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National Pg 2
Guidelines on fire protection, control

National Pg 4
Dodoma RC gives notice to contractor

National Pg 5
Man impersonates intelligence officer

National Pg 7
Facelift of Songea Mahukuru health centre



India says ties are satisfactory, lays accent on more agro-investments

By Guardian Reporter

THE government's move in pushing up the economy by initiating various strategic projects such as the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project (JNHPP), Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and revival of the state airline has drawn attention from many foreign countries including India.

India's High Commissioner, Shri Sanjiv Kohli (pictured) said in an interview in Dar es Salaam over the weekend that Tanzania country is likely to record further developments in five to 10 years ahead.

He said Tanzania's economic achievements would also benefit Uganda, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and several others.

"We are happy to see Tanzania's economic status rising because this will open-up more opportunities between our two countries in areas of investment, capacity building and technology," he said.

Kohli said historically India has

TURN TO PAGE 2

CCM committees begin grilling aspirants today



CCM's candidate for late October's Zanzibar Presidential Election, Defence and National Service minister Dr Hussein Ali Hassan Mwinyi (L), exchanges greetings with the party's leaders who welcomed him to Pemba Island's Tibirinzi grounds yesterday. Reports said he went there chiefly to be introduced to CCM leaders, members, supporters and fans. Photo: Zanzibar State House

By Guardian Reporter

THOUSANDS of aspirants seeking nomination by the ruling CCM in this year's General Election are from today facing delegates at district and ward levels all over the country.

Party officials saw a record number of hopefuls pick up forms for nomination, with each of over 300 parliamentary seats attracting tens of aspirants.

But the first step, a walk in the park – collecting and filling nomination forms – ended last week. Now enters a competitive phase where aspirants will have to show their worthiness to party delegates at the ward level for those seeking councillorship and constituency cadres for those who eye parliamentary slots.

The CCM election timetable indicates that delegates are supposed to grill all aspirants within two days and pick three accepted ones on Wednesday.

The three pre-viewed aspirants for each ward will be forwarded to the district political committee to nominate the proper candidates and select three parliamentary aspirants to be forwarded to the regional political committee. Its

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SHARE FACTS ABOUT COVID-19

Know the facts about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and help stop the spread of rumors.

FACT 1 Diseases can make anyone sick regardless of their race or ethnicity.

Fear and anxiety about COVID-19 can cause people to avoid or reject others even though they are not at risk for spreading the virus.

FACT 4 There are simple things you can do to help keep yourself and others healthy.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

FACT 2 For most people, the immediate risk of becoming seriously ill from the virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to be low.

Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more serious complications from COVID-19.

FACT 5 You can help stop COVID-19 by knowing the signs and symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

Seek medical advice if you

- Develop symptoms

AND

- Have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

FACT 3 Someone who has completed quarantine or has been released from isolation does not pose a risk of infection to other people.

For up-to-date information, visit CDC's coronavirus disease 2019 web page.

cdc.gov/COVID-19

Museum, ministry list heritage items

By Francis Kajubi

THE government has prepared a list of artifacts that were shipped outside the country during colonial time with an appeal for the same to be restored to the rightful owner.

TURN TO PAGE 2

TPSF forges links with Italian firms

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) has sought partnership with Italian investors in the country for mutual benefit

of the two nations.

Briefing reporters after a meeting with Italian Ambassador Roberto Mengoni in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, TPSF chairperson Angelina Ngalula said the discussions dwelt on possible viable investment opportunities for the European Union member state.

"We had fruitful discussions with Ambassador Mengoni and explored viable areas for investment by Italian businesses, where trade and agriculture featured prominently," she said.

Ngalula said there is huge potential for an upward trend in Tanzania's growth

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Museum, ministry list heritage items

FROM PAGE 1

already been initiated.

He said that this initiative is aimed at boosting the tourism industry by increasing the number of visitors coming into the country.

The museum administrator had already submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism a list of the items and proposing negotiations for their being restored.

Artifacts identified for possible return are located in European countries plus the United States, he said.

The list is appended to a document, 'Tanzania's Fossil Heritage Stored Outside the Country,' submitted to the ministry last month. It highlights that hundreds of artifacts such as tools of the exercise of power used by traditional leaders, utensils, animal garments and stone tools, which it said need to be brought back to the country.

"Our role is to bring together old discoveries and new ones and preserve them for future generations," he asserted.

Tanzania is not the first country to seek the restoration of heritage items stored abroad, as various other countries had successfully initiated such steps, including Nigeria, Ghana, Mali, Cameroon, Benin and Namibia, he stated.

The idea is not likely to interfere with ties being cultivated via economic diplomacy but strengthen them further, he asserted.

"Most of the rare animal remains, chiefs' skulls, stones and garments were taken from chiefdoms in Iringa, Kilimanjaro, Ruvuma, Kagera and Arusha regions. It is time for them to come back home," he declared.

The ministry shall use the document to guide it in negotiations with countries where those artifacts are stored, he said.

The Zinjanthropus skull was discovered in July 1959, sent to Europe and was brought to the National Museum in Dar es Salaam in 1965.

About 10,000 foreign researchers,

students and tourists visit the national museum in Dar es Salaam to see 'The Zinj,' he said, noting that most of them are university students.

This prominent Olduvai Gorge discovery was the work of Dr Mary Leakey, and one month later her husband, Dr Louis Leakey explained the discovery to the scientific community in Europe and elsewhere.

Commemorating the discovery this year falls under the theme 'Our origin, our heritage' where students and researchers will reflect on work done from 1930 to 1954 that led to the Zinj discovery.

"The species of the Zinj is known as Paranthropus boisei that lived at Olduvai Gorge 1.75m years ago. The discovery of its skull helped to buttress the view that the origin of man was in the East African Rift Valley, where an earlier view that Asia was the origin of man was put to rest," he asserted.

Further excavations in recent years by researchers linked with the National Museum in the Olduvai Gorge zone have brought up 716 new pieces helpful to comprehend the evolution of mankind, he stated.

Such heritage artifacts and their scientific implications mean a lot in the tourism sector, he declared.

The number of tourists entering the country increased from 1.3m in 2017 to 1.5m in 2018 whereby tourist activities generated \$2.4bn, an increase of 7.2 per cent from \$2.3bn earned in 2017.

The tourism industry is a major foreign exchange earner accounting for about 17 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).



Our role is to bring together old discoveries and new ones and preserve them for future generations



Robot Pepper was a crowd-puller, particularly for children, at the Vodacom pavilion at the recently concluded 44th edition of Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair. Small wonder, then, that the mobile phone service provider's pavilion emerged Number One in the Information Technology and Communication category. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

CCM committees begin grilling aspirants today

FROM PAGE 1

recommendations will be filed to the party secretariat which will send its recommendations to the Central Committee for the final selection and formal nomination of candidates.

Aspirants are likely to have sleepless nights preparing and pondering how to persuade delegates, but the party's delegates will have a tough time reaching a consensus on who to recommend, as the competition is much higher this year, observers noted.

President John Magufuli made scores of appointments of permanent

secretaries, regional commissioners, district commissioners, district executive directors, regional administrative secretaries and district administrative secretaries and others in the space of two weeks, mostly replacing office holders who declared interests in vacant parliamentary seats.

The cut throat competition for nomination has seen prominent figures still in appointed office, especially RCs and DCs but also ministerial executives, jostling for nomination

In Kawe constituency in the city, more than 80 party members seek nomination, including former

Kinondoni mayor Benjamin Sitta, Dr Vincent Mashinji, preacher Josephat Gwajima and former Mwananchi Communications CEO Francis Nanai.

District committees shall meet August 2 and forward recommendations to regional committees on how they evaluated the scores of aspirants, whereupon the regional level meets on August 4 and 5 before forwarding recommendations to the secretariat.

A total of 264 parliamentary seats are up for grabs in Tanzania Mainland and 113 special seats reserved for women, while the Zanzibar House of

Representatives has five seats in the Union Parliament that are voted by the House when it starts its session after the polls.

CCM recently nominated Dr Hussein Mwinyi as its flag bearer for the Zanzibar presidency to replace Dr Ali Mohamed Shein.

President Magufuli was endorsed by NEC for reelection and did not face internal competition, with no other party member picking forms for nomination despite the window having been opened - also a break from tradition by the ruling party, observers noted.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa stands witness at Tandahimba in Mtwara Region yesterday as Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank managing director Japhet Justine (R) presents to Mtwara regional commissioner Gelasius Byakanwa a dummy cheque for 9,050,846,030/- for payments due to cashewnut farmers, warehouse operators, transporters and pesticide spray teams in Tandahimba District. Photo: PMO

TPSF forges links with Italian firms

FROM PAGE 1

if these areas receive substantial investments, where the Italian business community is ready to chip in.

The projected partnership is meant to exclusively focus on investment and partnerships within the private sector, she affirmed.

"We hope to open up more investments and create job opportunities as the links would be set out as approved ventures with financial institutions in Italy," she elaborated.

The board chairperson extended an invitation to Italian businesses to invest in cold room facilities at the principal airports and seaports, noting that the area is viable and can profitably sustain large investments.

"There is considerable demand for cold room facilities to store fruits, vegetables, flowers and other horticultural produce awaiting exportation at our ports," she said.

She appealed the envoy to link local farmers with food processors in Italy as Tanzania strives to build processing plants in the ongoing industrialisation drive.

Tanzania was among countries scheduled to showcase farm produce and processed products at an international horticultural exhibition in Italy this September. The event will now take place virtually due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ambassador Mengoni promised to inform Italian investors on viable investment opportunities in Tanzania, especially in agriculture and trade.

"Let me assure you that I'll do my best to promote these viable opportunities with the view to attracting more Italian investors in Tanzania," he said.

Acting TPSF Chief Executive Officer Zacky Mbenna said the meeting was intended to explore opportunities for the private sector in both countries.

"Italy has a vibrant private sector, therefore partnership will give us an opportunity to learn and improve this sector as it is crucial for socio-economic development," he said.

TPSF members will be targeted as the foundation shall timely avail details of partnerships being sought with Italian investors and other countries for action, he added.

India says ties are satisfactory, lays accent on more agro-investments

FROM PAGE 1

contributed to Tanzania's development due to the long-existing economic and social ties as well as diplomatic accords.

"Tanzania and India have had a long history of excellent ties that was founded by the late fathers of our two nations. The two countries are now witnessing strengthened relations in economic, social and diplomatic issues," he said.

Trade between the two countries has continued to grow as Tanzania exports to India increased significantly in the past three years, while India become among top three development partners.

This position relates to support extended to various sectors including water, infrastructure, health, education and technology, he pointed out.

The envoy had recently held talks with the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr Hamisi Kigwangala on how Tanzania can promote its tourist attractions among travel agents in India.

"Tanzania is among the largest beneficiaries of many India's initiated programmes including scholarships whereas Tanzanian students are sponsored to go for studies in India," he stated.

"We are funding three major water

projects in Tanzania. We have been supporting the ICT sector as well as provision of training for military officers."

Kohli said that his government has also been supporting the country's health sector by bringing in required drugs including those for Covid-19. For many years patients with serious health complications have been taken to India for more specialized treatment, the envoy underlined.

The country needs to invest more in sectors such as agriculture that can provide more income generating opportunities and help push up the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), he

further noted.

"Agriculture is the most promising sector for cooperation between our two countries. We can cooperate in this sector through provision of technology and capacity building," he emphasised.

Commending President John Magufuli for shifting the government seat to Dodoma, he said India had similarly shifted its capital from Mumbai to New Delhi to improve government operations.

India is the third largest investing country in Tanzania with more than 300 enterprises contributing to government efforts through revenue payment and job creation.

Guidelines on fire protection and control is a must - police

By Guardian Reporter

POLICE have vowed to take punitive measures against schools and institutions that will go against guidelines on fire protection and control.

A statement issued by the spokesperson of the force, David Misime, urged all the institutions and schools to follow fire prevention guidelines to avoid possible fire outbreaks.

Misime said it is the responsibility of every school owner and management to ensure safety of their buildings by conducting frequent inspections by using qualified technicians specialised in electrical engineering.

"The inspections should be conducted as per available rules and

regulations which require school and other research institutions to inspect buildings", said Misime noting the regulations also require owners to consider security measures for the structures.

The police force spokesperson referred to a recent fire outbreak at Ilala Islamic secondary school in Dar es Salaam which claimed the lives of three Form One students.

The incident which occurred on July 4 and 17 this year, destroyed school properties resulting in big losses. He said fire broke out at Kinondoni Secondary School on July 18th 2020 destroying classrooms.

Misime said the force was still investigating the cause of the fire which has created fears among students, teachers and other workers.



Iringa Region farmer Theresia Ngumbi (2nd-R, foreground) briefs Agriculture ministry official Levilian Ngaiza (in jacket) how she has benefited from agribusiness training conducted at the weekend at the Morogoro-based Sokoine University of Agriculture. Photo: Correspondent Ashton Balaiwa

SUGECO planning to engage youth from rural areas to establish seed banks for various crops

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

Sokoine University graduate entrepreneurs cooperative (SUGECO) is planning to engage youth from rural places to establish seed banks for various crops to ensure quality and facilitate its availability for increased productivity.

The plan is part of the government's strategies to empower youth as well as enhancing their participation in agricultural activities especially drips irrigation, vegetable and fruits farming to graduate from poverty. The agriculture sector is important as the country moves towards ensuring an industrialised nation by 2025.

The statement was given by SUGECO board chairperson Dr Anna Temu when closing a five-day training seminar to 80 youth engaging on vegetable and fruits farming through drips irrigation. The youth were from Songwe, Mbeya, Iringa, Njombe and Morogoro Regions.

The training which was held in Morogoro region was sponsored by

SUGECO in collaboration with Heifer international Tanzania.

Dr Temu who is the lecturer at the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) said the establishment of seed banks aims to assist farmers practice modern farming methods and shift from using traditional seeds. She said farmers will be provided quality improved seeds that will assure them of better yields.

"We expect increased productivity due to the use of quality seeds, the improved seeds can hardly be attacked by destructive insect," said Dr Temu. She said that SUGECO will collaborate with researchers to ensure rural youth engaging in agricultural activities are provided with the improved quality seeds. She said the youth will then be required to re-produce the seeds so that they are distributed to other farmers.

According to her the seeds will be sold at reasonable prices that every farmer can afford.

SUGECO director, Revocatus Kimario said the training aimed to transform

the way youth practice agriculture. He said plans are to make them engage in commercial farming that will meet the current market demand.

Kimario said the training was mostly conducted practically whereas they learned on how to apply different agricultural technologies, entrepreneurship skills and production of nutritional foods.

One of the youth, Hoffaman Mahenge from Iringa region said they have been equipped with knowledge on how to practice commercial agriculture as well as how to control the destructive crop pests by using other plants.

Revelian Ngaiza, national youth agricultural investments development coordinator in the ministry of agriculture said the aim of the training is to make sure that youth uses available opportunities to employ themselves in the agricultural sector. He said youths are potential group in the country which needs to be empowered in order to contribute effectively to the growth of national economy.

Z'bar presidential candidate Mwinyi tours Pemba Island

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR presidential nominee on the CCM ticket, Dr Hussein Mwinyi yesterday landed in Pemba where he was introduced as the ruling party's top office contestant in Isles.

Dr Mwinyi was last introduced to CCM members, cadres and supporters in Unguja soon after being endorsed as party's flag bearer in Dodoma.

He is now commencing his tour in Pemba where he is expected to address party members, cadres and followers this afternoon to outline his leadership focus once voted as president.

"I feel very well at being here today. I have arrived here in order to be introduced as the Zanzibar CCM presidential candidate. Hopefully, things will go as planned," he said.

Introducing Dr Mwinyi to party cadres in Pemba, CCM's Vice Chairman for Zanzibar Dr Ali Mohamed Shein said he is pleased with the new faces that emerged as many of them were young people contesting for

the posts.

He said those to be elected should have qualifications that will match the pace of the Zanzibar presidential nominee, Dr Hussein Mwinyi.

Dr Shein was speaking when introducing Dr Mwinyi at Tibirinzi grounds in Pemba and added that he preferred to see other new faces for the Representatives, Members of Parliament and Councilors and not the same faces every time.

"Elect good leaders and not miscreants, we want leaders who have the power to attract voters," he said.

Dr Shein called upon CCM leaders in the screening panels to look for nominees just like what the party's Central Committee did in regard of the Zanzibar's presidential nominee which ultimately came up with Dr Mwinyi.

He said CCM's victory was a must hence it would be better to have leaders with ability and vision.

For his part, Dr Hussein Mwinyi said in case he will be elected he will

ensure he maintains the existing peace because without peace development cannot be attained.

He said his other priority is to maintain unity, solidarity and not to discriminate Pemban and Zanzibaris in various opportunities including employment.

He also reiterated his statement that some people view him as a soft person, but added that they will come to know him as he will not close his eyes to the corrupt, embezzlers and economic saboteurs.

He said in this year's elections CCM will win in landslide without complaints.

He also dispelled rumours that he instructed some people vying for elective posts in various constituencies via CCM so that he appoints them to cabinet positions.

His reception that began at Chake Chake airport in Pemba up to Tibirinzi grounds attracted a large crowd of people clad in yellow and green dresses.

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli has appointed Marwa Rubirya as new Njombe RC, replacing Jumanne Fhika who was appointed to the position just two days ago.

Fhika was appointed Njombe RC on July 17 to replace Christopher Ole Sendeka who is seeking parliamentary seat.

Ole Sendeka has picked nomination forms to seek the ruling party's endorsement to vie for Simanjoro Parliamentary Seat Manyara Region.

According to a statement issued by the director of presidential communications, Gerson Msigwa, the appointment of Rubirya means that Fhika will continue with his duties within the President's Office.

Prior to his appointment, the newly-appointed Njombe RC worked as regional manager for Tanzania

JPM appoints Marwa Rubirya new Njombe RC in reshuffle

National Roads Agency (TANROADS) in Mwanza. Rubirya will be sworn in at Chamwino State House today.

On Friday President John Magufuli appointed a number of government executives in what appears to be filling in positions left by civil servants leaving their current offices to seek for political positions in the October general elections.

In the list, Dr Aloyce Nzuki becomes the new Permanent Secretary for National Resources and Tourism taking over from Prof Adolf Mkenda. Dr Nzuki was Deputy Permanent Secretary.

Prof Mkenda has picked nomination forms to vie for Rombo parliamentary seat in Kilimnjaru region. For the past five years, Rombo constituency seat

was being held by Joseph Selasini from Chadema party, who recently shifted to NCCR-Mageuzi.

The head of state has appointed Anthony Sanga as Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Water. Before the appointment, Eng Sanga was Deputy Permanent Secretary. He replaces Prof Kitila Mkumbo who is seeking to be nominated as the CCM flag bearer for Ubungo constituency in Dar es Salaam.

The President appointed Dr Allan Kijazi as Deputy Permanent Secretary for Natural Resources and Tourism, replacing Dr Nzuki.

Despite his new appointment, Dr Kijazi was Conservation Commissioner for Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA).



Invitation for Tender (IFT) PROVISION OF MEDICAL INSURANCE SERVICES TO MST'S STAFF

- Marie Stopes Tanzania (MST) is a registered Non-Governmental Organization providing Integrated Reproductive and HIV health services country wide. Established in 1989 under Marie Stopes International, MST operates 10 health facilities and 59 outreach teams.
- MST under projects fund invite sealed tenders from eligible bidders to provide the below mentioned tender. MST is encouraging all interested bidders to participate.

Tender No	Tender Description
RFP No. MST/11/2020	Provision of Medical Insurance Services to MST's Staff

- Interested and eligible bidders must confirm their intention to bid indicating all relevant contact information including respective e-mail address to tenders@mst.or.tz Attn: Procurement Lead. Bidders will be responsible for following up to ensure that MST has received the notification.
- Within 48 hours of receiving the bidder's confirmation of receipt of IFT and intention to bid, bid documents in English language will be sent to interested bidders by e-mail. Interested bidders will be responsible for confirming receipt of bid documents within 24 hours after receipt of bid document(s). MST will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing, preparation or submission of the bid documents.
- Bidders must submit bid in a sealed envelope by hand, post or email by 3th August 2020; Time 1200 HRS to: The Country Director, Marie Stopes Tanzania, Plot no. 421/422 Mwenge, Kijitonyama Area, P. O. Box 7072, Dar es Salaam, marked "Tender number RFP No. MST/11/2020 Provision of Medical Insurance Services to MST's staff." **Email submission should be two hours before deadline.** Late submission of the bid will not be considered during evaluation.

NOTE: MST takes any unethical action very serious, therefore; any form of fraud and/ or corruption is not tolerated in MST. If any of our staff ask for kickback and/ or commission, Please report the incident to the Country Director, Phone No. +255 757 170 042

For any enquires relating to this tender document please contact Procurement & Logistics Lead. Phone No. +255743495035



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TECDEN is in a phase of institutional reform and national repositioning as lead platform for coordinating civil society engagement in ECD policy and programming in Tanzania. Funding has been secured for the next three years 2020-2022 to support this process. Building on the momentum of the National ECD Stakeholders Forum conducted in 2018 that led to the formation of the National ECD Task Force, and current roadmap process to develop a National Multisectoral ECD Programme, these are exciting times for TECDEN and the wider ECD ecosystem. Moreover, an organisational review has identified key areas of institutional consolidation for reinforcing TECDEN's leadership role as national network for engagement in ECD policy and programming. To this end, the TECDEN Board of Directors is initiating an important recruitment process for the Network leadership position:

- **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** reporting to the Board of Directors, the Executive Director is responsible for overall planning, organising, coordinating and overseeing operations of the National Secretariat including its programming, finances and staffing, in line with TECDEN's constitution, policies and guidelines as established by the Board of Directors. S/he is expected to efficiently manage a strong network that brings together members, partners, and resources in support of the Early Childhood Development (ECD) sector in Tanzania by ensuring that programme activities run smoothly and accountably. As a team leader the Executive Director works independently performing a wide range of duties to support ECD programmes, collaborating with a wide range of stakeholders in driving strategic direction and programming to further ECD goals.

Detailed **JOB DESCRIPTION** and **APPLICATION FORM** for this position can be requested by email from: info@tecden.or.tz

Only applications by TECDEN Application Form will be considered. Please email completed Application Form to: info@tecden.or.tz. Only those candidates selected for interview will be contacted.

Closing date for applications: 11pm EAT, Wednesday 29 July 2020.

RC gives 14 days for contractor to finalise building of DC residence

By Guardian Correspondent, Chamwino

DODOMA Regional Commissioner Dr Binlith Mahenge has given 14 days for the contractor of the official residence of the Dodoma District Commissioner and refurbishing of the Regional Commissioner's official quarters to complete the work to enable the two leaders move in.

He gave the directive at the weekend in Dodoma when he made an official inspection of the projects supervised by the office of the Regional Administrative Secretary in collaboration with the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG).

The RC said the construction of the DC's residence begun a very long time ago and funds thereof had been provided since 2018 and construction started in 2019 but up to now it has not been completed.

"I have inspected it three times and each time I instructed the same thing

and the last time they promised they would complete it by May 7, this year, but two months have passed without being completed. What remains are minor works which can be finalised in the given 14 days, they wanted more time but I refused, they were given all the funds for the project, they were told to increase their work force so that the residence is completed for the newly appointed DC to move in," he said.

On the refurbishment to the RC's residence, Dr Mahenge said he is living in the house belonging to the Prisons Department to give room for renovation work to his official quarters and called upon the contractor to quickly finish work to enable him move into it.

"They are telling me the renovation works will be completed on August 15, this year to which I refused, and gave them only 14 days to do so. What I discovered in my inspection visits was the slow pace due to smaller work force," RC added.

He said 300m/- has been provided for the refurbishment and the contractor was supposed to complete it within the time that had been agreed in the contract, as the money given to him was not a small amount.

Speaking on the construction of the Chamwino District Administrative Secretary (DAS), Dr Mahenge said:

"The construction of his residence is a result of cost-cutting measures in the construction of the Dodoma DC's residence and Chemba District's DAS hence we decided to channel the funds saved to the construction of the house, but I have discovered a very slow work pace, I have directed them to increase the pace," he said.

At Uhuru hospital, the RC said its construction costs 3.9bn/- and already more than 3bn/- has been paid out.

"Work is going on well for this project that is supposed to be completed by August 23, this year, they should do so in order for the hospital to start operating," Dr Mahenge added.



Kinondoni district commissioner Daniel Chongolo (4th-L) symbolically receives a consignment of 36m/- worth of 200 desks, corrugated iron roofing sheets, hospital beds and six handwashing machines on behalf of six schools and one dispensary - all located in the district. It is a corporate social responsibility gesture by NMB Bank PLC. Presenting the items (2nd-R) is the bank's acting manager for the Dar es Salaam Zone, Seka Urio. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Despite strong competition in the cement manufacturing industry and uncertainties brought about by COVID-19, Tanzania Portland Cement Public Limited Company (TPC PLC) delivered a strong operating result when compared to the year 2019. Turnover and sales volume increased by 7% and 8% respectively.

The operating performance of the plant and availability of the machinery was good, ensuring clinker production level higher than year 2019, all within an environment where the Health and

INCOME STATEMENT	JAN - JUN 2020	JAN - JUN 2019
	TZS'000	TZS'000
Revenue	181,454,388	160,786,649
Cost of sales	(113,688,511)	(101,222,624)
Gross profit	67,765,877	59,564,025
Other operating income	2,278,447	557,566
Selling and administrative expenses	(1,585,357)	(1,394,806)
Administrative expenses	(9,315,110)	(8,555,282)
Depreciation and amortisation	(8,626,083)	(9,786,410)
Other operating expenses	(1,467,018)	(1,689,277)
Operating profit	49,050,756	38,695,816
Financial items	1,585,255	(1,106,328)
Profit before tax	50,636,011	37,589,488
Taxes on income	(15,692,080)	(11,391,507)
Profit for the year	34,943,931	26,197,981

BALANCE SHEET	2020	2019
	TZS'000	TZS'000
ASSETS		
Intangible fixed assets	823,264	875,361
Tangible fixed assets	131,529,045	136,874,862
Other non-current assets	10,358,097	20,899,663
Non-current assets	142,710,406	158,649,886
Inventories	58,987,795	54,480,298
Trade and other receivables	56,934,604	49,019,785
Cash and cash equivalents	60,817,350	33,632,943
Current assets	176,739,749	137,133,026
TOTAL ASSETS	319,450,155	295,782,912

EQUITY & LIABILITIES

Equity	214,565,616	198,955,802
Lease liabilities	6,610,379	9,401,928
Long term provisions	8,070,802	8,604,351
Provision for deferred taxes	16,188,193	19,775,009
Non-current liabilities	30,869,174	37,781,288
Lease liabilities	-	-
Current income tax payable	1,568,115	932,772
Trade and other payables	69,100,427	54,500,366
Dividend payable	3,346,823	3,612,684
Current liabilities	74,015,365	59,045,822
TOTAL EQUITY & LIABILITIES	319,450,155	295,782,912

Safety of our employees and contractors is paramount. The continued focus on delivering excellent customer service, the selling of high quality products, and the belief in maintaining strong customer relationships enabled TPC PLC to again demonstrate its strength as the leading player in the industry.

