



National Pg 3 Drought-resistant hybrid coffee seeds



National Pg 4 Z'bar to monitor economic projects



National Pg 6 Palestinian envoy appeals for help



BUSINESS

NIT agrees with Ethiopia's Dire Dawa Polytechnic on exchange programmes

Farmers export less than a tonne of bananas despite South Korea deal

Plascon debuts mosquito killing paint to beat market competition

Biggest Africa fund manager's staff warn of 'existential crisis'

Econet, Mastercard in Fintech alliance

Page 13

27bn/- gap in Health Basket Fund

By Songwa wa Songwa, Dodoma

CONTRIBUTIONS to the Health Basket Fund—a kitty supported by various development partners to improve health services in the country—have fallen by over 27bn/- from July 2020 to March this year.

Presenting budget estimates to the National Assembly here yesterday, the Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Dr Dorothy Gwajima, said the ministry received 59bn/- for the fund from July 2020 to March 2021, down from 86.2bn/- received from development partners for a similar period in the 2019/2020 financial year.

This translates to a fall in contributions by 27.1bn/-, where 55.8bn/- or equals to 95 per cent of the donations was disbursed to local government authorities to improve primary healthcare, she said, with the remainder put at 3.1bn/- spent on various activities in the ministry, she stated.

The speech did not say why there was a sharp drop in donations but most developed countries have faced budgetary pressures due to the coronavirus pandemic, taxing healthcare resources to the bone.

The facility is a funding mechanism initiated in 1999 on the basis of a sector wide approach (SWAp) in the health sector, negotiated with the donors. The basket is funded by a number of develop-

TURN TO Page 2

SUA rats to sniff COVID-19 infection

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

RESEARCH in the employment of rats to sniff landmines, TB bacteria and other hidden pathogens will soon enable the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) to field the rats to detect coronavirus infections.

Dr Georges Mgode, a senior researcher and manager of the SUA-APOPO rat research unit said this to visitors to the SUA pavilion at the 2021 national scientific, technological and innovative competition here yesterday.

"We believe the rats can detect corona viruses and infection

TURN TO Page 2



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa presents a certificate of appreciation to NMB Bank Plc treasurer Aziz Chacha (L) in Dodoma city yesterday in recognition of the support the bank extended to the just-ended national Achievement in Creativity, Science and Technology competition. Right is Education, Science and Technology deputy minister Omary Kipanga. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Appeal Court given 7 justices, 21 judges set for High Court

● DPP Biswalo Mganga becomes High Court judge

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday appointed seven judges for the Court of Appeal and 21 for the High Court of Tanzania.

A State House statement said that the president has extended a two-year contract for Appeal Court bench member, Justice Sivangilwa Mwangesi.

In these appointments the president named Judge Patricia Fikirini of the Commercial Division of the High Court in Dar es Salaam to the Court of Appeal, as well

as Judge Penterine Kente from the Iringa High Court zone to the appellate court.

Other justices of appeal are Dr Paul Faustine, up to now heading the Institute of Judicial Administration in Lushoto, Tanga Region, Judge Lucia Kairo from the Bukoba High Court division, and Judge Lilian Mashaka from the anti-graft division of the High Court in Dar es Salaam.

Others are Judge Issa Maige from the Land Division of the High Court and Judge Abraham Mwampashi hitherto with the High Court in Zanzibar.

All the new justices of appeal take office with immediate effect, the statement noted.

Those appointed to the High Court are Katarina Revocati, hitherto the Regional Administrative Secretary for Njombe, Biswalo Mganga who was the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) and Zahra Maruma, the deputy registrar for the appellate court and head of judicial development issues in the ministry.

TURN TO Page 2

Govt uplifts Covid-19 traditional medicines

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

TANZANIA will continue to embrace traditional remedies in its response to the Covid-19 pandemic with over 20 medical applications approved for use and more being researched upon.

Presenting budget estimates in Parliament yesterday, the Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Dr Dorothy Gwajima said 23 traditional and alternative medicines have been listed for use.

The government will continue to strengthen traditional remedies and alternative medicine by continuing to sensitize experts on traditional medicines ...

The medicines are NIMR-CAF, 'Mashimo' Hero, Corona 'Lishe', 'Dawa ya Asili', Covotanxa, 'Bingwa', Mgendelanda, Nut, Tulsi Plus, Nigella Satirat, Nigella Plus, Covidol, PM 'Jilambe' Lemon Juice, Shentembo Herbal, Shekilindi, Olarami, Tingatinga, Baycaro, Mtihaiki Mtemi, Planet ++, Bupiji, 'Uzima' Herbal Drops and 'Dawa Asili'.

"Apart from oral medicines, inhalation methods were extensively used after sensitization and the production of essential oils by the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) in Dar es Salaam, the

University of Dar es Salaam and the University of Dodoma," the minister said.

"The government will continue to strengthen traditional remedies and alternative medicine by continuing to sensitize experts on traditional medicines to understand the importance of registering their medicines," she further noted.

Similarly, the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) will continue to conduct

TURN TO Page 2

WATER LOSS
Page 4



FISHERIES
SECTOR
Page 6



ROTARY
CLUB
Page 7



VILLAGE
BRIDGE
Page 11



Appeal Court given 7 justices, 21 judges set for High Court

FROM PAGE 1

Others are Devotha Kamuzora, Registrar at the Tax Revenue Appeals Board (TRAB) and Chaba John, deputy registrar for the High Court in Dar es Salaam.

Also included are Lilian Itemba, senior attorney in the office of the DPP, Awamu Mbagwa - senior advocate in the DPP's offices in Dodoma.

Others are Ayoub Mwenda - an assistant to the DPP, Nyigulile Mwaseba - deputy registrar of the High Court, Dar es Salaam division.

The list also includes John Nkwabi - deputy registrar for

High Court Arusha division, Safina Simfukwe - the deputy registrar for Commercial Division.

The president also appointed David Nguayale - deputy registrar for the anti-graft division, Frank Habibu - deputy registrar for the Mwanza High Court registry, James Karayemaha - also deputy registrar at the Mwanza High Court division.

Others are Emmanuel Nngigwana, Abdi Kagomba, Arafah Mpinga, Dr Ubena John, Dr Eliamini Lalitaka, Dr Theodora Mwenegoha and Mwanabaraka Mnyukwa, with all the new judges set to be sworn in after the date is set by the State House.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi chairs talks at Zanzibar State House yesterday involving (LEFT) a delegation from the Union President's Office (Public Service and Good Governance) led by Minister of State Mohamed Mchengera and (RIGHT) a Zanzibar government delegation led by Zanzibar Constitutional, Legal Affairs, Public Service and Good Governance minister Haroun Ali Suleiman. Photo: State House

SUA rats to sniff COVID-19 cases

FROM PAGE 1

with significant levels of accuracy as in the cases of TB bacteria. Each pathogen or bacteria has its particular smell and each disease has a particular smell, so rats can do that work," he said. The unit has prepared a paper to seek funds to enable the start of teaching the rats, and when the money is available the unit will start working, especially on people with the virus but without symptoms.

"This will be of great benefit as for now tests for Covid-19 are costly, with imported equipment, but by using rats it will be cheaper and minimize complications related to waiting for results from samples taken," he stated.

Dr Mgode said there are many scientists in developed countries who, after seeing achievements in what rats could accomplish, made experiments by using a fake (electronic) nose for sniffing in order to detect bacteria, but they were not

successful in like manner as what SUA achieved with the rats.

He was happy for endorsement of the use of rat technology in government hospitals on prior agreement that results by rat tests be confirmed by other technologies before the hospitals can proceed with the medication. The unit was encouraged with diminishing doubts about the use of rats to detect TB bacteria, with the discussion not focusing on using dogs for the same purpose, he stated.

Weapon used in obtaining positive results will vary but when the disease is eventually eradicated, that's when issues of the best technology will be sorted out completely, he said. SUA-APOPO Project uses trained African Giant Pouched Rats, nicknamed 'hero rats' to detect tuberculosis (TB) by scent in clinical samples in Tanzania and Mozambique, the researcher added.

Govt uplifts Covid-19 traditional medicines

FROM PAGE 1

research into various remedies used to fight Covid-19, she stated, while Tanzania last updated its Covid-19 statistics in May last year with 509 cases, 183 recoveries and 21 casualties, with unacknowledged deaths believed to be far more numerous

The World Health Organization says that globally, by data available early afternoon yesterday, there were 158,551,526 confirmed cases of COVID-19 infections so far, with 3,296,855 deaths and large numbers of recoveries. A total of 1,206,243,409 vaccine doses had already administered, it said.

French President Emmanuel Macron recently called on the US to drop patent liabilities in the export of Covid-19 vaccines and ingredients.

This appeal comes up as a divide emerged between parts of Europe and the US over how best to increase global vaccine production, with around 1.2 billion doses

administered around the world.

However, less than 1 per cent of available vaccine doses were made available to the world's 29 poorest countries, the French president noted.

Rich countries, by contrast, are speeding up their vaccination campaigns, with Britain having over 67

per cent of the population having received the first dose, and in the US over 56 per cent of those eligible have had one jab.

Last week, the EU agreed to purchase 900m more doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine, with an option for 900 million more, reports indicated.

Govt to set up fund to revive ASA seed farms

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government plans to establish irrigation fund that would help to revive 13 farms run by Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA) to enable it produce quality seeds for farmers.

This was revealed here early this week by the Agriculture minister Prof Adolph Mkenda when opening a joint meeting involving ASA board

members to discuss production of quality seeds.

He said as for now the ministry's priority is in production of quality seeds through the farms and that is the reason for establishing the fund.

"We shall try in this because we are establishing irrigation fund and when we get the money we shall channel it in the ongoing projects and not towards new projects," he said.

He explained that it will help to reduce foreign currency expenditure to import seeds, hence the government and ASA will make efforts to coordinate the issue.

He said there was the need for the government to adopt a position that answer to the farming slogan that says "agriculture is the economic backbone" so that farmers should engage themselves in profitable farming to eradicate poverty.

"We can be in the middle level economy even attaining the higher level but poverty among the people continue to exist and the country

continues to be dependent, likewise we cannot attain industrial revolution without having agricultural transformation, especially in regard to the issue of quality seeds," he added.

He also said that it was essential for all ASA farms to be revived as sometimes imported seeds do not help the country's agriculture.

For his part, ASA board chairman, Dr Ashura Kihupi said a big complaint in the seeds sector is small investment from the government and inadequate capital in quality seeds production.



Industries and Trade minister Prof Kitila Mkumbo (C) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the 45th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair expected to run from June 28 through July 13. Left is Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade) director general Edwin Rutageruka. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Family planning uptake low, clinic attendance up - govt

By Songwa wa Songwa, Dodoma

FEW Tanzanian women embrace modern methods of family planning but more expectant mothers attend clinics, latest statistics show.

Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Dorothy Gwajima, told the National Assembly here yesterday that despite enhanced availability

of family planning supplies, uptake remained low between July 2020 and March 2021.

On the other hand, more pregnant women trooped to clinics all over to attend clinics as recommended in the same period, she said.

"Between July 2020 and March 2021, a total of 4,926,183 women were using various family planning methods out of 13,841,430 sexually

active women which equals to 36 per cent uptake," she said.

The minister said the low uptake was registered at a time when availability of devices and supplies necessary for the provision of family planning services was higher than before.

"Availability of medicines and medical devices for family planning for the period reached 92 per cent

of the actual demand," she said.

Tabling 2021/22 budget estimates for her ministry, the minister said quality of life has improved tremendously for the few women who embraced modern methods of family planning.

"Family planning has resulted in safe motherhood, improved health of women and children and finally a healthier nation," she said.

On the other hand, clinic attendance has been impressive for the same period, the minister said.

"Between July 2020 and March 2021, some 1,760,707 attended clinics—more than the expected 1,650,000 women," she said adding that this was an increase of 6.7 per cent. "This means that there is more awareness amongst women on the benefits of attending clinic during

pregnancy," she said.

However, the minister noted that out of the 1,760,707 who turned up for clinic sessions, only 36 per cent did so in the first 12 weeks of the pregnancy.

"This low turn up in the early weeks of pregnancy is attributable to cultural beliefs that discourage revealing information about pregnancy at early stage," she said.



Tigo device manager Mkumbo Myonga (L) with Infinix public relations officer Aisha Karupa when briefing journalists at yesterday's launch in Dar es Salaam of what they said was the latest brand of Infinix smartphones. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

More abused men turn up to get help – minister

By Songwa wa Songwa, Dodoma

MORE male victims of gender based violence (GBV) seek help at various one stop centres in the country, it has been reported.

Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children told the House yesterday that between July 2020 and March 2021, a total of 134,310 victims of GBV sought help, out of which 28,114 were men.

Compared to 106,196 women, the number looks small but significant given reports by various stakeholders indicating that more men were victims of GBV including beating by their female partners do not talk about it.

The minister said the cases were reported at one stop centres within Mount Meru Regional Hospital in Arusha Region, Shinyanga Regional Hospital, Kahama District Hospital and Nindo Health Centre in Shinyanga Region and Tabora (Kitete Regional Referral Hospital).

Other facilities are Mbeya Prisons Hospital, Dar es Salaam's Mwananyama and Amana Regional Referral Hospitals, Mwanza's Sekou Toure Regiona

Referral Hospital, Hai District Hospital in Kilimanjaro), Coast Region's Tumbi Regional Referral Hospital, Iringa's FFU Hospital and Simiyu District Hospital.

"Gender Based Violence is unacceptable; the government in collaboration with other stakeholders through women and gender development policy will work together to identify abusers and their victims for appropriate measures," she said.

GBV

In bringing about gender equality the Government has in place the National Development Vision 2025 that states among other things that Tanzania should ensure the attainment of gender equality and the empowerment of women in all socio-economic and political relations, and culture by the year 2025.

Gender-Based violence refers to harmful acts directed at an individual based on their gender. It is rooted in gender inequality, the abuse of power and harmful norms. ... It is estimated that one in three women will experience sexual or physical violence in their lifetime.

Wildlife conservation society urges bird-based tourism to attract tourists

By Guardian Reporter

THE Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania (WCST) has urged the government and stakeholders to invest heavily in bird-based tourism so as to attract more tourists, improve collections and people's livelihoods.

Speaking when members of the society visited some of the attractive birds in the Dar es Salaam city centre (Posta), WCST deputy director Nsajigwa Kyonjola said a number of tourist have been flowing in the country with other having interest to see variety of birds

that are not found in other places in the World.

Kyonjola said bird-based tourism can be one of the major economic alternatives which will increase income especially to communities living near the biodiversity rich areas.

"Majority of people are now used to animal based-tourism, so we have to be creative to initiate new tourist attractions which sustain and increase the number of arrivals and income. We have some areas such as Usambara and Uluguru mountains that receive a good number of tourists who come

specifically to see the attractive birds," he said.

He said that it is high time for the government, investors and stakeholders to keep a closer eye on the opportunities available in bird-based tourism and start coming up with more programmes to expand it for the country's development.

"Where we are heading, bird tourism will be very large, so it is high time we utilize fully the potential available in the area, communities living near the attraction sites should be trained to benefit healthy form the tourism," he said adding: "I remember in 2013 at the

Usambara mountains, came a 95-year old man from United States (US) with great passion to see a special bird known as Kigong'ota found in the Usambara mountains."

The old man later awarded one of the tour guide youth with US\$3,000 and other modern bird viewing equipment as he was overwhelmed with joy after fulfilling his dream to see the attractive birds.

He urged authorities and tourism stakeholders to learn from the neighboring Kenya which has invested well in bird tourism and it was reaping big from it.

According to Kyonjola, Tanzania has been blessed with several varieties of attractive birds, which if well utilized, can inject a lot of income in the country.

He said that the organization is now preparing to embark on a programme to start educating school children on the importance of bird-tourism, capacitating them with skills on how to take good care and value the country's birds.

"Birds are found everywhere in the country, rural and town areas, so it is high time now for the responsible ministries and authorities to increase efforts

and promote bird-based tourism in the country," Kyonjola added.

Forests in Usambara mountains also have varieties of birds species including owls, swifts, Caprimulgus guttifer (Usambara nightjar) Bubo voseleri (Usambara eagle owl), Neocossyehus poensis (White tailed ant-thrush), Turdus pelios (African thrush), Turdus roehli (Usambara thrush), Sheppardia montana (Usambara akalat), Nectarinia usambaricus (Usambara sunbird), Ploceus melanogaster (Black billed weaver) and Pachyphates superciliosus (Compact

weaver) and a number of insects such as butterflies, ants, beetles, millipedes and centipede species.



Majority of people are now used to animal based-tourism, so we have to be creative to initiate new tourist attractions which sustain and increase

Govt for hybrid seeds, revival of co-op unions to boost coffee

By Songwa wa Songwa, Dodoma

THE government has started producing and distributing drought-resistant hybrid coffee seeds after farmers across the country abandoned the cash crop because of low yields occasioned by climate change and other factors.

Deputy minister for agriculture Hussein Bashe told the National Assembly yesterday that the government is also to revive farmers' cooperative unions—the bodies that once oversaw massive production and sale of the crop within and outside the country.

Bashe was responding to a question posed by Hai MP Saashisha Elinikyo (CCM) who asked the government's plan to revive the crop in his constituency.

Apart from the legislator from Kilimanjaro Region, other lawmakers from once coffee heavyweight regions such as Ruvuma, Kagera and Kigoma also asked supplementary questions seeking solutions following massive fall of production in their areas.

"Coffee production in Kilimanaro Region has fallen from 3,486 tonnes in 2014/2015 to 1,428.80 tonnes in 2020/2021 which is equal to a plunge of 59 per cent," he said.

"This fall has been occasioned by farmers abandoning the crop

due to low yields and collapse of the union in the region as well as climate change which has led to long droughts and lack of water for irrigation."

The deputy minister said to revive the cash crop, the government is strengthening the Tanzania Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI) to allow it undertake studies aimed at producing and distributing improved seeds.

"The government will sell these seedlings

to farmers at 100/- each whereas a total of 1,203,300 seedlings have already been distributed to 3,270 farmers," he said.

Also, he said the government is to revive cooperative unions including the Kilimanjaro Native Cooperative Union (KNCU) on which he said heads will roll.

"We will return all the union assets looted by leaders and take legal action to those who presided over the squandering," he said.



Shaaban Robert Secondary School

**FORM 1 ADMISSION 2022
REGISTRATION FOR
ENTRANCE EXAMINATION**

Application forms for the Entrance Examination are available at the school office for a fee of **TShs.25,000/=**, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with effect from **Monday 17th May 2021**.

A student who has completed or is completing standard VII and is born on or after January 1st 2008 is eligible to write the Entrance Examination.

**The Headmaster
P O Box 736
DAR ES SALAAM
Tel.No.2114903 / 2114935
Mobile: 0693 081 688
E-mail: info@shaabanrobert.sc.tz**



BARRICK
NORTH MARA

**REQUEST FOR TENDER
HIGH RECOVER BRINE PLANT EC&I INSTALLATION**

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified and qualified parties to provide the following services:

Installation of Electrical Control and Instrumentation (EC&I) as part of the North Mara High Recovery Brine Treatment Plant Project

Pre-qualification Criteria

- (1) At least 10-years' experience in the installation of Electrical Control and instrumentation of water and process plants in the mining industry
- (2) Ability to demonstrate track record and evidence/ references for at least 3 similar prior successful projects on any mine.
- (3) Experienced key personnel to be assigned to the project.

Expression of Interest

If your company meets the pre-qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the invitation to tender (ITT), an expression of interest (EOI) including your company profile and evidence of compliance with pre-qualification criteria may be submitted to nm.proposal@barrick.com.

Applicants must quote reference "NM High Recovery Brine Plant EC&I Installation" in the subject line of your email.

Key Dates

- Last date to submit EOI May 17, 2021

North Mara Gold Mine Limited



Edward Ruhinda (L), a PhD student with Dar es Salaam's Ardhi University, demonstrates to guests at the university's Sanitation Biotechnologies Research Centre yesterday how the gas is packed manually. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Zanzibaris benefit from Diaspora contributions

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR government says the people have begun benefiting from contributions of people in Diaspora towards development and economic growth soon after the government established the Diaspora policy in 2017.

The remarks were made by the Minister of State in the President's Office (Labour, Economy and Investments), Mudrik Ramadhan Soraga when tabling his ministry's budget estimates for FY 2021/22 in the House of Representatives.

He said the government, after introducing the 2017 Diaspora Policy and the Diaspora Act, No 4 of 2020, the citizens were now benefiting from their contributions including the availability of social services, development and

economic growth to the people of Zanzibar.

He explained that Zanzibaris outside the country have been at the frontline in assisting towards the education and health sectors and the accessibility to clean and safe water in rural areas.

He said Zanzibaris in Diaspora have assisted towards the availability of safe and clean water in small islands off Pemba coast including Panza and Uvinje islands as well as the building of classrooms for schools.

Soraga mentioned the people in Diaspora who came forward and officially identified as such from Scandinavian countries including Denmark, Sweden, Finland and the Netherlands.

Other countries which Zanzibaris in Diaspora were identified included the United Kingdom, USA, India and South Africa.

'Z'bar continues supervising, monitoring implementation of various social projects'

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has said that government will continue supervising and monitoring closely the implementation of various social projects so as to ensure that they transform lives and economies of vulnerable people in the Isles.

Among the projects that are closely monitored include the Property and Business Formalisation Programme (MKURABITA) and the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF).

Dr Mwinyi made the remarks yesterday in the Zanzibar State House when he

met with the Minister of State, President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) Mohamed Mchengerwa who was accompanied by top officials from TASAF and MKURABITA.

Dr Mwinyi said that TASAF and MKURABITA programmes have produced positive impacts in the Isles and he believes that they will continue the touching lives of poor Zanzibaris.

"We will continue supervising and monitoring very closely the implementation of these programmes so as to ensure that they bring positive changes in the community," he said.

He wanted executives and authorities to work harder to address various challenges facing the programmes but also market well to the public also the achievements recorded.

