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TCRA develops, unveils online licensing system

By Guardian Reporter



Dar es Salaam residents line up to register for Covid-19 vaccinations at the city's Julius Nyerere International Conference Centre yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

NEW investors in the communications sector can now promptly secure licences from the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) following the launch of an improved Licensing Management System (LMS) tied to online processing.

The system was jointly unveiled at the weekend in Dar es Salaam by the Minister for Communication and Information Technology, Dr Faustine Ndugulile and his Information, Culture, Arts and Sports counterpart, Innocent Bashungwa.

Speaking at the launch, the minister commended TCRA for developing the system using local software developers who are TCRA employees, underlining that the new application will not only improve the quality but also enhance timely delivery of services.

"TCRA's drive in systems and software development is commendable as it conforms to global transformations and ICT challenges," he stated.

"The TCRA initiative is highly appreciated as it is in line with President Samia Suluhu Hassan's appeal for improvement of ICT services so as to attract more investors," he asserted, noting that the ICT plays a key role as enabler of other economic activities.

As part of strategy to win more investors and attract more local service providers

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NSSF subsidiary Sisalana uplifting sisal sub-sector

By Guardian Correspondent

THE National Social Security Fund (NSSF) plans to venture into the sisal industry as the law under which it was established allows it to invest in gainful projects.

NSSF board chairman Ali Iddi Siwa (pictured) profiled the project to Tanga Regional Commissioner Adam Malima where he said the fund has set up a subsidiary company, Sisalana (T) Ltd.

The company shall conduct all activities carried out by Katani Limited in sisal processing after NSSF took over some of the latter's assets placed as collateral for a loan provided by NSSF on whose repayment Katani defaulted, he said.

Starting out in sisal farming was meant to enable the fund to recover the money, with Sisalana being tasked with operating sisal tonnage decorticators, so at the end of the day it earns back the loaned cash, he said.

Sisalana has come in with a view to reimbursing members what is due to them by doing business in partnership with the Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS). Its main function is to process sisal leaves to be sold by AMCOS, while NSSF gets levies after recycling of the produce, he explained.

NSSF expects to use Sisalana to expand sisal business by adhering to investment rules and regulations governing social

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TANAPA now expects 1,000 Israeli tourists

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIA is set to receive over 1,000 tourists from Israel before the end of the year, with the first batch of 550 visitors having booked to sample northern circuit attractions this month.

Assistant Commissioner for Conservation, Paschal Shelutete, said here at the weekend that the first plane with 150 adventure seekers from the vicinity of Jerusalem is scheduled to touch down at the Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA) today.

The second group of 150 tourists is

“Last year we received 1000 tourists from Israel and this year we anticipate more arrivals”

slated to arrive next Monday, while the third batch of 200 people arrives the following Monday, with more tourists from Israel arriving in the next two month.

So far the numbers and landing points of other expected tourists are yet to be set out, but officials expect that before the end of the year, more than 1000 Israelite visitors will have sampled the country's attractions.

The first groups will mostly visit national parks in Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions, especially the Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater, Mount

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Govt in avocado export talks with South Africa

By Guardian Correspondent, Rungwe

TANZANIA is in talks with South African authorities aimed at opening the latter's market for organic avocados grown in the Southern Highland regions and other parts of the country.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (pictured) told residents here yesterday that the talks are at an advanced stage, and once the export deal is inked, that



will mark the end of avocados rotting in farms due to lack of market.

The premier spoke after visiting an avocado farm operated by Kuza Afrika Co. Ltd at Kilolo village in Rungwe District, Mbeya Region. The company also sources avocado from out-growers.

"The Ministry of Agriculture is mandated to provide you farmers with among others, quality seeds and markets for your produce. Go ahead and produce as much as you can as we work on the markets issue," he said.

It was Kuza Afrika which identified the South African market and started negotiating, so the government chipped in after realizing that it was big enough to

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Ummy Mwalimu, Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), pictured in Dodoma city at the weekend displaying a condom after launching condom dispensers meant for countrywide distribution by the Tanzania Youth Alliance (Tayoa), as Tayoa director Peter Masika looks on. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TCRA develops, unveils online licensing system

FROM PAGE 1

in the communications sector, the government will start using reviewed, reduced new licensing rates and charges early next month.

There are 69 districts with prospects for new investors in broadcasting, mostly in border districts on all sides of the country, he affirmed.

Licenses offered under the LMS are individual, like the network facility license (NFL), the network services license (NSL), the application services license (ASL), and the content services license (CSL) that include radio and television, he elaborated.