Prospects

The cement demand in Tanzania and in the East-African region has been growing steadily in recent years. TPC PLC is well placed to meet this growing demand and will continue to work to maintain its market leadership and position.

Appreciation

The Board would like to thank all its stakeholders for their support during this difficult period. We have every confidence that TPC PLC will continue to deliver value for the shareholders and community in the future.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Hakan Gurdal
Chairman of the Board
15.07.2020

Tanzania Portland Cement Public Limited Company
P.O.Box 1950
Dar-es-salaam
Tanzania
www.twigacement.com
Email: info@twigacement.com

New study on climate projections warns that farmers growing beans in Tanzania could see weather-induced crop losses in next 30 years

By Guardian Reporter

FARMERS growing common beans in Tanzania should anticipate crop losses resulting from temperature rise and changing weather patterns during the coming 30 years, a climate study has indicated.

The study carried out in the context of the Climate Resilient Agribusiness for Tomorrow (CRAFT) project shows that there is an increase in the number of consecutive dry days (CDD) which could lead to high incidences of drought. This would have a significant impact on rain-fed agriculture, including bean production. Bean production areas in the southern part of the country such as Mbeya, Iringa, western parts of Ruvuma, and the southern regions of Morogoro will be worst affected by the frequent and severe drought expected in the region. A relatively better condition for bean production is expected in the northern parts of the country particularly over Manyara and Tanga districts.

"During both the short and long rainy season, the model projection for mid-century (2050's) shows a temperature rise of about 2.8°C and 2.4°C for western and eastern part of Tanzania respectively, under the business as usual scenario (RCP8.5 scenario)" the study says.

CRAFT, which specifically targets farmers working in the sunflower, soybean, sesame, common beans, potato and sorghum value chains in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda, is a project funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is implemented by SNV Netherlands Development Organisation in partnership with Wageningen University and Research (WUR), CGIAR's Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CAAFS), Agriterria, and Rabo Partnerships.

The study was specifically developed by CCAFS and Wageningen Environmental Research, with contributions from SNV and consisted of climate projections and climate change impact assessments on crop water stress.

Water stress is one of the major limiting factors that determines common bean yield. The study shows that if climate mitigation and intervention measures are not put in place, then by the 2050s, rising temperatures and declining rainfalls will increase water stress on common beans and reduce yields especially during the Masika season. The worst affected areas are likely to be Mbeya, Iringa, and southern parts of Morogoro.

From a precipitation point of view, the study shows that the seasonal mean rainfall in the northern parts of the common bean growing areas such as Manyara, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, and northern parts of Morogoro is expected to increase by about 20-30% in both Masika and Vuli seasons. In addition, "In the central and eastern portion of the country, the seasonal mean rainfall is also expected to slightly increase by up to 10-15%, especially in the Masika season," the study says.

Basing on the projected temperature and its impact on the growing of common beans, CRAFT conducted a field survey on climate change and its impact amongst different stakeholders in the common beans value chain.

The survey, which covered Arusha, Manyara, Kilimanjaro, Mbeya, Songwe and Katavi regions) was carried out in April 2019. Smallholder farmers who participated said they experience an increase in extreme temperature, with a large majority of them reporting that droughts had increased. The majority of all stakeholders reported that climate change has a negative impact on the production and productivity of common beans.

A climate risk assessment workshop which was conducted as part of the project, recommended that farmers should adopt early maturing varieties as a way of adapting to climate change.

They also recommended the adoption of crop clinics and mechanisation centres as well as conservation agriculture practices (such as zero tillage, mulching) as well as irrigation and tree planting as ways to mitigate the impact of climate change on common beans farming.



Ni Zaidi ya Pesa

Ada za wateja. Piga *150*01#

Kiwango (Tsh)		Ada kwa mteja (Tsh)		
Kuanzia	Mwisho	Kutuma pesa kwenda Tigo Pesa	Kutuma pesa kwenda Mitandao washirika	Kutoa pesa kwa Wakala/ATM
100	999	15	15	N/A
1,000	1,999	30	50	300
2,000	2,999	30	50	400
3,000	3,999	50	100	600
4,000	4,999	60	100	650
5,000	6,999	130	200	950
7,000	9,999	150	200	1,000
10,000	19,999	360	550	1,450
20,000	29,999	380	600	1,850
30,000	39,999	400	680	1,850
40,000	49,999	410	750	2,350
50,000	99,999	720	1,250	2,700
100,000	199,999	1,000	1,600	3,650
200,000	299,999	1,200	1,900	5,300
300,000	399,999	1,500	2,300	6,500
400,000	499,999	1,500	2,500	7,000
500,000	599,999	2,200	3,200	7,500
600,000	799,999	3,300	4,300	8,000
800,000	899,999	3,500	4,300	8,000
900,000	1,000,000	3,500	6,000	8,000
1,000,001	3,000,000	5,000	6,000	8,000
3,000,001	10,000,000	5,000	6,000	10,000

Tukio	Kuanzia	Mwisho	Ada
Kuweka pesa	1,000	5,000,000	BURE
Kutuma pesa kwa mteja ambaye hana akaunti ya Tigo Pesa au akaunti ya mitandao washirika	1,000	1,000,000	Ada ya kutuma + Ada ya kutoa
Kutoa pesa kwa mteja ambaye hana akaunti ya Tigo Pesa au akaunti ya mitandao washirika	1,000	1,000,000	BURE
Kutuma pesa kwenda nchi za nje	100	5,000,000	Kulingana na kiwango
Malipo kwa Tigo Pesa	500	5,000,000	Kulingana na kiwango
Tukio		Ada	
Kubadilisha namba ya siri			BURE
Kuangalia salio/ Taarifa ndogo			50
Kurudisha muamala uliokosea (Jihudumie)			50
Kupata taarifa ya mwezi		Ada	
Taarifa ya Mwezi jana/Mwezi huu			BURE
Taarifa ya Miezi 3			1,000
Taarifa ya Mwaka 1			2,000

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Furahia Malipo kwa Tigo Pesa:



KUMBUKA:

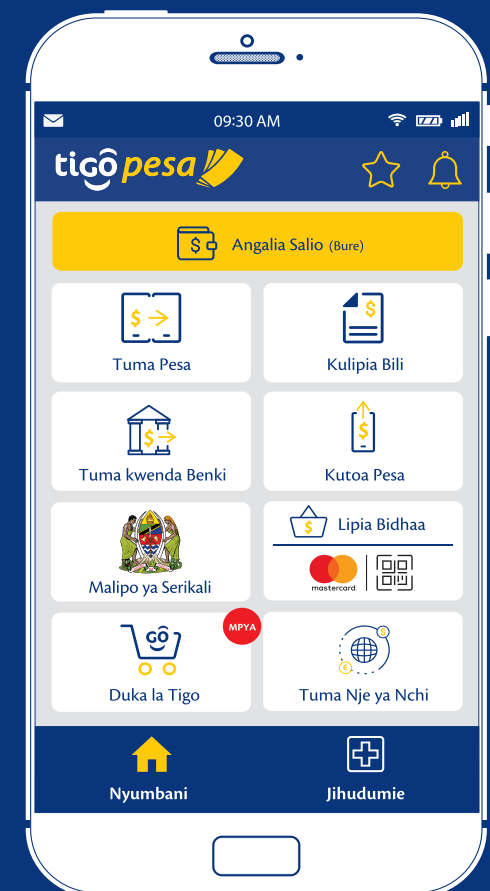
- Unaweza kuweka au kupokea hadi TSh 5,000,000 kwa siku na unaweza kutoa au kutuma hadi TSh 5,000,000 kwa siku, pia unaweza kuhifadhi hadi TSh 10,000,000 kwa wakati mmoja kwenye akaunti yako ya Tigo Pesa, kama usajili wako umekamilika.
- Onesha kitambulisho chako kabla ya kuweka au kutoa pesa kwa Wakala.
- Hakikisha taarifa zako za usajili ni sahihi kwa kupiga *106# kisha 2 au piga huduma kwa wateja kwa maelezo zaidi.
- Hesabu pesa zako na hakikisha salio lako la Tigo Pesa linaendana na muamala uliofanya kabla ya kuondoka kwa Wakala.
- Kila mara unapotuma pesa, kumbuka kuhakiki namba ya mpokeaji kuepuka kukosea na usumbufu.
- Hakikisha unahifadhi namba yako ya siri (PIN) kwa usalama. Usimpe wala kumtaja mtu yeyote namba yako ya siri; iwe wakala wa Tigo Pesa, mfanyakazi wa Tigo au mhadumu wa Tigo Huduma kwa Wateja. Pia kumbuka kubadili namba yako ya siri mara kwa mara.
- Kutuma muamala wa zaidi ya TSh 5,000,000 ni kwa wafanyabiashara waliosajiliwa pekee.
- Tigo itakupigia kwa 0713800800 au 0713123103 Tu.
- Kutoa taarifa yoyote dhidi ya udanganyifu Piga simu namba 100 au tuma ujumbe kwa barua pepe kwenda customercare@tigo.co.tz
- Unaweza kupokea pesa kutoka zaidi ya Nchi 150 duniani

Unaweza kurudisha muamala uliokosea, token ya luku, ku-unbar akaunti yako ya Tigo Pesa na kuriseti PIN

Piga *150*01#
chagua 6 (Jihudumie)
kisha chagua huduma unayotaka



App yenye urahisi wa kushangaza!



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Piga 100 bure au tembelea duka lolote la Tigo!
Ada hizi ni kuanzia June 2020



Health workers trained on ensuring medical staff are at ease in offering nursing and midwifery expertise

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

THIRTY-FIVE health workers, including doctors, nurses and midwives have benefited from training on how to train other health workers to offer better services to pregnant women and children without fear of contracting Covid-19 infections.

Impact project manager in Mwanza region Edna Celestine said it was necessary to offer the training to enable them to reach health service providers in all levels whose aim is to assist the government in reducing mother and child deaths.

She said the project, under the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) and funded by the Canadian government under Global Affairs Canada is currently involved in eight districts of Mwanza region. 28 maternity wards including operation theatres had been constructed under the project.

She said the training had been given to the health workers who will visit various health centres to impart knowledge to assist in the reduction of the deaths and mortality.

"Today we have given them medical equipment valued at 4.3m/- which they will use to protect themselves when they go out to offer such services. The equipment will also be usef for training others.

Dr Colomba Mbekenga, a lecturer at the Aga Khan University for School for Nursing and Midwifery said in Mwanza region their project serves 80 health centres hence the health staff given training will be allocated in those centres which they will have to visit every month to impart the knowledge they themselves received in order to have more health experts.

Dr Raymond Nyasebwa, a medical

instructor from Misungwi district hospital and Salome Ngeleja, a nursing officer at Mwanza's Sekeu Toure hospital said the trainings given to them had freshened them as they learned new methods and allayed fears in protection against Covid-19 infections, hence they will continue serving the community and reduce child and mothers' deaths without any fears.

"Our call to the community is that they should continue taking protective measures against the disease by following guidelines from the Ministry of Health every time, Ngeljha said.



Today we have given them medical equipment valued at 4.3m/- which they will use to protect themselves when they go out to offer such services. The equipment will also be usef for training others



Bernard Adam (L), a lecturer with the Dar es Salaam-based Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy, returns his completed form to CCM youth wing's secretary for Kigamboni District, Yusuph Mabena, at the weekend. Adam is seeking nomination for consideration as CCM's candidate for the Kigamboni parliamentary seat in late October's General Election. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Schools should put in place protective gear to lessen impact of fire outbreaks'

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

SCHOOL owners in the country have been advised to put in place reliable systems to prevent their schools from fire outbreaks and also install modern firefighting equipment to ensure safety of their students.

The advice was given over the weekend by St. Anne Marie Academy head teacher Gladys Ndyetabura when speaking during the 12th Form Six graduation ceremony held at the school premises at Mbezi kwa Msuguri in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam.

He said he is proud of the modern

fire fighting systems they have been installed at St Anne Marie Academy and security guards who are equipped with special training to fight fire outbreaks during emergencies something which ensure safety of their students.

"We have recently heard about fire outbreaks in many schools and dormitories destroyed in the country and this has been a trend for years so we think schools owners have to learn from us and install modern fire fighting equipment in case of emergency cases," he said.

Ndyetabura said all students from his school who graduated in 2019

performed very well in the national examinations and joined different universities inside and outside the country and among them, 40 who did very well in the exams were awarded sponsorships to study in China, India and Canada. He said that there are 200 Form Six leavers this year who were prepared well for their examinations adding that he is optimistic that they are going to do better to obtain credits in division one.

Ndyetabura said he is confident because in this year's mock tests all of his students excelled with division one and two only and added that his

school in collaboration with parents will make sure the students join super universities inside and outside the country.

He said the school management will collaborate with parents of the students to ensure all get loans and join courses that will make them to compete in global employment market.

The head teacher congratulated the school director, Dr Jasson Rweikiza called for investing heavily in education and reliable infrastructures that enable students learn in conducive environment which is the secret behind the school's achievements.

Solar power keeps pastoralist children at Losimingori school

By Guardian Correspondent, Monduli

CHILDREN from pastoralist communities in Monduli district who are studying at Losimingori primary school have begun benefiting from solar power project known as "Ng'ombe wa Sola" that enables to study at home to improve ways to achieve better results.

Speaking on behalf of fellow students during the project's handing over, Ester Paulo said the solar power has enabled them increase their pass marks and reduce school truancy as they attend school every day to charge their solar lamps to take them home to enable them study during the night.

She said the solar lamps including the solar bank are also used by the

students; parents for cooking and charge their mobile phones and had spurred them to send their children to school instead of grazing their livestock.

The project has been funded by the South Korean government through its Yolk and Koica organisation.

The organisation's director who coordinates the "Ngombe wa Sola"

project Jeon Only said from the achievements attained, they would like to install solar power in many other schools in the country to enable them study at homes and increase their pass marks.

"I am pleased by the project's results had made Losimingori primary school famous as it has been the first school to benefit from the project, it has reduced

school's truancy and significantly increased pass levels," he said.

The school's head teacher Simon Mvuta hailed the government of South Korea for the project and called upon it to extend the programme to other schools in the country.

Receiving the project on behalf of Monduli district council, Monduli acting education officer Godwin

Mushi called upon the stakeholders to continue investing in education which he said was a great saviour for the pastoralist communities.

The "Sola ya Ng'ombe" project coordinator Kanaeli Mbise said they intend to reach other schools in the district, and called upon Losimingori primary school students to take care of the project.

IN THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER OF BUSINESS (PROTECTION OF CREDITORS) ACT [CAP 327 R.E. 2002] AND IN THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER OF BUSINESS BETWEEN EAST AFRICAN SEED (T) LIMITED (COMPANY NUMBER 21623) AND SYOVA SEED (T) LIMITED (COMPANY NUMBER 140801232)

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to section 3 of the Transfer of Business (Protection of Creditors) Act [Cap 327 R.E. 2002], that East African Seed (T) Limited of Plot No 07, Block "AA" Eased Building, Easo Road, Industrial Area, Arusha, P.O. Box 14455 Arusha (the "Transferor") carrying on in Tanzania, as part of its business activities, the business of trading in agricultural and horticultural seeds and agro inputs (the "Business") has, agreed to transfer the Business to Syova Seed (T) Limited of Plot No. 7 Easo Road, Industrial Area, P.O. Box 14455, Arusha (the "Transferee") and the Transferee has agreed to acquire the Business as part of an internal re-organization of the business of the East African Seed group of companies. The transfer of Business is intended to take place on or about September 2020 subject to obtaining all requisite regulatory approvals including but not limited to approval of the Fair Competition Commission (FCC).

The Transferee intends to carry on the Business at Plot No 7, Block "AA", Industrial Area, P.O Box 14455, Arusha. The proposed transfer will result in the business carried on by the Transferor being carried on by the Transferee and all contracts relating to the transferred Business being transferred to the Transferee notwithstanding any restrictions on the transfer or requirements for counterparty consent any without triggering any pre-emption, termination or other rights which such contracts may contain.

Save as expressly stated in any agreement to which the Transferee is a party, the Transferee shall not be liable for the debts and liabilities incurred in the Business by the Transferor leading up to and including the date of the transfer.

This notice is dated this 14th day of July, 2020

SIGNED by Mtendza Shik duly authorised for and on behalf of EAST AFRICAN SEED (T) LIMITED LIMITED

in the presence of: Name: SANJAY P. AMIN Address: NABEJI Qualification: MASTER OF COMMERCE

SIGNED by PRAFUL C. GAGLANI duly authorised for and on behalf of SYOVA SEED (T) LIMITED LIMITED

in the presence of: Name: SRIKUMAR PILLAI Address: P.O. BOX 4125-00100/NBSI Qualification: M.B.A.

IN THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER OF BUSINESS (PROTECTION OF CREDITORS) ACT [CAP 327 R.E. 2002] AND IN THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER OF BUSINESS BETWEEN AGRISCOPE AFRICA LIMITED (COMPANY NUMBER 74830) AND SYOVA SEED (T) LIMITED (COMPANY NUMBER 140801232)

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to section 3 of the Transfer of Business (Protection of Creditors) Act [Cap 327 R.E. 2002], that Agriscope Africa Limited of Plot No 07, Block "AA" Eased Building, Easo Road, Industrial Area, Arusha, P.O. Box 14455 Arusha (the "Transferor") carrying on in Tanzania, as part of its business activities, the business as integrated solution provider for plant protection, which includes the repacking and distribution of chemicals and equipment (the "Business") has agreed to transfer the Business to Syova Seed (T) Limited of Plot No. 7, 'AA', Easo Road, Industrial area, P.O. Box 14455, Arusha (the "Transferee") and the Transferee has agreed to acquire the Business as part of an internal re-organisation of the business of the East African Seed group of companies. The transfer of Business is intended to take place on or about September 2020 subject to obtaining all requisite regulatory approvals including but not limited to approval of the Fair Competition Commission (FCC).

The Transferee intends to carry on the Business at Plot No. 7, Block "AA", Industrial Area, P.O Box 14455, Arusha. The proposed transfer will result in the business carried on by the Transferor being carried on by the Transferee and all contracts relating to the transferred Business being transferred to the Transferee notwithstanding any restrictions on the transfer or requirements for counterparty consent any without triggering any pre-emption, termination or other rights which such contracts may contain.

Save as expressly stated in any agreement to which the Transferee is a party, the Transferee shall not be liable for the debts and liabilities incurred in the Business by the Transferor leading up to and including the date of the transfer.

This notice is dated this 14th day of July, 2020

SIGNED by Mtendza Shik duly authorised for and on behalf of AGRISCOPE AFRICA LIMITED

in the presence of: Name: SANJAY P. AMIN Address: NABEJI Qualification: MASTER OF COMMERCE

SIGNED by PRAFUL C. GAGLANI duly authorised for and on behalf of SYOVA SEED (T) LIMITED LIMITED

in the presence of: Name: SRIKUMAR PILLAI Address: P.O. BOX 4125-00100/NBSI Qualification: M.B.A.

Man impersonates intelligence officer, held by Z'bar police

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

POLICE in Zanzibar Urban West Region is holding John Samuel Manga (32) for impersonating as a national intelligence officer and conned other people.

Speaking here to newsmen at the weekend, Zanzibar Urban West Regional Police Commander Awadhi Juma Haji said the suspect is a resident of Fuaoni in Unguja.

He said he was arrested after the police's follows up various incidents he was involved in including promising to help them get jobs in the intelligence service and in other government departments.

RPC Haji said in doing so the suspect used to con his victims of money and other valuables.

He said the suspect conned one Asha Omar Hamdan of 500,000/- promising he would help her get employment in the national intelligence service.

The RPC also said the suspect is claimed to have obtained 2,590,000/-, a lap top and a Canon camera from one Abubakar Ali.

He said investigations showed that the suspect was able to obtain various documents from his alleged victims, including school leaving certificates, birth certificates and other court affidavits.

He said other items he was found with included a camera and various photographs of his alleged victims.

The RPC also said the suspect is claimed to have obtained 2,590,000/-, a lap top and a Canon camera from one Abubakar Ali

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

Morogoro Region challenged to identify factors impeding implementation of inclusive education

AUTHORITIES in Morogoro region have been challenged to identify and offer services for students with special needs in order to improve their performance in primary and secondary schools. The government provides all basic learning and teaching equipment for the group, according to school quality assurance officer from ministry of

Education, Science and Technology, Augusta Lupokela. She made remarks to this effect here at the weekend when handing over teaching and learning materials to regional adult education officer Rhoda Murusuri. She said the government is investing heavily to ensure that students with

hearing, intellectual and vision impairments access education smoothly and fulfill their dreams. Lupokela said that Morogoro is among regions across the country which had benefited from teaching and learning materials worth 2.3bn/- for students with learning disabilities in

primary and secondary schools as well. "The government mulls to ensure that children receive quality education and learn in conducive environment, this is why it has invested a lot of funds to address various challenges facing the sector which include ensuring sustainable supply of teaching and learning equipment so as to improve performance," she disclosed. According to her, the government has been providing the materials as per region or district's demands, that's

why some districts have been given flat screens, speech training machines, computer sets, CD-Radio players and other toys and beads. For her part, Murusuri thanked the government, saying that the teaching and learning materials like computer sets are essential towards enabling students realising their education dreams especially in this era of globalisation. "The computers will also enable students to find other learning materials or access classes online

instead of depending mainly from their teachers," she added. She further added: "For students with vision impairment, will access materials through Braille papers and for those with partial blindness will shorten their long walking hours from sunglasses." Julius Chideliga, Kilosa district special education officer said students' performance will increase as materials needed like Braille papers are currently well supplied in schools. "I'm happy with the distribution of materials because it had considered our demands in primary and secondary schools. Kilosa and Mguu secondary schools are among beneficiaries in Kilosa district," he said.



A workshop for journalists whose thrust was on the reporting of health-related and other issues gets under way in Morogoro municipality at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

Govt provides 500m/- to refurbish Songea's Mahukuru health centre

By Guardian Correspondent, Songea

THE government has provided 500m/- for the refurbishing of Mahukuru health centre in Songea District, Ruvuma Region. Presenting report on the implementation of the refurbishment project, the centre's doctor in charge Dr Denis Mhagama said the money was received during the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 and the work was completed in March, this year. He mentioned the building completed as those for surgery, laboratory, mortuary, a staff house and a maternity ward. DR Mhagama mentioned the services

being provided at the health centre include treatment for both ward and outpatients, maternity service, HIV diagnosis and counseling. He mentioned others as clinic for HIV/Aids patients, diagnosis for cervix cancer, treatment for TB and leprosy and surgery, in particular for pregnant women. The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities) Jenista Mhagama thanked the Japanese government and the embassy in Tanzania for providing funds for refurbishing the health centre. She said the health centre is providing

services for three wards in Songea district namely Lilahi, Muhukuru and Ndongosi including some parts of Nyasa district and neighbouring Mozambique. The executive director of Songea district Council Simon Bulenganija said during the refurbishing the health centre, the Council contributed 28.2m/- and that the availability of drugs and medical equipment at the centre is at 90 per cent to more than 20,000 residents from the area. Mahukuru health centre is 80kms from the district headquarters in Songea, and has 25 staff members in various fields.

Pesticides 'speed up' spread of deadly waterborne pathogens

By Kara Manke

WIDESPREAD use of pesticides and other agrochemicals can speed up the transmission of the debilitating disease schistosomiasis, while also upsetting the ecological balances in aquatic environments that prevent infections, finds a new study led by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley. Schistosomiasis, also known as snail fever, is caused by parasitic worms that develop and multiply inside freshwater snails and is transmitted through contact with contaminated water. The infection, which can trigger lifelong liver and kidney damage, affects hundreds of millions of people every year and is second only to malaria among parasitic diseases, in terms of its global impact on human health. The study, published in the journal Lancet Planetary Health, found that agrochemicals can increase the transmission of the schistosome worm in myriad ways: by directly affecting the survival of the waterborne parasite itself, by decimating aquatic predators that feed on the snails that carry the parasite and by altering the composition of algae in the water, which provides a major food source for snails. "We know that dam construction and irrigation expansion increase schistosomiasis transmission in low-income settings by disrupting freshwater ecosystems," said UC

Berkeley's Christopher Hoover, a doctoral student in environmental health sciences and lead author of the study. "We were shocked by the strength of evidence we found also linking agrochemical pollution to the amplification of schistosomiasis transmission." The findings come as the connections between environment and infectious disease have been laid bare by the COVID-19 pandemic, which is caused by an emerging pathogen thought to be linked to wildlife. "Environmental pollutants can increase our exposure and susceptibility to infectious diseases," said Justin Remais, chair of the Division of Environmental Health Sciences at the UC Berkeley School of Public Health and senior author of the study. "From dioxins decreasing resistance to influenza virus, to air pollutants increasing COVID-19 mortality, to arsenic impacting lower respiratory tract and enteric infections -- research has shown that reducing pollution is an important way to protect populations from infectious diseases." After combing through nearly 1,000 studies gathered in a systematic literature review, the research team identified 144 experiments that provided data connecting agrochemical concentrations to components of the schistosome life cycle. They then incorporated these data into a mathematical model that captures the

transmission dynamics of the parasite. The model simulates concentrations of common agrochemicals following their application to agricultural fields and estimates the resulting impacts on infections in the nearby human population. The researchers found that even low concentrations of common pesticides -- including atrazine, glyphosate and chlorpyrifos -- can increase rates of transmission and interfere with efforts to control schistosomiasis. Agrochemical amplification of parasite transmission was not inconsequential. In the study communities in the Senegal River Basin in West Africa, the excess burden of disease attributable to agrochemical pollution was on par with disease caused by lead exposure, high sodium diets and low physical activity. "We need to develop policies that protect public health by limiting the amplification of schistosomiasis transmission by agrochemical pollution," Hoover said. "More than 90% of schistosomiasis cases occur in areas of sub-Saharan Africa, where agrochemical use is expanding. If we can devise ways to maintain the agricultural benefits of these chemicals, while limiting their overuse in schistosomiasis-endemic areas, we could prevent additional harm to public health within communities that already experience a high and unacceptable burden of disease."