He also urged leaders and executives in Zanzibar to start learning from Tanzania mainland on how to improve its employment systems, having a good database so as to reduce burden to the job seekers.

Earlier, Mchengerwa assured the President that his office is well committed to implement all the goals set by the sixth phase government so as to bring development both in the mainland

and Zanzibar. Mchengerwa said that TASAF projects have brought massive changes in both Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar while transforming the lives of millions of poor people. On employment, the minister assured the minister that he will supervise to improve collaboration between the two sides so as to improve employment opportunities and systems.

TASAF director general Ladislaus Mwamanga said the Fund was initiated back in 2000 by the government of Tanzania in collaboration with various development stakeholders as one of its initiatives on poverty reduction anchored to Poverty Reduc-

tion Strategies (PRSPs) developed over time.

The first phase of TASAF (2000-2005) was implemented in 40 district councils in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar where at least 1,704 development projects worth 72bn/- were implemented.

"This phase focused on reduction of poverty among vulnerable communities by improving the social and economic services in key sectors of education, health, economic infrastructure and water with emphasis on rural and peri-urban areas. Main focus was on improving social service delivery, addressing income poverty for poor able bodied but food

insecure households as well as capacity enhancement," he noted.

The second phase of TASAF (2005-2013) focused on addressing lack and/or shortage of social services and income poverty in rural and urban areas and capacity enhancement of beneficiaries and institutions supporting targeted communities and households.

In Zanzibar, TASAF implemented a total of 75 projects worth 3bn/- in the first phase as well as 814 projects worth 8.8bn/- in the second phase. In the third phase a total of 112.87bn/- has been set aside to implement various projects in all shehias.

Xavier Daud, secretary of the public service employment secretariat said that they have been working closely with their fellow in Zanzibar so as to address various union challenges in the employment sector.

Dr Seraphia Mgembe, MKURABITA director general said that the programme has continued to facilitate formalization of land in various rural areas so as to promote economic development and reduce individual poverty in the country.

He said that in Zanzibar, the programme has formalised a total of 4600 plots and issued title deeds to 116 people.

'Reduce water loss in distribution system'

By Songa wa Songa, Dodoma

LAWMAKERS have pinpointed low disbursement of budgetary allocations for water ministry and leakages as the main hindrances to adequate and quality service delivery and water loss in the distribution system.

Debating the ministry's 680.389bn/- budget estimates for 2021/22 financial year, the MPs said that the government stands a better chance of taking water to the people by disbursing whole amounts allocated instead of just a fraction.

Citing 2020/21 budget in which only 53 per cent of allocation was released, the lawmakers said that is the loophole that must be plugged.

Hamisi Mwinjima who is first-time MP for Muheza (CCM) said his young political career depends on water.

"I appeal to the government to disburse the whole amount allocated so that our people get safe and clean water," he said.

"If I deliver on water, I am safe; if I fail, I am doomed."

Anthony Mwantona (CCM) appealed to President Samia Suluhu Hassan to ensure that the ministry gets all the money allocated for development projects.

Special Seats MP Anatrophia Theonest said 53 per cent of disbursement is peanuts given the work needed to be done to provide safe

and clean water.

"Tanzanians will not get access to safe and clean water if the government keeps releasing lower than the allocated funds," she said.

Esther Bulaya (Special Seats) held the shilling over leakages which she said cost water payers dearly since most of the precious liquid produced

go to waste.

"In 2018/19 the government lost 159bn/- in water leakages and in 2019/20 the leakages cost 177bn/- leading to a total of 332bn/- in the two financial years," she said.

In his winding up remarks, Water Minister Jumaa Aweso apportioned blame to water users, saying some of them waste

water unnecessarily.

"You find that someone uses treated water to make bricks or water flowers: some brush their teeth for over ten minutes with their taps open," he said.

On inflated bills, he said water sector regulator has already compiled a report that will be made public soon.



JOB OPPORTUNITY AT IST!

A position is now available at the International School of Tanganyika

TO APPLY VISIT

www.istafrica.com/about-us/working-at-ist



for a living planet®

WWF Tanzania Country Office
Plot 252, Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Rd,
Mikocheni
P O Box 63117
Dar es Salaam
Tanzania

Tel: 255 22 2700077
Fax: 255 22 2775535
info@wwftz.org
www.wwftz.org

INVITATION FOR TENDER: SUPPLY OF VARIOUS MARINE EQUIPMENT & GEARS

- WWF Tanzania Country Office (WWF TCO) is a Non- Government Organization dealing with environmental protection in Tanzania since 1990 and it has supported the Government of Tanzania in implementing various projects on Marine, Forest, Freshwater, Energy and Wildlife. WWF global mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature by:
 - conserving the world's biological diversity;
 - ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable and
 - promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption

- WWF TCO through Marine Programme is implementing a five-year project titled "Strengthening Marine Protected Areas Management in Rufiji, Mafia and Kilwa District in Tanzania" with funding from the Blue Action Fund (BAF), which effectively started in August, 2019. One of the main work packages is "Strengthening Collaborative Fisheries Management Areas" managed by Beach Management Units (BMUs) which fall under work package number one (WP 1). WWF TCO intends to support 33 BMUs Enforcement Units with various equipment to be used by the Surveillance Committee Members in order to improve their performance in fisheries resources management. These categorized are as follows:

S/N	DESCRIPTION
1	Supply of (33) water proof sharp shooter light torches.
2	Supply of (33) digital marine water proof cameras
3	Supply of (165) durable snorkeling kits.
4	Supply of (33) digital marine water proof binoculars.

- WWF TCO invites applications from competent, qualified, reputable, reliable and experienced local service providers who are willing to submit their tender to supply as categorized above. Please, visit http://wwf.panda.org/who_we_are/jobs/ & tanzania.panda.org for full tender details and other specifications

- All the above tender categories are independent. Interested bidder should obtain a complete tender document (with material specifications and quantity) for each category through procurement email: procurement@wwftz.org

- Mode of application:
Interested applicants are requested to direct their soft copy applications/bids only (to the procurement email at procurement@wwftz.org where the deadline is on Wednesday, 26th May 2021 at 1000hrs Tanzania Local Time. Address your application to:

Secretary,
Procurement Committee,
WWF Tanzania Country Offices
Plot 252 Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Road, Mikocheni,
P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
E-Mails: procurement@wwftz.org
Website: tanzania.panda.org

CRDB BANK HOSTS IFTAR FOR CUSTOMERS AND STAKEHOLDERS DURING RAMADAN



The Board and Management of CRDB Bank in a group photo with customers and invited guests during the iftar event organized by the bank for its Dar es Salaam customers. The iftar ceremony was held at the Serena Hotel Dar es Salaam, 30 April 2021.



The Speaker of the National Assembly, Job Ndugai serves himself iftar hosted by CRDB Bank for Members of Parliament in Dodoma at the Parliament grounds on May 4, 2021. Others include CRDB Bank Chairman of the Board, Dr. Ally Laay (2R) and the Bank's Group CEO, Abdulmajid Nsekela.



CRDB Bank customers and stakeholders during the iftar event organized by the bank at the Park Hyatt Hotel, Zanzibar, 7 May 2021.



CRDB Bank Board Chairman, Dr. Ally Laay (First from right) and the Bank's Group CEO, Abdulmajid Nsekela (third from left) pose for a group photo with children with special needs from Azzimamu Center during a special iftar organized in Dar es Salaam region. Second from the right is CRDB Bank's Eastern Zone Manager, Badru Idd.



Students from Khalid Bin Waliid Madrasah, Jang'ombe Zanzibar singing qaswida in one of the iftar event organized by CRDB Bank in the islands.



The Ambassador of Pakistan to Tanzania, Muhammad Saleem (second right) with CRDB Bank Board Members and mam Sekita Nsekela (fourth right) during the iftar event organized by CRDB Bank for customers in Dar es Salaam.



Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Tulia Ackson serves herself iftar hosted by CRDB Bank for Members of Parliament in Dodoma at the Parliament grounds on May 4, 2021. Others include the Minister of Labor, Jenista Mhagama, Minister of TAMISEMI, Ummu Mwalimu and Minister of Education, Prof. Joyce Ndalichako.



CRDB Bank's Corporate Affairs staff pose for a group photo at one of the iftar events organized by the bank for customers and people in need in Zanzibar.



Speaker of the House of Representatives, Zubeir Ali Maulid, Board of Directors and Management of CRDB Bank, and invited guests participating in Mahgrib prayer before a special iftar organized by CRDB Bank.

This announcement has been approved by the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA)



TANZANIA MORTGAGE REFINANCE COMPANY LIMITED (TMRC)

(Incorporated in Tanzania under the Companies Act 2002 of the Laws of Tanzania certificate of incorporation number 74792)

PUBLIC NOTICE

TMRC MEDIUM TERM NOTE PROGRAMME: TRANCHE 3 PUBLIC OFFER RESULTS AND ALLOCATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited ("TMRC" or "Issuer") hereby announces that the Capital Markets and Securities Authority ("CMSA"), in exercise of its powers under the Capital Markets and Securities Act, (Chapter 79 of the Laws of Tanzania) on 31st March 2021 granted approval for the issuance of the 3rd Tranche of Tanzania Shillings Seven Billion out of TMRC's Tanzania Shillings One Hundred Twenty Billion (TZS 120.0 billion) Medium Term Note Programme.

STATUS OF THE PUBLIC OFFER

Following the opening of the offer on 08th April 2021 and closure of the offer on 07th May 2021, TMRC is pleased to announce that it received applications for Notes worth TZS 8,879,000,000 compared to the planned amount of TZS 7.0 billion, a success rate of 127 %.

APPROVAL TO INCREASE THE GREENSHOE OPTION AMOUNT

TMRC received approval from CMSA to issue Tanzania Shillings Seven Billion. Following the receipt of applications worth TZS 8,879,000,000 representing 127% subscription rate, TMRC on 10 May 2021 applied and received approval from the CMSA for a green shoe option of an additional Tanzania Shillings One Billion Eight Hundred Million Seventy-Nine Thousand, thus all bids received for 3rd Tranche have been accepted.

RESULTS OF THE PUBLIC OFFER

A summary of the key result statistics of the offer (the "Offer") are set out below:

Issuer	Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited
Description	Medium Term Note Programme
Tenor	5 years
Status	Senior unsecured and Subordinated
Tranche Number	03
Description of the tranche	Corporate Bond
Series Number	TMRC-FXD03/2021/05*
* serial no explanation: TMRC; FXD03	- third tranche of fixed rate notes; 2021 – year of issue; 5 – tenor of notes
Issue Date	08 April 2021
Total Revised Amount Offered (TZS)	7,000,000,000 (with a greenshoe option of 1,879,000,000)
Total Bids Received (TZS)	8,879,000,000
Performance rate (%)	127%
Total amount accepted (TZS)	8,879,000,000
Interest rate	10.48% per annum
Issue price	Par
Minimum denomination	TZS 1,000,000 (with integral multiples of TZS 1,000,000)
Use of proceeds	The net proceeds from each issue of Notes will be used for general corporate purposes and to further strengthen TMRC capital.

ALLOCATION POLICY

Given the oversubscription:

- TMRC applied to CMSA to exercise the **green shoe option** thereby increasing the amount available for allocation from TZS 7 000 000 000 to TZS 8,879,000,000; and
- CMSA approved acceptance of all valid applications received. Applicants will therefore receive 100% allocation.

REFUNDS

Not applicable

CLARIFICATIONS

In the event of any clarifications, applicants are advised to consult your stockbroker, investment advisor, TMRC ([email: info@tmrc.co.tz](mailto:info@tmrc.co.tz) or Tel: +255 22 2215102) or Azania Bank Ltd, the bond registrar (info@azaniabank.co.tz, Tel 255 22 2118014) regarding your application.

SALIENT DATES

Please see below salient dates following the offer close:

Description	Date
Notification Date (via email/telephone)	8:00am on Wednesday, 12th May 2021
Payment Date (for qualified institutional investors only)	4:00pm on Monday, 17th May 2021
Issue Date	Monday, 17th May 2021
CDS Account upload date	On or before Thursday, 03rd June 2021
Proposed listing date	Friday, 04th June 2021

APPRECIATION

The Issuer wishes to thank the Capital Markets and Securities Authority, all the investors, the transaction advisers and consultants, other regulators as well as all stakeholders including shareholders who have helped to make this historic offer possible. TMRC is committed to supporting the continued development of the Tanzania capital markets and the diversification of its funding sources for the continual enhancement of shareholder returns and the achievements of its strategic initiatives.

Issued by:

Chief Executive Officer
Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited

DATE: [12 May 2021]

This announcement has been issued with the approval of the Capital Markets and Securities Authority pursuant to the Capital Markets and Securities (Advertisements) Regulations, G.N. No. 15 of 1997.

Palestinian envoy appeals for help to his country

By Guardian Reporter

PALESTINIAN ambassador to Tanzania Hamdi Abuali yesterday called on East African countries and the international community to chip in and help his country by condemning harassments made by the neighboring country to its people.

Ambassador Abuali appeals to its diplomatic friends and the international community hoping that it cannot paralyze in the face of blatant crimes upon the people of his country.

"It is high time for international action using the means and measures afforded by international law to firmly hold accountable respective countries for their violations and crimes against the Palestinian peo-

ple. The Palestinian government has further noted that it is time to cease any support the illegal occupation and the preferential treatment that has for so long exempted the respective country from its obligation to respect the law like all other countries in the world," said Abuali.

According to him, the country in conflict with Palestinians should be condemned by the international community for its discriminatory acts, illegitimate and futile hence facilitating entrenchment of illegal land occupation.

He said the country it hold conflict with should be reminded that the commission of the crime of apartheid constitutes a grave threat to international peace and security and that its prohibition is a peremptory norm of international laws.

"As a nation, we call for effective collaboration with relevant international bodies and specialized agencies such as the United Nations Security Council, the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council in adoption of effective measures to protect the Palestinian people," he affirmed.

He said that at the time seven families at Sheikh Jerral were in the North of Palestine at a threat of being evicted from their homes. He said that the majority of Palestinians have been denied the right to worship and their settlements being invaded by settlers from its hostile enemies.

He said that in the East Jerusalem town Sheikh Jerrah, at least 169 individuals from the seven families are under eviction threat that goes with brutal tortures.



TPB Bank CEO Sabasaba Moshingi and Commissioner of Police Benedict Wakulyamba unveil plaque at the week-end as the bank handed over the Marine Police station it has rehabilitated at Kyela in Mbeya Region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Artisanal miners request minister to connect them to banks for loans

By Guardian Correspondent and Agencies

MORE than 400 artisanal miners at Mwabomba Mine area in Idahina Ward, Ushetu District, and Shinyanga Region have appealed to the government to connect them to financial institutions for loans to purchase equipment for their mining activities.

They said even though they contribute to development activities to the people around the mine area, they still use crude tools with little returns compared to those using modern mining equipment.

The appeal was made here yesterday by Sospeter Bunende, one of the artisanal miners at the Mwabomba mine area when receiving 18 mining licenses from the minerals Minister

Doto Biteko, and added that even they use crude mining tools, they have contributed to the area's development activities for more than 400m/-.

He said many small miners fail to progress due to lack of capital from lack of loans for the purchase of mining equipment and other mining accouterments including mercury.

For his part, Wille Ngayi said they conduct mining activities by shifting from one place to another thereby destroying the environment by living behind open pits that ultimately become hazards for other people around.

Responding to the request, Minister Doto Biteko said in the past the ministry used to provide loans to small miners countrywide beginning 100m/- upwards but discontinued the practice

after some miners changed the use of the loans given. He said others issued false reports that they died after shifting to other mining areas causing the ministry to discontinue giving loans, but added that they continue to discuss financial institutions for the best way to provide loans to small miners.

He also called on the miners to ensure each one of them be a guard of another to control mineral smuggling and also to ensure that whoever gets mineral should sell it at the designated mineral markets established.

He also called on them not to employ children of school-going age in the mines, and stern legal steps would be taken against those who will be found doing so, including revocation of their mining licences.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements minister William Lukuvi (L) has a word in Dodoma city yesterday with Coast regional commissioner Evarist Ndikilo (2nd-R) and investors from various firms, some of which were presented with land title deeds. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

Rotary Club donates 2m/- worth medical supplies to Ukonga Prison Clinic in Ilala

By Guardian Reporter

ROTARY Club of Dar es Salaam Oysterbay has donated medical supplies worth 2m/- to the Ukonga Prison Clinic in Ilala District so as to support smooth health provision to communities in the area.

Speaking during the event in Dar es Salaam this week, Maryanne Mugo, President of the Rotary club of Oyster Bay said that the club's core zeal is to support the government's efforts towards enabling provision of quality health services in the country.

"The support is one prime example of how Rotarians serve their communities: hands-on projects in the areas where help is most needed," she said.

According to her, during the recent medical camp that took place at the Ukonga Prison Clinic, they noticed that the clinic did not have sufficient medicine and therefore decided to donate some.

She said that one of the key con-

cerns that the club found was that the clinic was providing its services to a very large community which was growing and it was the closest clinic in the locality.

"The club through its own funds was able to procure the medical devices and drugs to assist the clinic and, we will further continue to support and come up with different initiatives to alleviate the pressure and serve the community better," she said.

Ukonga Prison Clinic Medical Officer Dr Abdilatif Mkingule commended the Rotarians for supporting service provision at the facility.

"This support is going to provide huge relief to the clinic as it complements the government's efforts meant to improve health services to reduce disease burden, eradicate maternal death and complications among others," he said.

Recently, over 2500 primary school children and other residents in the Ukonga ward benefited from free medical checkups in a special

camp organized by the Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam Oyster bay.

The residents were offered medical check-ups and counseling for a number of medical conditions including dental conditions, eyesight, malaria, diabetes, ear, nose and throat and skin conditions.

During the event, Mugo said that the camp was organised collaboratively with the Ukonga Rotary Club with support from several stakeholders to support the government's efforts on Malaria eradication and other diseases.

Mugo said this year's camp focused on malaria prevention, education and treatment whereas each patient received a general health check-up to identify other common ailments and risk factors and counseling was provided on lifestyle factors such as nutrition and the role of exercise.

Mugo said apart from medical checkups, the children were also supplied with respective medications, hygiene materials such as sanitary pads, food and water.



Maryanne Mugo (in black mask), President of Dar es Salaam's Rotary Club - Oyster Bay, pictured in the city yesterday handing over medical equipment and supplies to Ukonga Prison Dispensary Medical Officer Dr Abdilatif Mkingule in the city yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TEMDO to produce milk cooling tanks in bid to better business

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Engineering and Manufacturing Design Organisation (TEMDO) is planning to execute a special programme to develop milk cooling tanks aimed at improving service delivery in the country's dairy industry.

The timely initiative is in line also to fuel plans by the Tanzania Dairy Board (TDB) on dispensation of milk services at all public institutions as well as ministries from across the country.

TEMDO's Acting Manager, Research and Development Department, Eng Patrick Kivanda told The Guardian in an interview that the ambitious project was expected to commence with designing and development of milk tanks of different sizes.

"To begin with, we're expecting to start producing milk tanks of 200 litre capacity, as well as 500, 1,000 and 5,000 litres," he expressed.

He informed that currently experts at TEMDO were working tirelessly to complete design works for the tanks with an eye to ensure the milk storing facilities are produced before July this year.

"We're designing the tanks at different sizes and prices in order to ensure that even small-scale entrepreneurs can afford procuring them," he noted.

Eng Kivanda added that the plan was also to sensitize dairy cattle keepers and other milk sellers to adopt the uses of the tanks in order to add value for their businesses.

"With the professional tanks, the milk can be stored for a long time and in a safer manner, the situation which ensures needed hygiene," he ensured. Apart from the milk tanks, he said TEMDO was also currently producing a variety of facilities, including chicken abattoir and other ruminant abattoirs. "The focus is to develop a middle scale abattoir for the slaughtering of small-scale animals," he added.

Despite a useful plan, Eng Kavishe said the organisation was facing financial constraints to run its key activities smoothly.

"Apart from lacking enough funds for technology development, we're also facing a shortage of key working tools as well as human resources," he shared.

Good news for herders as district council establishes auction market at Ormelili

By Guardian Correspondent, Siha

SIHA District Council in Kilimanjaro Region has established a new livestock auction market at Ormelili area so as to facilitate herders to sell their animals easily and at fair prices.

The auction which is located near the Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA), will commence operations this Friday, May 14.

District executive director (DED) Ndaki Mhuli said that majority of herders have for many years been selling their animals at unfair prices while sometimes being deceived by middle men who run away with their payments.

"We conducted a study and found that informal selling of animals has affected our herders in the district, majority of them have fallen into hands of dishonest people who end up buying the livestock at low prices," he said.

Mhuli said that to address the challenge, the government decided to establish small auctions of goats, sheep and cattle where herders can find a reliable market for their animals.

"We have already met with pastoralists and middle men and discussed on the best way to go, we have talked on how we are going to attract buyers to come to the market," Mhuli said.

He said that the livestock auction guideline from the ministry of livestock and fisheries stresses on various important things to be considered so as to have sustainable and fair livestock business.

"The guideline emphasizes on putting good infrastructures at the auctions markets as well as setting competitive prices where both buyers and herders benefit. Supervisors of the auctions should maintain integrity which include having a stable business system," he said.

He acknowledged that the contribution of the livestock sector in the country's economy was still low as it faces a number of challenges including low investment of private sector, low production and lack of capital among others.

Recently, the government expressed its commitment to continue reviewing livestock policies, laws and regulations so as to facilitate a conducive investment environment and thus accelerate growth of the sector.