The newly launched LMS involves easing procedure for the issuance of individual operating license to within 45 days from the moment of application, he pointed out.

The system eliminates face to face interaction with applicants so as to eliminate corrupt moves that could emanate from direct interaction with applicants, he further noted, saying it is an effort to enhance accountability at every stage, to every party involved.

Minister Bashungwa hailed President Samia for creating a conducive environment for the fast-growth of the communication sector, which encompasses telecommunication, broadcasting, postal and courier services countrywide, similarly remarking that the president has extended immense support to sports activities.

President Samia's new funding system to the sports sector is highly appreciated and we are now witnessing its fruits as the Tanzania's Under 23 soccer team has emerged tops in the sub-regional championship, just ended in Ethiopia, he said.

Welcoming the two ministers, TCRA Director General Dr Jabir Bakari thanked the ministers for setting into operation the system, saying TCRA was determined to open new prospects and investment opportunities in the communication sector.

The launch event involving unveiling a plaque was also attended by the Director of Information and chief government spokesman, Gerson Msigwa.

Govt in avocado export talks with South Africa

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consume most if not all of locally produced avocados, he explained.

District executive directors need to ensure that agriculture officers go to the field to help farmers grow this crop organically and in a scientific manner, he stated.

"They should initiate demonstration farms to teach farmers the best way of growing this crop so that we make the most of it."

Deputy Minister Hussein Bashe said that Rungwe is among districts leading in avocado farming but the main challenge farmers face there was lack of reliable market for their produce.

Kuza Afrika Co. has provided a partial

solution in purchasing avocado from farmers but the panacea so far is still to secure access to the vast South African market, he said.

"We at the ministry will ensure that avocado framers get all the support they need as it is among crops with the highest demand in the world today," he said.

Experts say the fruit is a 'super food' as it is uniquely high in healthy fat content, omega, vitamins A, B, C, E and K, 25 essential nutrients, phytochemicals, antioxidants, fiber, folate, magnesium and potassium. Thus its nutrient-density partly explains its widespread popularity among health-conscious buyers.

The Centre for Bioenergy Innovation (CBI), a governmental agency in the United

States, highlights that the demand for organic avocados is increasing, especially in Europe, fetching higher prices of 25 to 45 per cent more than US conventional avocados on retail shelves.

The global market for avocados has been quite dynamic in the past few years, despite predictions in forecasts of 2018 and 2019. Avocado global revenues peaked at \$14.9bn in 2017, the highest to date, dropping to \$13.64bn in 2018, and then to \$12.824bn in 2019. Sales have taken a further dip to \$9.14bn in the past year, the agency noted.

For outlook for the next years in the avocado market is brighter, expected to reach \$17.9bn gross revenues by 2025, it added.

TANAPA expecting 1,000 Israeli tourists

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Kilimanjaro and the Lake Manyara ecosystem that comprises smaller national parks like Tarangire and Manyara.

Tanzania has on average been getting 1.5m tourists per year, with exception of last year when the global coronavirus pandemic took a toll on the world travel industry, now slowly but surely recovering.

Around 80 percent of foreign visitors seek out the northern circuit with southern game reserves attracting hunting parties and in depth researchers.

The United States, Britain and European countries avail the largest number of tourists, many also taking beach visits and short stay on the Zanzibar and other islands along the coast

Game driving experiences in national parks to gaze at and take photos of free roaming wildlife is the main focus of tourists, with visitors from the Middle East now starting to show interest in the country's attractions as well.

"Last year we received 1000 tourists from Israel and this year we anticipate more arrivals," the commissioner noted. Ambassador Job Daudi Masima, our envoy to Israel, "seems to be doing great work in promoting the country in the Middle East," he said.

Tanzanians on the other hand have been touring Israel even more frequently in the past few years mostly on religious pilgrimage, as Jerusalem is a special destination for Christianity, and scores of other places in Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Turkey.

NSSF subsidiary Sisalana uplifting sisal sub-sector

FROM PAGE 1

security funds, he stated.

He was optimistic that the efforts will gradually make sisal business in the country expand further and enable Sisalana to run more productively and profitably, boosting the fund's earnings and capacity to pay members' pensions.

The partnership also involves the Tanzania Sisal Board which oversees the sub-sector; AMCOS entities that comprise farmers' cooperatives producing sisal, apart from Sisalana, he said.

