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TANZANIA

SATURDAY 31 JULY, 2021

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ATCL wants ownership change, debt clearing

President Samia receives ninth plane in airport festivity

By Henry Mwangonde

AIR Tanzania Co. Ltd (ATCL) yesterday outlined a number of challenges which it wants to be resolved to allow it effectively implement its newly-drafted business plan that focuses on expansion and profitability.

Director General Ladislaus Matindi told President Samia Suluhu Hassan that one of the issues hindering the national carrier's smooth operations is the company's ownership structure

He was speaking during a ceremony to receive a new Dash 8-400 aircraft at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) in Dar es Salaam, whose arrival brings the ATCL fleet to nine aircraft "which is does not own. They are owned by the government through the Government Flight Agency (TGFA)" which the ATCL management figures to be a problem.

"This kind of structure does not allow us to make certain business decisions such as increasing our fleet," he said, underlining that the other big challenge is a pile of inherited debts "which means most of our earnings end up in servicing the debts."

He said that ATCL used to own 20 per cent of shares of Sky Chef—a company providing on board catering services—but the shares were taken over by the Treasury Registrar. "We request that these shares be returned to ATCL to improve our financial position," he declared.

The ATCL CEO also named the disruptions occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic as a challenge that requires new strategies to emerge strong in the near future as most travellers are currently being vaccinated.

For the company to thrive, it has drawn up a business plan which has already been presented for perusal and advice on way forward, he stated, noting further that the arrival of the plane makes the company operate five short range planes, two medium range and two planes for long range routes.

"It is this plan that determines the kind planes that we have, so this kind of plane

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan cuts the ribbon at Dar es Salaam's Julius Nyerere International Airport yesterday when receiving the government's newly acquired aircraft. The plane, a new Bombardier DASH 8-Q400, is due for lease to the national airline, Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL). She is joined by several senior government and other officials, among them Vice President Dr Philip Mpango, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa and Works and Transport minister Dr Leonard Chamuripo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Ministry seeks formula for vaccines allocation

By Henry Mwangonde

VACCINATION of three high-risk groups is set to start on Tuesday next week in all 26 regions of Tanzania Mainland with reported Covid-19 cases in each region determining the number of doses.

A statement released yesterday by the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, said distributing the nearly one million and half doses of the Johnson&Johnson Covid-19 vaccines that were recently donated by the United States had already started.

The priority groups are health sector workers, people with pre-existing health conditions as well as people aged 50 years and above.

Apart from reported cases of Covid-19 in each region, the number of people in the two other groups, those with underlying health issues and senior citizens has also been considered in the distribution modal-



Minister Dr Dorothy Gwajima

ity, the ministry indicated.

"Because the number of doses we have at hand is not enough for all, other groups will receive vaccines later when the jabs are available," it said, elaborating that prioritization of the three groups is in line with Tanzania's Covid-19 vaccination guidelines, guidance of the World Health Organization

(WHO) as well as the global COVAX facility.

The government has approved the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen jab through testing conducted by the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA), the Government Chemist Laboratory as well as the National Health Laboratory, it further noted.

"The government will start vaccinating people in the aforesaid groups starting 3 August 2021 in 55 centres in all regions of Tanzania Mainland," it affirmed.

The Johnson & Johnson coronavirus vaccine is administered as a one-dose shot, whereas other widely used ones such as Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna vaccines are administered as two doses, given 21 and 28 days apart respectively.

On Wednesday, President Samia Suluhu Hassan led other national leaders in the launch of the national Covid-19 vaccination

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Zanzibar initiates new motor riding rules

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE government of Zanzibar has introduced guidelines to regulate operations of motorcycle taxis (bodaboda) as well as tricycles as official means of transport.

The move aims at bringing sanity to the business that is notorious for violations of traffic rules and compromising the safety of pedestrians.

Muhammed Simba Hassan, director of the Transport Licensing Department, said the government came up with the move as the sector was emerging as key em

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TRA misses its revenue collection target by 4trn/-

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

ANNUAL collections by the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) fell from target by a salutary 20 per cent or thereabouts of projected revenues in the past fiscal year.

The revenue agency says it has collected 18.14trn/- in the just ended 2020/21 financial year amid the Covid-19 pandemic, substantially short of its target of amassing 22.1trn/-.

Richard Kayombo, the Director for Tax-

Improving our relations with taxpayers is of paramount importance and is likely to be achievable by promptly resolving the challenges ...

payer Services and Education, told a press conference here yesterday that the collections level was all the same impressive considering the disruptions occasioned by the pandemic.

In the last quarter of 2020/21 TRA collected 4.45trn/- whereby in April the taxman realized 1.34trn/-, May (1.35trn/-) and June (1.85trn/-), he stated, indicating an average of 1.5trn/- in revenue collections per month.

He praised individuals and companies

for tax compliance, asserting that they demonstrated a sense of patriotism at difficult time as the pandemic could have been used as an excuse to dodge taxes.

In the current financial year TRA has put up a 23trn/-collections target, he stated, expressing expectations that the spirit of patriotism will be maintained.

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ATCL wants ownership change, debt clearing

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which we have received today will facilitate our local trips," he elaborated.

Reacting to the remarks, President Samia acknowledged that she had indeed obtained the plan and expects to sit with her advisors and see how to move forward.

She said the planes were acquired by sweat and blood of Tanzanians, directing ATCL to take good care of them and control all possible acts of sabotage including from workers.

In the next five years, the government plans to strengthen air transport and other modes of transport such as water and land, she said, underlining that air transport is a big stimulator of economic growth globally as it cuts costs and time taken in travel and freight.

"Tanzania sold 700m tonnes of farm products abroad and expects that it will get \$2bn from horticulture sales by 2027, the president noted, pointing at the need for better transportation facilities.

"The government has also expanded various airports across the country to ensure transport within the country improves."

Works and Transport minister Dr Leonard Chamuripo said the plane increases ATCL fleet to nine out of 11 planes expected to be purchased by the government.

Currently ATCL flies to seven

places abroad but some of them were halted due to the Covid-19 pandemic and some other legal issues, he stated, in a ceremony where before the arrival of the plane, an official handover was done from the Treasury to the ministry.

So far the government has spent 1.2trn/- in purchasing eight aircrafts for ATCL in an effort to revive the airline, with the aircraft being four Bombardier Dash 8 Q-400 (capable of carrying 76 passengers each), two Boeing 787 - 800 Dreamliners (capable of carrying 262 passengers each) and two Airbus A220-300, the planes having been ordered and received during the fifth phase presidency.

This follows a project mooted in 2016 to revitalize its national carrier, purchasing six new aircraft from 2016 to 2018, paid out debts and provided working capital tied with a new business plan.

Acquiring more aircraft reflects the government's plans to grow ATCL operations across Africa as well as to various international destinations.

Air Tanzania was established as Air Tanzania Corporation (ATC) in September in 1977 after the collapse of the regional East African Airways. It has since been characterized by spasmodic operations and instability following ineffective attempts at changing its shareholding structure at the start of the century.

Ministry seeks formula for vaccines allocation

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drive, promising that all willing Tanzanians will be inoculated.

Speaking before receiving the jab in a live televised event at the State House in Dar es Salaam, the president said the government expects to ship in sufficient supplies of jabs. "I am aware that some Tanzani-

ans have been travelling outside the country to be vaccinated; we want all those who want the jab to get it right here," she said.

The ministry should set up strategies aimed at increasing community awareness to overcome emerging myths and misconception about the jab, she emphasised.

TRA misses its revenue collection target by 4trn/-

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Strategies being implemented to fulfill the target of collections include enhancing tax payer education, expanding the tax base, improving tax collection, including the use of electronic tax recording methods.

"Improving our relations with taxpayers is of paramount importance and is likely to be achievable by promptly resolving the challenges they face," he said, underlining that friendly relations permit taxpayer confidence and enhance voluntary compliance.

"This is what TRA hopes to see happening instead of enforcement," he elaborated, promising that the agency will start registering new tax payers all over the country beginning next month, in a bid to expand the tax base.

The World Bank's Global Economic Prospects 2021 released last month forecasts

lowest economic growth rates in Sub-Saharan Africa and in conflict-affected countries.

It predicts the global economy to expand by 5.6 per cent in 2021, driven largely by a few big economies. Amid very uneven vaccine access and pandemic recovery, low-income countries will only have a 2.9 per cent GDP growth rate in 2021, with output levels in 2022 predicted to be 4.9 per cent lower than pre-pandemic projections.

"In conflict-affected low-income countries, the pandemic exacerbated underlying challenges so that growth is expected to average 2.5 per cent in 2021-22, about 0.7 per cent point below previous forecast due to a degraded security situation and increased debt burdens. In 75 per cent of World Bank member states, per capita income losses incurred in 2020 will still not be caught up by 2022," it affirmed.



Dar es Salaam regional sheikh Alhad Mussa Salum (L) addresses journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly after being re-elected chairman of the region's Religious Leaders Peace Committee. He is with committee secretary general Bishop Israel Maasa (C) and deputy secretary general Sheikh Dr Amri Juma. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Zanzibar initiates new motor riding rules

FROM PAGE 1

ployer of many islanders especially the youth. The motorcycle and tricycle taxis will now be formally registered for commercial purposes and will be allowed to carry passengers on the basis of designated stations close to bus stops, and be required to adhere to road use and safety rules.

As part of new measures, and to ensure success of the initiative, operators in this sub-sector will be drilled on traffic rules as well as safety guidelines to protect the

riders and their passengers. Pricing of rides will depend on agreement between the rider and the passenger but it will be subject to discussion in case substantial problems arise, he stated. Works, Transport and Communications minister Rahma Kassim Ali said this type of transport was growing very fast in the Isles and contributes to income generation especially for the youth. Regulating 'bodaboda' business arises from ministerial roles under article 48(4) of the Road Transport Act of 2003, she explained, urging Isles

residents wishing to venture into the business to consult relevant bodies for direction, including obtaining a license. Haji Ali Zubeir, the Director of Road Transport, said that motorcycle riding was different from usual modes of transport which transport passengers on designated routes. Motor and tricycle drivers will be directed to put on specified uniform in carrying passengers for easy recognition, he declared. The ministry had registered 13,000 motor and tricycles, he said, while the Zanzibar Bodaboda Association

treasurer, Mahmoud Hassan hailed the government for the move. It was going to reduce crime incidents too often associated with motorcycle riders, he asserted. "This will help in combating crime because we will easily know 'who is who' in case there is an incident of gender based violence where suspicions are quickly directed at motorcycle riders," he stated, noting further that it is time for 'bodaboda' riders to understand the rules of their work "so that it is professionalized." The regulation of their



Tanganyika Law Society president Dr Edward Hoseah makes a presentation on the code of conduct for National Assembly directors and assistant directors at training held in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo courtesy of National Assembly.

Kenyan man wanted in US over million-dollar fraud

NAIROBI

The US Justice Department has indicted a Kenyan accused of attempting to steal more than \$1.1 million from someone who wanted to fund a new children's school in Qatar.

Abdulrahman Imraan Juma alias Abdul is

also accused of laundering money through bank accounts around the world.

Juma is said to have worked with Nigerian influencer Ramon Abbas - also known as Hushpuppi - to defraud a Qatari school founder.

According to court documents, Juma, Abbas and a third defendant faked the financ-

ing of a school by posing as bank officials and creating a fake website to convince the businessman to part with his money.

They also "bribed a foreign official to keep the elaborate pretense going after the victim was tipped off," said acting United States Attorney Tracy L. Wilkison.

While Juma posed as a facilitator and

consultant for the false bank loans, Abbas played the role of "Malik", a Wells Fargo banker in New York. Abbas pleaded guilty over his involvement in the crime.

Court documents say that between January 18, 2019 and June 9, 2020, Hushpuppi and others targeted multiple victims and laundered the illicit funds in banks all over

the world.

They succeeded in defrauding the businessman of \$1.1 million and part of the stolen money was used to "purchase a Richard Mille RM11-03 watch, which was hand-delivered to Abbas in Dubai and subsequently appeared in Hushpuppi's social media posts," prosecutors said.

'Food prices at various markets across Tanzania recorded downward trend'

By Guardian Reporter

FOOD prices at various markets across the country recorded a downward trend in the month of June with maize sold at 300/- per kilogram in some districts.

Dodoma, Mwanza and Musoma had above average maize price while Mpanda, Sumbawanga and Tabora were all below average maize prices. The lowest maize prices were observed at markets in Mpanda, Sumbawanga and Tabora.

This is according to the June national food security bulletin, issued by the Ministry of Agriculture's crop monitoring, early warning section, national food security division.

Maize prices at the Mpanda market was 300/- per kilogram while in Sumbawanga a kilo of the grain was sold at 317/- and 350/- per kg at markets in Tabora Region.

