced by long-serving Board member Peter McCormick on an interim basis while the search goes on for a successor. Southgate said the appointment should be made on suitability for the role, rather than ethnicity or gender.

REUTERS

Solskjaer hanging tough at Man United despite inconsistency

By Rob Dawson, ESPN Correspondent

LOUIS van Gaal still says he should have seen his dismissal coming at Manchester United six months before it happened, and while Ole Gunnar Solskjaer is not there yet, the similarities are striking. Two managers wrestling with the suspicion they were not backed by the club when it mattered, an inconsistent team struggling to quieten the critics and another coach sitting in the shadows.

For Van Gaal, it was Jose Mourinho. For Solskjaer, it is Mauricio Pochettino. Van Gaal's time ended with Mourinho famously taking over; Solskjaer is still battling away to make sure he doesn't suffer the same fate.

Victory at Everton on Saturday was the latest example of the Norwegian manager conjuring up a result when he needed one most, but there's no escaping the fact that after seven games, United are 14th in the table. Already this season, they have lost to Crystal Palace and beaten Paris Saint-Germain. They have suffered dire home defeats to Tottenham and Arsenal, but they also dismantled Newcastle and RB Leipzig.

Inconsistency has dogged Solskjaer's spell at Old Trafford and, as he approaches his two-year anniversary, United remain a team that's difficult to work out. Privately, United have been at pains to stress that Solskjaer retains the faith of vice-chairman Ed Woodward and the board, but it is ultimately up to Woodward and the owners, the Glazers, to decipher whether the good outweighs the bad.

Van Gaal remains convinced that by January 2016, Woodward had already decided to replace him with Mourinho. Enquiries were made via intermediaries to ensure that neither Woodward nor Mourinho got their hands dirty while another manager remained in the post. It also gave United plausible deniability even when Mourinho's agent, Jorge Mendes, was strategically leaking information in the background to ramp up the pressure.

Pochettino and his allies are different, already shying away from opportunities to rock the boat. His Nov. 2 appearance on Sky's Monday Night Football was well timed - it had been in the pipeline for nearly a year and came 24 hours after Man United lost 1-0 at home to Arsenal - but he made it clear he would not comment directly on United or Solskjaer.

Asked an open-ended question about whether he would like to return to the Premier League, Pochettino gave an open-ended answer: "I'm not going to close any door. I am waiting to feel what is the right project for us, which is the right way to take."

Sources have told ESPN that third-party agents sought to find out more about Pochettino's plans for the future in late September ahead of a tough run of fixtures for United that included games against Tottenham, PSG, Chelsea, RB Leipzig, Arsenal and Everton. Now through that spell, their run of games after the international break appears to offer Solskjaer more of a chance to stabilise the campaign.



Ole Gunnar Solskjaer

Pochettino, meanwhile, has made it known to the right people that he would jump at the chance to manage United, but also that they're not his only option. He has also distanced himself from comments that, as a former Espanyol player, he could never manage Barcelona, where new boss Ronald Koeman is already under pressure. There have been questions, too, about Zinedine Zidane at Real Madrid and Thomas Tuchel at PSG.

Pochettino also remains the most likely candidate for Manchester City, who are keen admirers of the 48-year-old if Pep Guardiola does not sign an extension to the contract that is due to expire in June. All of which raises the possibility United could miss out on Pochettino for a second time.

Pochettino is not Woodward's only can-

didate to be United's next manager should they need one. The United executive has told close associates that he's a fan of Tuchel and RB Leipzig's Julian Nagelsmann, who is also on City's radar. Massimiliano Allegri, who left Juventus in 2019, has made it known he would be interested should the opportunity arise, although he is lower down the list.

There is an acceptance that United's performances against Arsenal and Istanbul Basaksehir, in particular, were not good enough, but senior figures have pointed to results against PSG and Leipzig, as well as the 14-game unbeaten run to end last season's Premier League campaign, as evidence that Solskjaer is the right man.

Woodward and Solskjaer are still in regular contact and have maintained a good working relationship despite a tense sum-

mer. Crucially, Solskjaer has also retained the backing from the senior players; sources have told ESPN that the reaction to the win at Goodison Park on Saturday was more defiant than celebratory after a week of intense criticism. Some strong supporters of Solskjaer within the squad feared another demoralising defeat would have forced Woodward into a decision.

