



BANKING



PERSONAL LOANS TOP LENDING DURING COVID-19 PAGE 3

TRANSPORT



CURBING TRAFFIC CHALLENGES COUNTRYWIDE PAGE 5

EDUCATION



PHYSICS TEACHERS ELUDE 1,000 STUDENTS PAGE 6

JUDICIARY



FIRST INSTANCE DIVISION OF EACJ RESUMES SESSIONS PAGE 7



Private firms to share half of 13trn/- in development project funds

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government has said it intends to spend 13,326.8trn/- to finance development projects in the 2021/22 financial year, banking on a vibrant private sector to pull it off.

Presenting the state of the economy for 2020/2021 and the national development plan 2021/22 in the National Assembly, Minister for Finance and Planning Dr Mwigulu Nchemba said yesterday that the government will enhance formalization of informal businesses to boost revenue collection.

The 13.3trn/- planned for development projects is equivalent to 37 per cent of the entire 2021/22 budget estimates, and out of the funds, 6,180.0trn/- will be from domestic sources, 4,190.9trn/- from domestic and external non-concessional loans and 2,955.9trn/- from grants and external concessional loans.

The development budget will finance the implementation of flagship and strategic development projects while other development projects will be financed through Public Private Partnership (PPP) as well as Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs).

"However, implementation of the plan may be affected by both internal and external risks. Internal risks include corruption, land degradation and the

TURN TO PAGE 2

Budget lists tax changes to enhance investments

●Welfare boost for civil servants, local officials excites listeners ●Pandemic equipment, raw materials' tariffs, smartphones' VAT waived ●Budget deficit not to exceed 3.0pc of GDP

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma



Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (brandishing briefcase) is led to the podium in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday to table the Government's Budget estimates for financial year 2021/2022. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

THE government has proposed a number of tax reforms aimed at attracting foreign investments, creating jobs and boosting revenue collection.

Among the key changes in the government's fiscal plan for the coming financial year, the income tax for employees - Pay As You Earn (PAYE) - drops from the current nine percent to eight percent of salary, and removal of six percent value detention fee for Higher Education Students' Loans Board (HESLB) beneficiaries.

Tabling the 2021/22 budget estimates totaling 36.33trn/-, the minister for Finance and Planning Dr Mwigulu Nchemba affirmed that statutory contributions be paid directly to the Treasury for all institutions whose employees are paid through the Treasury.

Institutions that pay employees from their own sources will continue to submit their employees' contributions to the funds, with the central government starting to pay a monthly allowance of 100,000/- for divisional officers for fuel and maintenance costs.

Praising the work of ward councilors in overseeing development activities, he said

TURN TO PAGE 2

Minister: In spite of Covid-19, economic performance solid

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

TANZANIA's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) average growth declined from 7.0 per cent in 2019 to 4.8 per cent in the 2020/21 financial year, the National Assembly heard yesterday.

Presenting the status of the national economy and the annual development plan for 2021/22, the Minister for Finance and Planning, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, said this growth level was impressive compared to other countries as it was one of the highest in the context of the Covid-19 outbreak.

The positive growth was a result of the government's decision to allow people to continue performing economic activities while adhering to health guidelines and precautions, he stated, elaborating that other causes to the slowdown in growth include floods, which damaged roads and delaying implementation of projects.

The outbreak of Covid-19 had an impact on foreign trade as trading partners

imposed lockdowns and other measures that slowed down business, he said, noting that the impact of the pandemic was acute in hospitality, with accommodation, foods and beverages most affected.

Arts and entertainment activities also slumped on occasion of the pandemic, registering negative growth in 2020, he said.

Sectors which recorded high growth rates in 2020/21 include construction at 9.1 percent, information and communication (8.4 percent), transport and storage (8.4 percent), administrative and support services (7.8 percent), professional, scientific and technical activities (7.3 percent), mining and quarrying (6.7 percent), along with health and social work field (6.5 percent), he said.

The minister underlined that the GDP at current prices stood at 148.5trn/- in 2020 compared to 139.6 trn/- shillings in 2019, while the population in the Mainland was being projected at 55.9m people last year from 54.2m in 2019.

Average per capita GDP reached 2.6m/- (equivalent to \$1,151.0) in 2020 from 2.57m/- (equivalent to \$1,118.9) in 2019, an increase of 3.1 percent, he said, noting also that inflation has continued to remain low, dipping from 3.4 percent in 2019 to 3.3 percent last year. Inflation stood at 3.3 percent in April 2021, the same as in April 2020, he pointed out.

"Inflationary pressures have remained

TURN TO PAGE 2

Tanzania to learn from Botswana successes in mining, beef exports

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIA is set to send a team of experts to Botswana for benchmarking

the country's success in the mining sector and beef exports which earn it hundreds of millions in foreign currencies annually.

In a joint press conference after their meeting, President Sami Suluhu Hassan said that they agreed to strengthen

TURN TO PAGE 2



President Samia Suluhu Hassan and her visiting Botswana counterpart, Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi, exchange greetings in style at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House



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Budget lists tax changes to enhance investments

FROM PAGE 1

that it is unfortunate that in some councils they are not paid their statutory allowances on time.

"From this financial year, the government will start paying allowances to ward councilors directly into their bank accounts so that they perform their duties effectively," he told cheering MPs.

The government has set aside 400bn/- for civil servants' promotions during the coming fiscal year, he stated, noting further that the government will continue servicing debts owed to social security funds via budgetary funds and issuing non-cash Treasury bonds maturing from two to 25 years.

A list of tax and levy reforms that the Budget proposes are intended to promote growth particularly in agriculture, industry, enhance purchasing power and thus boost government revenues, he stated.

Customs duty on raw materials used to produce equipment for the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic are to be scrapped, including facial masks, sanitizers, ventilators and protective clothing for medical personnel, he said.

The estimates propose reducing tariffs to zero percent from 10 percent and 25 percent for one year on raw materials for such equipment, he said, noting that this exemption would be issued systematically to provide relief in producing such equipment locally.

Value-added tax on smartphones tablets and modems are to be scrapped to encourage the use of telecommunication services so as to achieve the target of 80 percent of internet users by 2025, the minister proposed.

He said the telecommunications sector has become a key link in expanding the scope of economic activity to become part of the digital world and enhancing financial inclusion.

"I recommend exemption of Value Added Tax on smartphones with HS Code 8517.12.00, tablets with HS Code 8471.30.00 or 8517.12.00 and modems with HS Code 8517.62.00 or 8517.69.00," he elaborated, noting that the current level telecommunications service use stands at 46 percent, to promote usage of data services.

As the 2021/22 fiscal plan is the first in the implementation of the Third Five Year Plan (2021/22 -2025/26) hinged on 'Realising Competitiveness and Industrialisation for Human Development,' it took into account priority areas articulated in the annual plan for 2021/22.

These include an inclusive and competitive economy; deepening industrialization and service provision for value-addition of agricultural products; investment and trade promotion plus human development and skills development, he said.

"In realising inclusive and competitive economy, the government will focus on financing projects that will build a vibrant society capable of competing regionally and globally, promoting macroeconomic stability, he said.

Improving the business and investment environment, promoting innovation and transfer of technology, developing the railway infrastructure and services while rehabilitating roads that link Tanzania with neighbouring countries are also emphasised in the annual plan, he stated.

Decongesting urban areas; improving rural roads, bridges as well as the water and air transport infrastructure, transforming the

ICT and digital infrastructure generally and improving ports, airports and energy infrastructure were equally vital, he said.

In deepening industrialization and service provision, emphasis will be directed to industries that add value to crops, livestock and fishery products, he said.

"Priority areas will include: construction and rehabilitation of irrigation and crop storage infrastructure; strengthening research centres and extension services; value addition to crops, livestock, fish and fisheries products for local and international markets; improve livestock artificial insemination services; and construction of modern abattoirs and livestock markets," he said.

Expenditure policies in 2021/22 include allocating funds to priority areas that stimulate economic growth and accord priority to ongoing projects prior to committing to new ones, he stated.

Other areas include the need to ensure that the budget deficit does not exceed 3.0 per cent of GDP in line with East African Community macroeconomic convergence criteria, which is part of efforts to attain a regional monetary system.

This involves efforts to control the creation and accumulation of arrears; to maintain discipline in public expenditure and to enhance the use of ICT in government business in order to increase efficiency as well as building capacity to local experts on financial systems security, the minister stated.

The first national budget of the sixth phase government re-emphasised priority areas including maintaining peace, unity and solidarity, continuing with major strategic projects and improving the business environment by reviewing policies, laws and regulations hampering initiatives by the private sector.

Fostering private investment and increasing employment opportunities, improving tax collection and administrative systems and simplifying tax payments, widening the tax base are key aspects of budgetary objectives, he declared.

The need to continue strengthening parastatal operations so that they operate profitably, pay dividends and appropriately contribute to government revenues was underscored.

Increasing productivity in agricultural, livestock and fishery products through improving access to capital by small scale farmers and rural investors from financial institutions like the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank was taken up as well.

Improving irrigation, value addition and markets for agricultural produce, promoting industrial investment specifically those utilizing domestic raw materials and are labour intensive will particularly be encouraged, he said.

Continuing to curb the trafficking of minerals and building centres for the refining and processing of minerals shall similarly increase the contribution of the mining sector in the country's GDP, he added.

"From this financial year, the government will start paying allowances to ward councilors directly into their bank accounts so that they perform their duties effectively,"

Minister: In spite of Covid-19, economic performance solid

FROM PAGE 1

relatively stable due to steady supply of food, falling oil prices in global markets, stability of the shilling as well as effective implementation of monetary and fiscal policies," the minister

intoned.

The Bank of Tanzania has continued to implement an accommodative monetary policy, reducing interest rates in financial markets, as well as review lending and deposit rates, he added.



A Dodoma city resident (L) who is one of the beneficiaries of financial assistance from the Tanzania Social Action Fund (Tasaf) pictured on Wednesday briefing Dr Taufila Nyamadzabo (R-standing), the World Bank's Africa zone managing director, on how the intervention has helped her. Looking on is Tasaf executive director Ladislaus Mwamanga. Photo: Correspondent Renatha Msungu

FROM PAGE 1

unpredictability of availability of financial resources for development projects," he said.

External risks include climate change, the global economic crisis on account of the raging Covid-19 pandemic and climate related natural disasters, he state, noting that in mitigating the risks, the government will continue to take various measures, especially fostering a more enabling business environment to reduce investment costs.

The government will strengthen project preparation by enabling private sector participation in the implementation of projects; strengthening domestic

Private sector sharing half of 13trn/- in development funds

revenue mobilization by more formalization of informal sector activities in order to widen the tax base, he declared.

Measures will continue to strengthen domestic development financing institutions to facilitate access to credit; and improving the management and control of government electronic systems, he stated.

Other measures will focus on the need to continue strengthening the mobilization of tax and non-tax revenues by

improving the investment and business environment.

This will facilitate the development of small and medium enterprises and thus further the goal of sustainable economic growth, he said.

"We will continue to improve the environment for voluntary tax compliance including encouraging use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) systems, plus creating public awareness and the progressive formalisation of informal sector

activities," he further noted.

Strengthening the management of revenue collection shall seek to uplift enforcement of tax laws to curb tax evasion and revenue losses, he said.

"We will also continue harmonizing multiple fees and levies and implement further the Tanzania Electronic Single Window System (TeSWS) to simplify freight movement at border stations and reduce the costs of doing business," the minister added.



Manfredo Fanti (L), Head of the European Union Delegation in Tanzania, views vanilla plants in a field class during yesterday's tour of a spice project at Kizimbani in Zanzibar implemented with EU support. Photo: Correspondent Rahma Suleiman

FROM PAGE 1

bilateral relations in trade and investment by emphasizing business links to take up trading opportunities available.

Botswana leads in the mining sector and in beef exports across the continent and in global ranks, she said, underlining that it could provide a lesson to this country's mining sector, as the team shall study the country's strategies of developing and exporting minerals.

"Despite the fact that our country is second among countries with a large population of cattle, Botswana is doing better. Therefore this is an opportunity to share experience to develop our sector for the people's development," the president

Tanzania to learn from Botswana successes in mining, beef exports

declared

She said trade between the two countries had increased from 731m/- in 2005 to 3.5bn/- last year, with Botswana having invested \$231m and created 2128 jobs locally.

For his part, the visiting Botswana President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi said his government was ready to share experience with experts from Tanzania to help out in seeking the highest benefits in the mining sector.

Ministers responsible for international relations shall work on the revival of the joint commission cooperation between the two countries and place it on a new footing, he stated.

They will refresh commitments on areas of cooperation that the presidents discussed, especially in tourism, security, livestock, Covid-19 control and civic organisations, he elaborated.

"Come with your delegation and we will share how we mine and benefit from mining activities.

We will share and expose what we have done to get water and how we use the water," he said, underpinning the fact that the Botswana landscape is largely arid.

"I invite you to come to our country so that we can strengthen our cooperation. As a matter of fact, it must be well understood that the purpose of this tour is to cement the relationship and share experience as the chair of the SADC troika, overseeing regional defence and security," he added.



Minerals minister Doto Biteko (R) in tête-à-tête with Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister Mary Maganga in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Pandemic makes business loaning 'drop' in 2020/21

Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

FINANCIAL institutions issued more personal loans than business ones during the 2020/21 financial year, the National Assembly heard yesterday.

During the year ending April 2021, credit to the private sector grew by an average of 4.8 percent compared to 5.8 percent in the same period 2020, which is a one percent decline. The decline is due to adverse effects of Covid-19.

Minister for Finance and Planning Dr Mwigulu Nchemba said this when presenting the state of the economy and national development plan.

The minister said during the same period a large portion of the credit to the private sector was directed to personal activities which accounted for 35.8 percent, followed by business activities 15.7 percent, manufacturing 10.1 percent and agriculture activities 8.0 percent.

"Capital formation at current prices reached 59.2trn/- shillings in 2020 compared to 55.8trn/- in 2019, equivalent to a growth of 6.2 percent," the minister said.

The minister said fixed assets increased by 7.8-percent from 59.4 trn/- in 2019 to 64.0 trn/- in 2020. Further, the value of capital accumulation at current prices decreased by 4.8trn/- in 2020 compared to a decrease of 3.7trn/- in 2019.

He said in 2020, public sector capital formation at current prices reached 19.0 trn/- while private sector capital formation reached 45.0 trn/- equivalent to a growth of 7.8 percent respectively.

The minister said during the year ending April 2021, the value of exports of goods and services

was \$8.5 billion compared to \$9.6 billion during the same period in 2020.

He attributed the decline of revenue from tourism related activities due to measures against the spread of COVID - 19.

Further, the minister said export value for goods and services decreased to \$9.3 billion from \$10.5 billion during the same period in 2020.

The minister said during the year ending April 2021, the value of export of goods increased to \$6.35 billion from \$5.67 billion during the same period in 2020, and equivalent to 12.0percent.

According to the minister, this was due to increased exports of traditional and non-traditional products including gold, other minerals, horticultural products as well as manufactured goods.

In addition, the minister said the value of imports decreased from \$8.75 billion during the year ending April 2020 to \$8.11 billion April 2021, equivalent to a decrease of 7.4 percent.

"This was caused by a decrease in imports of some goods ascribed to improved production in domestic industries including construction materials," he said.

The minister said foreign currency reserves have continued to remain at sufficient levels to meet the demand for imports of goods and services.

"As of April 2021, foreign reserves were \$4.97 billion sufficient to cover 5.8 months of imports of goods and services," he said adding this amount is higher than the country's threshold set of at least 4.0 months and is above the 4.5 months threshold by the Member States of the East African Community."

Z'bar plans 9 development projects in FY 2021/22

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

THE Zanzibar Minister of State in the President's Office (Finance and Planning), Jamali Kassim Ali has said the government plans to implement nine development projects in collaboration with the private sector including the construction of drugs factory in FY 2021/22.

Jamali was speaking as he was tabling his speech on the state of the economy and development plans for 2021 at the Third House of Representatives Meeting in Zanzibar yesterday.

The minister said that to enhance the public-private sector concept, the government plans for joint-venture investment in building low cost housing, construction of processing factories for fish, seaweed, and horticultural products.

"Hon Speaker, the private sector has great contribution

in enhancing economic growth and that is why the government is planning to establish fish farms and construction of drugs factories," he said.

Speaking on factories to be implemented by the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in the coming financial year, he said the government plans to develop Zanzibar Commercial Centre and International Trade Exhibition at the new Nyamazi town, the construction of markets and bus station at Chuini, Kwanyanya, Jumbi, Mkokotoni, Machomane and Ng'ombeni.

The minister named other projects as the building of colleges' hostels for students and the construction of fish processing factories in collaboration with the private sector.

He said four projects are expected to be implemented from funds to be provided by development partners,

including the construction of 300 classrooms for primary and secondary schools, building of three modern secondary schools in Unga Urban West and North regions as well as Pemba North Region.

He said the government also plans to build five secondary schools at Bumbwini, Chukwani, Donge, Mfikiwa and Muambe areas as well as science II secondary schools," said Jamali.

He said the government also plans to develop its programme to revamp its airports including runways and parking areas, modern equipment for clearing goods and passengers, construction of an airport at Kigunda, installation of landing lights for the aircraft control systems.

He said to implement this programme the government is to spend 10bn/- in FY 2021/2022.

He said in the budget's planning

for FY 2021/2022, the government will continue to strengthen education, health and community development, primary education infrastructures and good governance.

He said in the coming financial year, the government plans to collect 1.845.6trn/-, including 1.214.9trn/- from internal sources and 303bn/- from development partners, 312bn/- internal loans and 15.7bn from local councils' revenues.

However, he said the Isles GDP for the coming financial year is expected to grow at an average of 3.5 per cent per year based on expected increase in development activities, including the initiation of huge projects.

In regard to the development of the blue economy, Jamali said this involves sustainable utilisation of the sea and its resources, including environmental protection for social and economic growth.






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UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
TANZANIA FERTILIZER REGULATORY AUTHORITY



PRE-QUALIFICATION NO. TFRA/PQ/2021-2023/F/01
FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF BULK FERTILIZER

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR BULK FERTILIZER IMPORTATION FOR THE PERIOD OF AUGUST 1, 2021 TO JULY 31, 2023

RE-ADVERTISEMENT

1. Tanzania Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA) established by Fertilizer Act, Cap 378 has been mandated to coordinate importation of fertilizer through the bulk procurement system by the Fertilizer (Bulk Procurement) Regulations GN. 49 of 2017.
2. TFRA now intends to Pre-qualify fertilizer dealers (Suppliers/Producers) for importation of fertilizer for the cropping seasons 2021/2022 to 2022/2023 under the Bulk Procurement System (BPS).
3. Tenders shall be invited on product basis and the estimated import quantity per annum is 570,167 MT as provided below:-

Type of fertilizer	Estimated quantity
UREA	227,957 MT
DAP	165,438 MT
CAN	75,436 MT
NPK	72,886 MT
SA	28,450 MT
Total	570,167 MT

4. Pre-qualification will be conducted through Competitive Bidding (CB) procedures specified in the Fertilizer (Bulk Procurement) Regulations, GN. No. 49 of 2017 and Fertilizer Bulk Procurement System Guidelines and is opened to all interested applicants except the existing prequalified suppliers.
5. A complete set of pre-qualification documents in English language can be collected by interested companies at TFRA offices or sent by mail after applying and receiving a control number to make online payment of a non-refundable fee of five hundred United States Dollar only (USD 500) to the TFRA account. Please consider all your transfer charges so that the amount to be received in the TFRA account is NOT less than US \$500 otherwise your payment will be automatically rejected by the system.
6. Application for pre-qualification should be submitted by hand in sealed envelope, delivered to the address below or **Electronically** by Email (pdf) using info@tfra.go.tz at or before 10:00 A.M. Local Time on **Thursday 8th July 2021** clearly marked "**Pre-qualification No. TFRA/PQ/2021-2023/F/01 for Fertilizer Bulk Procurement**".
7. Applications sent by email WILL BE ACCEPTED but TFRA will not be responsible for electronic document not delivered, lost or opened prematurely. For all Electronic submission, the applicant must send the original document by hand or courier for record and reference purpose if pre-qualified.
8. Late applications, portion of application, applications not opened during the pre-qualification opening ceremony and applications not accompanied with confirmation of payment for the pre-qualification documents shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

For more consultation please contact **Mr. Joseph Charos +255 784 632 208** and **Mr. Nganga Nkonya +255 715 316 570**;

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TANZANIA FERTILIZER REGULATORY AUTHORITY (TFRA)
MANDELA/KILIMO ROAD, PLOT NO. 15471, 1 KILIMO STREET,
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OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY – FRIDAY 0800 – 1500 HRS

Office hours Monday – Friday 0800 – 1500 hrs



EAST AFRICAN CRUDE OIL PIPELINE

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF REPLACEMENT HOUSES FOR EACOP PROJECT REF. 0010006840

TOTAL East Africa Midstream B.V. (Company), an Oil and Gas company, invites experienced and reputable contractors to express their interest in construction of replacement houses under the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP), Project Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) implementation.

The EACOP project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda, to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania. The section of the pipeline in Tanzania will traverse eight (8) regions, 27 administrative district councils and 231 Villages.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

Construction of replacement houses and ancillary structures (kitchens and latrines) for Project Affected People (PAPs) displaced by the pipeline project will be carried out in eight (8) different regions; Kagera, Tabora, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora, Singida, Manyara and Dodoma.

The Project will provide a replacement house(s) at the agreed replacement land, to eligible physically displaced households. The project will determine the type of replacement structures to be provided and the location in agreement with each PAP. Contractors will construct 336 houses, 388 VIP latrines and 345 outdoor kitchens from the Company's detailed house designs all of which are based on standardized house layouts.

The substructures and superstructures (raft slab, interior/exterior walls only) of every house and ancillary structure will be built using a Company supplied modular and re-usable customised formwork system with a custom concrete mix design. All Contractors will be expected to work with this formwork system. The completion of all remaining scope of work (labour and materials) i.e. roofing, all finishes, electrical and plumbing, civil and landscaping will be responsibility of the Contractor.

All prequalified tenderers will receive an information package on the modular formworks that will clearly demonstrate and detail the installation of the product.

Replacement houses will generally be between two to five rooms, with a gross floor area of 25m² to 75 m². Each house will typically have two (2) ancillary structures, a kitchen and a ventilated improved pit latrine. Replacement housing will be of a good standard of construction. Outside of the substructure and superstructure, the houses will be constructed using modern locally sourced materials, all of which will meet Tanzania quality standards and meet all National Building Codes requirements.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Due to the size of the scope and to assist companies expressing interest, the Project reserves the right to award individual work packages and or multiple work packages to any eligible contractor who expresses an interest.

Interested companies can enter into an agreement with other companies to enhance their service offering, however, all and each partner in the agreement MUST meet the requirements outlined below.

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request by submitting the following:

- Tanzanian National Contractors (Building) Registration minimum Class 2. (Submit copy),
- Examples of building construction experience in Kagera, Tabora, Geita, Shinyanga, Singida, Manyara, Dodoma Regions of Tanzania. (provide listing of projects within any or all the regions),
- Demonstrate financial capability to undertake the proposed works,
- Provide/demonstrate HSE (OSHA), Social and Quality Assurance and Control policies,
- Provide/demonstrate experience with project management techniques and controls, as well as large scale logistics and procurement capabilities,
- Commitment to developing local/national content value. (provide training details),
- **Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is required.**

Interested companies which have the capacity and resources to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents (Minimum Requirements) an email to talal.mufti@external.total.com (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00 hours** East African Time (EAT), on the **15th June 2021**.

A detailed presentation will be presented by EACOP to share more details of the scope, scheduling as well as offering a questions and answers period from interested Bidders - details of the presentation will be communicated at a later stage.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Companies that satisfactorily meet the above minimum requirements will receive, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), a detailed pre-qualification questionnaire for further evaluation by Company.

Mkenda okays TFRA to issue export permits for fertiliser

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE government has instructed the Tanzania Fertiliser Regulatory Authority (TFRA) to start issuing export permits for selling the fertiliser that has already been imported instead of being issued by the Agriculture Ministry.

Mkenda issued the instructions here on Wednesday when addressing reporters in his office soon after he met and had discussion with the representative of Yara fertiliser Company Chief Executive Officer.

Mkenda said the permits will be issued online instead of from his office, and his office will only be informed of the implementation by TFRA.

He said the government holds high hopes in fertiliser dealers as he believes that to simplify the permits issuance for them will enhance the pace in importing the farm input for use by farmers within and outside the country.

He said huge imports of the fertiliser in the country will assist in lowering its price to farmers, which in turn will enhance profitable cultivation of crops by farmers.

In regard to fertiliser road transport costs, Mkenda said he would discuss the issue with the Treasury for the possibility of reducing Value Added Tax (VAT) on transport services.

"We have discovered that transporting fertiliser by rail greatly reduces the cost hence

we encourage it to be conveyed by rail to the northern regions of Kilimanjaro, Tanga, Arusha and Manyara as well as through the Central Line to Morogoro, Singida, Dodoma, Singida. We shall also encourage similar arrangement for the southern western regions via TAZARA railway," said Prof Mkenda.