Temeke, Dodoma, Ilala and Kinondoni markets had the highest prices for beans, ranging from 2,050/- to 2,100/- per kg while Kigoma, Sumbawanga and Bukoba

markets had the lowest prices of beans ranging from 1166/- to 1,286/- per kg.

Some markets in Ilala, Songea, Dodoma and Iringa had the highest prices for rice ranging whereas a kilogram was sold at between 1,600/- and 1,700/-.

Rice was also sold at low prices of between 950/- and 1,036/- per kg at markets in Mpanda, Shinyanga, Musoma and Sumbawanga.

However, the country has a favourable food and nutrition security situation in terms of both availability and accessibility as from the start of the 2021/2022 consumption year.

It said the 2020/2021 consumption year have been completed with the country experiencing favourable food and nutrition security both in terms of availability and accessibility throughout the year.

According to preliminary food crops production forecast for 2020/2021 production season conducted in June, 2021, food availability and accessibility in 2021/2022 consumption year is expected to be favourable with significant surplus.



Shinyanga regional commissioner Dr Philemon Sengati (in mask, sun glasses) on an inspection tour of ongoing construction of classrooms at the region's Bugomba B Primary School yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Anthony Ishengoma

Grand testing for SGR pushed to December

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

FORMAL grand testing of an electric locomotive train along the first phase of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) which was earlier set to be done in August this year, has been indefinitely postponed until December 2021.

Currently the portion line is being tested for electricity systems in various power stations which started in April and ends in July this year, thereby on its completion according to initial plans it was supposed to be followed by locomotive grand testing.

Officials of Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) have clarified reasons for postponement is to give more time the main contractor of the project who is currently busy putting final touches to accomplish the delicate works on overhead bridges along the 20 km stretch that is confined between Dar es Salaam and Pugu stations.

TRC's Public Relations Manager Jamila Mbarouk said in an exclusive interview that "the area especially at Buguruni, Shauri Moyo and Gold-Star junctions in the city of Dar es Salaam in between is very sensitive and more complicated in such a way that it involves construction of high bridges".

Elaborating more she clarified that, 'once this section is complete, preparations for a grand testing slated for December this year would take place for three months' time prior to official inauguration of commercial opera-

tion so as to allow goods and passenger services end of this year.


Therefore, contractors at the site ought to be careful so as to avoid any possible cause of unnecessary congestion or blockade to motorists plying across at junction points as the railway line passes across four main roads which joins Ilala district and Temeke respectively.

A spot check by this writer at the said junctions two days ago saw a number of engineers and technicians going on with the work so as to accomplish within the set time-frame.

When contacted for comments, TRC's project manager Machibya Masanja said that, "it requires high technology application with enough workforce while constructing such heavy structures bearing in mind the fact that, the railway line cuts across the central business district to the outskirts".

He further attributed the transportation of building materials needed for the construction of modern SGR as other reasons that impinged the slow pace bearing in mind the fact that these are imported far from European countries, so the logistical arrangements had been disrupted in recent months due to Covid 19 outbreak.

According to him, already the government has slated the purchase of Hyundai locomotive engines and some wagons which is being done in phases in accordance with government budget routine.



Expert in Results Monitoring (m/f/x) – Tabora Region Tanzania

Enabel is the Belgian development agency. It implements Belgium's governmental cooperation. The agency also implements actions for other national and international donors. With its partners in Belgium and abroad Enabel offers solutions addressing pressing global challenges: Climate Change, Urbanisation, Human Mobility, Peace and Security, Economic and Social Inequality, and Global Citizenship. With 1,500 staff, Enabel manages about 150 projects in twenty countries, in Belgium, Africa and the Middle East.

Background
Enabel is operating in Tanzania as a public limited company under public law with a social purpose in accordance with article 7 (iii) of the General Agreement between The United Republic of Tanzania and The Kingdom of Belgium on Development Co-operation signed on 16th of October 2002, and the introduction Letter from the Embassy of Kingdom of Belgium N° 2018/023 signed on 25th January 2018 on the transformation from BTC into Enabel.
The project on beekeeping, funded by the European Union, has a duration of 4 years with an inception phase of 6 months.

The project is taking place under the 11th EDF National Indicative Programme for Tanzania (2014-2020) in which Sustainable Agriculture is a focal sector with the specific objective to 'enhance management of natural resources, including forests, and ecosystem services for sustainable agriculture development and climate change adaptation'. The European Union Action Document for Beekeeping Value Chain Support contributes to that objective and also to the Planet and Prosperity pillars.

For the launching of this project on beekeeping, Enabel is searching for Expert in Results Monitoring.

Expected results for the position of the Expert in Result Monitoring include the following:

1. Monitoring & Evaluation system is put in place;
2. Activities and results are monitored timely and accurately;
3. Project Manager and Regional Coordinators are advised on the planning and monitoring of activities;
4. Lessons learnt are drawn and relevant experiences from execution are capitalized on and disseminated;
5. Partner entities are strengthened in their role and capacity for monitoring and learning.

Job Description
Your tasks and responsibilities as an expert in results monitoring:

- You Develop a monitoring and evaluation strategy based on a clear understanding of the information and data needs;
- You Co-design together with the partner entities and implement (mobile) monitoring tools for data collection, aggregation, analysis and visualisation and diffusion;
- You Coordinate and organize the baseline and endline survey of the Beekeeping Value Chain programme;
- You Train/accompany/coach partner entities in the use of the monitoring tools and in general on their capacity and skills for results-based monitoring and learning;
- You Coordinate the collection, aggregation and analysis of data and information in line with the monitoring and evaluation needs;
- You Carry out and ensure quality control of the generated data and information;
- You Support the Intervention Manager in providing timely and accurate data and information to coordinate, plan and steer the programme activities;
- You proactively identify themes for knowledge building and questions for action-research;
- You Organize or actively participate in learning events around the lessons learnt of the programme, both related to the results as to the M&E process;
- You function as a contact person for evaluators during evaluation exercises;
- You Communicate on the results and on the M&E approach of the programme

The Expert in Results Monitoring reports to the Project Manager

Your profile

Required qualifications

- Tanzanian national
- Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics, Forestry or business-related field;

Required experience

- Minimum 5 years of experience in value chain development in the agricultural or Natural Resource Management related sectors, of which 3 years of professional monitoring & evaluation experience in development project

Required skills and knowledge

- Knowledge of data management, data analysis and visualisation tools & statistics;
- Expertise in M&E methodologies, including the various approaches and theories, the norms and standards, the quantitative and qualitative methods, the quality and validity of data, the analysis and interpretation of the data;
- Expertise in coordinating M&E fieldwork activities using mobile data collection tools;
- Good Knowledge of mobile data collection tools or platforms (like KoboToolbox or OpenDataKit), including survey design, configuration of mobile devices, aggregation of data, data quality assurance, etc.
- Expertise in reporting and learning exercises (evaluation, action research, knowledge building);
- Expertise in participatory M&E approaches for the design and execution of an M&E framework;
- Advanced skills in data analysis and visualisation tools like PowerBI, Tableau or Excel;
- Excellent skills in using MS Windows, Word, Excel and PowerPoint
- You are fluent in spoken and written Swahili. Considering the international environment in which you work, excellent knowledge of English is required

Applicants are also required to commit to the vision, mission and values of Enabel (<https://www.enabel.be/content/enabel-vision-mission-values>).

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Only applications submitted via the above link will be considered.

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA (COMMERCIAL DIVISION)

AT DAR ES SALAAM

COMMERCIAL CASE NO. 4 OF 2021

ALIOS FINANCE TANZANIA LIMITED.....PLAINTIFF

VERSUS

AHMED ALLY HEMEDDEFENDANT

DECREE:

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays for judgment and decree as follows:

- A declaration that the Defendant breached of the Vehicle Lease Agreement dated 21st September, 2017.
- Payment of TZS 185,360,298.79/= being outstanding amount arising from the unpaid installment arrears, remaining principal amount and late fees penalties arising from the vehicle leasing agreement.
- Payment of interest at the commercial rate prevailing at the date of Judgment or such rate as the Honorable court may deem fit and just, accruing and computed from the date of the judgment of this suit.
- Payment of General damages as may be assessed d by this Honorable Court
- Payment of the cost of this suit and
- Any other relief(s) that the Honorable Court may deem fit and just to grant.

This suit is coming up for Consent Judgment on 13th day of July, 2021, before His Lordship,

Mr. Justice Dr. D.J. Nangela, Judge in the presence of Mr. David Kasanga hold brief of Ms. Esther Peter, Advocate for the Plaintiff and in the absence defendant.

THIS COURT DOTHE HEREBY ORDER THAT:

The judgment in default is here entered in favour of the Plaintiff and order as follows;

- It is hereby declared that, the Defendant breached the Vehicle Lease Agreement dated 21st September, 2017;
- The Defendant shall, without failure, pay the Plaintiff TZS 185,360,298.78/= being outstanding amount arising from unpaid installment arrears and the remaining principal amount arising from the vehicle lease agreement.
- Defendant shall pay interest at the Commercial rate of 14% from the date of Judgment to the date of final payment thereof.
- The defendant shall pay the Plaintiff TZS 5,000,000 as general damages.
- The Defendant shall pay interest at the Court rate of 7% of the decretal amount from the date of this judgment to the date when the decree is fully satisfied.
- The defendant shall pay costs of suit.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this day of 13th day of July, 2021.

Dr. D Nangela,
JUDGE, HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA
(COMMERCIAL DIVISION)

13th day of July, 2021

Extracted on 13th say of July, 2021

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Joyce Christopher, chief internal auditor at the Communications and Information Technology ministry, elaborates to chief internal auditors and chief accountants at institutions under the ministry on the implementation of reports by the Controller and Auditor General. This was at an internal meeting held in Dodoma city on Thursday. Left is the ministry's permanent secretary, Dr Zainab Chaula. Photo: Correspondent Prisca Ulomi

Minister promises to monitor and improve use of ICT in education

By Guardian Reporter, Chamwino

DEPUTY minister, President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) Deogratius Ndejemi has vowed to supervise and ensure that school children in Chamwino District, Dodoma Region are well trained on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for their future benefits.

He made the pledge here shortly after the National Uhuru torch race leader, Lt Josephine Mwambashi launched three newly constructed classrooms and provision of 120 desks to Msamalo secondary school in Msamalo village.

According to Ndejemi, equipping school children with right and up-to-date ICT skills will enable them to be competent and good public leaders in the future. "We want to make the school children become competent and best leaders in the future. We want to ensure that the training enables them to be patriotic to serve Tanzanians and bring development in the country," he said.

He said through the newly constructed classrooms, the district will work to ensure that ICT training is effectively provided to equip the children with positive skills that will help

them in the future as well as stimulate development in the country.

The deputy minister commended the Uhuru torch race leader for inspecting and expressing satisfaction on the construction of the new classrooms which will be used for training the students on ICTs.

He also commended the leader and other officials of the Uhuru torch race for being vigilant on quality and funds expenditure when inspecting various development projects before launching them. Lt Mwambashi commended the project supervisors for the job well done in overseeing the construction of the classrooms which will benefit students in Chamwino district.

The leader called on students who will use the classrooms and desks to protect the building and tools so that they can be used by them and other students who will have the opportunity to study there.

After concluding its race in Chamwino which included inspecting, launching various development projects as well as delivering a special message on this year's race, the National Uhuru Torch Race 2021 been handed over to Kongwa District to also provide an opportunity to inspect projects and deliver special messages to stimulate development in the area.

German government funds cleanliness campaign in Dar city

By Correspondent Joseph

Mwendapole

TANZANIA has expressed its gratitude to the German government for funding the cleanliness campaign in Dar es Salaam city and offering free hygiene facilities to be used during the campaign.

The campaign which is set to reach 25,000 people has been funded through German Development Cooperation (GIZ) organisation under its project

named DeveloPPP.

Dar es Salaam City Mayor Omar Kumbilamoto made the remarks during the launching of a cleanliness campaign at the ferry fish market in Dar es Salaam.

The campaign will be implemented by the organization named Emmanuel Brotherhood Foundation (EBF) in various wards of Dar es Salaam's districts.

He said the target group in the campaign, which will closely involve ward leaders,

are food vendors, fish sellers, commuter bus drivers and conductors.

"We thank you very much GIZ and EBF for your kind support to our city because the facilities you have given to us will help many people. I am requesting that this support should not only end in Dar es Salaam but go to other regions so as to promote cleanliness in our cities," he said.

Kumbilamoto said for many years Dar es Salaam city has been safe from infectious dis-

eases such as diarrhea because of the regular cleanliness campaigns that are being conducted.

He said the assistance for the campaign has also come at the right time to complement various efforts taken by the government to make the city attractive and safe from diseases.