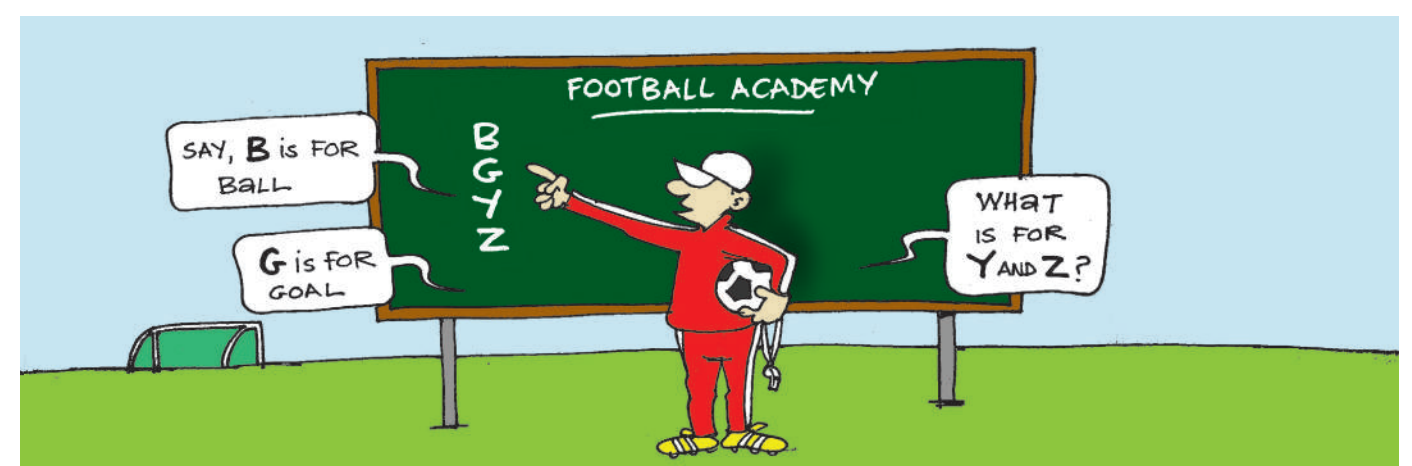
There is a sense on Solskjaer's part that he would not be vulnerable at all had the summer transfer window been more productive. The signature signing - Ajax's £40 million midfielder Donny van de Beek - strengthened a position he did not believe was a priority.

The right winger and central defender he wanted did not arrive; instead, United brought in a 33-year-old striker in Edinson Cavani on a free transfer and two teenage wingers, Penarol's Facundo Pellistri and Atalanta's Amad Diallo Traore - Pellistri yet to play and Diallo not arriving until January, despite costing £21m plus £20m in add-ons.

Solskjaer and his coaching staff share the feeling that while United's senior squad has been strengthened, the overall quality of the first team has stayed the same, making it difficult to bridge the gap to Liverpool and Manchester City. Solskjaer has vented his frustration to Woodward, but his mood around Carrington has remained positive and staff are not walking the corridors with fear as they were during the final throes of the Mourinho era.

When it came time for United to dismiss Mourinho and Van Gaal, the writing was on the wall long before the news was delivered. Solskjaer is beginning to feel some of the same pressures, but Woodward is not taking aim yet.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Bocco to lead Taifa Stars' attack against Tunisia

SPORT

Finland ruin Thuram's France bow, Ronaldo inches towards international goals record

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Tanzania's senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' players listen to coaches' instructions at training in Turkey early this week, seeking to shape up for the first leg of the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) Group J qualifiers against Tunisia, set for today in Tunis. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

By Correspondent
Michael Mwebe

Arusha to host first ever night race in December

By Correspondent Yasinta Amos, Arusha

AMERICAN singer, Lionel Richie, had in the 80s released the hit 'Running in the Night' and now this is becoming a reality in Arusha.

At least 1000 participants will be taking part in the inaugural night racing event.

The race, dubbed 'Arusha Night Run', is going to be the first ever athletics activity in the country to take place during the dark.

The 15 kilometers long night racing event will start at Co-coriko Annex, formerly Tripple 'A' Club at Technical College junction, with runners heading towards Ngaramtoni area.

The athletes will not exactly reach there, they will simply move past Sakina, Azimio and Kwa-Idd areas before turning back at a spot measured 7.5 kilometers and return back.

The 'Arusha Night Run' is introduced and organized by two sports-oriented individuals, Xavier Chuwa and Kylie Gyubi, and the feat is expected to be staged here on December 4 this year.