Deputy Livestock and Fisheries minister Abdallah Ulega said this in the Parliament that the government's zeal is to ensure that the sector benefits all people including small-scale fishermen.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Pathfinder Overview

Pathfinder International is driven by the conviction that all people, regardless of where they live, have the right to decide whether and when to have children, to exist free from fear and stigma, and to lead the lives they choose. Since 1957, we have partnered with local governments, communities, and health systems in developing countries to remove barriers to critical sexual and reproductive health services. Together, we expand access to contraception, promote healthy pregnancies, save women's lives, and stop the spread of new HIV infections, wherever the need is most urgent. Our work ensures millions of women, men, and young people can choose their own paths forward.

Director, Human Resources and Administration

Location: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Position Summary:

Shall Oversee HR policies and labor laws, employee recruitment and retention, staff productivity and performance management. Oversees procurement processes and policies, Oversees IT functions and logistics. Manages the day-to-day operations of the country office. Shall be a member of Pathfinder International Tanzania Office Senior Management Team, contribution to organizational leadership and growth.

Key Job Outcomes:

- Operations Management:** Manages the day-to-day HR, Administration and Procurement operations of the country office. Coordinates all the HR, Admin, IT and Procurement processes for the country program. Oversees facilities and office management functions and directly supervises a small team. Works with external legal counsel to stay up to date on changes in laws impacting Pathfinder and to guide Pathfinder in minimizing or preventing risk in the country office.
- Staffing:** Leads HR planning and recruitment efforts including creating job descriptions and recruiting new staff. Manages staff contracts and oversees the performance management process. Resolves staff conflicts. Oversees compliance with labor laws. Prepares LOE Report of Pathfinder staff and partners' shared staff. Contributes to global HR processes.
- Compensation and Benefits Administration:** Oversees implementation of Pathfinder's compensation policy. Manages compensation and benefits for country program staff, including ensuring adherence to local labor laws and practices and Pathfinder norms, and conducts benefits orientation for new hires.
- Payroll:** Collaborates with Finance team to ensure timely and accurate time reporting and payroll.
- Retention Strategies:** Leads staff productivity and retention efforts for local staff, including supporting professional growth and development plans. Provides advice and counsel to staff on personnel issues. Directs and coordinates annual performance evaluations for project staff.
- Procurement Process Management:** Leads and ensures compliance of the procurement process for goods and services for the country program. Manages warrants and insurance.
- Security:** Ensures security guidelines and procedures are established, maintained, updated regularly and adhered to. Monitors the security situation and provides leadership for staff in emergencies
- Policies and Procedures:** Improves and innovates policies and procedures for functional areas within HR and Administration.
- Information Technology:** Oversees IT systems and operational facilities to support project staff and programming.
- Project Management:** Leads, manages, or participates on cross-functional project teams. Minimally Required Job-Specific Competencies:
- Logistics and Procurement Principles and Practices:** Advanced knowledge of logistics and procurements principles.
- USAID Procurement Rules and Regulations:** Advanced skills in conducting comparative cost analysis per USAID procurement rules and regulations.
- Contract Negotiations:** Advanced skills in negotiating vendor contracts.
- Office Management Practices:** Advanced knowledge of accepted management practices.
- Leadership and Management:** Proven advanced ability to recruit, hire, train, supervise and develop staff.
- HR Standards, Guidelines, and Practices:** Advanced knowledge of best practices, guidelines, regulations, and standards for managing Human Resources.
- Employee Life Cycle:** Advanced knowledge of the employee life cycle from recruiting through separation of employment.
- PC Applications:** Advanced knowledge of HRIS and procurement software applications.
- Payroll Management:** Advanced knowledge of payroll administration practices and procedures.
- HR Files and Documentation:** Advanced knowledge of legal requirements, procedures and practices for filing and maintaining HR records.
- Labor Law and Practices:** Advanced knowledge of the country's labor laws, regulations and practices.

Minimally Required Organizational Competencies:

- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Services:** Foundational knowledge of family planning and reproductive health principles, practices and services, including strategies and indicators.
- Software Applications:** Advanced knowledge of MS Office products, including MS Word, Excel, Outlook, and PowerPoint.
- Languages:** Advanced writing and speaking skills in Kiswahili and English languages.
- Communication:** Advanced oral and written communication skills, Advanced knowledge of report writing
- Passion for Sexual and Reproductive Health:** Commitment to family planning, reproductive health services, gender, maternal, child health services, and eradication of harmful traditional practices
- Influencing and Customer Service Skills:** Advanced influencing and diplomacy skills. Advanced customer service skills.
- Organization, Planning and Multi-tasking:** Advanced organizational and planning skills, project planning and management skills. Proven ability to set priorities, meet deadlines and multi-task with minimal supervision.
- Global and Cultural Effectiveness:** Ability to communicate, collaborate with diverse stakeholders and achieve operational outcomes.
- Matrix Management:** Experience and ability to thrive in a matrixed organization.
- Self-Management and Teamwork:** Ability to work independently or as a member of the team, ability to be detailed-oriented, and ability to manage stress effectively in a fast-paced environment.
- Confidentiality:** Ability to maintain confidentiality of work-related issues. Required Education, Training and Experience:
- Master's degree in Human Resources Management, Business Administration, Operations, Laws or a related field, or a combination of education and experience that yields the required competencies
- 8 to 10 years' experience leading HR and Admin functions
- Prefer:** Experience of leading HR and Admin functions in international Non-Governmental Organizations
- Prefer:** Work experience in procurement and contracts management

Interested applicants are requested to submit their CV, including contact details for 3 references before the close of business on May 24, 2021. Applications should be addressed to the Director for Human Resources and Administration, Pathfinder International, P. O Box 77991, Dar es Salaam or sent via e-mail to Tanzania-jobs@pathfinder.org stating the position being applied for in the subject line, or drop your application in a sealed envelope addressed to the Director for Human Resources and Administration, Pathfinder International, Isale House, Plot No. 891/892/893, Mwai Kibaki Road, Mikocheni. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO
CIRCULATION MANAGER : EMMANUEL LYMO

Newsdesk

General Line: 0745 700710
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757 154767
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Cel: + 0782 253676 E-mails: Advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: lppmedia.com, epaper.ippmedia.com

Yes, hiring more civil servants will likely raise overall welfare

PROMISES by the government to alleviate the condition of numerous certificate, diploma and degree holders are starting to be put to action, in the announcement by the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) of intention to hire 9,675 teachers and various categories of medical staff. This was stated in a weekend press conference in the capital, where the PO-RALG Minister of State Umyi Mwalimu said the ministry has obtained a wide ranging employment permit from within the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance). Recruitments will soon start.

Specific categories of those to be employed were laid out, and obviously the categories and the permit from the other side of the President's Office took into account the wage bill from each category of new employees and how it adds to the wage bill as whole. It means that despite that hundreds of thousands of certificate, diploma and degree holders are still without jobs, this is the job openings level the ministry could surmise for the moment, on the basis of current wage and salary levels. In that case, if one adds 100,000/- to the monthly wage of a person, the level of likely employment is deducted by the cost impact of 100,000/- more to current employees, deducted from the funds set out to employ 10,000 new ones.

It is easy to see where the country's welfare falls in that regard, that not only are the 10,000 or so new employees having the right, where feasible, to taste the fruits of their education, but the public also directly needs the services of 10,000 more teaching and medical staff. Adding to the pleasure of those already on the job, at

the cost of erasing most of the planned new job openings, and maintaining the shortage of teachers and medical staff all over the country just to please those who have jobs already isn't sound welfare policy. Raising wages means the country or the government is awash with money; it isn't true.

That is why we must heartily congratulate the PO-RALG for giving this affirmation on new job openings and express the hope that dire situations of service delivery will be ameliorated in many districts. At the same time, improved educational and health sector staffing will help to convince other government employees to stay in stations of work for more time than they can be forced to do so, and even settle there if other circumstances permit. The minister berated the tendency of civil servants to regularly refuse postings to so many districts, or to seek transfer to other stations, most often urban centres, at the earliest.

At the same time this measure returns the ball on wages and salaries, and especially the issue of the minimum wage, to the Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) court on the issue President Samia Suluhu Hassan promised to work upon it until next May Day.

The least the president could do at that time is to raise wages by 100,000/-, and upset the job openings and industrial initiatives appercart, for each of these plans and projects hinges on the current wage level and how many people can be employed. So let it be said that getting a job of this or that wage level is just luck, or some will say blessings - and when one has such blessing it should be used to take loans and make gains in life, not demanding more pay.

Edible oil: Private sector role tied to competitive rules first

AFTER more than two years of grappling with the problem, and in the wake of recent policy directions from President Samia Suluhu Hassan, what to do about the shortage or price rises in the edible oil subsector is becoming a vexing problem. As with other areas, there are usually two approaches to solving the problem, one being the government spending large sums of money for state institutions to work in concert to end the problem.

The other is to relax rules or use a series of incentives such that there is a good chance of private sector investment in the area, and the signal issued is that the two are mixed.

Problems relating to edible oil often inter-space with those relating to sugar, that at this point it is sugar that is in shortage and similar programmes come up, which involve state research and extension agencies, and private investors in farming and processing.

There are intricate problems embedded with regulatory paths to gain for various stakeholders, for instance the issue of semi-processed edible oil imports, or the bulk importation and local repackaging of sugar by local planters who are essentially parastatal agencies and thus acting as government in that aspect, more or less. The issue is whether these roles infuse crises.

When therefore the government uses the rostrum of Parliament to ask or 'challenge' the private sector to venture into cultivation of edible oil-producing crops and processing to end the perennial shortage of the produce, a simple

question rises. Who gains in the current situation and who loses, and what sort of levers can be employed to change the mechanism to suit those who would gain by investing instead of importing this or that type of oil, or repackaging sugar? In both situations it would appear that removing privileges is the point of departure, and here it must be said state agencies hinder reforms as they can't cut margins.

That is why the deputy minister for Agriculture, Hussein Bashe, needs to focus on altering institutional prerogatives so that investment becomes feasible, for instance foreign companies purchasing local firms and then producing for the wider regional market.

This was one of the benefits espoused in the recent agreements in Nairobi during the president's state visit, while blocking ability to obtain credit on the basis of land as collateral, and thus local goodwill, hampers ability to invest. It is unclear how far current methods focusing on developing improved seeds and delivering them to the regions can work, rapidly.

In the next financial year the government will inject 10.6bn/- into production of improved seeds by improving the work and capacity of Agricultural Seeds Agency (ASA) all over the country, on the basis of affirmations by the deputy minister. It is unclear whether the seeds aspect as well as the roles thereof can be liberalized, for we have for instance depended on buying maize seeds from Kenya and they were importing maize from us, so there is room for widening the sources of seeds.

Development Partners be like...



South Africa media must embrace fourth industrial revolution's radical challenges

By Sandile Nene

THE fourth industrial revolution is paving the way for transformative changes in the way we live, radically disrupting the media. This affects the role of journalists and the future of employment in media, harming the notion of diversity, plurality and multiplicity of voices.

Independent journalism and news distribution play an indispensable role in informing citizens. They are a pillar of public life and pluralistic, democratic societies. At their best, they are a source of reliable, quality information that people trust and understand. As South Africa and the world commemorated World Press Freedom Day on 3 May, we have to pose and ask not so much about media freedom - rather, we should embrace the challenges faced by the publishing sector and democratic governments alike whose measurement of the type of government they preside over is purely based on the depth of free and independent media as the Fourth Estate.

Since the 17th century, the role of the press as Fourth Estate and as a forum for public discussion and debate has been recognised and, to this end, the South African publishing sector has been producing news to communities for the past two centuries.

In his book Cultural Studies, Identity and Politics Between the Modern and Postmodern, Douglas Kellner notes that we live



in a time of dramatic change and upheaval, and that there has been a series of spectacular changes in culture and society throughout the world. Kellner argues that media culture is industrial culture, organised on the model of mass production and is produced for a mass audience according to types (genres), following conventional formulas, codes and rules.

He further argues that media culture is thus a form of technoculture that merges culture and technology in new forms and configurations, producing new types of societies in which media and technology become organising principles.

The newsgathering and distribution process is undergoing deep changes as the number of physical newspaper titles, their circulation and newspaper readership are in decline. On the revenue side, the global newspaper publishing market derives about 57% of its revenues from advertising and about 43% from newspaper sales. The reliance on advertising is very high in South Africa and given the current economic environment, readership numbers and advertising revenues

are mostly falling, while competition from traditional sources such as television, radio, social media and over-the-top services (OTTs) require urgent attention to ensure that government provides a conducive environment for the long-term financial sustainability of the sector.

Today, the publishing sector not only has to compete for viewers/readers with domestic commercial competitors, but there is now a plethora of foreign content/services available over cable, satellite, internet platforms and OTT platforms such as Hulu, Facebook, Google, Netflix, etc. As a result of this perfect storm of technologies, the Fourth Industrial Revolution is paving the way for transformative changes in the way we live, radically disrupting almost every business sector.

The retrenchment trend in the mainstream publications and the disruption of newspaper consumption patterns is also affecting just over 400 community and small commercial print media.

These trends both in the mainstream and community media could

result in more newspapers either scaling down significantly or completely shutting down, affecting the role of journalists and the future of employment in this sector, thus harming the notion of diversity, plurality and multiplicity of voices.

This is because none can deny that each print organisation is a business, after all, seeking to generate value and growth for shareholders, and sustainability and income for employees. To this end, the transitional advancement in digital technologies and the increasing number of new media platforms has revolutionised the ways in which people communicate and share information. These technologies have affected the sociocultural, political and economic structures of contemporary society. The impacts have been particularly evident in the journalism profession, especially in the print media.

It must be noted though that while the print newspaper sector might be struggling, internet users report a large increase in reading online newspapers, but most online readership is more ad hoc, irregular and sporadic than print newspaper readership used to be. The way news is consumed is also radically different online. Online news readers get a variety of news from different sources, allowing them to mix and compile their own personalised information. However, it is unclear whether online readers obtain the same depth and breadth of news as traditional readers.

This means that as we commemorate World Press Freedom Day, we need to realise that the time for applying bandages in the publishing sector and various government agencies is over, but in the case of South Africa, it is not yet the time for surgery.

The Commonwealth must call for reforms in Rwanda

By Victoire Ingabire Umuhoza and Bernard Ntaganda

RWANDA joined in 2009 despite its poor human rights record. At the CHOGM summit this June, the Commonwealth must stand up for its values.

The Commonwealth summit in Rwanda this June is an opportunity for the association to stand for the values reflected in its charter. At the biennial Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), the secretariat and member states should call on their host to reform its governance, especially given that Rwanda will take over the Chair-in-Office for the next

two years.

Rwanda joined the Commonwealth in 2009 despite the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative's (CHRI) finding that "the state of governance and human rights in Rwanda does not satisfy Commonwealth standards" and that it "does not therefore qualify for admission".

For over two decades, the ruling circle in Rwanda has claimed to practice power-sharing consensus democracy with the intent of overcoming ethnic divisions and accelerating development.

However, political participation has always been limited to parties affiliated to the ruling party. This

leaves no space for a genuine opposition to provide checks and balances.

There is a pattern of excluding serious contenders in Rwanda's presidential elections. This is done by fabricating charges to prevent them from completing their candidacy process.

This has been done to both the authors of this piece.

In 2010, Victoire Ingabire Umuhoza returned from exile to register her political party and run in the presidential election. Instead she was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment by the Supreme Court in a politically motivated ruling. In 2014, Umuhoza appealed to the African

Court of Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR), which cleared her of any offence and held that Rwanda violated her rights to freedom of expression and adequate defence. Bernard Ntaganda was the nominee for the Social Party Imberakuri in the same 2010 election. He was arrested during a crackdown on opposition parties, journalists, and other perceived critics before the poll. Ntaganda was sentenced to four years in jail.

Others have faced similar fates. In 2017, Diane Rwigara expressed her desire to stand as an independent candidate. She was charged with inciting insurrection, imprisoned, and acquitted a year after the election.

Healthy soil is crucial if we are to have a healthy planet

By Volkan Bozkir

WHAT do you think of when you hear the word “desertification”? Sand dunes slowly encroaching on bountiful farmland? The Sahara and Gobi (deserts) taking over Africa and Asia, respectively? Rivers and streams drying up?

That’s certainly part of it. But the key impact of desertification is the degradation of land – to the point where soil becomes so damaged that it no longer supports life.

Soil is so much more than dirt. And healthy soil is essential to a healthy planet. The ground beneath our feet is teeming with a hidden world of plants, animals and microbes – many too tiny to see. But our survival depends on them.

This overlooked reservoir feeds our agriculture and food industries. It helps to regulate greenhouse gas emissions and keeps plants, animals and humans strong.

But today, more than one-fifth of the planet’s land – including more than half of our agricultural land – is suffering. Each year, more than 12 million hectares of land are lost to desertification, land degradation and drought.

This loss hurts over 3 billion people, particularly poor and rural communities in the developing world. At the same time, when land is hastily converted into cropland without considering the overall health of our environment, then carbon and nitrous oxide are released into the atmosphere.

Climate change accelerates, biodiversity withers and infectious diseases blossom. This all jeopardises water supplies, livelihoods and our ability to face natural disasters and extreme weather events.

Unless we act now, it’s only going to get worse. Over the next 25 years, land degradation could reduce global food productivity by as much as 12 per cent, leading to a 30 per cent increase in world food prices.

We will never achieve the 217 global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) if we remain complacent.

But there is much to be hopeful about – and much that we can achieve together. As we have seen with the rapid development of Covid-19 vaccines, when the will is there and resources are deployed, humankind can achieve truly astounding feats.

Restoring 350 million hectares of degraded land by 2030 could take between 13 and 26 gigatons of greenhouse gases out of the atmosphere.

For every dollar spent on land restoration – including through low-skilled and labour-intensive projects – at least nine dollars of economic benefits can be expected.

Restoring land not only generates green job opportunities across a wide range of industries but will also enable us to grow more nutritious food, provide clean water security, address biodiversity loss, and mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Whether we’re talking about city dwellers, who need reliable supplies of fruits and vegetables, or island hoteliers, who count on protected beaches and swaying palm trees to draw in tourists, or hospital patients, whose lives depend on nature-derived medicines, one thing is clear: There is no person on earth – or, for that matter, any being – whose existence is not tied to land.

So, what can you do to help protect our land and soil? One simple step is not to waste food – because when farmers work the land to produce food we’re not eating, that just exhausts our soil unnecessarily.

And if you’re an urbanite, you can work with your local officials to make your city greener – through such innovative methods as rooftop gardens and vertical forests.

Here at the United Nations, promoting land regeneration is a critical part



of our work. In the coming months, major conferences to follow up on the three Rio Conventions – the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) – will all be held during the same year for the first time ever.

This is a unique opportunity to reflect on the health of our planet – and on what we can do to improve it and protect our very existence.

For my part, on May 20, I will host a high-level meeting on desertification, land degradation and drought in the iconic United Nations General Assembly Hall in New York.

This meeting – the first of its kind in more than

a decade – will build on previous achievements, highlight gaps in our collective efforts and spur momentum towards the three big Rio-related conferences.

It will remind us that land degradation is real and needs to be fought. It will show how three seemingly different issues – climate, biodiversity and desertification – are actually intrinsically linked. And it will drive up ambition for global action.

The UN General Assembly is the only body where all 193 Member States of the United Nations sit as equals. So, there is no better place to tackle the problems that transcend borders and affect us all.

When it comes to the very earth we stand on – the life-giving soil that sustains us – there is no time to waste. High-level conferences may not improve the situation overnight. But in making sure we’re all on the same page, sharing best practices and taking real steps together, we can change course.

Ultimately, we will reverse desertification, land degradation and drought – because there is no other choice. But we will need to work together. We will need to change some of our practices. And I hope the United Nations can count on your support.

Volkan Bozkir is President of the UN General Assembly.

Stopping misinformation means fixing relationship between journalism and PR

By Jaigris Hodson

Public relations and journalism exist in an uneasy balancing act, a relationship where they both rely on each other as part of a communication ecosystem.

It used to be that journalism was the stronger player in the relationship but now, as a result of cuts to newsrooms, PR is becoming more dominant. And this relationship could undermine already limited trust in news.

Public relations is defined as the practice of using communication strategies to build relationships between organisations – such as corporations, institutions and government – and the public.

Traditionally, one of the most important connections for PR practitioners has been those with journalism. PR professionals rely on their journalistic connections to help get their messages out, and journalists draw from PR to help find interesting stories, fill quotas and meet deadlines.

In fact, according to the Canadian Public Relations Society, PR professionals tend to interact more with journalists than with any other professional group.

This relationship worked for many years because journalists had the upper hand. Journalists had a culture that made them wary of PR professionals, which helped to keep the PR industry in check.

When interacting with PR practitioners, journalists would choose whether to pursue a story and how much of the story suggested by the PR professional is actually worthy of column space or broadcast time.

Journalists were likely to seek out different sides of an issue suggested by a PR professional rather than just publishing a news release verbatim.

In return, the PR professionals could be reasonably confident that the coverage would be trusted by the public. By choosing what to cov-

er and how to cover it, journalism keeps PR accountable. If PR practitioners do anything to threaten their relationship with news outlets, they will not be able to work effectively.

However, in recent years, as a result of media consolidation and the rise of the social media, the relationship between PR and journalism has shifted. While this shift seems to favour PR, in reality it has resulted in declining trust in news, and that’s bad for everyone.

When the delicate balance between journalism and PR is upset, we end up with an information ecosystem that is less trustworthy because it is driven by organisational goals rather than the public interest.

A shifting balance

Now journalism is increasingly relying on PR to survive. As my previous work has shown, local news is facing unprecedented pressure from media consolidation and the social media business.

As journalism jobs have dried up across North America, many talented and trained journalism graduates and successful journalists are accepting jobs in PR in order to make ends meet.

At the same time, many cash-strapped newsrooms are turning to advertorials or sponsored content to make up for shrinking revenues. As a result, more of the news media is implicated in spreading PR content that is often one-sided, incomplete information that favours corporate PR clients.

For example, when important information like Covid-19 vaccine efficacy is presented to the public directly from news releases, important scientific facts can be minimised or left out of the portrayal of the issue.