EBF advisor, Alex Benson said sanitation equipment that will be distributed for free are bucket, soap, pesticides killers, sanitizers and sanitary pads for women and girls.

He said the intention of the project is to ensure the city environment and people's surroundings including business places are clean and safe from diseases.

Alex noted that communicable diseases can be prevented through regular cleanliness and hygiene campaigns in order to make people stay healthy and contribute to the nation's economy through their daily business.

Recent statistics show that the government has been

spending 70 per cent of the health budget for treatment of communicable diseases which mostly are caused by a dirty environment.

He said that during the project, stakeholders will provide education to sensitize communities the importance of personal and surrounding cleanliness.

He thanked the government and the ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children for the collaboration and for

the authorization of brochures that carry different messages that will be used to educate people in the campaign.

"Specifically we thank the government of Germany for funding this campaign as well as using local companies like Bingwa Laboratories Ltd and AFRICRAFT to produce products that will be used during this campaign. We should remember that many diseases can be prevented through cleanliness and hygiene," he added.

Kenya suspends in-person meetings to curb Covid spread

NAIROBI

KENYA'S health minister said yesterday the government had suspended all in-person meetings and public gatherings to try to contain COVID-19, whose spread in the country he now attributes to the more infectious Delta variant.

Mutahi Kagwe said in a televised address that the government had asked public and private-sector employers to allow their workers to work from home, unless they were classified as essential services.

"All public gatherings and in-person meetings of whatever nature are suspended countrywide. In this regard, all government, including intergovernmental meetings and conferences, should henceforth be converted to either virtual or postponed in the coming 30 days," he said.

Kagwe singled out politicians for holding meetings that turn out to be "super spreader" events.

"We want to be part of the solution. We are asking those in politics to be part of the solution instead of creating epicentres of spreading of the disease," he said. "There is no point of calling all these rallies, and then we follow with all these deaths."

Waves of COVID-19 infections this year have forced Kenya to reimpose strict partial lockdown measures.

As of Thursday, Kenya had registered 200,109 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 3,910 deaths, health ministry data showed.

It had vaccinated 1.7 million people, of whom 647,393, or 2.37% of adults, are fully vaccinated.

Kenya has been expecting from next week to start receiving more vaccines, comprising 700,000 AstraZeneca (AZN.L) shots from Britain, Greece and Latvia.

The health ministry has said it will also receive another 1.76 million doses of the vaccine developed by Pfizer (PFE.N) and BioNTech (22UAY.DE), starting two weeks from now, once storage facilities to handle them are in place.



All public gatherings and in-person meetings of whatever nature are suspended countrywide



Electrical installation students undergo practical training at the Vocational Education Training Authority's centre at Kibaha in Coast Region, as found on Thursday. Photo: Correspondent Nyamagory Omar

UN urges nations to take urgent steps to strengthen prevention of human trafficking

By Guardian Reporter

UNITED Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres has said trafficking in women and girls for the purpose of sexual exploitation has continued to be one of the most widespread and abhorrent forms of human trafficking.

In his statement on the World

Day Against Trafficking in Persons which is marked on July 30th each year, the Secretary General said that migrants account for more than half of those trafficked in most regions.

He urged governments to take urgent steps to strengthen prevention, support victims and bring perpetrators to justice.

The measures include imple-

mentation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons.

"Our efforts must be guided by survivors of trafficking. Their contribution is essential to address risk factors and patterns, and to identify and protect vic-

tims and ensure their access to justice and recovery, while holding their exploiters accountable," he noted.

The SG added: "The United Nations is committed to listening and responding to the voices of victims and survivors of human trafficking, ensuring their rights and dignity, amplifying their stories and learning from

them in our fight to prevent and put an end to this terrible crime." In the midst of a global pandemic accompanied by rising inequalities and economic devastation, the voices of human trafficking survivors and victims risk being drowned out.

But listening to their stories is more crucial than ever as the COVID-19 crisis increases fragili-

ties and drives up desperation.

As many as 124 million more people have been pushed into extreme poverty by the pandemic, leaving many millions vulnerable to trafficking.

Children are at great and growing risk: they represent one-third of victims globally – a share that has tripled in the last 15 years. Half of victims in low-

income countries are children, most of whom are trafficked for forced labour. Criminals everywhere are using technology to identify, control and exploit vulnerable people.

Children are increasingly targeted through online platforms for sexual exploitation, forced marriage and other forms of abuse.



Boniface Murigi (R), Mount Kenya University's director of communications, pictured yesterday briefing visitors to the 16th Higher Education, Science and Technology Exhibitions at Mnazi Mmoja grounds in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the Kenyan university. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Mbeya RPC urges stakeholders to assist security patrol groups

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

DEVELOPMENT stakeholders in Mbeya Region have been asked to assist security patrol groups popularly "Sungusungu" with working tools to implement their duties in enhancing security to enable people to engage in their activities in peace.

The request was given on Wednesday this week by Mbeya Regional Police Commander Ulrich Matei when receiving various items to assist the 131 security patrol groups in various areas of Mbeya city. The items included 400 flashlights, 400 whistles, 800 batteries for the flashlights provided by Raphael Ndelwa, owner of Mbeya based Raphael Rice Mill Ltd.

RPC Matei said the security groups were important in security duties since, he said the police force does not have sufficient personnel to patrol all areas of the region.

He said in the past, Mbeya City was home to many incidents of crime but after introducing the groups the city was now relatively safe. "As for now 36 per cent of our

personnel have been dispatched to undergo various promotional training programmes in Kilimanjaro and Dar es Salaam regions as well as Zanzibar, hence we need these security groups, as you can see Ndelwa has come forward to assist and we appeal to other development partners to do the same," said RPC Matei.

Handing over the items, Dr Tulia Ackson who was the official guest at the event thanked Ndelwa for the contribution saying they will assist in enhancing security in the city.

She also thanked the police in the city on how they have been working together with the groups to safeguard the residents and their property.

She called on the police and other security services to closely follow up the youth in the groups and whenever employment opportunities occur in their services they should be accorded priority.

"We also ask for other stakeholders to assist these people, especially with heavy coats as during cold seasons, they need them for keeping warm," she added.

Shinyanga RC calls for timely completion of classroom construction in Ulewe ward

By Guardian Correspondent,

Shinyanga

SHINYANGA Regional Commissioner Dr Philemon Sengati has urged contractors implementing a project for construction of classrooms at three primary schools in Ulewe ward to complete the job within schedule to facilitate comfortable learning.

The schools with 2,000 pupils each faces a shortage of classrooms following increased enrolment of pupils which has been linked with

implementation of the free education policy.

On November 27, 2015 the Tanzanian government issued circular 5 to implement the Education and Training Policy 2014 and immediately, directed public bodies to ensure that primary and secondary education is free for all children. This included the removal of all forms of fees and contributions.

According to the RC, the construction work should be completed by August 30th this year. The schools are Nyalwelwe, Bugomba A and

Bugomba B.

Dr Sengati was speaking shortly after his tour at the schools to inspect the progress implementation of the classrooms construction project which is executed with support from the Education Programme For Results (EP4R) which is implemented in all the districts across the region.

"Pupils are congested in almost all the classes, we need to complete the construction work to enable them to learn in comfortable environment. As the region authority we

are not happy with the situation and we would wish to see each of our children seated on a proper desk," said the regional commissioner.

According to him, the current situation is likely to affect pupil's academic performance in national examinations. He urged the school management to involve wananchi in the projects insisting their contributions would reduce the project cost.

Ulewe ward councillor, Kulwa Mabula said the congestion at the schools is largely

contributed with the increased population as many people are now moving to the ward because it has a vast fertile land suitable for cultivation of various food and cash crops.

Head teacher at Bugomba A primary schools, Richard Mgana complained of congestion in all the classes saying the situation affects both teachers and pupils' performance. He said teachers can hardly follow up on each of the students because even their seating does not facilitate easily movement of the

instructors within the class.

Shinyanga education officer, Dafroza Ndalichako said that funds disbursement for implementation of the project was delayed due to various reasons. She said most of the contractors in rural areas face financial constraints compared to their counterparts in Kahama municipal council.

The regional commissioner is touring all the districts to inspect development projects. He has so far visited Kishapu and Kahama municipal council, and he is ex-

pected to visit Msalala district council early next week.

Pupils are congested in almost all the classes, we need to complete the construction work to enable them to learn in comfortable environment. As the region



Dar es Salaam mayor Omary Kumbilamoto (R, foreground) pictured on Thursday displaying environmental hygiene items after launching a cleanliness campaign Emmanuel Brotherhood Foundation will implement in the city with sponsorship from German development agency GIZ. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

EAC officials deliberate on current status of bloc's integration process

By Guardian Reporter

THE EAC Secretary General Dr Peter Mathuki together with Deputy Secretaries General, Director General of Customs and Trade, and other Senior Officials of the EAC Secretariat today held a consultative meeting with Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, Uganda's 1st Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for EAC Affairs on the current status of the EAC integration process.

The consultative meetings between the EAC Secretariat and the partner states ministries responsible for EAC Affairs and Trade are part of the innovative approaches by the EAC Secretariat to brief Partner States on a quarterly basis on the status of integration projects and programmes.

In his opening remarks, Dr Mathuki told the minister that the objective of the consultative meeting was to report on the achievements and

challenges of activities undertaken in various sectors and share available opportunities as well as come up with strategies to strengthen regional integration.

"Hon minister, we at the secretariat thought it is important for partner states to know the status of their directives and implementation of various projects and programmes on a quarterly basis before our normal policy meetings," said the secretary general.

Highlighting some of the achievements during this period of COVID-19, Dr Mathuki told the minister that the secretariat had successfully coordinated regional COVID-19 response through effective partnerships with international and local organisations.

"Some of the interventions made by the secretariat include the establishment of the Regional Electronic Cargo and Driver Tracking System (RECDTS), which facilitates free

movement of people, goods and services in the region as well as distribution of essential supplies in the region," said Dr Mathuki.

He further disclosed to the minister that the secretariat managed to conduct a regional rapid assessment of the capacity to respond to Covid-19 and disease outbreaks at 27 cross border points in the region.

On the status of partner states' financial contributions to the general budget of EAC, the secretary general commended the partner states for complying with the provisions of the EAC financial rules and regulations by supporting the community's budget.

He, however, urged partner states to disburse their statutory contributions in a timely manner to enable the EAC to implement its various activities as per the approved budget and calendar of activities.

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BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below work package at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the following services.

No.	Reference no.	Description of work/goods to be procured	Minimum Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-21-07-03	Provide a production drilling optimisation system, that improves production drilling efficiency by eliminating alignment and collar errors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to provide service for 24 months from August 2021. • Able to install, operate, test and maintain all the equipment in good workable condition in accordance with good drilling practice. • Able to provide training on how the system work. • Able to provide a reliable system. • Able to provide three references of where the system was used. • Able to provide a system which facilitates accurate, reliable data capture and visualisation. • Able to provide a system which guarantees consistency between drillers. • Able to provide a system which can digitise drill plans and drill plods. • Able to provide a system which can be retrofitted to all types of production rigs.

The above services are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable qualified and experienced service providers will be invited to receive the tender documents. If your company would like to be considered for pre-qualification to receive the invitation to tender, please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Company profile(s);
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business licence, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.;
- Summary of Court proceedings (pending and completed), Court Judgements and/or insolvency / bankruptcy proceedings, if any, during the last 3 years
- A written statement that your company is able to comply with all the Barrick Codes of Ethics and the submission of the fully completed Barrick Supplier Questionnaire [to be provided by Barrick on request]
- A written statement indicating Tanzanian equity percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.
- Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registrations as required i.e. CRB etc
- Years' service and experience of key personnel to be assigned to project
- List of policies & procedures
- Job, equipment and client reference for similar services rendered within the last 3 years
- Indicate the above Reference number and description on your Expression of Interest submission.

Kindly send your response by email to bulytender@barrick.com by 1800Hrs on the 4th August 2021. Any responses received after this date and time shall not be considered. Please quote reference number BUL-21-07-03 in the subject line of your email.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of BGML.

For and on behalf of BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED



Mirerani Fabian Mshai (L), resident minerals officer at Mirerani township in Simanjiro District, invites Minerals deputy minister Prof Shukrani Many (2nd-L, seated) on Thursday to address small-scale tanzanite miners in the area. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

New drive launched to tackle cases of violence against children in Africa

By Special Correspondent

A NEW drive to curb the rising levels of Violence Against Children in Africa has been launched. This is after a recent research indicated that African children continue to suffer widespread physical, psychological and sexual violence.

Data released by the African Partnership to End Violence against Children (APEVAC) revealed an unacceptable scale of violence against children (VAC). The studies show that more than half of all children experience physical abuse, while in some parts of Africa; four in ten girls suffer sexual violence before the age of 15.