I regard to the fertiliser produced by the defunct Tanzania Fertiliser Company (TFC), Prof Mkenda said following an agreement reached at the ministry's task meeting, they will seek for a consultant from the University of Dar es Salaam (business school) to stay with the ministry for six months to advise the government what was to be done to revive TFC.



Monduli district veterinary officers move to immunise sheep against Newcastle in Arusha yesterday under a partnership between the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation and the African Wildlife Foundation. Photo: Correspondent Cynthia Mwilolezi

EAC introduces second phase of regional network of laboratories for communicable diseases project

By Guardian Reporter

THE second phase of the EAC Regional Network of Public Health Reference Laboratories for Communicable Diseases Project will be launched on 11th June, 2021 at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

Funded by the Federal Government of Germany through the German Development Bank (KfW), the three year second phase of the project is set to further strengthen the capacities of the EAC Partner States to respond to outbreaks of infectious diseases, including bacterial diseases and cross-border epidemics.

In addition, the project will also have a special focus on Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) Surveillance.

The EAC Secretariat, as the Project Executing Agent (PAE), shall cooperate with the national public health reference laboratories in the Partner States to create the EAC Regional Network of Public Health Reference Laboratories for

Communicable Diseases.

The main implementing agencies of the project in the Partner States shall be Institut National de Santé Publique, Burundi; National Public Health Laboratory, Kenya; National Reference Laboratory, Rwanda; National Health Laboratory Quality Assurance and Training Centre, Tanzania; National Public Health Laboratory and National Blood Transfusion Service, South Sudan, and; Central Public Health Laboratories, Uganda.

During its implementation, the project will focus on; procurement of six container-based mobile laboratory units and equipment for bacterial culture and mobile field sequencing/bioinformatics for rapid pathogen identification and AMR testing; consumables and test kits and high clearance all-terrain vehicles for transporting the container-based laboratory;

Training of the EAC Partner States public health laboratory personnel to the required level of competency to operate the container-based

mobile laboratories for AMR surveillance;

Upgrading and maintenance of the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) developed under Phase I and integration of the container-based laboratories to facilitate data/information transfer from/to the field sites;

Regional coordination and policy dialogue through the EAC Secretariat for exchange of experiences and knowledge; and provision of technical and procurement support to the EAC as the PAE through Bernhard-Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine (BNITM).

The EAC Regional Network of Public Health Reference Laboratories for Communicable Diseases Project is in line with the EAC 'One Health' approach in disease management. The 'One Health' approach involves how all sectors of society that would be affected by a disease outbreak could contribute to preventing and combating the disease and to mitigate its impact.

EAC Sec-Gen 'invites' American private sector to invest in region

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) Secretary General, Dr Peter Mathuki, has invited American private sector to take advantage of opportunities in the trading bloc.

Dr Mathuki made the call when he met with US Ambassador to Tanzania and the EAC Amb Donald Wright in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday.

The two officials discussed potential areas of collaboration between the EAC and USA, namely trade and investment, and democracy and good governance.

Dr Mathuki thanked the

United States for her continued support to the Community in the implementation of its various integration projects and programmes.

"At the EAC, we have enormous investment opportunities, specifically in the tourism industry and the energy sector," said Dr Mathuki.

"I urge the American private sector through you your Excellency to take advantage of these opportunities," said Dr Mathuki.

Dr Mathuki briefed the US envoy on the current EAC state of play on various integration

matters including progress on consolidation of the Customs Union, implementation of the Common Market and Monetary Union Protocols, as well as progress towards attainment of the EAC Political Confederation.

Amb Wright told the Secretary General that the US was committed to supporting the integration process in East Africa, adding that integration was key to promoting economic growth and political stability in the region.

Also present at the occasion was the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Planning and Infrastructure, Eng Steven Mlote.



Tanzania Drivers Association chairman Schubert Mbakizao is forced into a police vehicle shortly after addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, demanding that the Inspector General of Police order the return of driving licences confiscated by police officers from allegedly errant drivers. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Government implements projects seeking to curb challenges in road traffic

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government is in final stages of implementing projects aimed at addressing road traffic challenges in main highways in the country especially in Dar es Salaam.

Deputy Minister of works and transport Mwita Waitara said this in a written response to a question by Mbagala legislator Abdallah Chairemba.

The MP asked what the government is doing to address transport challenges in Dar es Salaam.

In response, the minister said the Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) is in final stages of beginning a process to verify and issue compensation to eligible wananchi.

The MP also asked the Waitara as to when will the government compensate residents of Kokoto and Kongowe in his constituency to pave way for the construction of Kilwa road.

In response Waitara said the

programme includes expansion of the road from two ways to four ways as well as expanding Mzingira Bridge.

He said the verification process involves local authorities so that eligible people are compensated.

The minister urged the people of Mbagala to be calm as the government was working to address the matter.

The government has lined up plans to transform Dar es Salaam into a modern city through construction of infrastructure and improving social services in the next five years.

Key among them, is finalizing the construction of the remaining phases of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) along roads of Kilwa, Mandela and Bagamoyo leading to Mbagala, Tegeta and other areas within the city.

Others includes construction of all feeder roads, improve provision of social services such as health, water and education to transform lives of city dwellers.

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

7,300 farmers to receive health insurance through CRDB loans

MORE than 7,300 cotton and tobacco farmers in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region expect to benefit from health insurance of the National Health Insurance (NHIF) following agreement between the CRDB Bank and NHIF in which the former will provide zero interest loans every year to cover the insurance cost.

The farmers hail from Ushetu, Msalala and Kahama districts, of whom 6,800 are cotton farmers and 590 tobacco farmers irrespective of their production capacities.

This was revealed here yesterday by CRDB Commercial Director Dr Joseph Witts during the signing event of the agreement between the Bank, NHIF and Kahama Cooperative Union (KACU).

Witts said they had already visited farmers in Chunya,

Rungwe, Tanga, Mpanda, Nguruka and KACU to mobilise them to join the bank's loan programme which they would repay without interest.

He said this year they expect to reach more than 410,000 farmers countrywide to encourage them to join NHIF via CRDB interest free loans, adding that next year

they expect to reach one million farmers and that they will open for them accounts for repaying without interest.

For his part, NHIF Customer Service Director Hipoliti Lello said when one joins NHIF he can receive service from more than 9,000 health facilities

countrywide.

KACU Chairman Emmanuel Charahani said this season they expect to purchase 10 million kgs of cotton, and they will deduct 50/- per kilogramme sold to alleviate farmers' repayment burden for the NHIF loans taken.

However, he called upon NHIF

to increase the availability of drugs at dispensaries and health centres in rural areas.

Kahama District Commissioner, Anamringi Macha who was official guest at the event said among the tasks they were supposed to do was to educate farmers on the benefits in joining NHIF.

1,000 students in secondary schools never had physics class, study shows

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

A government-led analysis in the last three months has found that 1,000 secondary school students have never met and seen a physics teacher, parliament was told here yesterday.

The study also found that about 400 secondary schools with students who have never seen a mathematics teacher.

Minister of State, President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government Umy Mwalimu said in a written response to a question from Special Seats legislator Hawa Mchafu.

The MP asked when the government will deploy science teachers to Coast region to address the shortage.

In response, the minister admitted that there was a shortage of science teachers as an investigation into the matter has revealed.

"We know the situation on the ground and we thank the head of state for giving us the permission to employ teachers this financial year which we believe will address the shortage of science teachers," she said.

She said the government was making use of the technological development to let students learn via video classrooms in which teachers will record and send.

Earlier, National Assembly Speaker Job Ndogai said the recent announced teachers' jobs priorities should be given to science teachers including mathematics and physics.

In his preliminary question, Mbulu Urban MP Zacharia Issaya asked when will the government employ teachers in secondary schools in Mbulu.

In response, deputy minister in the President's Office Regional

Administration and Local Government David Silinde said during the period beginning 2016/17 to 2019/2020 the government employed and deployed 17 science teachers and technicians and laboratory experts to various schools in Mbulu out of the 10,418 teachers who were employed during the period.

Recently, President Samia Suluhu Hassan announced that the government will construct modern science secondary schools for girls are to be built in each region starting next month.

Addressing a regional meeting for women with wide ranging national representation in Dodoma, the president said the boarding schools will have good science laboratories and appropriate equipment, noting that the aim is to bridge the wide gap between male and female science learners in the country.

Currently, the proportion between girls and boys from primary level up to higher learning institutions level is almost the same, with primary schools having over 11.2m pupils, among them five million girls.

That proportion is less than 50 percent while in the case of secondary schools, 73,370 are female students out of 160,461 students, also below 50 percent but not far from it, while in vocational training, there were 75,194 female students out of 157,420 making it 47 percent.

In higher learning institutions, 88,579 students were female out of 200,167 which adds up to 43 percent, with the president affirming that the gender gap exists in higher education. But there are no real problems of access to primary education or secondary school level while the gap accelerates.



Arusha regional commissioner John Mongella (R, foreground) has a word with journalists yesterday after taking part in an environmental cleanliness campaign in tourist sites, including Mount Suye. Photo: Correspondent Woinde Shizza

Govt disburses over 700m/- to support SMEs under TBS's special programme

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE government has issued a total of 772m/- to support small and medium entrepreneurs (SMEs) who have been granted a mark of quality license under a special programme run by Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) for the past three years, it has been learnt.

This was said in Dar es Salaam by the TBS Director General Dr Athumani Ngenya during a ceremony to grant licenses, tested products and certification to 246 manufacturers including 127 SMEs.

The certificates and licenses provided were in food, and cosmetics products, shoes, construction materials, lubricants, food management systems and packaging materials.

Dr Ngenya said that few years ago the government established the free certification services to entrepreneurs who had to channel their application through SIDO.

"I would like to say that for the past three years the government

has paid a total of 772m/- as a cost of certification services for SME who had certified their products," he said.

Dr Ngenya said the decision was taken to support SMEs so that they become big businessmen who can help in the industrialisation drive initiated by the government a few years ago.

All SMEs who have got their licenses, and others through a programme established by Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) received free certification services for three years, he said.

He noted that the government has established the programme to enable SMEs to produce quality goods and expand the market of their products.

He urged SMEs and other interested persons to make use of the opportunity especially during this time when the government has been insisting on an industrial economy.

He said once they certify their goods it would help to produce sustainable products which would be sold anywhere including East

African market.

He commended SMEs and other manufacturers who were given licenses urging them to abide to standards any time during production process for their benefits and the nation.

He said by doing so it would help health of consumers and save the nation from health and environment effects.

TBS has been granting licence to manufacturers who have met required procedures after every ninety days.

He also noted that a total of 3,295 premises and 642 food and cosmetics products have been registered between January to May this year since the roles were assumed to standard body.

Dr Ngenya said registration of premises and food and cosmetics products started last year since the bureau assumed the roles from the former TFDA.

"We are now dealing with food and cosmetics, it is illegal for a trader to import unregistered food or cosmetics, even their premises should be registered," he said. Registration also involves

cafes, food vans, food stores and cosmetics.

He urged traders who want to continue or engage in the business to contact the bureau before embarking on it.

Speaking on behalf of another trader identified as Amir Hamza, who is processing coffee in Kagera region, he thanked management of TBS for providing him with the ISO 22000: 2018 standard for food management system.

He said the certificate would enable him to expand coffee exports in Africa, Europe and Asia continents.

Hamza, who is also the Managing Director of AMIMZA, Coffee curing and processing factory in Eastern and Central Africa, said before the certificate the firm managed to export to only a few countries.

He thanked the government for taking steps to address challenges facing the coffee industry, which include insufficient ship frequencies to transport cargo abroad and high costs of production.



Doyo Hassan (gesturing), Secretary General of the opposition Alliance for Democratic Change, pictured in Tanga yesterday commenting on the conduct of the General Election held late last year. This was during talks with those who stood as the party's candidates. Photo: Correspondent Boniface Gideon

Workers mobilised to observe hygiene regulations at workplaces

By Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

WATER Witness International (WWI), a civil society organisation has teamed up with the "Home is the Toilet" - the national campaign on environmental cleanliness to mobilise workers to observe hygiene regulations at work places to avoid eruption of water borne diseases.

The remarks were made yesterday by the campaign's ambassador, Elias Barnaba, during his visit to Tooku Garment factory at Ubungu in Dar es Salaam aimed at mobilising workers to take precautions against water borne

diseases.

Barnaba said the campaign conducted under the slogan "Cleanliness' Secret is Balancing" that was preceded by the research done in factories and other nearby areas aimed to identify the level of adherence to cleanliness regulations among workers.

He also said the research showed that the compliance of regulations on sanitation including hand washing with soap and running water and observance of social distancing were more important in factories than in homes or other areas.

"When we say the secret behind cleanliness is balancing, we aim to mobilise the people to continue observing hygiene regulations as they perform their daily chores. Tanzania is among very few nations in the world whose people continue with their activities after the eruption of the Covid-19 pandemic," he said.

He added: "However, when we work while observing cleanliness is the main secret behind that achievement, we should continue to stress on that, to remain safe."

The campaign is the continuation of government

efforts via the Health Ministry in mobilising the people to observe regulations on hygiene to remain safe.

For his part, Tooku Supervision Manager, Franziska Jauntz thanked the campaign, saying it will enhance awareness among workers to observe regulations on hygiene at work places as well as in their homes.

"Here we have more than 3,700 workers, hence the health of every one of them was more important. That is why we make sure that all infrastructures for cleanliness are in place for every worker to use," he said.

Put in place meal planning system to address NCDs, Tanzanians told

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

TANZANIANS have been urged to inculcate a culture of putting in place a meal planning system in order to address chronic non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) Acting Director Dr Esther Nkuba made the call when speaking at a one-day seminar on healthy eating and lifestyle in dealing with non-communicable diseases.

Nkuba said chronic diseases have been caused by poor nutrition including high intake of sugary, salty foods as well as alcohol consumption.

She said that according to studies conducted there is an increase in non-communicable diseases thus causing the nation to lose the workforce and lead to reduced productivity in the community.

She further added that according to World Health Organisation surveys conducted in 2012, 2014 and 2016 found that these diseases account for approximately two-thirds of all deaths worldwide. The Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre said 80% of such deaths happen in low and middle-income countries.

She added that the risk indicators for these diseases are due to the unhealthy consumption of high salt food, fat, sugar, excess weight, and obesity, use of

cigarettes and tobacco products as well as lack of exercise.

She further explained that the recent study indicates there is a toll increase and spread of diabetes, heart disease, and hypertension in the country.

These diseases can be dealt with if the citizen adheres to proper diet, physical activity, regular exercise as well as avoid the use of tobacco and alcohol, she added.

For her part, Nutrition Officer Senior Researcher Maria Ngilisho said these diseases are not transmitted from one person to another but are further aggravated by one's lifestyle habits, alcohol use, and lack of regular exercise.

"She commented that the community should focus on healthy eating, and emphasized that a healthy diet is based on a diet consisting of at least one food from five food groups at least three meals a day, drinking enough clean water daily, eating plenty of fruits and vegetables and eating a lot of starchy foods."

The diet should be adequate and responsive to the body's needs based on one's gender, age, occupation and activities.

In addition, in order to reduce and prevent chronic non-communicable diseases every Tanzanian must take steps to prevent indicators that can be prevented in response to the lifestyle we live.

Scholars make impassioned appeal to public to invest in children's education

By Francis Kojubi

ACADEMICIANS have encouraged the general public to invest in better education for their children by sending them to schools where they can learn and acquire language skills that would enable them to survive in the growing competitive employment market.

The call was made on Wednesday in Dar es Salaam by the French School Arthur Rimbaud administration at a special visit by journalists to learn how the school equips children to French language fluency from the levels of kindergarten to secondary school.

Jean-Baptiste Ruzindana coordinator for primary school said that graduates with ability to speak and write in more than three most spoken languages of the globe have all chances to survive the competitive employment market since they have a little language barrier to tap opportunities elsewhere

across the globe.

"Language is becoming a crucial tool in today's world for one to tap opportunities elsewhere across the world. We at the French school are dedicated to training children at the age of three to twelve to master the language with fluency. The school has officially been there since 2018 and has successfully enrolled about 350 so far at the kindergarten level, elementary and secondary," said Ruzindana.

According to him, the school follows the French curriculum which is being prepared by the France ministry of education and being taught in public schools. The French schools have a presence in almost all countries that have good diplomatic relations with France.

"The school has a wide range of teaching facilities and amenities such as a French and English textbooks library, play grounds, canteen and an assembly hall for holding debates and other academic functions.

Nancy Kweka, an English subject teacher, said that the day school has four Tanzanian teachers in its teaching staff including herself. The school has three annual semesters which are divided into five academic terms.

The first term starts September to December and is broken down into two periods with a break of 10 to 15 days within. The second term is between January and March and the third term ends between April and June while the remaining two months, July and August are reserved for a long annual holiday.

"It's been a pleasure for me to teach English at the French School. I joined this school almost three years ago and have enjoyed an opportunity to learn French under the sponsorship of the school in collaboration with the French embassy in Tanzania. Since I managed to speak French I have been able to work with people in different professions and I can reconnoiter for a bright future," said Kweka.



Hanang' legislator Samwel Hhayuma addresses residents of Masqaroda village during a routine visit on Tuesday. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

First instance division of EACJ resumes sessions

By Guardian Reporter

THE First Instance Division has resumed its June-July session in which it shall handle 19 matters only.

The Court started its session with the hearing of Application No. 9 of 2019) arising from Reference No. 16 of 2019) Bob Rugurika and 17 Others vs. The Attorney General of Burundi.

The applicants are seeking interim orders restraining and prohibiting execution of the decision delivered by the Supreme Court of Burundi to seize the moveable and immovable properties of 32 individuals associated with another case in Burundi.

The applicants who are represented by Counsel Nelson Ndeki submitted that the Attorney General of Burundi (respondent) need to provide assurance that with immediate effect, the government of Burundi will cease the said illegal appropriation of land and allow those evicted to return to their homes until the hearing and determination of the case.

The defence counsel Diomedee Vyzigiro, however, told the court that there was no joint decision delivered by the Supreme Court of Burundi and the prosecutor, adding that the application should therefore be dismissed because the Supreme Court has delivered the decision in that case and that all applicants have been convicted and sentenced and were ordered to pay damages as compensation.

Counsel Vyzigiro, for the Attorney General of Burundi, further said that the petitioners were not residents of East Africa and that they are residents in Belgium and therefore the court should not entertain the matter as provided under Article 30 (1) of the Treaty for the establishment of the EAC.

Article 30 (1) on reference by legal and natural persons provides thatany person who is a resident in a Partner State may refer for determination by the court, the legality of any act, regulation, directive, decision or action of a Partner State or an Institution of the Community on the grounds that such act, regulation, directive, decision or action is unlawful or is an infringement of the provisions of this treaty.

The hearing was before Honourable Judges of the First Instance Division, Justice Yohane Masara (Principal Judge), Justice Dr Charles Nyawello, Justice Charles Nyachae, Justice Richard Wabwire Wejuli and Justice Richard Muhumuza. The judges said that they would deliver the ruling in due course.

The First Instance Division further adjourned the hearing of another Application No. 7 of 2019, seeking for a stay of execution of a judgment in a case between

Quick Telecommunication services and James Korosso vs. Barclays Bank (T) Ltd at the Magistrate's Court in Moshi, pending hearing and determination of the main reference and also seeking for a review of the judgment in the First Instance Division that was delivered on 3rd July, 2019.

The matter was, however, adjourned to a later date to allow the parties file additional affidavits after the Attorney General of Tanzania was granted time to file his replying affidavit out of time. This matter came before the Deputy Principal Judge Hon Justice Audace Ngiye, Justice Dr Charles Nyawello and Justice Charles Nyachae.

The Appellate Division also concluded its sessions resumed from May 17th, 2021 on Tuesday, 8th June, 2021. The Division has in total handled 21 matters with a scheduling conference and hearing of an arbitration matter by the EAC Secretary General vs Atech Systems Limited. The matters of the Appellate Division were brought before the Judge President Justice Nestor Kayobera, Vice President Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire, Lady Justice Sauda Mjasiri, Justice Kathurima M'noti and Lady Justice Anita Mugeni.

**AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
TANZANIA COUNTRY OFFICE**

PUBLIC AUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT

African Development Bank, Tanzania Country Office would like to inform the general public that through our agent **PROPERTY MASTERS LIMITED** registered with the High Court of Tanzania, we shall be selling by public auction; **Toyota Land Cruiser VD200R, office used furniture and IT equipments on 19th June 2021 from 10.00AM.**

The items may be viewed on working hours at property international Limited premises, Mikocheni Industrial Area near TPDC Estate where auction will be held.

AUCTION CONDITIONS:

- The items shall be sold as they are.
- Successfully buyer should immediately pay full amount of sale for office furniture and IT equipments.
- For motor vehicle buyer shall pay 25% on the date of auction and the remaining 75% to be completed within 14 days from auction date.
- Successfully buyer shall process the necessary tax payment/exemption.
- In Compliance to the auction terms buyers shall collect the items bought immediately after the auction.

For more information contact; 0754262400, 0713306054



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to the General Public that **MSPH Tanzania LLC** has lost 84 motorcycles registration cards, which are based in Mwanza Region as indicated below.

S/N o.	Model	Chassis No.	Engine No.	REG NUMBER
1	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY5KWJ89441	PFZWKJ11348	MC331CMR
2	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY7KWJ89442	PFZWKJ11346	MC333CMR
3	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY9KWJ89443	PFZWKJ11320	MC336CMR
4	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY4KWJ89446	PFZWKJ11325	MC366CMR
5	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY4KWJ89513	PFZWKJ11447	MC872CMR
6	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY6KWJ89514	PFZWKJ11453	MC873CMR
7	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY8KWJ89515	PFZWKJ11455	MC874CMR
8	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BYXKWJ89516	PFZWKJ11451	MC925CMR
9	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY1KWJ89517	PFZWKJ11415	MC927CMR
10	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY3KWJ89518	PFZWKJ11334	MC929CMR
11	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY4KWJ89527	PFZWKJ11370	MC960CMR
12	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY6KWJ89528	PFZWKJ11374	MC965CMR
13	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY8KWJ89529	PFZWKJ11363	MC969CMR
14	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY4KWJ89530	PFZWKJ11407	MC971CMR
15	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY0KWJ89539	PFZWKJ11489	MC993CMR
16	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY7KWJ89540	PFZWKJ11490	MC994CMR
17	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY9KWJ89541	PFZWKJ11491	MC995CMR
18	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY0KWJ89542	PFZWKJ11544	MC996CMR
19	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY2KWJ89543	PFZWKJ11547	MC997CMR
20	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY4KWJ89544	PFZWKJ11510	MC998CMR
21	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY6KWJ89545	PFZWKJ11437	MC101CMS
22	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY8KWJ89546	PFZWKJ11435	MC102CMS
23	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BYXKWJ89547	PFZWKJ11659	MC103CMS
24	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY1KWJ89548	PFZWKJ11662	MC104CMS
25	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BYXKWJ89550	PFZWKJ11657	MC106CMS
26	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY1KWJ89551	PFZWKJ11635	MC107CMS
27	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY5KWJ89553	PFZWKJ11627	MC109CMS
28	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY7KWJ89554	PFZWKJ11626	MC112CMS
29	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY1LWL91517	PFZWLL28556	MC421CNH
30	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY3LWL91518	PFZWLL28553	MC424CNH
31	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY5LWL91519	PFZWLL28552	MC429CNH
32	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY3LWL91521	PFZWLL28574	MC442CNH
33	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY5LWL91522	PFZWLL28573	MC446CNH
34	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY8LWL91529	PFZWLL28627	MC480CNH
35	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY8LWL91532	PFZWLL28622	MC491CNH
36	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY1LWL91534	PFZWLL28620	MC493CNH
37	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY7LWL91554	PFZWLL28648	MC531CNH
38	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY9LWL91555	PFZWLL28644	MC533CNH
39	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY4LWL91589	PFZWLL29349	MC880CNG
40	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY0LWL91590	PFZWLL29371	MC883CNG
41	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY4LWL91592	PFZWLL29375	MC899CNG
42	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY6LWL91593	PFZWLL29353	MC905CNG
43	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY9LWL91362	PFZWLL28214	MC901CNH
44	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY2LWL91364	PFZWLL28213	MC905CNH
45	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY6LWL91366	PFZWLL28207	MC907CNH
46	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY1LWL91369	PFZWLL28193	MC910CNH
47	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY1LWL91372	PFZWLL28136	MC913CNH
48	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY3LWL91373	PFZWLL28143	MC914CNH
49	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY7LWL91375	PFZWLL28206	MC916CNH
50	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY9LWL91376	PFZWLL28208	MC917CNH
51	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY4LWL91382	PFZWLL28166	MC923CNH
52	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY6LWL91383	PFZWLL28168	MC924CNH
53	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY0LWL91394	PFZWLL28135	MC937CNH
54	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY7LWL91442	PFZWLL28142	MC683CNH
55	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY0LWL91444	PFZWLL28170	MC694CNH
56	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY0LWL91475	PFZWLL28180	MC993CNG
57	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY2LWL91476	PFZWLL28176	MC996CNG
58	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY4LWL91477	PFZWLL28178	MC997CNG
59	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY6LWL91478	PFZWLL28179	MC998CNG
60	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY8LWL91479	PFZWLL28175	MC104CNH
61	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY7LWB89686	PFZWLB47237	MC951CQA
62	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY0LWB89688	PFZWLB47235	MC953CQA
63	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY9LWB89690	PFZWLB47236	MC955CQA
64	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY2LWB89692	PFZWLB47234	MC957CQA
65	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY6LWB89694	PFZWLB47229	MC959CQA
66	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY8LWB89695	PFZWLB47238	MC960CQA
67	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BYXLWB89696	PFZWLB47240	MC961CQA
68	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY3LWB89698	PFZWLB47213	MC963CQA
69	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY3LWB89703	PFZWLB47264	MC984CQA
70	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY5LWB89704	PFZWLB47247	MC987CQA
71	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY2LWB89711	PFZWLB47245	MC997CQA
72	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY6LWB89713	PFZWLB47242	MC101CQB
73	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY1LWB89716	PFZWLB47256	MC107CQB
74	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BYXLWB89729	PFZWLB47492	MC135CQB
75	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY1LWB89764	PFZWLB47209	MC230CQB
76	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY7LWB89770	PFZWLB47223	MC239CQB
77	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY9LWB89771	PFZWLB47218	MC242CQB
78	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY4LWB89774	PFZWLB47194	MC252CQB
79	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY8LWB89776	PFZWLB47232	MC599CQB
80	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY1LWB89778	PFZWLB47193	MC600CQJ
81	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY3LWB89779	PFZWLB47195	MC601CQJ
82	BM-150X UG	MD2A21BY1LWB89781	PFZWLB47465	MC603CQJ

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**Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

Tasaf financing can also be revamped for better results

THERE has been mutual praise lately from officials of the World Bank and the Tanzania Social Action Fund (Tasaf) on the manner in which the fund has implemented agreed projects.