According to Xavier Chuwa, the race will be preceded by other activities including blood donation in aid of expectant mothers, HIV-Aids testing, youth advisory and mental health services.

The main race carrying the theme, 'Running is the Best Therapy', will be flagged off from Triple A at about 8.00pm in the night.

Running in the night, as far as the organizers are concerned, should be a sporting event with a difference, because the night provides conducive atmosphere allowing even busy people to run.

"It is also the right time because December is a holiday month and all families are back home," Gyubi said.

She disclosed that night racing usually takes place in developed countries mostly during New Year eve as part of the festive vigils.

She said this is the first time the race is taking place in Arusha, Tanzania and the whole of East Africa with the event planned to be an annual feature to be hosted every December.

Runners are expected to come from all over the country, so far invited participants will be hailing from Mwanza, Dodoma, Morogoro, Kilimanjaro, Dar es Salaam and hosts, Arusha.

The maiden 'Arusha Night Race' is being supported by, among other firms, Bonite Bottlers of Moshi, Dynamic Digital, Lighthouse, Arusha City Council, Bonds Security, Just Fits, and PF Furnitures.

TANZANIA'S senior national soccer team, Taifa Stars, are due to start John Bocco and Simon Msvu, up front against the hosts Tunisia in the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifier game today. It kicks off at 2200.

That was not always the plan, Mbwana Samatta, who turns out for Fenerbahce, is ruled out of the crucial match

after he sustained an injury during his club's last league match.

Losing captain Samatta could barely come at a worse time for Tanzania and the squad, under head coach Etienne Ndayiragije, must face their toughest games without their talisman, poster boy and main goal threat.

In the absence of Samatta, Bocco will lead the 4-3-3 formation. The Simba SC hitman missed Taifa Stars' last month's international friendly against Burundi due to an injury he picked playing for Simba SC in the Premier League.

Bocco has since recovered and played in two league matches.

The forward is a prolific goal scorer at club

level but he has struggled to replicate that form at national level.

In 56 appearances for Taifa Stars he has scored 14 goals but his experience playing at that level puts him head and shoulder above other attacking options at coach Ndayiragije's squad.

Compared to Taifa Stars' XI that lost 1-0 to Burundi in Dar es Salaam in October, veteran goalkeeper, Juma Kaseja, is likely to be given the nod ahead of Aishi Manula, David Mapigano and Mnetacha Mnata.

Kaseja has recovered from an injury that kept him out of his club KMC FC's opening games in domestic top flight.

having missed the Burundi friendly due to his club's duties.

He is likely to partner up with Jonas Mkude in a bid to provide an extra layer of defensive cover against the fearsome hosts.

Taifa Stars are second in the African Cup of Nations (AFCON)'s Group J, three points behind leaders Tunisia, and only bettering Equatorial Guinea and bottom placed Libya on goal difference.

The hosts could seal qualification with a win over Taifa Stars after Libya lost at home to Equatorial Guinea on Wednesday night.

Angolan referee, Heider Martins Rodrigues de Carvalho, will officiate today's match, but while five substitutions are allowed, there is no Video Assistant Referee (VAR) in the AFCON qualifiers.

Probable line-up Tanzania (4-3-3): Juma Kaseja, Mohamed Hussein, Shomari Kapombe, Bakari Mwanjeto, Abdallah Kheri, Jonas Mkude, Himid Mao, Feisal Salum, Simon Msvu, John Bocco and Iddy Selemani.

Company sponsors 2020 Waitara golf tournament

By Guardian Reporter

ABOUT 150 top golfers from across Tanzania are set to battle for supremacy in this year's Waitara golf tournament, courtesy of the Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL)'s brand, Johnnie Walker.

The one-day competition, popularly known as 'Johnnie Walker Waitara Golf Tournament 2020', is slated to take place at the Lugalo golf course in Dar es Salaam on November 21 and will end up with a dinner gala which will see winners get trophies.

Announcing the tournament's sponsorship, the SBL Marketing Director, Mark Mugisha, said Johnnie Walker brand, and to partner with a golf club that boasts of a very proud history.

"As we celebrate 200 years since we first started creating and blending Johnnie Walker Whisky, which is now the number one blended whisky globally, we are proud to have walked the journey of resilience and commitment to quality," he stated.

"Johnnie Walker Blended Scotch Whisky is one of the first truly global brands. The Johnnie Walker portfolio features five award-winning whiskies," he disclosed.