Speaking at the launch of the drive, Dr. Joan Nyanyuki, ACPF Executive Director said, "Vigorous action must be taken to tackle the unacceptable scourge of VAC in Africa. Thirty years after the African Children's Charter was adopted, African governments are still failing to protect children from violence."

"Of all the unspeakable damages suffered by our children, violence is surely the worst, simply because it is entirely avoidable, yet leaves lasting scars. We cannot accept such suffering at any level of African society, as its devastating impacts on our

children's dignity, physical and mental well-being continue to rob them of their future," said Mrs. Graça Machel, Chair of the ACPF International Board of Trustees.

ACPF's three new studies provide powerful evidence of the rise in VAC in Africa. The studies found that children caught up in conflict or humanitarian disasters, those with disabilities, engaged in child labour, living or working on the streets, and those in residential care, are most vulnerable. Digital technology is driving new forms of VAC, with children now facing increased risks of online sexual abuse. The Covid-19 pandemic has caused a spike in reports of VAC.



Of all the unspeakable damages suffered by our children, violence is surely the worst, simply because it is entirely avoidable, yet leaves lasting scars. We cannot accept such suffering at any level of African society

British Council eyeing to improve private sector participation in education sector

By Guardian Reporter

THE British Council has embarked on a special project to support the Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE) in improving the participation of the private sector in Vocational Education and Training (VET).

Funded by the European Union (EU), the project is de-

signed to support the expansion of private sector engagement and cooperation with the public sector to aid the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) reform process and make VET more demand-driven and employer-led.

As part of the intervention, the British Council held a Consultative Workshop

on July 29, 2021, bringing together key stakeholders from training colleges, National Council for Technical Education (NACTE), Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA), public and private sector companies to present key findings from the research and interviews carried out by independent consultants and to discuss international mod-

els and interim recommendations.

Addressing the participants, the EU Head of Cooperation Cedric Merel said: "Central to Tanzania development strategies, European Union will continue to work with all key stakeholders to address key challenges for this sector."

In addition, he said the EU and Tanzania developed a

seven years (2021-2027) Multi-annual Indicative Programme with one of the priority areas under the programme being in human capital, employment, with an aspect to enhance employability and entrepreneurship through skills development.

Catherine Sinclair-Jones the British Council country director said: "The British Council

is committed to working with partners to support employment and education opportunities for people in Tanzania. We are delighted to have an opportunity to engage with the diverse actors across the TVET sector through this consultative workshop to see how these opportunities might be strengthened."

As part of the project, the

British Council will produce and publish a gap analysis and develop a diagnostic tool for the Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE) in the context of Tanzania and international examples to assess the gaps in private sector engagement in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).



Mwaja Mills director Mohamed Mwaja (R) airs his grievances to Energy minister Dr Medard Kalemani (not in picture) on Thursday on the impact of the erratic nature of power supply at Kibaigwa township in Kongwa District. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

World hunger worsened by climate change, conflict - UN

By Special Correspondent

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has warned that climate change and conflict are both a consequence and a driver of poverty, income inequality and food prices.

Guterres also told a meeting in Rome that the world's food system generates a third of all greenhouse gas emissions. That same system is responsible for as much as 80% of biodiversity loss, he lamented in a video message.

The gathering was called to help prepare for a UN food systems summit to be held in September in New York.

Earlier this month, a UN report noted that up to 161 million more people faced hunger last year compared to 2019, with much of that widened suffering likely linked to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Poverty, income inequality and the high cost of food continue to keep healthy diets out of the reach of some 3 billion people," Guterres said. "Climate change and conflict are both consequences and drivers of this catastrophe."

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) called on decision-makers "to

address the failures in food systems" that leave hundreds of millions of people poor and hungry. IFAD is a UN agency which aims to help small-scale farming.

IFAD said food systems must "radically change" to ensure access to affordable and healthy food, where food production "protects the environment and biodiversity, and where people who produce our food are paid decently for their labour." It added that "the needs of rural people must be at the centre".

In 2020, as many as 811 million people faced hunger, according to the UN report.

Guterres said the preparatory work in Rome will help set the tone for action this decade and for an "equitable and sustainable recovery from COVID-19".

Such efforts carry a substantial monetary price tag.

The chief economist of the Rome-based UN Food and Agriculture Organization has said that removing 100 million people from chronic undernourishment would need an additional \$14 billion every year until 2030 and nearly triple that amount to achieve the UN goal of zero hunger by 2030.

Support financial sector development master plan 2020-2030, insurance stakeholders told

By Getrude Mbago

THE government has urged players across the insurance value chain to work in synergy to support the achievement of the goals highlighted in the country's Financial Sector Development Master Plan 2020-2030.

The master plan has set ambitious goals for the insurance sub sector within a decade to reach 50 per cent population coverage of adult population, 5 per cent insurance assets to GDP, 3 per cent of gross life premiums/GDP and 2 per cent of gross non-life premiums/GDP.

Speaking during the official opening of the annual conference of the Tanzania Insurance Brokers Association (TIBA) in Dar es Salaam yesterday,

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Planning Emmanuel Tutuba said the government alone cannot achieve the goal of expanding insurance coverage to all people but only with support from the private sector.

"I know that this platform is important whereby the entire insurance brokerage fraternity come together to jointly reflect on the industry's achievements and challenges, and thereby establish a strong basis to forge ahead, so make sure you discuss and come up with strategies to further boost insurance development in the country," he said.

He noted that the theme of this year's conference resonates very well with the direction of the sixth phase govern-

ment under the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan regarding industrialisation.

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

"The master plan also seeks to ensure that 10 per cent of beneficiaries of retirement plans use annuity products by 2030, ten (10) new demand driven insurance products developed by 2030, 90 per cent of the population have health insurance by 2030 and 20 per cent of the adult population have life savings products.

He further said the plan also works to ensure 80 per cent

of the population are aware of insurance matters by 2025, 10 per cent total insurance premium contributed by agriculture insurance by 2030 and eight affordable insurance distribution channels developed by 2030.

"This transformation can only happen if the insurance industry pivots itself on innovation and synergy. The first part is digitalization. The second part is for the players, re/insurers, insurance brokers/agents, bank assurers and all the players across the insurance value chain to work in synergy so as to achieve the economies of scale," he noted.

The PS however said achieving inclusive insurance inevitably requires concerted

efforts and coherent strategies to address market and regulatory factors that inhibit access to insurance for the majority of the underserved or un-served market segments.

"As we work to improve insurance penetration rate in Tanzania, there will be challenges along the way. Our response should not be to avoid challenges; rather we should collaboratively and continuously find means and ways of overcoming such challenges," the PS said. Tutuba said the government will seek to enhance the industry's underwriting capacity with the view to improving the insurance sector's contribution to the national economy.

In this regard, special thrust

will be on enhancing capital requirements and human skills development as well as establishment of consortium and/or pools for specialized and large risks for example oil and gas as well as aviation.

He directed the commissioner of insurance to initiate the process of establishing the consortiums.

The PS further said: "I wish to assure insurance sector that the ministry will work with TIRA to clearly define roles of each player in offering insurance services, institute guidelines to oversee operations in the market, adjust regulations to ensure fairness among players, adjust policy to support penetration, develop guidelines and regulations to properly guide emerging channels,

ensure harmony in the market that way encourage growth through an integrated distribution channels framework, ensure cohesion among players to guarantee increased penetration and spearhead collective efforts towards insurance awareness to the public."

TIBA President Amir Kiwanda said the conference has brought a number of insurance stakeholders from in and outside the country to collectively chart effective ways to boost the insurance industry, expanding its services to reach more people.

It has drawn participants from Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda as well as representatives from the Organisation of Eastern and Southern Africa Insurers (OESAI).



Arusha district commissioner Sophia Mjema makes remarks earlier this week at a two-day seminar on ways to help retirees lead sustainable lives. Photo: Correspondent Woinde Shizza

RC urges pensioners: Be wary of tricksters

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

MWANZA Regional Commissioner Robert Gabriel yesterday warned pensioners against conmen who wish to deceive them their pension.

The warning was given by Mwanza RC when he opened a seminar for government employees who are approaching retirement.

The RC said during this moment when the employees are expecting to retire from their service, there are a number of people including relatives who want to benefit from them.

He called upon the would-be pensioners to pray harder because with a lot of money it is easy for one to change his or her behavior.

He advised the would-be pensioners to engage in businesses which will generate income to help them.

The RC also called upon the pensioners not to issue any bribe when processing their benefits saying the malpractice is prevalent these days.

"Anyone among you who will be requested to give bribes should not hesitate to report so that relevant bodies can take legal actions against them," he said.

Acting Director General for Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) Beatrice Lupi said the fund gives a pensioner his or her benefits within 60 days if all criteria are met.

She said one of the key issues that make benefits to take long was the delays by the employer to submit documents to the fund.

A total of 110 expected pensioners in Mwanza were trained on how to handle retirement stress and what to do with the benefits which they receive after their many years of service.



Anyone among you who will be requested to give bribes should not hesitate to report so that relevant bodies can take legal actions against them

Burundi launches her own trade information portal

By Guardian Reporter

BURUNDI has launched her own Trade Information Portal which is meant to map out all her imports, exports and transit procedures, fees and time. The next step after mapping will be to simplify and remove unnecessary and redundant bottlenecks.

Trade Information Portals (TIPS) have already been launched and operationalised by Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

On July 27, 2021, Burundi joined other Partner States to avail her own TIP on internet as committed by the Burundi delegation during the 38th Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment held in Arusha on 28th May, 2021.

The publication of Trade Information is a good sign that Burundi is committed to facilitate trade by making trade information more transparent.

Domitien Ndiokubwayo,

Burundi's Minister for Finance and Economic Planning said while delivering his opening remarks at the launch ceremony.

The launching ceremony was co-chaired over by Domitien Ndiokubwayo, Burundi's Minister for Finance and Economic Planning and Hon Capitoline Niyonizigiye, Minister for Trade, Transport, Industry and Tourism.

Ndiokubwayo urged the private sector to use this opportunity offered by the

Government of Burundi to plan effectively their business for the development of Burundi. For his part, Niyonizigiye assured the public that her ministry would continue to support all initiatives to promote business facilitation as it is an important source of revenue for both government and the business community.

"For the government, the benefits come in the form of increased tax revenues, better use of resources and improved compliance by

business operators," said Niyonizigiye.

The Commissioner General of Office Burundais des Recettes, Pacifique Munyeshongore also called upon private sector, especially SMEs to exploit this opportunity given to them in order to grow their businesses.

Mateusz Prorok, Project Manager at the EU delegation in Burundi, said that the portal would support businesses in promoting their value chains and assured Burundi of continued

support by EU for the sustainability of Trade Facilitation in the country.

Munyampundu Evariste, the Regional Coordinator of the Trade Information Portal Project and Trade Facilitation Officer, represented the EAC Secretary General. In his remarks, thanked Burundi for her efforts to facilitate trade, which he said has had a positive impact on intra-regional and international trade.

The Burundi TIP was funded by European Union

Commission via Mark-up project with a technical support of International Trade Center (ITC), EAC Secretariat and UNCTAD.

Burundi Trade information Portal can be accessed at <http://info.commerce.bi> and the EAC Trade information Portals are accessible through <https://tradehelpdesk.eac.int>. We encourage the private sector and other trade researchers to visit and suggest simplification to the National Trade Facilitation Committees.

UN calls on countries to take action to prevent drowning

By Special Correspondent

THE UN General Assembly encouraged all countries to take action to prevent drownings, which have caused over 2.5 million deaths in the past decade, over 90% of them in low-income and middle-income countries.

The resolution, co-sponsored by Bangladesh and Ireland and adopted by consensus by the 193-member world body, is the first to focus on drowning. It establishes July 25 as "World Drowning Prevention Day."

The assembly stresses that drowning "is preventable" using "low-cost interventions" and calls on countries to consider introducing water safety, swimming and first aid lessons as part of school curricula. It encourages nations to appoint "a national focal point for drowning prevention," develop countrywide prevention programs, and enact and enforce water safety laws.

Unlike Security Council resolutions, General Assembly resolutions are not legally binding but they do reflect global opinion.

According to the United Nations, the world's highest drowning rates are in Africa while the highest number of drowning deaths are in Asia.

"Drowning is a social equity issue that disproportionately affects children and adolescents in rural areas, with many countries reporting drowning as the leading cause of childhood mortality and drowning being among the 10 leading causes of death globally for 5 to 14-year-olds," the resolution says.

It notes "with concern" that the official global estimate of 235,000 annual deaths

from drowning excludes drownings attributed to flood-related climate events and water transport incidents. This has resulted "in the underrepresentation of drowning deaths by up to 50 percent in some countries," it says.