ACHIEVE Tanzania Health and Social Welfare Systems Strengthening Consultant

Pact
At the heart of Pact is the promise of a better tomorrow. A nonprofit international development organization founded in 1971, Pact works on the ground in nearly 40 countries to improve the lives of those who are challenged by poverty and marginalization. We serve these communities because we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and governments that create sustainable and resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant. Pact is a recognized global leader in international development. Our staff have a range of expertise in areas including public health, capacity development, governance and civil society, natural resource management, poverty, fragile states, monitoring and evaluation, small-scale and artisanal mining, microfinance and more. This expertise is combined in Pact's unique integrated approach, which focuses on systemic changes needed to improve people's lives.

ACHIEVE
Adolescents and Children HIV Incidence Reduction, Empowerment, and Virus Elimination (ACHIEVE) is a five-year, USAID-funded global cooperative agreement, which helps priority PEPFAR countries achieve and maintain HIV epidemic control among pregnant and breastfeeding women, infants, children, and youth. The two objectives of the project are to: i) attain and sustain HIV epidemic control among at-risk and hard to reach pregnant and breastfeeding (PBF) women, infants, children, and youth, as well as to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS and prevent HIV transmission among these populations; and ii) support the transition of prime funding and implementation to capable local partners in order to meet the PEPFAR goal of 70% of funding to local partners.

Position Overview
ACHIEVE is seeking a consultant to assist the ACHIEVE global team in researching and designing a new USAID/PEPFAR-funded community health and social welfare systems strengthening project focusing on orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) in Tanzania. The period of performance will begin on or around July/August, 2020, for a period of up to six weeks.

Background
ACHIEVE will receive funding to improve national- and community-level social welfare systems, with a particular focus on supporting a skilled social welfare workforce at community and district levels to ensure quality service delivery for OVC, at-risk adolescent girls and young women (AGYW), and persons living with HIV (PLHIV). This activity will build on the progress made and best practices of the Community Health and Social Welfare Systems Strengthening Program (CHSSP).

Key tasks under the ACHIEVE project will include:

- Building the capacity and core competencies of the social welfare workforce in select councils, wards and villages/mtaa to enable the delivery of health/HIV, social, and protection services;
- Collaborating with President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) to ensure upgrading of the system, capacity building and accelerating the roll out the National Integrated Case Management System (NICMS) at council, ward and village/mtaa levels;
- Collaborating with PO-RALG and Ministry of Health to support the effective transition of CCWs into the community-based health program, in line with GoT guidelines;
- Collaborating with PO-RALG and Ministry of Health Community Development Gender and Children (MOHCDGEC) to develop the national OVC service delivery coordination and monitoring framework;
- Strengthening social welfare planning and budgeting at the community level to foster evidence-based community engagement and resource allocation using the Comprehensive Council Social Welfare Operational Planning and Budgeting Guide.

Objectives of the Health and Social Welfare Systems Strengthening Consultancy:
Through remote and/or in-person meetings, key informant interviews and focus group discussions, and documents review, the consultant will gather information on the following items and incorporate findings into a set of recommendations and plans responding to USAID's priorities for the ACHIEVE Tanzania project. The consultant's information gathering will focus as needed at all levels of the social welfare system, including national, regional, council, ward and community (and will include government, non-governmental organizations, projects, networks, community workers, etc.). In-person meetings will be conducted with due respect for coronavirus safety precautions.

- The current status of CHSSP, including progress and gaps in strengthening the community-level social welfare workforce, strengthening community-level committees, and strengthening CBOs, as well as progress and gaps in rolling out the NICMS, the Comprehensive Council Social Welfare Operational Planning and Budgeting Guide, and other above-site initiatives;
- Areas of focus of other stakeholders engaged in work relevant to the ACHIEVE project, such as PS3, D4D, Tanzania Technical Support

Services Project, Kizazi Kipya, and UNICEF;

- Government priorities relevant to the ACHIEVE project, including PO-RALG, MOHCDGEC (specifically, Department of Social Welfare), and National AIDS Control Program;
- The new Community Health Worker (CHW) policy and guidelines and other contextual issues or initiatives with a direct influence on the ACHIEVE project, including matters related to national and program-specific vulnerable children information systems.

Depending on the ability of ACHIEVE global staff to resume international travel, additional tasks may be assigned and period of performance extended.

Key Activities, Timeframe, and Deliverables:
Major activities to be undertaken by the consultant, timelines, and deliverables are as shown in the table below. The final output is a report with key findings, recommendations, and technical inputs which ACHIEVE will use to draft its annual work plan and budget to be submitted to USAID on or before August 31, 2020.

Activity	Due (weeks after signing consultant agreement)	Deliverables
Update ACHIEVE's initial key informant list	1	Final initial list of key informants
Review key resource documentation provided by ACHIEVE, supplement with other relevant resources	1	Key background and resource documents identified and reviewed
Develop key informant interview (KII) and/or Focus Group Discussion (FGD) guides for each of the identified stakeholders/ informants	1	KII/FGD guides drafted, including key information needs
Draft schedule of initial round of KII / FGD meetings, all levels (national, regional, council, ward, community)	1	KII/FGD schedule, identified as remote/in-person depending on availability/ location of team members and key respondents
Conduct initial round of KII/FGD	3	Interview notes/reports
Identify, schedule, and conduct additional KII/FGD and/or documents review and data collection as needed	4	Completion of interview notes/reports
Participate in regular calls with ACHIEVE global team to provide updates	Weekly	
Draft initial consultancy report, to include findings, recommendations, and technical inputs for ACHIEVE FY21 work plan	6	Draft report
Provide recommendations on operational considerations (staffing, office, budget, etc.) to optimize technical and program design recommendations	6	Operational recommendations (can be included in Draft report)
Finalize report based on feedback from ACHIEVE, Pact Tanzania, and/or USAID	1 week after receiving feedback	Final report

Basic Requirements

- A minimum of Bachelor's degree in Public Health, Health Administration, Social Work, or Business Administration with a focus on public health, social sciences, or related field
- A minimum of 10 years experience in health program implementation, technical assistance, and/or monitoring and evaluation
- Experience implementing USAID/PEPFAR programming, with extensive experience with PEPFAR OVC programs and/or relevant systems strengthening activities
- Understanding of the health and social welfare systems in Tanzania, with first-hand experience working with PO-RALG and/or MOHCDGEC/DSW preferred

Interested candidate should submit application to bhaga@pactworld.org

Closing date for application will be on Monday 27th July 2020.

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Election strategy must focus on ways to eliminate poverty

POLITICAL parties are now in the process of picking candidates for parliamentary and ward councilor contests, with a few of them at least gearing up to field presidential candidates as well. Traditionally the most interesting part of the contention is parliamentary polls as each constituency has its litany of woes, and researchers often say no two constituency elections are similar in several aspects. Even when people vote it is the candidate who convinces them that they pick, and often the political party is disregarded.

But there is also an aspect where the presidential candidate matters, as those who prefer continuity shall have no hesitation supporting both the ruling party presidential candidate and respective candidates for Parliament and district council offices. Those who wish for systematic change may throw their lot with an opposition candidate, and the stronger or seemingly acceptable to the general public is the presidential candidate, the higher the chances that other contestants from that party will be voted as well. It is logical.

For one thing, campaign platforms that are now in the course of being drawn up as the parties finish or proceed with the job of picking candidates will be affected by the shift in the country's classification from a low to lower middle income category globally. A higher classification favors a strategic outlook of a successful policy thrust and thus underlines success generally, which is true but can have disarming effects when it comes to dealing with core poverty issues. Much has been done but losing focus is bad.

At the time that leaders of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) member states

were meeting in Dar es Salaam nearly a year ago, a datum came up from global agencies' statistics that by 2030, half of the world's extremely poor will be African children. What this means is that most countries are on the way to achieving middle income status even in Africa, though by 2018 there were 33 countries of sub-Saharan Africa which fit into that category. It means that the datum isn't being outpaced by status.

The basic reality of poverty, on the basis of data collected by non-governmental organizations especially those focusing on women and children poverty, is that far too many women are taking care of families all by themselves. And where there are trappings of viable family life, income is disproportionately used for direct needs of bread winners and not for wider family interests. It means that men obviate from their roles after fatherhood especially when it is informal, and lack a sense of balance of own needs and family.

Such woes even prompted women lobbies to seek greater participation in policy making organs especially Parliament so as to help end such ills, but the contrary is also happening. While women's voices are being heard and in some cases helped to bring about vast changes though credit is also due to the top leadership at that particular moment, representation per se is not a panacea.

It becomes another ladder of rising up in society, and the whole idea of 50-50 is not 50 percent of ideas of combating poverty, but of large vehicles. That is why political parties need more ideas of combating women-children poverty, not the 50-50 parity as this brings up negative satisfaction of sharing out 'eating positions' while the poor become poorer still.

More action needed to curb incidence, severity of neglected tropical diseases

NEGLECTED Tropical Diseases commonly abbreviated as NTDs are a group of parasitic and bacterial infectious diseases. They have been eliminated from most of the Middle East region although they still claim more than 170,000 lives each year and affect over 1.58 billion people globally. In Africa, ESPEN work to reduce the burden of 5 targeted NTDs which put at an estimated 600 million people are at risk. They are called "neglected" because they afflict the most destitute, vulnerable, and neglected populations.

Neglected Tropical Diseases cause severe pain, disabilities, deformities, malnutrition, stunted growth, cognitive impairment, social isolation, and humiliation. They also affect a person's ability to attend school or work. Anemia caused by some NTDs has a direct impact on maternal mortality.

The good news is that the 5 highest burden NTDs are amenable to preventative chemotherapy (PC NTDs) - Lymphatic Filariasis (more commonly known as Elephantiasis), Onchocerciasis (River Blindness), Schistosomiasis (Bilharzia), Blinding Trachoma, and Soil - Transmitted Helminthiasis (Intestinal Worms). The question is why haven't we been able to eliminate them yet. And what can be done to achieve the global goal of eliminating them. We have seen at first hand too many times the effect that these NTDs have on people in developing countries both young and old.

In Tanzania for example all 5 highest burden NTDs are common. We know all too well the despair and debilitation that comes with each one of these diseases.

The stigma, humiliation, and social exclusion can be absolutely traumatic

to an individual's self esteem and mental health well being.

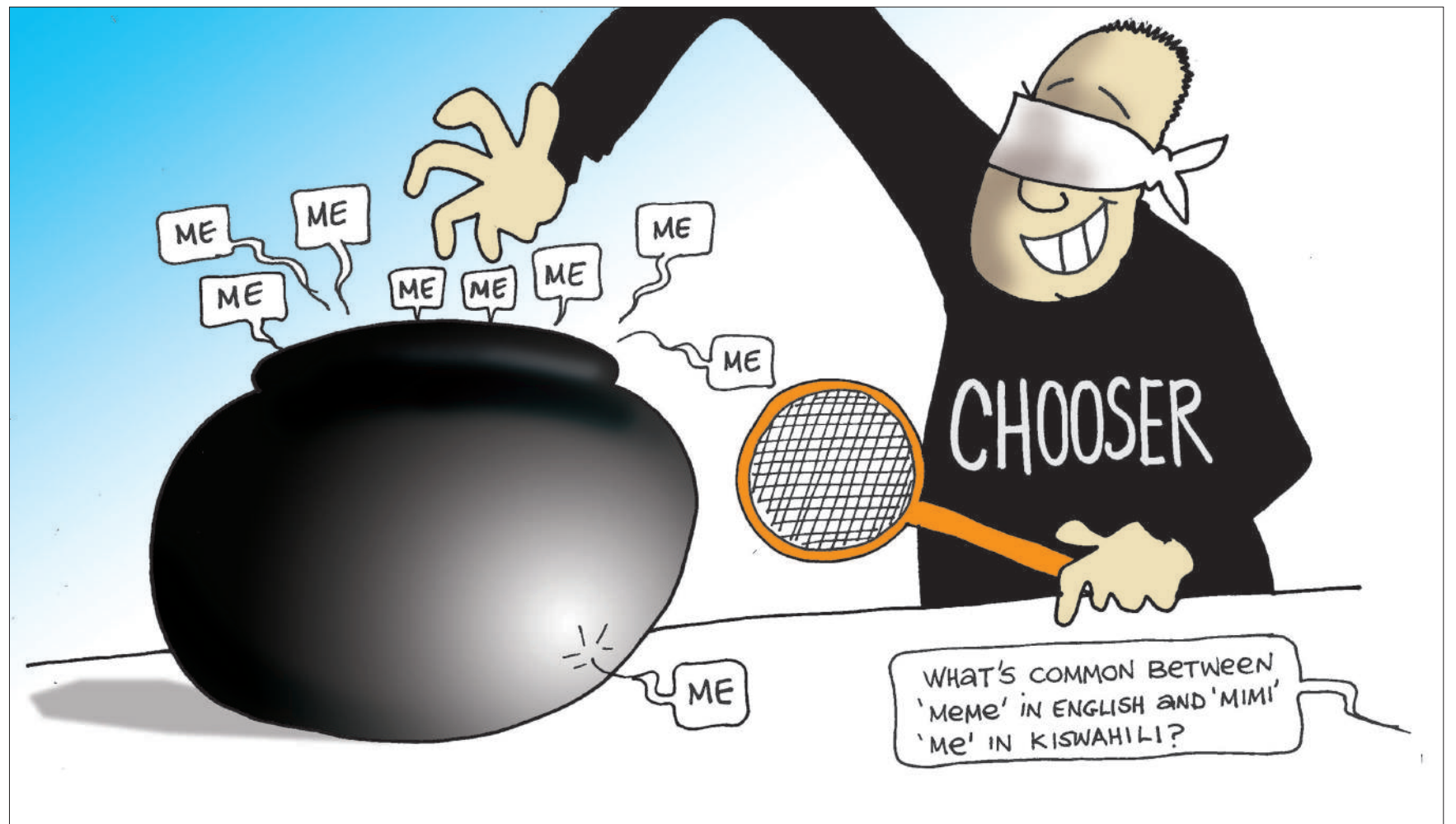
Economic hardship and cyclical poverty have become synonymous with NTDs. People in affected countries are unable to work and provide for themselves, or their families, perpetuating the cycle of poverty and being set up for failure not success. The direct negative impact on African economies as a result of these diseases is clear and evident.

We MUST come together and collectively eliminate these diseases. NTDs are not just an "African problem." They are a global problem, and we must all share the burden of working towards control and elimination.

The good news is that there is a solution to the PCT NTD problem—low cost, highly effective drugs that can prevent and treat these diseases.

The power to succeed in NTD control and elimination lies not just in the hands of African countries and leaders but also in the communities and persons of good will. We are calling upon everyone to join us in the fight against NTDs. On behalf of the most disadvantaged people, it is imperative that we all rise to answer this call and provide the funding and needed resources to eliminate the threat of NTDs.

Each one of us can help empower the people of Africa to win this battle by 2020. It is our sincere hope that everyone will rise to the challenge and do their part. Together, we can make a difference. As the legendary Nelson Mandela once said: "Everyone can rise above their circumstances and achieve success if they are dedicated to and passionate about what they do," and "It always seems impossible until it's done." Let us all heed these words and unite behind the spirit of Ubuntu and our efforts to eliminate NTDs.



Tackling the inequality pandemic: New social contract for new era

By Antonio Guterres

FROM the exercise of global power to racism, gender discrimination and income disparities, inequality threatens our wellbeing and our future. We desperately need new thinking to halt and reverse it.

We often hear that a rising tide of economic growth lifts all boats. But, in reality, a rising tide of inequality sinks all boats. High levels of inequality have helped to create the global fragility that is being exposed and exploited by Covid-19.

The virus is shining a spotlight on inequalities of all kinds. It poses the highest risk to the health of the most vulnerable, and its social and economic impact is concentrated on those who are least able to cope. Unless we act now, 100 million more people could be pushed into extreme poverty and we could see famines of historic proportions.

Even before Covid-19, people everywhere were raising their voices against inequality. Between 1980 and 2016, the world's richest 1 per cent captured 27 per cent of the total cumulative growth in income. But income is not the only measure of inequality.

People's chances in life depend on their gender, family and ethnic background, race, whether or not they have a disability, and other factors. Multiple inequalities intersect and reinforce each other across the generations, defining the lives and expectations of millions of people



Nelson Mandela

before they are even born.

Just one example: more than 50 per cent of 20-year-olds in countries with very high human development are in higher education. In low human development countries, the figure is 3 per cent. What is even more shocking is that some 17 per cent of the children born twenty years ago in those countries have already died.

The anger fuelling recent social movements, from the anti-racism campaign that has spread around the world in the aftermath of George Floyd's killing (in the US) to the chorus of brave women calling out the powerful men who have abused them, is yet another sign of utter disillusionment with the status quo.

And the two seismic shifts of our age - the digital revolution and the climate crisis - threaten to entrench inequality and injustice even more deeply.

Covid-19 is a human tragedy. But it has also created a generational opportunity to build a more equal

and sustainable world, based on two central ideas: a New Social Contract and a New Global Deal.

A New Social Contract will join governments, their people, civil society, business and others in a common cause. Education and digital technology must be two great enablers and equalisers by providing lifelong opportunities to learn how to learn, adapt and take on new skills for the knowledge economy.

We need fair taxation on income and wealth, and a new generation of social protection policies, with safety nets including Universal Health Coverage and the possibility of a Universal Basic Income extended to everyone.

To make the New Social Contract possible, we need a New Global Deal to ensure that power, wealth and opportunities are shared more broadly and fairly at the international level.

A New Global Deal must be based on a fair globalisation, on the rights and dignity of every human being, on living

in balance with nature, on respect for the rights of future generations, and on success measured in human rather than economic terms.

We need global governance that is based on full, inclusive and equal participation in global institutions. Developing countries must have a stronger voice, from the United Nations Security Council to the boards of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank - and beyond.

We need a more inclusive and balanced multilateral trading system that enables developing countries to move up global value chains.

Reform of the debt architecture and access to affordable credit must create fiscal space to generate investment in the green, equitable economy.

The New Global Deal and the New Social Contract will put the world back on track to realise the promise of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and achieve the 17 global Sustainable Development Goals - our globally-agreed vision of peace and prosperity on a healthy planet by 2030. Our world is at breaking point. But by tackling inequality, based on a New Social Contract and a New Global Deal, we can find our way to better days ahead.

• **Antonio Guterres is United Nations Secretary General. This is the text of this year's Nelson Mandela lecture which he delivered on the occasion of Madiba's birthday - July 18. In that Mandela spent his whole life fighting against inequality and injustice, Guterres chose "rising and unsustainable inequality" as his theme.**

IN an assault that has become commonplace, some members of ISWAP, a breakout faction of Boko Haram, last weekend raided Monguno in Borno State and killed many civilians - including an innocent four-year-old girl. It is a grim reminder of the fate of children in conflict zones, coming a few days after the world marked the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression. It is also a reminder that the insurgents that have been declared 'technically defeated' are still very much in business.

Apparently moved by the horror and aggression against thousands of innocent Palestinian and Lebanese children by Israel, the United Nations in 1982 set aside June 4 every year to draw attention to the pain and suffering of children who are victims of emotional, mental and physical abuse. The day also affirms the United Nations' commitment to protect the rights of children the world over. According to the London-based International Charity, 'Save the Children', about 420 million children are living in conflict situations. Of the lot, children in Africa are the worst affected, with 170 million

Nigeria and the children of war

living in war zones. The affected countries often listed are Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Nigeria, which is the head of the pack.

That can hardly be disputed as the country is suffused in armed conflict. From the Northeast which has been home to a protracted insurgency since 2009, to the Northwest which is becoming increasingly laid waste by banditry, to the North central weighed down by farmer-herder crisis, children are the greatest victims. This is particularly so because of their vulnerability. Conflict situations have created children who are separated from their families, unprotected, starved, forced out of school, conscripted and exposed to violence and systematically abused. Hundreds of thousands of children are dying every day as a result of indirect effects of conflict - including malnutrition, disease, inadequate healthcare, and poor sanitation. Indeed, for Boko

Haram, sexual violence is openly used as a weapon of war. The 2014 kidnap of the Chibok schoolgirls and many others are poignant examples. Besides the mental and physical torture, exposing children to armed conflict increases their risk of morbidity and mortality.

A recent report by Amnesty International acknowledged widespread and unlawful detention and torture by Nigerian security forces of a generation of children and tens of thousands of people in north-east Nigeria. At least 10,000 victims - many of them children - have died in military detention, among the many thousands more arrested during a decade-long conflict. Joanne Mariner, acting director of crisis response at Amnesty International, called on the authorities to investigate the "appalling" treatment of victims. "From mass, unlawful detention in inhumane conditions, to meeting out beatings and torture and allowing sexual abuse by adult inmates - it defies belief that children anywhere

would be so grievously harmed by the very authorities charged with their protection," she said.

Last week, the minister of women's affairs Pauline Tallen said the federal government has put in place strategies, including advocacy campaigns, to mitigate the hardship faced by children who are victims of aggression, especially in conflict zones. In addition, she said the Child Rights Act, yet to be domesticated in some states, and other international and regional treaties would be enforced in order to protect the Nigerian child.

The UN's Sustainable Development Goals in its blueprint intended to be achieved in 2030, provides a universal plan to secure a better future for children. The 16th goal is dedicated to peace, justice and strong institutions. Target two aims to "end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children."

It is goal which all should strive to attain.

The anti-corruption puzzle: Magu's arrest sign of Buhari's integrity or just another 'early release' waiting to happen?

By Akin Osuntokun

It is no longer news that Ibrahim Magu, the former EFCC boss, was arrested by the DSS on allegations of corruption. When the news came into light, there was an uproar everywhere. How would the head of the agency for fighting corruption be arrested for the same offense he was employed to tackle? This was the question on the lips of everybody, as it is a very huge irony. Is the Nigerian government gradually turning into a joke?

Everybody knows that Ibrahim Magu is a close ally of President Buhari. President Buhari would not have put him in such a sensitive post if he was not.

An individual with such proximity to the President would normally be thought to be untouchable. But he has not only been touched now, he was taken by the authorities, and has been with them till date.

The bigger question now is that will Magu be convicted of these huge crimes, and be given the adequate jail term for the crimes committed, or the case would be similar to what happened to Orji Kalu, who only spent a few months in "confinement" after being guilty of embezzling billions of Dollars meant for the people of Abia state?

The gathering responded with a subdued and nervous laughter. The occasion was the silver jubilee anniversary of THISDAY Newspapers at the Eko Hotel. In view of his current status, it was an irony that the acting Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Ibrahim Magu was decorated with the gold medal for ranking number one in the effort to rid Nigeria of corruption. The honour of decorating him with the medal went to the former Governor of Cross River State, Mr Donald Duke.



Ibrahim Magu, former Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission

Before investing Magu with the medal, the Governor made the mistake of congratulating himself for the feat of not featuring on the EFCC book of wanted present and past public officials. To be thus absolved would amount to quite a feat and golden exception to the rule of exchanging the opulence of the governor's lodge with interrogations and possible tenancy at the EFCC headquarters in Abuja.

When it was his turn to show his appreciation for being deemed worthy of the honour, Magu prefaced his response with an impolitic deflation of Duke by repudiating his claim of having no issues with EFCC. He said the latter's self-exoneration is not borne out by the records at his disposal. This drew a dry and awkward laughter from the social gathering, many of whom are past, present or potential clients of the agency.

My attitude is whether I'm innocent or guilty, I would rather have nothing to do with EFCC. In the event that you are exonerated, you would have gone through a shakedown inclusive of significant media takedown. It is the wisdom of the ancients - à ti èbi, à ti àre, olúwa má jé kí ñ rí ogun ejó (right or wrong, may

God spare me of any happenstance of penal adjudication).

Unfortunately, I have been close friends with Nuhu Ribadu before he became the founding chairman of the commission and through him I made the acquaintance of Magu. Ribadu sent a complimentary copy of their maiden quarterly magazine to me when I was at the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN). My secretary buzzed me that I had a mail from the EFCC. A mail from EFCC, I was taken aback. When I knew what it was all about, I had to call and requested Nuhu not to send any publications to me again especially if it is under the auspices of his agency. In any case, as the number one news dispenser in the country, I should be the one sending magazines not him. I don't want to have anything to do with the EFCC period.

Unfortunately, Magu repeated the same mistake when he became the top man at the commission. Like Ribadu, Magu has succeeded in creating the necessary disincentive of the fear element in the Nigerian public space regarding EFCC and it was in this perspective that I judged the severe blow he dealt Duke, the other day, and by proxy, all the public and

private big wigs in the audience. The collateral damage would be the unfairness to the innocent and violation of the legal canon that it is better for 99 per cent of the guilty to go free than for one innocent person to suffer. Hence the caveat that an accused is deemed innocent until proven otherwise by the law.

The only categorical case that has been established against Magu in the prevailing dispensation is his rejection by the Senate as not fit and proper to hold public office. And this is what complicates his present predicament. Within a fractious presidential cabal, there is a sufficiently strong faction capable of stonewalling the nomination of Magu at the Senate confirmation hearings. The flipside to this observation is that there is equally another contending force within the same presidency who rendered the ultimate objective of ending Magu's career futile. Regardless of the acting chairman nomenclature, Magu has been EFCC chairman de jure and de facto. Now that the objective of the former has been realised, the question is what has changed? The only consequential rearrangement within the presidency that has taken place in

the interim is the exit of Abba Kyari as chief of staff and his replacement with Professor Ibrahim Gambari. The inference here, which is commensurate with the power he wielded, is that Kyari had been the bulwark and rampart that sustained Magu. The second possibility is that the new sheriff in town (Gambari) is a stickler for propriety and has the clout to get things moving in the direction he wants. The third is that Gambari is irrelevant to the power game and might have heard of Magu's ordeal the same way and the same time you and I became wiser for the news. The fourth is the possibility that the international community might have compelled the Buhari government to take action, barring which they would go to town to besmirch his administration (assuming Magu is guilty as charged). The likelihood of the fourth perspective is predicated on the reality that there is no basis for attributing sincerity and altruism to this government, certainly not on the platform of fighting corruption. It is not for nothing that the Transparency International (TI) and about all credible monitoring international organisations have commonly adjudged this government as participant and enabler of corruption in proportions Nigeria may not have witnessed before.