This has brought the World Bank to express its readiness to continue funding Tasaf's Tanzania Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN) project.

The bank says that the project has proved to be one of the best ways to reduce poverty, an assertion by its executive director for a group of African countries.

Not only is the bank committed to continuing supporting Tasaf but it is also even contemplating more funds in the belief that the programme is transforming the lives of many people and boosting development.

When such remarks come from a donor agency, it would ordinarily be hard to suggest the need for improvement of how things are going at the local level - without extremely good reasons to do so.

The point is that President Samia Suluhu Hassan was at the start of the week expressing misgivings about what we have achieved with more than 2.0trn/- meant for women's empowerment.

The point hence is that, much as the funds going into women's empowerment and those going to Tasaf may have originated from distinctive sources, chances are that the World Bank is one of the principal sources in both funding spheres.

In that case, their results must largely be comparable or having a number of things in common even if there was some tangible difference in design, where the Tasaf projects would be shoulder higher.

More pointedly, it can be said that the president's remarks were more to the point and focused on

the bottom line, while the World Bank executive directed tended to be generous.

This is especially so in that the WB director, Dr Taufila Nyamadzabo, has visited Sudan, South Sudan, Kenya and Tanzania, where similar programmes are being undertaken, and concluded that Tanzania's project implementation showed greater promise.

The first two countries are in a constant war situation and may not have the organisational parameters needed for sober project implementation and appraisal, while Kenya has greater land-based costs or wages and a higher level of direct and indirect corruption. In that case, Tanzania may stand out not for agility, with the others crippled.

Tasaf executive director Ladislaus Mwamanga says that the projects are aimed at improving the economic status of the beneficiaries, this as part of the plan to have them form savings groups.

He says that through such groups, beneficiaries saved over 5.9bn/- that is now revolving in the groups - an important observation on what can be done not just for Tasaf funds but even for women's empowerment financing as a whole.

Instead of giving people cash and then hoping that they will save, it can be done differently. The design can be changed into a revolving fund from the start, where it isn't the poverty but minimal trust that brings a loan. Those groups may add administrative chocking points and have little extra cash to suit each person's needs, if the cash is the savings they have.

Savings and credit cooperatives are better in that they borrow from financial institutions and are more flexible in the loan amounts and return period, and less peer-based for resource amounts.

Tanzania is well-placed to boost regional economic engagements

THE making of foreign policy is a task that involves a number of 'circles,' where a country belongs to different clusters in the regional and international arena.

What that country does in each of those fields is consonant with its policy or identity trajectory as a whole.

There is hence a measure of continuity in what a country does from one phase of government to another, as well as innovation - which may imply some discontinuity with regard to what it was doing earlier. Discerning spheres is vital to grasping policy action.

Scholars differ as to what is central in how foreign policy is fashioned, that is, if it is values or interests - as they don't usually coincide but can have intense bearing on who become our closest friends or distant allies.

Founder president Julius Nyerere, in line with past great statesmen, aptly said in 1965 that "we wish to be friendly with all but we will never allow our friends to choose our enemies for us". This pronouncement is still of immense relevance today as it was then in terms of our foreign policy.

It must be asserted that Tanzania's current foreign policy objectives are centred on building a competitive economy and thus fostering keener ties with all regional and global forces or allies who can help us achieve this objective.

Since the start of the past decade, or even earlier, foreign aid

has been on the decline.

With the Covid-19 pandemic as well as the intensifying of increasing trade pressures globally, the tendency is less - rather than more - foreign aid expectation. That must be in part why the government is directing its energy to closer economic cooperation and facilitation of investments, eroding existing impediments.

There are other spheres of global change which have a bearing on what we do, for instance the Brexit issue. There are projects in this sphere which are being worked upon, to harmonise educational values at the regional so that goals harmonious with global citizenship are fostered.

It is in this regard that President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been engaged in high-level consultations, including receiving a plenipotentiary from Rwanda and now hosting the President of Botswana.

It will thus not be surprising that changing global relations also impacts our policy direction to assert a measure of neutrality while being aware of the sort of relations that boost foreign investment, technological assertiveness, etc.

That is why current moves to boost regional links in East Africa and the wider African free trade area will help anchor these outreach efforts in a viable direction.

Indeed, Mwalimu Nyerere put it excellently in stating said that we wished to be friendly with all but without allowing our friends to choose our enemies for us.

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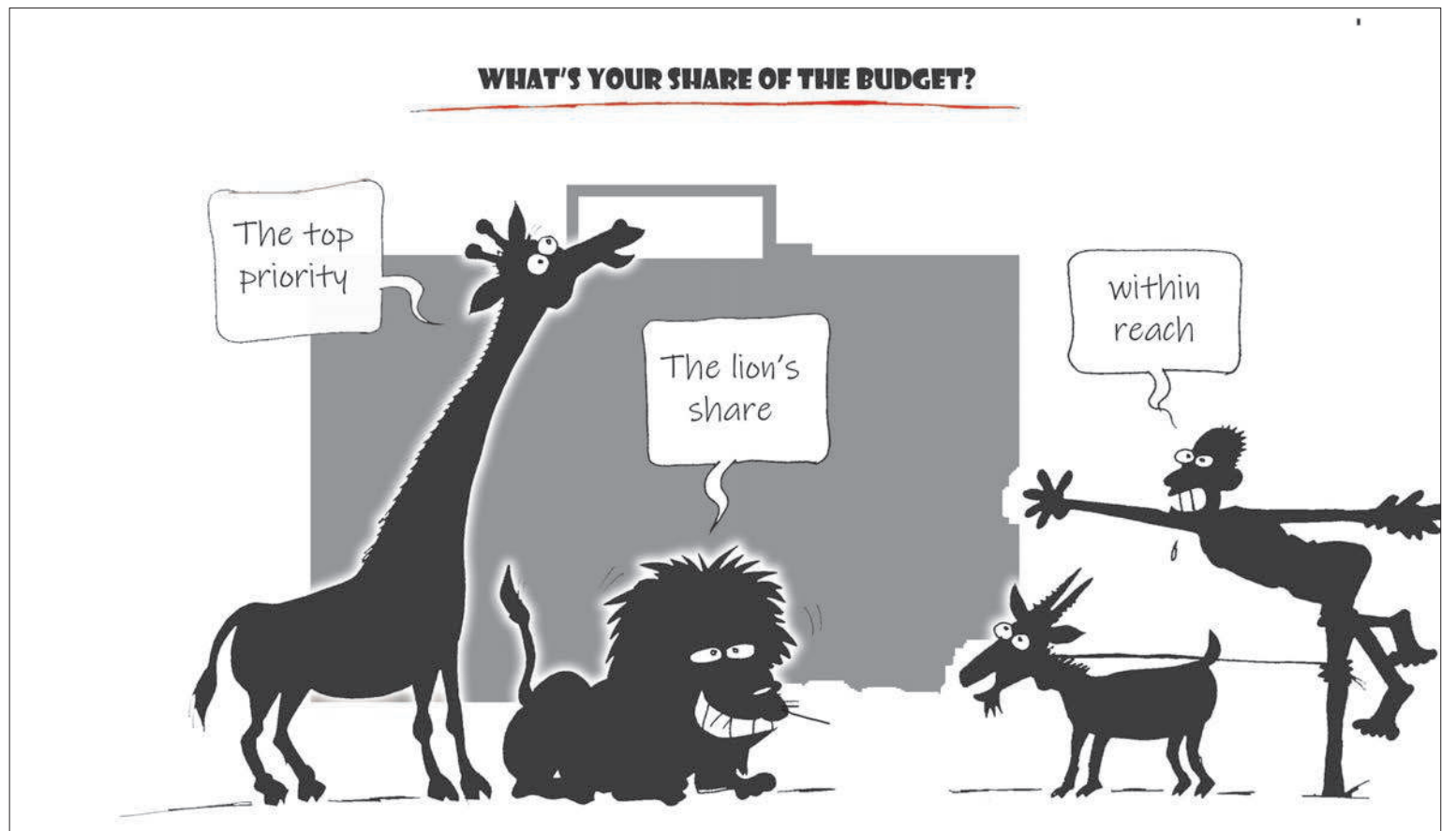
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Nine in 10 African countries set to miss urgent vaccination target on COVID-19

By Special Correspondent,

Brazzaville

WITH the number of Covid-19 cases in Africa on the rise for the third week running and vaccines getting increasingly scarce, 47 of Africa's 54 countries - nearly 90 per cent - are set to miss the September target of vaccinating 10 per cent of their people unless the continent receives 225 million more doses.

The new global targets were announced recently at the World Health Assembly, the world's highest health policy-setting body, and at the current pace only seven African countries are set to meet them.

As Africa nears 5 million Covid-19 cases, numbers are rising week-on-week and increased by nearly 20 per cent to over 88,000 in the week ending on June 6.

The pandemic is trending upwards in ten African countries, with four nations recording a spike in new cases of over 30 per cent in the past seven days, compared with the previous week.

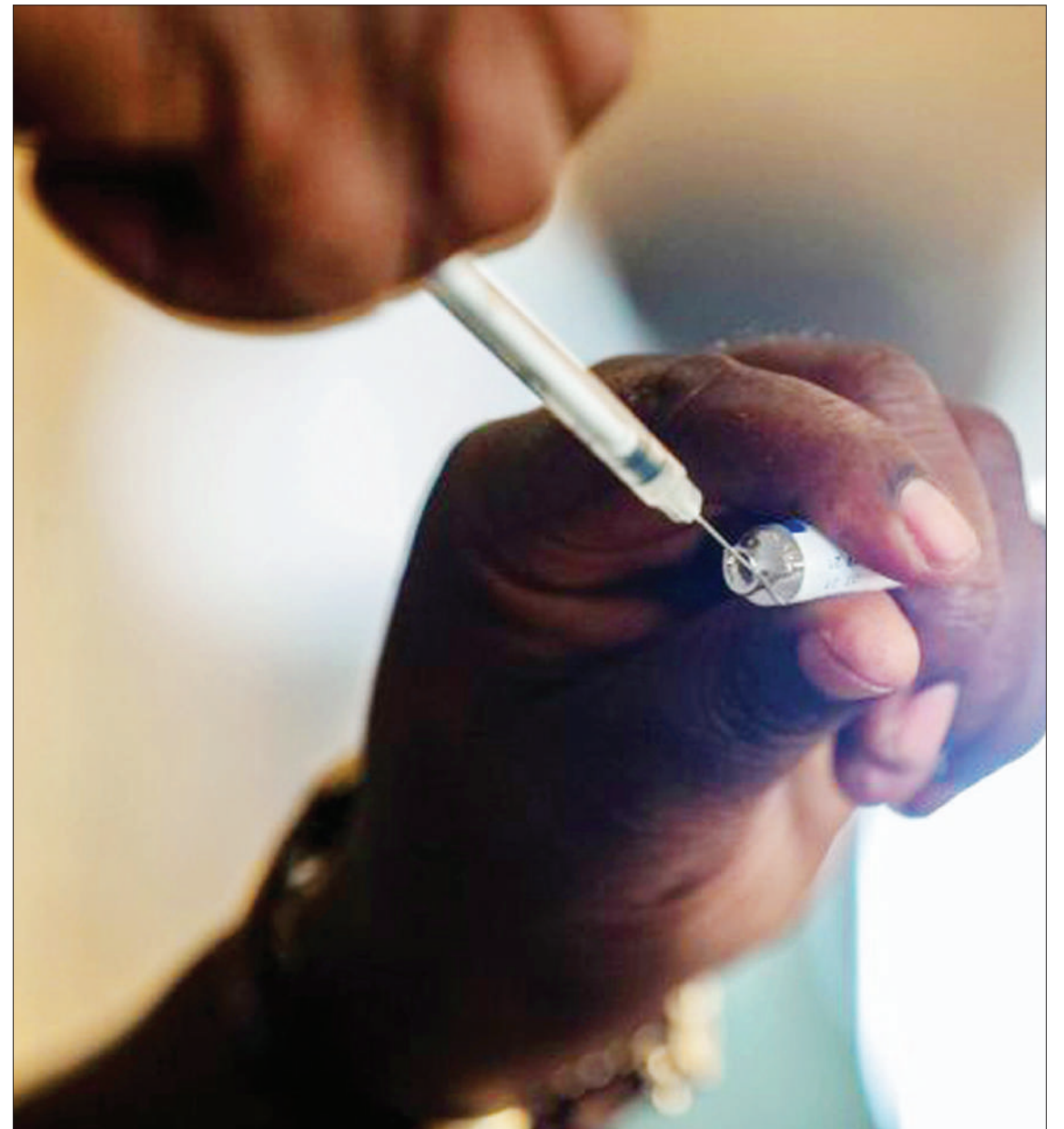
A total of 72 per cent of all new cases were reported in Egypt, South Africa, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia, while over half were recorded in nine southern African countries.

"As we close in on 5 million cases and a third wave in Africa looms, many of our most vulnerable people remain dangerously exposed to Covid-19. Vaccines have been proven to prevent cases and deaths, so countries that can, must urgently share COVID-19 vaccines. It's do or die on dose sharing for Africa," said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, the World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional Director for Africa.

At 32 million doses, Africa accounts for under 1 per cent of the over 2.1 billion doses administered globally. Just 2 per cent of the continent's nearly 1.3 billion people have received one dose and only 9.4 million Africans are fully vaccinated.

However, United States President Joe Biden's planned announcement that the US will purchase and donate half a billion Pfizer vaccines to 92 low- and lower-middle-income countries and the African Union is an important step forward. This comes as we see other countries such as France making tangible deliveries via the COVAX Facility.

"The tide is starting to turn. We are now seeing wealthy nations



beginning to turn promises into action," said Dr Moeti.

While more vaccines are vital, some African countries must ramp up actions to swiftly roll out the vaccines they have.

Fourteen African countries have used between 80 per cent and 100 per cent of the doses they received through the COVAX Facility, 20 countries have used less than 50 per cent of the doses received. Twelve countries have more than 10 per cent of their AstraZeneca doses at risk of expiring by the end of August.

"We need to ensure that the vaccines that we have are not wasted because every dose is precious," said Dr Moeti, adding: "Countries that are lagging behind in their rollout need to step up vaccination efforts."

Several African countries, including Côte d'Ivoire and Niger, are seeing more success by adjusting their vaccine rollout strategies.

Where possible, WHO recommends spreading

vaccinations beyond large cities into rural areas, prioritising vaccines that are close to expiring, tackling logistical and financial hurdles and working to boost public demand for vaccines.

Attitudes towards vaccines and acceptance of vaccination varies across countries and communities. The Risk Communication Community Engagement Collective, a joint WHO, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) initiative, reports that confidence in vaccines in Africa ranges from just 38 per cent in Cameroon to 86 per cent in Guinea.

On average, West and Central Africa has the lowest vaccine confidence at around 60 per cent.

To combat misinformation and disinformation around vaccines, WHO and partners set up the Africa Infodemic Response Alliance (AIRA). This leverages the reach and insights from a unique network of 14 organisations

and pools resources to combat misinformation.

Viral Facts Africa, the public face of the alliance, has created over 150 videos and social media posts to counter misinformation this year and they have been disseminated on almost 60 social media channels across the region and gained more than 100 million views.

Dr Moeti spoke earlier this week during a virtual press conference facilitated by APO Group. She was joined by Pierre N'Gou Dimba, Cote d'Ivoire's Health, Public Hygiene and Universal Health Coverage minister, and Luchen Foster, Director of Health Partnerships, Facebook.

Also on hand to answer questions were Dr Phionah Atuhebe, Vaccines Introduction Officer; Dr Thierno Balde, Team Leader, Operational Partnerships; Dr Gilson Paluku, Routine Immunisation and New Vaccines Introduction Officer - all with the WHO Regional Office for Africa.

NHI Bill the best way to attain universal health coverage and health equity

By Narnia Bohler-Muller and Moremi Nkos

SOUTH Africa's health system is plagued by a legacy of fragmentation and a two-tier structure that continues to be a barrier to the way individuals, households and communities access healthcare services and how they benefit from them.

A diagnostic report on access to quality healthcare in South Africa confirmed that because of the disparities in the distribution of resources between the public and private health sectors, the most vulnerable groups of the population have inequitable access to, and use of, the very healthcare services they need to live a socially and economically productive life.

The corollary of this is that the better-off sections of the population, disproportionately, and unfairly so, benefit the most from our two-tiered health system. This is despite our venerable Constitution clearly stating in the Bill of Rights that access to healthcare is a basic human right. More importantly, the state is mandated to take reasonable legislative and other measures to make this right a reality for all.

This is where the National Health Insurance Bill comes in. The government, through the National Department of Health, first published the bill for public comments in early 2018. Following the public comments process and a number of iterations, the bill was further revised and an updated version was submitted to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Health in August 2019.

As per the provisions of the Constitution, Parliament gazetted the bill for further public comments and also initiated public hearings across South Africa.

The committee is holding virtual meetings at which stakeholders who have made written submissions on the bill are making presentations on areas of support, concern and proposed changes. This is a very important process as it allows for the enhancement of the bill to make certain that whatever is promulgated into law by the president is constitutionally and legally sound.

The process of public participation is far from over, but we all must appreciate that this is a very important phase in the history and future of our healthcare system, and our country.

So what exactly are the constitutional foundations for National Health Insurance?

The White Paper on National Health Insurance sets out the policy framework on which the bill is founded – the principles of equity, social solidarity, health as a public good, appropriateness of care and affordability, among others, are intended to create a health system that is integrated, fair and accessible for all South Africans.

This is important as it would move South Africa forward on the path towards achieving universal health coverage – a key Sustainable Development Goal target directed at ensuring healthy lives and promoting wellbeing for all people irrespective of their race, gender, age or other factors.

The bill is intended to move South Africa towards this objective – through the creation of a National Health Insurance Fund as a strategic purchaser of healthcare services on behalf of the population and, in so doing, providing South Africans with financial risk protection from the costs associated with accessing and using healthcare services.

However, it is not surprising that a number of stakeholders have indicated resistance and even disdain at the contents of the bill, seemingly oblivious to the fact that rational and sensible comments and suggestions would be taken into account by Parliament to improve its relevance and applicability within our health system.

It is striking that not all the concerns raised have a direct bearing on the constitutionality or legality of the bill – with a number of comments raising pointed questions about the state's capacity to implement such far-reaching reforms, coupled with claims of missing details in the bill which in all likelihood would best be prescribed in regulations.

South Africa is not alone in its efforts to progressively transform its healthcare system into one that delivers universal health coverage in a tangible way.

The World Health Organization, of which South Africa is an active member, sees universal health coverage as a means to realise the right to health based on a system of protection that gives everyone an equal



South Africa's Constitution clearly states in the Bill of Rights that access to healthcare is a basic human right. More importantly, the state is mandated to take reasonable legislative and other measures to make this right a reality for all.

opportunity to enjoy the highest attainable standard of health.

This requires a human rights-based approach that consistently seeks to ensure that all health policies, strategies and programmes are designed with the objective of progressively improving the enjoyment of all people of the right to health and healthcare.

Interventions to reach this objective adhere to rigorous principles and standards, including non-discrimination, availability and accessibility of services, their social and cultural acceptability, with the full recognition of universality.

A human rights-based approach empowers people to claim their rights and encourages policymakers and service providers to meet their obligations in creating more responsive healthcare systems. The National Health Insurance Bill is indeed founded on a human rights-based approach to healthcare, and this is reflected in the preamble as well as Section 2 of the bill, which outlines its purpose.

Furthermore, the preamble to the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, provides for "the need to improve the quality of life of all citizens and to free the potential of each person". Section 7 (1) states that the Bill of Rights is a "cornerstone of democracy in South Africa. It enshrines the rights of all people in our country and affirms the democratic values of human dignity, equality and freedom". Section 7 (2) provides that the state must "respect, protect, promote and fulfil" the rights in the Bill of Rights.

In general, the state's positive and negative duties are set out in Section 7(2) of the Constitution and in relation to healthcare services. This means that government must respect the right of access to healthcare services by not unfairly and/or unreasonably getting in the way of people accessing healthcare services, pro-

tect this right by developing and implementing a comprehensive legal framework to enable access to healthcare for all, without discrimination; promote the right by creating a legal framework to realise it; and fulfil the right by creating the necessary conditions for people to access healthcare, through providing positive assistance, benefits and quality healthcare services.

Section 27(1)(a) of the Constitution also states that everyone has the right to have access to healthcare services, including reproductive healthcare. Section 27(2) provides that the State must take "reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation" of the right of access to healthcare services.

Section 28(l) (c) of the Constitution provides that every child has the right to basic healthcare services, which is a right that is not subject to the limitations mentioned in section 27 or the general limitations in section 36. In addition, Section 35(2) (e) determines that persons detained by the state are entitled (without limitation) "to conditions of detention that are consistent with human dignity, including at least exercise and the provision, at state expense, of adequate accommodation, nutrition, reading material and medical treatment". Furthermore, the Constitution must be interpreted in terms of the provisions of Section 39(1) (a), namely that: "When interpreting the Bill of Rights, a court, tribunal or forum must promote the values that underlie an open and democratic society based on human dignity, equality and freedom."

Other laws – and in fact the Constitution itself – must be interpreted to bring into effect the values embodied in the Constitution, including dignity, equality, freedom and Ubuntu.

Furthermore, the South African Bill of Rights, through its limitation clause, expressly contemplates

the use of a nuanced and context-sensitive balancing of rights, eg, the right of access to healthcare versus the right to freedom of association.

Section 36 provides that the rights in the Bill of Rights may be limited only in terms of a law of general application to the extent that the limitation is reasonable and justifiable in an open and democratic society based on human dignity, equality and freedom, taking into account all relevant factors, including the nature of the right; the importance of the purpose of the limitation; the nature and extent of the limitation; the relation between the limitation and its purpose; and less restrictive means to achieve the purpose.

Therefore, the right to choice cannot be unfettered in instances where policy and legal changes are deemed necessary for the purposes of the greater good of the population.

As part of the global community, South Africa ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on 18 January 2015. The covenant speaks to the right to health and emphasises equal access to healthcare and minimum guarantees of healthcare for sickness.

Rosy prospects ahead for China-CEEC economic ties



HANGZHOU

LEON Meredyk, a Polish national, spoke in fluent Mandarin as he introduced dairy products from Poland at the second China-CEEC Expo & International Consumer Goods Fair in Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang Province.

"We attach great importance to the Chinese market as it has great potential," said Meredyk, business development manager of Vici Group, a Polish company that started exports to China in 2013.

Themed "Fostering a New Development Paradigm, Sharing a Win-Win Opportunity," the expo opened Tuesday, attracting some 300 enterprises from Central and Eastern European Countries (CEECs) and more than 7,000 buyers.