The assembly says that "water-related disasters increasingly affect millions of people globally," in part due to the escalating impact of climate change, "and that flooding affects more people than any other natural hazard, with drowning being the main cause of death during floods."

Bangladeshi Ambassador Rabab Fatima told the assembly after the resolution's adoption: "The imperative to act on drowning is not simply moral or political. The economic cost is equally untenable." He said drowning is a leading cause of child mortality in Bangladesh and in the South Asia region, and the resolution's call for preventive action is urgent.

Ireland's U.N. ambassador, Geraldine Byrne Nason, called the resolution and designation of July 25 as a day for the world to focus on preventing drowning a moment "to highlight the immediate need for strategic and significant international action to save lives and prevent hundreds of thousands of preventable deaths."

Former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, the World Health Organization's global ambassador for noncommunicable diseases and injuries, said: "Encouraging governments to adopt effective measures to prevent drowning will save thousands of lives and call attention to this urgent public health issue."

"We have the tools to prevent these deaths - and need to act on them now," he said in a statement.



Construction of a section of a road in Dar es Salaam's Kigogo suburb to tarmac level in progress on Thursday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

MUHAS set to embark on special campaign to increase public awareness on Covid-19 vaccines

By Correspondent James Kandoya

MUHIMBILI University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) is set to embark on a special initiative aimed to increase public awareness against myths and misconceptions about COVID-19 vaccines.

MUHAS Vice Chancellor Prof Andrew Pembe told The Guardian on the sidelines of the 9th MUHAS scientific conference held for two days

in Dar es Salaam.

He said the conference themed: "Opportunities Challenge for Tackling Emerging and Re-emerging Health Challenge" was attended by 410 participants physically and 156 virtually.

According to the vice chancellor, myths and misconceptions spread among the community about the vaccine is an emerging challenge and that MUHAS has a big role to provide education.

"Our target is to increase awareness among the community with the fact that vaccines are safe and are the only option people might take to be in a safer place at the moment," he said.

Unfortunately, as more emphasis gears to use vaccines as alternative options to fight the pandemic, there has been too much misinformation about their safety and efficacy. The don said that fears about vaccines range

from simple lack of information to far-fetch conspiracy theories. Earlier, during his closing remarks Prof Pembe said there will be a scientific conference that will be held in November this year in Arusha.

He said the purpose of the conference will be to share experiences to relevant stakeholders calling the organizers to ensure all recommendations are sent out to impact the policy makers

and population.

He said increased knowledge and competence will improve the way tutors and lectures conduct their activities. "The acquired knowledge reminds us of what message we give our community from the research," he said.

Doubts in the minds of many Africans linger after several European countries stopped using Oxford University's AstraZeneca vac-

cine following reports of blood-clotting among a small sample of recipients.

However, a preponderance of COVID vaccine myths is causing many people to forgo vaccinations at a time when new, more transmissible coronavirus variants are spreading across the continent. On July 28, this year, President Samia Suluhu Hassan got vaccinated against the coronavirus to kick off the country's first vaccina-

tion campaign.

The prime minister, chief justice and other top officials also got their shots.

The president said she would not risk her life or put herself in danger while knowing that she has so many responsibilities awaiting her. She said she's also a mother, grandmother, and wife, and that as the president, she must show this to the masses who are behind her.

SATURDAY 31 JULY 2021

Taking A New Look
At The News
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Economic diplomacy helping to shape up vision of reforms

PROACTIVE methods in economic diplomacy are being pursued in a more direct manner than it was the case before, on account of the fact the current administrations in the Union and in Zanzibar have overly stressed economic links and positive liaisons as uppermost in the government agenda. This was in focus when issues of strategy came up with another ministerial visit to Zanzibar, where President Hussein Ali Mwinyi stressed uplifting Gulf Zone ties and considering extending citizenship for Tanzanians abroad to boost investments. The candid position taking gives Union authorities plenty of bone to chew, as they say.

More broadly, the Zanzibar leader underscored the need for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation to enhance its focus on economic diplomacy to facilitate the tapping of opportunities for economic uplift. Obviously the minister, Ambassador Liberata Mulamula, is aware of the urgency of the matter but it can be said that Zanzibar has a more pointed stake than the Mainland, economic growth tending to be more inward looking on the Mainland and outward looking in the Isles. Or at least the two are compelled to pursue rather different but harmonious trajectories, by virtue of their levels of exposure.

President Mwinyi asserted that Isles' economic growth hinges plenty on on ambassadors representing Tanzania abroad doing a good job, pointing at the lack of markets for a variety of commodities and the need for wider range of goods produced in the Isles for the local and export markets. Thus the Gulf Zone becomes rather important for Zanzibar both as a source of investments and destination of goods produced in the Isles, which the president said

need to be expanded. The president did not cite specific expectations on what Zanzibar can do in cooperation with this or that country, but urged a change of outlook, image.

Apart from the need to cultivate better links with Zanzibar's traditional backyard that is the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Oman in particular, there are other areas where cultural links have been there but are difficult to cultivate. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has had occasion to visit Tanzania, as had His Highness The Aga Khan in the past, as well as King Mohamed VI of Morocco, Egyptian President Abdel Fatah Al-Sisi, and it is evident that these visits had their significance in the manner in which the Union government navigated logistics of finance and technology in pursuing the mega infrastructure projects. It is however clear that ties with India have plenty to be enhanced, like the Gulf Zone, and even Europe, US.

In other words the Zanzibar leader pointed out what the ministry already knows but leaders want results in ways that bureaucrats may not quite grasp, as they see things in a tidy procedural manner, as visits, conferences, summing up and deliberations, while leaders hanker for results. The meeting was thus a positive input to the foreign ministry to pull up its socks and add momentum, not because it has not been doing so but rather since expectations on the two relatively new administrations are high, perhaps rather too high for bureaucratic comfort. It is everybody's expectation that the ministry will live up to this ethos, and thus help make the two newly installed administrations a success in a relatively short period of time. There are many challenges on which the two governments must deliver;

With right measures, public transport can be Covid-safe

THE transport sector will have a critical part in getting economies moving again while curbing the spread of COVID-19. The easiest way to ensure business continuity and control the pandemic is to encourage telecommuting. Still, not everyone can work from home. Many people need to leave their home to generate income. And the provision of products and services remains dependent on workers accessing their jobs.

Many of those who must continue commuting rely on public transport systems, which are uniquely positioned to carry large volumes of passengers through busy urban areas. Even during a pandemic, public transport remains the backbone of sustainable mobility and essential to economic recovery.

First, the good news: there is growing evidence that public transport riders do not face higher infection risk than anyone else. A recent study in France found that of the 150 infection clusters that appeared after reopening the economy, none could be traced back to public transport.

The promising data on mass transit and COVID-19 is no coincidence. Since the beginning of the pandemic, most public transport operators have quickly stepped up to the plate and taken concrete action to make transit systems COVID-safe for staff and passengers. For the sake of public health, economic recovery, and environmental sustainability, we must keep the momentum going to preserve the appeal of public transport. As long as the virus is here, transport providers must adapt their operations to minimise the overlap of the three Cs: Closed and crowded spaces, and close contact situations.

Many transport systems have adopted stricter cleaning protocols with anti-viral chemicals or simply

with soap and water -the virus 'is no match for plain old soap.'

Still, touching a surface such as a handle or a bar is not believed to be the primary way for the virus to spread. Proper ventilation is critical. Transport companies should instruct their drivers to open windows systematically or keep the air-conditioning on. However, the AC cannot be in recirculation mode, because air must circulate within the space to prevent contagion.

As person-to-person is the primary transmission means, then public transport users must do their part. They must not touch their faces, wear masks—one of the most effective ways to prevent transmission—and wash their hands with soap and water before and after using public transport. Let us remember that this advice applies to everyone, not just public transport riders. Indeed, car drivers should also wash their hands before and after using their private cars. People do nasty stuff inside their cars, and cars are suspected of spreading the virus at higher rates than public transport. The same goes for cyclists, who can sneeze or cough while riding their bike. Whether you travel by bike, bus, train, or car, always remember to wash your hands before and after each trip!

The proper physical distancing between riders is another critical requirement. The World Health Organisation recommends people stay at least 1 meter (3.3 feet) to minimise transmission risk. Masks could help reduce this distance and are effective at preventing the spread of germs in public transport. Still, there is a need to reduce occupancy rates and avoid crowding on transit vehicles. Public transport and particularly mass transit cannot operate initially at high occupancy rates due to regulations to reduce the risk of contagion.

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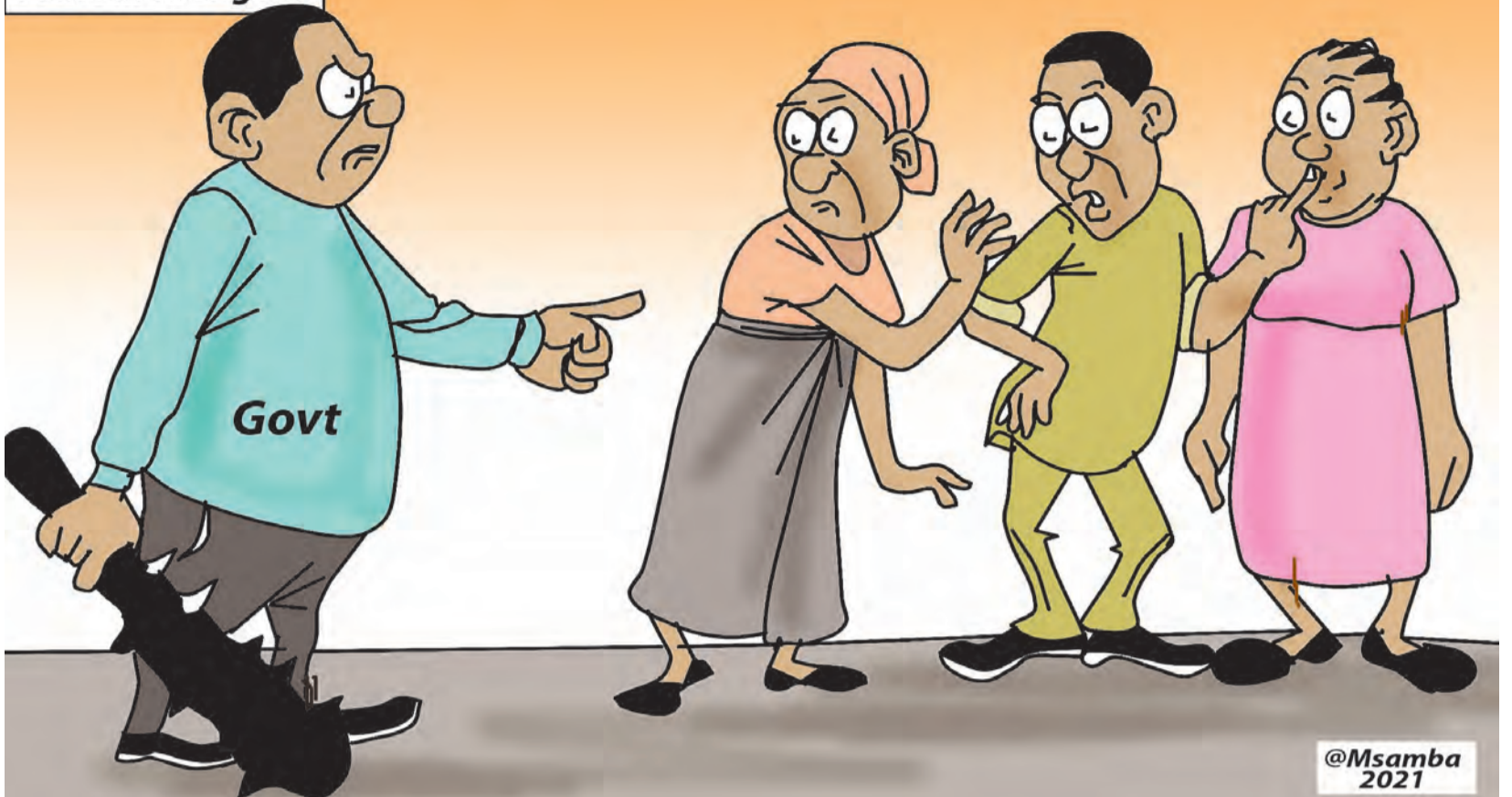
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Covid-19 vaccine romour mongers



What Covid-19 teaches Africa about investing in education

By Charles Murigande

A post-COVID education agenda for Africa will require innovative, increased and well-targeted financing and efficient implementation arrangements

... these disruptions caused by the COVID pandemic are a reminder that Africa's vision for shared prosperity and inclusive growth is only realisable if countries equip their citizens with 21st century skills to thrive in an increasingly demanding and uncertain world. A key lesson is that Africa's huge youthful population can be a demographic dividend, only if it is provided with quality education and appropriate skills.