That can contribute to eroding public trust in both the news story and the organisation covered by it. While PR plays a role in ensuring

the trust between organisations and the publics, some PR practices can lead to the decline in trust in news.

Other grey area PR tactics, like astroturfing, direct media attention to stories that journalists might not otherwise consider very newsworthy. Astroturfing entails using the social media to create fake online grassroots support for an organisation or an issue.

News outlets often cover a story that seems to be getting a lot of attention on the social media. Unethical PR firms will often exploit this fact by buying likes, shares and engagements, creating fake hype for a specific product, person or organisation that would otherwise not be covered at all.

Rethinking the relationship

Journalism isn’t perfect, but striking the balance between PR and journalism is beneficial for both parties. As this balance shifts in favour of public relations, it becomes harder for the public to trust news. That leads to more aggressive PR tactics, further eroding the public trust. Everyone loses.

Steps can be taken to rebalance the relationship between journalism and PR. Journalism must be strengthened, including local news, so that journalists have the resources to refuse sponsored content and push back against PR pitches.

This means that we all have a role to play in paying for the journalism we value, while new funding models ought to be developed to help provide resources to smaller and independent journalism.

To that end, entrepreneurship networks and other opportunities for independent journalism need to be supported by offering business training to journalism students, providing government resources to support journalism entrepreneurs and through our own habits.

Journalists who are brave enough to also become entrepreneurs by



starting their own publications need us to pay for their content through Substack, Patreon or other subscription services.

This will have a cascading impact as these journalist entrepreneurs create small businesses that can provide new job opportunities for other journalists and journalism students.

Finally, professional associations for PR practitioners need to do more to punish disreputable firms that

use tactics like astroturfing to create fake influence. By strengthening journalism and putting limits on PR, we can reset the balance and create a healthier media ecosystem for everyone.

A piece originally published in The Conversation. Jaigris Hodson is Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at Canada’s Royal Roads University.

Kenya's dryland farmers embrace regenerative farming to brave tough climate

MAKUENI

IT is an uncommon occurrence to see farms with flourishing healthy crops in Kenya's semi-arid Makueni County. But in Kithiani village, Justus Kimeu's two-acre piece of land stands out from the rest. After embracing the regenerative agriculture (RA) technique, the 52-year-old farmer is looking forward to a bumper harvest of maize as all his neighbours count their losses following this year's failed season.

"I have been a farmer for many years, but I have never seen such a healthy crop during such a dry season," Kimeu told IPS. "All the road users who pass by this farm can hardly go away without stopping to have a second look at a crop that has defied the prevailing tough climatic conditions."

Kimeu is one of 900 farmers in Kenya's two dryland counties of Embu and Makueni who are participating in a pilot project to see how RA can be used to improve food productivity.

The technique, which is being piloted by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), is a dynamic and holistic way of farming that involves all the principals of permaculture and organic farming, such as minimum tillage, use of cover crops, crop rotation, terracing to reduce soil erosion, heavy mulching to keep the soils moist, use of basins to preserve soil moisture and the use of composted manure to give the topsoil the texture of a virgin fertile arable land.

"The main theory of this technique is actually to return the topsoil back to its original state," Michael Mutua, an associate program officer in charge of RA at AGRA, told IPS. "Instead of feeding the crop, we concentrate on feeding the soil," he said.

According to the Food Sustainability Index created by Barilla Centre for Food and Nutrition (BCFN) and the Economist Intelligence Unit, increased adoption of regenerative farm practices reduces carbon emissions during cultivation and sequesters carbon into the soil.

In a proposal of 10 interdisciplinary actions to finding ways to nourish both people and the planet post-COVID-19, one of the suggestions by BCFN was that the world develop internationally agreed-upon standards for RA practices and agroecology, as well as common definitions for healthy and sustainable food systems and food.

BCFN experts further acknowledged that regenerative and agroecological agricultural practices have the potential to boost soil health, preserve water resources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

To popularise the new farming technique in Kenya, AGRA collaborated with the two county governments of Makueni and Embu, and with the Cereal Growers Association (CGA) to identify lead farmers.

The farmers were then trained on RA practices and were supported to create plots known as 'mother demos'.



Justus Kimeu on his farm in Kithiani village, Makueni County, Kenya. By using the regenerative agriculture (RA) technique this farmer produced a bumper maize harvest during a very dry season.

"A mother demo is actually a place for farmers' practical lessons," said Mutua. "It consists of four plots, where one plot is done using all the recommended RA practices, the second one using farming methods commonly used in the area, the third one is by using part of the regenerative agriculture principles, and the fourth one is the control plot, where the same crop is planted without any agronomic practice," he explained.

Each farmer then recruited up to 100 smallholder farmers from the neighbourhood to teach them from the mother demo. Once the farmers felt confident, they returned to their own farms to set up a baby demo, which is a single plot using all the principles of AR.

"Nearly all our farmers are at the baby demo stage," said Mutua. "But a few bold ones like Kimeu went straight

to implementation without doing a small demo for the learning purpose," he said.

According to Kimeu, the lessons at the mother demo stage were sufficient, "and doing a baby demo for him, would amount to a wasted season," he told IPS.

"When I decided to implement this technique, my farm was bare without much vegetation. So I started by making terraces and after it rained, different weeds sprouted. Together with my household members we manually uprooted all the weeds and left them on the farm to dry and decompose before making small basins in which we were going to plant the crop," explained the farmer.

The basins were then filled with organic manure and some topsoil. And when it rained for the second time, hybrid drought tolerant maize variety seeds were plant-

ed inside the moist basins and any weed that sprouted was manually uprooted and left to dry and rot on the farm.

"We try as much as possible to avoid tillage or any form of disturbing the soil for it to regenerate naturally to its original form," Kimeu said, noting that he also avoided use of conventional fertilisers.

Almost 900 farmers from the two counties are expected to graduate from the baby demo stage and implement RA during the 2021/2022 season. "If well implemented, it will more than double food security among the participating households," said Mutua.

Bob Kisulya, the Makueni County Minister of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries, told IPS: "If our smallholder farmers could embrace these techniques and produce such healthy crops, then we will never need alms and food aid even in the toughest seasons."

Kisulya said that the County Government also invested in rippers, which are used to ensure that there is minimum disturbance of the soil as part of the RA approach.

Today, Kimeu has become a role model and a village hero.

"In this short period, I have been approached by hundreds of farmers from my village and other places who are seeking to understand how the technique works," he said. By lowering lending costs and other demands, the BWIs can become part of the solution, rather than the problem. **IPS**

Democracy in Chad takes back seat to military might while G5 Sahel turns a blind eye

By Paul-Simon Handy and Rem-adjji Hoinathy

AFTER the sudden death of Idriss Déby Itno on 20 April, the Transitional Military Council (TMC) led by his 37-year-old son, Lieutenant General Mahamat Idriss Déby took control of Chad. Arguing an exceptional security situation, the TMC immediately suspended the constitution and all republican institutions, promising to conduct an 18-month transition.

Many Chadians rejected this unconstitutional takeover – despite the welcome it received from the international community. On 27 April, the public responded to calls for demonstrations by political parties and civil society organisations.

A security force crackdown on the protests led to at least nine deaths, several dozen injuries and numerous arrests. These events cast doubt on the TMC's willingness to hold the inclusive dialogue needed to resolve the politico-military impasse brought on by 31 years of the late Déby's presidency.

In a rare show of solidarity, opposition parties, civil society organisations and the country's main trade union rejected the TMC and called for talks that include armed groups. The Episcopal Conference of Chad has joined the appeal for a return to constitutional order. A group of dissident army generals has also reportedly taken a stand against the TMC.

The social discontent and ensuing repression are a major blow to the TMC. It now faces more resistance, in addition to the Front for Change and Concord in Chad (FACT) rebellion in which the former president was killed. On 11 April, FACT members launched an offensive that took them from the Libyan border to Chad's Kanem region, about 300km from N'Djamena, covering nearly 500km in one week.

FACT eventually changed its position, under pressure from the Chadian army and an attempted mediation by Mauritania and Niger, Chad's partners in the G5 Sahel. However, the TMC – confident in its ability to defeat the rebellion militarily – rejected FACT's proposal for a



political solution that includes all parties. Fighting resumed between Chad's army and the rebels in northern Kanem during the week of 26 April.

The TMC ignored the dialogue called for by many sections of Chadian society and made key appointments, including that of Prime Minister Albert Pahimi Padacké. On 2 May, Padacké chose a government that contains two

important opposition parties but doesn't reflect the broad inclusion that the opposition and civil society wanted. These appointments confirm the military's desire to perpetuate the former president's rule – based on family, clan, army and political allies.

Inclusive national dialogue in Chad is vital. While it is true that the late Déby's presidency brought relative stabil-

ity to Chad, this was achieved through authoritarian, personal and militarised governance, which neglected to diversify the economy.

The population hasn't benefited much from Chad's exploitation of oil since 2003. The third poorest country in the world, Chad is now ranked 187th out of 189 on the United Nations Human Development Index. Yet it has one of the highest defence budgets relative to GDP in Africa.

The country's exorbitant defence budget helped secure the late Déby's power and enabled him to maintain subtle military diplomacy in the region. The idea that Chad is indispensable for the security of the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin allowed Déby to overlook nation and state-building and the fight against inequality.

This explains the embarrassment of some actors in the international community, notably France, who seem to see Chad only as a provider of soldiers for the fight against violent extremism in the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin – to the detriment of democracy and good governance.

In Mali, the junta that took power in August 2020 was forced – notably through sanctions from the Economic Community of West African States – to talk with certain sectors of Malian society and set up an inclusive transition. By endorsing a coup, Chad's many partners show little regard for democratic principles when security interests are at stake.

France supports establishing a military regime in Chad on the ashes of another one it endorsed for 31 years. The G5 Sahel countries that depend on Franco-Chadian military arrangements have also failed to condemn the military coup. The African Union (AU), through its Peace and Security Council (PSC), was one of the few institutions to express concern about the TMC's establishment. It called for a rapid return to constitutional order. An AU fact-finding mission to Chad will submit recommendations to the PSC. However, divisions among PSC members about the way forward might force the AU to maintain a wait-and-see position.

The instability caused by Déby's sudden death shows

that peace shouldn't depend on personalised power embodied by a leader, regardless of how charismatic they may be. Without dialogue, political parties, civil society organisations and even a section of the army could radicalise and plunge Chad back into a new cycle of violence.

The TMC seized power by bending constitutional rules. Using the region's security problems – the FACT rebellion and instability in the Lake Chad Basin and Sahel – doesn't justify this unconstitutional change of government. And the need for Chad to maintain its regional military commitments shouldn't allow the international community to turn a blind eye to the coup.

The TMC must open up the government and listen to the Chadian population, which has long suffered at the hands of its leaders, rather than choosing them. Regional, continental and international diplomacy should support the military junta in this delicate exercise, which, if badly handled, could perpetuate instability in the country and the region. **DM**

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMUJAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

Bank donates foodstuffs to orphanages in Dar, Mbeya, Shinyanga and Karatu

By Guardian Reporter

EXIM Bank has donated food to four orphanages in Dar es Salaam, Mbeya, Shinyanga and Karatu with the aim of enabling the children to celebrate Eid El Fitr.

The relief was handed over by bank's senior officials accompanied with other employees, and included essential necessities like rice, cooking oil, sugar, flour, beans as well as cartons of juice and drinking water.

Granting the aid at New Faraja Orphanage Centre, located in Mburahati Dar es Salaam, Exim Bank's Marketing and Communications Manager, Stanley Kafu said it has been the bank's initiative to support various groups and institutions through its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) known as "Exim Cares".

"This donation is specifically for the celebration of Eid El Fitr, and it is a continuation of our annual routine where Exim Bank staff and the general management ensure that children living in facilities enjoy these feasts like their peers at home," he said.

Kafu mentioned other centres that benefited from the donation that include Nuru Orphanage Centre in Mbeya, Shinyanga Society for Orphans in Shinyanga, Shalom Orphanage and Children Care Centre in Karatu district.

Kafu called on the children to make sure that they study hard and ensure maximum discipline in everything they do including their studies and daily chores at school and at the centers.

"It is a pleasure for us at Exim Bank to see that we have been finding successful employees and clients some of whom have been to these centers and are now working hard and with great professionalism. For that to happen, it is your responsibility to study hard and to obey the instructions of your guardians with the utmost discipline," he said.

For their part, the representatives of the centers thanked Exim Bank for including orphans in their CSR plan so that they too can celebrate Eid El Fitr



Exim Bank's head of marketing and communications Stanley Kafu hands over food items to the Matron of the New Faraja Orphanage Centre located in Mburahati Dar es Salaam with the aim of enabling the children to celebrate Eid El Fitr like their peers at homes. Similar donation was also provided by the bank in Mbeya, Shinyanga and Karatu District, Arusha Region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

like the rest of the families at home. They then asked the institution and other stakeholders to continue helping them solve various challenges that they face.

"We are very grateful to Exim Bank and all its staff for being touched and seeing the importance of celebrating this important day with orphans. We ask that they continue with this heart

and help us further in solving other challenges we face including access to health insurance for some of our children" said Zamda Idrissa, the New Faraja Orphanage Centre Matron.

TFS provides 100 bags of cement towards village bridge construction

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

Mbeya Region.

TANZANIA Forest Services Agency (TFS) at Kiwira Forest farm has provided 100 bags of cement and 78 round bars all valued at 3m/- as assistance for the construction of a bridge at Ngumburu Village, in Ison-gole Ward, Rungwe District,

Handing over the assistance, the Kiwira Forest Farm Conservator Lucas Sabida to the Rungwe District Commissioner Julius Chalya and Ngumburu villagers, he said they decided to give the assistance after seeing villagers around the Forest farm having difficulties when transporting their farm crops.

He said due to the good relationship with the communities around the Forest they decided to contribute towards the bridge's construction to ease transport woes for farmers, students and pregnant women who needed medical attention while using the current bridge made of logs.

He said TFS recognizes the contribution by the peo-

ple in the villages around the Forest, hence through its budget plans for FY 2020/21 they had in place various strategies towards their development efforts.

He added that the cooperation aims at strengthening the fight against fire disasters that could happen during dry seasons.

Receiving the assistance, Rungwe District Com-

missioner Julius Chalya thanked TFS for the contribution as they have been in the front line to help villagers in their development activities.

Chalya said 100 bags of cement provided will help in finalizing the construction of the permanent bridge at Ngumburu Village.

He said the government

will continue asking for various assistance from TFS due to the existing good relations. The DC also directed TARURA to supervise and provide professional advice in the bridge's construction.

He said TARURA should be held accountable for the completion of the bridge to the require standard, and should not leave the task to

the villagers alone.

For their part, Ngumburu villagers said the poor condition of the bridge was a hindrance in transporting their crops to the market.

Ison-gole Ward Councillor, Mwalingo George said due to the problems they had, they begun self-help procedure including brick-making as well as monetary contribution.

Community involvement and parental support crucial for sustainable adolescent reproductive health programmes

CHAMA cha Uzazi na Malezi Bora Tanzania (UMATI) is one of the key organizations that play a key role in scaling up education on sexual and reproductive health (SRH)—a significant public health issue in the country and the world at large. Our Correspondent DANIEL SEMBERYA talked to UMATI's acting executive director, VIOLETH ALPHONCE on how the organisation is complementing the government's efforts in supporting adolescents. Excerpt...

Question: Could you briefly tell us what, when, and why UMATI came into existence?

Answer: UMATI is a non-profit public health organisation that focuses primarily on sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) information, services, education, and research, established in 1959 in Tanzania. Our core service has been providing sexual reproductive health services targeting adolescent girls and boys and youths who are living in underserved areas (hard to reach areas). And if you can see most of our projects are serving communities located outside the cities. We currently have programmes in more than 10 regions of the country including Kigoma, Songwe, Tabora, Iringa, Mara, Kilimanjaro, Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Dodoma, and Katavi.

Q: What has been your core objective?

A: Of course our core objective is to champion sexual reproductive health and seeing a Tanzania where people are free to choose and exercise their Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) without discrimination in gender, sex, and age.

UMATI's Mission Statement is to champion SRHR and provide information and services targeting the young and underserved communities. Normally UMATI provides these services through different service delivery points. We deliver these services through outreach works, static clinics. We have our own clinics which are based in five regions, namely Dodoma, Morogoro, Kilimanjaro, Mbeya, and Songea.

We also have youth centres based in Pemba, Unguja, Temeke-Dar es Salaam, Iringa, Dodoma, Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Morogoro and Maganzo in Shinyanga. All these centres are located with facilities and access to the youth and adolescents so that they can come together and access the services during the weekends. We have this programme called weekend clinics which brings together youths in these areas to discuss sexual and reproductive health issues and get the right information.

Apart from our own facilities and youth centres, we do also collaborate with the government, so we provide services through government health facilities...and currently, we are working in around 20 regions across the country. And we have around 450 affiliated facilities that UMATI is serving.

As I have said we provide sexual reproductive health services but it is accompanied by comprehensive sexuality education and information so that a person who is in need of accessing services has to make informed choices. To achieve that, we inform, give them correct and appropriate information so that they make wise decisions.

Q: What adolescent age does your organisation target?

A: Our adolescent target is from 10 to 19 years both girls and boys. But specifically, we target girls, because they have special sexuality-related needs compared to boys. But all adolescents are our target group. But apart from the adolescent group, we also target the youth aged from 20



UMATI Acting executive director Violeth Alphoncemakes a point during the interview. Photo: Correspondent Daniel Semberya

to 24 years. And the productive age from 15 to 45 years respectively.

Q: What was the main reason that made you specifically focus on these groups to deal with?

A: We're focusing on boys and girls because they are vulnerable groups. They are active in sexual activities. Based on our culture it is taboo for a parent to talk about sexuality with a young boy or a girl of 10 years old.

So, we protect them, we make them well informed so that they can make informed and wise decisions with regards to sexual activities. That is why we decided to go to that particular group because they have a lot of needs, are vulnerable, and at risk of being seduced by adult people.

Q: What benefits will the adolescents get after having correct and proper informa-

tion on SRH?

A: Correct information will make them be well informed, make wise decisions, change their behavior regarding gender-based violence...as you know this age group is the age at which a person is transforming from childhood to adulthood. So, there are a number of behavioral changes.

This information will help them understand where they can access these services because through information it will be easy for them to cater for their sexual needs.

Q: What would you suggest to be done to the youth during the COVID-19 era?

A: In this COVID-19 era it is very important to mainstream sexual reproductive health as a human right, something someone needs to get it. Covid-19 has greatly affected the services of the youth.

The government in collaboration with stake-

holders needs to strategize on youth access to sexual and reproductive health services and information in times of pandemics like Covid-19. This includes the use and strengthening of the available gender-based violence reporting systems for the youth so that they can easily get help whenever needed.

Q: What have been your major contributions to Tanzanian society?

A: Our contributions are mainly on capacity building. We have been training some service providers being employed by the government who give services to the youth.

Through our clinics, we provide training to the youth during weekends to ensure we contribute to the youth-friendly services. We use a number of media to ensure correct information reaches our intended audiences through electronic and social media. We use our community health workers.

Boosting connectivity with building solutions

By Zhuang Qiang and Zhong Nan

CHINA State Construction Engineering Corp's Middle East subsidiary is fully engaged in the construction of the 139-kilometer Package A of Etihad Rail's 605-km Stage 2 project, connecting Ruwais and Ghuwaifat in the United Arab Emirates.

Etihad Rail is the developer and operator of the UAE's national railway network. The CSCEC project signifies Chinese companies' unrelenting efforts to help the global community through cross-border cooperation for high-quality development, against a backdrop of extremely trying circumstances created by the COVID-19 impact on economies across the world.

Acceleration of vaccination, however, has created a window of opportunity to press ahead with infrastructure projects that could usher in long-term benefits.

Projects such as the one in the UAE are bringing Chinese and local workers and professionals together to work shoulder to shoulder, underlining a shared humanity and a shared future in a globalized world.

"We work together, we eat together, we sit together and we discuss things together. This bond and coordination are the main reason that we can do a good job in this project," said Alam Gir Khan, project director.

In fact, bilateral cooperation is helping the project construction to progress ahead of schedule.

"Based on the current progress and schedule, works under contract are expected to be completed before Nov 9," said Qiang Lianhe, chief representative of the project.

Taking shape under the Belt and Road Initiative framework, the project involves works like earthwork, and construction of structures like bridges, tunnels, roads and level crossings. CSCEC will also deliver rails and link Package A with Stage 1 of the network.

"We made a promise to complete it three months ahead of the contract date, and we are inching closer to that promise day by day, though it's a tough goal to achieve," Qiang said.

When the rail deal was signed in 2019, Etihad Rail CEO Shadi Malak said project completion ahead of schedule could make an enormous difference to the region.

Etihad Rail's goal is to expand the UAE's railway network in order to improve all aspects of freight transport across the border and around the region, placing it at the center of regional goods movement as a global logistics hub.

"Everyone has worked so hard and contributed to putting this together in such a short space of time and I would like to tell you that I'm proud of each one of you and hope that everyone at Etihad Rail feels a part of pride and joy," said Malak in a letter to the construction team.

As a State-owned building giant, CSCEC, China's largest builder, has been showered with such compliments by its counterparts in many of its overseas markets, as the company has been ramping up its go-global efforts in recent years, especially in the BRI economies.

Apart from the UAE project, the company participated in the construction of Egypt's New Administrative Capital to the east of Cairo, expressway projects in Pakistan and Algeria, helping boost regional connectivity with its building solutions and well-trained teams.

Currently, the company has more than 600 projects in various stages of progress in more than 80 overseas markets. In 2020, CSCEC garnered overseas contracts valued at more than 187.2 billion yuan (US\$28.9 billion).

It also inked more than 250 overseas deals, with some 30 valued above \$100 million, according to company data released on April 19.

The overseas business has also helped the company to gain a total revenue of 1.61 trillion yuan last year, up nearly 14 percent from the 2019 level. Total value of newly inked contracts reached 823.7 billion yuan last year, up nearly 34 percent.