The intervention by a ranking member of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Anti-corruption (PACAC), Professor Femi Odekunle has established a rough and tumble turf war leitmotif as the prevailing attitude to fighting corruption in this dispensation. According to Odekunle, the current fate of Magu 'seems an outcome of power-play by power blocs in the corridors of power in which Malami appears to be an arrow-head or major agent'. What Odekunle's protestation boils down to

is that there should be honour among complicit and that this *cosa nostra omerta* code has been breached by Malami and the Mafia family of which he is consigliere.

From what we know and what we don't know of the Buhari government including the recent gun attack on the dollar laden Tunde Sabiu by the army of the first lady (right within the precincts of the forbidden territory of the Presidential Villa), Odekunle's position is most credible. The credibility is further enhanced by the alacrity with which he was disowned by the chairman of his committee, the redoubtable Professor Itse Sagay. It is ironic that Odekunle himself quickly became a victim of power play while protesting the web of the power play that snared Magu.

According to the chairman of PACAC, fellow Professor Itse Sagay "The attention of the Chairman of the Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption has been drawn to a statement circulating in the media space credited to one of its members, Prof Femi Odekunle. The press release is the personal opinion of the member under whose name it was released and not that of the committee". Were all this not tragic for Nigeria, the comedy of errors entertainment value of this cast of characters is unmatched.

Recall the oft tortuous rationalisation of scandals by Sagay in language and logic that make mockery of his prior reputation as a meritorious Professor and his ostensible pedestal of the number one Presidential counsellor on anti-corruption. This character trait and the delegitimisation of his anti-corruption office was on full display on the corruption enabling commentary he ran on the certificate scandal of the former Minister of Finance. "This woman

is a brilliant and extremely valuable member of this government. "A lot of the good things happening now - the welfare that Nigerians are enjoying and are going to enjoy, because it takes time, and the way our economy is booming, how we got out of recession - are due to her expertise, her commitment, her sacrifice. I'm telling you now. If you ask me - If I were President Buhari, I would never, ever touch that woman because she's damn good. The enemies of this government want to reduce his capacity to provide good governance by engaging in social media attacks and trying to get rid of her. It will not work."

When the notorious Governor Ganduje of Kano State was caught on camera stuffing millions of dollars into the expansive folds of his babanriga, he ran a similar corruption enabling commentary, essentially providing talking points for Ganduje's defence counsel. Asked the following question "You reportedly said the Kano House of Assembly cannot investigate Governor Ganduje. Why can't they?"

Sagay responded: "They cannot because by the provision of the Constitution, their powers of investigation are limited. They can only investigate funds that have been disbursed by any administrative or other body which was appropriated by the House. In other words, it must be funds which were appropriated under the budget of the House, which are now being operated by other functionaries. In those circumstances they can probe such functionaries for their administration of those funds. Outside that, they cannot. So, the case at hand for example, I hear is that of a private contractor who supposedly bribed the governor. In that situation, the Kano State House has no jurisdiction at all."

By Omar Badsha

The largest independent online history project in Africa, South African History Online, has played a pioneering role in promoting a new people's history as well as history education. But the 20-year-old project needs more support if it is to survive.

As a small boy growing up in a Gujarati Muslim family, whose grandparents had immigrated to South Africa from India in the late 1890s, I spent many hours listening to the stories of my grandmother in our home in Durban, Natal (now KwaZulu-Natal). Bedridden, but with a glow of recollection in her eyes, she would relate tales of her early life in that western Indian state, with its seaports and ancient dynasties.

Later in the 1970s, I began working with the General Factory Workers Benefit Fund, the Institute of Industrial Education and trade unions. We ran evening classes for the new union leadership on topics such as working-class struggles and worker rights. Of course, we turned to history to explain segregation and inequality and so we developed an alternative history curriculum to what was being presented by the apartheid state.

More than two decades

Holding on to history: SA history online under threat as Covid-19 diverts funding



ago, the same challenges we faced then led me to establish the South African History Online (SAHO) project. We set this up with our own resources in 1998 and registered it as a non-profit Section 21 company in June 2000.

Our mission was to address the biased way in which the historical and cultural heritage of South Africa and the continent had been represented to date. We were committed to reaching out to academic, heritage and community groups in our own country and the rest of Africa to compile a new people's history.

From the outset, we wanted to promote history among young people and to support the learning and teaching of the subject at schools and universities. We were the first in South Africa to offer, online, the new history curriculum. We were also aware that many young people were not studying history and the humanities. We realised that we needed to work closely with the Department of Basic Education (DBE) and our higher education institutions to promote history. We were also mindful that unless people understood this, the country would find it very difficult to train a new generation that wanted to implement a developmental state.

With minimal resources, we initially began working

from home and then in a space that the University of South Africa (Unisa) provided free. We drew on the expertise of young students and Information Technology specialists for assistance. Many, who joined us as researchers, have gone on to obtain their PhDs, becoming senior researchers, archivists and lecturers. One of the most successful programmes we run is the Partnership and Student Internship Programme. Since 2012, SAHO has taken on over 160 PhD, masters and undergraduate students, local and international, as interns.

We currently have eight full-time and three part-time staff, but, in reality, require twice the number that we presently employ. We are fortunate that we have student interns who now produce two-thirds of our articles and run our community oral history and classroom programmes.

SAHO is now the largest independent, online history project on the African continent. Our archive offers more than 50,000 docu-

ments, videos and images. Last year alone, 6.4 million people accessed our website. SAHO has changed how history is taught and all our articles are linked in real-time to journal articles, videos, archival material and newspaper coverage. Material from the SAHO site is quoted in academic and journal articles. When the newly established Sol Plaatje University opened in Kimberley (Northern Cape), their history and heritage courses were run using the SAHO website.

Much of our work has been supported by funders - initially BP South Africa and later by organisations such as the National Lotteries Commission, the Ford Foundation and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. We cannot thank them enough.

However, funding is drying up due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Several supporters are re-allocating funding that was earmarked for our projects, to humanitarian relief work. We now find ourselves in a terribly precarious situation, paying half-salaries to our staff.

We are considering closing our offices and moving to smaller premises and are now working on a month-to-month basis.

We currently have eight full-time and three part-time staff, but, in reality, require twice the number that we presently employ. We are fortunate that we have student interns who now produce two-thirds of our articles and run our community oral history and classroom programmes.

SAHO, because of its massive readership, gets on average 10 people contacting us daily with queries or sending us material which needs to be edited, verified and uploaded.

We have had a long-standing relationship with South African and international universities and we have initiated a dialogue with the university management of the Universities of Cape Town, Johannesburg, Pretoria and other universities to work on partnership agreements where we undertake joint research, and also to approach funders. This initiative will take some time

to put into operation, but in the short term, we need the support of the government, foundations, business and the public to help us continue with our work.

The SAHO project offers much and has also provided personal lessons. Not least, I have come to appreciate the depth of the emotional scars that apartheid has left us with. Daily, we have people who have lost family members come to us as they try to find out what happened to parents and siblings in the liberation struggle.

For example, I was recently contacted by a young woman born in Zambia; her mother was Zambian, her father a South African exile who died when she was six. She wanted to meet his family and to find out more about his role in the liberation struggle. SAHO has inherited the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and we need support to continue the unfinished work of the commission.

SAHO has had so much support over the years, from funders and those who have freely given of their time. We are now reaching out again for assistance to continue offering our services at no charge. More than ever, we need to be able to understand our past if we are to make sense of the present.

Fake degrees, Almajiri and Nigeria's underdevelopment

By Abubakar A. Fari

The issue of almajiri is very much with us. The issue of fake degrees originating from southern Nigeria, like COVID-19 is also very much with us. The issue of underdevelopment of Nigeria as a top member of the third world with noise makers, and with the highest number of the Black race but with nothing to show in human development index, is frightening. The issue of our Muslim brothers that western education has implanted inferiority complex in also needs to be understood.

Almajiranci is a system of Islamic education practiced in northern Nigeria and it is also the name for a young boy who is taught within this system, the system is called Almajiranci, the male gender seeking Islam knowledge is called Almajiri, female colloquially, the term has expanded to refer to any young person who begs on the streets and does not attend secular school. Many people in Hausa land give 'Sadaka' to almajirai on daily basis seeking Divine reward and protection. Almajirai are children, usually from poor rural backgrounds, who leave their hometowns to study Islamic learning with malammai, teachers of the Quran. Most malamms were educated in the almajiri system themselves, and as they do not receive a salary but depend financially on the alms of the community and the work of the almajirai. The almajirai usually begin their studies between the ages of 3 and 12, and learn about the Quran in schools called tsangayu.[4] In their early twenties, the almajirai reach sauka, graduation, and become gardi or gardawa. When not engaged in learning the Quran, almajirai in rural areas may work on farms, while urban almajirai conduct small tasks like domestic chores, running errands, and fetching water.[4] [5] Some almajiri attend secular schools concurrently, or switch between secular and almajiri schools.[6] Additionally, almajirai practice alms begging, or almajiranchi, out of necessity to eat.[5] Almajiranchi was not originally part of the almajiri system, but it is now said to prepare the almajirai for the hardships of life, make them strong and humble, and keep them devoted to studying the Quran. The practice of alms begging is widely denounced as child abuse in Nigeria.

Approximately 8.5 million children attend Islamic schools in Northern Nigeria. There are approximately 300,000 almajirai living in the state of Kano.

The almajiri system in Nigeria is highly controversial. The system has been attacked for promoting youth poverty and delinquency, for failing to teach young boys vocational skills and thus making them unequipped for the workforce, and for radicalizing boys and making them perfect recruits for gangs and Boko Haram. Others believe the almajiri system teaches young boys to be pious, good people who will benefit society.

History

Precolonial era

Muslim traders first came to the Nigerian regions of Kanem and Borno in the 9th century, and the religion spread through trade and migration. Almajiri began in Kanem-Borno in the 11th century, when many rulers practiced Islam. More than 700 years later, in the 19th



century, Islamic scholar Usman dan Fodio founded the Sokoto caliphate, and furthered the cause of Islamic learning. Prior to the British arrival in Nigeria, almajiri children stayed at home with their parents and attended tsangayu to learn about the Quran. All the schools available then were in close proximity with the immediate environment of the students. Inspectors were introduced to go to the schools and report the affairs of the school to the emir of the province. The schools were funded by the state treasury, the community, parents, zakah controlled by local emirs, sadaqqah and sometimes the farm output of the students. In the precolonial era, almajirai did not beg because there was sufficient funding to feed and clothe them.

Colonial era

The British colonized Nigeria in 1904, and with them came many changes to the almajiri system.[4] During the colonial era, the British deposed emirs and defunded the almajiri system. The remaining emirs lost control of their territories, this resulted also in the loss of fundamental control of the almajiri. With no support from the community, Emirs and government, the system collapsed. The British neither established secular schools on a large scale

nor advanced existing institutions. Most Western education (Boko) was conducted by Christian missionaries, but this education was only available for a small portion of Nigerians. Because Islamic scholars did not have a western education, they were disqualified from white-collar and political jobs. One Muslim response to the establishment of Christian-led secular schools was to create integrated Muslim-led secular schools. In 1921, there were more than 30,000 Islamic schools in Northern Nigeria.

The British did, however, establish large urban centers, so many malammai migrated from rural areas to the cities. Many northern cities, such as Kano, became important centers of Islamic learning. Parents started sending their children to the cities to study Islam, and the relationship between the almajiri and the malammai became more salient. The teachers and students had no financial support, so, they turned to alms begging and menial jobs for survival. Eventually this practice became the norm.

Post-Independence Era

The 1970's oil boom, which decreased the profitability of farming, and the 1986 Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP), which slowed economic growth, both increased poverty in Northern Nigeria and exacerbated the challenges of the almajiri

system.

In 1989, the Nigerian government created the National Commission for Nomadic Education (NCNE) to improve formal and non-formal education systems (including the almajiri system) for nomadic Nigerian children. Some children come to Nigeria from neighboring countries (Chad Republic, Niger, and Sudan) to attend almajiri schools. Many Northern states made integrated Muslim/secular primary and post-primary schools.

Contemporary Government Policy

In recent years, there has been an increased effort to integrate the almajiri school system into the Nigerian secular school system. Several Northern states, such as the Adamawa state and Niger state, have started integrating the almajiri education system into existing government programs. In 2009, the states of Sokoto and Zamfara had three times as many Quaranic students as students in the formal education system, which the government considered to be a serious problem. In 2010, the Nigerian Universal Basic Education (UBE) system was expanded to include the National Framework for the Development and Integration of Almajiri Education, which allocated funding to open more than one hundred almajiri schools. The schools were funded by a \$98 million joint operation between

the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the Nigerian government. The plan was intended to keep children from becoming radicalized and recruited by Boko Haram and other terrorist groups. In 2013, 124 Islamic schools had been built. However, since then, many of these schools have deteriorated.

In 2012, President Goodluck Jonathan referred to the almajiri as "dangerous to national development." He also said that Nigeria should ensure that the almajirai receive a traditional, secular education.

In 2015, the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) Almajiri Education Programme wrote that its goals were to provide the Universal Basic Education to all almajiri children, to eliminate begging, and to facilitate the integration of Islamic studies into the secular Universal Basic Education Program for Northern Nigerian children. The report emphasized that children could continue to learn the Quran, but that the Universal Basic Education program would prepare almajirai with secular knowledge and skills to "enable them integrate into the Nigerian society and ensure realization of their potentials."

In 2020, 50 out of 59 COVID-19 cases in Kaduna State were traced to almajirai who were sent back from Kano to their different States. In Jigawa State, out of 45 samples taken for COVID-19 tests from Almajirai repatriated from Kano State, 16 came back positive. The Northern States Governors' Forum perceived that the COVID-19 pandemic has set the scene for introducing drastic changes into the almajiri school system as it exposes children to the virus due to lack of hygiene, shelter and itinerant life. This has led to abolishing of the almajiri educational system by Kano State. The children would be absorbed into the secular school

Criticism

The almajiri system has been highly controversial in Nigeria. Some believe that the almajiri system was originally good, but has since deteriorated.[3] Critics say that the almajiri system promotes poverty and neglects, abuses, and exploits young boys, who wear tattered clothing, beg for food on the streets, and work for free. In one study of almajirai in the Kaduna state, 38 per cent of boys surveyed said they were tired all the time, and 62 per cent reported feeling hungry. In the same study, 88 per cent of almajirai said they spend most of their time begging. Some Muslims criticize this practice, as begging is generally discouraged in Islam. Moreover, the conditions that almajirai live in are often unhygienic and not conducive to their health.

The almajiri system is often attacked for promoting youth delinquency and violence and for providing street gangs and Boko Haram with an ample supply of vulnerable young recruits. People believe that the almajiri system fuels Boko Haram because 1) the children are radically indoctrinated and manipulated by their Quranic teachers and 2) the children are economically disadvantaged and live without their parents, which makes them easy targets for recruitment. Some say that Boko Haram would not exist with almajirai, while others say there's no evidence that Boko Haram recruits from almajirai systematically more than they recruit from any other vulnerable youth demographic in Nigeria.

By Kayode Komolafe

It should be noteworthy to development enthusiasts that the federal government is reportedly paying some attention to planning for economic development.

At least, the optimists ought to show more than passing interests when there is the talk of Nigeria Agenda 2050 in Abuja amidst the socio-economic havoc being wreaked by coronavirus in Nigeria as in other countries.

Doubtless, it takes almost an incurable optimist about the future to take official proclamations about economic development planning seriously anymore.

This is because of the levity with which long-time planning has been treated by successive governments in the last four decades.

The orthodox economic philosophy has been decidedly anti-planning. This is despite the plethora of slogans and acronyms that have been peddled in the last few decades. These include SAP, Vision 2010, NEEDS, Seven-Point Agenda, Transformation Agenda and Vision 20:2020.

The net result of the implementation or non-implementation of these economic packages has been the decline of Nigeria in virtually all indices of development.

In any case, there is hardly any autopsy done to determine why the random dreams contained in these economic agendas died with the administrations that put them in place.

Another chance for Nigeria's development plan



In the Nigerian culture of economic management, every administration comes up with its own economic phrases to stabilise the economy and possibly achieve growth. The trend has been more of fire-fighting than making strategic plans.

There is nothing on the horizon to suggest that the administration of President Muhammad Buhari is taking a fundamentally different path to development both in style and substance. This administration is also imbued with the same neo-liberal impulse dominating policies with the bitter consequences of worsening poverty and widening equality.

Nothing so far indicates that the government craves for a developmental leap.

Without giving a report of the diagnosis of the failure of Nigeria Vision 20:2020

and the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP 2017-2020), the administration is already working on the Nigeria Agenda 2050.

A report is expected to be submitted on this agenda in a year's time.

The report is expected to be a synthesis of the expert work being done currently by the technical working groups on different sectors such as security, defence, agriculture, rural development, environment, water resources, sanitation, culture, tourism hospitality, social development, regional development, disaster management, creative industry etc.

Hence, the working groups are supposed to review existing policies and economic designs as they make projections.

Economic planning used to be an important aspect of governance in Nigeria. Some roads, bridges, schools, hospi-

itals, water schemes etc. were built on the basis of planning with a sense of integrated development. When the story of Nigeria's underdevelopment is fully told, the factor of the abandonment of planning would have a conspicuous place in it. The ad hoc economic experiments that followed the jettisoning of national plans have not achieved the stated objectives.

As a matter of fact, most of the economic experiments could not actually be called "national" because the inspiration was always from exogenous forces. They were based on the Washington Consensus which ignored the enormous social costs of the adjustment inflicted on the poor people.

Yet, the larger context of economic management is very important in developing a new plan.

It is, therefore, suggested

that those working on Nigeria Agenda 2050 should not perceive their very important task as a mere technical exercise.

They should consider a political economy approach.

A certain degree of political discipline is required to give effect to any economic package no matter how technically sound it might seem to the designers. Hence, there is the need to scientifically study Nigeria's economic history beyond feeding the public with technical jargons.

Take a sample of the recent economic history. In the mid 1990s some of the Nigeria's best and brightest from multidisciplinary backgrounds assembled in Abuja for months to prepare the Vision 2010. As the work progressed, the experts exude enormous optimism. Cheery news came out of the group work. When the report was ready, there was eu-

reka among the believers of the vision, who must have thought that a formula had at last been found for Nigeria's development.

The patriotic promoters of Vision 2010 didn't seem to reckon with the reality of the political economy at the time: General Sanni Abacha was in power with his own agenda of what to do with Nigeria. The experts were busy with their econometrics, forgetting Abacha's calculus for power for his own purpose. The dream embodied in Vision 2010 died, but the destructive impact of Abacha on the political economy is still being felt 22 years after his death.

So, both the economic and political environments ought to have been considered in a realistic visioning process.

The socio-political environment of the Abacha years was not a promising one for such a vision as it was obvious that the necessary elite consensus could not be easily garnered in liberal terms. As some elements of the elite were visioning in Abuja, some others were in incarceration, pushed into exile or forced to remain invisible within the system.

Hence, only the element of political economy could explain the cold attitude of the succeeding administration of President Olusegun Obasanjo to Vision 2010. The tenure of General Abdulsalami

Abubakar was so short that visioning or making any strategic plan would be a luxury. He was actually in office for less than a year. It would, of course, amount to a political abomination for any policy adviser to recommend to Obasanjo a Vision 2010 developed under Abacha's watch.

It is also the lack of the political economy approach that makes technical experts design economic policies which ministers in the governments ignore while political parties do not articulate the programmes in the policy. Governments at all tiers should find a basis to engage with a national development plan. There must, at least, be a political basis on which to build a consensus. It is not for nothing that Adam Smith wrote about "political economy" and not just technical economics devoid of a moral ecology.

In fact, as one economist puts it: "Policy proposes. Politics disposes."

For instance, in a viable development plan there must be a consensus on the basic needs of the people as a priority.

In virtually all states the majority of residents lack potable water and open defecation is still a serious issue of development.

Yet, the state governments embark on what the late politician, Ojo Madueke, would call "monumentalism." Governors embark on multi-billion naira projects as monuments to their tenures.

WHO urges greater COVID-19 health services in Africa's humanitarian settings

BRAZZAVILLE

THE World Health Organization (WHO) has called for greater access to COVID-19 detection, testing and care among vulnerable populations grappling with the impacts of protracted conflict and humanitarian emergencies across Africa.

Sub-Saharan Africa is home to over 26% of the world's refugees. Long-running conflicts in regions like the Sahel have led to the closure of health facilities and the flight of health workers. In Burkina Faso, 110 health facilities have been closed due to insecurity while services have been impaired in 186 others, leaving around 1.5 million people without adequate health care. In Mali's central and northern regions, health services have been paralysed by persistent attacks. In 2019 alone, 18 attacks on health facilities were reported. So far this year, one health centre has been attacked.

"COVID-19 has exacerbated existing humanitarian challenges, particularly with regards to access to health services in many countries in the region," said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa. "With the pandemic, we have seen some humanitarian operations delayed due to lockdowns, curfews and



the restrictions of movement for both personnel and cargo vital for COVID-19 response."

Crowded settings such as displacement camps can heighten the risk of COVID-19 transmission due to difficult access to clean water, leading to inadequate hygiene, and where physical distancing is almost impossible.

The United Nations system has

activated health clusters in eight countries where the humanitarian situation requires support from the international community, including Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Mali, Niger and South Sudan. Although information on COVID-19 transmission in humanitarian settings remains limited so far, about

1800 COVID-19 cases have been reported in seven of these countries among the displaced, refugees, migrants or in areas affected by humanitarian crises. Due to the limited detection and testing capacity, the number is likely to be an under-estimate.

"WHO urges the humanitarian community and Member States to increase support to the millions of

people in dire need of assistance in the region. If we don't step up health services, including testing, tracing, isolation and care for people already living in precarious settings and displacement camps, COVID-19 could spark untold tragedy," said Dr Moeti.

WHO has developed guidance on adapting COVID-19 mitigation in camp or camp-like settings, rec-

ommending health screenings for people arriving at collective sites and temporary isolation centres for suspected cases. WHO advises that activities like food distribution or education be adjusted to limit mass gatherings and strengthen infection prevention and control.

WHO is working with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the

UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and other operational partners to raise awareness about COVID-19 among vulnerable populations, distribute medical supplies and implement preventive measures such as hand-washing stations. Efforts are also underway to strengthen surveillance, train health workers, establish telehealth centres, and test and care for people who contract the disease.

The United Nations is implementing the Global Humanitarian Response Plan for COVID-19 to fight the pandemic in countries facing humanitarian situations. The plan identifies ways to address the immediate health and non-health needs related to COVID-19 for the most vulnerable populations through health, water, sanitation, hygiene, food and agriculture, logistics, education and protection. Of the 63 countries covered by the plan, 20 are in Africa.

Together with the World Economic Forum, WHO held a virtual press conference today with Dr Moeti; Hon Dr Pierre Somse, Minister of Health and Population, Central African Republic; Patrick Youssef, Regional Director, Africa, International Committee of the Red Cross; and Adhieu Achuil Dhieu Kueth, South Sudanese refugee from Dadaab camp in Kenya.



COVID-19 likely to push 50m Africans well into extreme poverty - AfDB report

By Special Correspondent

NEARLY 50 million Africans could be pushed into extreme poverty owing to the coronavirus pandemic.

According to the African Development Bank, West and Central Africa stand to be most hit by the economic slump. Nigeria, the continent's most populous country, would see the greatest rise in poverty.

In the bank's latest economic outlook, roughly a third of the continent was already expected to live below the international poverty line of 1.90 US dollars per day in 2020.

Health crisis and ensuing lockdowns have destroyed jobs, crippled incomes and devastated economies continent-wide.

With this in mind, the AfDB expects Africa to suffer a major recession, with GDP forecast to contract between 1.7 percent and 3.4 percent this year.

Furthermore, the institution says that between 24.6 and 30 million jobs would be lost this year due to the virus crisis.

Nevertheless, the bank noted that Africa's economic growth could rebound in 2021, provided that governments manage the COVID-19 infection rate well.

Africa's livestock sector is key to Covid-19 response and recovery

By Rhoda Peace Tumusiime

Livestock have long been the insurance policy of Africa's poorest, with even a single goat or a chicken providing a buffer against economic hardship and hunger.

But as Covid-19 forces many to fall back on these safety nets, the need for more long-term support of the continent's livestock sector is laid bare.

Amid increased reliance on animal agriculture to cope with shocks, together with rising demand for meat and milk from urban areas, the sustainable growth of Africa's livestock sector is an opportunity to turn insurance into investment, recovery into resilience.

The livestock sector already provides up to 80 per cent of agricultural GDP in some countries, and has provided vital short-term relief during the pandemic for some of Africa's millions of smallholder farmers.

From generating an emergency source of income for rural families to providing convenient and nutritious

sources of food to bolster health and immunity, livestock are among the most valuable assets.

At the same time, demand for animal-source food at the height of the pandemic has surged and, as pointed out in a new report by the Malabo Montpellier Panel, is expected to outstrip production by 2050 with per capita meat consumption rising from 19kg a year to 26kg.

And yet the coronavirus outbreak has also compounded some of the challenges that have held back the sector from becoming an economic powerhouse, limiting access to markets as well as the veterinary services that underpin safe and successful livestock-rearing.

Removing barriers to sustainable growth will not only strengthen the protection livestock offers the most vulnerable, it will also provide opportunities for families, and especially women, to improve their livelihoods and assets.

As countries respond to the immediate and longer-term consequences of the pandemic, governments need to prioritise investments to bolster the African livestock sector.

This includes measures to improve the productivity of cattle, pigs and poultry by strengthening animal health through greater access to veterinarians and animal medicines.

Not only do healthy animals produce more meat, milk and eggs but they also pose a lower risk to human health and food safety.