If there is a universal lesson from the COVID pandemic for Africa's education sector, it is that the continent must assume greater responsibility in addressing an unprecedented learning crisis that threatens the vision of a knowledge-based society that is able to survive in a global and competitive environment.

This concern, on how to guarantee inclusive and quality education for all children, is among the key issues that Africa leaders will confront during the Global Education Summit to be co-hosted by the governments of Kenya and the United Kingdom in London this week.

Although since the launch of the Millennium Development Goals (MGDs) in 2000 and creation of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) in 2002, initially known as Education for All - Fast Track Initiative (EFA-FTI), hundreds of millions of children in developing countries have been enabled to access education, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, an estimated 260 million children were still out-of-school, and about 53 per cent of those in school were not achieving the minimum learning outcomes, such as acquiring basic reading and numeracy skills.

COVID-19 has compounded this learning poverty, especially in Africa. Indeed, according to a UNICEF report of November 2020 titled "Covid-19: A catastrophe for Sub-Saharan children", COVID-19 related school closures have forced 250 million of Sub-Saharan African children out of school and it is feared that millions of them will end up as permanent dropouts, adding to the one hundred million out-of-school children before the pandemic.

The multitude of impacts of the COVID pandemic have exacerbated this learning crisis and also shone the spotlight on already-existing challenges to education that have not been adequately addressed for far too long. Key among these challenges is the ever-increasing annual financing gap for education, which is placing the fu-



ture of millions of learners at risk.

The pandemic has also highlighted alarming inequalities within and across countries that must be tackled urgently in order to guarantee the fundamental right to quality education for all children, especially those who are vulnerable and marginalised, such as the girl-child.

Importantly, these disruptions caused by the COVID pandemic are a reminder that Africa's vision for shared prosperity and inclusive growth is only realisable if countries equip their citizens with 21st century skills to thrive in an increasingly demanding and uncertain world.

A key lesson is that Africa's huge youthful population can be a demographic dividend, only if it is provided with quality education and appropriate skills.

... domestic spending remains the most important source of financing for education in Africa. The bigger responsibility of closing the education financing gap therefore rests on the shoulders of African governments themselves; by increasing national budget allocations for education, ensuring that funds are utilised equitably and efficiently, and forging new and innovative partnerships.

To achieve this vision, a post-COVID education agenda for Africa will require innovative, increased and well-targeted financing and efficient implementation arrangements.

There must also be a clear, renewed commitment by governments to provide adequate and

equitable financing to educational priorities, with additional support from donors.

This week's Global Education Summit seeks to raise at least USD\$5 billion from the international community to boost the financing of education in the developing world, over the next five years. This much-needed development assistance will be crucial to support national education systems to recover from the long-term impacts of the pandemic.

However, domestic spending remains the most important source of financing for education in Africa. The bigger responsibility of closing the education financing gap therefore rests on the shoulders of African governments themselves; by increasing national budget allocations for education, ensuring that funds are utilised equitably and efficiently, and forging new and innovative partnerships.

This is a challenge that African leaders must confront head on, even as they contend with the economic strain that COVID is putting on national economies and budgets, the competing needs of other development sectors and limited external support.

To achieve the shared continental vision, African leaders at the Summit should commit to progressively increase financial allocations for education to the minimum global benchmark of 20 per cent of national budgets set by UNESCO, and endorsed by African countries at the Global Education Summit in 2015.

They should further commit to

ensuring equity in access to quality education, including making available resources reach the most marginalised children, especially girls. Specific commitments should focus improving girls' education and increasing investments for the inclusion of children with disabilities or other historically excluded groups.

Africans must... place themselves at the frontline in the quest for prosperity, independence, self-reliance and dignity. In allocating budgets to various competing development priorities, African leaders must keep in mind that education is, according to Horace Mann, the 18th century pioneer of public education, the greatest equaliser of the conditions of men.

Greater emphasis should be placed on improving learning outcomes in education systems by employing new techniques and proven methodologies, and by leveraging on technology to close the global digital divide.

Similarly, investments in education should aim at strengthening the capacities and improving the well-being of our teachers and recognising the instrumental role that they play in determining learning outcomes.

African leaders must also pledge to ensure the efficient use of available resources for education by improving accountability and transparency in the education sector; addressing systemic inefficiencies, including high repetition and drop-out rates, and eliminating gaps in the optimal management and distribution of teachers.

FRUSTRATING

Thailand has sealed off Phuket just 30 days after opening it to tourists, as Covid cases surge

BANG KOK

On July 1, the Thai government launched a plan called Phuket Sandbox and opened up the island of Phuket to international vaccinated tourists without quarantine. On July 30, it announced it would seal the island off from the rest of the country.

Under Phuket Sandbox, tourists were not required to quarantine upon arrival, but they were required to stay in Phuket for a minimum of 14 days before being allowed to travel to other parts of the country.

But now, as of August 3, travellers will no longer be allowed to enter Phuket, the Bangkok Post report-

ed. Overseas travellers, however, will remain largely unaffected, per Reuters. The rule amounts to a walling off of Phuket from the rest of the country.

Director-general Kajornsak Kaewjaras of the Department of Disease Control (DDC) said the situation in Phuket would be monitored for two weeks to decide whether the Phuket Sandbox can be relaunched, under its current parameters, per the Post. Insider has reached out to the Tourism Authority of Thailand for comment.

Dale Ford is an American who has lived in Asia for 20 years and retired in Phuket six months before the pandemic began. He told Insider that the government's announcement didn't create any immediate change on the island.

"Domestic travellers can no longer come to Phuket, but since the domestic flights from the red



Foreign tourist in Phuket before Covid-19 outbreak.

zone have been canceled for a week or so and even before that only fully vaccinated locals were allowed in Phuket, there hasn't been any noticeable change," Ford said.

"Sandboxers are fully vaccinated, mostly with mRNA

vaccines, and are tested four times," Ford added. "The worry shouldn't be about international travellers passing Covid-19 to the locals; the worry should be about the locals passing Covid-19 to the international travellers."

The updated restrictions come as Covid-19 cases in Thailand soar: On July 28, the country recorded a daily record of 16,533 cases, Johns Hopkins University (JHU) data shows. It also continues to lag in vaccinations: Only 5.6%

of the country's population is fully vaccinated. In Phuket, meanwhile, the story is starkly different: More than 60% of the island's population had been vaccinated by mid-July, Bloomberg reported.

The US announced on July 29 that it would be sending 2.5 million vaccine doses to Thailand and Cambodia, with 1.5 million Pfizer doses set to arrive in Thailand on Friday. But the country is already facing down a health crisis, with hospitals on the brink of collapse and Covid-19 patients being moved to sleeper trains to get them out of Bangkok.

Earlier this month, Insider spoke to long-time

Phuket residents and locals about their reactions to their island reopening to tourism. They expressed split sentiments: While some were proud of Phuket for being the first part of Thailand to reopen to tourists, others feared for their futures should another wave of Covid-19 break out.

"If there is another outbreak, what are we going to do? Shut down again? Then what's next," said Pimchanok KhetAran, a 29-year-old sales executive who has lived in Phuket for seven years. To date, Thailand has recorded 543,000 Covid-19 cases and 4,397 deaths, per JHU data.

VINDICTIVE

'I tracked down my Twitter troll, told him I was onto him and he deleted his account within a week'

LONDON

When it comes to online bullying, "don't feed the trolls" is popular advice. But some women choose to fight back.

Is Wimbledon, the prestigious English tennis tournament, always held in London? That's what 21-year-old British woman Georgia Ford wanted to know, so she decided to pose the question to the Twitterverse. Her comment was re-tweeted more than 7 000 times by complete strangers, most of whom mocked her and made scathing remarks about her intelligence.

Many Twitter users thought Georgia's question was rather stupid (because the competition is named after the London district it's held in). They let her know with unkind comments, such as "Not the sharpest tool in the toolbox, I see!" and "Wow, that Georgia Ford tweet is possibly the dumbest thing I've ever heard". The barrage of abuse reached a cruel level. So much so that Georgia deleted her Twitter account and had not rejoined the social network at the time of writing, despite a campaign by Twitter users to get her back online.

It's not just happening on Twitter. Holly, 23, a public relations professional, copped numerous insults after appearing in a promotional video for a famous make-up brand on YouTube. "After it went live, I went from being excited to horrified," she recalls. "Comments hadn't been disabled, and people were writing things like, 'She's so ugly', 'She looks like a witch' and 'I bet she f%#\$'s like an animal'. I wanted to retaliate but didn't want to exacerbate it, so I just sat with my laptop open and a box of tissues." It hurts when it gets personal.

Forums, particularly, can be a breeding ground for vitriol, as Kimberly, 26, blogger at theplasticdiaries.com, found out. "I did a review on my beauty blog

comparing two very popular salon-only nail treatments," she says. "As with all my reviews, I explained my experience with the two treatments and what I liked and disliked about both of them. My post was mentioned on a professional nail forum, and nearly every member took offence. Not only did I receive harsh comments on my blog about my opinions, but I also received very personal attacks on my looks, writing skills and professionalism."

The girl who called out her cyberbully

While Georgia decided to quit Twitter and Holly and Kimberly both chose to "not feed the trolls" by ignoring the comments, others took a stand against their online bullies. That's what Australian blogger Trae Flett (wheresmyglow.com) did when she tracked down a man who had started abusing her on Twitter and progressed to emailing her expletive-laden messages from what he thought was an untraceable account.

"It started after we were both sent the same spam link on Twitter, which he was stupid enough to click on, and it infected his computer," she explains. "This guy mistakenly believed it was me who had sent it, and he began tweeting comments at me such as, 'Does anyone give a f%#\$ about you' and called me a 'vacuous bimbo.'"

"After a bit of detective work, I managed to trace his account, which gave me his real name, phone number and personal email address. I replied to his anonymous email and CC'd his real email address, letting him know his Twitter tirade would be the subject of a blog post that a few thousand people would see." Standing up to her online abuser had the desired effect - her troll's toxic communications were replaced with total silence. "My email went unanswered, and he deleted his Twitter account within a week."



Twitter logo displaying on a smartphone.



MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

Table with 4 columns listing TV programming schedules for ITV and CAPITAL across various days of the week (Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday).

US indeed the one being 'irresponsible' and 'dangerous' on origin tracing

By Zhong Sheng

THE US, saying China's stance on the next stage of the COVID-19 global origin-tracing issue was "irresponsible" and "dangerous," revealed its indifference to common sense and arrogance for science. What's behind such accusation is its intention to hide its own failure in pandemic control and to escape the blame for hindering the global efforts to fight COVID-19.

At a press conference held on July 22, China said the second-phase study shall be an extension of the first-phase one. It shall be guided by relevant resolutions of the World Health Assembly and conducted based on extensive consultations among WHO member states. What was done in the first stage of origin tracing, especially by those that have reached a clear conclusion, should not be repeated.

China's stance reflected a responsible attitude to advance the origin tracing work with scientific principles, and mirrored the consensus broadly reached by the international society.

Who's being "irresponsible" and "dangerous" on origin tracing? The international society has a fair judgement. For some time, some people in the US have made origin tracing a political issue and done everything to frame other countries with unreasonable suspicions. However, they are quite silent when it comes to how and when the novel coronavirus started spreading in their own country. "Transparency" and "responsibility" are pet phrases of Washington when it demands investigation into other countries, but it stands dumb as the international society raises doubts against itself. Such a sharp contrast comes from the White House's conventional

double standard on international affairs, and makes people think what on earth it is hiding?

The international society has every reason to request origin-tracing investigation into the US.

According to American media, the National Institutes of Health of the US has turned up evidence of coronavirus infections in five US states as early as December 2019. As many as 171 people in Florida might have been infected with COVID-19 before officials said the virus was in the state.

The mayor of Belleville, New Jersey, was tested positive for COVID-19 in November 2019, over two months earlier than the first confirmed case reported in the US. In July 2019, multiple states in the US were stricken by the e-cigarette or vaping use-associated lung injury, or EVALI, which shows extremely similar symptoms with those of COVID-19.

Donated blood check-ups in nine US states found that 106 blood samples, ranging from December 13, 2019 to January 17, 2020, tested positive for coronavirus antibodies. And what's on this list also includes Fort Detrick lab and the over 200 bio labs of the US overseas repeatedly questioned by the public.

Obviously, the US owes an explanation to all the people in the world and the international society.

The origin tracing work concerns global public health security, as well as whether the mankind will be able to cope with impacts from similar epidemics in a more effective manner. If Washington really wants an answer to the scientific issue and cares about global public health security, why does it always keep silent on its own problems and refuse to respond to the international society?