Joint efforts to boost trade and strengthen cooperation in emerging industries between China and the CEECs are high on the agenda of the expo, which is expected to provide a variety of choices for specialty products from CEECs for Chinese customers, and offer various platforms for exchanging views.

SUSTAINED VIBRANCY OF TRADE

Bucking a global downturn, trade between China and CEECs jumped 50.2 percent year on year to 30.13 billion U.S. dollars in the first quarter of 2021, data from the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) showed.

In 2020, trade in goods between China and the CEECs exceeded 100 billion U.S. dollars for the first time. In the first quarter of this year, China imported 8.17 billion U.S. dollars worth of

goods from these countries, a year-on-year jump of 44.7 percent.

The expo will help the Chinese market learn more about commodities from CEECs, expand CEECs' exports to China, and help all parties respond to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and promote economic recovery.

Over the past few years, China has also seen accelerated trade cooperation with the CEECs. Trade between the two sides grew at an average pace of 8 percent between 2012 and 2020, more than twice the growth of China-EU trade during the same period.

The supply and industrial chains of the two sides are complementary, which leads to positive prospects, said Ren Hongbin, assistant minister of commerce.

China has become Hungary's most important trade partner outside the European Union (EU), said Laszlo Balogh, deputy state secretary of the Ministry of Finance of the country. In 2020, bilateral trade between the two countries rose 22 percent year on year to 11 billion U.S. dollars.

The expo, which is scheduled to close on June 11, will become another trade propeller between China and the CEECs. Featuring products such as helicopters, light aircraft, yachts, as well as agricultural products, high-end kitchen appliances and skincare brands from CEECs, it will provide a platform to promote more balanced trade.

China will take multiple measures including facilitating custom clearance, as part of efforts to realize the promise of importing goods worth 170 billion U.S. dollars from the CEECs in the next five years, said Wang Bingnan, Chinese vice minister of commerce.

GREATER SYNERGY IN NEW AREAS

Besides optimizing trade cooperation with the CEECs, China is proactively expanding the cooperation to new areas, including digital, health and green sectors, which will also contribute to the global economic recovery, according to MOC officials.

During the expo, a mechanism for China-CEEC e-commerce cooperation and dialogue was launched as a gesture that the two sides will share joint achievements in talent cultivation and construction of lo-

gistics infrastructure, and introduce more commodities from CEECs to China's market through e-commerce platforms.

A China-CEEC alliance in the public health industry has also been established in the meantime.

"Most of the people here in this country are vaccinated, with Sinopharm vaccine from China ... the Chinese vaccines. I think there is not such a country in Europe in which you can find that level of trust (to the Chinese vaccines) that you can see here in Belgrade and Serbia," Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic said in an interview with Xinhua earlier this year.

Hungary, the first EU member state to buy and authorize the use of Chinese vaccines, expects further technical cooperation with China. Peter Szijjarto, minister of foreign affairs and trade, said he is thankful for the timely and advanced delivery of the vaccines, which helped protect the lives of Hungarian people.

On June 2, China and 15 CEECs jointly made an announcement to strengthen cooperation in forestry to further boost forest bioeconomic growth. Guan Zhi'ou, head of China's National Forestry and Grassland Administration, deemed it an inevitable choice to achieve sustainable development.

"We should make full use of the expo to carry out in-depth exchanges and achieve more win-win outcomes so as to inject new impetus to practical cooperation between China and the CEECs," said Chinese vice commerce minister Wang Bingnan.

Xinhua

The great British reopening: How investors are picking their bets

LONDON

CINEMA tickets, traffic jams, office footfall, web conferencing, even private jet leasing: investors are parsing motley metrics for clues about how to make money when a major economy reopens.

Britain's blistering COVID-19 vaccine rollout is helping its economy open quicker than much of continental Europe, potentially providing a blueprint for investors trying to map how the recovery trade will play out across the rest of the region.

The United Kingdom has been gradually loosening restrictions, with much of the country set to fully reopen on June 21, and consumers who have accumulated savings during lockdowns are

starting to spend.

As a result, international investors who had largely shunned UK stocks since the 2016 Brexit referendum are back; they now hold the biggest British "overweight" - their UK share holdings relative to Britain's size in global equity benchmarks - in seven years, BofA's monthly survey of fund managers shows.

"The UK suffered disproportionately from the lockdown, and is now rebounding stronger and faster than other countries in Europe," said Kasper Elmgreen, head of equities at Amundi, Europe's biggest fund manager.

But how are investors picking their bets?

They have turned to various indicators including traffic congestion and flight activity. Based on



across countries - once vaccinated people are happy to take risks."

At 87% of pre-COVID levels, Jefferies' euro area economic activity index lags Britain's 94% but is growing, rising two percentage points over the past week.

In the United States, where reopening is even more advanced in some areas than in Britain, activity has risen to 97% of pre-COVID levels.

Investors are also watching Citi's economic surprise index that measures the degree to which data is beating forecasts. While the UK index is near seven-month highs, its euro area equivalent hasn't budged much since March.

PRIVATE JET, ANYONE?

Milburn at Liontrust noted one big potential advantage that the euro zone holds in the longer term.

UK government stimulus has boosted consumer finances, spurring service sector spending, but the euro zone's infrastructure investment focus could mean "less of a boom, but a more sustainable boom", he added.

Indeed some doubt Britain's activity surge can last.

A virus variant first identified in India may delay plans to reopen sport stadia and nightclubs, potentially hurting the pound, Nomura analysts warned.

The government has reduced the list of "green" countries tourists can visit, hitting shares in airlines EasyJet and British Airways operator IAG.

But the well-heeled who want to travel can still capitalise on the broader easing of curbs.

John Keeble, who runs Luton-based private jet broker The Charter Company, has four flights booked in for the first half of June, including trips to Iceland and Greece. Last year, he sold no flights for months on end.

Chartering costs anywhere between \$4,800-an-hour for a smaller jet to \$25,000-an-hour for a 40-seater. Based on the strength of recent interest, Keeble predicts that leisure travel will return to pre-pandemic levels by mid-2022.

Business travel may take longer to rebound, though.

"There is no doubt there is very repressed demand," he said.

(\$1 = 0.7067 pounds)

those and other metrics, Amundi figures that shares in retail, budget airlines, media and beverage firms have further room to run.

British cinemas offer early data too.

They reopened between May 17 and May 24, and box office takings to the end of that month topped 25 million pounds (\$35 million), according to the UK Cinema Association. That compares with 16.6 million for the whole month of May in 2019, before the pandemic upended everyday life.

DRINK IN THE SUN

Investment banks are also compiling data to guide clients' decisions. Jefferies, for instance, said its proprietary consumer behaviour gauge found that the e-commerce and web-conferencing sub-indexes - so mighty as people sequestered themselves at home - had slipped off recent highs. Meanwhile public transport use rose 11 percentage points to 118% of pre-COVID levels in the week to June 8, while traffic congestion hit 107%.

Based on such data, the bank advised clients to buy shares in cinema group Cineworld and casual dining chain The Restaurant Group - already up 46% and 98% respectively in 2021, though still down about 50% and 18% on their pre-pandemic prices.

"Sustained high levels in web traffic to property portals leads us to also recommend home-improvement plays, like Kingfisher and Travis Perkins," Jefferies added.

The reopening hopes, alongside the summer weather, have also boosted hard-hit hospitality sector shares such as pub groups Mitchells and Butler and Wetherspoons.

Fitness subscription app ClassPass, meanwhile, reported that new memberships in Britain rose 600% in the week to May 24, with London one of its fastest-recovering markets across the 30 countries where it operates.

'STARTING TO BOOM'

More than half of British adults have had two vaccine doses, double the percentage seen in many euro zone countries.

Mobility numbers, real-time consumer and business surveys and pub companies' weekly customer data signal Britain "is already starting to boom", said Phil Milburn, co-manager of Liontrust's Global Fixed Income Team.

Britain's reopening is at least several weeks ahead of the region, and Milburn views it as a portent of what lies in store for European business activity.

"We are seeing signs that the UK is taking off. The euro zone is behind but catching up fast," he added. "Consumer behaviour seems to be pretty similar



Invitation to Tender (Re-Advertised)

1. WWF Tanzania Country Office 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, Fresh Water, 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

2. WWF Tanzania Country Office (WWF-TCO) secured some funds from Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) for supporting the protection of key ecosystems, increased resilience and adaptation for sustainable use by local communities. WWF-TCO intends to apply part of its budgetary allocation to fund eligible payments under the contract of the project for rehabilitation or construction of ten water dams to collect surface runoff at the selected restoration sites to increase communities' and ecosystems' climate change resiliency due to frequent and prolonged droughts.

3. WWF Tanzania Country Office, invites eligible contractors registered in (class V and above) Construction and/or Rehabilitation of water dams to collect surface runoff at the selected restoration sites to increase communities' and ecosystems' climate change resiliency due to frequent and prolonged droughts. Due to the limited time for implementation, the company that has proven experience of similar works in wildlife dispersal areas and experienced with aforementioned areas within one month as the works needs to commence in July 1st 2021 and be completed by July 30th, 2021.

PROJECT	SITE FOR DAM CONSTRUCTION/REHABILITATION
WWF/TCO/BMZ/OT/JUNE2021/Lot 1	LERANG'WA - ENDEMWA VILLAGE IN LONGIDO DISTRICT
WWF/TCO/BMZ/OT/JUNE2021/Lot 2	LEKURUONI - LESINGITA VILLAGE IN LONGIDO DISTRICT

4. Bidders can bid for any Lot/Lots of their choice as each lot is a separate tender.

5. Interested eligible contractors should send the request for obtaining the full tender document and attach the proof of payment for tender document to pndaki@wwftz.org copy mfeisal@wwftz.org. The payment of non-refundable fee for tender document is TZS 50,000/= Per Lot. The method of payment will be cash deposit to:

Bank Name: NMB
Account No. 70910003703
Account name: WWF FOR NATURE TZ COUNTRY OFFICE

6. Interested tenderers are required to direct their soft copy tenders only (as mostly staffs are still working from homes) to the procurement e-mail at procurement@wwftz.org Deadline for submission is **11am, 24th Thursday 2021**.

7. Only **Form of Tender in a sealed envelope** with clearly marked tender numbers should be submitted to:

**Secretary,
 Procurement Committee,
 WWF Tanzania Country Office,
 Plot 252 Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Rd, Mikocheni
 P.O. Box 62117 Dar Es Salaam.**

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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 UMJUAYYO 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 CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Towards the development of inclusive, participatory and ambitious nationally determined contributions

By Guardian Correspondent

IN 2015 196 Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) signed the Paris Agreement and set the world on course towards sustainable development.

The Agreement created a platform for the Parties to set long term goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) which require parties to outline domestic mitigation measures, with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions.

NDCs are non-binding national plans that highlight climate actions including targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, policies and measures governments aim to implement in response to climate change and as a contribution to achieve the global targets set out in the Paris Agreement.

For Tanzania, preparation of NDCs is still in progress. However efforts are being made to finalize and submit the document for registration to the UNFCCC before Cop26, slated for November his year.

The document under preparation must reflect realistic ambition to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in relation to global targets. It must also promote gender equality and social inclusion and enhance coordination of climate actions in order to realize the set targets.

In achieving this objective Climate Action Network Tanzania (CAN Tanzania) has been implementing a project "Participatory NDCs for a Climate-just Response in COVID-19 World," in collaboration with various civil society organisations in the country. The project is scheduled for completion at the end of this year.

Other countries that are implementing a similar project include Uganda, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal, all of which are coordinated by Climate Action Network International based in Germany.

"In preparing the NDCs document it is important that views and voices from across Tanzanian communities are included. Government, civil society organisations and non-government actors must all participate in drawing up this document because we are all affected by climate change and everyone has a contribution to make towards adaptation and mitigation. We must speak with one voice," explains Bonaventure Mchomvu, CAN Tanzania Head of Programmes. He adds that the final document must also reflect measures being taken to deal with COVID-19 because the pandemic has impacted efforts to deal with climate change throughout the world.

Available documents indicate that the project has three major objectives. One is to enhance voices and contributions of civil society organizations in Tanzania with the aim of promoting participatory and gender-equitable improvement of NDCs in the context of the COVID-19 recovery. Another objective is to ensure that COVID-19 crisis does not draw significant political attention at the expense of climate change action and leaving little room for CSOs to leverage improved, human-centered and gender-sensitive NDCs in the context of the COVID-19 recovery. "We also aim to strengthen voices of civil society organizations so as to contribute to inclusive and participatory revised NDCs in Tanzania. Most of the CSOs work with the grassroots communities so they are better positioned to mobilise them to contribute to the NDCs process," says Mr. Mchomvu.

To this end CAN Tanzania and partner CSOs are working to strengthen national and sub-national platforms that will move NDCs frontiers and amplify informed voices and advocacy activities while ensuring a just COVID recovery. The aim is to raise awareness on NDCs and their implementation within the country through joint climate actions, engagements as well as lobby and advocacy with policy and decision makers.

In the meantime CAN Tz is spearheading inclusive stakeholders' consultations to discuss, enhance and validate relevant and ambitious NDCs. It is also strengthening national stakeholders' capacity to coordinate and engage with policy and decision makers for enhanced NDCs implementations and



NDCs must address energy poverty and promote renewable energy.

COVID-19 recovery.

"So far we have undertaken three inclusive stakeholder consultation meetings involving CSOs, media and government focusing on energy, agriculture, forestry, environment, finance, water, health and finance. The meetings have increased awareness and understanding of NDC and buy-in of the reviews that have been undertaken," explains Dr. Sixbert Mwanga, CAN Tanzania Executive Director.

Two capacity building workshops have also been conducted. These aimed to enhance stakeholders' knowledge on the roles of renewable energy towards realization of NDCs and inclusive COVID-19 recovery. During the workshops participants were equipped with knowledge on the contribution of renewable energy to successful implementation of NDCs and how the same can contribute to dealing with COVID-19. "As part implementation of the project we have also developed one policy brief and one position paper that provide guidance on how NDCs could be implemented and mainstreamed in government plans and strategies as the country recovers from COVID-19," says Dr. Mwanga, adding that the project has developed a regional position paper for East Africa in order to promote NDCs process and improve measures to deal with COVID-19. The regional position paper is meant to be a tool that can be used jointly to engage high level stakeholders in the East African Community member countries.

In order to ensure effective, inclusive and participatory implementation of the NDC process, effective communication tools and approaches have been put in place from local to national level so as to communicate the process to stakeholders and also ensure sustainability. CAN Tanzania has engaged mainstream media outlets (TV, radio, newspapers) social media and community media outlets. This approach is meant to scale up understanding of NDCs and COVID-19 particularly among the rural poor.

In collaboration with CAN Uganda, CAN Tanzania has organised a regional high-level

meeting for CSOs and East African government representatives in order to ensure that policy and decision makers understand and buy-in the positions that have been elaborated and acknowledge opportunities for ambitious improvement and implementation of NDCs.

After two years of COVID-19 and decades of dealing with climate change, awareness for both climate change and the pandemic among policy and decision-makers and the general public is still low.

For the two years of COVID-19 climate measures have not only been considered secondary but also detached from the pandemic. CAN Tanzania and partner CSOs are now addressing this shortfall in the course of reviewing the NDCs. Other countries implementing similar projects have shared the same experience and are also working to address the gaps.

Thus the current NDCs development process offers a unique opportunity for Tanzania to look back and assess the achievement and lessons learnt from its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).

This process is also important as it gives room for reduction of vulnerability to climate change and enhances long-term resilience across sectors and communities. The NDCs under revision have increasingly recognized the role of renewable energy and energy efficiency in both adaptation and mitigation.

Beyond INDCs, the revised NDCs document also reflects the cost for implementation for both adaptation and mitigation sectors with a total budget standing at of US\$ 5,021,400.00.

The cost to realize this ambition is considered, to a large extent, dependent on availability of international and foreign financial support. This means that, inadequate and unpredictable flow of international and foreign financial support could have serious impacts on implementation of NDCs. The targets set may not be realized.

It is for this reason that stakeholders have advocated the use of available local resources to finance adaptation projects in order to complement global climate change funding.

"It is time we turned to local sources for funding climate change projects. We need to have our own climate funding strategy that focuses on mobilizing local resources to finance adaptation and mitigation. There must be a budget for this and the strategy should respond to our development needs and sustainable development goals," argues Dr. Gerald Kafumu from COSTECH.

He says that it is not appropriate for Tanzania to depend entirely on international funding in order to address local climate change issues when the country has abundant natural resources that it could harness and use to fund adaptation and mitigation projects. "I know we have budget allocations for water, forestry, land and other sectors that are hard hit by climate change. Government also has a special fund for disasters. But that is not enough. We need to have specific budget allocation for climate adaptation and mitigation which is different from the disaster fund," he explains.

Speaking about climate funding during a recent consultative workshop on NDCs a UNDP (Tz) representative, Abbas Kitogo, explained that climate finance from local sources is possible. "What is lacking, however, is a strategy; some kind of system of mobilizing these funds and channeling them to address climate change issues. Tanzania should establish a clear mechanism to collect available funds from various local sources to be used in implementation of climate change projects while pursuing international funding," he said.

A Lecturer and Researcher at the Institute of Resource Assessment of the University of Dar es Salaam, Dr. Patrick Ndaki says that it is important for the NDC process to be inclusive and participatory in order to build the basis for effective implementation of NDCs. "This must be grounded on coordination and harmonization of mitigation and adaptation projects, taking on board the private sector, business community and other groups so that they may play their role in mitigating greenhouse gas emissions through various production processes," explains Dr. Ndaki.

Another challenge in building up participatory, ambitious and inclusive NDCs is related to limited knowledge and low public awareness about the NDCs. This lack of knowledge cuts across all sectors including civil society organisations, central government, district councils, private sector and academia. "We recently conducted a workshop to raise awareness on the NDCs process and out of the 40 participants, only two were aware of the global status of NDCs. This is a serious problem when it comes to building an inclusive and participatory process," says Dr. Mwanga.

The NDCs process envisages to provide room for all sectors and groups to make contributions so that the final document is truly national. However it appears that some stakeholders are left out of the process, a situation that might impact implementation of the NDCs.

"When it comes to climate adaptation and mitigation we often talk about land, forestry, fisheries, pastoralism, industry, agriculture but rarely do we acknowledge the importance of forests and communities who live adjacent to and own the forests. We forget that if these people are left behind the goals of NDCs may not be realized," warns Dr. Siima Salome Bakengesa from Tanzania Forestry Research Institute (TAFORI).

The COVID-19 pandemic has been the biggest challenge towards inclusive and participatory development and timely submission of the NDCs. A lot of attention and resources have been shifted to cater for precautionary measures of the pandemic while, in due course reducing efforts to deal with climate change. The two are interlinked and must be dealt with simultaneously.

Adopt green technology to avert climate change, experts suggest

By Guardian Reporter

ENVIRONMENTAL experts have suggested the need for Tanzanian communities to adopt green technology in different sectors—transportation, energy, building, agriculture, and land use planning to address the impacts of climate change, which happens to increase levels of Green House Gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere.

They made the suggestion recently when speaking in Morogoro Region at the one-day workshop that brought on board journalists from different media outlets.

Organised by the National Carbon Monitoring Center (NCMC) of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and was meant to make scribes understand activities carried out by NCMC, introducing them to climate change and carbon trading-related issues.

Their suggestions come at a time when the impacts of climate change are already evident in almost all sectors of the country's economy.

According to Deo Shirima, a senior lecturer from SUA, climate change projection indicates that the frequency and severity of extreme climatic events will increase.

"Seventy percent of all-natural disasters in Tanzania are hydro-meteorological, and are linked to droughts and floods," Shirima said.

In the last 40 years, Tanza-

nia has experienced severe and recurring droughts and floods with devastating effects on almost all sectors of the economy.

Due to the impacts of climate change in the country, the agriculture sector experienced unreliable rainfall and frequent droughts over the years have resulted in massive crop failures and low production in agriculture. Severe floods caused by unpredictable and heavy rainstorms have caused damage to crops, property, and Agricultural infrastructure, according to Shirima.

He noted that the livestock sector also faces droughts over the years that have resulted in a lack of pasture and the prevalence of vector-borne diseases. "This has affected the energy sector as well. Due to climate change and variability, all major hydropower dams dropped below their lowest water levels resulting in long hours of power blackouts," the don revealed.

"Forestry and wildlife sectors are among areas affected in different ways. There are tree species which have been impacted differently depending on their distribution and ecological preferences with species that have limited geographical range and are drought and heat intolerant."

It is estimated that the country will have its GDP reduced by US\$6.67 billion (9.0 trillion/-) between 2009 and 2060, an annual loss of about \$



Prof Suzana Augustino, Principal of College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism, speaks at the one-day climate change and carbon trading workshop.

0.13 billion (180 billion/-) due to climate change impacts.

Shirima said that the value of loss of agricultural GDP from the impacts of climate change over the coming 50 years is estimated at about US\$27 billion, which is an annual average of about US\$ 540 million. The value of losses due to a decrease in maize production alone would amount to US\$3,158.1 million in 50 years or an annual loss of US\$ 63.2 million.

"The human-induced drivers of climate change are land-use changes from forest

to agriculture, extensive use of inorganic fertilizer, animal husbandry, paddy rice cultivation, transportation and conversion of wetlands to other land uses," he explained.

Therefore, he said: "In order to address the impacts of climate change, the experts have called on the adoption of green technology—green transportation, clean energy, green building, climate-smart agriculture, and land use planning."

Green transportation is that kind of transportation system which does not affect the environment negatively. It is not

only low carbon and environmental traveling mode, but also a return to a healthy and leisure lifestyle.

He said that such kind of transportation is very important in today's scenario where the environment is depleting with every passing day and dependence on gas and petrol is increasing day by day, thus posing a threat to earth.

Also, green buildings are proposed because are constructions that cause a negligible impact on the natural environment of the project site.

According to the Environ-

mental Protection Agency (EPA), these are structures built using processes that are resource-efficient and environmentally responsible.

According to FAO, another way of addressing impacts of climate change is the adoption of climate-smart Agriculture, this is agriculture that sustainably increases productivity, resilience—adaptation, reduces or removes GHGs (mitigation), and enhances achievement of national food security and development goals.

Prof. Suzana Augustino, Principal of College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism stated: "Considering Tanzania is a member state of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) established in 1992, the convention calls on member states to reduce Green House Gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere that are the cause of climate change."

Prof. Suzana said that there are national and international efforts to address climate change. "One of these initiatives is carbon trading".

Commenting on carbon trading, NCMC acting director Prof. Eliakimu Zahabu said carbon trade involves the sale of carbon credits.

Prof. Zahabu said: "There are two main types of Carbon Trading Schemes that are operating globally to date—voluntary Carbon Trading (VCT), the official UNFCCC Carbon Trading Mechanisms. Under the

VCT—individuals, companies, or governments can purchase carbon offsets to compensate for the emissions caused by their activities."

He noted that forest carbon trading is possible through the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol of the UNFCCC where afforestation and reforestation activities are permitted.

It was revealed that despite having a large forest area, Tanzania did not get CDM projects for planting trees under the Kyoto Protocol due to lack of expertise and technology.

However, through the Paris Agreement of December 2015, the conservation of natural forests has been officially recognized by UNFCCC member states to be a new policy to address climate change. The policy is termed 'Reduced Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, the role of Conservation, Sustainable Management of Forest and Enhancement of Forest Carbon Stock (REDD+)'.

Therefore, Tanzania has the opportunity to benefit from the implementation of REDD+ and other emerging policies.

The Tanzanian government started the implementation of the project on "establishment of the National Carbon Monitoring Centre of Tanzania" on 1st January 2016 following support of about US\$ 4.2 million from the government of the Royal Kingdom of Norway.

Kwa Heri, Unforgettable Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

--Interview with the outgoing Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania, Wang Ke

THE Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania Wang Ke last Sunday left her post and go back to China. Before her departure, she gave a written interview to mainstream print media in Tanzania, in which she reviewed the major developments of Tanzania-China relations during her tenure, and looked to the future of the bilateral ties. Here is the full text of the interview.

We learnt that you will soon finish your tenure as the Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania. First of all, we would like to express our respect and appreciation to your outstanding contribution to the advancement of our bilateral relations. Could you brief us on the new developments of Tanzania-China relations during your tenure?

Amb. Wang Ke: The friendship between China and Tanzania has a long history, and to maintain the solidarity and friendship between our two countries is an important part of China's diplomacy. Chinese President Xi Jinping visited Tanzania in his first overseas visit after assuming presidency. It was during this visit that President Xi put forward the principle of sincerity, real results, affinity and good faith, and the principle of upholding justice while pursuing shared interests. These principles have become the guidelines for China to develop its relations with developing countries, which shows that China-Tanzania relations play an exemplary role in China-Africa cooperation.

I arrived in Tanzania in October 2017 and took up my new post as the 14th Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the United Republic of Tanzania. Thanks to the personal guidance of our top leaders and the efforts made by both sides, the past three years and more have witnessed significant progress in many aspects of our bilateral relations, including political trust, economic and trade cooperation, people-to-people exchanges, etc.