"Innovation is the key to our achievements, and has



CSCEC employees ready steel rails for laying track at the construction site of Package A of Etihad Rail's 605-km Stage 2 project in the United Arab Emirates in April. (File photo)

helped us to brighten our reputation in overseas markets," said Zhou Naixiang, chairman of CSCEC.

Despite the impact of COVID-19 on its operations, CSCEC has been deepening its own reform, in accordance with the nation's call for high-quality development and adoption of the dual-circulation development pattern. The company is committed to strengthening its overall competitiveness with market-oriented strategies, Zhou said.

In 2020, the company invested more than 29 billion yuan in research and development, highly educated talent and achieving breakthroughs in core building technologies. Many of them have been put into use. For instance, CSCEC helped build Huoshenshan Hospital within 10 days and

Leishenshan Hospital within 12 days, key projects that helped to treat COVID-19 patients when Wuhan, Hubei province, was hard hit by the virus in early 2020.

As a major force in the development of BRI-related projects, China's SOEs have overcome extreme difficulties. Not a single project under the initiative has shut down production, said Peng Huagang, secretary-general of the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council.

China's SOEs such as CSCEC have been involved in 3,400 BRI projects, with more than 600 completed already.

The BRI has enriched the growth of the world

economy and improved people's living standards in economies participating in the initiative, said Zhou Yong, a member of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, during this year's two sessions, the annual sittings of the top legislature and the top political advisory body, in March.

After seven years of development, the BRI has built a solid platform for companies from various countries to carry out cooperation and helped more people in developing a better understanding of mechanisms for development and infrastructure connectivity, said Zhou, who is also vice-president of CSCEC.

Xinhua

RADIO One

**RATIBA YA VIPINDI
JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.15 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.15 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.15 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10.15 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS KIPIMA JOTO 23.00 HRS WEEKEND SHOW 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 10.15 AM NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS KIPIMA JOTO 23.00 HRS WEEKEND SHOW 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHILI 09.00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11:00 AM MITAA WA MAGOMA 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS HIZI NAZO 15.00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.15 HRS MIDUNDO MOTOMOTO 18.00 HRS BONGO TEN 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.15 HRS CHEMSHA BONGO 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - FAMILIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11:00 HRS TOP 20 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS NANI ZAIDI 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS MAMBO YA PWANI 18.00 HRS AFRICAN PANORAMA 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS MBAVU ZANGU 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS RAFIKI I 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS RAFIKI II 01:00 - 05:00 MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

BUSINESS



A trader arranges green bananas at Nakuru's Wakulima Market, in Kenya.

CONSTRAINTS

Farmers export less than a tonne of bananas despite South Korea deal

NAIROBI

Kenyan farmers have exported less than a tonne of bananas and broccoli to South Korea, five years after the two nations struck a bilateral deal for supplies to the Asian country. The Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (Kephis) has attributed the low volumes to lack of awareness by farmers.

Kenya in May 2015 initiated a bilateral agreement to ease access to the South Korean market for various products from Kenya, a move that saw the country allowed to export unripe banana and broccoli, which would not require pest risk analysis as it is the case with other products.

Kephis Monday urged interested groups and individuals to register with Horticulture Crops Directorate as an exporter for horticultural products. "Kephis therefore wishes to encourage the youth, women and farmers to increase volumes of unripe banana and broccoli to South Korea as the market for these commodities is open," the agency said.

The Ministry of Trade last week

raised concern over low export of green bananas and broccoli to the Korean market despite a ready market. The export of the two products will not undergo pest risk analysis and would only need phytosanitary certificate from the regulator.

"The client should register with Kephis by submitting statutory documents to be issued with credentials for accessing the Electronic Certification System in order to make electronic applications for inspection and issuance of phytosanitary certificates," added the regulator. Phytosanitary certificates will be issued upon inspection and confirming that the bananas are free from pests and pest damage and meet quality requirements.

South Korea imports 70 percent of its food and in 2017, bananas were the most imported product recording 834,000 tonnes, according to statistics released by the South Korea Customs Service. The largest fruit exporter to South Korea, accounting for 38.3 percent of the total fruit imports, was the United States of America.

Biggest Africa fund manager's staff warn of 'existential crisis'

JOHANNESBURG

Senior employees at a unit of South Africa's Public Investment Corp. have accused executives at the continent's biggest fund manager of causing an "existential crisis" after a series of scandals over the past few years.

Staff at the Isibaya Fund, which oversees unlisted assets at the \$136 billion PIC, submitted a list of complaints including a failure to renew a mandate with the division's biggest client and allegations of general poor management, according to a nine-page letter to the company's investment committee seen by Bloomberg.

A 2016 agreement with the Government Employees Pension Fund, which manages South African state-worker retirement funds, is being allowed to expire, wrote the authors of the message, dated May 7 and confirmed by the PIC.

"An oversight of this magnitude and severe impact thereof, which places the PIC in a precarious position, ordinarily would require accountability," the Isibaya workers said in the letter. "We are unaware of any action taken against the custodian of this issue."

A halt to the PIC's investments in unlisted assets would hamper its aim to play a developmental role promoting the growth of Black-owned businesses in South Africa and investing in projects with a social impact. The issue also comes as the PIC struggles to recover from the outcome of a judicial inquiry, which last year found management had flouted internal procedures and made questionable investment decisions over many years.

The Isibaya division, which doesn't include holdings in unlisted property, accounts for about 4.3% of PIC assets. The team of about 100 people won't be able to complete ongoing investments or embark on new ones until a new deal with the GEPIF is negotiated, said a person familiar with the situation, who requested anonymity. As much as about a fifth of the PIC's assets can be allocated to unlisted investments, under the money managers' guidelines, the person said. The matter is "being attended to internally," the PIC said in a response to questions. The GEPIF said it doesn't "discuss operational matters between itself and the PIC in the public domain."

INTEGRATION

NIT agrees with Ethiopia's Dire Dawa Polytechnic on exchange programmes

By Guardian Reporter

National Institute of Transport has signed a memorandum of understanding with Ethiopia's Dire Dawa Polytechnic College aimed at collaboration in academic exchange programme and research activities.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday, NIT Rector Professor Zacharia Mganilwa said the two institutions are working under the support of East Africa Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP).

Prof Mganilwa said the five-year project which is funded by the World Bank and implemented in Tanzania, Ethiopia and Kenya, aims to increase access and improve the quality of transport and logistics programs being taught.

"Therefore, the MoU that we have already signed with Dire Dawa Polytechnic College will benefit both institutions by stimulating and promoting professional and intellectual activities involving students and staff," he said.

He further said the deal will also encourage academic partnership and professional collaboration between the two parties adding that, "We are looking forward to a fruitful collaboration in academic exchange, joint curriculum development, as well as knowledge, skill and technology transfer," the NIT



NIT's rector, Prof Zacharia Mganilwa speaks at a past event.

Rector insisted.

Under the MoU, the Dar es Salaam based NIT is expected to host four academic staff members from Dire Dawa Polytechnic College. Of the four, two of them are licensed welders while the others are computer numerical control professionals," he added saying they four will play a role in assisting NIT improve its curriculums in the ship building and repair course as well as the oil and gas programme.

Prof Mganilwa explained that the computer professionals will come to help NIT to improve teaching manuals for a manufacturing engineering programme. "The Institute is in the process to procure equipment for advanced computer courses as currently, we are sending our students to University of Dar es Salaam and Arusha Technical College for practicals," he noted.

Engineer Mganilwa said last month, experts from Ethiopia,

Kenya and Tanzania met in Nairobi to discuss the guidelines for student and staff mobility as per EASTRIP arrangement where guidelines to promote student and staff exchange were discussed. The meeting was attended by the National Project Coordination Units and Project Implementation Units from Regional Flagship Institutes (RFTIs). The meeting was convened to first track the implementation of the project, according to the results framework.

MILESTONE

Plascon debuts mosquito killing paint to beat market competition

By Francis Kajubi

PAINT that will keep mosquitoes out people's homes has been introduced in the local market thanks to Kansai Plascon Tanzania Limited's innovative brains.

Kansai Plascon Tanzania Limited's Managing Director, Hussein Jamal said in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the launch of the unique paint that it will beat off competition at regional and global markets as other manufacturers are yet to develop a similar product.

"Apart from its high quality suitable in decorating properties, the stain is made of aggregates that can kill different kinds of mosquitoes within 24 hours. The technology for making such stain was established in Japan five years ago and we have worked on it all this while before its introduction here," Jamal said.

He said the stain's durability ranges between eight and ten years while its ability to kill mosquitoes lasts two years. Jamal called on consumers to buy the innovative paint because it will keep their homes free of mosquitoes while avoiding to spray residual insecticides regularly.

According to him, the anti-mosquito paint was introduced in Zambian and Ugandan markets some 18 months ago and that Tanzania joins its peers after a one year of trial and verification



Kansai Plascon Tanzania Limited's managing director, Hussein Jamal.

by environmental and health regulators.

"The paint will however help in fighting not only Malaria but other diseases because it kills different kinds of mosquito such those causing Dengue," he added the paint comes in several emulsions

including vinyl silk, weather-guard and super gloss packed in containers of four, ten and twenty litres each.

Kansai Plascon was rebranded three years ago from its previous trade name of Sadolin Paints and has invested almost US\$30 million

in the country. The company has employed 286 local and foreign workers and has branches in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Mbeya and Zanzibar with an agents' network throughout the country.

PARTNERSHIP

Econet, Mastercard in Fintech alliance

HARARE

The Econet Group, through its subsidiary Cassava Fintech International (Cassava Fintech), and Mastercard have entered into a strategic partnership to advance digital inclusion across Africa and collaborate on a range of initiatives including expansion of the Africa CDC TravelPass.

TravelPass is a digital health pass developed by Cassava Fintech and

offered in conjunction with the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC). It is accessible to users of Cassava Fintech's Sasai SuperApp, and the partnership has been established to enhance the security of TravelPass through Mastercard's Community Pass platform.

Mastercard Community Pass is an interoperable digital platform facilitating service delivery for marginalised individuals and

communities, including access to critical health services like patient care plan tracking for Covid-19.

A statement released by the companies says the joint venture "seeks to offer a unified solution with greater convenience and enhanced security, that is expected to promote safe cross border travel in Africa in response to the Covid-19 pandemic."

"The partnership will also allow the two organisations to explore collaboration such as the further

integration of the Community Pass with Cassava Fintech's mobile and financial services, acquiring and processing of card payments across the continent, along with the introduction of a virtual or physical card on the Sasai SuperApp."

Cassava Fintech's CEO, Darlington Mandivenga said the partnership with Mastercard would pave the way for both companies to jointly tackle the challenges facing African economies as they re-open post the

COVID-19 pandemic.

"We are excited to work with Mastercard to explore solutions that will, among other things, mitigate the risk of falsified presentation of a third party's Travel Pass at access and transit points," Mandivenga said, adding that the same technology could also be used in payment solutions. Cassava Fintech uses an integrated model to provide financial and digital services to ensure a "financially inclusive future

that leaves no African behind".

"We look forward to joining hands with Cassava Fintech in exploring new solutions that will make a difference and benefit the continent. In addition to digital innovation for future travel, Cassava will also leverage our secure payments network to advance access to financial services," said Mark Elliott, Divisional President, Southern Africa, Mastercard.

SOCIAL BEBENIT

Absa Bank awards start-ups in fintech health tech entrepreneurs competition



Absa Bank Tanzania's managing director, Abdi Mohamed speaks during a past event.

By Guardian Reporter

THREE start-ups which emerged winners in the inaugural Wazo Challenge Tanzania were awarded cash prizes all valued at US\$10,000 (over 23.1m/-).

Absa Bank Tanzania Managing Director, Abdi Mohamed said the Wazo Challenge Tanzania involved 12 startups selected from an application pool of 150 startups which focused on five themes with Absa Bank Tanzania being the co-sponsor.

Mohamed said the bank decided to co-sponsor the competition to support youth with innovative ideas which are aimed at solving challenges facing communities and bringing people's possibilities to life. "We at Absa say its 'Africanacity'."

He added that Absa Bank has a major role in supporting the community to ensure that youth are assisted to put their innovative ideas to practice so that

they have a bright future. Mohamed further noted that with such an innovative spirit, youth stand a chance of turning their ideas into a business.

"Absa has a key role to play in advancing growth in the country through financial support to several important sectors in the country some of them being education, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, environment and social wellbeing," the Absa Bank Tanzania chief executive added.

The bank's Head of Marketing and Corporate Relations, Aron Luhanga backed his boss by saying that the bank plays a big role in supporting enterprise development in the country and ensure the impact flows down to the communities.

"These youth will again set footprints in the business world as they aspire to not only expand from being just startups but to improving economies and adding value to the society,"

Luhanga said while adding that Absa also maintains a strong relationship with organizations such as Startup Réseau with purpose of bringing change to the communities.

The program was managed and organized by Indian based Startup Réseau, which is a start-up accelerator and started its East Africa expansion with the inaugural edition of the 'Wazo Challenge Tanzania' announced in February.

The competition was culminated by a one-month long venture development boot camp held in between March and April with a total cash grant of US\$10,000. The winners which include kikoba Application which got the first prize of US\$5,000; Mipango Application with US\$3,000 and MedPack which got US\$2,000 were chosen based on their founders' vision, uniqueness, market opportunities and clarity of business model.

REBUFF

Mozambican state electricity company ends salaries in dollars after criticism

MAPUTO

The Mozambican state electricity company (EDM) has eliminated the payment of salaries in dollars, after criticism raised following the company's announcement of the use of an exchange rate higher than that imposed by the Central Bank.

In a statement it released on Monday, the firm determined the payment of all EDM company salaries in national currency. The state power company will also convert the remuneration component in US dollars to meticaís, at the average reference exchange rate in the market in force on the date of this deliberation.

In the note, it is also announced that EDM cancels a circular of 6 May that fixed an exchange rate of 75 meticaís per dollar for the portion that must be paid in dollars of remuneration of certain career structures.

The EDM press release follows the release in the media of a circular in which the company announced it would calculate salaries based on an exchange rate of 75 meticaís per dollar, due to the devaluation of the US currency against the Mozambican currency.

The elimination of salaries in dollars was decided at an extraordinary general meeting of the company, which was attended by the State Management and Participation Institute (IG-EPE), the manager of the Mozambican state's holdings, the statement said.

The Centre for Public Integrity (CIP), a Mozambican civil society organisation, has EDM of committing an illegal act, by setting an exchange rate that is different to the official rate for calculating the salaries of its workers.

The exchange value between the metical and the dollar applied by the company is above the exchange rate set by the Bank of Mozambique (BM), which is around 59 meticaís to the dollar. The CIP urged the Mozambican Public Ministry to intervene.

The former president of the Mozambican Bar Association (OAM), Flavio Menete, confirmed to Lusa the indignation already expressed to television channel STV against EDM's decision. "It is not up to each citizen or each entity to fix its exchange rate. The exchange rate is fixed [by the regulator]," Flávio Menete told STV.

Menete argued that public companies should be guided by careful management, focusing on minimising spending. In Mozambique salaries paid in meticaís but using the dollar as the currency of reference have fallen sharply in recent months due to a sharp appreciation of the metical.

TECH SAVVY

By Guardian Reporter

TIGO Tanzania and Infinix Tanzania partnership is aimed at speeding up smartphone penetration in the country and adoption of fourth generation (4G) technology.

Tigo Device Manager, Mkumbo Myonga and Infinix Public Relations Manager, Aisha Karupa said in Dar es Salaam yesterday when unveiling an Infinix Hot10t smartphone that the two companies are working to local customers state of the art devices.

"As part of our ongoing strategy to enhance smartphone penetration and usage of the Tigo 4G network in the country, we continue to join hands with Infinix Tanzania to ensure that our customers and Tanzanians in general get access to 4G enabled smartphones," said Myonga.

"We have today unveiled two of the latest smartphones in the market and our customers across the country will be able to experience the Tigo 4G network with these smartphones," he added while promising customers much more to come in

Tigo, Infinix partnership speeding up smartphone penetration in the market



An Infinix Hot10t smartphone on display at a shop.

future.

He added that launching the Infinix Hot 10t in the local market will add value to businesses and growth of the economy hence improving the quality of life for all Tanzanians. "In addition to providing our customers with a superior customer experience at an incredibly affordable price, the new smartphone also bridge the digital divide by increasing adoption in the country," the Tigo Device Manager added.

Seconding Myonga's observation, Infinix Public Relation officer, Karupa said the Infinix Hot 10t comes with Helio G70 Chip which enables it to be powerful in gaming experience, 5000mAh 24 hours Non-stop playing time and data on.

The smartphone has 6.82 inch and 90hz smoother and cinematic display which gives more viewing positioning of the videos and images taken by the 48MP portrait Ai triple camera," Karupa said while adding that the gadget is available in all Infinix and Tigo shop countrywide

DEMAND

The untapped potential of macadamia, the 'gold nuts'

KIGALI

The global demand for macadamia outweighs the available supply, a situation that presents a business opportunity that Rwandans can tap into, according to actors in the horticulture sector.

As Rwanda looks to diversifying its agricultural exports to reduce the high reliance on traditional exports like coffee, tea and pyrethrum, experts have argued that macadamia is one of the crops that can help the country achieve that objective.

According to "Macadamia Nut Market Size, Share & Trends Analysis Report" by Grand View Research Inc, which was published in June 2020, the global macadamia nut market size was valued at \$1.17 billion in 2019 and is expected to more than double to \$2.36 billion by 2027. The report said that the rising adoption of nut and dried fruits in regular diet across the world has progressively propelled the macadamia market growth.

In Rwanda, macadamia is used to produce cooking oil, making cookies and soap among other products. Macadamia is nicknamed 'gold nuts' as its nuts are much sought after globally, and known to fetch high revenues.

Speaking to The New Times, Norce Elysee Gatarayiha, the Managing Director of Norelga Macadamia Rwanda Ltd, said that currently, macadamia supply caters for only 48 percent of the global



Rwandan macadamia farmers.

demand, living a supply gap of 52 percent.

This situation, he said, makes it a much sought-after agricultural product globally, especially in the European, US, and Asian market. Norelga Macadamia Rwanda Ltd is one of the firms

that pioneered macadamia farming and processing in Rwanda.

Gatarayiha said that nuts in a shell (dried nuts but not processed) cost between \$3 and \$4 (about Rwf3,000 and Rwf4,000) a kilogramme, while kernel macadamia nuts cost between \$21

and \$23 (about Rwf21,000 and Rwf23,000) a kilogramme.

Underscoring the opportunity from this crop, he said that there are clients who want him to supply them with macadamia to the tune of 36 containers - or 900 tonnes - which is far more

than the four containers - 100 tonnes of macadamia - he has been producing per year. Indeed, such demand is also more than double the quantity of macadamia that Rwanda exported in 2019-2020.

"There is a buyer from Vietnam who wants me to supply them with one container (25 tonnes) of macadamia per month. There is also a client from China who requested me to supply them with at least two containers (50 tonnes) of macadamia nuts in shell per month, implying 24 containers or 600 tonnes per year," Gatarayiha said, indicating that such a deal involves a lot of money.

An industry still at a nascent stage

Macadamia originated from Australia, and was introduced in Rwanda in early 1980s, but its commercial production started from 2009, indicates infor-

mation from the National Agricultural Export Development Board (NAEB).

Currently, NAEB said, there are 268,820 macadamia trees (planted on approximately 1,300 hectares), from which 109,003 trees are productive and 159,817 trees are still under vegetative growth.

"Macadamia value chain is still at an infant stage. However, Rwanda managed to penetrate major markets such as USA for the kernel macadamia nuts while in-shell macadamia nuts are exported to India and Vietnam. And, the biggest importing country for Rwanda's macadamia is Vietnam, followed by USA," said Pie Ntwari, NAEB Communication specialist.

Statistics from NAEB show that during the 2019-2020 fiscal year, Rwanda exported over 405,000 kilogrammes (approximately 405

tonnes) of macadamia which generated more than \$1.92 million (about Rwf1.9 billion). And, in the first half of 2020-2021, macadamia exports from Rwanda amounted to over 390,000 kilogrammes which fetched over \$1.61 million (about Rwf1.6 billion).

Meanwhile, access to seedlings has been a limiting factor for farmers struggling with financial constraints. One macadamia seedling currently costs Rwf5,000, which makes them out of reach to smallholder farmers.

Production of macadamia seedlings require a considerable investment and time as it takes 18 months. It also requires technical skills to increase success rate for grafted seedlings. All these factors, NAEB said, increase the costs of production.

ECO-FRIENDLY

Amazon raises \$1bn sustainable bond to invest in low-carbon projects

NEW YORK

Amazon issued its first sustainability bond, raising \$1 billion to invest in projects that could help reduce carbon emissions across the world.

The proceeds will be largely used to fund projects in renewable energy, clean transportation, sustainable buildings, affordable housing and socioeconomic advancement and empowerment, the company said.

Proceeds from sustainability bonds are used to finance or re-finance a mix of green and social initiatives. "Sustainability bonds enable investors to join us in tackling critical social and environmental issues. We are committed to using our scale for good," the company said in a blog.

"Amazon continues to stimulate investment in the development of green technologies and low carbon products and services that will enable companies of all sizes to decarbonise their operations."

Sustainable finance has gained traction over the past year as some of the world's biggest companies and fund



Photovoltaic panels in front of the Amazon distribution centre in Bad Hersfeld, Germany.

managers commit to environmental, social and governance policies in an effort to reduce

emissions. Issuance of sustainable finance bonds doubled last year to an all-

time record of \$554.3bn, according to Refinitiv data. Demand surged every quarter of last year,

from less than \$70bn in the first three months, through to \$180bn in the October-December period.

It marked the highest quarterly total since records began in 2015.

Amazon's new bond is part of its Sustainable Bond Framework, which aims to advance new technologies that "decarbonise and preserve the natural world," the company said. However, the money raised through the sustainability bond is only 5.4 per cent of \$18.5bn of debt the company issued on Monday, according to the Financial Times and Bloomberg.