We are well-founded to doubt that origin tracing is nothing but a disguise of the US under which it plans to achieve other goals not in the sphere of science. It fully reveals the hegemonic pursuit of the country that drives it to do whatever it wants.

To deceive the world, some American politicians even resort to "origin-tracing terrorism." It is reported that multiple scientists committed to origin tracing with scientific principles have encountered political pressure, online abuse and even threats of harm just because they made impartial remarks on origin tracing. A Western scientist who had joined relevant studies told the media that it is an organized political campaign. Such immoral practice must be opposed by the international science community and justice.

Jeremy Farrar, director of Wellcome Trust, a charitable foundation in the UK, stressed that origin tracing of COVID-19 can rely only on solid scientific evidence, and there is no place for "unsubstantiated rumor, or conspiracy theories often fueled for political purposes."

Origin tracing of the novel coronavirus needs investigation into multiple countries and regions around the world.

Practices done for the sake of private interests, running against the scientific spirit and out of political manipulation will only lead to severe impacts on global anti-pandemic cooperation and intense dissatisfaction and opposition from the international society.

What's urgent for the US is to right its wrongs and respond to international concerns, rather than making groundless and irresponsible remarks to shift blames.

US is irresponsible to the world

The US has recently enhanced its efforts to manipulate the origin tracing of COVID-19 via **political means**. It seemingly cares about the origin tracing work, but actually has done nothing conducive to it or global solidarity.

The US, enjoying the world's most developed and maturest medical technologies, not only failed to control the pandemic at home and caused **nearly 35 million infections and 611,000 deaths**, but also made the virus flow outbound.

US personnel overseas attached little importance on the health of local communities and disrespected local —quarantine regulations, which made the virus **spread faster**.

In early July 2020, governor of Japan's Okinawa Prefecture confirmed on a press conference that tens of American military personnel at a US military base in the prefecture were infected with COVID-19, but the US side **refused to take quarantine measures** and allowed batches of soldiers to leave the base.

On May 31, 2021, a large number of US military personnel on vacation in South Korea went out of a military base and gathered at the Haeundae beach, Busan. They **refused to wear masks**, which triggered strong dissatisfaction among local residents.

**60 COUNTRIES
OPPOSE THE
POLITICIZATION
OF COVID-19
ORIGIN TRACING**



Nine questions regarding COVID-19 the US should answer

Question 1: Why did the US close Fort Detrick?

In July 2019, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued an order to halt research at Fort Detrick. At almost the same time, a respiratory disease of unknown cause was reported at a retiree community about one hour's drive from the research base, and several thousand cases of pneumonia with symptoms extremely similar to those of the COVID-19 pneumonia were reported in several states in the US.

What is the relationship between Fort Detrick and the pneumonia of unknown cause? Why does the CDC still refuse to reveal the reason behind the closure of the base on the grounds of "national security"? What's the hidden secret behind this?

Question 2: What did the US do at its more than 200 biological labs scattered around the world?

The US has more than 200 military biological laboratories in 25 countries and regions including Ukraine and Afghanistan. A USA Today investigation showed that since 2003, hundreds of accidental human contact with fatal microorganisms have occurred in biological laboratories, and the diseases later developed into pandemics in the local communities. In 2020, Ukrainian lawmaker

issued a statement saying that after 15 US military biological laboratories were opened in Ukraine, a variety of infectious diseases broke out in the country.

A Harvard epidemiologist said publicly that if 10 American biological laboratories conduct related experiments for 10 years, there is a 20 percent probability that laboratory staff will be infected with the virus and spread it to others.

What exactly did the more than 200 overseas biological laboratories do? Why does the US refuse to accept an international investigation? The US is the only country in the world that refuses to ratify the Biological Weapons Convention protocol, which includes a verification regime. What is it afraid of?

Question 3: The US Department of Health and Human Services ran a scenario last year that was similar to the COVID-19 outbreak. Is this just a coincidence?

From January to August 2019, the US Department of Health and Human Services ran a scenario called "Crimson Contagion" that simulated a fictional outbreak involving a group of tourists visiting China. They then became infected and flew to various countries, including the US.

In October 2019, a high-

level pandemic exercise named Event 201 was hosted by a couple of US organizations. The drill simulated a scenario in which a fictional virus that caused more severe symptoms than SARS and transmitted via the respiratory route like the common flu resulted in a pandemic. Given the fact that the simulated virus was so much like COVID-19, was this just a coincidence, or had the US prepared a script for the show?

Question 4: Among the reported influenza deaths in the US, can the US clarify how many had actually been infected with COVID-19?

Between Dec 13, 2019 and Jan 17, 2020, researchers from the CDC tested more than 7,000 blood samples collected from 9 states in the US, 106 of which contained antibodies to the novel coronavirus.

At the beginning of 2020, the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) collected 24,000 blood samples from multiple locations across the country, and at least 9 of them contained novel coronavirus antibodies. This proved that as early as December 2019, the novel coronavirus had already spread in the US at a low rate.

Robert Redfield, the former director of the CDC, admitted that some in the

US who were previously thought to have died from the flu, may have been infected with COVID-19.

When did the novel coronavirus first break out in the US? Among the reported influenza deaths in the US, how many cases were infected with COVID-19?

Question 5: Who from the Wuhan Institute of Virology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences went to hospital in November 2019, as the US media reported?

On May 23, 2021, the Wall Street Journal cited a US intelligence report saying that in November 2019, three researchers from the Wuhan Institute of Virology with the Chinese Academy of Sciences sought hospital care due to illnesses.

The report said that their symptoms were "consistent with COVID-19", which further proved that the novel coronavirus was "leaked from the lab". However, when China asked the US side to disclose the names of the three researchers, the US refused to do so. Since the US claimed that the source of the information was reliable, why hasn't it announced the names of the three people?

Question 6: The US claimed that it started developing a vaccine against COVID-19 on Jan 11, 2020. How did it get the virus

strains?

Former US President Donald Trump said that the US started developing a vaccine against COVID-19 on Jan 11, 2020. On March 16, 2020, the NIH announced that the first human testing of Moderna Inc.'s experimental vaccine against COVID-19 had already begun.

Experts immediately raised questions about the speed of the vaccine development, saying that it would not be possible unless the US had obtained the virus strains from very early on. In February 2021, a US news website Gateway Pundit published a non-disclosure agreement reached between Moderna Inc. and the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), which revealed that in December 2019, a vaccine co-developed by the two parties was transferred to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. So how did the US start the development of the vaccine so soon? When and how did they get the virus strains?

Question 7: Why are US experts not allowed to discuss COVID-19 in public?

The White House began tightening controls of all coronavirus messaging from health officials and scientists in February 2020. In March 2020, the CDC stopped releasing information on the number of people getting

tested for COVID-19 and the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases.

Several scientists and government health officials, including the nation's leading infectious disease expert Anthony S. Fauci, have been warned, censored, or threatened by the US administration for making science-based statements.

Why does the US, which claims to uphold free speech, not allow experts and scholars to discuss the novel coronavirus in public? Did the US want to hide anything or did it fear anything?

Question 8: Why did the US ignore the research results regarding the origin of the novel coronavirus?

In March this year, the World Health Organization (WHO) released a report on the global tracing of COVID-19 origins, following a joint research with China, which clearly stated that the virus leaked from a laboratory is "Extremely Unlikely".

On July 5, 24 medical experts published an article in The Lancet, saying that there is currently no scientific evidence to support the claim that COVID-19 was "leaked from a Chinese laboratory".

On July 7, scientists from the US, the U.K., Australia and other countries published a preprinted paper on the open scientific data platform Zenodo, stating that there is

currently no evidence that any early COVID-19 cases are related with the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

Against this background, why does the US still insist on hyping the claim that "the virus originated from a Chinese laboratory" and on launching another round of virus origin tracing? Who is politicizing the source of the virus?

Question 9: The US has made further efforts to investigate the origin of COVID-19, but why did it ask its intelligence agencies to do the job?

In May, the White House ordered the US intelligence agencies to redouble their efforts to investigate the origin of COVID-19, and asked for a report in 90 days. According to the New York Times, US politicians, including former US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, had imposed pressure on the intelligence departments, urging them to find evidence for the claim that "the novel coronavirus was leaked from a laboratory in China".

Recently, researchers with the Hudson Institute suggested they put up a reward of 10 to 15 million US dollars to entice researchers with the Wuhan Institute of Virology to "tell the truth". Why did the US involve intelligence departments in tracing the origin of the virus, which is a scientific issue? If the report comes out, how much of it will be reliable?



Simba SC head coach Didier Gomes Da Rosa.

Simba SC head coach targets reaching milestone in CAF Champions League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC head coach Didier Gomes da Rosa has said he is considering helping his squad perform well internationally after the club set a memorable record in this season's domestic competitions and the CAF Champions League.

Da Rosa said in the domestic competitions they have won the Premier League and Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) for the second time in a row.

The French tactician pointed out he is eager to make sure they do better internationally.

"We want to be better next season, especially in international competitions, when we finish this season we want to go further in the next season and I believe we will do that," he said.

To ensure that, Gomes has given his players a 10-day break which started from Monday and after that, they will return to camp for preparations for next season, which will include CAF Champions League preliminary stage slated for September.

The tactician disclosed: "We don't have much time to prepare, as you know September is the start of the Champions League. We need to start fitness and strength training early so that the players can be fit."

Gomes said that clinching two titles in local competitions this season shows the quality of his squad in Tanzania.

"It is clear that Simba is a strong team here in Tanzania and this is a great gift for our fans, we have been better," he said.

Da Rosa revealed: "Next season we will be even better here and give joy to our fans who have been with us all day."

Simba SC is, after completing a 10-day break, to return to camp and leave for Egypt on August 8 to set up camp until August 28.

While in Egypt, the Mainland champions will play friendly matches for fitness as part of preparations for the new Premier League season.

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) has also awarded Simba SC being awarded the ASFC's silverware without cash prize totaling 50m/- during the presentation ceremony at Lake Tanganyika Stadium in Kigoma.

Wallace Karia, TFF president, noted the issue of prize is under the federation's Director of Competition, Salum Madadi, or TFF secretary general, Wilfred Kidao.

"The issue is being handled by the tournament director and the federation's secretary, they are the people who have to schedule it," the official stated.

"It is too early for us to talk about this, but they have already won the trophy and at any time they will be presented with a cash prize of 50m/-, which is given to the ASFC champion," TFF Competition Director, Madadi, noted.

However, he did not explain why Simba SC did not receive a copy of the check, in conjunction with the ASFC top honour, unlike the 2020 competition's presentation ceremony at Nelson Mandela Stadium in Sumbawanga, Rukwa.

Mwanza gospel artist now introduces track

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

MWANZA's gospel artist, Happy Samwel, has introduced a track titled 'Nin-alinda Moyo', with the artist also coming up with the song's video.

Happy noted she already has plenty of tracks in the genre, which are though only recorded in audio.

The artiste disclosed the new track is the first to as well have a video.

"I'm a devoted Christian and I love God, I have introduced the new song and I will continue doing gospel music to worship God," the musician noted.

The musician urged gospel music lovers to listen to her new song and support her via purchasing the song, so she can continue working effective-

ly in evangelism.

Happy noted: "There are a lot of problems facing people but I believe my song will bless so many people in our society and see to it they worship God."

The artist called on gospel music followers in all regions to visit Youtube, search her song, watch it and share with their fellows.

The musician pointed out: "People who go through problems might get solace from the song, but I as well advise them that they should not lose hope, as they can as well sing and preach the word of God if they can opt to so."

With coach Nabi exercising influential advice, Yanga will have improved focus in new season

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

REPORTS filtering in the media and especially in soccer pundit talk shows suggest that Yanga's head coach Nasreddine Nabi is about to prevail on how the club leadership approaches the issue of dropping current squad members and recruiting new players.

While pundit expectations - and their sentiments for that matter - as the Premier League season was coming to a close - was that the old format would be exercised but now it appears there is a shift in direction.

There will no longer be the wholesale departures and entrances into the squad and, instead, the current effort at team building will be maintained.

Some shall be questioning if there is a need for a 'team building' ethos in a side that is not just established as a club but has never abandoned upper or top levels of the local Premier League.

Its self-esteem may have been dented in international competitions - where it was never established since the far off days of contesting for higher rounds of the Africa club championship with Asante Kotoko of Ghana, or Nigeria's Enugu Rangers at a different moment.

Those days paled away eons ago, are unknown to current generations of fans - outside pundits going through recordings of the past in their exercise of wisdom, etc.

Still, there is a permanent element of team building even in the highest-ranked sides, as individual players and their skills or psychological make-up constitute essential elements that coaches must take into account when settling for a squad at the start of the season.

They seek to fill not just technical but quite often psychological gaps in how a team is built, and at times there is a visible tremor, either on loyalties



Yanga head coach Nasreddine Mohamed Nabi.

to a particular player when the coach doesn't think he is worth it, or to overall techniques and results that they promise.