Firstly, with frequent high-level visits, the mutual political trust has been enhanced. Last December, President Xi Jinping had a telephone conversation with the late President of Tanzania Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli. The two heads of state agreed that both China and Tanzania regard each other as a reliable friend and a comrade, thereby pointing out the direction for further development of China-Tanzania relations. Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi's visit to Tanzania this January scored positive results. During the past three years and more, Tanzanian Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, representing the then President John Pombe Magufuli, attended the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC); Speaker of the Tanzanian National Assembly Hon. Job Ndugai and several cabinet ministers visited China or attended such important international conferences hosted by China as the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation; Vice Chairmen of the National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee Hon. Cai Dafeng and Hon. Ji Bingxuan, Minister of International Department, Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Hon. Song Tao paid official visits to Tanzania. China and Tanzania have been supporting each other on issues relating to our core interests and major concerns. During Tanzania's general election last year, China took a clear-cut stand in supporting Tanzania's efforts to hold the election independently and peacefully. Tanzania has supported China's efforts to safeguard its sovereignty, territorial integrity and national security on issues concerning Taiwan, Hong Kong and Xinjiang. Moreover, we grandly celebrated the 55th anniversary of the establish-

ment of our diplomatic relations and the 55th anniversary of the signing of China-Tanzania Friendship Treaty, demonstrating our good will of writing a new chapter for our friendship in the new era.

Secondly, trade and economic exchanges are vibrant, and practical cooperation has borne rich fruits. In 2019, President Xi Jinping visited the Tanzania Pavilion in the opening ceremony of the 2nd China International Import Expo (CIIE), which manifested the great importance that the Chinese leadership attaches to the mutually beneficial cooperation between China and Tanzania in the economic and trade fields. Currently, China is Tanzania's largest trading partner and biggest source of foreign investment. In 2020, despite the global economic recession caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, China-Tanzania economic cooperation bucked the trend with growth. The bilateral trade volume in 2020 was US\$4.587 billion, registering a 9.98% year-on-year growth. China's non-financial direct investment in Tanzania reached US\$159 million in 2020, which is 62.37% higher than that of 2019. Tanzania's exports to China have become more diverse and the volume is increasing continuously. Last month, the first batch of Tanzanian soybean exports to China has arrived at China's Qingdao port. Infrastructure development is an important area of China-Tanzania practical cooperation. The China-aided new University of Dar es Salaam Library is the biggest and best-equipped library in Africa. The Kijazi Interchange constructed by China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) is the first multi-span and multi-layer flyover in Tanzania. The acquisition of Maweni Limestone Ltd. by China's Huaxin Cement Co., Ltd. is the largest investment made by a Chinese company in Tanzania. Chinese companies are also engaged in such strategic projects as Phase 5 of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) construction and the building of Julius Nyerere Hydropower Station. China-Tanzania cooperation has brought real benefits to our two peoples.

Thirdly, the people-to-people bond has been strengthened due to frequent exchanges. In the past three years and more, the Chinese Government provided scholarships and training opportunities to over 500 Tanzanian students and nearly 1,500 Tanzanian professionals respectively. Some special scholarships targeting certain groups of Tanzanians have also been set up, including the "Chinese Ambassador's Scholarship",



the "Sino-Tanzania medical program of the Chinese Government Scholarship", etc. At present, the number of Tanzanian students learning the Chinese language has increased to 17,000, and more than 5,000 Tanzanian students were studying in China before the outbreak of COVID-19. At the same time, more and more Chinese universities are setting up Swahili undergraduate courses. In 2019, over 30,000 Chinese tourists visited Tanzania, with Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro Crater and Zanzibar beaches as their favorite destinations. I believe the potential for cooperation between our two countries in the above sectors will be unlocked and fully realized after the COVID-19 pandemic.

What I want to stress here is that China and Tanzania jointly combating the pandemic speaks volumes for our rock-solid brotherhood. When China was fighting a uphill battle with the virus, President Magufuli wrote a letter to President Xi Jinping to express his and Tanzanian people's sympathy and support to China. He told me in person that Tanzania stood firmly with China no matter in thick time or in thin time, and that Tanzania was ready to send its doctors to China to fight the virus together with their Chinese colleagues as long as China had such a need. Tanzanian friends from all walks of life sent us their condolences and good wishes, which touched my heart and impressed me a lot. At the same time, Chinese teachers took good care of Tanzanian students in China, in a way similar to caring for their own children. And as a result, no Tanzanian student was infected with the virus. When Tanzania was affected by COVID-19, China was the first country that offered assistance, including provision of medical supplies, sharing of diagnosis, treatment and control experience via video conferences, and full implementation of the G20 Debt Suspension Initiative.

2. In your opinion, what opportunities are we facing with in developing the comprehensive partnership between Tanzania and China? What are your expectations for the future of our bilateral relations?

This year is of special importance for both China and Tanzania. China will soon celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC), which surely will attract worldwide attention. Currently, China has accomplished the arduous task of eradicating absolute poverty, and embarked on a new journey of building a modern socialist country.

In March this year, the new Tanzanian Government led by President Samia Suluhu Hassan was formed. Guided by the development objectives in the CCM Election Manifesto 2020-2025, the new Tanzanian Government is promoting the country's economic and social development in an all-round way, focusing on the improvement of investment and business environments. Both China and Tanzania have entered a new development stage, bringing about new opportunities for the alignment of the two

countries' development strategies and broader space for the bilateral cooperation. Later this year, a new meeting of the FOCAC will be held in Senegal, which is supposed to adopt a series of new measures to support Africa's development and deepen China-Africa cooperation.

I believe China and Tanzania will work together to further implement the consensus reached between our Presidents in their telephone conversation and the outcomes of Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi's visit to Tanzania. We should take advantage of the new FOCAC meeting to yield more positive results to benefit our two peoples from the cooperation in such fields as trade, investment, agriculture, infrastructure, mining and healthcare.

3. As an envoy of friendship between Tanzania and China, you always have sincere and positive feelings for the Tanzanian government and people. To promote the development of our bilateral relations, you have travelled to many places in this country, forged profound friendship with people from various sectors, and made painstaking efforts. Upon your departure, what do you want to say to your Tanzanian friends?

During the past three years and more, I have been to many regions of this country, and fully enjoyed Tanzania's long history, diverse culture, friendly people, beautiful scenery and rich resources. I visited plenty of projects in such fields as infrastructure, industry and mining, agriculture, education and healthcare. I made friends with many people, and participated in as well as witnessed the achievements of our bilateral cooperation in various areas. I have felt keenly the well-protected and long-lasting traditional friendship between our two countries and the huge potential of China-Tanzania cooperation.

I will never forget former presidents John Pombe Magufuli, Benjamin William Mkapa, ex-Minister of Constitutional and Legal Affairs Augustine Philip Mahiga and other Tanzanian officials. They have made great efforts and outstanding contributions to the development of China-Tanzania relations, which will forever stay in our memories. Scenes of my interactions with them still appear vividly before me, and I was greatly enlightened by their ideas and wisdom.

Since the formation of the new Tanzanian Government, I have met Hon. Amb. Liberata Mulamula, Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation for several times. I have also had in-depth exchanges with Minister for Investment Hon. Geoffrey Mwambe, Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports Hon. Innocent Basungwa, Minister for Health Hon. Dr. Dorothy Gwajima, and Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs Hon. Prof. Palamagamba Kabudi. In particular, I am honoured to have the chance to bid farewell to Her Excellency President Samia Suluhu Hassan. All of them told me that they are committed to enhancing Tanzania-China cooperation in various fields. In view of that, I am fully confident of the bright future of our bilateral relations.

On 6 June, I will leave my post for China with reluctance. I would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to beautiful Tanzania, and say "Kila la heri" to all Tanzanian friends. Looking back to the 1,000-odd days, all that I have experienced in Tanzania will become good and unforgettable memories of a lifetime. I want to thank all the Tanzanian friends who have lent support and assistance to the Chinese Embassy in Tanzania and to me personally. In the future, no matter where I am, I will regard Tanzania as my second homeland. I will continue to pay close attention to Tanzania's development and make contributions to China-Tanzania friendship and cooperation.

Finally, I wish the Tanzanian people early realization of the objectives established in the CCM Election Manifesto 2020-2025 under the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, and wish China-Tanzania traditional friendship being passed on from generation to generation and lasting forever.

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MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALLI 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 10.30 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 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 HALLI 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 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AGRIBUSINESS COMPANY PLANNING IPO FOR IRRIGATION FARMING TARGETS 7.5BN/-

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

AN agribusiness company, Jatu Public Limited Company is planning to raise 7.5bn/- through an initial share offer due this year with a target to invest in irrigation farming in various crops including maize and sunflower.

Jatu Plc which will sell 15 million ordinary share when its IPO starts in mid July and ends at the end of the same month this year, has already secured 5,000 acres of land in Kiteto district of Manyara region where it plans to cultivate maize and sunflower.

"So far we have cultivated 500 acres and the money that we will raise through the initial public offer will be invested in further cultivation of the farm," said Jatu Plc's CEO, Peter Isare. Isare said in Dar es Salaam last week while launching the IPO that the agribusiness company's shares will be listed at Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange's enterprise growth market after the IPO.

He further revealed that part of the IPO money will also be invested in four milling machines with capacity of producing 50 metric tons of maize flour per day which will be supplied to urban markets throughout the country.

Isare urged Tanzanians to cultivate a culture of investing in DSE listed companies in order



A Jatu Plc's shop in Karatu town.

to leap benefits through dividend saying Jatu is a blue chip agribusiness firm that has a good record of profiting making even before the IPO.

"Our shares are selling at 500/- each and we welcome

both local and foreign investors to buy a stake and be part of this promising company," he bragged while stressing that the next group of African billionaires will come from agribusiness.

The agribusiness company has 30,000 shareholders across the country so far with 70,000 customers of its commodities with 47,000 acres land so far secured in different regions of the country. "Through Jatu, over 5,000 smallholders have benefited directly in terms of loans, farming equipment, training and technical advice," he said.

In Njombe region, the company has cultivated 500 acres with avocado trees with the first harvest of fruits expected in three years time. "We target international markets with this commodity because the market is readily available," the Jatu Plc chief executive added.

The company also has an orange farm in Handeni district of Tanga region

"We already have five supermarkets in different parts of the country including Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Mwanza and Mtwara," he noted while adding that Jatu shareholders are assured of getting dividend from profits made.

Seconding Isare's arguments, Jatu Plc's Board Chairman, Dr Zaipuna Yonah said the IPO follows the listing of over 2.16 million ordinary shares worth over 1.08bn/- on DSE's enterprise growth market (EGM) window in November last year.

"Since then, the value of Jatu Plc's shares has increased from 420/- each to 1,160/- currently which demonstrates that there is a public appetite to invest in the company," Dr Yonah said. He revealed that the target is to have farms in all districts of the country and undertake agribusiness activities.

Cities urged to build upwards but ditch skyscraper obsession

WASHINGTON

TALLER buildings are key to enhancing quality of life as the world's urban population grows, but cities should not become obsessed with skyscrapers and must prepare for horizontal expansion as newcomers arrive, the World Bank said on Wednesday, 2 June.

Urban build-up worldwide grew by 30% between 1990 and 2015, with new buildings covering an area roughly the size of Sri Lanka, the bank said in a report that was based on satellite data analysis for almost 10,000 cities.

In poor countries about 90% of new buildings sprung up at the edges of cities, extending their boundaries horizontally, while in rich nations, about 35% were built on empty sites within urban centres, the study found.

Such findings appear at odds with the main focus of urban planning in recent years, which has been to create compact cities by building upwards. But the report's co-author, Somik Lall, said that while taller buildings and high-density cities do bring benefits, such a model should be adapted to local conditions.

Building liveable cities "The obsession should not be about building skyscrapers but the

passion should be about building liveable cities," Lall, the World Bank's lead urban economist, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation by phone. Whether urban hubs grow vertically, horizontally or within existing spaces is tied to economic demand, the report said.

With about 70% of the world's population expected to live in urban areas by 2050, up from 55% at present, cities should plan to accommodate all three types of development or risk facing uncontrolled sprawl, overcrowding and congestion, Lall said.

Low-income cities tend to look like "pancakes", growing wide and flat, as newcomers crowd into low-built quarters or settle on the outskirts where land is cheaper, according to the report. As incomes grow, so do buildings, with richer cities taking the shape of "pyramids", the research found.

Pyramid-shaped cities are generally more liveable - allowing inhabitants to enjoy more floor space in a dense environment - and more productive, as the reduced distance between workplaces and employees boosts productivity, the report said. They are also better for the environment as sprawling peripheries encroach on surrounding natural areas and often lack adequate transport links, fuelling traffic and pollution.



Skyscrapers in Dar es Salaam city.

"If managed well, cities that take a more pyramid-like shape can provide an impetus to accelerate sustainable development by getting people out of cars, cutting commute times and limiting greenhouse gas emissions," Lall said.

Yet, cities cannot leapfrog from "pancake" to "pyramid" with planning regulations alone, as new built central high-rises risk remaining

vacant if people cannot afford to live in them, the World Bank researchers said.

For developing cities in particular, it is vital to prepare for horizontal expansion, building transport links and basic infrastructures to ensure liveable conditions on the outskirts and lay the groundwork for future development, the report said.

"The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted

the life-and-death implications of crowded neighbourhoods that are ill-equipped to curb the spread of disease," Juergen Voegelé, the bank's vice president for sustainable development, said in a foreword. "As countries slowly extricate themselves from the pandemic, planning for a better urban future requires understanding the forces that have shaped the cities we inhabit today."

Heritage dispute engulfs site chosen for Amazon's new African HQ

CAPE TOWN

FOR the Khoi and San - South Africa's first inhabitants - a verdant patch of land in Cape Town embodies victory and tragedy. The two communities drove back cattle-raiding Portuguese soldiers there in 1510. But, a century and a half later, it was where Dutch settlers launched a campaign of land dispossession.

Today it is again the scene of another conflict, this time over a development where construction is due to begin this month and which will eventually be home to a new 70,000m² Africa headquarters for US retail giant Amazon.

"This is where land was first stolen," said Tauriq Jenkins, of the Goringhaicona Khoena Council, a Khoi traditional group opposed to the project. "We want a World Heritage Site. We do not want 150,000 tonnes of concrete."

The 15-hectare riverside area was previously home to a golf driving range and popular bar - a small blue plaque the only indication of its historical significance. It is now earmarked for a R4bn mixed-use development complete with a hotel, retail offices and residential units.

Amazon lined up as anchor tenant

Amazon, which already employs thousands of people in Cape Town in a global call centre and data hubs, is lined up as its anchor tenant, with no other big names yet disclosed by city bosses or developers.

While some groups have welcomed the prospect of new jobs, the whole project, not Amazon's specific plans, has faced a backlash from other community leaders as well as environmentalists and activists. They have held marches at the site and are now threatening to take the matter to court.

According to the Observatory Civic Association, which represents a nearby residential community, close to 50,000 objections to the development have been lodged so far with city and provincial authorities.

They want the development stopped and the area declared a

provincial or national heritage site; environmentalists say it is important to preserve because it is an ecologically sensitive area at the confluence of two rivers.

Amazon in South Africa and the United States declined to comment on the dispute and referred queries to the developer, South Africa's Zenprop. It in turn directed the queries to Liesbeek Leisure Properties Trust (LLTP), the structure set up to develop this specific project.

"There is no groundswell of unhappiness," said LLTP's Jody Aufrichtig, emphasising that the development went through an extensive public approval procedure. "The handful of vocal objectors who remain, who were given fair opportunity to participate, simply do not like the outcome."

Balancing jobs and heritage

Land, its history and its ownership are fraught issues in South Africa, where memories of forced removals and segregation remain fresh nearly three decades after the end of apartheid. Such sensitivities were taken into account when considering the project, Cape Town Mayor Dan Plato said in a statement, announcing his approval of the development.

"We are acutely aware of the need to balance investment and job creation, along with heritage and planning considerations," he said, touting the development as a much-needed boost for Cape Town's tourism-dependent, pandemic-crippled economy.

The project will create thousands of new jobs, LLTP say, while also paying tribute to Khoi and San culture and history. Designs include an indigenous garden and

a heritage centre where LLTP's Aufrichtig said Khoi and San descendants will work as operators and educators.

Such efforts have succeeded in winning over some Khoi and San, including a group calling itself the First Nations Collective, which engaged directly with the developers. "We chose cultural agency rather than the evil of government deadlock to achieve the objective of creating a liberated zone for our people," said Zenzile Khoisan, spokesman for the Collective.



Amazon, which already employs thousands of people in Cape Town in a global call centre and data hubs, is lined up as its anchor tenant, with no other big names yet disclosed by city bosses or developers

TWENTY BANK CLIENTS WIN LIFAN CARGO TRI-MOTORCYCLES IN 'BONGE LA MPANGO' PROMO

By Property Watch Reporter

TWENTY people have so far won Lifan cargo rickshaws through an NMB Bank Plc's 'Bonge la Mpango' promotion which started in February this year.

In the latest draw, Tropicana Petro of Uyole suburb in Mbeya City and Vitus Mnyika from Tunduma township of Momba district won Lifan cargo rickshaws each this week. The promotion which seeks to encourage NMB customers deposit cash in their accounts, has so far witnessed 100 winners of cash and material prizes including two Toyota Ace mini pickups.

"We started this campaign to encourage Tanzanians open bank accounts but also cultivate a saving culture," said NMB Southern Highlands Zone Manager, Straton Chiongola while presenting the Lifan cargo rickshaws to Petro and Mnyika.

Chiongola said the promotion is also aimed to give back to the community which has been support the country's most profitable bank. Apart from mobilizing deposits, the promotion also targets to speed up financial inclusion as per the government's plans.

Speaking after receiving his tri-motorcycle, Petro praised NMB management and staff for organizing the promotion which has awarded him a working tool that will completely change his life. "I am a maize and potato farmer who has been facing a challenge of transporting my produce



A past NMB Bank 'Bonge la Mpango' winner samples her Lifan tri-motorcycle cargo carrier after being awarded in Dar es Salaam recently. File photo

from the farm to my home or the market," he said adding that his farm work will be more efficient. Mnyika backed his peer by saying that NMB has bailed him out of the cargo trans-

portation quagmire which he has been facing. "NMB Bank has been my business partner for many years since my childhood days," he said while noting that his businesses have already

benefitted from the bank's loans.

The Dar es Salaam based lender has allocated over half a billion shillings to award its customers who deposit cash in their accounts and

leave it there for at least a month. The grand finals of the promotion later this month will witness one lucky winner drive home a Toyota Fortuner valued at over 169m/-.

How World Bank-funded project is transforming lives in Nyagatare city

KIGALI

A World Bank-funded project meant to provide better roads, street lighting and drainage systems to Rwanda's six secondary cities is steadily enhancing urbanisation in Nyagatare city.

When The New Times toured the city on Tuesday, June 8, significant changes were noticeable compared to the last visit in 2018 when phase one - July 2016 to November 2018 - of the project was nearing its end.

During phase one, new developments in the city included up to 3.9 kilometres of asphalt roads constructed at the cost of Rwf3.1 billion as well as 2.2 kilometres of standalone drainage, costing Rwf537.8 million. The immediate impact, according to residents, has been new buildings that are sprouting along the new roads and reduction of surface run-off water due to the standalone drainage.



A stream that drains into Aror River, at Elgeyo Marakwet.

The new roads, residents told The New Times, among other things, opened up new opportunities in terms of real estate development and business, even though growth has been relatively slow especially due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Commercial motorcyclists are especially happy about the new roads as this makes their work easier.

Cyprien Niyonambaza, 22, who has for the past two years worked as a commercial motorcycle in Nyagatare, said: "In general, the good roads have made life easier. I no longer have to move longer distances while avoiding the bad bumpy and dusty or mud-

dy roads.

"We used to go around the town and take longer distances just to avoid bad roads but now it is better. I save time and money and my bike can last longer. That is development." Improved drainage also helped improve the city's general cleanliness.

Residents, especially in improved areas, also said that during the rainy and flood periods, they now have access to safe walkable pathways and can reach their homes and other places - places of work, markets, health facilities, and schools, with ease. All this is because of ongoing implementation in the city, and five others, of the Rwanda

Urban Development Project (RUDP).

The project aims to provide an integrated package of support to address key challenges associated with Rwanda's urbanization: access to basic infrastructure to promote livability and Local Economic Development (LED); upgrading of unplanned areas to promote inclusive urbanization; building the capacity of District governments for better urban management; and supporting Districts to engage with the private sector and enable local economic development.

The WB injected \$95 million while the government of Rwanda also contributed \$5 million in the Rwanda Urban Development Project. Shedding light on the project's phase two activities now being wrapped up (December 2018 to June 2021), Augustin Manirakiza, a Nyagatare District roads engineer, explained that the project has seen 14.2 kilometres of asphalt roads built at a tune of Rwf9.1 billion and 3.16 kilometres of standalone drainage at the cost of Rwf471.9 million.

Though University of Rwanda students in Nyagatare decried the insecurity around their hostels, especially at night, the city engineer noted that phase three of the project will soon see the areas around the university campus lined with asphalt road and street lights.

Esther Muhoza, a second year accounting student, said the dusty roads around the campus are not befitting a city of Nya-

gatare's status. "Walking from the hostel to the main campus can be a nightmare," she said.

"I may have left campus when the roads are finished but I am sure those who will be here will be happy when roads are done, they will enjoy a better environment than I found it." Girls at the campus, she said, are especially wary of thugs in the evening. "We have had cases of thugs taking advantage of the darkness and stealing from students."

One of the city's new asphalt roads passes by the entrance of Nyagatare Hospital. On the other side of the road, near the Hospital gate, Geremie Habakurinda, a local businessman, was busy supervising construction works on his new building site.

Habakurinda already owns a commercial property on the same street and is expanding operations, thanks to the improved infrastructure. His two-storeyed commercial building has a lodge and a hardware shop, and he is now building another building by the side to make room for a shopping centre.

New Takealot distribution centre planned for Cape Town's Richmond Park

CAPE TOWN

A NEW Cape Town Takealot distribution facility and pickup point is planned for the multibillion-rand Richmond Park development in Milnerton. The new facility will initially be 6,700m² and include two expansion opportunities with the potential to reach approximately 17,000m², providing Takealot, South Africa's biggest online retailer, with the flexibility to expand in line with its growth.

According to Atterbury, the property investor and developer working on the project, the development will break ground in July 2021 and be ready for Takealot to begin operating in March 2022. Takealot will join the growing lineup of businesses operating from the 84ha Richmond Park development, situated on the N7, including Aramex, Cape Fruit Coolers, CTM, Mustek, Scoop, ACDC Dynamics, Corex, Sequence Logistics and Richmond Corner's convenience centre.

"We are thrilled to welcome Takealot to Richmond Park where it can extend its footprint in the Western Cape, provide easy access to customers in the area, and continue its remarkable growth story. This blue-chip tenant is an excellent fit for the development. Takealot will complement and enhance the mix of businesses in the southern precinct of Richmond Park, which is focused on retail and distribution," says Mia Kitshoff, Atterbury leasing manager: commercial and industrial, Western Cape.

Atterbury, which is rolling out the Richmond Park development on behalf of the



A perspective of the Takealot facility set at Richmond Park.

various shareholders, says that Takealot will benefit from the convenience of Richmond Park's location as a pickup point for customers and its proximity to smaller couriers.

Takealot's bulk orders in the region will continue to be fulfilled from its large logistics centre in Montague Park. Richmond Park provides transport accessibility, with extensive road upgrades resulting in access from both the N1 and N7 highways.

A unique aspect of the new Takealot facility is its dual entry and exit ways, one of which is dedicated to customer collection.

Richmond Park has also become a destination for many people who live and commute in the area. Richmond Corner shopping centre opened in July 2020, introducing 6,500m² of convenience retail to the park. The fully-let centre has a selection of 22 stores,

anchored by Pick n Pay, Woolworths Food and Clicks, alongside convenience stores and takeaway options.

"Takealot is a great addition to Richmond Park and represents a key milestone in the development's rollout. Once finished, one-third of the park's developable bulk will also have been completed," says Neil Redelinghuys of Old Mutual Property, Richmond Park's major shareholder.

Egypt sends building equipment to begin Gaza reconstruction

CAIRO

EGYPT has sent a convoy of engineers and building equipment to Gaza to begin reconstruction in the Palestinian enclave after the recent Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Egyptian state television reported on Friday, 4 June.

Dozens of bulldozers, cranes and trucks flying Egyptian flags lined up along the border to begin crossing into the Gaza Strip, television pictures showed. Palestinians lined the street on the Gaza side of the Rafah crossing to welcome the convoy as it rumbled into the small coastal enclave. A Palestinian border official said 50 vehicles had crossed.