The company took advantage of the low interest rate environment and raised the debt through bonds of eight different maturities, ranging from two to 40 years, according to the reports. In October 2019, the e-commerce company also co-founded the Climate Pledge to encourage organisations to achieve net-zero annual carbon emissions by 2040, a decade ahead of the Paris Agreement's 2050 goals.

Amazon, which saw a strong growth as the Covid-19 pandemic boosted online shopping globally, last week posted an annual increase of 44 per cent in first quarter revenue to \$108.5bn. This was the second consecutive quarter of over \$100bn sales. Net profit more than tripled to \$8.1bn. The company had \$33.8bn in cash and cash equivalents at the end of the quarter.

COMPENSATION

Apple faces UK class action for overcharging 20m users

LONDON

Apple Inc is facing a London lawsuit over claims it overcharged nearly 20 million UK customers for App Store purchases, yet another legal headache for the tech giant fighting lawsuits across the world.

Apple's 30% standard fee is "excessive" and "unlawful" the claimants said in a press release Tuesday. The claim, filed at London's Competition Appeal Tribunal on Monday, calls for the US firm to compensate UK iPhone and iPad users for years of alleged overcharging.

"Apple is abusing its dominance in the app store market, which in turn impacts UK consumers," Rachael Kent, the lead claimant in the case and a professor at King's College London. She teaches the ways in which consumers interact and depend upon digital platforms.

The suit, described by Apple as "meritless," was filed a week into a US trial over Epic Games Inc's claims that Apple is running its marketplace like a monopoly, cheating developers and consumers. The separate UK claim is focused on the alleged harm caused to customers rather than developers. Earlier this year, Apple lowered its App Store fee to 15% from 30% for developers who produce as much as \$1 million in annual revenue from their apps and those who are new to the store.

The legal challenges come as Apple faces a backlash – with billions of dollars in revenue on the line – from global regulators

and some developers who say its fees and other policies are unjust and self-serving. Last month, the European Commission sent a statement of objections to the firm, laying out how it thinks Apple abused its power as the "gatekeeper" for music-streaming apps on its store.

"We believe this lawsuit is meritless and welcome the opportunity to discuss with the court our unwavering commitment to consumers and the many benefits the App Store has delivered to the UK's innovation economy," Apple said in an emailed statement.

"The commission charged by the App Store is very much in the mainstream of those charged by all other digital marketplaces," Apple said. "In fact, 84% of apps on the App Store are free and developers pay Apple nothing. And for the vast majority of developers who do pay Apple a commission because they are selling a digital good or service, they are eligible for a commission rate of 15%."

The suit alleges that Apple deliberately shuts out potential competition and forces ordinary users to use its own payment processing system, generating unlawfully excessive levels of profit for the company.

The claimants say any UK user of an iPhone or iPad who purchased paid apps, subscriptions or made other in-app purchases since October 2015 is entitled to compensation. They estimate that Apple could face paying out in excess of 1.5 million pounds.



Rachael Kent, the lead claimant in the case and a professor at King's College London.



ISIDINGO MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

ITV

SUNDAY 18 April

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera
09:00 Watoto Wetu
10:00 Isidingo
11:40 Movie rpt: Nzowa
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:30 Mwangaza
16:30 ITV Top 10
17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Matukio ya wiki
19:30 Igizo: Mtego
20:00 Habari
21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
21:15 Mizengwe
21:35 Mjue Zaidi
22:15 Bongo Movie: Laana
00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)
Wild Skin

MONDAY 19 April

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Isidingo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 ITV Top 10 rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera News
12:30 Mtego rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Mjue Zaidi
13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:10 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)
Wild Skin

TUESDAY 20 April

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Isidingo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto Wetu
10:30 Uchumi na biashara rpt
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 The Base rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)
Wild Skin

WEDNESDAY 21 April

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Isidingo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto Wetu rpt
10:30 Uchumi na biashara rpt
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 The Base rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)
Wild Skin

THURSDAY 22 April

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI

ITV

9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu rpt
10:30 Jungu kuu rpt
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 The Base rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Afya ya jamii
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 DWTV: Kesho leo rpt
13:30 Shika Bamba rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)
Wild Skin

FRIDAY 23 April

9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu rpt
10:30 Jungu kuu rpt
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 The Base rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)
Wild Skin

SATURDAY 24 April

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera

ITV

6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
9:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Isidingo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto
10:30 Shamba lulu rpt
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 The Base rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Ijue sheria rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: TMDA
13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanzania Yetu

SUNDAY 25 April

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera
09:00 Watoto Wetu
10:00 Isidingo
11:40 Movie rpt: Laana
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:30 Mwangaza
16:30 ITV Top 10
17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Matukio ya wiki
19:30 Igizo: Mtego
20:00 Habari
21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
21:15 Mizengwe
21:35 Mjue Zaidi
22:15 Bongo Movie: Who's Back
00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)
Wild Skin

MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

13:55 Habari za saa
14:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)
Wild Skin
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi rpt
18:30 Jagina
19:00 Usafiri wako
19:30 Isidingo
20:00 Habari
21:00 Malumbano ya hoja
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTV

ITV

9:00 Watoto wetu
10:00 Shika Bamba 5
10:30 Mjue Zaidi rpt
11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt
12:15 Korean drama rpt: Jumong
13:45 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)
Wild Skin
16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
16:20 Igizo: Mtego
17:00 Shamsam za Pwani
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Korean drama: Jumong
19:00 Jungu Kuu
19:30 Shika Bamba
20:00 Habari
21:00 Art and lifestyle
21:30 ITV TOP 10
22:10 Isidingo rpt
00:30 DWTV

TUESDAY 20 April

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30 Tanzania Yetu rpt
17:00 Eco@Africa rpt
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 The Décor rpt
19:30 Shamba lulu
20:00 Series: Beats of Love
20:45 The Monday Agenda
21:30 Capital Prime News
22:00 Kipima Joto
00:00 Al Jazeera

WEDNESDAY 21 April

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30 Capchat rpt
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 Innovation rpt
19:30 Jagina rpt
20:00 Series: Beats of Love
20:45 Telenovela: Lover her to death
21:30 Capital Prime
22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt
22:30 Eco@Africa
23:00 Al Jazeera

THURSDAY 22 April

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30 Culinary delight rpt
17:00 Innovation rpt
17:30 Meza huru
18:00 Sports Gazette
19:00 Sports Gazette
19:30 Chetu ni chetu

FRIDAY 23 April

08:00 Al Jazeera

ITV

09:00 In good shape
10:00 Capchat rpt
11:00 Sports Gazette rpt
11:30 Korean Drama rpt: The slave hunter
12:00 Jagina rpt
12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt
13:00 In good shape rpt
13:30 Series rpt: Beats of Love
15:15 Aibu yako
15:30 Rev rpt
16:00 Dakika 45 rpt
16:45 Mizengwe rpt
17:00 The Décor rpt
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt
19:30 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights
20:00 Korean Drama: Iris
21:00 Shift
21:15 Capchat live
22:15 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
00:00 Al Jazeera

SATURDAY 24 April

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30 Tanzania Yetu rpt
17:00 Eco@Africa rpt
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 The Décor rpt
19:30 Shamba lulu
20:00 Series: Beats of Love
20:45 The Monday Agenda
21:30 Capital Prime News
22:00 Kipima Joto
00:00 Al Jazeera

SUNDAY 25 April

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30 Capchat rpt
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 Innovation rpt
19:30 Jagina rpt
20:00 Series: Beats of Love
20:45 Telenovela: Lover her to death
21:30 Capital Prime
22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt
22:30 Eco@Africa
23:00 Al Jazeera

MONDAY 19 April

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30 Culinary delight rpt
17:00 Innovation rpt
17:30 Meza huru
18:00 Sports Gazette
19:00 Sports Gazette
19:30 Chetu ni chetu

TUESDAY 20 April

08:00 Al Jazeera

WORLD

Leaders look to bolster EU resilience

BRUSSELS

EUROPEAN Union leaders pledged on Sunday to bolster the bloc's resilience and unity possibly with a revision of its treaties as they kicked off the yearlong Conference on the Future of Europe.

The inaugural event of the conference, which will invite public debate on the way forward for the EU, came 15 months after COVID-19 struck the world. Within the region, the pandemic inflicted great damage, with a devastating loss of lives and economic upheavals. The impact exposed the bloc's internal divisions when member states closed borders and imposed export restrictions on medical supplies.

Speaking from a TV studio in the middle of the hemisphere of the European Parliament in Strasbourg and surrounded by several EU leaders, French President Emmanuel Macron said that

national divisions during the pandemic have highlighted the need to beef up EU powers, and he hopes the conference will strengthen the decision-making at EU level.

"This weakness explained the difficulties in coordination," he said on Sunday, celebrated as Europe Day in recognition of French statesman Robert Schuman's vision for European political cooperation 71 years ago.

"Therefore, we need to learn the lessons given this major shock of the pandemic; we need to beef up our common capacity because it is at the European level that we'll come up with the relevant response."

Macron stressed that "Europe wasn't moving forward quickly enough, was lacking ambition "and "we need to find an effective way forward with ambition to get through the crises and to avoid not taking decisions".

The French president, a powerful voice in the EU who will face the next



French President Emmanuel Macron (center, right) and European Parliament President David Sassoli (center, left) arrive at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, eastern France, May 9, 2021 before launching the Conference on the Future of Europe and to mark Europe Day. (AP)

French presidential election in 2022, described the conference as an opportunity to decide what the EU would be like in 10 to 15 years.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said she is aware that there is always skepticism and cynicism whenever Europe debates its future or launches a project of this nature.

"We should be honest that the conference is not a panacea or a solution to every problem. And we must listen to all voices whether critical or complimentary and ensure that we properly follow up on whatever is agreed," she said.

Von der Leyen identified issues that the conference should try to resolve. For example, some feel Europe is too close and too involved in their lives while others feel that it is too remote or too detached.

'Find right balance'

"This is an opportunity for Euro-

peans to help find the right balance ... This is an opportunity to help build a new common purpose for all Europeans," she said.

European Parliament President David Sassoli echoed Macron's view of the EU's shortcomings in its response to the pandemic over the past 15 months.

"When Europe is aware of its responsibilities, it responds effectively, rapidly, coherently. But when the European Union finds itself in a difficult situation. Then sometimes it finds itself in difficulties," he said, clearly referring to the chaos that characterized the bloc's early efforts to make a coordinated pandemic response.

Sassoli hopes that the conference will discuss issues in the way of the bloc's future without taboos, citing the need to increase the transparency of elections and enable citizens to indicate their preference for president of the European Commission.

Agencies

Kremlin laments lack of US cooperation in tackling cyber threats

MOSCOW

THE Kremlin has once again pointed out the importance of cooperation between Moscow and Washington in tackling cyber threats amid a cyber-attack on Colonial Pipeline, a US company. "Russia has nothing to do with these hacker attacks, nor with the previous hacker attacks," Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov assured reporters yesterday.

"We categorically reject any accusation against us, and we can only regret that the US is refusing to cooperate with us in any way to counter cyber-threats.

We believe that such cooperation - both international and bilateral - could indeed contribute to the common struggle against this scourge [known as] cyber-crime," Peskov said.

US President Joe Biden said on Monday the US intelligence had no evidence that Russia had been involved in the attack on Colonial Pipeline, but there was evidence that the actor's ransomware was in Russia and Moscow had "some responsibility to deal with this."

Colonial Pipeline reported earlier it had been the target of a ransomware cyber-attack. The gang stole almost 100 gigabytes of the company's data hostage, forcing it to suspend operations.

Agencies

China has maintained population growth over past decade, labour force remains abundant

BEIJING

CHINA'S population continued to grow steadily over the last decade, and its labor force remains abundant, data from the latest official census shows.

The population on the Chinese mainland has grown by an average annual rate of 0.53 percent from 2010 to 2020, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said Tuesday, citing data from the seventh national census conducted last year.

The rate was slightly lower than the average annual growth of 0.57 percent from 2000 to 2010, according to the NBS.

"Data shows that China's population has maintained slow growth in the past decade," Ning Jizhe, head of the NBS, told a press conference.

China has conducted a national census every 10 years since the 1990s. The country's population on the mainland has reached 1.41178 billion, up by 5.38 percent or 72.06 million from 2010, the latest census data shows.

The figure does not include Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan residents, nor does it include foreigners who live in the mainland's 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, said the NBS.

China's working-age population, or people aged between 16 and 59, stands at 880 million, according to Ning.

The average age of the Chinese population is 38.8, almost the same as the United States' 38, he said.

Ning said the slight decrease in the annual growth rate was a result of mixed factors, including a continued drop in the number of women of childbearing age, couples delaying having children, and the rising cost of childbearing and parenting.

"This is an objective outcome of China's economic development, particularly as the country's industrialization and urbanization reaches a certain stage," he said, noting that it is a universal issue and particularly evident in developed countries. But he expects China's population to stay above 1.4 billion "for a certain period in the future," citing positive factors that will continue to support future growth.

He attributed the basically steady growth over the past decade to China's large population base, which has ensured more than 10 million newborns every year, as well as a shift to the two-child policy that resulted in a rebound in the number of births.

In 2020, China's population aged between zero and 14 hit 253.38 million, an increase of 30.92 million from 10 years ago, or 1.35 percentage points in proportion to the total population, census data shows.

In response to its rapidly aging population, China allowed all married couples to have two children in 2016. This followed an earlier policy easing in 2013 that allowed couples to have a second child if either parent was an only child.

Ning said the sustained increase in life expectancy also contributed to population growth. In China, the annual number of deaths has never surpassed the annual number of births, due to improvements in people's livelihoods and healthcare.

"China's population will peak in the future, but there remains uncertainty as to when specifically it will happen," Ning said.

Ning noted that population growth will be affected by such factors as age structure, people's views on having children, government population policies, the cost of childbearing and parenting, medical services and the health conditions of the people.

Xinhua

Wang Yi raises proposals for high-quality BRI development

XI'AN

CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi yesterday put forward proposals, including deepening public health cooperation, for the high-quality development of the Belt and Road cooperation.

Wang (pictured) attended and addressed the fifth Silk Road International Exposition and the Investment and Trade Forum for Cooperation between East and West China in Xi'an, capital city of northwest China's Shaanxi province, via video link.

Wang called for deepening public health cooperation in an all-around way to cope with

the COVID-19 pandemic. Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) partners should strengthen unity, carry out information sharing and joint prevention and control, and strengthen international cooperation in vaccine research, production and distribution to realize vaccine accessibility and affordability in developing countries.

He called for enhanced connectivity to consolidate the foundation for higher-level development.

He said BRI partners should accelerate the improvement of channels for personnel exchanges and cargo transportation, strengthen the infrastructure connectivity, promote the



alignment of rules and standards, and deepen cooperation in digital interconnectivity.

BRI partners should stick to mutually beneficial and win-win cooperation, and build a

higher-quality economic and trade cooperation platform. He noted that partners should firmly safeguard the multilateral trading system, promote the construction of free trade zones, build an open world economy, and accelerate cooperation in emerging areas such as cross-border e-commerce and cloud exhibitions.

BRI partners should also focus on green and sustainable development, Wang said, calling for cooperation in the fields of green infrastructure, green energy and green finance.

Slovak First Deputy Prime Minister and Economy Minister Richard Sulik, Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Ruslan Kazakbaev,

Tajik Foreign Minister Sirojiddin Muhiddin, Turkmen Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Rashid Meredov, and Uzbek Foreign Minister Abdulaziz Kamilov attended the opening ceremony and delivered speeches via video link.

Hailing the fruits of the joint construction of the Belt and Road, the officials said they looked forward to deepening pragmatic cooperation with China in various fields under the framework of the BRI, strengthening international anti-pandemic cooperation, and promoting the early recovery of the regional and world economies.

Xinhua

UK reports zero COVID-19 deaths for 1st time in 14 months

LONDON

ENGLAND reported no deaths from COVID-19 in its latest daily update, a milestone that highlights the effectiveness of the UK's vaccine program in stopping the spread of the disease.

Sunday was the first day without any recorded deaths in England since the pandemic took hold in March of last year.

More than 112,000 people have died since then, with the first wave in Spring 2020 followed later in the year by the emergence of a highly transmissible UK variant of the coronavirus.

Vaccination is now allowing England to reopen its economy, with a further easing of lockdown restrictions starting next week allowing people to meet indoors at pubs, restaurants and cinemas.

The Bank of England sees the UK's economic output recouping pandemic losses by the end of this year as consumers look to spend some of the savings they accumulated during the restrictions.

England, and the other nations of the UK, calculates COVID-19 mortalities by counting the number of people who died within 28 days of a first positive test.



A health worker gives an injection of the AstraZeneca/Oxford vaccine at a temporary vaccination centre set up at the East London Mosque in London on April 14, 2021. (File photo)

Elsewhere in the UK, Scotland and Northern Ireland also reported no deaths on Sunday, while four people died in Wales.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday gave the green light to cautious hugging and the serving of pints in

side pubs after months of strict restrictions as he set out the next phase of coronavirus lockdown easing in England.

Johnson confirmed that England could continue to the next stage of his four-step plan to bring the country out of lockdown by the summer, as the COVID-19 situation improved thanks to the rollout of vaccines and social restriction measures.

The reopening will apply to England only, with the semi-autonomous governments of Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales setting out their own rules.

Israel clashes escalate as Netanyahu predicts extended conflict

NAIROBI

PALESTINIAN militants in the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip bombarded southern Israel with dozens of rockets overnight, and Israeli aircraft pounded their facilities in lethal raids, after a showdown over Jerusalem erupted into one of the most intense confrontations between the sides in years.

More than 200 rockets were fired into Israel, and several people were wounded in attacks that included direct hits on buildings, the Israeli military said yesterday. Israel struck 130 targets of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad groups, including two tunnels, a Hamas military in-

telligence facility, and rocket production and storage sites. Fifteen militants died in the raids, it said.

The Palestinians said 24 people were killed, including nine children, in the coastal strip. Israel said dozens of outgoing rockets fell short and landed inside Gaza territory.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Gaza militants on Monday crossed a "red line" with rocket fire at the Jerusalem area, and predicted that the current round of violence could last for "some time."

Political gridlock

The violence is flaring at a time



when Netanyahu's rivals are trying to piece together a government after the fourth election in two years, and it has already impeded

those efforts. One of the parties to the coalition talks, the United Arab List, has suspended participation due to the deteriorating security

situation.

The escalation has also sparked concern in the US, Europe and at the United Nations. "All sides need to de-escalate, reduce tensions, take practical steps to calm things down," US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said.

Jerusalem has been seething with confrontations between Israeli security forces and Palestinians since the start of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan.

After giving Israeli security forces a deadline to vacate the Al-Aqsa mosque compound and a traditionally Arab neighborhood where Israel plans to evict longtime Palestinian residents, Gaza militants

fired dozens of rockets at the Jerusalem area and southern Israel.

Tensions were especially high on Monday because it marked Israel's celebration of its control over the contested holy city, whose fate lies at the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Israel captured Jerusalem's eastern sector, with shrines holy to Muslims, Arabs and Christians, from Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war and later annexed it.

Palestinians claim east Jerusalem as the capital of their longed-for state, and they and most of the international community consider it to be occupied territory.

Agencies

UN: Islamic State committed genocide against Yazidis in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS

KARIM Khan, head of a UN team investigating Islamic State (IS) crimes in Iraq, said on Monday that there was "clear and convincing evidence" that the terrorist group committed genocide against the Yazidi people.

"I'm able to announce that, based upon independent and impartial investigations, complying with international standards and UN best practice, there is clear and convincing evidence that the crimes against the Yazidi people clearly constituted genocide," Khan told the Security Council in a briefing.

"More particularly, we have identified specific perpetrators that clearly have responsibility for the crime of genocide against the Yazidi community," he said.

The intent of IS to destroy the Yazidi - physically and biologically - was manifest in the ultimatum that was repeated in so many different villages in Iraq: to convert or to die, said Khan, who heads the UN Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State (UNITAD).

Thousands of men, women and children were killed brutally pursuant to this ultimatum, he said.

A full scope of criminality is displayed in the awful crimes committed by IS against the Yazidi community: executions, slavery, sexual slavery, and crimes against children, he said.

These crimes have not ended with the end of the territorial control by IS in Iraq. Thousands of Yazidis remain missing. There is clear evidence that some children may still be detained by IS in the region, he said.

The UN investigative team has also been able to prioritize and come to findings regarding the June 2014 massacre of predominantly Shi'ite unarmed cadets and other personnel at the Tikrit Air Academy, also known as Camp Speicher, said Khan.

Morocco urges Spain to maintain good bilateral relations

RABAT

MOROCCAN Foreign Affairs Ministry has reaffirmed its good relations with Spain saying the Kingdom is shocked by reports that Polisario Front leader, Brahim Ghali is visiting Madrid.

In a statement, Moroccan Foreign Affairs said the decision of Spanish authorities not to notify their Moroccan counterparts of the arrival of Ghali is not a simple omission but a premeditated act and sovereign decision by Spain.

"Since Spain has received on its territory the leader of the Polisario Front who is accused of serious human rights violations, Spanish officials have made many statements in an attempt to justify this serious act which violates the spirit of partnership and good neighbourliness," the ministry points out, noting that the invocation of humanitarian considerations cannot justify the negative attitude.

The Moroccan Foreign Ministry further noted that, "Humanitarian considerations do not justify the actions taken by a partner and a neighbour," adding that "Humanitarian considerations cannot be given selectively to the leader of the Polisario Front militias, at a time when thousands of people live poor conditions in the Tindouf camps."

Rabat underlined that humanitarian considerations cannot either, explain the inaction of the Spanish authorities while documented complaints are properly in the hands of the country's justice system.

"Law enforcement and the preservation of victims' rights cannot be a case of double standards," the statement noted.