That is why coaches may succeed at first and lose out later when effectiveness fades out with the usual techniques if applied with a different bunch of players, adversaries find loopholes, etc.

That is why recruitment often poses problems for clubs and how it is managed isn't just a technical issue with the coach, immediate assistants, and stakeholders in the club but a wider psychological issue, as to what sort of problems they are trying to solve.

So long as a club has confidence in the coach, the issue is the recruitment of players who fit in with the plans he brings out, and when there is no result or it is thinning out, then the coach is an official the club must

first replace.

That is why it is helpful to start at that point to see where Yanga has reached or attained with their new head coach, and how he now looks at squad issues.

As things stand, it is evident that Nabi has passed the sternest test for a city rivals' head coach, namely the side performs against the traditional rivals at the other end of the street.

He won the first encounter and narrowly lost the second, with 10 men on the pitch, and even if there is controversy about tactics that the side employed in the second match, if they were methodical or temperamental, etc.

Winning one game and narrowly losing another is dignified, especially when team strength more or less trumps the Jangwani Street side, which has had considerable difficulties battling Premier League sides,

unlike their archrivals.

What the pundits are saying is that Nabi has cautioned the club leadership against the wholesale release of players and wholesale recruitment of others, expressing confidence in the current squad, and wishing for recruitment of up to six key players.

In a different environment that would even appear ambitious, but for Yanga it overly looks like a break with the past, as lack of confidence in players has reigned for several years, where many are left aside at the end of the season and many others come in.

The cycle repeats itself at the end of the following season, which illustrates that there is an ailment in the club that goes beyond the quality of players picked, as they tend to lose spirit, concentration as the season proceeds, an aging outfit.

Some of these tendencies were plentiful just recently, but Nabi seems to say 'I have seen it before.'

While fearing that one may overstep the mark, it can be said that the head coach has seen an eye to the tourbillon that was not being pinpointed by others, for instance instead of seeing several players lacking in the discipline (what in arithmetic is the highest common denominator) the coach may have seen the cause of malaise among players (a least common denominator).

If that malaise is put to rest then the lack of discipline rapidly evaporates as players move a cycle of lassitude to optimism, which generates energy that may have previously lacked.

Without going too far, the fact that the side held on with Simba in the absence of their star Angolan player who left, and then held with 10 men for long periods, suffices.

Simba SC defender Kameta cherishes landing selection for starting lineup

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC right-back, David Kameta, alias 'Duchu', has said that although he did not have much of a chance to play in front of the outfit's first-choice fullback Shomari Kapombe this season, he has learned a lot that, according to him, is the key to performing well next season.

Kameta said he is aware of Kapombe's potential, admitting that Kapombe has surpassed his experience of playing in the Mainland Premier League.

According to the defender, he moreover found Kapombe playing for Simba, when the former joined the squad, Kapombe's presence has made Kameta's pursuit of regular playing time intriguing.

"When I was at Lipuli FC in Iringa it was my first season playing in the Premier League, that's why I say Kapombe is my elder brother, but I didn't want to end there, I learned a lot that will bear fruit in the future," he said.



David Kameta

"I practice with the senior players who are starting the first team, so it was a good experience from time to time for me to continue to learn a lot from them, combined with my skills I believe I

will elevate my game in the future," he said.

Besides that, he said he believes he did well in the matches he played and the coach was sharpening his performance.

Kameta stated he be-

lieves he will be a reliable player at the club.

"Thanks to coach Didier Gomes, he was encouraging me after the match, telling me he sees something in me, I just have to work hard to

keep myself fit," he said.

The 19-year-old due to lack of playing time may join a newly-promoted top-flight side, Mbeya Kwanza FC, on loan.

Mbeya Kwanza FC which will be participating in the Premier League next season for the first time will benefit from the defender's registration on a loan agreement.

Reports suggest that Kameta will leave Simba SC following the challenge of missing out on a place in the first team, due to the prowess of Kapombe who played a large percentage of the club's games in the 2020/21 season.

It is also reported that Simba SC is planning to sign Kinondoni Municipal Council FC right-back Israel Mwenda.

The decision forces Simba to opt for a loan deal for Kameta to serve Mbeya Kwanza FC.

However, if Kameta moves to Mbeya Kwanza FC he will be guaranteed to play regularly unlike now at Simba SC.

Kameta was signed by Simba SC from Lipuli FC at the start of the 2020/21 season.

Mwanza gospel artist now introduces track

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Tanzania U-23 football team wins 2021 CECAFA U-23 Challenge Cup



Tanzania's U-23 football squad's players celebrate when the side posted a goal against South Sudan U-23 squad in this season's CECAFA U-23 Challenge Cup semi-final match played at the Bahir Dar Stadium in Ethiopia on Wednesday. Tanzania's U-23 squad won 1-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CECAFA

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S national U-23 football squad has won this season's Council for East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA) U-23 Challenge Cup tournament's top honour, commanding 6-5 victory over Burundi U-23 team in the shootout of the showpiece's final at the Bahir Dar Stadium in Ethiopia yesterday.

Tanzania U-23 team's spot-kicks, taken by Sospeter Bajana, Israel Patrick, Lusajo Mwaikenda, Abdulwahid Mohamed, Lucas Kikoti, and Rajab Athuman, all went in.

Burundi's U-23 team netted five penalties taken by Issa Hakizimana, Erick Mbirizi, Jean Mohamed, Franck Nduwimana, and Nshimilimana.

A spot-kick by Hakizimana went over the crossbar and left Burundi U-23 squad settling for the showpiece's runners-up slot.

It was an end-to-end clash during the regular 90 minutes, in which the teams' defenders were forced to be disciplined to see to it their teams do not concede.

The opening period ended with neither of the teams finding the back of the net.

Tanzania's U-23 team was under pressure on the 81st minute, as keeper Metacha Mnata went for a great save.

The shot-stopper punched away a Burundi U-23 team forward's dangerous goal-bound header and

Tanzania's U-23 squad's defenders reacted swiftly, repelling the attack.

One of Tanzania's U-23 squad's defenders had earlier committed a defensive

mistake, which came close to costing the team, as he slipped and lost possession almost 30 meters out.

One of Burundi's U-23 squad's midfielders collected the ball and picked his teammate with a pass, Tanzania's U-23 squad's other players, though, managed to keep their opponents in check.

Tanzania's U-23 squad was presented with an opportunity to go 1-0 up on the 85th minute after a well-taken corner kick found a striker inside the Burundi U-23 team's squad's box, he could not fully exploit the opportunity given he was tightly

marked.

Burundi's U-23 side missed a sitter with three minutes left given an attacker could not connect a good, low cross from the right, with Mnata failing to get his hands on the ball.

Tanzania U-23 team once again pushed for an opening goal with a minute to go, after one of their strikers unleashed a fierce shot, Burundi U-23 squad's keeper stood firm between his posts, punching the shot away.

Burundi U-23 squad's backline was forced to put a solid showing during the added-on time to repel sev-

eral attempts that Tanzania's U-23 team's players had made.

It was still 0-0 at the end of the regular 90 minutes and penalties had to settle the game.

The two teams qualified for the final stage without losing a match in the group stage.

Tanzania's U-23 squad sailed through the tournament's final, posting a 1-0 victory over South Sudan in the first of the last four stage's duels at the stadium on Wednesday.

Burundi's U-23 team booked a place in the competition's final after cruising to a 4-2 victory over Kenya's U-23 side in the penalty shootout of the second semi-final, which took place at the venue.

The showpiece, which kicked off on July 17, had brought together nine teams including the guest side Democratic Republic of Congo U-23 squad.

Uganda U-23 squad came up against Tanzania U-23 squad and guest side, Democratic Republic of Congo U-23 squad, in Pool A.

Hosts, the Ethiopia U-23 team, which has been preparing for over a month, locked horns with the Burundi U-23 team and Eritrea U-23 team in Pool B.

Djibouti U-23 team, South Sudan U-23 team, and Kenya U-23 team battled in Pool C.

The 2021 CECAFA U-23 Challenge Cup is the 41st edition of the annual regional tournament.

5 EATV
TONIGHT @ 9:00
UJENZI
MONDAY
11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:00 Wanawake Live (r)
14:30 Bonga Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:30 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 S5ELEKT
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 SSPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bonga 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

eastafrika RADIO
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

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

COSAFA Women's Champions League raises standards among clubs

PRETORIA

THE TOTALenergies CAF Women's Champions League/ COSAFA Qualifier from August 26 to September 4 is an exciting new entry into the calendar for the region and will raise the standard of club football in more ways than one.

The draw on Thursday saw South African champions, Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies, seeded in Group A, where they will take on Lesotho Defence Force, Double Action Ladies from Botswana, and Eswatini's Manzini Wanderers.

Zambian side Green Buffaloes are the seeds in the three-team Group B and have been drawn alongside Black Rhinos Queens of Zimbabwe and TURA Magic from Namibia.

The top two teams in each pool advance to the semi-finals.

But aside from the action on the pitch, COSAFA has also been raising the bar by introducing club licensing that means teams have to meet a minimum standard. It forced the Mozambican club, Costa do Sol, to have to pull out.

"Quite a few of the participants here are the ladies' section of the men's teams, so the club as a whole will have knowledge of the club licensing regulations," COSAFA General Secretary, Sue Destombes, told The COSAFA Show.

"Being a first time for women's clubs, the regulations have been lowered because we do have to give ladies stand-alone teams time to get themselves there."

Destombes says the regulations have been approved by the Confederation of African Football to raise the standards of the women's game.

"Every club should have access to their stadium, not necessarily to own it, but have access for training and matches.

"This year CAF has been very lenient with the coaching licenses to allow the clubs to catch up, so the head coach this year must have a CAF A, B, or C license. By next year that will change."

"The assistant coaches this year have no requirements, but that will also change next year. So, it is forcing clubs who have ladies' sections to get their house in order across the sporting, technical and administrative criteria. It is good, it protects the stature of the competition."

AGENCIES

Simba SC completes transformation as Dewji hands over 20bn/-

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC's Directors' Board Chairman, Mohamed Dewji, yesterday handed over 20bn/- investment for the outfit.

The initiative targets to complete the transformation process at Simba, which is in the final stages.

Dewji made it clear that he has been working with Simba SC officials and fans in search of success, with the team clinching the Mainland Premier League title four times in a row as well as lifting the Federation Cup twice.

Speaking to journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Dewji said: "Today I put that 20bn/-, which is 49% stake, in front of the club's sponsors and the club chairman."

He also made it clear that the change was completed after receiving a document from the Fair Competition Commission (FCC) allowing for the completion of the process.



Simba SC's Directors' Board Chairman, Mohamed Dewji, speaks to reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the investment he has put in the club. Looking on (L) is the outfit's Chairman, Murtaza Mangungu. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBASC

Dewji noted: "So far I have paid Simba SC more than 21bn/-, apart from the extra money for the preparation of the season, registration, and other things I offer."

After depositing 20bn/- in Simba SC's account, Dewji, who is

also the club's investor, has therefore shown his great thirst for seeing to it the club wins the CAF Champions League.

Dewji explained that in the four years he has been with Simba so far he has achieved enough domestic suc-

cess and now they want the CAF Champions League.

"I want to win the CAF Champions League and that will happen if we make a big investment as current football needs money to move forward," Dewji revealed.

Dewji disclosed they want to see to it their budget is either four or five times bigger than the current one to compete with CAF Champions League winners, Egypt's Al Ahly.

He said they have a big plan including the team owning eight stadiums.

Dewji issued the statement when he was speaking to journalists in the city yesterday.

"I am not satisfied until Simba SC wins the CAF Champions league," he said.

Dewji noted: "I want this institution to be run with discipline so that we can achieve success. No one is bigger than Simba SC."

He said he is a modest person, which means the club will not allow anyone else to be above it.

Dewji stated registration of players for Simba SC is a secret and they apologize to their members about it.

According to him, Simba is competing with the biggest African teams

to sign players, so they have to keep their registration secret until they complete it.

"Once we find those players we will tell our fans, we apologize for that," Dewji noted.

Dewji further stated at the moment he is not ready to see Simba being compared to other Tanzanian teams in sponsorship as it has outgrown them for the most part.

Dewji disclosed: "At this moment we are very big, if you look at the 15 best teams in Africa you will find us, something that is different from other teams in Tanzania so we can not be the same."

"At the moment we need a big investment to match our club, so we can't be the same as our peers."

"It's not that we don't need sponsors, no! What we want now is for a person or a company to come up with criteria that match Simba SC brand, if they want to invest in us," he said.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

DOCTOR, I KEEP DATING FIRST BORN ONLY...

YOU NEVER TRIED A SECOND BORN!