In Ghana, initiatives such as SMS-based animal disease information services have helped share updates about outbreaks and encourage farmers to have their animals vaccinated, reducing losses and adding an estimated US\$300 to their annual household income.

Improved animal health also then contributes to human health, unlocking the economic advantages of a population that thrives and reaches its full potential.

Another area of investment that will drive the transformation of the livestock sector is in the empowerment of women.

For almost 250 million African women, livestock represents their greatest opportunity for income and wealth accumulation, and where women own

livestock, research shows their entire family benefits from better nutrition and food security.

Organizations such as Heifer International, FARM-Africa, and Land O'Lakes have supplied livestock to women free of charge for several years in several African countries, with evidence these interventions help reduce gender inequality, particularly in asset ownership, market participation, and income management.

Closing the livestock gender gap will require programs targeting an increase in women's ownership of livestock for their own benefit as well as for the benefits to families, communities and economies.

Finally, growing Africa's livestock sector requires a systemic approach to sustainable agri-food value chain development, including growing a quality animal feed industry to support the growth of the sector.

In Zambia, for example, the broiler chicken value chain alone provides approximately 31,000 jobs, of which more than 25,000 are in the traditional production system and 6,000 in the

modern production system.

Estimates indicate that the broiler chicken value chain could create an additional 16,000 jobs in Zambia by 2022 due to the growing demand for poultry.

Supporting a vibrant livestock value chain will require investments into critical value chain points, to "pull" demand from subsidiary value chains like the production of feed, animal health and extension services and genetics.

To date, Africa's livestock sector has made crucial contributions to the continent's economic wellbeing, in particular for the most vulnerable or remote groups with few alternatives.

But as the world looks to "build back better", Africa must raise the ambition for animal agriculture, not just to respond or recover but to lead and unlock its potential.

Rhoda Peace Tumusiime is a member of the Malabo Montpellier Panel and former AU Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture at the African Union Commission (AUC).

By Jackson Ugbechie

Nnamdi Okonkwo's Fidelity Bank entrenches the culture of prudent fiscal management. Nigeria is not in short supply of innovators and reformers. They abound in all sectors. In the banking sector, Nnamdi Okonkwo, is one of them. As the chief executive officer of Fidelity Bank, Okonkwo, a multi-discipline banker, has demonstrated a rare know-how of what modern banking should be. He has broken all growth forecasts, driving his bank from a marginal financial institution into the national mainstream banking hall of fame, and one of the most-preferred banks on the continent.

It's a record that astounds, a performance chart that got even the heavyweights in the industry fretting. This is why some analysts say they are not surprised at the recent campaign of columny to smear both Okonkwo and the Fidelity Bank brand. A prominent case was the failed attempt to link the bank with the alleged sleazy deals in the nation's oil and gas industry in the days of Deziani Alison-Madueke, former Minister of Petroleum resources. But the matter has been rested and both Okonkwo and the bank cleared of any wrongdoing by relevant authorities.

Despite the clean bill and wide-berth clearance received by the bank and its

A vote for fidelity and the culture of prudent fiscal management



Nnamdi Okonkwo

leadership, the tribe of mud-slingers seems not to have beaten a retreat. They appear bent on casting as much slur as their fetish shovel could scoop on a man they cannot fault his stellar credentials and sterling performance, and a bank they can no longer ignore. But that's largely the price you pay for success.

Okonkwo has since 2014 when he emerged the managing director of the bank shown a rare trait in modern leadership: leading from behind. His style of leadership is unobtrusive: unseen, unheard yet he fills the ambience with his presence. Self-effacing and diffident, he has chosen to walk the path of meekness in a sector ingloriously noted for the

outlandish flamboyance of its leaders. One of the pitfalls of modern banking in Nigeria is the riotous ostentation of some bank gaffers. Whereas a banker, the one who holds public funds in trust, ought to be conservative, frugal, even austere; some bank chiefs have turned the page, preferring to live a life of wanton waste at the expense of the investing public.

It's this culture of waste and improvidence that has resulted in a neo-fiscal disorder called 'failed bank' syndrome. A bank that is truly a bank ought not to fail. With good corporate governance, adherence to basic creeds and compliance with regulatory rules, in this case the Central Bank of Ni-

geria (CBN), no Nigerian bank should fail. But many have. From People's Bank of Nigeria, a masses-centric bank created by the military essentially to cater for the poor masses, to some other banks that kept a façade of good financial standing, the nation has witnessed a whirlwind of failed banks, prompting the CBN to make interventions in most cases. Sadly, some still doubled down to extinction and in some cases had to be acquired by stronger banks to save jobs and save depositors' funds.

Not so with Fidelity Bank. Okonkwo's fiscal discipline, adherence to corporate governance and entrenchment of a culture of prudent fiscal management has ensured that

Fidelity Bank keeps soaring at a time its predecessors are riddled with holes in their balance sheet. A few statistics would confirm the steady rise of a once-upon-a-time marginal bank to a strong national and continental financial institution.

Since January 1, 2014 when he became the CEO, the bank has grown its savings deposit account base from N75 billion to the present N226 billion. If this does not excite, what about the fact that it recorded gross earnings of N215.5 billion for the financial year ended December 31, 2019, an increase of 14 per cent of the N189 billion achieved in the previous year. This also cascaded to profit before tax of N30.4 billion, compared with N25.1 billion recorded in the previous year, a jump by 21 per cent.

The facts truly speak for themselves. Fidelity Bank is wafting through the banking landscape like a hurricane. In a recent survey carried out by Political Economist Business Intelligence Unit, Fidelity Bank was adjudged the Most Admired Bank among business owners especially small and medium scale entrepreneurs in Nigeria.

The survey which was conducted in parts of Lagos, Ibadan, Kano, Abuja, Onitsha, Port Harcourt, Uyo and Kaduna among traders and business owners showed that Fidelity Bank was voted the friendliest

bank among the respondents. The survey was conducted via questionnaire administered strictly to business owners in selected market clusters spread in Nigeria's busiest cities.

So, how did Okonkwo and his team achieve this? Digital inclusion! Technology has become the oxygen of modern businesses. The Fidelity team has latched on this to optimise efficiency through the digitisation of its operations.

The impact of digitisation on the bank has been most profound such that 81.5 per cent of the bank's transactions is now done through digital channels. This has far exceeded industry projections and has placed Fidelity Bank ahead of many banks. In modern parlance, it's either you innovate through technology and see your business thrive or you stick to the old analogue order and watch your business die. Okonkwo has since realised this and has made a choice. He disclosed as much in a recent media chat.

"We are driving our retail banking with digitisation. About 81.5 per cent of our transactions are now done through digital channels. That is why you will see us building just one or two new branches in a year.

"In the past, we used to do like 15 to 20 branches. I can't remember the last time I went to inaugurate a new branch or even wrote a cheque. Digitisation has

made things more efficient. We have also taken into cognisance customers that may not have data to do their transactions.

"So, we introduced our USSD *770#, which does not require you to have a smartphone or data to carry out some banking transactions. This category of customers does not need Android phones to operate their accounts, just basic phones.

"This has made our cost-to-income ratio to improve significantly. Ultimately, our cost-to-income ratio is likely to drop by about 50 per cent by 2022 and digitisation will play a key role in achieving this.

"Having said this, Information Technology comes with a lot of risks. Any bank that does not pay attention to cyber risks is living dangerously and I doubt if any bank will even try that.

"Statistics have also shown us that even in some of the areas of the north with security challenges, we have a very high adoption of electronic banking because people are sending and receiving money using their phones. What is a challenge actually leads to innovation and opportunity."

Indeed, necessity is the mother of invention. The necessity of the moment has brought out the creative energy and inventive spirit in Okonkwo and it's rubbing off on the bank which he intends to migrate to a Tier-1 bank in three years from now. Given his pedigree, this is not just a desire, it's a destination.

By Elena L. Pasquini Reprint

The COVID-19 outbreak has brought the world back to the essentials: health and food. Fighting the spread of the virus while ensuring access to food has proven to be a challenge in many countries. The loss of income is reducing families' ability to feed themselves; movement restrictions and lack of labour for planting and harvesting are a strain on the chain that brings food from field to fork. Hundreds of millions of the most vulnerable people are on the brink of acute hunger, and food insecurity is likely to increase globally.

The fragility of the food chain and the role played by agriculture in the multiple, unfolding crises—including climate change, diminishing biodiversity, and nutritional crises in the forms of undernutrition and overnutrition—are not new issues. But the current emergency is adding a sense of urgency to the need of rethinking the way in which food is produced, distributed and consumed.

COVID-19 "is exacerbating a lot of weaknesses in our current food systems," Emile Frison, member of the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems, told Degrees of Latitude. "The vulnerability of ... large industrial production systems has been clearly shown through this pandemic ...," he stressed.

What strategies exist to build food systems that are resilient to shocks? What alternatives are there to industrial agriculture?

Agroecology is one of those models. No longer niche, it is at the core of global and national legislations, and is increasingly being implemented on farms. Is it economically feasible? Can it feed a grow-

Agroecology: The challenge of farming for the future



ing world population? What are the constraints for the transition to agroecological food systems?

That is what we are going to investigate in our series of articles devoted to the future of food.

Agroecology vs industrial agriculture

Agroecology is not just a production technique, but a multidimensional model, with economic, environmental, social, and governance aspects.

"It's a food system that takes into consideration and understands that it exists in a biological and ecological environment, in a cultural environment as well," said Daniel Moss, the Executive Director of the Agroecology Fund, a pool fund of donors from Eu-

rope, Asia and United States. The fund invests resources in advocacy and support for organizations around the world that are making the change towards agroecology.

Agroecology is not "one-size-fit-all food systems but food systems that derive from local resources, from biodiversity, local markets, local cultures and habits, and [native] seed varieties," he told Degrees of Latitude. It is a model - which can be defined by thirteen principles as outlined by the High Level Panel of Experts of the CFS, the Committee on World Food Security - where the production is not of one or two crops, but is diversified, and the chain that links farmers with consumers is short. Industrial agriculture, instead, is based on inputs-

like seeds—purchased by external suppliers, on pesticides and fertilizers, on large-scale and export-oriented monoculture in a long food chain.

The idea behind the Agroecology Fund is, in fact, "to fortify local-based food systems," food systems rooted in the culture and nutritional needs of people living in the area where food is produced. That's why an important complement to agroecology is food sovereignty. "It means the ability of communities to decide on the shape of their food system, the kinds of food they eat and what they prefer to eat, in ways that support local farmers," Moss said.

According to Moss, the consequences of industrial agriculture are "dire," leading to environmental degradation, contamination of water and ecological crises, as well as

the shut-down of smallholder farms. It is also seen as a major driver for the development of diseases, including pandemics like COVID-19: "The extension of industrial agriculture into nature by deforestation and bringing agriculture closer to wild animals [is] exposing us to their pathogens. There have been several examples in the last couple of decades, COVID-19 is just one of them," Frison said. It happened in China, with swine 'flu that correlated with the very intensive animal production system.

Agroecology means re-diversifying agriculture in terms of production and consumption. "Moving away from an industrial model of agriculture makes it more difficult for an epidemic to become a real pandemic...because the

diversity and lower density that we have in agroecological systems do not provide conditions for the rapid expansion of diseases," Frison added. The better quality of nutrition resulting from a more diverse diet is also crucial in strengthening the immune system and preventing the spread of non-communicable diseases, which are major risk factors, for instance in patients with COVID-19.

Short chains vs long chains

From field to fork, industrial agriculture is organized around commodities that are exchanged across continents. "The increased dependency on long food chains, and long value chains in general, is exposing us to difficulties when you come across such a crisis situation as the one we are living now. The need for re-localisation of production systems, including our food systems, is important", Frison said.

During the COVID-19 crisis, according to Moss, farmers' organizations, supported by the Agroecology Fund, have been able to provide a lot of innovations to overcome the bottlenecks generated by the lockdowns, thus proving the resilience capacity of short chains.

"Agroecology is something that requires a lot of local solutions and local creativity in terms of moving the food from the production source to the consumers," Moss said. In the Philippines, as well as in Brazil, farmers' networks addressed some acute food needs distributing food to the most vulnerable, moving relevant quantities of food quite quickly and showing that the food is "available locally and that's

the food which people can count on".

Where commercial food chains have been disrupted, "more people have been going directly to the farms that are locally producing a diversity of food through agro-ecological means," Frison stressed. It is crucial, according to Moss, to rely on "the expertise of producers that may be working in cooperatives or some kind of associations to aggregate the supply of food."

Supporting short chains and the transition toward an agroecological are political choices requiring public investments, funding for research, infrastructure, roads, more space for farmers markets and a legal environment to regulate the exchange of seeds, access to land, subsidies. What is promising is the global recognition of the need for a transformation of food systems, as remarked in recent reports, analysis and conversations, including at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and at the CFS.

"What we are seeing in COVID-19 is the kind of challenges to the very globalized food system that we have in place right now. ... It is a real wake up call to a lot of people that are very concerned about their food supply in times of crisis", Moss said. "We see a real opportunity for agroecology to strengthen".

However, the "business-as-usual" temptation is around the corner: "Vested interests" are calling on governments to invest in rescuing companies "... using the same kind of messages: We need to feed tens of thousands of people and therefore we need more pesticides, fertilizers and large scale monoculture, etc. That will not go away," Frison said.

BUSINESS

MOBILIZATION

Total SA Mozambique LNG completes nearly US\$16 billion funding

MAPUTO

Total SA's Mozambique liquefied natural gas project has completed as much as \$16 billion in funding involving a score of banks, despite a slowdown in energy investment as the coronavirus hammers the global economy.

It is the biggest foreign direct investment in Africa yet, according to law firm White & Case LLP, which advised the financiers. Financial close is expected by the end of September, it said. The African Development Bank will provide \$400 million in senior loans and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation signed a loan agreement for as much as \$3 billion for the scheme in northern Mozambique, they said Thursday in separate announcements.

The amount raised, which includes a loan from the Export-Import Bank of the US, matches the African nation's gross domestic product. Oil India Ltd., a partner, also confirmed the financing in a statement. A Maputo-based spokeswoman for the Total-led project didn't respond to a request for comment.

The financing achievement underscores the faith being shown in the \$23 billion project known as Mozambique LNG. While crude oil has staged a partial comeback from the worst effects of the pandemic, the gas market continues to face a massive oversupply. Despite this, lenders are betting on the country's location in southern Africa

for ease of export, and the sheer size of gas deposits linked to the project.

The project, which could be transformational for the country's economy, still faces significant challenges including its location in an area where an Islamist insurgency began in 2017. Similar schemes, including Exxon Mobil Corp.'s Rovuma LNG to be built next to Total's facility, have been delayed due to depressed energy prices and the pandemic. Mozambique LNG's funding effort still raised \$600 million more than planned, with pricing at pre-coronavirus levels, according to Societe Generale SA, the financial adviser for the project.

Mozambique LNG will generate about \$50 billion in revenue for Mozambique's government over 25 years, according to Total. That will be supplemented by sales from the even bigger project led by Exxon.

While the site is in a geographically strategic location between Europe and Asia, the onshore plant, which is being built in the northern Cabo Delgado province faces other challenges. The site registered a number of Mozambique's early infections of Covid-19, with control efforts complicated by the movement of foreign workers.

Mozambique's state-owned Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos, Mitsui & Co Ltd., ONGC Videsh Ltd., PTT Exploration and Production Plc and Bharat Petroleum Corp. are also partners in Mozambique LNG.

MTN Uganda is issued with listing ultimatum

KAMPALA

The Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) has given MTN Uganda two years to list a minimum of 20% shares on the country's stock exchange or face sanctions.

An IPO on the Uganda Securities Exchange (USE) was part of the negotiated conditions for the operator's 12-year new operating licence effective 1 July 2020. MTN is the first operator to acquire the licence under the new licencing regime, according to which services providers have to guarantee network coverage to at least 90% of the geographical boundary of Uganda within five years from the effective date of the licence.

MTN Uganda was first granted a Second National Operator Licence for the provision of telecommunications services on October 20, 1998 for a period of 20 years. However a government decision to increase the licence fee to US\$100-million led to intensive negotiation between officials, the UCC and the company.

MTN's licence officially expired in 2018, but the company operated on a temporary permit which had to be renewed every six months as the parties continued to negotiate after the government rejected MTN's offer

of US\$50-million.

UCC acting executive director Irene Kaggwa Sewankambo said the UCC was empowered under the Communication Act of 2013 to grant an extension to the Second National Operator Licence upon terms and conditions that reflected the prevailing circumstances of the communications sector in Uganda.

"Having conducted a performance assessment of MTN Uganda's operations over the past 20 years, the commission came to a conclusion that MTN Uganda had substantially complied with financial and legal obligations as well as most of the technical obligations," said Sewankambo.

MTN Uganda CEO Wim Vanhellputte affirmed underscored the company's commitment to the terms and conditions of the licence agreement, including the listing of shares. "We believe this is an opportunity to enhance our relationship with our customers who will also be able to become owners in this venture within the next 24 months," Vanhellputte said. MTN is Uganda's largest operator with 51% share of the country's telecom market followed by Airtel Uganda with 33%.

GENEROSITY

Bank plans to raise 200m/- to fund treatment of 100 children with heart condition at JKCI



CRDB Bank Plc staff members pose for a souvenir photo soon after completing a rehearsal ahead of mid August marathon to be held in Dar es Salaam. Photo courtesy of CRDB.

By Guardian Reporter

A charity event due to be held next month dubbed 'CRDB Marathon' is targeting to raise 200m/- that will be used to sponsor 100 children suffering from heart conditions and waiting for surgery at Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute in Dar es Salaam.

CRDB Bank Plc's Corporate Affairs Director, Tully Mwambapa said in Dar es Salaam on Friday that the marathon that will be held

in the commercial capital is expected to attract over 4,000 participants including cyclists.

"Minimum surgery costs per child at JKCI is 2m/- hence the donation will benefit at least 100 kids out of over 500 who are waiting for surgery at the centre," said Mwambapa who urged members of the public to back the bank's initiative.

She said the maiden event will be held annually with all collections being dedicated to help various challenges facing communities. "As CRDB we have been donating to JKCI regularly but because of the

growing numbers of children who are suffering from heart conditions and whose parents have no financial means to meet costs of treatment, we have decided to involve our partners and stakeholders," the CRDB Corporate Director added.

She named other partners that will join the bank in the fund raising event as JKCI, Sanlam Tanzania Limited, Strategis Insurance and Cool Blue. Under a slogan of 'Kasi isambazayo tabasamu,' which casually translates into, 'Speed that generates a smile,' the

marathon involve five, 10 and 21 kilometres splinting and 42 kilometres cycling.

In a rehearsal held on Saturday to establish the routes, CRDB staff members led by Mwambapa splinted alongside e-FM, Wasafi FM and other jogging clubs. "The good thing with this marathon is that we will raise funds for a good cause but also participants will improve their minds and souls after exercising their bodies," she added saying regular exercising will also help people keep away non communicable diseases which are currently

haunting the public.

so be making immediate internal strides to become a more informed, less biased organisation with a strong sense of belonging. To address shortcomings in its internal BIPOC representation, the company has launched a Comprehensive Action Plan as the starting point in its journey to further address discrimination, injustice, inequality and racism. The Comprehensive Action Plan will shape how the company moves closer to reflecting the diversity of its consumer base.

CHARITY

Bank gives medical and educational materials worth 36m/- to Kinondoni

By Guardian Reporter

Six public schools and a health centre in Kinondoni municipality are the latest beneficiaries of NMB Bank Plc's educational and health materials valued at 36m/-

Speaking after receiving the donation in Kinondoni on Friday, District Commissioner, Daniel Chongolo thanked the bank's management and staff for donation which he said will complement government efforts to improve education and health services.

Chongolo (pictured), said NMB's donations motivate students, teachers and the community in general because the support leaves a mark on the public's minds as the two sectors face many challenges. "I can assure the bank that Kinondoni will continue using its NMB services especially in collection of taxes so that the bank makes more profits of which one percent finances community projects annually," he said. He called upon pupils and students



of the beneficiary schools to work hard and succeed while ensuring the furniture is properly protected to last longer. The donations which included 180 iron sheets and 200 desks, 100 tables and chairs were given

to Oysterbay, Msasani, Tandale West, Mzimuni and Kisauke Primary Schools, and Turiani Secondary School.

The donation also included six hand washing machines. The bank also donated beds and mattresses to

Mabwepande health centre. Speaking at the same ceremony, acting Dar es Salaam Zone Manager, Seka Urio said NMB is backing state efforts to improve education and health services in the country.

"Although the government is investing heavily in these sectors, we as stakeholders have an obligation to complement efforts by helping the community because NMB's is the largest and most profitable bank in the country because of public support," Urio said.

He said each school will get 50 desks while Mzimuni also got 150 iron sheets and the other five schools got hand washing machines to help curb the coronavirus outbreak. "We get a lot of requests from the community seeking support but our focus is in education, health and disaster relief aid," he added while revealing that NMB has allocated over 1bn/- this year to invest in community projects as part of its corporate social responsibility.

INVESTMENT

Aliko Dangote's \$2bn fertiliser plant set for February start

LAGOS

Test runs started at the plant in March, though hampered by the disruptions that came with the coronavirus pandemic, said Maurizio Coratella, Dangote Group's fertiliser plant, now under construction in Nigeria's biggest city of Lagos, will be ready to start production next year, according

to Saipem SpA, the builders.

Owned by Aliko Dangote, Africa's richest man, the facility located in the Lekki district of Nigeria's commercial hub, has a name-plate capacity of 3 million tons a year of urea and ammonia, making it the world's biggest. It is in the vicinity of a 650,000 barrels a day Dangote oil refinery also under construction. Test runs started at the

plant in March, though hampered by the disruptions that came with the coronavirus pandemic, said Maurizio Coratella, chief operating officer of Saipem SpA.

"We are picking up now that things are looking more stable and are currently very well advanced," Coratella said Wednesday in an interview. "We are in the commissioning stage of the

first train; for the second, we will have that commissioning in six to seven months time." Saipem is making special arrangements, including setting up dedicated flights for vendors and suppliers to enable it meet the completion deadline, he said.

Saipem's operations in Nigeria, where it's been in business for more than 50 years, span several

industries including oil, gas and power. Among its four major construction contracts currently running in the West African country, it expects a 430-megawatt power plant being built for Eni SpA in the southern delta region to start operating within weeks.

The company is among bidders for Royal Dutch Shell Plc's Bonga offshore oil-field expansion and is

also in the early stages of revamping state-owned refineries in the oil-industry centers of Warri and Port Harcourt, Coratella said. Four refineries with a combined capacity for 445, 000 barrel of crude run by Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation are shut for refurbishment and only due back to production in 2023. Saipem is among three joint

ventures that bid for engineering work for Qatar's liquefied natural gas expansion project. The firm and its partners who won a \$4 billion contract to build Nigerian LNG Ltd.'s train 7 project, is eyeing "big LNG" and petrochemical projects in Southeast Asia, the US and Russia, Coratella said. "In terms of opportunities, most of them have been delayed to 2021," he said.

ACTIVISM

Pingos helps Hadzabe community obtain traditional land title deeds

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

Hunters and fruit gatherers who reside at Yaeda Valley in Mburu district of Manyara Region have gained official recognition to own 100,000 hectares of land after getting a traditional land title deed.

Pingos Forum's Executive Director, Edward Porokwa said last week that the Hadzabe community in Yaeda Valley are now official owners of the massive forest land after his not-for-profit organization teamed up with Ujamaa Community Resource Team to facilitate the exercise.

"We coordinated the exercise of surveying and processing for the traditional title deeds in collaboration with Arusha based Ujamaa Community Resource Team," Porokwa said noting that the Hadzabe had been facing an eviction threat by developers.

"The acquisition of the traditional land title deed means that the 100,000ha are now officially owned by the Hadzabe community hence don't face any threat of eviction by farming communities," he said while pointing out that the hunter-gatherers are good environmental conservationists as they don't destroy wildlife.

The Pingos Forum chief executive further added that the Hadzabe are themselves facing extinction as modernism is taking



Pingos Forum executive director, Edward Porokwa makes a presentation at a past event.

over part of their virgin land which is also useful for beekeeping as their main staple food also includes honey. He added that Pingos Forum is cur-

rently sensitizing the group on modern life so that gradually the hunter-gatherers can be integrated into the modern community and leave the

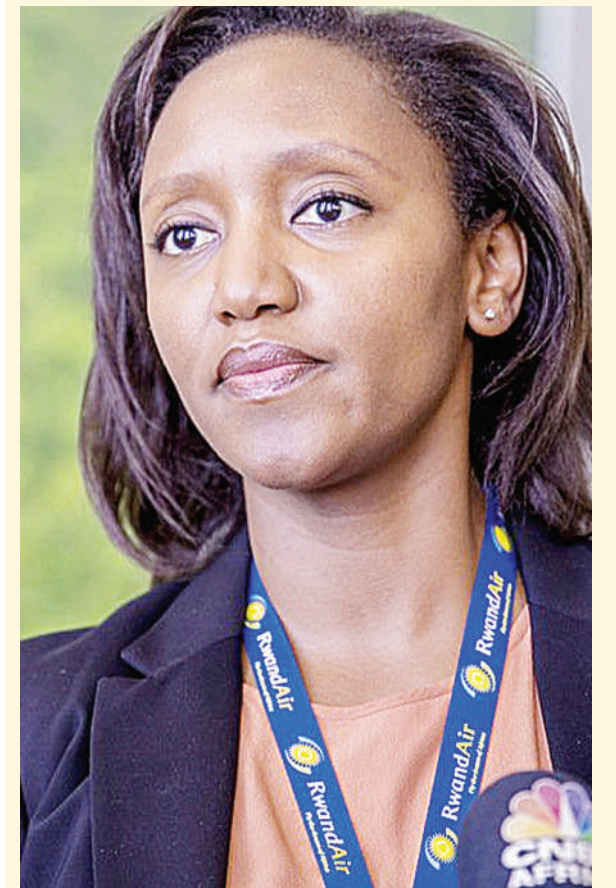
abyss. "For the Hadzabe land is a very important factor because they survive on hunting, fruit gathering and honey which all needs virgin forest

land," Porokwa noted adding as part of the transformation journey, Pingos gave the Hadzabe a milling machine worth 2.8m/- to process maize into flour targeting 3,000 people.