"We rushed with all our money, equipment, and what we owned to join the Palestinians in the rebuilding. Every Muslim and every Egyptian wishes to take part in [the reconstruction]," Egyptian truck driver Mahmoud Ismail told Reuters in Gaza.

Eleven days of conflict between Israel and Hamas, the Palestinian Islamist rul-

ers of Gaza, erupted on 10 May. More than 250 Palestinians were killed in hundreds of Israeli air strikes in Gaza. Rockets fired by Gaza militants killed 13 people in Israel.

Egypt played a major role in brokering a ceasefire between both sides and has said it would allocate \$500m to fund the rebuilding of devastated areas in Gaza. Gaza's housing ministry said 1,500 housing units were destroyed during the fighting, another 1,500 housing units had been damaged beyond repair and 17,000 suffered partial damage. A ministry official put the cost of rebuilding at \$150m.

Egypt in February opened the Rafah crossing until further notice after Palestinian factions moved towards reconciliation following talks in Cairo.

It had previously been opening the crossing for only a few days at a time to allow stranded travellers to pass. The 365km² Gaza Strip, controlled by Hamas, is home to around 2 million Palestinians. An Israeli-led blockade has put restrictions on the movement of people and goods for years.

TECHNOLOGY

SMALL ISLAND NATIONS STRUGGLING TO RECOVER FROM COVID-19 PANDEMIC - UN

GENEVA

SMALL island developing states (SIDS) are facing an uphill struggle to recover from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has deepened their financial and economic vulnerabilities, according to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Last year was an exceptionally challenging year for SIDS, which are at least 35 per cent more susceptible to external economic shocks than other developing nations, Unctad said in its Development and Globalisation: Facts and Figures report on Thursday.

While these countries are a diverse group, they share a number of socio-economic and environmental challenges and witnessed an estimated 9 per cent decline in their gross domestic product in 2020, compared with a 3.3 per cent drop in other developing countries, the report said, citing figures from the International Monetary Fund.

The economies of the 38 SIDS recognised by Unctad are largely dependent on travel and tourism. Spread across the Caribbean, the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic, the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean, these countries includes some of the most popular tourism destinations in the world. They also include island nations with more developed economies, such as Singapore.

The Iata Travel Pass is currently being trialled by several airlines, including Etihad and Emirates in the UAE. Courtesy IataIata and World Tourism Organisation launch destination tracker to spur recovery of global tourism sector

Their reliance on the travel and tourism sector to earn foreign



Beautiful sandy beaches of Seychelles are an important source of the island nation's foreign currency due to foreign tourists.

exchange revenue made them more vulnerable to the Covid-19 pandemic, which tipped the global economy into its worst recession since the 1930s, forced border closures and severely disrupted the travel and tourism sector.

The world economy is bouncing back and is expected to expand by 6 per cent this year, according to the IMF. However, the tourism sector faces a more uncertain outlook amid second and third waves of the virus in parts of the world.

Revenue in the global tourism industry fell 74 per cent year-on-year in 2020, leading to \$1.3 trillion in lost export revenue. The sector is unlikely to recover to pre-pandemic levels until 2023, according to the UN World Tourism Organisation. The economies

of tourism-dependent island nations suffered an estimated 70 per cent drop in travel receipts in 2020, which are "an essential source of jobs and livelihoods", according to the Unctad report.

"Many SIDS have built strong service economies [and] the service sector accounted for over 70 per cent of SIDS' GDP in 2019," the report said. "On average, two in three people work in services in the island economies, half of men and three in four women, often in jobs related to tourism."

On average, exports of services contribute 25 per cent of SIDS' GDP. These countries generally have an import surplus and almost half of their exports are from the travel sector. As a result, 24 of the 38 nations had a negative trade balance com-

prising more than 55 per cent of imports in 2020. Their remoteness poses a significant challenge to their recovery, especially the most isolated Pacific island nations.

The countries' often weak, financially vulnerable institutions are also a stumbling block to a return to growth. "SIDS are among the most indebted developing countries in the world," Unctad said. "In 2019, external debt accounted for 62 per cent of their GDP - a record high, mostly driven by increas-

IHC's Alpha Dhabi acquires more hospitality assets as it expands Murban deal to Dh2.5bn

ABU DHABI

ALPHA Dhabi Holding, a subsidiary of Abu Dhabi's International Holding Company (IHC), acquired two more assets from hospitality investment firm Murban, which brought the combined value of its asset purchases to Dh2.5 billion (\$681.2 million).

In the latest round of purchases, Alpha Dhabi Holding acquired Cheval Blanc Randheli resort in the Maldives and Etihad International Hospitality, a facility management company, from Murban, it said in a statement on Thursday.

The deal follows the holding company's Dh1.7bn transaction in May through which Alpha Dhabi Holding assumed ownership of Murban's assets including St Regis at Saadiyat, Al Wathba Luxury Collection Desert Resorts and the Le Noir Café brand.

Opened in 2013, Cheval Blanc Randheli was Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy's second hotel venture after LVMH established the first property, Cheval Blanc Courchevel, in France. "This latest acquisition further expands Alpha Dhabi's strong hospitality development division," Hamad Al Ameri, managing director of Alpha Dhabi Holding, said.

"By adding Emirates International Hospitality ... we are also becoming more vertically integrated and creating growth opportunities by leveraging our position as part of the wider group of IHC companies."

The latest deal with Murban, which has an agreement in place to build another luxury resort in the Aceh province in Indonesia, will help Alpha Dhabi expand its portfolio of investments in the UAE and beyond.

Alpha Dhabi Holding, which was previously known as Trojan Holding, is a construction-focused group with more than 40,000 employees. It has built a range of projects, including mixed-use and high-rise properties, mass housing and infrastructure across the UAE. The group's hospitality development division has built hotels in the UAE, Morocco, Russia and the UK. Alpha Dhabi became a subsidiary of Abu Dhabi-listed IHC after it bought a 45 per cent stake in the group in March for an undisclosed sum.

IHC has been on an acquisition spree over the past 18 months at home and abroad. In May, the company's subsidiary, Multiply Marketing Consultancy, acquired a minority stake in rideshare and taxi ad start-up Firefly for an undisclosed amount. IHC has also bought a stake in California-based aerospace company SpaceX through a private equity fund and has invested in UK-based DNA sequencing company Oxford Nanopore technologies.

The holding company also has investments in Quantlase Imaging Lab, the company behind the rapid Covid-19 screening system operated on the border between Abu Dhabi and Dubai at Ghantoot and Tamouh Healthcare.



The St. Regis Saadiyat Island resort in Abu Dhabi.

UK mortgage lending slumps in April amid stamp duty uncertainty

LONDON

BRITISH mortgage lending slumped in April, falling £8.2 billion (\$11.59bn) from a record high a month earlier, reflecting the uncertainty in the market over the stamp duty holiday that was due to expire on March 30.

Despite the drop in mortgage borrowing to £3.3bn in April from the £11.5bn recorded in March, British lenders approved 86,900 home loans in April, up from 83,400 month-on-month. "The recent variability is likely to reflect the reduction in the stamp duty tax, which was initially expected to end in March but has now been extended to the end of June," the Bank of England said on Wednesday.

Britain's housing market soared last year after the first coronavirus lockdown created pent-up demand and Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak's stamp duty break, unveiled last July, boosted activity in the sector even more.

In his March budget statement, Mr Sunak extended the tax break until June, with the first £500,000 of any property purchase in England or Northern Ireland remaining exempt from the levy. There is also a £250,000 tax-free allowance in place until the end of September.

British house prices jumped by an annual 10.9 per cent in May, the most in nearly seven years, and they look set to accelerate as buyers seek new homes after the pandemic, mortgage lender Nationwide said.

May's average house prices hit a new record high of £242,832, up 1.8 per cent on April as the country's housing boom continues. While April's mortgage approval level was below the November peak of 103,400, it was still above pre-pandemic rates, with 73,000 mortgages approved in February last year.

Bank of England deputy governor Dave Ramsden said the institution was carefully monitoring Britain's booming housing market because there was a "risk that demand gets ahead of supply and that will lead to a more generalised pick-up in inflationary pressure."

Another deputy governor Sir Jon Cunliffe said the heightened activity in the property market was "driven mainly by the tax holiday." "We've seen very fast rises in house prices and transactions before tax holidays in the past. There are some signs that people are making different housing choices that may affect the future," he said.

Oxford College refuses to remove Cecil Rhodes statue after inquiry found it should fall after all

OXFORD

A UNIVERSITY of Oxford college said it will not take down a controversial statue of British imperialist Cecil Rhodes after an inquiry found that it should be removed.

The recommendation was made in an independent report commissioned after Black Lives Matter protesters tore down a statue of slave trader Edward Colson in Bristol last year. The governing body of Oriol College defied the call, citing the "regulatory and financial challenges" presented by its removal.

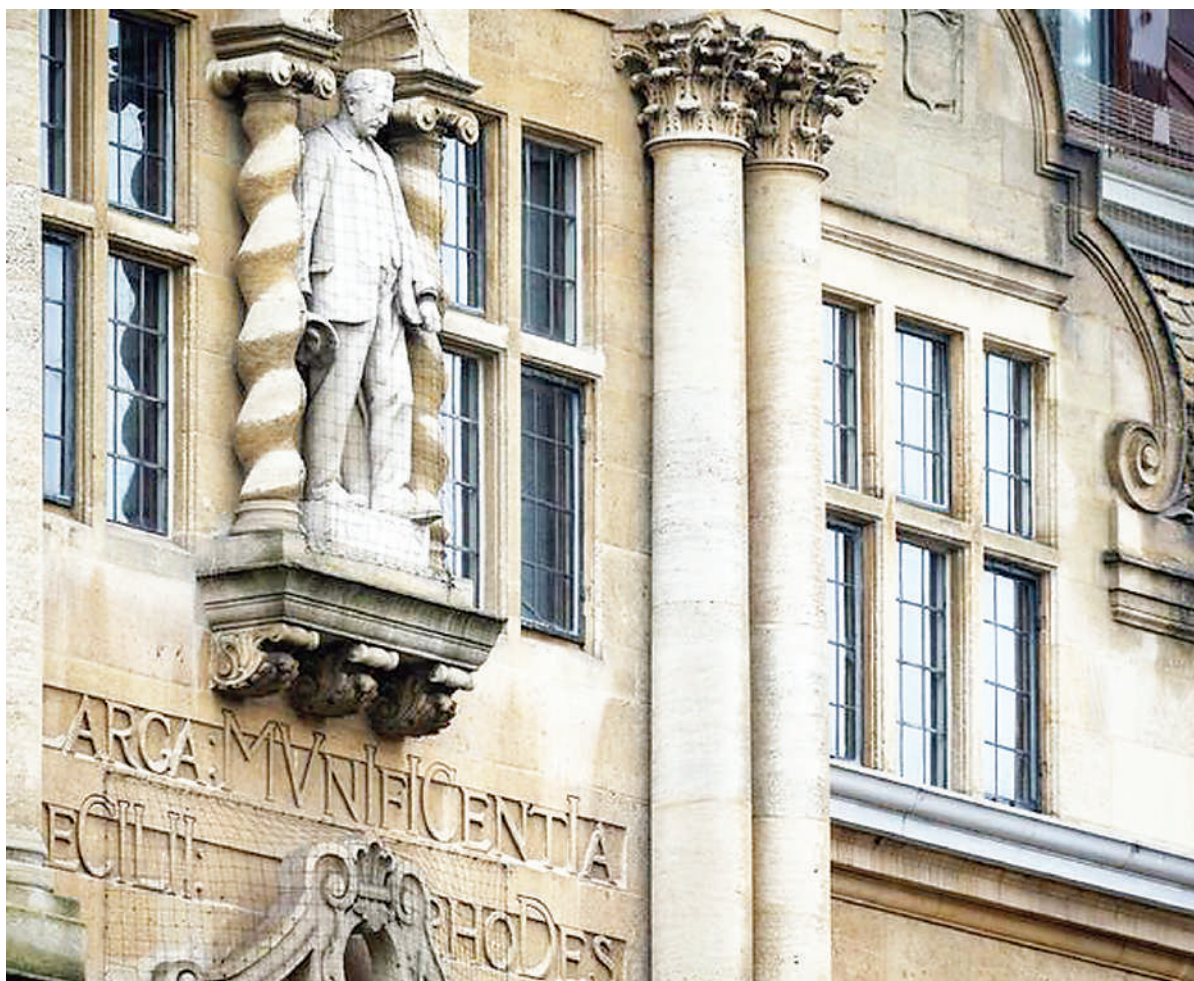
In a statement, it said: "In light of the considerable obstacles to removal, Oriol's governing body has decided not to begin the legal process for relocation of the memorials."

"The Commission backed the College's original wish (made in June 2020 and reaffirmed again by the College yesterday), to remove the statue, whilst acknowledging the complex challenges and costs presented by its removal in terms of heritage and planning consent.

"The governing body has carefully considered the regulatory and financial challenges, including the expected time frame for removal, which could run into years with no certainty of outcome, together with the total cost of removal."

The commission had recommended that the statue be taken down and a plaque removed. However, it acknowledged the considerable planning and heritage considerations involved in removing the statue from a Grade II* listed building.

The inquiry also recommended that Oriol College publish a statement of its view examining its historic association with Rhodes and to update college materials to ensure they were consistent with the statement. Oriol College



The Cecil Rhodes statue on the facade of Oriol College.

said it will instead focus its time and resources on "improving educational equality, diversity and inclusion amongst its student cohort and academic community."

These plans include creating an equality office and fundraising scholarships to support students from southern Africa. In addition, it will present an annual lecture on a topic related to the Rhodes legacy, race, or colonialism.

Education Secretary Gavin Williamson welcomed the college's "sensible" decision not to remove the statue, as he warned against "censoring history." The governing body has carefully considered the regulatory and financial challenges

Campaigners want the statue removed because they say Rhodes, a 19th-century businessman and politician in southern Africa, represented white supremacy and colonialism. The statue stands above a doorway on the front of the college's Rhodes Building, which faces Oxford's High Street.

Rhodes's bequest continues to finance scholarships bearing his name, allowing overseas students to attend the university. Among them have been former US president Bill Clinton and a string of former Australian prime ministers, including Bob Hawke, Tony Abbott and Malcolm Turnbull.

The commission's role is only

advisory and its formal recommendations must be adopted by the college's governing body. Lord Mendoza, provost of Oriol College, said: "It has been a careful, finely balanced debate and we are fully aware of the impact our decision is likely to have in the UK and further afield.

"We understand this nuanced conclusion will be disappointing to some, but we are now focused on the delivery of practical actions aimed at improving outreach and the day-to-day experience of BME students. "We are looking forward to working with Oxford City Council on a range of options for contextualisation."

WORLD

US and Russia send tough messages ahead of Biden-Putin summit in Geneva

BEIJING

AS U.S. President Joe Biden began his visit to Europe, where he will meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin next week, the U.S. and Russian sides have sent tough messages to each other ahead of their summit next week.

Biden arrived in Britain on Wednesday, kicking off the first foreign trip of his presidency. Addressing U.S. troops and their families at Royal Air Force Mildenhall base there, Biden said he would deliver a clear message to Putin.

"We're not seeking conflict with Russia," Biden said. "We want a stable and predictable relationship."

"But I've been clear: The United States will respond in a robust and meaningful way if the

Russian government engages in harmful activities," he warned.

Meanwhile, a Russian court on Wednesday night outlawed Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny's political organization and labeled it as "extremist," local media reported.

The ruling prevents those associated with Navalny's Anti-Corruption Foundation and his regional network from seeking public office.

Condemning the court's decision, U.S. Department of State said in a statement that with this action, "Russia has effectively criminalized one of the country's few remaining independent political movements."

In March, Washington announced sanctions and restrictions against Russian individuals and entities over the alleged poisoning of Navalny.



U.S. President Joe Biden

The U.S. intelligence community assessed that officers of Russia's Federal Security Service used a nerve agent known as Novichok to poison Navalny on Aug. 20, 2020, according to a U.S. senior administration official.

Russia has repeatedly denied such accusations, saying the Navalny case is a purely domestic affair and foreign intervention is not allowed.

Biden's first in-person meeting with Putin as president is scheduled to take place in Geneva, Switzerland on June 16, at the end of his eight-day trip to Europe.

During his trip, Biden is scheduled to visit Britain on June 9-13 to attend the Group of Seven (G7) Summit and hold bilateral meetings with leaders of G7 members.

He will then travel to Brussels, Belgium to participate in the NATO Summit, before meeting with Putin.

Ahead of the U.S.-Russia summit, Biden on Monday reaffirmed his support to Kiev in a call with his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelensky, in a bid to reassure Ukraine ahead of the U.S.-Russia summit.

Following the call, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said on Tuesday that "irresponsible" U.S. policy will lead to continued tensions in Ukraine.

There may be a chance at productive talks if the United States rises above its own interests and focuses on what is best for solving the Ukrainian crisis, Ryabkov said. ■

Russian economy recovering, though pandemic not over, says Putin

NOVO-OGARYOVO



THE real sector of the Russian economy is recovering, although the pandemic is not yet over and the fight against it continues, Russian President Vladimir Putin said yesterday at a meeting with Minister of Industry and Trade Denis Manturov.

"Unfortunately, all the consequences of the pandemic have not yet been overcome, and the fight against this disease is still ongoing. Nevertheless, the economy is recovering, the real sector of the economy is recovering," Putin said.

Earlier at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, Putin said that Russia's economy demonstrated immunity to external shocks during the coronavirus pandemic.

"Despite all difficulties, the Russian economy demonstrated immunity to external shocks, in 2020 Russian GDP contraction was less than that of the global economy, whereas by the end of this year we are going to reach growth rates of around 4%," he said at a meeting with representatives of the global investment community and foreign companies producing the Sputnik V anti-coronavirus vaccine.

According to him, "it was also possible to achieve such results due to the groundwork laid in previous years," as well as thanks to the "work of many people in the industry, agriculture and social field, healthcare and science".

Some 350,000 people in Ethiopia's Tigray in famine - UN report

AN unpublished analysis by United Nations agencies and aid groups estimates some 350,000 people in Ethiopia's conflict-torn Tigray region are in famine conditions, according to an internal UN document seen by Reuters on Wednesday.

The Ethiopian government disputes the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, according to the notes of a meeting on the situation in Tigray of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) - made up of the heads of at least 18 UN and non-UN organizations.

"On the risk of famine, it was noted that the unpublished IPC analysis figures were being disputed by the Ethiopian government, notably the estimated 350,000 people across Tigray believed to be in IPC 5 famine conditions," the June 7 document read.

It also said the analysis, which diplomats said could be released publicly as soon as Thursday, had found that millions more across Tigray required "urgent food and agriculture/livelihoods support to avert further slides towards famine."

UN aid chief Mark Lowcock chairs the committee, which includes the UN children's agency UNICEF, the World Food Programme, the High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Health Organization and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

A senior Ethiopian diplomat in New York, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed the government disputed the analysis, questioning the survey methods and accusing the IPC of a lack of transparency and not enough consultation with relevant authorities.

The Ethiopian government's emergency task force on Tigray, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's office and the Foreign Ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

'Alarming levels'

Ethiopia's Embassy in London said in a statement on Saturday that the government "takes its responsibility to end the current suffering of the people of Tigray very seriously and has so far made concerted efforts to comprehensively respond to the humanitarian needs on the ground, in coordination with local and international partners."

Famine has been declared twice in the past decade - in Somalia in 2011 and in South Sudan in 2017, according to the IPC. UN agencies, aid groups, governments and other relevant parties use the IPC to work together to determine the severity of food insecurity.

Fighting in Tigray broke out in November between government troops and the region's former ruling party, the Tigray People's Liberation Front. Troops from neighboring Eritrea have also entered the conflict in support of Ethiopia's government.

The violence in Tigray has killed thousands of people and forced more than 2 million from their homes in the mountainous region of more than 5 million.

The United Nations said on Wednesday there had been reported incidents of denial of the movement of aid and the interrogation, assault and detention of humanitarian workers at military checkpoints, along with looting and confiscation of humanitarian assets and supplies by the parties to the conflict. **Agencies**

China's anti-poverty, economic feat led by CPC sets example for developing countries, says South African party leader

JOHANNESBURG

CHINA'S poverty reduction and economic feat achieved under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) sets an example for many developing countries to follow, a leader of South Africa's ruling party has said.

"China's achievement is remarkable," Jessie Duarte, deputy secretary-general of the African National Congress (ANC), said in a recent interview with Xinhua, noting that "China is an example for many developing countries

to learn from (in) areas such as poverty eradication as well as economic growth and development."

Picking up the third volume of "Xi Jinping: The Governance of China" from her desk, Duarte (pictured) said the book "elaborates on China's courageous, ground-breaking development objectives which emphasize maximum quality and speed while staying true to Chinese cultural identity."

"I have read it, ... (It) is quite insightful on socialism with Chinese characteristics, poverty



eradication and building a moderately prosperous society" in all

respects, said Duarte.

Speaking of the efforts that China has made in building socialism with Chinese characteristics, she said, "It is important that nations adopt ideologies and developmental paths which are true to their own history, national identity, and unique circumstances instead of just following what others are doing."

Duarte believed the people-centered approach upheld by the CPC is about dedication to serving the public with unwavering diligence, an idea that resonates with the ANC, which

honors the belief of Batho-Pele, or "People First."

Noting that this year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the CPC, Duarte said the past 100 years saw many achievements of the Asian country.

"On behalf of the national executive committee of the ANC and its members, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the CPC on a highly successful century," said Duarte. "We wish you even greater success in the coming century." **Xinhua**

UK's Queen Elizabeth gifted rose named after late husband Philip

LONDON

BRITAIN'S Queen Elizabeth II has been given a rose named after her late husband Prince Philip to mark what would have been his 100th birthday yesterday, Buckingham Palace said.

Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, died on April 9, just two months short of his landmark birthday after more than seven decades of marriage to Elizabeth, who is now 95.

The Palace said that last week Elizabeth had been presented with a Duke of Edinburgh Rose - a newly bred pink commemorative rose - in his memory.

The queen and duke's eldest son Prince Charles said on Twitter that he was remembering his father, while youngest son Prince Edward said it was a day to celebrate the life of Philip, whom he described as a "larger than life person."

"We would have loved it if he had been here and been with us, but then birthdays were not necessarily his, you know ... he

didn't really want all the fuss and bother," Edward told the BBC.

Asked about the difficult few months for the royal family, after an explosive interview given by the queen's grandson Prince Harry and his wife Meghan to US chat show host Oprah Winfrey, Edward said he felt sadness.

"There are all sorts of issues and circumstances there. We've all been there," he said.

He wished Harry and Meghan happiness following the birth of their second child Lilibet last Friday, sidestepping a row about whether they had asked the queen permission before using her family nickname for the name.

"That's fantastic news and absolutely I hope they're very happy," he said.

The commemorative rose has since been planted at the rose border of the East Terrace Garden at the queen's Windsor Castle home to the west of London, where she has spent most of her time since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and



Britain's Queen Elizabeth II (left) receives a Duke of Edinburgh rose, given to her by Keith Weed, president of the Royal Horticultural Society, at Windsor Castle, England, on Wednesday. (AP)

where her husband died.

"Whilst being very poignant, it was a delight to give Her Majesty The Queen ... the Duke of Edinburgh Rose to mark what would have been (his) 100th

birthday and to remember his remarkable life," said Keith Weed, President of the Royal Horticultural Society.

A royalty from the sale of each rose will go towards the

Duke of Edinburgh Award Living Legacy Fund, supporting a scheme for young people that Philip set up and which now operates in more than 130 countries. **Agencies**

ICC prosecutor asks Sudanese govt to hand over suspects

UNITED NATIONS

PROSECUTOR of the International Criminal Court (ICC) Fatou Bensouda on Wednesday called on the Sudanese government to hand over the suspects wanted by the ICC for crimes in Darfur.

In her briefing to the Security Council, Bensouda said the four outstanding arrest warrants must be executed and suspects must be handed over to the ICC. The transfer of former Sudanese interior

minister Ahmed Mohamed Haroun to the ICC is a matter of priority so that his case can be re-joined with the case of Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman, also known as Ali Kushayb, a militia commander, she told the Security Council in a briefing. Ali Kushayb and Haroun were jointly charged with many of the same crimes. Their cases were separated because Ali Kushayb voluntarily surrendered himself to the ICC. Even though Ali Kushayb's

confirmation of charges hearing took place from May 24-26, there is still a window of opportunity to re-join the cases at trial if Haroun is surrendered to the ICC now, she said.

"In addition to ensuring efficiencies and judicial economy, re-joining the cases at trial would obviate re-traumatization of witnesses who would have to be called twice to testify before the court," she noted. Sudan is under a legal obligation to surren-

der the suspects pursuant to Security Council Resolution 1593. The Juba Peace Agreement is also clear that all suspects must appear before the ICC and that Sudan should fully cooperate with the court in its investigation and prosecution of these suspects, she said. "Sudan has to tangibly demonstrate that the new Sudan is now a fully-fledged member of the international community that has joined the fight against impunity and is fully committed to jus-

tice and the rule of law."