The Ministry argued that humanitarian considerations do not explain that one is complicit in falsification of passports, intended to voluntarily circumvent the law as was the case of Ghali.

"Finally, humanitarian considerations cannot negate the legitimate claims of and massive human rights violations committed by the leader of the Polisario," the statement noted.

The Moroccan Foreign Ministry added that the attitude of some government officials to prejudice the Kingdom's reaction and minimize the impact, will seriously affect bilateral relationship if left unchecked.

"Preserving the bilateral partnership is a shared responsibility, which is nourished by a permanent commitment to showing mutual trust, maintaining fruitful cooperation and safeguarding the strategic interests of the two countries," the statement concluded.

Agencies



Spanish Foreign Minister, Arantxa Gonzalez Laya (L) and Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nasser Bourita at a joint news conference earlier this year.

First CICPE concludes, injecting new vitality into global economic recovery

HAIKOU

THE first China International Consumer Products Expo (CICPE) concluded on Monday in Haikou, the capital of south China's Hainan Province.

A total of 70 countries and regions attended the four-day expo, and 2,628 brands under 1,505 enterprises from home and abroad participated in the exhibitions.

Covering 80,000 square meters, the expo also attracted more than 240,000 visitors. Major e-commerce platforms including JD Worldwide and Tmall Global also joined the expo with global brands.

Livestreaming rooms garnered over 16 million viewers, with a total turnover of 68 million yuan (about 10.4 million U.S. dollars), said Han Shengjian, director of the Hainan bureau of international economic development.

The first group of companies from sectors including fashion, life services, travel services, service consumption, food, health products and jewelry have already signed up for the second CICPE.

Over 80 percent of exhibitors this year expressed willingness to participate in the second CICPE. With the COVID-19 pandemic still raging and the world economy continuing to drag, the expo has provided a new platform for global enterprises to share the development opportunities brought by the Chinese market and inject new growth momentum into global economic recovery.

NEW PLATFORM

U.S. luxury fashion company Tapestry was in the first group of enterprises to sign up for the second China International Consumer Products Expo on Monday.

"We released several new products at the expo and visitors were very interested. We have seen the huge potential of the Chinese market," said Zhou Guanghua, vice president of Tapestry.

China was the only major economy in the world to achieve positive growth in 2020, with its GDP up 2.3 percent year on year. According to China's Ministry of Commerce, imports of consumer goods grew 8.2 percent in 2020, reaching 1.57 trillion yuan.

"The expo has brought new opportunities for global high-end brands to enter and expand the Chinese market," said Swiss Ambassador to China Bernardino Regazzoni. "The expo also marks another big step forward in the construction of the Hainan free trade port (FTP) and the acceleration of China's integration into the global economic system."

China in 2018 proposed the establishment of a free trade zone in Hainan and began construction of the Hainan FTP last year to build the island into a globally influential and high-level free trade port by the middle of the century. Hainan has implemented a package of favorable policies to ease market access and further facilitate free trade, invest-



People visit the Hainan Exhibition Area during the first China International Consumer Products Expo in Haikou, capital of south China's Hainan Province, May 7, 2021. (Xinhua)

ment and cross-border capital flows. According to the provincial government, direct foreign investment in Hainan grew from 340 million U.S. dollars in 2017 to 3.03 billion U.S. dollars in 2020.

"This is our first exhibition in China. We hope to use the platform to enter Hainan's duty-free market and reach cooperation with China's duty-free enterprises," said Chilli Zhou, country sales director of Swiss luxury underwear brand Zimmerli Textil AG.

Official data shows that sales of offshore duty-free shops in Hainan reached nearly 5 billion U.S. dollars in 2020, and the duty-free shopping industry on the island is likely to become a 100-billion-yuan industry in the next few years, insiders said.

China will further expand domestic demand and unleash the potential of the world's largest consumption market, said Ales Cervinka, director of the Czech Trade Promotion Agency in China. "I expect that we will find more business partners to help our product to enter duty-free outlets here."

"By holding the expo, we will give further play to the policy advantages of the Hainan free trade port, effectively promote the accumulation of global high-end goods, capital, talent and other resources, and vigorously promote the development of the services sector, such as exhibitions, and commerce and trade," said Rong Yansong, deputy director of the Hainan provincial department of commerce.

NEW IMPETUS

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the consumer products expo has given a strong boost to global economic recovery. "Despite facing challenges in the past year, the strong resilience and

growth potential of China's consumer market has greatly impressed the world," said Yann Bozec, president of Tapestry Asia Pacific.

With a total population of over 1.4 billion and more than 400 million middle-income residents, China has become the world's most promising consumer market. The retail sales of consumer goods in the first quarter of the year, a major indicator of the country's consumption strength, edged up 33.9 percent year on year to over 10.5 trillion yuan, according to the National Bureau of Statistics.

Justin Yifu Lin, honorary dean of the National Development Research Institute of Peking University, said at an expo forum that the event will become a new growth driver for Hainan's high-quality development. He added that China has the conditions to double its GDP scale by 2035, or its per capita income level in urban and rural areas, on the basis of 2020.

He said that as people become wealthier, their demand for better lives will also be enhanced. The constant upgrading of Chinese consumer demand has brought new trends and opportunities to the market, becoming a powerful driving force for the growth of the global market, added Yann Bozec.

Italy, an important participating country at the Hainan expo, brought more than 50 brands to take part. Paolo Bazzoni, chairman of the Italy Chamber of Commerce, said Hainan is becoming the number-one location for quality retail travel.

Xinhua

No foreign interference able to undermine rule of law in Hong Kong

THE rule of law is never to be played with, and those who go against the laws shall never escape punishment.

The District Court of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) recently sentenced Joshua Wong Chi-fung, an instigator of the Hong Kong riots, as well as other three persons, four to ten months in jail for participating in an unauthorized assembly.

The judgment was made strictly according to the Basic Law and judicial proceedings of the HKSAR, based on solid facts and legal procedure.

However, a U.S. politician ridiculously requested the HKSAR government to immediately release these anti-China rioters on twitter.

Does he want to be a judge in Hong Kong? If he does, he must learn first the laws of Hong Kong and then see if he's qualified to be one.

The human rights and freedom in Hong Kong, including the freedom of speech and the freedom of assembly, are fully protected by the Chinese constitution and the Basic Law of the HKSAR. However, there are legal boundaries for every right and interest. No one enjoys the freedom to hurt the personal and property security of others, the freedom to undermine social prosperity and stability, or the freedom to challenge national sovereignty, security and development interests.

The four anti-China rioters are suspected of an illegal assembly. Their mean practice to challenge the police authority and cripple the government through organized massive illegal assembly is tolerated in no law-based society.

The judge of the case said when announcing judgment that the defendants were intentionally, premeditatedly and blatantly violating the law, as they had been told that the assembly was not authorized. There must be deterring punishment to underline the severity of the case, so as to avoid imitation.

Hong Kong is an inalienable part of China and its affairs are China's internal affairs that brook no interference by any external forces. How



Aerial photo taken on March 6, 2021 shows people displaying China's national flag and the flag of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in support of implementing the principle of "patriots administering Hong Kong" at Tamar Park in Hong Kong, China. File photo

dare the U.S. politician request the HKSAR government to release the defendants that have pled guilty and try to meddle in the normal and justifiable adjudication of the HKSAR! His practice not only goes against the rule of law, but also violates international law and the basic norms governing international relations.

The U.S. politician can't be unclear about the causal relationship between illegality and punishment. In the U.S., illegal assembly is banned, and anyone that participates in it will face severe punishment. For instance, unlawful assembly is a Class B misdemeanor in Alabama, and is punishable by six months of imprisonment and a \$3,000 fine. In Arizona, it is considered a first-degree felony that is punishable by six months of imprisonment and a \$2,500 fine.

There's no doubt that the judgment made by the District Court of the HKSAR was an act to safeguard justice with the rule of law. The improper and irresponsible remarks made by the U.S. politician is totally shameful as it puts political manipulation above the law.

The hypocritical double standard of some U.S. politicians have again and again hindered the law enforcement of Hong Kong judiciary authorities, and offered shelter and

even whitewashed criminals. They are standing on the opposite side of Hong Kong's rule of law and order, as well as the Hong Kong citizens.

Of course, the U.S. attempts to interfere in Hong Kong affairs and China's domestic affairs are doomed to end up in vain. To ensure that laws are put in place, observed, and strictly enforced and that anyone who violates the law is held to account is necessary for safeguarding social orders and people's interests with the rule of law.

It must be noted that China has the resolution, confidence and capability to contain foreign interference, safeguard national security, and ensure the long-term stability and prosperity of the HKSAR.

People's Daily

Of course, the U.S. attempts to interfere in Hong Kong affairs and China's domestic affairs are doomed to end up in vain

Putin submits bill to lower house on denouncing Open Skies Treaty

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin submitted a bill to the State Duma on denouncing the Treaty on Open Skies, according to the lower house's database.

"To denounce the Treaty on Open Skies signed in the city of Helsinki on March 24, 1992," the document said. An explanatory note says that the Treaty "contributed to significantly building trust in the military field."

Russia made a great contribution to its implementation and every year hosted and carried out the biggest number of observation flights and was the first to create and start using digital surveillance equipment.

"On November 22, 2020 the US used a far-fetched pretext to leave the Treaty, thus significantly disrupting the balance of interests of the parties to the Treaty achieved when it was signed.

Thus, a serious damage was dealt to observing the Treaty and its significance in building trust and transparency, and a threat to Russia's national security emerged.

Amid these circumstances, a decision was made on launching inter-state procedures on Russia's withdrawal from the Treaty," the explanatory note reads. The Russian government has approved the bill.

Russia's Foreign Ministry announced on January 15 that Moscow had launched internal state procedures for exiting the Treaty on Open Skies.

The Russian diplomatic agency explained the move by the absence of progress in removing obstacles for the Treaty's continuation in new conditions after the US quit it in November 2020.

The US Department of State stated in April that Washington had not decided yet on rejoining the Open Skies Treaty.

On May 5, the Russian government passed a resolution approving termination of the Treaty and referred this proposal to the president.

On May 9, Putin appointed Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov as his official envoy to the Federal Assembly, or Russia's national bicameral parliament, on issues of the denunciation of the Open Skies Treaty.

For years, Washington had been accusing Moscow of exercising a selective approach to implementing the Open Skies Treaty and violating a number of its provisions. Russia had been laying counterclaims on the Treaty's implementation.



SPORT

KMC FC plots Azam FC downfall in VPL



Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC players participate in training in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF KMC FC

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

KINONDONI Municipal Council (KMC) FC's management has made it clear that the team will come out firing all cylinders when they lock horns with Azam FC in a Vodacom Premier League's tie to be played in Dar es Salaam on Saturday.

The two teams, based in the city, will face each other at Azam Complex in the city, with kick off slated for 7pm.

The KMC FC settled for 0-0 draw with Lindi's Namungo FC in a previous top flight match, which took place at Majaliwa Stadium in Ruangwa last weekend.

Christina Mwangi, KMC FC information officer, said that the team are already back in Dar es Salaam and they will tomorrow start preparations for their coming assignment.

She disclosed: "We returned safely today from Ruangwa, Lindi where we had a game against Namungo FC."

She noted: "Getting draw in the previous clash is not bad despite the fact that we needed a victory."

She said: "Tomorrow the players

will start making preparations for our game against Azam FC."

"You should remember that Azam FC sits third and we are placed fifth, we are making preparations to beat Azam FC."

"In the first game between our team and Azam FC, held at Uhuru Stadium, we got three points, so we are telling our opponents that we are back and we are strong," she said.

The KMC FC banks on, among others, experienced keeper Juma Kaseja, Jean Baptiste Mugiraneza, Yusuf Ndikumana, Kenny Ally, Hassan Kabunda, Cliff Buyoya and Charles Ilanfy to tame Azam FC.

Promising central defender, Lusajo Mwaikenda, loaned to KMC FC by Azam FC during mini transfer period, will face his parent outfit in what is expected to be a tricky challenge for the youthful defender.

He has by far turned out to be a key player for the KMC FC since he joined the side, netting several goals for the outfit.

Female boxers to spice Mwakinyo, Brendon Denes fight

By Guardian Reporter

ZIMBABWEAN and Bulgarian female boxers will spice up the African Boxing Union (ABU) Super Welterweight title bout between Tanzanian, Hassan Mwakinyo, and Zimbabwean, Brendon Denes, scheduled to take place at Next Door Arena, Oysterbay in Dar es Salaam on May 28.

The boxers, Joana Nwamerue of Bulgaria, and Chiedza Homakoma of Zimbabwe, popularly known as 'The Queen Tiger', will trade punches in the fight dubbed 'Rumble in Dar second edition'.

The boxers are prominent pugilists in professional boxing whereby Chiedza is number one in her country while Joana is also the number one in Bulgaria.

Apart from dwelling in professional boxing, Nwamerue is also engaging in kickboxing.

Jackson Group Sports Chief Executive Officer Kelvin Twissa said yesterday that they had decided to bring in foreign boxers to the country to promote the sport.

Twissa said the two boxers are the best in their countries and he believes Tanzanian boxers will learn from them in the fight that fans will pay 50,000/- for regular seats.

He stated the venue's special seats will cost 200,000/- each. The tickets are available through paid and on tap apps.

He explained that Joana is one of the most popular boxers in the sport and she has managed to do well in kickboxing apart from professional boxing.

He noted: "Chiedza is the number one Zimbabwean boxer who has shown the highest level in the game and caused professional boxing fans to nickname her as The Queen of Tiger."

"We hope to have an exciting fight that day apart from Mwakinyo and Denes," he stated.

In addition to Mwakinyo's fight against Denes and the Joana versus Chiedza fight, the day will also feature supporting fights involving various boxers.

Tanzanian boxer Ibrahim Mgendera 'Class' will also be in action against South African boxer Sibusiso Zingangwe while the former's compatriot Shaaban Jongu will face Nigerian counterpart Olanrewaju Durodora.

In the day's other fight, Bulgarian boxer Pencho Tsvetkov will face Malawian Limbani Lano.

Govt set to refund soccer fans after Dar Derby cancellation

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

TANZANIA Football Federation (TFF) president, Wallace Karia, has said soccer followers, who paid entry fees a Vodacom Premier League clash bringing together rivals, Simba SC and Yanga, which was slated for Saturday in Dar es Salaam, will be refunded because the clash was postponed.

The game, aka 'Dar Derby', which was expected to be played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium with kick off scheduled for 5pm, was eventually postponed given Yanga opposed to an impromptu change of kick off time issued by TFF under the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports's directive.

The TFF boss noted: "There will be a statement issued by the government which will explain everything about the match being postponed, but now I do not



Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president Wallace Karia.

know what happened."

Regarding the entry fees, he disclosed they are safe, adding soccer followers that had bought tickets will be refunded.

He stated: "The money is not in the TFF possession, it is in the government's hands, as it is collected in the government's N Card system, it is thus in safe hands in the electronic system."

"Everyone who paid for the entry will not be harmed because the N Card system is recording," he disclosed.

This comes after the TFF

apologized to football stakeholders after the cancellation of the tie.

The TFF statement said it had already asked the Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) to provide detailed information on the postponement of the game as well as address the fate of football fans who paid for entry into the stadium.

"We urge football fans to remain calm as this matter is dealt with not only expeditiously through regulatory procedures, but also in close co-operation

with all stakeholders including the government," the TFF statement stated.

The TFF issued a statement confirming change of kick off time from 5pm to 7pm, saying it had received instructions from the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports to do so, but it did not issue reasons.

However, Yanga objected to the decision, maintaining it was against Premier League's article 15 (10) which deals with sports regulations which require all clashes' kick off time to be notified to the relevant parties at least 24 hours in advance.

Yanga arrived at the stadium at 3.30 and practiced before returning to the changing rooms to wait for the referees to call them, but at 5.30 they left.

Simba later went to the field to practice. They thereafter went to the changing rooms and they left after it was announced that the match has been postponed.

Thousands of fans, who remained in the venue, staged a riot to demand a refund before the police used tear gas to disperse them.

SportPesa's four years of operation and road to success

By Guardian Reporter

A prominent sports betting firm in Tanzania, SportPesa, celebrates four years of operations this May 2021.

SportPesa is currently the most popular firm in the country, out of all sports betting firms, and there are so many initiatives that have been implemented by them within the four years, which have made the firm quite popular.

One would say it is not an easy task SportPesa has accomplished, earned success and a good reputation within a short period of four years.

At some point, it is not good for a person to feel proud of himself, but you would have told SportPesa they have every right to feel proud of their success given they have done a lot to the society if you would have got chance to do so.

Members of the sports fraternity, particularly the ones following soccer, are the witnesses to what has been done by SportPesa, as the firm has contributed a lot to the sports fraternity's development.

Yanga & Simba SC

If people would remember, SportPesa in April 2017 announced to have entered a contract with two popular clubs, Simba SC and Yanga.

It was a lucrative five-year contract worth over 10bn/-, given the two clubs would have got more than 1bn/- each in the first year.

This is the biggest sponsorship for the two sides since their formation in 1935 and 1936.

It is a sponsorship many hardly believed would have been fulfilled and extended.

The contract has one year left, with many people looking forward to knowing whether SportPesa will have another contract to continue bringing about a revolution in soccer.

Singida United FC

Many people believed SportPesa would have



English Premier League's Everton FC's players express gratitude to soccer enthusiasts, who turned up for the side's clash against 2017 SportPesa Super Cup winners, Kenya's Gor Mahia, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

ended backing Simba and Yanga given the firm dished out plenty of cash to the two clubs.

The firm nevertheless kept on financially supporting other team, this time around the firm backed Singida United, which was then playing in Mainland Premier League.

The Singida-based team was the first club from outside Dar es Salaam to get the company's sponsorship.

Namungo FC:

SportPesa did not end there, after parting ways with Singida United, the firm expressed interest in continue putting its weight behind sports.

The company pumped in cash at Lindi's Namungo FC which also proved SportPesa's sponsorship was quite helpful.

The benefits include Namungo FC's success in this season's CAF Confederation Cup, given the club qualified for the tournament.

The outfit did not merely participate in the showdown, it put up a spirited performance and booked a place in the group stage of the continental showpiece, setting up a unique record.

SportPesa was part of Namungo FC's success and people can witness that within one season the firm was backing two teams from one country which were taking part in group stages of two continental tournaments, 2020/21 CAF Champions League and

2020/21 CAF Confederation Cup.

Simba SC was battling it out in the 2020/21 CAF Champions League group stage, Namungo FC was competing in the 2020/21 CAF Confederation Cup group stage. It was hardly a mean feat.

The contract between SportPesa and Simba SC and Yanga has one year left and in the previous four years of the agreement, which was completed on May 10, the firm has substantiated its contribution in bringing about positive changes in sports.

Soccer has gained a lot from SportPesa, the game has gone on record as a sports discipline that has had plenty of success because of the sponsorship.

For instance, under the SportPesa sponsorship, Simba SC has booked a place in the CAF Champions League last eight for the second appearance within three seasons, it is not easy.

SportPesa Super Cup

One would see the SportPesa sponsorship's success in the four clubs and the huge progress achieved.

It did not end there, SportPesa hosted a major club tournament in East Africa, known as SportPesa Super Cup.

The showpiece has once taken place in Dar es Salaam and the other edition took place in Nakuru, Kenya and the showdown was a success.

Soccer enthusiasts

would see the teams participation. The clubs, which included the teams which were not sponsored by SportPesa, geared towards playing part in the sport's development.

The SportPesa Super Cup's inaugural edition involved Zanzibar's JKU, the other tournament had Mbao FC of Mwanza, aiming at backing efforts to promote the sport in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Everton FC and Sevilla FC

In a bid to continue supporting football promotion in the country, SportPesa kept on dishing out cash to back the initiative.

People would witness there are a lot of firms, they nevertheless hardly gave back to the community this much, there are a few firms that did several good deeds seeking to emulate SportPesa good gesture.

Apart from hosting and sponsoring the tournament, SportPesa set another record by bringing in a top English Premier League side, Everton FC, which has a big and unique record in England's football, given it is one of the league's founders.

Everton FC from Liverpool, led by famous footballer Wayne Rooney, jetted into Tanzania to take on Gor Mahia of Kenya, which clinched the 2017 SportPesa Super Cup and soccer followers in Tanzania are the ones who enjoyed the

opportunity the most.

Apart from that, multiple UEFA Europa Cup winners, Sevilla FC of Spain, jetted into Tanzania in 2019 to face Simba SC in an international friendly match.

It was a high-profile game and it was full of excitement.

How can one get an opportunity to watch either an English Premier League team or Sevilla FC from La Liga, one of the best soccer leagues in the world, playing in a match at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, if SportPesa did not facilitate such an opportunity?

Modern pitch

The Benjamin Mkapa Stadium is one of the stadiums with the best pitches in East Africa, and SportPesa footed costs for renovating the pitch.

The Benjamin Mkapa Stadium is moreover a stadium with the best changing rooms in the East Africa region, the changing rooms were renovated by SportPesa.

What else does a person want from SportPesa, a firm which cares much about sports development in the country?

Four years on, SportPesa has succeeded to set lots of records, which others will have to spend over 10 years to achieve.

SportPesa may do a lot for soccer development if the firm gets the backing of other firms and individuals.

Egyptian soccer passes flamboyant nickname tradition to next generation

CAIRO

RANGING from the presidential such as Obama to the abstract like Kahraba (electricity) or El Winch, the tradition of Egyptian footballers taking bizarre nicknames is alive and kicking.

The flamboyant and sometimes satirical naming of players was prominently employed by Badr Ragab, a youth coach at Egypt's most successful club Al-Ahly during the 1980s, as he handed out nicknames to his young squad.

"When I was a coach of the youth team at Al-Ahly, I decided to dish out nicknames to my players for a few reasons. I dreamt that they would become international stars and wanted to motivate them to work hard by emulating well-known footballers," he told AFP.