Pingos Administrative Manager, Emmanuel Saringe said the organization gave the Hadzabe 60 modern beehives worth 10.8m/- this month while 50m/- was donated to support construction of a medical doctor's house and clean water supply at Yaeda Chini ward.

"The beehives have capacity to generate 20 kilograms of honey and hopefully this will stop them from leading a nomadic life. But we also have plans to give them honey processing machines so that they should start adding value to the commodity and sell the surplus to other consumers in the market," Saringe noted saying Pingos also has plans to brand the Hadzabe's honey.

Pingos which was established to defend rights of minority communities facing threats of eviction from their lands, also operates in Arusha, Dodoma, Kigoma, Kilimanjaro, Mara, Morogoro, Pwani, Simiyu, Singida, Shinyanga and Tanga.



Rwandair CEO, Yvonne Makolo.

OPTIMISM

RwandAir confident demand for air travel will gradually pick up

KIGALI

RwandAir officials say they are confident demand for air travel will gradually pick up as countries prepare to open up borders and airlines finally resume operations after months of suspension.

The national flag carrier will resume operations on August 1, after nearly five months since the airline suspended operations due to Covid-19 global epidemic. Rwandair CEO Yvonne Makolo said bookings are already coming in.

"We are seeing, in terms of our forward bookings, demand on different routes," she told members of different media organizations during a tour of the Kigali International Airport on Friday. "The demand will grow gradually as passengers become more comfortable travelling during this pandemic," she added.

Makolo admitted that there is a lot of anxiety among passengers during this time, but the airline is putting in place different measures to ensure that it is safe for passengers to travel. "We have put all measures in place as directed by ICAO [International Civil Aviation Organisation] and WHO [World Health Organisation] to make sure that our passengers and staff are safe when we resume operations," she noted.

RwandAir will resume flights, starting with Africa destinations and Dubai in the Middle East, before increasing frequencies to other destinations as demand for air travel picks.

Flying will be different. The next time you are about to embark on a trip before the world gets the vaccine for the Covid-19 virus, prepare to have a whole different experience while flying on any aircraft. Before flying, all passengers will have to show Covid-19 negative certificate, whether they are arriving, transiting or departing from Rwanda.

Passengers on departure will respect all health safety measures. Departing passengers from Kigali International Airport will be guided by physical distancing signs scattered around the airport. Sanitizers will be available at check-in desks, counters, and passport control areas, while passengers will be welcomed by thermal imaging cameras deployed around departure and arrival areas to help identify people who may have Coronavirus.

Airport operators have put in place self-check in kiosks that allows passengers to check-in themselves without physically meeting ticketing agents. A passenger can spend less than a minute at the kiosk. Every check-in counter is equipped with a sanitiser so that there's no contamination through document handling, and counters are protected with glass visors.

Seats at the waiting area will be marked to direct passengers to leave a one-metre sit between every other passenger, allowing them to respect health measures of physical distancing. Arrival passengers will respect the same health safety measures.

OUTSTANDING

Ecobank named Africa's Best Bank for Corporate Responsibility

By Guardian Reporter

Ecobank has won the coveted prize of Africa's Best Bank for Corporate Responsibility in the Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2020.

In a statement last week, the Lome (Togo) based bank said Euromoney recognises its focus on sustainability and partnerships and its core capabilities in delivering positive social and environmental outcomes across Africa.

"At Ecobank we leverage human capabilities and other core resources to partner for African transformation. We are passionate about co-designing partnerships to drive change at community levels across our pan-African footprint," said Carl Manlan, Chief Operating Officer of the Ecobank Foundation. Manlan added, "The Euromoney Award for Excellence recognises our collaboration with African communities and like-minded partners."

Ecobank Group's CEO, Ade Ayeyemi seconded Manlan's arguments saying Ecobank Foundation is doing amazing work in delivering on its commitment to improve the



The Euromoney award won by Ecobank Group.

quality of life of people across the African continent. "The Foundation should be rightly proud of its ceaseless impact and the real difference that it is making in numerous parts of the continent. Through the Foundation, our Group leverages its resources and capabilities to contribute to the economic and social development of Africa," Ayeyemi noted.

Ecobank's CSR primarily concentrates on the three key areas of health, education and financial inclusion. Recent partnership examples: Ecobank's three-year campaign to raise awareness of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and educate communities by providing key information about the dietary and lifestyle changes required to help prevent NCDs such as cancer and diabetes.

Ecobank's Group Chairman Sustainability Award which emphasises on its role in each country in designing innovative, replicable and scalable solutions driving sustainable environmental and social change.

African economies' health recovery is vital and Ecobank contributed about US\$3 million in the form of cash, healthcare equipment and medical supplies. Moreover, Ecobank deployed its financial capabilities for the African Union's Centre for Disease Control and Prevention to enable every citizen and member of the Diaspora to contribute to the pan-African Covid-19 response.

Earlier this month, Ecobank rolled out its 'Zero Malaria Business Leadership initiative,' which was launched in partnership with Speak Up Africa and aims to eliminate malaria across Africa through private sector led initiatives which increase financing and take stronger and better targeted actions to support national malaria control programmes.

GOOD-NEWS

Zimbabwean exchange may resume trading early next week

HARARE

Zimbabwe's government may allow trade on the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange to resume as early as next week, according to three people familiar with the situation.

The plans for the reopening have yet to be finalised, the people said, asking not to be identified

because they aren't authorised to discuss the matter. The re-opened bourse will exclude Old Mutual and possibly PPC and Seed, two of the people said. The three companies, which have dual listings on other exchanges outside Zimbabwe, may instead be automatically listed on the Victoria Falls Stock Exchange that is set to open

this year, they said.

The new bourse, known as VFEX, would offer tax exemptions including those on capital gains, share sales and corporate income tax, Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube told lawmakers in the mid-term budget statement Thursday. It will also "seek to partner any exchanges or international investment banks."

The government shut the ZSE on June 28 as part of an effort to stabilise the local currency. The nation's ruling party has since demanded the listing of Old Mutual, the biggest company by market value, be terminated because the insurer's share price is used to determine a future rate for the Zimbabwean dollar.

Ncube restricted trad-

ing in Old Mutual, PPC and Seed's shares in March to curb arbitrage opportunities that the dual listings and their differing exchange rates can offer. The reopening of the Harare-based exchange will depend on progress the government makes on an investigation that began last month, one of the people said.

Government spokesman

Nick Mangwana referred a request for comment to Ncube, who didn't answer his phone when called on Friday and didn't immediately respond to a text message. Old Mutual declined to comment, while PPC Zimbabwe Managing Director Kelibone Masiyane and Seed chief executive officer Morgan Nzwere didn't answer calls seeking comment.

OPTIMISM

The battery billionaire who's key to Tesla's future in China



Zeng Yuqun, 52, built Contemporary Amperex Technology.

BEIJING

Tesla needs to succeed in China if it wants to dominate the world of electric cars – especially in a post-virus world. To do that, Elon Musk is turning to a battery engineer who once helped Apple extend the life of its MacBook laptops. Zeng Yuqun, 52, built Contemporary Amperex Technology into China's battery champion in less than a decade, creating the largest global producer of rechargeable cells for the plug-in vehicles considered to be the future of cars. That effort has helped propel Zeng from a modest hillside village and \$30-a-month job with a state-run company to an estimated \$17 billion fortune. CATL's products are in the vehicles of almost every major global auto brand, and starting this month they'll also power electric cars manufactured by Tesla at its new factory on the outskirts of Shanghai. It's an alliance with lucrative potential, combining the sector's most-popular plug-in model – the Tesla Model 3 – with low-cost batteries in a market that last year bought more than three electric vehicles for every one

sold in the US, but faces an uncertain future as the pandemic rocks the global economy. There's already a developing partnership between the two executives, according to Zeng. The pair trade text messages to discuss prospective innovations in technology, their responses to the challenges wrought by the coronavirus and the Tesla chief's primary obsession: cheaper batteries and vehicles. "Elon talks about cost all day long, and I told him to be assured that I would have solutions," Zeng said in an interview at CATL's headquarters in Ningde, where his 20th-floor office overlooks a fishing hub on China's southeastern coast now transformed by clusters of battery plants and laboratories. "We get along well. He's a fun guy." CATL's batteries can offer the Palo Alto, California-based company key advantages in China, particularly the potential to boost margins and lower sticker prices in a market on track to have 59 million EVs on the road by 2030, even after the impact of the virus. Most importantly, Zeng is expected to supply Tesla with lithium-iron-phosphate (LFP) batteries that use a cheaper mix of raw

materials and cost about 20% less than most other common types of packs, according to BloombergNEF. Tesla and CATL – the latter confirmed in a February filing it would become a supplier to the carmaker – declined to disclose precise details, including the types of packs involved. CATL shares have more than doubled this year, rising 9.9% on Monday to close at a record high in Shanghai trading. Working with a domestic supplier like CATL could further burnish Tesla's relations with China's authorities, which have been key to its local success. What's more, Zeng serves on the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, the advisory body to top leadership. There, he's put forward proposals to further focus on renewable energy. For CATL, the alliance comes at a crucial time. Battery sales fell almost a third in the first five months of 2020, according to SNE Research, as car purchases plunged in China amid the pandemic, trade war and a scaling back of government subsidies. Electric-car sales have declined about 38% from a year ago,

the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers said July 10, and that risks exposing the country's multi-billion-dollar EV push as a bubble. The battery producer's domestic market share also ebbed as Tesla rolled out its first China-made Model 3s with batteries from LG Chem and Panasonic Starting next year, CATL should supply components for about half the Shanghai plant's output, according to Sanford C Bernstein. Aligning with Tesla will boost domestic sales, though CATL also needs to secure additional clients to improve its prospects outside China, where LG Chem and Samsung SDI Co., among others, are positioning themselves at a rapid pace. "CATL's success is largely because of the strong demand in China," BNEF analyst Daixin Li said. "In the future, as EV markets outside China are growing quickly, maintaining and even increasing market share in the global market will rely on how successfully it can secure demand outside China." The battery supplier has an eye on extending links with Tesla over-

seas, including to the automaker's first European factory under construction outside Berlin. CATL, which also supplies Volkswagen AG and BMW AG, is building its own facility in central Germany and encouraging China-based suppliers to set up outposts there. "We won't exclude the possibility to supply its Berlin Gigafactory," Zeng said in the interview. Tesla didn't respond to requests for comment. Zeng has delivered in the past for blue-chip partners. His team helped BMW's China joint venture develop its early battery-powered models, and CATL now has an 11-year supply contract with the German parent. At CATL's fore-runner company, Zeng helped Apple deliver long-life batteries for the MacBook Air. The supplier now sees an advantage in accelerating research on lower battery costs to help electric-powered cars achieve price parity with, and subsequently supplant, gas guzzlers. "You have to be more innovative, more cost-efficient, with better performance," Zeng said. "That's the only way to beat them."

PROTECTIONISM

Trump's campaign is running anti TikTok ads on Facebook, accusing it of spying on users

WASHINGTON

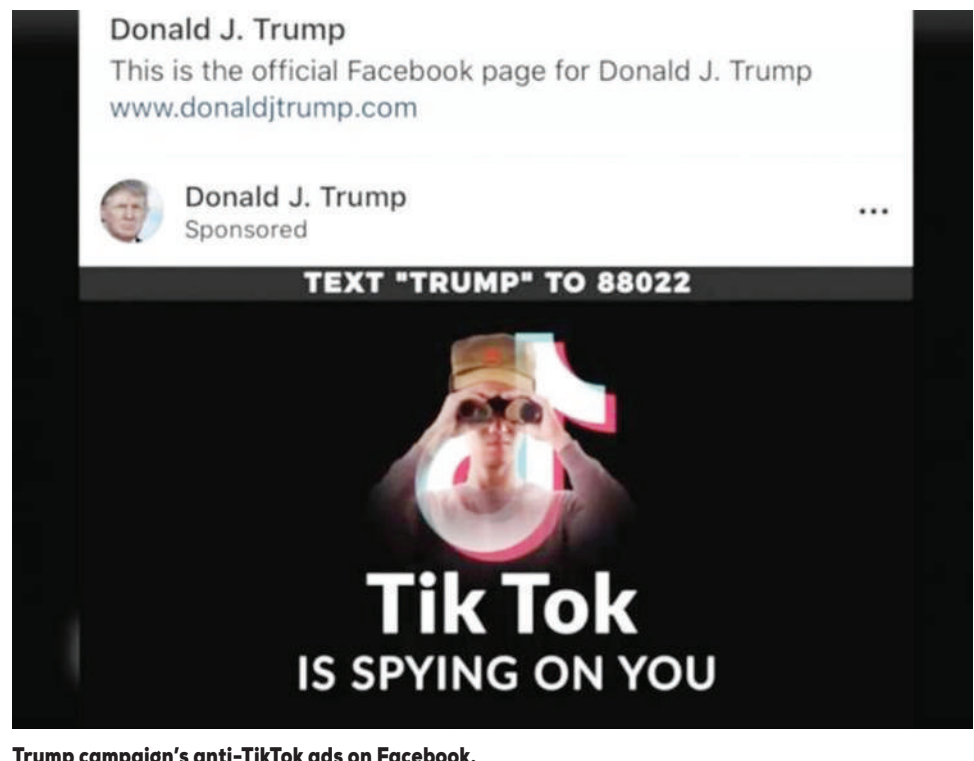
As US President Donald Trump considers banning TikTok, his political campaign has started running ads on Facebook and Instagram accusing the China-based platform of "spying" on its users. More than 100 iterations of ads were launched Friday encouraging Facebook users to sign a petition banning TikTok in the US. The ads, first spotted by New York Times reporter Taylor Lorenz, come as the US government threatens to instate a country-wide ban on the viral video-sharing app over its ties to China. TikTok's roots in China – where the app's parent company, ByteDance, is located – have long raised questions from US lawmakers and security experts about how much access and influence the Chinese government is afforded over user data and content moderation. Concerns over the TikTok-China connection have skyrocketed in recent weeks after India decided to instate its own ban on the app earlier this month. The campaign's political ads also claim that "TikTok has been caught red-handed by monitoring what is on your phone's clipboard." The accusation is based on research from March showing how apps are able to access content stored on the clipboard – the copy-and-paste feature – of users' iPhones and iPads. TikTok was only one of the dozens of the apps caught spying on iPhone clipboards, including LinkedIn and Fox News. ByteDance has since said it will stop accessing clipboard content. In recent weeks, the Trump campaign has also taken out ads against Twitter and Snapchat, claiming they're "attempting to silence" the president. In early July, both the US President and his Secretary of State Mike Pompeo publicly said they were considering

a TikTok ban in the US: Trump said the ban would be a way to punish China over its role in the coronavirus pandemic, while Pompeo cited national security concerns. On Thursday, White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow told reporters he expected TikTok to "pull out of the holding company which is China-run and operate as an independent American company." Since TikTok launched in the US in 2018, the app has successfully been able to brush off lawmakers' calls for investigations and national security experts' warnings. Most recently, TikTok launched a content advisory council to guide policy changes and appointed a US-based CEO in June to show it was distancing itself from its Chinese roots. But TikTok has also run afoul of the Trump campaign for reasons beyond its ties to China. Swarms of TikTok teens and K-pop fans were credited last month with signing up en masse for tickets to a major Trump rally in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Instead of the big comeback that the Trump campaign advertised, attendance at the rally was considerably lacking. TikTok's reported influence on the Tulsa rally demonstrates how the app has grown into a social media powerhouse, establishing itself as a staple of internet culture and social interaction for Generation Z. The app has more than 2 billion global downloads, and an estimated US userbase at as high as 80 million. It outperforms US-based apps with younger audiences such as Snapchat and Instagram in both new downloads and time spent. The imminent threat of TikTok disappearing from the US has already signalled panic among users and creators, and has led attempts by tech companies to capitalise on the chaos to lure the app's loyal following to their competing platforms.



ISIDINGO MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

ITV	23:30	FRIDAY 24 July	22:05
MONDAY 20 July 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 ITV Top 10 rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera News 12:30 Mtego rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Mjuzi Zaidi 13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:10 Aibu yako rpt 18:15 Mipishi 18:45 Kesho leo 19:00 Aya ya Jamii 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Dakika 45 21:45 Kipindi Maalum: Utalii 22:15 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTW	WEDNESDAY 22 July 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 09:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Uchumi na biashara 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 The Base rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Dakika 45 13:45 Kipindi Maalum rpt: 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Korean drama rpt: The great queen Seonduk 19:00 Ijuzi Sheria 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco 21:30 Kipindi Maalum: Ripoti Maalum 22:15 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTW	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 09:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Usafiri wako rpt 11:00 The Base 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco 13:00 Jagina rpt 13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt 14:15 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mizengwe rpt 18:30 Shamba lulu 19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA na jamii 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipima Joto 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 DWTW	Bongo Movie: The heart attack Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost CAPITAL Mon 20 July 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Grapes of justice 16:30 Tanzania Yetu rpt 17:00 EcoAfrica rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 The Décor rpt 19:30 Shamba lulu 20:00 Series: Grapes of justice 20:45 The Monday Agenda 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Kipima Joto 00:00 Al Jazeera Tues 21 July 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Grapes of justice 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Jagina rpt 20:00 Series: Grapes of justice 20:45 Telenovela: (Destino) Destiny 21:30 Capital Prime 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt 22:30 EcoAfrica 23:00 Al Jazeera Wed 22 July 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Grapes of justice 16:30 Culinary delight rpt 17:00 Innovation rpt 17:30 Meza Huru 19:00 Sports Gazette 19:30 Chetu ni chetu 20:00 Series: Grapes of justice 20:45 Telenovela: (Destino) Destiny 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:45 The Décor 23:15 Al Jazeera Thurs 23 July 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Grapes of justice 16:30 Business edition rpt 17:00 In good shape 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Turning the spotlight



Trump campaign's anti-TikTok ads on Facebook.

WORLD

John Lewis, civil rights leader turned congressman, dies at 80

By Bloomberg

JOHN Lewis, a civil rights leader who was one of the original Freedom Riders, helped organize the 1963 March on Washington and the voting-rights march in Selma, Alabama, and became a leading liberal voice for decades in the US House of Representatives, has died. He was 80.

Lewis was an "outspoken advocate" for equal justice in the US and dedicated his life to non-violent activism, his family said in a statement announcing his death on Friday, which didn't mention the cause. He said last December that he would begin treatment for advanced pancreatic cancer.

"I have been in some kind of fight – for freedom, equality, basic human rights – for nearly my entire life," Lewis said then. "I have never faced a fight quite like the one I have now."

Lewis, who bore scars from being beaten during some of the seminal civil rights protests, was one of the six main organizers – including the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. – of the Washington march where King gave his "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial. Lewis was the youngest speaker at the event.

He brought that same sense of moral responsibility to his work in Congress, including his decision to support the impeachment of President Donald Trump in late 2019.

"When you see something that is not right, not just, not fair, you have a moral obligation to say something. To do something," Lewis said. "Our children and their children will ask us, 'What did you do? What did you say?' For some, this vote may be hard. But we have a

mission and a mandate to be on the right side of history," he said.

A son of sharecroppers in Alabama, Lewis received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, from President Barack Obama in 2011. Two years earlier, he was awarded the Spingarn Medal by the NAACP, among many accolades for his civil rights and congressional work.

"In the Congress, John Lewis was revered and beloved on both sides of the aisle and both sides of the Capitol. All of us were humbled to call Congressman Lewis a colleague, and are heartbroken by his passing. May his memory be an inspiration that moves us all to, in the face of injustice, make 'good trouble, necessary trouble,'" House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said in a statement.

Freedom rider

Lewis's books describe the arrests, sit-ins, and marches that led to breaking down the barriers of racial discrimination during the 1950s and 1960s. In the 1961 Freedom Rides, Black and White civil rights activists rode buses together through the South in an effort to end segregation in public transportation facilities after the US Supreme Court had outlawed it. In Montgomery, Alabama, Lewis was hit in the head with a wooden crate.

"It was very violent," he said in a 2001 interview with CNN on the 40th anniversary of the rides. "I thought I was going to die. I was left lying at the Greyhound bus station in Montgomery, unconscious."

Lewis was chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee from 1963 to 1966. His prominent role in the voting-rights march from Selma



to Montgomery was portrayed in the 2014 movie "Selma." On March 7, 1965, a day that would become known as "Bloody Sunday," Lewis and fellow activist Hosea Williams led more than 600 marchers across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma. Mounted police charged the demonstrators, beating them with night sticks. Lewis suffered a fractured skull.

In 2015, Lewis, Obama and scores of members of Congress joined a re-enactment of the march to mark its 50th anniversary. In a statement after Lewis's death, Obama said they both had recently been in a virtual forum with young activists who were leading demonstrations after the death of George Floyd while in custody of Minneapolis police.

"He could not have been prouder of their efforts – of a new generation standing up for freedom and equality, a new generation intent on voting and protecting the right to vote, a new generation running for political office," Obama said. "They had learned from his example, even if they didn't know it. They had understood through him what American citizenship requires, even if they had heard of his courage only through history books."

Advocates non-violence

Even after more than 40 arrests, physical attacks and injuries, Lewis continued to advocate the philosophy of non-violence, according to his Congressional biography.

In 2016, he led dozens of Democrats in an unprecedented sit-in inside the House chamber to protest a lack of action by his colleagues on gun control after the killings of 49 people in a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida.

"We have been too quiet for too long," Lewis said during the protest. "There comes a time when you have to say something, when you have to make a little noise, when you have to move your feet. This is the time."

Lewis co-wrote with Michael D'Orso a 1998 auto-

biography, "Walking With the Wind: A Memoir of the Movement," which was a national bestseller. In 2012, Lewis released a memoir "Across That Bridge," written with Brenda Jones. The following year, he wrote a comic-book trilogy with two co-authors titled "March," which tells the story of his lifelong struggle for civil rights.

Organized sit-ins

John Robert Lewis was born Feb 21, 1940, near Troy, Alabama, to Willie Mae Carter and Eddie Lewis. He graduated from the American Baptist Theological Seminary and Fisk University, both in Nashville, where he organized sit-ins at segregated lunch counters.

He helped create SNCC in 1963. After leaving that group three years later, he worked with community organizations and was named community affairs director for the National Consumer Co-op Bank in Atlanta.

He served as associate director of Action, the federal volunteer agency that oversaw the Peace Corps, during President Jimmy Carter's administration. In 1981, Lewis was elected to the Atlanta City Council, and in 1986 he won his seat in the US House, where he served for more than three decades.

Black history

In Congress, Lewis spent 15 years promoting legislation to create a national museum to commemorate Black history. The bill was signed into law in 2003, and the National Museum of African American History and Culture opened in 2016.

He served in a Democratic leadership position responsible for keeping party members in line on key votes. Lewis has touted Social Security as "one of the most successful and effective government programs ever implemented," and he opposed the US war in Iraq.

Lewis boycotted the inaugurations of George W. Bush and Trump, saying he didn't consider their elections in 2000 and 2016 to be the result of a free democratic process. Both presidents lost the popular vote. Trump responded on Twitter that Lewis was "all talk" and "no action or results."

Trump did not immediately comment publicly on Lewis's death but issued a proclamation that flags at the White House and on federal and military buildings should be flown at half-staff for one day. The Georgia representative waited until September 2019 to join calls for Trump's impeachment, and his eventual support contributed to momentum within the Democratic Party to take such a politically fraught step. He described the moment as a time when members of Congress should be "moved by the spirit of history to take action to protect and preserve the integrity of our nation."

Agencies

World Bank chief urges G20 to extend debt suspension through 2021

WASHINGTON

WORLD BANK Group President David Malpass on Saturday urged the Group of 20 (G20) countries to extend the time frame of the Debt Service Suspension Initiative through the end of 2021, calling it one of the key factors in strengthening global recovery.

"I urge you to extend the time frame of the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) through end 2021 and commit to give the initiative as broad a scope as possible," Malpass made the remarks at the virtual G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting, according to a statement.

"We've made a great deal of

progress with DSSI in a short period of time, but more needs to be done," said the World Bank chief.

Malpass (pictured) said that the pandemic has triggered the "deepest global recession in decades," and what may turn out to be "one of the most unequal" in terms of impact.

"For the poorest countries, poverty is rising rapidly, median incomes are falling, and growth is deeply negative," he said. "Debt burdens – already unsustainable for many countries – are rising to crisis levels."

Even with these immediate steps – a longer suspension of debt payments, a DSSI scope that includes more debt and more of-



official bilateral creditors, participation by commercial creditors and the World Bank's large positive net flows – many of the poorest countries won't be able to make the resulting debt burdens sustainable in the medium term, Malpass

noted.

"The economic repercussions from the pandemic are expected to inflict lasting scars on growth through lower investment, erosion of human capital, and the retreat from global trade and supply linkages," he warned.

The World Bank president urged the G20 to "open the door to consultations" about the debt overhang itself and effective ways to reduce the net present value of both official bilateral and commercial debt for the poorest countries.

He noted that the debt resolution process should be improved. "Looking longer term, creditors' rights frequently take

precedence over the people in the debtor countries, adding to the difficulty of debt resolutions," he said.

"The international community needs to recognize this imbalance if we are going to achieve effective debt resolutions or adjust the process in a way that encourages good outcomes."

Malpass also highlighted the importance of debt transparency, noting that creditors need to fully assess the debt sustainability of their potential borrowers, citizens need to be able to evaluate their leaders for the debt they take on, and borrowers need to design strategies based on a clear understanding of their debt. *Xinhua*

S. Africans mark Mandela Day with focus on fighting COVID-19

CAPE TOWN

SOUTH Africans on Saturday marked the Nelson Mandela International Day with a focus on fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

The best way to mark the event was to help prevent the spread of coronavirus, the government said, appealing to the public to continue observe social distancing. Unlike

previous years, no massive celebrations were held this year due to the pandemic. The day came amid an exponential increase in infections in some provinces. As of Friday, South Africa's cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases jumped to 337,594, up by 13,373 from Thursday. Meanwhile, the country reported a further 135 COVID-19 deaths, bring-

ing the death toll to 4,804.

The government reiterated its call to all South Africans to stay safe and minimize the spread of the virus by making preventative measures part of their cultural and religious practices. These include maintaining a physical distance of 1.5 meters, regularly washing hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based sanitizer,

and wearing a mask when in public. South Africans had experienced 114 days of different levels of a phased lockdown, whose aim was to flatten the infection curve. "Stay safe, Protect South Africa, Together we can beat Coronavirus," the government said.