Almost all the suspects are in the custody of the Sudanese government and there is no legal impediment to their surrender to the ICC. In particular, credible reports and other information indicate that Haroun has expressed his wish to be transferred to the ICC, said Bensouda. "I appeal to this (Security) Council to prevail upon Sudan to immediately honor Mr. Haroun's wish and facilitate his transfer to the ICC without de-

lay." Additionally, Sudan has to fully cooperate with her office's investigations, including through providing unhindered access to its territory; access to relevant records, information and materials as well as protection of witnesses, said Bensouda. She said the ICC and the Sudanese government have turned a new page in their relationship after the ouster of former President Omar al-Bashir, who himself is wanted by the ICC and in the custody

of the Sudanese government. The old days of hostilities and non-cooperation have been replaced by constructive dialogue and good spirit of cooperation. Following the conclusion of a memorandum of understanding between her office and the Sudanese government on Feb. 14, ICC investigators have undertaken investigative activities in Sudan and have begun to prepare to go to Darfur soon, she said. **Xinhua**

Iran's presidential candidates focus on growth, people's livelihood

TEHRAN

ECONOMIC growth and people's livelihood in particular are the main focus of presidential candidates running for Iran's 13th presidential election slated for June 18.

On May 25, the Constitutional Council of Iran approved the qualification of seven applicants for the race in the upcoming presidential election. Having launched their campaigns, the candidates have already taken part in two rounds of television debate and proposed how to promote economic development and improve people's livelihood amid the economic sanctions imposed by the United States.

In May 2018, then U.S. President Donald Trump terminated Washington's participation in the 2015 Iranian nuclear deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and unilaterally re-imposed its sanctions on Iran in a bid to cripple the country's economy.

Mainly targeting Iran's oil and banking sectors, two main wings of the country's foreign trade, the sanctions have troubled Iran's economy, with their main pressure being on the people.

To tackle the country's economic problems, each candidate, however, has his exclusive plan, with some urging efforts to remove the sanctions and others suggesting adopting other strategies as opportunities to boost the country's production.

Mohsen Mehr-Alizadeh, former vice president and a candidate affiliated with the reformist camp, one of Iran's two main political camps, described economic rents as the domestic economy's main problem, saying that by removing existing obstacles to boost-

ing production, the country's output, along with exports can improve and inflation can gradually go down.

Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, a candidate of the principlist camp and incumbent judiciary chief, said people want to see a palpable improvement in their livelihood, which would be a priority of his would-be administration.

Raisi noted that to reduce the prices of the essential goods in the domestic market, reliance on foreign currency resources is required to be minimized through achieving self-sufficiency in the production of such products.

He stressed that the sanctions, threats and obstacles are required to be turned into opportunities for stimulating economic growth and boosting domestic production.

Meanwhile, Raisi said that housing is also a main concern of the people, estimating that his potential administration would build 4 million housing units in the next four years.

He added that corruption and economic rents are among the main problems to be addressed by his potential administration.

Another principlist candidate Mohsen Rezaei, who is also the secretary of Iran's Expediency Council, stressed that if elected, his administration would continue the nuclear negotiations, pledging to raise the monthly cash handouts for low-income classes.

Abdolnaser Hemmati, former governor of the Central Bank of Iran, maintained that it is impossible to manage the domestic market through implementing price controls, and instead of interfering in the market, the government is required to implement measures for better market performance.

Prices must be set by the market, he said, warning that imposing price controls leads to the distribution of



The seven candidates for Iran's presidency participated in the first of three debates on June 5, 2021.

economic rents.

Amir-Hossein Qazizadeh-Hashemi, a candidate and a member of Iran's parliament, stressed that the private sector is required to be given a more significant role in the domestic economy.

A public economy, he said, is a financial system in which people play a major role, and setting up agencies and cooperatives will help make the domestic market more competitive.

Qazizadeh-Hashemi warned against the establishment of large economic agencies, saying that would fail to contribute greatly to boosting the domestic production and stimulating economic growth.

The candidate also promised to continue the imple-

mentation of a targeted subsidy plan initiated a few years ago under ex-president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, which involves a phased elimination of subsidies paid by Iranian government on energy carriers and supplants them with monthly cash handouts given mostly to low-income classes.

Principlist candidate Saeed Jalili said what the country needs at present is a long-term vision and outlook and a huge leap forward, and unemployment is people's main problem.

Jalili, a former top nuclear negotiator in the administration of former president Ahmadinejad, said the country is prepared for a surge in domestic production, which will lead to a boost in employment and economic growth.

Jalili said that he is not against the continuation of the nuclear negotiations as it is a way to lift the

sanctions, but it is not the sole way.

He tweeted on Tuesday that his would-be administration has a positive attitude toward the nuclear negotiations and it is a leverage to safeguard people's rights.

Principlist candidate Alireza Zakani said housing and unemployment are people's main concerns and boosting domestic production will be a main focus of his would-be administration as it helps stimulate economic growth, according to the official IRNA News Agency.

Tourism industry can play a significant role in increasing the domestic output, said Zakani, a former lawmaker.

On the sanctions' adverse impact on the domestic economy, he assured Iranians that the sanctions can prove futile with more reliance on domestic capabilities and further implementation of the JCPOA.

Xinhua

US sanctions against Nord Stream 2 become meaningless, says Putin

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin believes that it was simply pointless for the United States to impose new sanctions against Nord Stream 2, because the first branch of the pipeline has already been completed, said he in an interview with the Rossiya-24 TV channel on Wednesday.

President Putin added that everything that the United States did with regard to Nord Stream 2 was beneficial only to them.

"We have just more or less dealt with Nord Stream 2, but everything that has been done so far clearly contradicted the interests of the European country, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United States did all this, because it was very profitable to them," he said.

In his opinion, lately "it was already pointless to resist the construction of the pipeline and to impose sanctions.

"Because we have already completed it, the first branch is ready," President Putin explained.

"It seems like [the United States] has abandoned these sanctions, but they will introduce them in such a way, at such a pace and where they see fit, completely ignoring the interests of other participants of the international community," Putin said.

China contributes to building cleaner, more beautiful world by pursuing green development

CHINA is pursuing greener economic development, and making continuous efforts to help build a cleaner and more beautiful world.

In February 2020, China's Ministry of Ecology and Environment announced that the country had won its three-year battle against air pollution, and overfulfilled all the obligatory targets for improving air quality set in its 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020).

In April 2021, the share of good air quality days stood at 92.5 percent on average in China's 339 cities at the prefecture level and above, up 3.8 percentage points year on year.

At the same time, the average density of PM2.5, among the main pollutants, dropped by 15.2 percent compared with the same period last year to 28 micrograms per cubic meter.

Many residents across China said that they can now see more "blue sky days" with clean air and fewer smoggy days, and felt a noticeable improvement in air quality.

China has continuously optimized its energy mix. In many fields of the industrial sector, fossil energy has gradually been replaced by clean energy such as wind power and bio-energy.

The first bio-power plant in the southern region of east China's Jiangsu province, where agricultural wastes including straw stalks are sent in a steady stream by cargo ships, can generate more than 200 million



A taxi driver charges his pure electric vehicle at a charging station in Anlong county, southwest China's Guizhou province. Since 2020, the taxi operator in Anlong, which the driver works for, has put into operation 70 pure electric vehicles in batches. (File photo)

kilowatt-hours of electricity a year.

The development of wind power has been extended to all provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities across the country, with two wind turbines being installed every hour in the country.

China has achieved all the nine binding targets for ecological environment protection set in its 13th Five-Year Plan. The country's installed capacity and generation output of photovoltaic and wind power generation both rank first in the world.

The production, sales, and ownership of new energy vehicles (NEVs) in China account for half of the world's total. NEVs help reduce the country's

pollutant emissions by more than 3 million tons a year.

In 2020, China's carbon emission intensity fell by 48.4 percent compared with that in 2005. From 2000 to 2017, the country was credited with about a quarter of the increase in global green leaf areas.

China's goals to peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060, while representing a major strategic decision made by the country driven by its sense of responsibility regarding building a community with a shared future for mankind and the intrinsic requirement for achieving sustainable development, is also the country's solemn promise to the world.

As a major manufacturer in the world, China must make innovations and breakthroughs in core technologies for its goals of peaking carbon dioxide emissions and achieving carbon neutrality.

Chinese appliance manufacturer Gree and Tsinghua University have jointly developed a technology that is able to help cut 85.7 percent of energy consumption in air conditioning. The technology was recently awarded a grand prize at Global Cooling Prize, an innovation competition aiming to develop a climate-friendly residential cooling solution. The event was participated by more than 2,100 competing teams from nearly 100 countries this year. *People's Daily*

FAO: Global food import costs to surge 12% to record this year

GLOBAL food import costs are expected to rise 12 percent in 2021 to a record due to surging commodity prices and robust demand during the COVID-19 crisis, the United Nations food agency said.

The world's food import bill, including shipping costs, is projected to reach US\$1.715 trillion this year, from US\$1.530 trillion in 2020, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said in its twice-yearly Food Outlook report on Thursday.

Growth in agricultural trade during the pandemic showed the inelastic nature of food consumption and the resilience of international markets, but price rises since late 2020 were raising risks for poorer import-reliant countries, the FAO said.

Its monthly food price index hit a 10-year high in May, reflecting sharp gains for cereals, vegetable oils and sugar.

The FAO said a separate index of food import values, including freight costs that have also soared, reached a record in March this year, surpassing levels seen during previous food price spikes in 2006-2008 and 2010-2012.

A strong volume increase for staple food imports last year had already driven up global import costs 3 per-



A farmer sorts out harvested potatoes at a field in the Bardarash district, near the Kurdish city of Dohuk, in Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region, on Tuesday. (AFP)

cent to a record.

Exceptions were beverages and fish products that are more sensitive to economic conditions and which saw demand curbed by supply chain difficulties, the FAO said.

China's imports have been a driver of agricultural demand and prices in the past year, partly reflecting Beijing's efforts to rebuild its pig industry after a disease outbreak.

Chinese maize (corn) imports in the upcoming 2021/22 season were expected to rise to 24 million tonnes, keeping China as the world's top importer after its maize imports are expected to quadruple to 22 million tonnes in 2020/21, the FAO forecast.

A recovery in Chinese pork output was expected to reduce global trade, offsetting growth in beef and poultry flows to leave overall meat trade stable this year, the FAO said.

Agencies

Silk Road Community Building Initiative facilitates people-to-people exchanges among BRI countries

FRIENDSHIP, which derives from close contact between the people, holds the key to sound state-to-state relations. Since it was put forward in 2019, the Silk Road Community Building Initiative has facilitated non-governmental exchanges among countries participating in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), consolidated the friendship among peoples, and driven BRI countries to reach a broader consensus on building a community with a shared future for mankind.

Proposed by China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE) at the second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, the Initiative has by far promoted the establishment of nearly 600 pairs of cooperation partnerships between NGOs along the Belt and Road and the implementation of more than

300 livelihood cooperation projects covering various fields including health, education, science and technology, culture and community development.

Enkhotgon, a resident in Ulan Bator, capital city of Mongolia, is thrilled that his son, who suffered from congenital heart disease, got cured by Chinese doctors thanks to the Silk Road Community Building Initiative.

In May 2019, Chinese doctors came to Ulan Bator to implement congenital heart disease screening for children, during which Enkhotgon's son, who was eight years old, was found eligible for operation. The boy then received

free surgery in Wuxi, east China's Jiangsu province, in December that year. "The trip to China proved to be a huge surprise," said Enkhotgon.

"My son can now take P.E. classes with other kids, and often helps me with household chores. My husband and I don't have to run around seeking medical advice on my son's disease from one doctor after another. We are truly grateful to Chinese doctors for bringing health to our son," said Otgongerel, Enkhotgon's wife.

Since 2017, the Red Cross Society of China, together with Mongolian Red Cross Society (MRCS), Afghan Red Crescent Society and other

institutions, has launched many missions under the humanitarian aid program for children suffering from major diseases in BRI countries, providing free medical treatment for several hundred children who are diagnosed with congenital heart disease in Mongolia and Afghanistan.

The program has benefited children in 21 Mongolian provinces, and brought a brand new life to many of them, according to Bolormaa Nordov, secretary general of the MRCS, who noted that China has also helped Mongolia with training sessions for medical personnel including ophthalmologists and first-aid trainers, improv-

ing the public health services in Mongolia.

In September 2019, the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation initiated a vocational training program for impoverished young people in Nepal, helping over 200 Nepalese residents learn electricity and plumber skills.

Dilip, one of the trainees in the program, participated in home wiring and electricity maintenance as a community electrician amid efforts to prevent and control the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Because of the three-month-long intensive vocational training, I have not only learned electrician skills,

but become more confident at work," Dilip said, adding that the training program has equipped many young people in Nepal with vocational skills and helped them find jobs.

"We will continuously improve our skills and strive for greater career prospects," the electrician noted.

"After a devastating earthquake in 2015, many buildings and roads in Nepal required reconstruction, and skilled labor was badly needed," pointed out Rajan Kc, a member of the Constituent Assembly in Nepal.

Vocational training supported by China is helpful for improving the professional

skills of local young people, which well meets the needs of Nepal, according to the Nepali politician, who added that relevant programs have helped many young people secure jobs near their home.

The Silk Road Community Building Initiative conforms to the needs of developing countries, said Dr. Tharakorn Wusatirakul, deputy director of "The Belt and Road" Cooperation Research Center in Thailand.

The fruitful cooperation projects on people's livelihood under the Silk Road Community Building Initiative have been warmly welcomed by many countries, and made countries and regions along the BRI routes more determined to actively build the Belt and Road, he pointed out.

People's Daily

SPORT



Public Relations and Communications Manager at SportPesa Tanzania, Sabrina Msuya 2nd R, speaks at a launch of a campaign, dubbed 'Mshiko Deilee', in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The campaign, held by the firm in cooperation with telecoms firms, Tigo, Vodacom, and Airtel, will take place for one month with winners being presented with cash. Others in the photo are (L-R) Tigo Pesa's Marketing Manager, Fabian Felician, Mpesa's Marketing Manager, Kelvin Nyanda, and a Tanzania Gaming Board's representative Joram Mtafya. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

SportPesa, Telecomms companies launch Euro 2020 special promotion

By Guardian Reporter

SPORTS betting company, SportPesa, has launched a special campaign which will set sight on football matches which will be played this month.

The promotion's launch took place at the company's office, located at Masaki in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Telecom companies, namely Tigo, Vodacom, and Airtel, also took part in the launch, with the campaign seeking to reward their customers at a time this year's European Championship and other competitions in the likes of Copa America and Vodacom Premier League are held.

Public Relations and Communications Manager at SportPesa Tanzania, Sabrina Msuya, stated: "We have felt we should reward all of our customers by launching this promotion known as 'Mshiko Deilee'."

"This promotion officially starts today and will climax on July 11. There will be winners every day set to rake in 10,000/- each for 30 people, we will as well present 1m/- to three winners every week and at the end of the promotion we will hand over 15,888,000/- to the lucky winner."

"The promotion's draws will be conducted every day and winners will be announced on our social media pages, as well as the ones that our partners, Tigo, Vodacom, and Airtel, have. Winners will further be announced on Simba and Yanga social media pages."

"People wishing to take part in the promotion are required to deposit cash on their SportPesa accounts and start playing to be included in draws and get the opportunity to emerge as the winner, our new customers will be required to first register and follow the procedures."

"I welcome all mobile networks subscribers in this promotion, as well as others that have yet to register with SportPesa, to get chance to emerge winners every day, every week and the biggest cash prize totaling 15m/-."

Tigo Pesa's Marketing Manager, Fabian Felician, said: "In UEFA Euro tournaments' clashes and other fixtures we have felt we ought to cooperate with our partner SportPesa to ensure Tigo Pesa customers place their bets easily and get opportunity to rake in millions of cash."

"It is easy for the customers to take part in it, the Tigo Pesa customer must register with SportPesa, deposit cash in the account via Tigo Pesa, bet on fixtures he or she would like to place bets on to walk away with cash every day, every week and eventually the promotion's biggest prize, 15,888,000/-."

"The Tigo customer can through Tigo Pesa service deposit cash in the SportPesa account via dialing *150*01# or through Tigo Pesa App."

Vodacom Tanzania PLC M-Pesa Marketing Manager, Kelvin Nyanda, pointed out his will company will moreover offer 10 customers opportunity to each rake in 10,000/- every day and ultimately get 310 winners in a month.

"It is easy for the customer to take part in, every M-Pesa customer has an opportunity to rake in cash this period via visiting the M-Pesa menu, select 'pay bill', thereafter games, SportPesa, and follow the process."

"The customer will be presented with details and he or she will have entered the daily, weekly, and monthly draw. Winners will receive calls confirming they are winners, their names will be put on SportPesa social media pages."

He disclosed: "I take this opportunity to welcome our customers to participate as many times as possible, as victory is awaiting them in 'Mshiko Deilee' promotion."

Govt to set up efficient sports curriculum

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Mtwara

THE government has ordered the Ministry for Information, Culture, and Sports, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training to cross-check the educational curriculum, seeking to get pupils and students to be taught sports effectively.

Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa, made the call in Mtwara mid this week during the kick-off of this year's inter-primary schools games, Umitashumta, which are to be held in the region up to July 3.

The Umitashumta games' slogan is 'sports, arts, and education for industrial economic development.

Majaliwa's directive was made in the wake of reports showing Tanzania is not an active member in international sports competitions and Olympic Games due to poor preparation of squad caused by poor training in institutions.

The PM said reviving sports colleges which include Mtwara's, Mwanza's Malya, and Butimba is inevitable because the colleges have been producing the best sportsmen and women these days.

"Tanzania was known internationally due to our products like Hashim Thabit, a basketball player representing us in the USA's National Basketball Association (NBA) League and Mbwana Samatta in soccer" he disclosed.

Apart from mentioning the best products from Tanzanian sports institutions, Majaliwa ordered institutions to set up sports calendars from kindergarten to secondary schools

because youths' involvement in sports at an early age is useful in talent development.

Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Innocent Bashungwa, in response to Majaliwa's order, pledged that his ministry will allocate posts for physical education teachers before the end of this year.

"My ministry, in cooperation with other stakeholders, has collaborated with Mbwana Samatta's institution and sports experts from Sweden in scouting. I hope there will be more professionals after the end of this tournament," he disclosed.

Bashungwa moreover promised the construction of a sports center at Malya College in Mwanza, seeking to identify various talents.

The minister disclosed his ministry and Prime Minister's Office will sort out public schools across the country which will be sponsored in talent empowerment initiative.

Jamhuri Kihwelu, a prominent junior soccer coach, said Majaliwa's call on sports talent empowerment is what the late Tanzania President, John Pombe Magufuli, insisted on during his regime.

Kihwelu lauded the government under President Samia Suluhu for emphasizing sports development.

He added: "Now I hope for the return of popular sports person set to emulate our past prominent sports personnel, Adolf Mashali, and John Kulagwa, who were a product of sports academies in those days."

He noted: "I see job opportunities coming up for many youths in and outside the country."

SPORTS

Dar Youth Cup football tourney boosts talents

By Guardian Reporter

SOCCER promotion among youths in Tanzania has reached a crucial milestone as an annual tournament, known as Dar Youth Cup, was played in Dar es Salaam from May 30-June 5.

Junior footballers participated in U-9, U-11, U-13, and U-14 categories' events, seeking to give the youngsters platform to display their skills.

Fina Mango, the event's founder and coordinator, presents an insight into the competition and benefits it sets to bring forth.

Q: What is the Dar Youth Cup?

A: The Dar Youth Cup (DarYC) is a premier youth football tournament for both boys and girls aged 7-12, held in Dar es Salaam.

The tournament, organized by One Plus Sports Agency, provides high-quality youth football as well as unforgettable fun both on and off the field of play.

The tournament is endorsed by the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF).

The DarYC brings friends and families together to support their children to do what they enjoy the most, namely play football.

The tournament also affords the kids an opportunity to compete on a bigger stage, in an organized event with high visibility, therefore allowing them to test the fruits of their efforts in training as well as showcasing both their collective and individual talents.

The event also exposes the players to opportunities for recognition by the wider football community, thus creating new friendships and potential partnerships for all involved.

This event was inaugurated in November 2019, at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club football grounds and has already become the most anticipated youth football event in Tanzania.

Due to the well-known pandemic that we experienced, we were not able to host the tournament in 2020 but this year we will be hosting the tournament on the 5th of June at the Gymkhana grounds and we encourage spectators to come to witness the good football expected to be on show.

Q: Why did you decide to organize this tournament?

A: My 10-year-old son inspired me! The first person I shared the idea of organizing a youth football tournament with was him, and his level of excitement told me that I must do this!

I noticed that he and his teammates who love the game of football and who train and play at their school and their football club, that there was a great hunger for more organized competitive football matches and tournaments.

The aim was to fill this gap and provide a platform for youth football players with the same love and insatiable appetite for the game to play in a safe, friendly, fun yet competitive environment.

I also received further encouragement from the Football Federation (TFF) so I proceeded to assemble a team of hard-working, committed, and passionate persons who with little or no money, were ready to support work on, and implement the idea.

I was fortunate that these people were experts with vast and extensive experience in communications, events, as well as the sports management industry who had the same vision, which is to fulfill the wishes and dreams of what I came to find out was not only of my son and his teammates, but hundreds of other children in Dar.

Q: Who can participate in this youth football tournament?

A: On the playing side, we invite any youth football club operating in Tanzania that is registered with the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) or which is registered in another legal form.

We also welcome any primary or secondary schools with a youth football team.

Businesses, associations, or other legally registered organizations that have youth football teams can participate as well.

This is for both boys and girls teams and the players have to be within the prescribed age categories as stated in the rules which means that they have to be under the ages of 9, 11, or 13 on the day of the tournament depending on the category that they are registered for.

Participation and registration



Usambara Development cricket squad.

details can be found on our social media pages @DARYOUTHCP

Outside the field of play, family members, parents, guardians teachers, and any football or sports enthusiasts are welcome as well as anyone in the public who wants to enjoy the fantastic atmosphere created through this event. All are welcome and the entrance is free!

Q: When and where will this year's DarYC be held?

A: The second edition of the DarYC will be held on June 5, at the Gymkhana grounds here in Dar es Salaam.

Q: What are the challenges that you have encountered in organizing the DarYC?

A: To organize a successful, first-class event with so many participants has great budgetary demands to meet the high standards that we set for ourselves in terms of the quality of the tournament.

There are quite a few logistical requirements and minimum standards that need to be set that also require certain costs. Fortunately, we had willing sponsors and partners who believed in us, bought into the idea, and supported us from the beginning.

The primary aim of the tournament is to provide a platform for youth football players and not for profit and fortunately, we have managed to assemble a dedicated team of individuals who share this vision.

We welcome sponsorship in different forms for any dedicated businesses or organizations who are willing and able to support our efforts.

We also face a common challenge across Africa on age cheating. Academies across the country remain to be focusing on winning at any cost.

They stop preparing and allowing the right age young athletes to participate and compete in these types of events because they prefer winning over anything else.

We have decided that our tournament will be the event that provides a stage to the under 13s and that academies need to find, prepare and allow the under thirteens to take part in these big competitions.

It is a long road ahead but so far the message is getting across and we look forward to the day that we don't have to use so much time in checks and re-checks to ensure the players are of the right age.

We have to give a special mention to TFF for supporting and endorsing the tournament as well as our sponsors, Bwana Sukari from Illovo Sugar, ASAS Diaries, Toyota Tanzania, Kisima Water, and Golden Wheels without whom the event would not be possible.

Q: Do you feel that the DarYC has been a success?

A: So far so good. The 2019 tournament created a competitive atmosphere in a friendly and fun environment. We witnessed healthy football rivalries and friendships created on the day.

Another sign of success is the demand created after the tournament where we were asked to not only host more tournaments with more teams but to also include girls' football which we have done this year.

Other successes witnessed were the great individual and collective talent of many players, and we believe that this did not go unnoticed by all football enthusiasts.

One of the biggest successes we feel was that we managed to bring together players from independent schools, government schools and local youth football clubs to all competitors and to enjoy football on the same platform.

Despite a successful start, we always seek to improve and create even stronger friendships and bonds between the participating teams, the schools, clubs, and of course our partners who supported us from the beginning.

The strengthening of these relationships and partnerships will enable us to produce even better and more successful tournaments in the future. We believe that successful tournaments will provide more opportunities for all the stakeholders involved.

The most visible success from the first tournament perhaps is the formation of the DarYC Academy and now the tournament organizers, with host teams dubbed The Bulls.

We have four categories of The Bulls in U-9, U-11, U-13 boys, and U-13 girls. They train three times a week and play matches once every week.

Q: How do you feel that the larger community outside of football can benefit or has benefitted from the Dar Youth Cup?

A: Organised youth sport in general but particularly football tournaments such as the Dar Youth Cup that allows the children to play on a bigger stage with high visibility provides valuable lessons to the youth about the importance of preparation, ability, effort, and competition whilst having fun at the same time.