"They are Red Label, Black Label, Green Label, Gold Label, and Blue Label."

"The SBL is also the main sponsor of Tanzania's senior men's national soccer team, Taifa Stars, through the company's multiple-award-winning beer brand, Serengeti Premium Lager.

The SBL too made history in 2018 by becoming the first company ever to sponsor Mainland Tanzania Women Premier League, courtesy of its Super brand winning light beer, Serengeti Premium Lite.

Speaking at the announcement of the tournament's sponsorship, Lugalo Golf Club chairman, Michael Luwongo, expressed his appreciation to SBL for the shot-in-the-arm and urged other companies and organizations to come forward and support the growth of golf in the country.

"We very are grateful for SBL's consistent support of golf and other sports in the country. We are particularly happy to note that the beer maker has now become the biggest supporter of this tournament," Luwongo said.

The Waitara Golf Tournament is held every year and its main objective is to honour General (rt) George Waitara's contribution to the sports sector in Tanzania by initiating the golf course at the Lugalo Golf Club.

The golf course started operating in 2006 after its inauguration by General Waitara while he was the Chief of Tanzania's Defence Forces.

His contribution was also greatly enhanced and supported by his successor General (rt) Davis Mwanjeto.

each with its own distinct personality, history and a story to tell."

"These labels are not simply whiskies in bottles but blends of quality Scotch top whiskies of sometimes up to 46 different types as is the case of Johnnie Walker Black Label, matured over years to guarantee the rich flavours, aroma and taste that leaves your palate satisfied and your senses teased."

"Our vast range of Whisky's offerings are easily enjoyable with any type of mixers at any occasion. Be it a night out with friends, a dinner gala, a wedding celebration, or even adults' birthday party!"

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Lugalo Golf Club's skipper, Japhet Masai (L) speaks to journalists at the announcement of the Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL)'s sponsorship for the 2020 Waitara Golf Tournament in Dar es Salaam on Thursday. The competition will take place at Lugalo golf course in the city on November 21. Looking on are (C) Lugalo Golf Club's chairman, Michael Luwongo, and SBL Marketing Director, Mark Mugisha. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Simba Queens to face tough fixture as Women Premier League resumes

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AFTER a long wait and vast presence of rhetorical questions, the schedule for next season's Mainland Tanzania Women Premier League was announced on Wednesday, with the tournament slated to kick off on November 28, 2020.

The schedule has shown that the league's defending champion Simba Queens will play the first five tough matches by meeting the league big guns.

The first game for the side will see them confront newly promoted Queens Revolution at the latter's venue, Sabasaba, in Njombe.

After that, Simba Queens will on December 2 this year travel to Songea, Ruvuma, to play against Ruvuma Queens, who finished fourth last season, at the Maji Maji Stadium.

Simba Queens will return to Dar es Salaam to play against the league's historical champions, JKT Queens, at the former's home venue, Mo Simba Arena, on December 8.

Yanga Princesses will thereafter be Simba Queens' next opponents, the sides will lock horns at the same venue on December 12.

Simba Queens will later host Mwanza's Alliance Girls on December 16. Simba Queens' head coach, Mussa Hassan, said despite the schedule being difficult for them they are well prepared to ensure they record victory in their first five matches.

"We needed a schedule to come out after a lot of complaints came out, we have to accept it and receive it as it is, the shortcomings are not missing anywhere, but we are well prepared to make sure we do well and prove we can excel even if some of our players have joined the national team, we have taken part in two friendly games and we have won both," Hassan noted.

Simba Queens won the championship last season after collecting 56 points. They had six points deducted as results of the team's games against Panama Girls were cancelled.

In the season's other opening games, Ruvuma Queens will entertain Mlandizi Queens in Ruvuma while Kigoma Sisterz will host Mwanza's Alliance Girls at Lake Tanganyika Stadium in Kigoma.

The ES Unyanembe will face TSC Queens in Tabora, Yanga Princess will play against Tanzanite SC in Dar es Salaam. Dar es Salaam's JKT Queens will entertain Dodoma's Babab Queens, all matches will be played at 10:00 p.m.

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EATV FRIDAY

TONIGHT @ 9:00

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Mid Week Movie (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Wakilisha (r)
16:00 Ujenzi (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Skonga
19:30 EATV SAA I
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Friday Night Live
23:00 Kurasa (r)

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06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 Friday Night Live

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