The pandemic has brought to the fore the ideals of Mandela, who

embodied the spirit of care, selflessness, sacrifice and resilience as a nation, government spokesperson Phumla Williams said. The resilience of South Africans has enabled the nation to overcome a number of challenges and it continues to draw strength in its ability to rally for action to defeat COVID-19, said Williams. *Xinhua*

Moscow will find the way to punish those imposing sanctions against Russians - envoy

LONDON



RUSSIA will find the way to punish those who impose personal sanctions against Russian citizens as part of the Magnitsky case, Russia's Ambassador to the United Kingdom Andrei Kelin said in an interview with the BBC yesterday.

"Believe me as for Magnitsky we will find the way to punish those who are making this type of sanctions. Because sanctions are illegal. There is only one body who can impose sanctions and this is the United Nations," Kelin told the Andrew Marr Show, recalling that the UK is a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

In comment on the anchor's question whether this means that Moscow would target individuals who are involved in the Magnitsky process on the UK and US side, the ambassador noted: "I haven't said that, this is you who have said that. But probably it's a good idea."

On July 6, UK Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Dominic Raab announced the so-called "Magnitsky Amendment" to the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Bill. It was adopted by the House of Commons in May 2018, and was supposed to come into effect immediately after the UK's withdrawal from the European Union.

The amendment is named after Hermitage Capital lawyer Sergey Magnitsky, who died in 2009 in the Matrosskaya Tishina detention facility in Moscow. London believes that people in the sanctions list were involved in his torture and death.

Among them are Chief of Russia's Investigative Committee Alexander Bastrykin, Deputy Prosecutor General Viktor Grin, former Deputy Interior Minister Alexei Anichin, judges, investigators, and the Interior Ministry officials.

These persons are barred from entering the United Kingdom, as well as from doing business both in that country and with British go-betweens.

Apart from that, their assets in the United Kingdom, if any, will be frozen. The list is not limited only by Russia and comprises a total of 49 individuals and entities, including from Saudi Arabia, Myanmar and North Korea.

The Russian Foreign Ministry rejected this as a politically motivated decision, stressing that Moscow reserved the right to impose adequate retaliatory measures.

Agencies

Bolsonaro tells supporters anti-virus measures kill

By Bloomberg



BRAZIL President Jair Bolsonaro berated social isolation measures designed to slow the spread of the coronavirus, saying they are destroying jobs and compounding pain for Latin America's largest economy.

Bolsonaro (pictured), who is himself recovering from the virus, told supporters outside the presidential palace on Saturday evening that people who are left jobless will end up dying of hunger.

He said state governors and city mayors are responsible for restrictions that have been placed on commerce and movement. "You have to think about the economy," he said in the video that was posted on his Facebook page.

"It's no use talking about life, life and life because isolation kills."

Bolsonaro is doubling down on his criticism of social isolation measures after Brazil added about 1 million virus cases in less than a month.

The pandemic is now spreading into small towns and throughout regions that had been relatively spared, such as the South and Center-West. Still, the World Health Organization said the country's virus figures are at a plateau, which could create a chance to control the disease.

Meanwhile, central bank President Roberto Campos Neto said during a Thursday webcast that there are doubts on Brazil's economic recovery, and that unemployment will get worse before it gets better.

Policymakers expect the economy to contract 6.4 percent this year in an outlook that doesn't contemplate a possible second wave of the virus.

In his Saturday comments, Bolsonaro downplayed the pandemic, saying that other ills such as hunger, misery and depression kill more than the virus.

He reiterated that the government is extending financial support to informal workers who've lost income during the crisis.

Agencies

Donkey business helps Xinjiang village get rid of poverty, improve livelihood

PISHAN, 1,600 kilometers away from Urumqi, capital of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, is a county with harsh environment in the autonomous region's Hotan prefecture.

The per capita area of cultivated land in the county is only around 500 square meters, and the county is bothered by an average annual precipitation of less than 40 mm and dust storms that occur over 200 days each year. Besides, the county, troubled by scarce resources, is also underdeveloped industry-wise.

Donkeys have been an important livestock for the county during the past decades, just like they were for other regions in southern Xinjiang, as they not only carry people and cargos on their backs, but also play an impor-

tant role in farming activities.

However, the role of donkeys has been undergoing changes in the recent years - they are now contributing to poverty alleviation and improving livelihood in Pishan.

A 27-year-old man named Mamat Wulam is a witness to these changes. When he was a child, his grandfather had a donkey that shouldered heavy duties. It carried his family and cargos, and also helped his family apply fertilizers in the farmland. Mamat and his grandfather had to take good care of the donkey to ensure it could stay healthy in busy farming seasons.

However, donkeys in Mamat's village became fewer around 2008, as they were no longer an important tool for transportation when people's livelihood was improved under the incen-

tive of government's policies. Young men in the village started riding motorcycles, while businessmen were driving pickups. Sedans were also common in the village, too. Besides, new technologies and machineries had tremendously improved farming efficiency, reducing the demand for manual labor and donkeys in the farmland.

Nevertheless, the donkeys had a "comeback" a couple of years later when the local government distributed a donkey to each impoverished household for poverty alleviation. Because most of the villagers only knew free-range raising, the village committee sent them to town for training, and Mamat also took part in it.

In less than a week, he learnt how to feed and milk the donkey in a science-

based manner, as well as the usage of donkey milk. "Donkey raising is huge, and it's not just about tending the animal to a random tree," Mamat said.

Learning the way of donkey raising, Mamat came to realize that he could make a fortune out of it. Five months later, he volunteered to lead a donkey raising cooperative established by the village committee to encourage the business.

The cooperative was officially established in October, 2017, and it was named the "Prosperity Cooperative" by Mamat. The place for the cooperative was offered by the village committee, and a 450-square meter shed was built with a poverty alleviation fund offered by the county. The cooperative was joined by 22 impoverished households that contributed 22 donkeys.

With sharp business acumen, Mamat found the market had a large demand for donkey milk, and a donkey milk processing company just introduced to the county offered him an outlet. Therefore, he placed his major focus on milk production.

"Milk is a major source of revenue for the cooperative," Mamat told People's Daily, adding that a part of the revenue would be distributed to cooperative members and used to purchase fodders, and the rest is his income.

The donkey milk business had successfully lifted Mamat and his family out of poverty at the end of 2019.

Mamat is very optimistic about the future development of the cooperative. He never worries about the sales of the donkey milk, and plus there

is a new donkey trade market in the county where donkeys are sold at a fair price.

"I don't worry about techniques either," he said, as experts visit his village regularly to offer technical guidance. He told People's Daily that his earnings will be used to buy new donkeys, and he must keep the techniques updated as he expands his business.

At present, Mamat's parents, who once opposed him to raise donkeys, have become the largest supporters of him.

His mother now milks the donkey every morning and reminds Mamat and his father to prepare fodders. "I will go to our neighboring village to teach the villagers raise donkeys a couple of days later," he said proudly.

People's Daily

UK cannot question HK security law

Huo Zhengxin

THE Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region was passed unanimously at the 20th session of the Standing Committee of the 13th National People's Congress, China's top legislature, on June 30. This prompted some Western countries to allege the promulgation of the national security law in the SAR "lies in direct conflict with its international obligations under the principles of the legally-binding, UN-registered Sino-British Joint Declaration".

But the allegation doesn't hold water on five counts.

The issue should be analyzed in terms of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (VCLT), which was concluded in 1969 and came into force in 1980, and the United Kingdom and China both are state parties to it. The VCLT is reflective of customary international law, which governs the treaty relations between and among non-state parties. This is important because China did not accede to the VCLT until Sept 3, 1997. In other words, China was not a state party to the VCLT when the Sino-British Joint Declaration was concluded in 1984.

Joint Declaration should be interpreted in good faith

According to Article 2 of the VCLT, "treaty means an international agreement concluded between States in written form and governed by international law, whether embodied in a single instrument or in two or more related instruments and whatever its particular designation". As such, the Sino-British Joint Declaration meets the definition of "treaty", its formal title notwithstanding.

First, the Sino-British Joint Declaration was concluded between China and the UK, both sovereign states, and the text of the instrument itself indicates it is an agreement between China and the UK. The Joint Declaration consists of eight paragraphs and three annexes, with each part having the same status. In particular, Paragraph 8 avers that "this Joint Declaration and its Annexes shall be equally binding". Also, the Joint Declaration is "governed by international law", as it stipulates the sovereign and administrative arrangement of Hong Kong during the transitional period. Hence, it is safe to conclude that the Sino-British Joint Declaration is a bilateral treaty between China and the UK.

The Chinese government has acknowledged the legal status of the Joint Declaration as a legally binding treaty. And the instrument, including the Sino-British Joint Declaration per se and three annexes, was registered as a treaty at the United Nations by the Chinese and British governments on June 12, 1985.

Since the Joint Declaration is a bilateral treaty, the rights and duties of the parties to it should be examined according to the provisions of the VCLT, especially those relating to treaty interpretation. Article 31 of the VCLT says a treaty must be interpreted in good faith and in the light of its object and purpose, and Article 26 enshrines the principle of pacta sunt servanda (agreements are binding and should be implemented in good faith).

The purpose of the Joint Declaration is reflected in its preamble: to reach a "proper negotiated settlement of the question of Hong Kong, which is left over from the past". The UK acquired Hong Kong Island in 1842 and the Kowloon Peninsula in 1860, and leased the New Territories in 1898 for 99 years by unequal treaties with the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) when China was weak. Therefore, the overarching purpose of the Joint Declaration is to ensure a smooth transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and the New Territories from the UK to China in 1997, and correct the historical injustice; and this is vital to understanding the rights and duties of the parties to the treaty.

Key provisions of treaty need in-depth study

Paragraph 1 of the Joint Declaration is a unilateral statement of the Chinese government, which says China would resume the exercise of its sovereignty over the Hong Kong area (including Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and the New Territories, hereinafter referred to as Hong Kong) from July 1, 1997, which incorporates the principal right of the Chinese government under the instrument. And Paragraph 2 is a unilateral statement of the British Government, which says the UK would hand over Hong Kong to China on July 1, 1997, which, correspondingly, reflects the principal duty of the British government hereunder. The two paragraphs are complementary, and together constitute the key provisions of the instrument.

Paragraph 3 is a unilateral statement of the Chinese government, which sets forth the basic policies of China regarding Hong Kong in 12 subparagraphs. The policies set out in this paragraph are elaborated in Annex I. Paragraphs 4 to 6 and Annexes II and III stipulate arrangements during the transitional period. And Paragraphs 7 and 8 are about the Joint Declaration's implementation and entry into force.

However, Paragraph 3 is unique in terms of its content and nature. It is different from Paragraphs 1 and 2 because it is "self-governing" and its performance is not dependent on any other paragraph. To be more specific, though Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 are unilateral statements of one party, Paragraphs 1 and 2 are dependent on each other, as they each cannot be fulfilled without the simultaneous performance of the other. But Paragraph 3 is distinct, as the Chinese government can fulfill it unilaterally and independently without the British government playing any role at all.

Also, Paragraph 3 is different from Paragraphs 4 to 8, since the latter reflect the common agreements of both parties, rather than being unilateral statements by one party alone. So the following conclusions can be drawn:



The Office for Safeguarding National Security of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is inaugurated in Hong Kong, south China, July 8, 2020. Far right is Mr Zheng Yanxiong, the newly appointed director of the Office. (Xinhua)

• After the smooth transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories from the UK to China on July 1, 1997, Paragraphs 1 and 2 had been fulfilled;

• After the NPC promulgated the Basic Law of the SAR, which incorporates the basic policies of China regarding Hong Kong, China had fulfilled its duties under Paragraph 3 and Annex I;

• By maintaining the economic prosperity and social stability of Hong Kong during the transitional period, both parties fulfilled their duties under Paragraph 4;

• After the Sino-British Joint Liaison Group, set up to ensure smooth transition post-handover, was disbanded in 2000, both parties had completed their duties in line with Paragraph 5 and Annex II;

• After the Land Commission, established immediately after the Joint Declaration came into force, was dissolved on June 30, 1997, the conditions of Paragraph 6 and Annex III had been fulfilled;

• And after the Sino-British Joint Declaration was signed by the Chinese premier and British prime minister on behalf of their respective governments, came into force with the exchange of instruments of ratification on May 27, 1985, and registered by the Chinese and British governments at the UN on June 12, 1985, the two sides had fulfilled their duties pertaining to Paragraphs 7 and 8.

UK, other states not entitled to supervise HK affairs

Since the Joint Declaration is a bilateral treaty between China and the UK, after all its requirements were fulfilled, the UK has no sovereignty, jurisdiction or "right of supervision" over Hong Kong. This is not to deny the UK's entitlement to require China to respect the Joint Declaration. As the parties to the instrument, both China and Britain have the right to ask each other to honor it. But Britain's right to ask China to respect the Joint Declaration is not absolute; instead, it is subject to the limitation of international law.

To begin with, when requiring China to respect the Joint Declaration, the UK should also abide by pacta sunt servanda. In other words, the UK should exercise such right based on good faith, not on arbitrary interpretation of the Joint Declaration. So the UK's allegation that China's decision to promulgate the national security law in the SAR conflicts with China's international obligations under the Joint Declaration is baseless.

In fact, given that the "one country, two systems" principle is enshrined in the Basic Law of the SAR and the Chinese Central Government has reiterated that it respects the principle, and that it will not be changed or undermined by the national security legislation, anybody with just basic knowledge of international law would conclude that the allegations are not based on facts.

One state cannot interfere in another state's internal affairs

The UK should not violate the principle of non-interference in another country's internal affairs when it requires China to respect the Joint Declaration. The principle of non-interference in another country's internal affairs is part of international law, and enshrined in the UN Charter (Article 2.4). The International Court of Justice was unambiguous when it ruled on the Nicaragua case that "The principle of non-intervention involves the right of every sovereign State to conduct its affairs without outside interference; though examples of trespass against this principle are not infre-

quent, the Court considers that it is part and parcel of customary international law... (and) international law requires political integrity... to be respected". (ICJ Reports 1986, p.106, para. 202)

It went on to say that "the principle forbids all States or groups of States to intervene directly or indirectly in the internal or external affairs of other States" and that "a prohibited intervention must accordingly be one bearing on matters in which each State is permitted, by the principle of State sovereignty, to decide freely. One of these is the choice of a political, economic, social and cultural system, and the formulation of foreign policy."

Therefore, under no circumstances should the UK impose its unilateral interpretation of the Sino-British Joint Declaration on China, and vice versa. On issues that fall within the domestic affairs of China, the UK has no right to interfere, directly or indirectly. And since national security in essence is part of a sovereign country's domestic affairs, the UK has no right to meddle in China's decision to promulgate the national security law in Hong Kong.

Apart from the UK, some other Western countries, the United States in particular, have also been interfering in Hong Kong affairs. In 1992, the US passed the Hong Kong Policy Act, which was amended by the so-called Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019. Under the framework of these acts, the US State Department is required to submit an annual report on recent developments in Hong Kong to the Congress, allegedly to "support the high degree of autonomy and fundamental rights and freedoms of the people of Hong Kong, as enumerated by the Joint Declaration".

The situation in Hong Kong has also been an important part of the annual reports of the US Congressional Executive Commission on China and the US-China Economic and Security Review Commission. The maxim pacta tertiis nec nocent nec prosunt (a treaty binds the parties and only the parties, it does not create obligations for a third state) is the fundamental principle of a treaty. Yet the US has been monitoring the implementation of the Joint Declaration despite not being a party to the treaty and therefore having no right to supervise the implementation of the Joint Declaration.

As the prohibition of intervention "is a corollary of every state's right to sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence", according to L.F.L. Oppenheim who is considered the "father of international law" by many, the US is not allowed by international law to interfere in Hong Kong affairs. Consequently, the US is not entitled to interfere in China's decision to promulgate the national security law in Hong Kong on the grounds of the Joint Declaration or any other international treaties.

China's Constitution is the legal basis for HK Basic Law

Some Western countries argue that the Basic Law of the SAR is a product of the Joint Declaration. However, such argument is baseless, because the Constitution of the People's Republic of China is the legal basis for the Basic Law of the SAR.

First of all, China's Constitution makes it clear that it is the legal basis for the establishment of special administrative regions and the formulation of the Basic Law of the SAR. The current Constitution of China was enacted by the NPC in 1982, two years before the conclusion of the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

The preamble to the 1982 Constitution states "it is the

fundamental law of the state and has supreme legal authority". Especially, Article 31 of the Constitution states: "(T)he state may establish special administrative regions when necessary. The systems to be instituted in special administrative regions shall be prescribed by law enacted by the National People's Congress in the light of specific conditions". As such, China's Constitution is the legal basis for the establishment of special administrative regions and the formulation of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong SAR as well as the Macao SAR.

Second, the Joint Declaration itself proclaims that China's Constitution is the legal basis for the Basic Law of Hong Kong. As mentioned before, Paragraph 3 of the Joint Declaration is a unilateral statement of the Chinese government which sets forth the basic policies of China regarding Hong Kong.

The central government has elaborated those basic policies in Annex I thus: "(T)he Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates in Article 31 that 'the state may establish special administrative regions when necessary. The systems to be instituted in special administrative regions shall be prescribed by laws enacted by the National People's Congress in light of the specific conditions'... The National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China shall enact and promulgate a Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China in accordance with the Constitution of the People's Republic of China ..."

This establishes without any doubt that China's Constitution, not the Sino-British Joint Declaration, is the legal basis of the Basic Law of Hong Kong.

And third, the Basic Law of Hong Kong affirms that China's Constitution is its legal basis, as the last paragraph of its preamble states: "(I)n accordance with the Constitution of the People's Republic of China, the National People's Congress hereby enacts the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, prescribing the systems to be practiced in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, in order to ensure the implementation of the basic policies of the People's Republic of China regarding Hong Kong".

Therefore, the promulgation of the Basic Law of Hong Kong by the NPC reflects China's performance of its duties under the Joint Declaration. But the Joint Declaration, an international treaty, is not, and cannot be, the legal basis or source of the Basic Law of Hong Kong. China's Constitution, as the fundamental law of the State and having supreme legal authority, is the legal basis for the establishment of special administrative regions and the Basic Law of the Hong Kong.

Conclusion

After systematically examining the Sino-British Joint Declaration in terms of international law, one can safely conclude that the Joint Declaration is not relevant to national security legislation in Hong Kong. As long as the law is enacted and promulgated pursuant to China's Constitution and the Basic Law of Hong Kong, its legitimacy cannot be challenged. And foreign countries, including the UK and the US, have no right to question China's decision to promulgate the national security law in Hong Kong on grounds of the Joint Declaration or any other international treaty.

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Netanyahu's corruption trial to hear first witnesses in January

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's corruption trial will begin in earnest in January with witnesses being heard three times a week, a court decided yesterday.

Lawyers for Netanyahu (pictured), the first serving prime minister in Israel to go on trial, had asked for a six-month postponement to prepare their strategy. They suggested it would be difficult to gauge the truthfulness of witnesses wearing anti-coronavirus masks, currently compulsory in Israel.

Netanyahu's legal troubles have partly fuelled mounting street protests against him, with demonstrators citing his alleged corruption and handling of the coronavirus pandemic, which has taken a turn for the worse in Israel.

Israeli police used water cannons to



disperse demonstrators from outside Netanyahu's residence in Jerusalem on Saturday, and in Tel Aviv, protesters blocking traffic clashed with police.

Netanyahu was not required to appear at yesterday's court session.

The veteran leader's trial formally opened in May in the Jerusalem District Court, where Netanyahu denied the charges of bribery, fraud and breach of trust against him and his attorneys were given two months to study the material against him.

At yesterday's hearing, Netanyahu's lawyers asked for more time as they expected to file a series of pre-trial motions over witnesses and documents, and said masks would be problematic if sessions were held now.

"How can we carry out a cross-examination when I am in a mask, the witness is in a mask and I don't

know if Your Honour is angry or happy," Netanyahu attorney Yossi Segev asked Judge Rivkah Friedman Feldman, who heads the three-justice court.

She replied that the defense, prosecution and court would just have to cope should masks still be compulsory in January.

Netanyahu, 70, was indicted in November in cases involving gifts from millionaire friends and for allegedly seeking regulatory favors for media tycoons in return for favorable coverage.

In its ruling, the court said that as of January trial sessions would be held every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Bribery charges carry a sentence of up to 10 years in jail. Fraud and breach of trust are punishable by up to three years in prison.

Agencies

US researchers traced mobile phone signals at defence sites in Russia, says newspaper

NEW YORK

A team of US academic researchers from the Mississippi State University tracked signals of mobile phones in Russia last year under the US Army-funded project, including in the area of the Russian Navy's test range in Nyonoksa, Wall Street Journal reported in its electronic version on Saturday.

The group of US scholars together with graduate research assistants and undergraduate interns monitored movements of holders of mobile phones, who were present in Nyonoksa on the next day after the incident at the Russian Navy's test range last August. According to the newspaper, GPS data indicated that phones later moved to Moscow, St. Petersburg and closed defense facilities in Severodvinsk and Archangelsk.

The newspaper reports the US researchers implemented an experimental project aimed at demonstrating opportunities of using cellular communication data from the open sources for defense or intelligence needs. The newspaper refers to documents received from Mississippi State upon the request as to the source of its data.

Edrick Thompson, a spokesman for the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command, which funded the project, said it was selected for military funding because it had "good potential use for being able for our soldiers to share information with each other." Wall Street Journal says. Researchers used the Locate X service developed by Babel Street, the company specializing in software for intelligence purposes, the newspaper reports.

Agencies



In this April 21, 2011, file photo, Thulani DeMarsay, right, aunt of Danroy "DJ" Henry Jr., who was shot and killed by a police officer, speaks as Henry's uncle Jamele Dozier, left, holds a photograph of Henry during a news conference in Boston's Roxbury neighborhood. (AP Photo)

Jay-Z, other celebs ask feds to probe student's 2010 killing

BY ALANNA DURKIN RICHER

RIHANNA, Jay-Z, Charlize Theron and other celebrities are calling on the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate the death of 20-year-old Danroy "DJ" Henry Jr., a Black football player at Pace University killed by a white police officer in New York nearly a decade ago.

In a letter sent this week to Attorney General William Barr, the entertainers say Henry, who was from Easton, Massachusetts, "lost his life for no good reason and with absolutely no good explanation." The case remains an "unhealed wound" for Henry's family and the people of New York, they wrote.

"The DOJ must truthfully determine whether a pattern and/or practice of discrimination played a role in the case of DJ Henry - and if it did - deliver the justice that restores this young man's name and reputation, while giving hope to other young black men who are just like him and desperate for change," they wrote.

Others who signed the letter are Pharrell Williams, Taraji P. Henson, Odell Beckham Jr., Michael K. Williams, Kerry Washington, Mary J. Blige and Gabrielle Union.

An email seeking comment was sent Friday to DOJ spokespeople.

Federal prosecutors in the Southern District of New York announced in 2015 that they would not bring civil rights charges, saying a thorough review of evidence did not show that Pleasantville officer Aaron Hess acted with deliberate and specific intent to break the law. The officer was previously cleared by a grand jury.

Hess shot Henry as Henry drove through a parking lot, away from a disturbance that spilled out of a bar in October 2010 in Mount Pleasant, a New York City suburb.

Hess has said Henry was trying to run him down and that he fired through the windshield to stop the driver.

The Henrys have said Hess jumped front of the car, got onto the hood and shot their

son for no good reason. Another officer, Ronald Beckley, shot at Hess, later saying he did so because he believed Hess was "the aggressor."

Prosecutors said Henry's car struck the officer and injured him before Hess fired his weapon as he made "a split decision under conditions of extreme danger, conditions under which the law generally allows latitude to a police officer's judgment."

The Henrys reached a \$6 million settlement with the town and the officer.

The celebrities said the facts of the case "reek of local conflict of interest, racial bias and even false testimony."

"Justice, it appears, has been denied," they wrote.

Henry's father said new information that has come out since the criminal case was closed warrants a reexamination of his son's death. He pointed to multiple witnesses who contradicted the police department's initial account of what happened, including Beckley.

"We're hoping that anyone who can reopen this will reopen it," Danroy Henry Sr. told The Associated Press on Friday. "All we're asking for is what we asked for from the very beginning -- it's just a fair review of the real evidence, not sort of a fake presentation of a false narrative, which is all that we believe happened so far here."

The elder Henry said officials should reopen the case and shouldn't wait for calls for the family or others to take action.

"That's sort of the old moment," he said. "There's a new moment that's emerged that requires them to be better. That's why people are in the streets."

Jay-Z has also called for justice in the case of Ahmaud Arbery, a Black man who was shot and killed as he ran through a Georgia neighborhood. The social justice arm of Jay-Z's Roc Nation entertainment company in May called on the state's attorney general to appoint a special prosecutor to help achieve a fair trial.

AP

With Cameroon skipping CAF Champions League final hosting, can Tanzania bid as an emergency?

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL ENEZA

AFRICAN football is in thralls of crisis on account of the Covid-19 pandemic, which is piling up pressure on a chronically under-resourced soccer environment in sub-Saharan Africa, and this is beginning to show in organizing major tournaments. Of late there are reports that Cameroon has declined to proceed with its standing understanding with the Confederation of African Football (CAF) that it will be hosting the final stage of the African Club Champions League. There are just three remaining matches for the tournament to be finalized, which essentially means semi-final matches and the final, perhaps along with a third place tie.

It is uncertain if any countries have so far showed interest in picking up the hosting of the three final encounters in Africa's premier club soccer showpiece, in which case it is possible that if a sponsor can be found in Dar es Salaam, the confederation could be sounded out and definitely oblige. Chances that there would be competition for this honor can't be excluded, but definitely not intense competition, for the simple reason that what makes Cameroon disinclined to host the three final encounters would easily apply to any eventual substitute, save if the private sector strongly intervenes, encouraged by state authorities.

The reason such a suggestion isn't way out of place is that we have done so before, where other countries in East and Central Africa failed to host an important tournament and Tanzania came up either at the last minute or in final preparatory stages to take up that role. That was in regional competition and thus by implication we could do the same thing in a more important event that draws interest not just in Africa but among soccer enthusiast and premier league scouts from all over Europe. It would be a moment of showing local fans and coaches at close how soccer ought to be played, by African standards so to speak.