"The names are based on their resemblance to famous players as well as their skills. I gave Kareem Waleed the nickname Nedved because he resembled Pavel Nedved of Juventus and Mahmoud Hassan who had shades of David Trezeguet of the French national team," he added.

The Egyptian Trezeguet, 26, is with English side Aston Villa after stints in Belgium with Anderlecht and in Turkey with Kasimpasa, and has played 48 times for Egypt.

Ragab dubbed Egypt national team wing Mahmoud Abdel-Moniem, 'Kahraba', because of his energy.

- Weird and wacky -

Not everyone is happy with the nicknames, even though Egyptian fans have come to embrace them wholeheartedly.

Ramy Barakat, Egypt's former team psychologist, maintains that the nicknames are not helpful in the long run.

"Some players consider these nicknames devoid of meaning and are just hard workers who want to reach stardom while others fall prey to it and believe they've made it," he said.

"I prefer not giving younger players such nicknames," he added.

But that has not stopped players putting their weird and wacky nicknames on their kits.

Zamalek stalwart Youssef Ibrahim, 25, was given the nickname "Obama" by team-mates, when he made the first-team squad. They said he looked like former US president Barack Obama.

Al-Ahly defender Ahmed Ramadan goes by "Beckham", as a tribute to English star David Beckham. Khalil Heggi, also at Al-Ahly, has opted to take the name of Brazil and Paris Saint-Germain striker "Neymar".

One of the most beloved Egyptian players Mahmoud Abdel-Razeq, who played for Zamalek and their fierce rivals Al-Ahly, is simply known as "Shikabala". It is an Egyptian version of the name of Zambian star Webster Chikabala, who played professionally in Portugal.

Zamalek defender Mahmoud Hamdy is known as "El Winch" because of his bulging strength.

As with much of Egyptian public life, the military is represented. El-Entag El-Harby (Military Production) has a player called "Bazooka".

The ridiculous is also represented with Abdel Rahman Khaled of Arab Contractors taking the nickname "Gebna" (cheese).

Perhaps the oddest tag belongs to Al-Ahly star Mohamed Magdy.

His nickname "Afsha" is Egyptian slang for catching chickens before they are slaughtered. His mother affectionately called him that because he was especially gifted with the 'grab' on the chickens she sold in their small rural village.

AFP

Barca board uncertain about Koeman - source

BARCELONA

THERE are growing doubts among the Barcelona board regarding coach Ronald Koeman's future at the club beyond the end of the season, multiple sources have confirmed to ESPN.

Koeman, 58, signed a two-year deal at Camp Nou last summer but the recent defeat to Granada and Saturday's draw with Atletico Madrid have served to increase the uncertainty surrounding his position.

With three games to go in La Liga, Barca's title hopes depend on winning all their remaining fixtures and hoping leaders Atletico and Real Madrid drop points.

However, regardless of what happens in the final weeks of the season, there are members of the board that are keen to start afresh with a new coach in the summer.

"That's not one to answer now but after the last game of the season," Koeman said in a news conference on Monday when asked if he feared for his job.

"From the first day, the president [Joan Laporta] has shown confidence in me. He's the one who can make decisions and, once the season finishes, we will talk about the future.

"I am not worried. I signed a two-year deal and I see myself here next year. If that's not the case, the president will have to speak to me. We have arranged to talk at the end of the campaign.

"There are still two weeks to go and we have three very important games, so now is not the time to talk about my future." ESPN

A month before Euro 2020, uncertainty off the pitch and on

LONDON

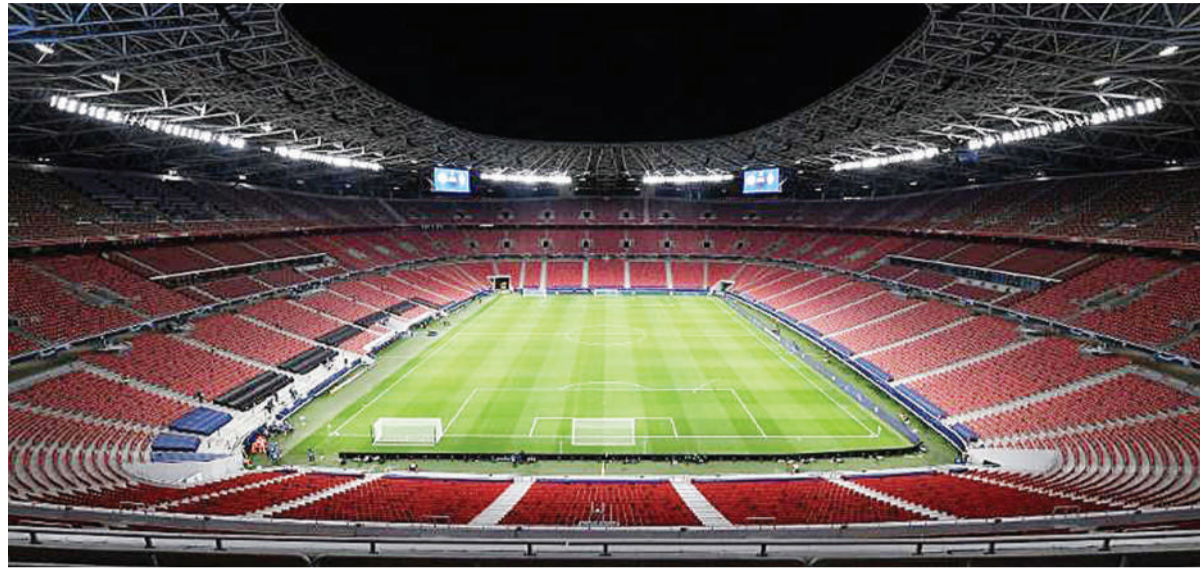
POSTPONED last year because of the pandemic, Euro 2020 finally kicks off in a month's time when Italy face Turkey in Rome but the health crisis continues to cast a shadow over a tournament being held for the first time at venues all across the continent.

UEFA's focus this week is on the headache of what to do with the Champions League final amid pressure from the UK government to move the all-English showpiece from Istanbul to England.

European football's governing body has already dealt with similar difficulties surrounding the Euro, which will be staged in 11 cities, concluding with the final in London on July 11.

Dublin was due to be the 12th host but was dropped in April after local authorities refused to give guarantees about a minimum number of spectators attending matches.

Its games have been moved to Saint-Petersburg and London, while Bilbao was dropped for the same reason but Spain will still stage four matches with Seville



The Puskas Arena, which local organisers in Budapest are hoping to be able to fill to 100 percent of capacity for matches during the European Championship. (Agencies)

stepping in.

After a year of football in empty stadiums, UEFA was determined supporters would be able to attend games at the 24-team European Championship.

- Munich: 'No promises' -

The remaining venues have all confirmed fans will be allowed to fill between 25 and 100 percent of capacity, with the exception of Munich.

The German city aims to host at least 14,500 fans at the Allianz Arena, but mayor Dieter Reiter said in April there had been "no promises, of any kind, to guarantee spectators".

In contrast, Budapest could allow a full house of 61,000 at the Puskas

Arena, albeit with "strict stadium entry requirements for spectators".

Nevertheless, Euro 2020 will not quite be the pan-continental party envisaged when, under former president Michel Platini, UEFA announced the format of Euro 2020 to mark the 60th anniversary of the competition.

No travel exemptions are being made for ticket-holders, meaning those entering countries from abroad could have to quarantine on arrival. They may simply not be allowed in at all.

Fans who are able to get in will be assigned a 30-minute time slot to arrive at stadiums, in an attempt to limit gatherings outside grounds.

After all that, there will be the football, and the hope is the second 24-team European Championship will live up to expectations on the field.

The list of contenders is a long one, and it remains to be seen which teams might benefit from the one-year postponement.

Twelve months ago England were sweating on the fitness of Harry Kane and Marcus Rashford before the tournament was put on ice. Now the wonder is how manager Gareth Southgate will accommodate emerging superstars like Phil Foden and Mason Mount.

With group games at Wembley, and the incentive of the semi-finals

and final being played at home too, England may sense this is their chance.

- France aim for double -

Yet they can hardly ignore the multiple threats from elsewhere, not least the one directly across the Channel.

France, after all, are the reigning world champions and aim to repeat their performance in 2000, when they won the Euro as World Cup holders.

"You don't just win titles with a click of your fingers," France coach Didier Deschamps told AFP.

"The other nations are progressing. They're not sitting still, but when a competition starts we

want to go as far as possible."

Portugal, who defeated France in the Euro 2016 final, will not give up their title easily, even with Cristiano Ronaldo now aged 36.

However, they are in the same group as both Les Bleus and Germany.

There are nevertheless big doubts about the Germans, in their last major tournament before Joachim Loew stands down as coach.

Since making a mess of the 2018 World Cup, Germany have not had their problems to seek, including losing 6-0 to Spain and then being beaten at home by North Macedonia in World Cup qualifying.

After their own 2018 World Cup debacle, when coach Julen Lopetegui left on the eve of the tournament, Spain look in better shape now under Luis Enrique and will be at home in Seville in the group stage.

The Netherlands and Italy are two more rejuvenated teams playing group games at home, while World Cup semi-finalists Belgium remain the top-ranked nation in the world and are another side to be taken very seriously when the football, eventually, takes centre stage.

AFP

Deschamps warns against complacency as France target World Cup and Euro double

PARIS

DIDIER Deschamps captained France to a World Cup and European Championship double as a player and is now hoping to repeat the feat as coach when the delayed Euro 2020 finally goes ahead in June and July.

However, in an exclusive interview with AFP, the 52-year-old warned against any complacency from the defending world champions, saying major international tournaments are not won "just by clicking your fingers".

After lifting the World Cup in Russia in 2018, a gifted France squad is inevitably among the favourites to win the European Championship which concludes in London on July 11.

However they could not have asked for a harder group in the first Euro to be held -- despite the pandemic -- in multiple countries all across the continent.

France play Germany in Munich and Hungary in Budapest, as well as facing the reigning European champions Portugal.

"Two years at the highest level is a long time, even if it is not a lot in life in general. There are obviously big expectations after the success we have had and that is the aim of this squad, of this generation," Deschamps told AFP in Monaco as he pondered the chances of doing the double.

West Germany held both trophies when they won the 1974 World Cup on home soil after



Didier Deschamps

winning the European Championship when it was just a four-nation event in Belgium in 1972.

Spain then pulled off the remarkable feat of winning back to back Euros in 2008 and 2012, either side of their 2010 World Cup triumph.

Before that Deschamps skipped France to glory in 1998 and at Euro 2000 as they defeated Italy in extra time in the final in Rotterdam.

He has gone on to enjoy a remarkable coaching career, having success at Monaco, Juventus and Marseille before accepting the France job in 2012 and reviving the fortunes of the national team in stunning fashion.

- Tough at the top -

A side containing the likes of Kylian Mbappe, Antoine Griezmann and Paul Pogba beat Croatia 4-2 in the Moscow final three years ago and is now, Deschamps hopes, hungry for more.

"Nobody can take

away what we have done. It will always be there, but we need to tell ourselves that we can't just stop here, we need to go and try to win more titles," he said before warning of the looming threat from the likes of England, Spain, Belgium and several other sides at the Euro which kicks off in a month's time.

"You don't just win by clicking your fingers. The other nations are progressing, working hard, not sitting still. We need to have that ambition. When a tournament starts we want to go as far as possible."

France's first game will be on June 15 against Germany, who had been as close to a sure bet as there is in international football before unravelling at the last World Cup, going out in the group stage.

Since then they have

suffered an embarrassing 6-0 defeat by Spain in the Nations League and lost at home to North Macedonia in World Cup qualifying.

Coach Joachim Loew will stand down after the Euro, and their slide is perhaps a warning to the French of what can happen.

"It is very, very difficult to get to the very top, but it is even harder to stay there. You always

need to challenge yourself. We can't go higher, but sometimes there is not much in it to prevent you from dropping away," Deschamps added.

France have lost just three times in 28 games since the World Cup, despite Deschamps making regular changes in personnel and in playing style.

That has included sometimes abandoning the 4-4-2 formation that was the foundation of their success in Russia for a back three, for example.

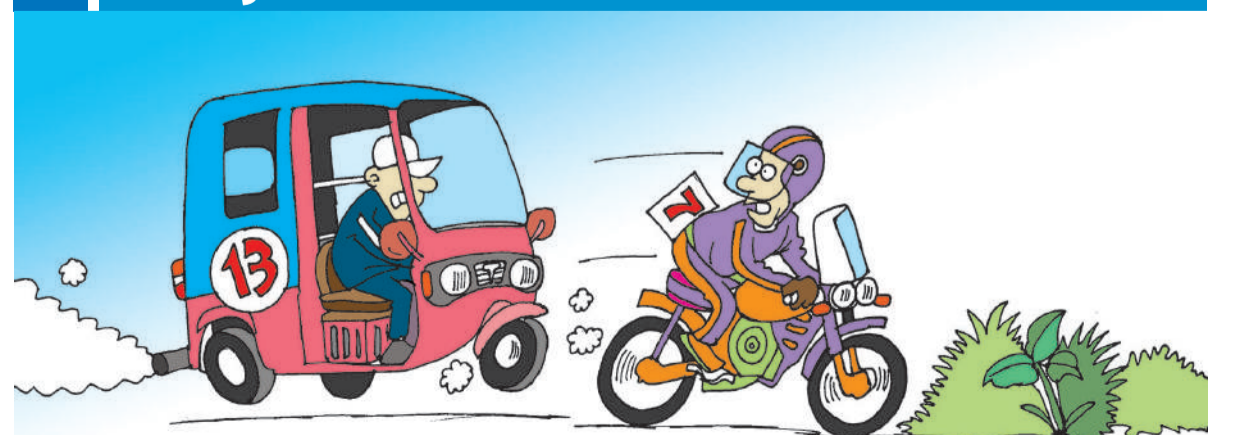
"I felt that I had to mix things up. It is not just about surprising the opposition but also about surprising yourself sometimes," he said.

Deschamps will name his 26-man squad for the Euro next week.

His squad will get together on May 26 and will play friendly matches against Wales in Nice on June 2 and Bulgaria in Paris on June 8 before that mouthwatering opening game against Germany.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

A month before Euro 2020, uncertainty off the pitch and on

PAGE 19



Female cricketers, who took part in a seminar for umpiring and match scoring hosted by Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA), pictured with the association's officials in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA

TCA hosts seminar for umpiring, match scoring

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) has boosted efforts to develop the sport domestically via hosting a three-day seminar for umpiring and match scoring at the association's headquarters in Dar es Salaam.

Atif Salim, TCA information officer, noted the seminar, which took place at Muhimbili Cricket Academy, involved all girls who have come through the association's development program held over the years.

He disclosed the seminar was particularly based on online scoring so as to ensure games played under the banner of TCA are all centrally located.

The training moreover sought to see to it live games can be followed across the country.

Salim pointed out there are also plans by TCA to hold similar training for men and women in other regions, which are actively involved in the game, soon.

The TCA official noted the scoring devices are already being purchased and will be handed over to all regions.

He added: "TCA is working with Cricclubs, a website which issues cricket news and results, for its statistical data management and live scoring."

He stated the association had recently launched its application, known as Tanzania Cricket, which is available in google playstore.

The seminar's participants were Saida Khamis, Nasra Hamza, Mwanaidi Ibrahim, Nuru Omary, Mwapwani Ally, Catherin Dominic, Jessica Mawole, Monica Paschal, Aneth Banali, Hyroon Ramadhan, Neema Justin, Zena Hassan and Tatu Bakari.

Taher Kitisa, Hamisi Abdallah, Lucy Mayunga and John Zablon were the seminar's instructors.

Salim pointed out the application issues information on all cricket leagues, which are played across the country.

He stated: "We have to adapt to changes and showcase our latest works with the latest technology which is available to us."

He noted the application is massively followed by cricket enthusiasts from various parts of the world and the International Cricket Council (ICC).

The TCA official disclosed the seminar moreover sought to see to it the association can transmit information digitally as faster as possible to enable quick interface with the association's stakeholders.

He stated there is manpower required and the TCA is training the youths that have come through the association's development program.

According to him, the approach aims at seeing to it the initiative is taken down to primary and secondary schools as well in the future

Simba SC jets off to South Africa for CAF Champions League tie



Simba SC's head coach, Didier Gomes da Rosa.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S representatives in this season's CAF Champions League Simba SC say they will have a date with destiny when they play away to South Africa's soccer giants Kaizer Chiefs at FNB Stadium in Johannesburg on Saturday.

Simba left for South Africa in the early hours of yesterday morning to face Kaizer Chiefs in the first leg of the quarterfinals of CAF Champions League.

In a monitored interview, Simba SC's head coach, Didier Gomes, said he believes the encounter will be difficult but they are well prepared as they want to win.

He stated the results on Saturday will be crucial in determining their fate.

He disclosed: "We are ready for the encounter, the first game away is always difficult, it will be the decisive match, but by the time we will face them on Saturday my charges

will be more than ready for the encounter."

Simba this season improved its record in away matches, as to reach the quarterfinals of CAF club champions, they only lost two games from the competition's preliminary stage to the group stage.

In the preliminary stage, Simba went down 1-0 to Platinum FC of Zimbabwe and thereafter conceded a similar defeat to Al Ahly of Egypt in group stage.

But coach Gomes refused to be carried away by the away impressive results, saying they have to clear the first hurdle before switching their focus to the return match at Benjamin

Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

"For us both are must-win matches. So, for now our focus is on the Saturday Match because if we win our away game, then we could have realistic chances of reaching the next stage," he said.

Kaizer Chiefs, commonly known as 'Amakhosi', are going through a bad patch in the DStv Premier Soccer League, as they are out of the top eight teams.

At FNB Stadium this season, the club, coached by Gavin Hunt, has played 25 matches in both CAF Champions League and the domestic showdown. They have won six

games, lost eight matches and settled for draw in 11 fixtures.

The 'Amakhosi' are today expected to play Swallows FC and if they lose they risk getting sucked into the group of teams seeking to avoid the relegation play offs.

Former Simba SC head coach Dylan Kerr is reported to have advised 'Amakhosi' to concentrate on CAF Champions League games and noted he hopes the club will beat Simba.

Kerr, now coaching Black Leopards, stated: "I feel for him (Gavin Hunt), he's got a very, very tough job. He's got lots of games, he's got CAF, which I think it's

much more important now than trying to get into the top eight. I believe that they'll beat Simba- but he's got a tough call."

"I believe that one player is suspended now, he's a goalkeeper's, been injured so he's got a very, very tough call. But credit to the players, they showed very good character," he added.

Due to the poor form of the team, a group of Kaizer Chiefs fans are planning to march to the club's training base, Naturena, next week in protest of the club's indifferent performances this season.

On Friday the hashtag #KaizerChiefsProtest began to trend on social media with the attention quickly pushing it up to the most engaging topic on South African Twitter.

Several of the posts that suggested a march would take place were accompanied by a specific image that is now being shared by thousands of 'Amakhosi' supporters online.

It has been suggested that a memorandum drawn up by the fans will be handed over to management after their match at the club's official headquarters, with an official date reportedly set for Friday.

Kaizer Chiefs supporters are believed to be disgruntled by the club's management after dropping outside of the top eight after the defeat to Tshakhuma Tsha Madzivhandila this week, while they are now in their sixth season without silverware.

Government asks TFF to set date for Simba SC vs Yanga match

By Correspondent Joseph

Mchekadona

THE government has directed Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) and Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) to set a date for a Vodacom Premier League match between historical rivals, Simba SC and Yanga, which was postponed last Saturday at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

A media statement released yesterday, signed by the Director of Information and Communication in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, John Mapepe, said the directive was made after a meeting between the government, National Sports Council, TFF, TPLB, Simba and Yanga.

As we went to press, TFF and TPLB had not announced the date for the match.

Mapepe said the government has also directed that all 43,947 spectators, who paid entry fees through Data Center (providers of N-Card) to watch the postponed match, should use their numbers to access entry into the stadium.

According to Mapepe, oth-



Tanzania Football Federation (TFF)'s president Wallace Karia.

ers who did not pay for the match can use normal means to buy tickets.

"In attendance at the meeting was Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Hassan Abbas, Acting Secretary General of National Sports Council Neema Msitha, TFF president Wallace Karia and the federation's Secretary General, Wilfred Kidau, TPLB chairman Stephen Mguto and the board's CEO Almas Kasongo," Mapepe added.

"Also in attendance at the meeting were Simba SC chairman Mur-

taza Mangungu and CEO of the club Barbara Gonzalez, member of the club's Board of Directors, Zacharia Hanspoppe, while Yanga were represented by chairman Mshindo Msolla, the team's Acting Secretary General, Haji Mfikirwa, and member Bahati Mwaseba," said the media release.

He also said Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports Innocent Bushungwa has promised to have a meeting with Yanga and TFF to have a remedy on the mistrust between the two parties.

He added: "It seems there is mistrust between TFF and some

clubs, especially Yanga.

they have had meetings in the past and the recent meeting aimed at solving their grievances was attended by Director of Sports in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Yusuph Singo, but nothing tangible was attained."

"The mistrust remains there, due to this the minister will as soon as possible hold a meeting with two parties," said part of the release.

The ministry has asked all football lovers in the country to remain calm during this period.

The meeting comes after the government through Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa on Monday ordered the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports to disclose what led to the suspension of the match and come up with the way forward.

The PM asked football loving people in the country to be patient while waiting for TFF to announce the cause of the postponement of the

match. The government's directive is expected to put to rest speculations and accusations on who is behind the postponement of the match.

After the postponement, TFF on Saturday issued a media statement, saying the federation has directed the TPLB to come up with a complete report on what led to the postponement of the match.

The federation also called for patience among soccer lovers as they are working hard to establish the root cause of the postponement of the match and also said they will engage Simba and Yanga to have their views.

The Saturday tie was expected to be a battle of tactical superiority.

The two sides are separated by four points at the top of the 18-team league table, with Simba sitting at the summit with 61 points from 25 matches, while Yanga are placed second with 57 points from 27 matches.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