In having fun in a competitive environment the children also learn what it takes to win and how to handle losing and disappointment in the right manner.

These lessons will help them in real-life situations.

The first tournament fostered a great sense of community and gave both players and spectators a feeling of belonging to something more than just football.

The fantastic event involved local sponsors which have created good partnerships. Players had the opportunity to mix with other players from private and public schools as well as

local clubs bringing awareness and a broader perspective of the socio-economic and ethnic differences that may exist but which are bridged by the unity that football provides.

We like to thank all parents for supporting their kids.

It was a great event and gave our kids an opportunity to explore their talents and play in organized football.

We also acknowledge all the clubs and schools for training the young athletes.

Young players need to be able to compete against their fellow players in the same age groups.

Great football was displayed on Saturday, thank you all.

I express special thanks to our sponsors as without them the event would not have been possible, our main sponsors Bwana Sukari and ASAS Dairies for choosing to support the event.

I also appreciate Toyota Tanzania for staying with us two years in a row, Kisima Water for ensuring all the players were hydrated throughout the day, and Clouds Media Group for adding value to the event through their radio and television promotion.

Immobile looks to bury demons as Italy kick off Euro 2020 against Turkey

ROME

TOP Italy striker Ciro Immobile will be looking to shake off the demotons of World Cup failure as the 'Azzurri' return to the big stage in today's European Championship opener against Turkey in Rome.

Roberto Mancini's resurgent four-time world champions are being touted as possible dark horses after failing to qualify for the 2018 World Cup.

But Italy lack the high-profile strike partnerships of rivals such as Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo and Joao Felix, France's Kylian Mbappe and Karim Benzema and England's Harry Kane and Marcus Rashford.

And despite a club-record 150 goals in five seasons for Lazio, Immobile has been unable to shake off the tag of being unable to score when it matters.

The 31-year-old bore the brunt of criticism for failing to find the net in the World Cup play-off defeat to Sweden in November 2017.

"I didn't want to play anymore, it was too much sadness to manage and negative thoughts," recalled Immobile.

Mancini has rebuilt Italy since, with the team on a 27-match unbeaten run.

Immobile won the European Golden Shoe in the 2019-2000 season for his 36 league goals, and scored 20 last campaign as Lazio finished sixth. For the former Borussia Dortmund and Sevilla reject this could be his last chance to shine on the bigger stage.

"I have a strong personality," he insists. "I'm not very gifted technically, but where I don't get there with the technique I get there with strength, tenacity and cunning."

Success has been slow coming on the national team since Immobile made his debut in 2014. He has scored 13 goals in 46 games, but has found more consistency under Mancini with six goals.

Italy's strike options also include Torino skipper Andrea Belotti, who has scored 12 goals in 33 games.

Football's Coming Home: England aim to emulate spirit of Euro 96

LONDON

TWENTY-FIVE years after England's dramatic Euro 96 campaign revived the nation's love affair with football, Gareth Southgate's side aim to emulate the golden summer when football came home.

England manager Southgate leads his team into their opening match of the European Championship against Croatia at Wembley on Sunday.

It should be a memorable occasion as England play on home turf at a major tournament for the first time since Euro 96.

For Southgate, England's role as one of several hosts of the delayed Euro 2020 offers a chance for redemption after his penalty miss condemned the country to Euro 96 semi-final heartache against Germany.

If England can create the same wave of national enthusiasm that Terry Venables' team surfs 25 years ago, Southgate will have a chance of winning a first major title for the country since the 1966 World Cup.

English football was undergoing a long-awaited rebirth by the time Euro 96 arrived, recovering from a dark period in which its image was badly damaged by hooligan gangs who clashed in decaying stadiums.

The Premier League had been established four years earlier, with Britpop bands Blur and Oasis and even future prime minister Tony Blair jumping on the bandwagon to broaden the game's appeal.

Capturing the optimistic "Cool Britannia" mood, comedians David Baddiel and Frank Skinner teamed up with The Lightning Seeds to write England's Euro 96 anthem "Three Lions". With its "Football's Coming Home" chorus, the song became the soundtrack to England's summer. Yet, while there were unforgettable

However the 27-year-old has limited experience. His only trophy so far is the 2014 Serie B title with Palermo.

Belotti scored 13 league goals for Torino last season, as the club avoided relegation with a 17th-place finish.

Behind Immobile and Belotti, 21-year-old Sassuolo forward Giacomo Raspadori has received a call-up to the senior national side, giving them another attacking option.

'King Burak'

Despite an unbeaten record against Group A rivals Turkey in 10 previous meetings – seven wins and three draws – Italy's defenders could have their work cut out against star forward Burak Yilmaz.

'King Burak' comes into the Euro fresh from leading Lille to their fourth league title in his first season in France, top-scoring for the club with 16 goals in 28 games. The 35-year-old will be his team's main goal threat, having scored five goals in four matches with Turkey in 2021.

"Our main objective is the match against Italy," said Yilmaz, of a group which also includes Wales and Switzerland.

"We are playing better against the big teams. We have to win this game. We are not afraid of anyone on the pitch. We want to start the competition in the best possible way and take Turkey to the place they deserve."

"Our excellent results in the Euro qualifiers and the World Cup have raised a lot of expectations among our people. We are aware of this and we bear this responsibility."

A year after being postponed due to the pandemic, the 24-team tournament spread across 11 venues throughout Europe gets underway in front of an estimated 16,000 fans in a Stadio Olimpico at 25 percent capacity.

For Italy, who have won the European trophy just once in 1968, it will be a first major match since their Euro 2016 quarter-finals defeat on penalties to Germany.

AFP

Euro 2020 Best XI: Who joins Mbappe as best in Europe?

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

EURO 2020 is a showcase for the some of the most exciting players in world football, but imagine attempting to pick 11 of them to form a European team of all talents? As ESPN senior writer Mark Ogden discovered while selecting his pre-tournament best XI, the most difficult element of that particular challenge is deciding who to leave out, rather than which players to select.

So without spending limits or international quotas, what is the best XI from all 24 of the 26-man squads? Mark has played fantasy football to pick his team of the tournament before a ball has even been kicked. (And stay tuned for his tournament-ending XI to see how much things change over the coming month.)

Goalkeeper: Manuel Neuer (Germany)

Euro 2020 is blessed with an array of outstanding goalkeepers, including Thibaut Courtois (Belgium), Rui Patrício (Portugal) and Kasper Schmeichel (Denmark), as well as rising stars such as Unai Simon (Spain) and Gianluigi Donnarumma (Italy). But even after more than a decade at the highest level, Germany's Neuer remains the best around.

With his consistency, physical skills and presence between the posts, the Bayern Munich No. 1 continues to keep Marc-Andre ter Stegen on the sidelines. Neuer has overcome injury issues to regain his status as the best in Europe, if not the world, and he will be a crucial factor for Germany if coach Joachim Low is to end his reign in charge with the country's first European title since 1996.

Neuer took goalkeeping to a new level during the past decade; and the likes of Alisson and Ederson, his two rivals as the world's best, both modelled their game on the 35-year-old's "sweeper keeper" mindset, which means he is starting attacks as much as he is stopping them. Germany are in a tough group alongside world champions France and European champions Portugal, but Neuer is a good reason to not write them off.

Right-back: Joao Cancelo (Portugal)

England, in particular, have an embarrassment of riches in this position, with manager Gareth Southgate able to choose from Kyle Walker, Reece James and Kieran Trippier. Trent Alexander-Arnold was a fourth right-back in the England squad, until the Liverpool defender was forced to withdraw with a thigh injury.

France right-back Benjamin Pa-



Kylian Mbappe

vard is another strong contender for this position, with Bayern Munich teammate Joshua Kimmich also in the frame due to Low considering using the defensive midfielder in a right wing-back role.

But Portugal's Cancelo sneaks into this team because of his ability to be as effective going forward as he defensively. The Manchester City defender also can play on the left, and technically, he is the best right-back in the tournament.

Centre-backs: Antonio Rudiger (Germany) and Ruben Dias (Portugal)

Central defenders provide the foundation of every successful team – it's a cliché, but an earned one, that defending wins trophies – and there are several world-class centre-halves at Euro 2020. But with such a cast list of top defenders, the only way to pick out the two to form a partnership is by going on the form they displayed in the final months of the club season.

On this basis, Rudiger and Dias edge out the likes of France's Raphael Varane and Presnel Kimpembe and the Netherlands' Matthijs de Ligt. Spain centre-half Pau Torres was perhaps the biggest threat to the Rudiger-Dias pairing due to his performances for Europa League winners Villarreal. Virgil van Dijk would almost certainly have been one element of a Euro 2020 best XI, but the Dutch defender continues to recover from a cruciate ligament injury at Liverpool.

Rudiger's form during Chelsea's run to Champions League glory and Dias' performances for Manchester City make them the obvious choices to play at the centre of defence.

Left-back: Andy Robertson (Scotland)

France defender Lucas Hernandez and Portugal's Raphael Guerreiro have the international pedigree to claim the left-back position, while England have Luke Shaw and Ben Chilwell battling it out to start. But even though he is representing Scotland, a country set for their first major tournament since the 1998 World Cup, Robertson is the outstanding left-back at Euro 2020.

A Premier League and Champi-

ons League winner, Robertson's defensive ability has been a mainstay for Liverpool, but his delivery from the left also has become a crucial component of the club's success in recent seasons. His ability at both ends of the pitch gives him the edge over his rivals, and his form and fitness could be pivotal in whether Scotland make it to the knockout stages.

Defensive midfield: N'Golo Kante (France)

There is only one possible selection for the central defensive midfield role, and that is Kante. The former Leicester City midfielder was outstanding in the Champions League final for Chelsea last month, and his all-energy game and command of the central third of the pitch make him one of the first selections for France coach Didier Deschamps.

Kante is more than a destroyer, though. While his defensive game enables Paul Pogba to thrive for France, Kante also has shown he has creativity to his game and the ability to burst forward. Every top team in the tournament would be better with Kante in it.

England's Jude Bellingham, at just 17, has the potential to dominate the position in the years to come. But right now, Kante is the undisputed number one.

Attacking midfield: Kevin De Bruyne (Belgium) and Luka Modric (Croatia)

With Kante providing the shield in front of the defence, the attacking midfielders in the team would have licence to play to get forward and pick holes in the opposition. But attacking midfield is an area of true depth at Euro 2020, with players such as Pogba, Bruno Fernandes, Toni Kroos, Bernardo Silva and Ilkay Gundogan all capable of making a match-winning contribution. England also are strong in this department, with Southgate likely to have to choose from two of Jack Grealish, Phil Foden and Mason Mount.

But there are two players who simply can't be overlooked in this area of the pitch: De Bruyne and Modric.

De Bruyne, who might miss the opening game against Russia on Saturday with the facial injury sustained in the Champions League final, offers so much as a box-to-box midfielder powerhouse. He scores goals, provides a threat from set pieces and possesses an incredible ability to create chances, either with crosses whipped in from the right or neat passes from the edge of the penalty area.

Alongside him would be Modric, who despite his age at 35 remains the most effective No. 10 in Europe. The Real Madrid player can control the tempo of a game like few others, and his age and lack of pace make little difference due to his ability to force an opponent deeper and deeper with his use of the ball in the attacking third.

The front three: Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal), Robert Lewandowski (Poland) and Kylian Mbappe (France)

This is an area of the pitch where you could pick several permutations and still end up with a world-beating forward line. Harry Kane and Romelu Lukaku, two of the most consistent goal scorers in Europe, fail to make the cut, while talent such as Antoine Griezmann, Thomas Muller, Marcus Rashford, Raheem Sterling, Jadon Sancho, Kai Havertz, Joao Felix and Karim Benzema also are unable to break up the triumvirate of Ronaldo, Lewandowski and Mbappe.

Ronaldo (103) and Lewandowski (66) are the top two in the all-time list of Europe's leading goal scorers, and despite both being in their 30s, they continue to dominate in front of goal for club and country. Lewandowski is arguably the best centre-forward in the world and has been for the past five years, with many believing that the Poland striker was only denied the Ballon d'Or last year because the prize was cancelled due to the pandemic. As for Ronaldo, his incredible record speaks for itself. He remains the focal point of Portugal's team and is five goals short of equalling the record, held by former Iran striker Ali Daei, as the top scorer in the history of international men's football.

And then there is Mbappe, the 22-year-old France forward who already has a World Cup winners' medal in his collection following Les Bleus' triumph in 2018. Mbappe's blistering pace is a threat to every defence, and he, alongside Erling Haaland, is likely to dominate the world stage for the next decade.

There are some sensational forwards at Euro 2020, but none is better than Ronaldo, Lewandowski and Mbappe.

AFP

France eye Euro 2020 glory as kick-off looms

LONDON

EURO 2020 finally kicks off today as Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal prepare to defend their title and world champions France seek a rare double a year after the tournament was delayed by the coronavirus pandemic.

France's fearsome forward line makes them favourites to win a third European crown at the pancontinental event, while top-ranked Belgium and a youthful England side will be major threats.

For the first time, the tournament is taking place in 11 cities across Europe – instead of one or two countries – despite the lingering shadow cast by the Covid-19 crisis.

Dublin and Bilbao were dropped from the list of host cities after being unable to give guarantees they could meet UEFA's requirement of accommodating limited numbers of spectators, but Seville stepped in for Bilbao while Dublin's games went to London and Saint Petersburg.

The action gets under way at Rome's Olympic Stadium on Friday, where Italy take on Turkey in front of 16,000 fans.

Favourites France are not in action until Tuesday in the headline act of the first round of group matches when the world champions take on Germany in Munich.

"All the other countries envy us," said a recent front page of French

sports daily L'Equipe underneath pictures of Kylian Mbappe, Karim Benzema and Antoine Griezmann.

All eyes will be on 33-year-old forward Benzema, who was recalled after an international exile of five-and-a-half years following a prolific season for Real Madrid.

Holders Portugal and Hungary complete Group F, dubbed the tournament's group of death.

Ronaldo is now 36 but is still going strong and is supported by a better squad than five years ago, which also boasts the outstanding talents of Joao Felix, Bruno Fernandes, Bernardo Silva and Ruben Dias.

- Can England triumph at home? - England have the carrot of knowing both semi-finals and the final will be played at Wembley, while Italy and the Netherlands are eager to impress after failing to qualify for

recent tournaments.

Captain Harry Kane believes England will start their bid to win Euro 2020 in a "better place" than they were before reaching the 2018 World Cup semi-finals.

"I feel like now we've had a bit more experience, players in the biggest games for their club and obviously players who have played in that World Cup have had that experience as well," he said.

"We haven't won a tournament as a country for a long time, so there needs to be a lot of good mentality along the whole way as it is a long, tough journey to get to the later stages of a major tournament."

Europe is at last getting to grips with the coronavirus pandemic, with infection rates down and vaccinations picking up pace but concerns over possible virus clusters

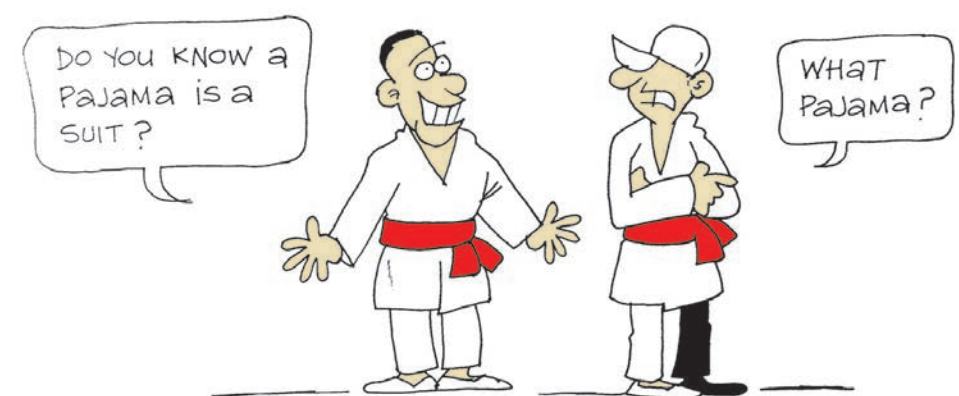
persuaded UEFA to allow nations to name expanded squads of 26 players. Spanish football chiefs announced this week they had set up a "parallel" squad of 17 reserves after defender Diego Llorente became the second player in the squad to test positive for Covid-19.

Two Swedish players – forward Dejan Kulusevski and midfielder Mattias Svanberg – have tested positive for the virus.

But despite the ongoing threat, UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin has been bullish, insisting Euro 2020 will be safe. "It will be the first event of a global dimension to be held since the pandemic struck," he said. "It will be the perfect opportunity to show the world that Europe is adapting. Europe is alive and celebrating life. Europe is back."

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Euro 2020 Best XI: Who joins Mbappe as best in Europe?

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



The K&P Constructions cricket team

K&P Constructions cricketers ease into DC Gymkhana Cup tourney's Div A semi-finals

By Guardian Reporter

THE K&P Constructions cricketers have booked a place in the 2021 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Gymkhana Cup tournament's Division A's last four, notching a four-wicket win over Union Sports Club in a last-eight duel which took place last weekend.

The DC Gymkhana Cup tournament's Division A last four is currently having three teams.

Shree Kutchi Leva Patel SC (SKLPSC) and Upanga SC are the clubs that have also made it to the stage as they notched a victory in the quarterfinal duels.

Union Sports Club batted first, posting 78 runs all out in 17.1 overs, mostly thanks to Syed Mohamed Hyder and Sameer Zaidi.

Zaidi was Union Sports Club's top run-getter, recording 28 runs and cracking two fours.

Hyder notched 16 runs, nailing three fours. The cricketer laid his hands on the bat after opener Danish Unia's dismissal, which had to reach 22 runs after six overs and two wickets were taken.

Unia, one of the key performers, had a rather brief spell, recording five runs, fellow opener was dismissed early on.

Hyder had Union Sports Club reaching 34 runs after seven overs and three wickets taken at a time he was dismissed by K&P Constructions outfit's Ramalingaiah Neelam.

Zaidi's resoluteness ultimately ended in the 17th over, with notching 78 runs and exhausting its batting unit's members.

Union Sports Club's skipper Sameer Mussam, equally a key performer, had a disappointing day, given he ended five runs short of a two-digit score.

Bogineni Prasad ended with a four-wicket haul, conceding eight runs in 3.1 overs.

The bowler's feat, which had him settling for 2.53 in economy rate, played a pivotal role in seeing to it Union Sports Club end with a manageable figure.

There were equally scintillating displays Sukur Basha put to show, as the cricketer notched three wickets, giving away nine runs in three overs.

Needing 79 runs to come out victorious, K&P Constructions squad had to wade off Union Sports Club pressure, posting 81 runs and dropping six wickets in 14.4 overs.

Opening batsmen, Naga Gurijala and Hema Suryakant Mullanpudi, gave them an edge, seeing to it the squad pile runs with their skillful knocks. Gurijala was the performer with the most runs in the successful chase, posting 37 runs not out and blasting four fours.

The fellow opener, Mullanpudi, notched 15 runs in his stint, blasting a boundary.

Several dismissals nevertheless did not weaken K&P Constructions squad's resolve. Suman Emuru ended with four runs not out which included a four, as he forged a solid partnership with and made certain of the outfit's victory.

Union Sports Club's Zaidi notched four wickets giving away 17 runs in four overs, and Mohamedali Fumakiya notched two wickets in 0.4 overs as the team vainly struggled to defend its figure.

The competition, hosted by DC, brought together 20 sides which were placed in groups A, B, C, and D.

Musical performance entertains revelers in Dar

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S performing arts lovers on Wednesday had the experience of famous Russian writer and poet Aleksandar Pushkin at the Russian Cultural Center in Dar es Salaam.

Pushkin is a Russian poet and writer who was born on 6 June in 1799.

He wrote 12 famous poems, six dramas, 10 short stories, seven novels, and eight fairy tales.

The tale of 'King Sultan and his son Guidon' was among the famous tales which was written by Aleksandar Pushkin in 1831.

Russian Cultural Center in Dar es Salaam, in collaboration with Babawatoto organization, prepared a musical stage performance at the center's hall in the city regarding the 'Tale of King Sultan and his Son Guidon'.

The story is about three sisters. The youngest is chosen by Tsar Sultan to be his wife. He orders the other two sisters to be his royal cook and weaver. They become jealous of their younger sister.

When the Tsar goes off to war, the Tsaritsa gives birth to a son, Prince Guidon. The older sisters arrange to have the Tsaritsa and the child sealed in a barrel and thrown into the sea.

The sea takes pity on them and casts them on the shore of a remote island, Buyan.

The son, having quickly grown while in the barrel, goes hunting. He ends up saving an enchanted swan from a kite bird.

The swan creates a city for Prince Guidon to rule, but he is homesick, so the swan turns him into a mosquito to help him.

In this guise, he visits Tsar Sultan's court, where he stings his aunt in the eye and escapes. Back in his realm, the swan gives Guidon a magical squirrel.

But he continues to pine for home, so the swan transforms him again, this time into a fly.

In this guise, Prince Guidon visits Sultan's court again and stings his older aunt in the eye. The third time, the Prince is transformed into a bumblebee and stings the nose of his grandmother.

In the end, the Prince expresses a desire for a bride instead of his old home, at which point the swan is revealed to be a beautiful princess, whom he marries.

He is visited by the Tsar, who is overjoyed to find his newly married son and daughter-in-law.



Dar es Salaam's Babawatoto Organization (BAO) theater artists stage a tale, known as 'King Sultan and his child Guidon', at an occasion commemorating the birth of a famous Russian poet, Aleksandar Pushkin, at the Russian Cultural Center in the city on Wednesday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

National volleyball team now eyes success in African Championship



National beach volleyball team's players take part in a training session in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for this season's African Men's Volleyball Championship, slated for later this month in Morocco. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE national men's volleyball team has begun training for the African Men's Volleyball Championship slated for June 21-28, 2021 in Agadir, Morocco.

The squad's coach, Alfred Selengia, said that they are determined to do well in the tournament, the way they did in the previous stage of the Africa Zone Five tournament, held in Entebbe, Uganda in December 2019.

The national squad won all of its matches and booked a place in the final stage of the continental tournament.

He said, from the beginning they have set a strategy to do well in the championship.

He was adamant his charges will make sure they start with seeking to excel in the fifth African Volleyball Championship's second step that will be used to seek qualifying opportunities to participate in the Africa Sub Zonal V Olympic Qualifiers.

The coach said that at the mo-

ment they are waiting for a group schedule which will be sorted according to the quality of each country as per the list of best teams in Africa.

It should be noted that the Tanzanian squad made up of Ford Edward and David Nneke and the second team formed by Shukur Ally and Said Alhaj successfully qualified for the second stage after doing well in the previous competition held at Lido beaches in Entebbe, Uganda from December 18-22 last year.

The African Men's Volleyball Championship will also be used to secure tickets for the Olympic Games, to be held in Tokyo, Japan from July 23 to August 8, 2021.

The tournament was originally scheduled for March 26-30 but it was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Prior to the tournament's postponement, the Confederation of African Volleyball (CAVB) appointed Tanzania to host the tournament.

Apart from current hosts, Mo-

rocco, other countries competing in the men's tournament are Benin, Botswana, Congo Brazzaville, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mali, Mauritius, and Mozambique.

Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe are as well the tournament's contenders.

The women's competition involves Cape Verde, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, and Zambia.

The team that entered the camp is made up of the first two teams consisting of Nneke and Edward and the second team is made up of Ezekiel Rabson and Joseph Mafuru.

The sides will continue to be coached by Selengia who is also the beach volleyball coaches' instructor in Africa.

Muumin set to collaborate with new genre musician

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

TANZANIAN dance musician, Mwinjuma Muumin, has stated he is looking forward to collaborating with new genre musicians in songs his troupe, Special Band, will produce.

The artiste noted the new genre artists he will collaborate with include Zuchu, Nandy, and others.

He revealed he is communicating with the new genre artistes to see to it his troupe comes with various music melodies.

Muumin made his plan known when the troupe staged a show in Dar

es Salaam last weekend.

The event gave the troupe platform to present its first album's last song, titled 'Mkonga wa Tembo', with scores of music lovers turning up for the show. He disclosed: "We have released our sixth track and I will begin looking for new genre musicians that I will collaborate with when we produce a section of our songs."

He noted: "This move seeks to help us bring forth compositions with different melodies." The prominent artiste stated Special Band will be officially launched in September.

Muumin pointed out the troupe

will then present two albums in December. The vocalist pointed out his troupe since was January this year composing songs every month and ultimately had six songs making the first album.

The songs include 'Yatima Mzee', 'Mwanangu', 'Fenesi' and 'Kwa Mpalange Sihami'.

He stated: "We have introduced the 'Mkonga wa Tembo' song in our last weekend show, which we termed as 'White Party'." He noted: "All we are left with is moving forward and strive to have the dance music restore its glory domestically."

Flexibles by David Chikoko

NOW I KNOW WHY ELDERLY WOMEN LIKE TO COVER THEIR HAIR