Yanga midfielder Papy Tshishimbi (3rd L) gets the better of Botswana's Township Rollers' midfielder in the first leg of the previous season's CAF Champions League preliminary stage clash which took place at National Stadium in Dr es Salaam.

Reports say that Cameroon had been asked last month to host two semi-finals and the final of the continent's top club competition, postponed in May due to the Covid-19 pandemic, in September. Yet the country's soccer authorities declined the proposal, with Cameroon Football Federation president Seidou Mbombo Njoya telling a news conference that government authorities had vetoed the plans because of concerns over transmission of the novel coronavirus. Those concerns are indeed material for each country in the world, but other factors to be taken into account exist, where our situation isn't identical with theirs.

Despite that local fans aren't the target of CAF in asking a country to host a tournament or stage of it, but the quality of its infrastructure and ability to get things done rapidly, by preparing a preliminary 'ways and means' assessment (which is at times called a feasibility study). Even if it was the wider tournament, Tanzania offers - with the city of Dar es Salaam alone, three stadiums here good matches can be played, two with a modest number of spec-

tators (Karume Stadium in Ilala and Azam Complex ground in Chamazi) while exceptionally substantial attendance would require using the new National Stadium. Indeed there is the older national stadium now known as Independence Stadium, largely under-utilised.

As it isn't a question of hosting large numbers of visitors but several squads and accompanying officials mostly likely to wish that social distancing is observed during the three matches, the conditions of hosting the final CAF event are pretty clear. Tanzania has a reason to seek to host the short tournament stage as we are interested in trumpeting our abilities especially attractions that we offer, so hosting the tourney in an urgent manner would improve our credentials globally. Again our Covid-19 situation is one of the most respectable in Africa - so to speak - and could be checked out by accredited diplomatic personnel.

A not so irrelevant consideration is that we have lately been ranked somewhat higher in African economic standing to a lower middle income country, where Cameroon has been there

for a fairly long time. In that case it doesn't really have to shout its credentials as it is relatively well known, while there is singularly no comparison when it comes to soccer prowess. Cameroon has achieved everything there is to obtain in African football, not only with its national team but individual players standing as legends in consciences of the fans all over the continent. They have little need to advertise their abilities or efforts to scale CAF standings, while we have every reason to demonstrate that we are capable of something too, right away.

In addition, diplomatic personnel and other scouts going around to seek out the real situation in the country and its preparedness to handle a burst of visitors from around the continent are a plus. Semi-finals and final CAF tie have a significant array of stakeholders so our country stands to be noticed for its ability to organise an important event, even in the midst of a harmonious general election environment, also a not so common feature in Africa generally. Instead of saying this to ourselves, we can tell the world as much.



St. Anne Marie Academy Primary's pupils entertain guests by dancing Bongo Flava songs during the school's 12th Form Six graduation ceremony held at the school's premises at Mbezi kwa Msuguri in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MWENDAPOLE

NBA going with shorter games for Disney exhibition openers

LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLA.

The first exhibition games of the NBA restart will go a little more quickly than usual.

The NBA is tweaking the rules for those initial matchups, going with 10-minute quarters instead of the usual 12 minutes. The change is for several reasons - among them, not wanting to overly tax players after they went more than four months without games, and because some teams do not have their full rosters at Walt

Disney World yet because of coronavirus and other issues.

The change will apply only to the first exhibition for teams; their second and third exhibition games at Disney will use standard timing. All teams are slated to play three exhibitions.

"This is a different situation," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said Saturday. "In all areas, really... I do think that there's some latitude to do some different things."

Exhibitions start with a four-game slate Wednesday and continue through July 28. Plans call for all 33 exhibitions to be televised by some combination of local TV, national TV, NBA TV or NBA League Pass.

"I believe that it's done just trying to get safety first for the players," Orlando coach Steve Clifford said of the shorter first exhibition. "I think most teams are like us, where everybody is just feeling their way and guys aren't in the type of condition

they would normally be in in a training camp situation."

The league is still working on some of the specifics for the first games, even whether to give teams the option of wearing uniforms or practice gear. Most teams, as of Saturday, were still planning to wear their usual regular-season uniforms for all three of their exhibitions -- the new jerseys featuring social justice messaging will not debut until the seeding games that count begin July 30.

Other changes for the exhibition games may include using more than three referees in a rotating system, though that also remains under discussion.

Players apparently had not been told the first exhibitions will go faster.

"I don't know about that yet," said Oklahoma City guard Chris Paul, the president of the National Basketball Players Association. "So, I'll find out."

The exhibitions will be

played like normal games - score and stats will be kept, and it will be a chance for the league's stat crews that were hired to work for three months at Disney to work out any kinks in the system.

Miami coach Erik Spoelstra said he's taking a different view than he does for typical preseason matchups. For the first time, he's talking with the coaches of the teams the Heat will face - Sacramento's Luke Walton and Utah's Quin Snyder

- to see if there are any specific situations those clubs want to work on in those games.

Spoelstra simply bumped into Snyder in the lobby of a Disney hotel and from there, the idea of one team helping out another in the exhibitions was born. The Heat and Jazz will not play in a seeding game and couldn't meet in a game that counts at Disney until the NBA Finals.

'We deserve to win a trophy': Luiz redemption as Arsenal shock Man City

LONDON

DAVID Luiz insists Arsenal's shock 2-0 win over Manchester City in the FA Cup semi-finals proves they deserve to be contenders for major trophies.

Arsenal defender Luiz enjoyed a sweet moment of redemption as his superb display paved the way for Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's double to knock out holders City at Wembley.

Luiz was lambasted after giving away a goal before being sent off for conceding a penalty in Arsenal's 3-0 defeat at City in their first game following the coronavirus hiatus.

But the Brazilian kept City at bay in the rematch and Arsenal, through to a record 21st FA Cup final, will play Chelsea or Manchester United in the showpiece on August 1.

"We have a final to play this season and we will try and win a title for this club because this club deserves to win a trophy," Luiz told BT Sport.

"It was a great result against one of the best teams in the world. We were humble, we understood the way we had to play and we took the opportunities to score."

AFP

Setien won't resign, unfazed by Messi outburst

BARCELONA

BELEAGUERED Barcelona coach Quique Setien said he did not feel criticised by Lionel Messi's outburst after Thursday's shock 2-1 defeat to Osasuna and insists he has not thought about resigning.

Messi branded Barca "inconsistent" and "weak" in an angry post-match interview after Real Madrid were crowned La Liga champions for the first time since 2017.

The forward also said performances since January had been especially bad. That comment was interpreted by many as a dig at Setien, who replaced former coach Ernesto Valverde in the Camp Nou dugout at the turn of the year with the team top of the table at the time.

"No, not at all," Setien said in a news conference on Saturday when asked if he felt singled out by Messi. "I think in certain moments we all say things that are interpreted badly. It's the fruit of a moment of frustration."

Messi went on to say that if drastic changes are not made then Barca would lose to Napoli in the Champions League next month as the club face the prospect of a first trophy-less season since 2007-08.

"Some things we agree on and other things we don't," Setien added. "[Messi] is right to say that if we play as badly as we have done in some games, we won't win anything."

"But we have also played well in other games and, playing like that, we could win things. We have to be more consistent. If we manage to play as we did against Villarreal, we could win the Champions League."

Sources told ESPN after Barca's draw with Celta Vigo in June that Setien's relationship with his players was strained. He admits it has been challenging to control a dressing room that has enjoyed so much success.

"The players here have been

(Agencies)

Aubameyang 'pretty convinced' on Arsenal stay - Arteta

LONDON

MIKEL Arteta believes Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang is "pretty convinced" he will stay at Arsenal but admitted winning the FA Cup would strengthen the club's attempts to tie him to a new contract.

The 31-year-old's existing deal expires next summer and ESPN revealed earlier this month that he is seeking a three-year extension worth up to £250,000-a-week.

Negotiations hinge in part on whether the Gunners qualify for European football next season, a prospect they moved a step closer towards on Saturday evening with an impressive 2-0 FA Cup semifinal

(Agencies)

"We have to be mature, to understand what level we are in the process."

Luiz paid tribute to Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta, who out-witted City boss Pep Guardiola with a shrewd game plan, and saluted his team-mates' fighting spirit.

"We have an amazing coach but we can't go from 0 to 100. We are improving. The spirit was great and I'm happy for the team because they deserve it," Luiz said.

"All the team defended, it is not just the last line. Everybody has to fight and play every ball 100 percent. It's part of the process."

"We could do more of this in the game so it would maybe be easier. The other team is miles away in front of us but we were humble so when we play we can hurt the opponent and we did that."

Asked if he was hurt by the criticism following the defeat at City in June, Luiz -- who has since signed a new contract -- said: "It is part of the football. I understood that football is about surviving."

"Every day you are going to defend the odd thing. I was working hard every single day after my mistakes. I was humble to work more and to work more for the team."

winning everything for the last 15 years and the management [of these players] is totally different to other teams," he said. "There have been some situations that have been difficult to resolve, but I don't think anything out of the ordinary in a dressing room like this one."

President Josep Maria Bartomeu is aware of the delicate relationship between the coach and the players, but sources say he doesn't want to make a snap decision despite the increasing pressure on Setien.

However, sources revealed to ESPN that the Osasuna loss, which ended a 42-game unbeaten streak at Camp Nou in La Liga, led to crisis talks between Bartomeu and Setien on Friday.

"It's normal that there are meetings of this type," Setien said, confirming the talks. "We are all restless to improve. We try to look for solutions to change things and that's what the meeting was about."

Asked whether the toxic atmosphere had made him consider his future, Setien responded: "The day I arrived I said I was going to enjoy myself until the last day. I am still enjoying myself despite the circumstances -- I never thought it would be easy."

"I am not experiencing anything I haven't experienced before. At no moment have I felt that I wanted to leave."

Barca conclude the La Liga season at Alaves on Sunday. Due to injuries and suspensions, they have just 16 players available for the game, including four B team players and three goalkeepers.

The squad will then have a week off before returning to prepare for the second leg of the round-of-16 tie with Napoli in the Champions League at Camp Nou on Aug. 8. The first leg ended 1-1 in Italy in February.

Arteta outwits Guardiola: Arsenal beats City to reach final

LONDON

SEVEN months after leaving Pep Guardiola's side, Mikel Arteta outwitted his mentor to ensure his first season as Arsenal manager will end with an FA Cup final.

In only his 25th match as a manager, Arteta masterminded a 2-0 victory -- secured by Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's double -- that ended Manchester City's title defense on Saturday.

It was a cup won as part of a treble last season when Arteta was assistant to Guardiola at City and fans were still allowed to pack into the national stadium.

Just a few hundred key personnel were allowed into Wembley for Saturday's semifinal as the 90,000-capacity was largely empty for the first time for a top-level game due to ongoing pandemic restrictions. The north London stadium will be closed to fans again on Sunday when Chelsea plays Manchester United in the other semifinal.

"It's very sad we cannot enjoy this moment with our fans and enjoy watching the team and achieving the final," said Arteta, who replaced Unai Emery as Arsenal manager in December. "We have great chemistry. They really believe in what we are trying to do and you can sense that."

England's two best teams have now been beaten by Arsenal inside three days, with newly crowned champion Liverpool beaten in the Premier League on Wednesday. But Arteta's side is only 10th in the league, having lost to Tottenham in last weekend's north London derby.

Just a month ago, when the Premier League resumed from its 100-day shutdown, Arsenal was beaten



Arsenal's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, centre, scores his team's second goal during the FA Cup semifinal soccer match between Arsenal and Manchester City at Wembley in London, England, Saturday, July 18, 2020. (AP Photo)

3-0 by City in the Premier League. This semifinal was as one-sided as that night with City enjoying more than two-thirds of the ball.

But Arsenal soaked up the pressure and hit City on the counterattack to end a run of seven successive losses when it had been outscored 20-2 by City.

"We did it because we were humble and we understood the way we have to play and we took the opportunities to score," Arsenal defender David Luiz said. "It's a good process, we have an amazing coach and he wants to bring us the best football but it's not zero to 100."

Unlike at the Etihad last

month, Luiz was a formidable barrier in central defense, rather than giving away a goal and being sent off.

"What he needs is that we trust him," Arteta said. "He's had some difficult moments and then he has some incredible moments."

City managed only one shot on target -- the lowest in a game since April 2018 -- when Raheem Sterling struck at goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez with the scores level.

"We had two kind of good chances in the beginning when we won the ball in front of the Arsenal goal," City midfielder Ikey Gündoan said. "But after

that, our game was sloppy and slow and there was a lack of energy."

Arsenal's opener was the product of an 18-pass move involving 10 players -- straight from the Guardiola playbook. Aubameyang, who had just squandered a chance to score, slid in ahead of Kyle Walker at the far post to poke in Nicolas Pepe's cross in the 19th minute.

Sterling had chances to level at the start of the second half, striking wide and over in the opening minutes. But Aubameyang secured Arsenal's passage into the final in the 71st. Played in by Kieran Tierney, the striker cut in from the left flank and poked the ball between Ederson's

legs for his 25th goal of the season.

The FA Cup is the second trophy surrendered by City this season after losing the Premier League title to Liverpool.

But City has already successfully defended the League Cup and can still win a double. Guardiola's team remains in the pandemic-delayed Champions League, resuming next month with a 2-1 lead in the round of 16 against Real Madrid.

"We wanted to play the (FA Cup) final one week before the Madrid game to be in rhythm," Guardiola said, "but we missed this chance."

Second in the Premier League, City already knows it will be in the Champions League next season after overturning a two-season European ban.

But winning a record-extending 14th FA Cup could be Arsenal's only route into the Europa League, given its 10th place and two games remaining.

"If we are in Europe," Arteta said, "it will help, obviously, because financially we will be stronger."

BURNLEY EYES EUROPE Burnley still has a hope of qualifying for Europe after moving up to ninth by beating Norwich 2-0 in Saturday's only Premier League game.

AP

Arsenal progressing under Arteta, win strengthens his case for spending

LONDON

IMAGINE how good Arsenal could be if Mikel Arteta gets the financial backing he called for this week. The Spaniard used the buoyancy created by Wednesday's unexpected victory over Premier League champions Liverpool to highlight an "enormous" gap to the top two in England, suggesting "there is no magic" to squad improvement beyond heavy investment.

What Arteta managed here wasn't far short. There aren't many people in world football with a more intimate knowledge of Pep Guardiola's tactical approach than the 38-year-old, given he spent more than three years as a coach under him at City, yet few thought the apprentice would defeat the master given the tools at each man's disposal.

It is worth remembering this is only Arteta's 25th game in management. Had Jose Mourinho or Diego Simeone pulled off a counter-attacking masterclass in an FA Cup semifinal, either would have been lauded for his tactical nous honed through years of experience.

Arsenal beat Manchester City 2-0 in a manner unrecognisable from previous meetings between the clubs dating back to their victory by the same scoreline in January 2015. That day, Arsene Wenger was credited for finally abandoning the same open, expansive style for a more pragmatic approach. It proved to be a false dawn, but Arteta has now managed it for the second time in four days. These are strange circumstances, of course, with Liverpool playing for statistics and City focused on the Champions League, but the Gunners have beaten the best two teams in England in the same week by exhibiting the kind of commitment, focus and discipline many of the component parts have often lacked.

David Luiz was comically bad when these two sides met last month, coming off the bench to gift City two goals and get himself sent off. In his role as a Sky Sports pundit, Jamie Carragher claimed Luiz had no future at Arsenal. He was arguably man of the match this evening, leading a rearguard action reminiscent of Per Mertesacker's display against Chelsea in the 2017 FA Cup final.

"David doesn't need a lot of management," Arteta told ESPN. "What he needs is that we trust him and we don't doubt about what he



Mikel Arteta

can do, and the best way to do that is to make him play. He has done it through his career, he has had some difficult moments and some incredible moments, but big athletes go through those moments and I am happy he is at the level he is playing at now."

Granit Xhaka and Dani Ceballos worked tirelessly in midfield to screen a back five and help transition when City lost possession. Xhaka's Arsenal career looked over when he was stripped of the captaincy in November after an abusive exchange with Arsenal supporters in a match against Crystal Palace at Emirates Stadium. It might be a stretch to suggest the absence of supporters is

therefore helping him, but his vocal, organising presence is easier to hear in empty stadiums, and matches like this show why Wenger signed him, Unai Emery captained him and Arteta gave him the chance to revive his season.

Ceballos is on loan and is believed to prefer rejoining Real Madrid to have another crack at establishing himself at the Bernabeu, but he looks every inch an Arsenal player at the moment, one Arteta clearly wants to keep on a permanent basis. Ainsley Maitland-Niles was utilised as a left wing-back, a decision that might have been considered farcical during Emery's reign yet here contributed to collective

success. Arsenal are weighing up the financial ramifications of the season's conclusions before committing funds in the marketplace. Arteta is not at loggerheads with the club's power brokers but, as any head coach would, he is pushing for maximum investment to help restore the Gunners to former glories.

"We are having a lot of internal conversations," Arteta said. "We are all on the same page. We always agree with the plan we have in place. Communication is always really clear and loud. It is about the possibilities that we are going to have and at the moment we have some uncertainties. The way we finish the season, if we in Europe, if we win [the FA Cup], it will help because financially we will be stronger and that is where we have to be a little bit patient."

Results like this strengthen his argument no end. Arsenal look coached. Wenger's laissez-faire style promoted freedom of expression but lacked the structure Emery was appointed to deliver. Arteta is managing to align both, with Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scoring two wonderful goals 19 minutes in and 19 minutes from the end.

The first was a superb

half-volley stab across Ederson from Nicolas Pepe's cross; the second came after collecting Kieran Tierney's fine pass and slotting a low finish underneath the City goalkeeper. There is a financial gamble in offering a 31-year-old the three-year, £250,000-a-week deal he wants, but Arteta bringing the best out of Aubameyang like this will make that risk feel less daunting.

City improved after half-time, pinning Arsenal back in their own box for long periods, but Emiliano Martinez was not unduly exerted. This was perhaps a wake-up call for Guardiola, who is supposed to be masterminding his side peaking for the competitions they can win.

With the league already essentially lost prior to last month's restart, retaining the FA Cup was viewed as a stepping stone to the Champions League next month. That latter competition remains the holy grail for Guardiola, and there is every chance a team this talented will indeed deliver when it matters most, but there are more doubts about City now than there should be, even with a 2-1 lead against Real Madrid from their round-of-16 first-leg clash in February.

(Agencies)

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Arteta outwits
Guardiola: Arsenal
beats City to reach final

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

MCC cricketers pick first win in 2020 Kazim Nasser Memorial League



Malabar Cricket Club (MCC) players pictured after participating in this season's MCC Cup clash, which took place in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MCC

By Guardian Reporter

NANDAKISHAN Pottachira put scintillating displays with the bat to help Malabar Cricket Club (MCC) notch a comfortable five-wicket victory over Strikers B in this season's Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division B clash, held at Leaders Club venue in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The eventual winners have, as a result, picked their first victory in the division to get morale boost.

They had opened their campaign on a wrong foot given they succumbed to 71-run loss to Estim early this month.

Pottachira was in great form at the crease in the thrilling Sunday clash, punishing Strikers B's

bowlers with every mistake they committed to see to it MCC get down to successful chase.

After winning the toss MCC elected to bowl and restricted Strikers B to 129 runs for eight wickets in 30 overs.

Strikers B's respectable score came about largely due to solid showing by opener, Arif Khatri, and top order batsman Mirwaj Dewani.

Khatri posted 37 runs, which included two boundaries in what was the best innings in the outfit.

The opening batsman's contribution came in handy for MCC particularly after fellow opener, Lazaro Festo, had made his way back to the pavilion early on having notched five runs.

Festo, a promising batsman who had also played for the national junior team in the past, had a frustrating day at the

crease on Sunday, given he could only stay for four overs prior to being run out by MCC's Kelvin Anjelo off a delivery by Safvan Annarathodika.

There was yet another blow for the team after top order batsman, Vaibhav Bhatia, was trapped for leg before wicket by MCC's Anjelo, after recording paltry three runs.

Dewani stepped at the crease to significantly boost Strikers B's efforts to end their innings with a convincing score, recording 25 runs which included two fours.

There was hardly anything to write home about for the rest of Strikers B's batsmen because they were dismissed in quick succession, with none of them recording double digit score.

Mehul Ravat, Pratick Buehcha and Krishna Amarshi ended two runs short of double digit

figures, scoring eight runs each, with Ravat cracking a four.

All-rounder Vinesh KV had a field day with the ball for MCC, finishing his spell with four wickets and leaking 23 runs in six overs.

Anjelo had an impressive day too, given he took two wickets and leaked 25 runs in six overs.

Needing 130 runs to come out victorious, MCC played their hearts out at the crease, notching 133 runs for the loss of five wickets in 14.3 overs of the 30-over clash to secure the victory with 33 balls to spare.

They had an impressive start to the chase, given opener Annarathodika posted 20 runs which consisted of three fours and a six.

His stint at the crease was ended by Strikers B's Khatri, who caught the former off Sanjay

Bhatia's delivery, leaving MCC with 47 runs after 3.3 overs.

Fellow opener Pottachira proved a bit more stubborn to Strikers B, registering 68 runs not out which consisted of six fours and four sixes.

He was so far the most impressive in the chase and he in the end was presented with the man of the match prize for his exploits at the crease.

The early exit of two other top order batsmen Hitesh Valambia and Zanub Ahamed, who were dismissed for duck, did not frustrate MCC's resolve.

Young batsman Faraj Athumani made certain of MCC's chase, posting 34 runs which consisted of three fours.

Anjelo scored unbeaten four runs to close the innings out with Pottachira, fending off Strikers B's late attempt to foil MCC's chase.

Strikers B's Sanjay Bhatia had an impressive bowling figure, ending his spell with three wickets and leaking 17 runs in four overs.

His efforts, nevertheless, did little to put MCC batsmen in check.

Several more matches took place yesterday. GP Pak Stars were confronting Gymkhana Club in a Division A clash, Lions Castilla locked horns with Dar Black Panthers in a Division C tie whilst Tamil Nadu Sports Club faced Annadil Seifee in the division's other clash.

Patel Brotherhood were expected to confront Estim in a Division B game, set to be played at Leaders Club venue.

5 EATV
TONIGHT @ 9:00
UJENZI
MONDAY
11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:30 Wanawake Live (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:00 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 5SPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hits

Tonight on EATV
Find out how using glass blocks from Canghui Traders Limited can improve your home decor

And Tanfix Quality Choice has an innovative solution for wall fungus

It's all on Ujenzi at 9PM

eastafrica RADIO
88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM
06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

Khushdil Shah to miss England Tests

KARACHI

Pakistan all-rounder Khushdil Shah is certain to miss the first Test against England due to a thumb fracture.

The PCB announced the injury that occurred while batting in the nets on Saturday will need three weeks to heal.

"As the nail is intact and there is no injury to nail bed, the orthopaedic surgeon, team physician and team physiotherapist expect Khushdil to resume physical training by the end of the next week," the press release said.

It rules him out of all the lead-up games to the England series, he isn't playing the current intra-squad game and will not take part in the second four-day game from July 24-27.

Khushdil was mostly selected for his ability to have an impact in the T20 series and, at best, had just an outside chance of being selected for the Tests.

If his current prognosis is accurate, he should be fit well before the the T20I series commences on August 28 at Old Trafford.

Khushdil has so far played one international, a T20I against Australia last year.

He was one of the bright lights of the unfinished Pakistan Super League earlier this year.

His 29-ball 70 for Multan Sultans against Lahore Qalandars being his most notable knock. It helped Multan top the group stage table.

The first Test between England and Pakistan begins on 5 August at Old Trafford, before the two sides move to Southampton for the remainder of the Test series.

AGENCIES

Fans praise company's support for Taifa Stars

By Guardian Correspondent

A cross section of senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' supporters have hailed the massive support that Serengeti Breweries Ltd (SBL), through Serengeti Premium Lager brand, has been providing to the team for the past three years.

The support, as disclosed by the fans, has led to the team's good performance both locally and outside the country.

The fans, among them former Taifa Stars players, have urged for continued support by Serengeti Premium Lager to maintain the newfound good run by Taifa Stars.

The SBL had, in May 2017, entered into a three-year agreement with Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) valued at 2.1bn/- that has seen the brewers' flagship beer brand become the official sponsor of the senior national team.

Ally Mayay, alias 'Tembele', a former Taifa Stars midfielder and current soccer analyst, said the Serengeti Premium Lager sponsorship towards Taifa Stars is huge and commendable.



Senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' players feature in training session in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for the African Nations Championship (CHAN) finals, slated for early next year in Cameroon. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

mentable.

He disclosed that it had revolutionized the country's soccer at both national and international levels.

"The deal involves quite a lot of money and we have seen its immediate impact on our soccer as demonstrated by the national team's improved FIFA rankings. We need to appreciate this support by SBL,"

Mayay, who also captained Taifa Stars between 1996 and 2004, disclosed.

Another former Taifa Stars player, Mohammed Hussein, alias 'Mmachinga', commended SBL's efforts, saying the sponsorship enabled the senior national team register unprecedented successes in recent years.

"It is within this period that we have seen our national team take part in big tournaments like the African Cup of Nations (AFCON). Similarly, it is during this sponsorship that we have witnessed Taifa Stars qualify for African Nations Championships (CHAN) finals and the World Cup Qualifiers at the group stages."

"I hope these streams of successes will inspire SBL to continue supporting the team," Hussein enthused.

Another fan from Arusha, Samsom Kivuyo, said while most sponsorship packages were centred on attracting the attention of fans to brands, the Serengeti Premium Lager's has been unique in many ways.

"We have witnessed SBL mobilize fans to support the senior national team through billboards, TVs and radio campaigns throughout the country, team performance results notwithstanding."

"This has strongly motivated the fans to rally behind Taifa Stars strongly than ever before," Kivuyo said.

Soccer fan, Hassanal Ochen from Mikochehi in Dar es Salaam, was equally elated about the sponsorship, noting that with the huge support, the sky now appears to be the limit for the senior national team.

"Last year we saw our national team take part in the continent's most prestigious tournament, the AFCON, after 39 years. This did not come by accident. It was due to adequate preparations facilitated by the sponsor. We request SBL to keep on supporting the team," Ochen said.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