Korogwe District Commissioner Basilla Mwanukuzi affirmed the district authorities' commitment to promoting sisal production as it is a strategic crop in the area, ensuring that farmers benefit as much as possible from the crop through cooperatives.

"A well-performing Sisalana stands to liberate the sisal industry as it will empower farmers by purchasing and processing their sisal," she said.

Magunga ward AMCOS chairman Shadrack Lugendo said small-scale sisal farmers feel empowered after AMCOS and the district authorities set out paved the way for efficient and profitable cultivation and sale of their produce. Sisal production had increased after many farms were revived following years of lying idle, he affirmed.

Fatuma Omary, a Sisalana employee, said that they have been receiving salaries on time since the NSSF subsidiary took over from Katani Limited.

Various sources have confirmed that Sisalana has begun making significant changes in pushing sisal cultivation in the region by increasing acreage and the quality of the crop.

Sisalana CEO Elizabeth Kalambo said the thrust of the firm's strategy after completing the maintenance of sisal processing machinery is on producing a higher-grade crop,

urging farmers to manage their farms more efficiently.

"That is where the quality of the sisal to be processed, graded and marketed starts," she pointed out, noting that it is just four months since Sisalana started work but it already has registered an appreciable rise in sisal production and quality.

"This includes realising a third level grade, which is high, with farmers having produced some 73.8 tonnes of the grade in the Magunga farms," she stated, upbeat that farmers would work even more diligently and productively in the future.

This would permit further value addition to their produce and realise a much bigger income, she said, elaborating that the production of sisal of the high grade forms 73.5 percent of the company's work.

"Sisalana will continue to work effectively by strengthening the production infrastructure so that we meet the required processing standards," she said.

Sisalana currently runs eight factories, seven in sisal processing and being used to produce various sisal-based items.

When the company was created in March the factories were in a poor state, with processing plants standing unrepaired for years, the CEO noted. "We have made extensive renovations on the production infrastructure and improvements are visible in all our factories."

Regional Administrative Secretary Pili Mnyema said that in collaboration with government authorities, stakeholders have drawn up workable strategies to revive the sisal crop and boost production.

This was in line with directives issued by President Samia Suluhu Hassan and Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, the top administrator intoned. **Photo on Page 4**



Mkombozi Commercial Bank Plc board chairperson Prof Marcellina Chijoriga and chief operations officer Thomas Enock table the bank's financial statement for last year at the 12th Annual General Meeting held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

PM launches apprenticeship training for 14,440 mainland youth colleges

28,941 youth who have been taught skills in various fields.

She said the training enables the youth to spend 40 per cent of his college time for theoretical training in class and 60 per cent in practical training and at his work place. "The training is part of our programme to develop skills in the country whereby some part of the training is from work experience to the graduates and skills obtained outside the official training system," she said.

She said after the youth graduate in December this year the number of the programme beneficiaries will

reach 80,320 hence the country will have adequate labour force for projects implementation as well as reducing the country's unemployment challenge.

Minister Mhagama further said do not pay for the training, as all the cost is being met by the government.

She said before launching the training, the Prime Minister will visit various colleges in Mbeya Region that provide such training including Kyela Polytechnic College, Mbeya and Busokelo VETA colleges, Prisons Technical Training College and MUST.

For his part, Mbeya Regional

Commissioner, Juma Homera said "as we approach the launching day and the Prime Minister sis-day visit in the region, the security situation is satisfactory."

He hailed the government for establishing the training as it will help in beefing up the number of technicians in the country.

Meanwhile, Minister Mhagama called on the youth and other visitors who were expected to attend the event to take precautions against Covid-19 infections by wearing masks and frequently washing their hands with water and soap or sanitizers.



Alsar Company representative Ali Yehiya (L) pictured yesterday briefing Minerals minister Doto Biteko (R, foreground) on diamond business at a Mining Technology exhibition in Shinyanga municipality. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Grumeti Fund donates Covid-19 relief supplies to help Bunda District

By Guardian Correspondent, Bunda

AUTHORITIES in Bunda District, Mara Region, have received a donation of various COVID-19 relief supplies from the Grumeti Fund.

The donation included 10 oxygen gas cylinders, 50 litres of Chlorine, 10 flow metres and 100 boxes of disposable masks.

Bunda District Commissioner (DC) Joshua Nassari received the donation during a brief hand over event held in his office on Friday last week.

Grumeti Fund relations manager, David Mwakipisile handed over the donation along with Pastory Frank, Grumeti's Pharmacy Clerk.

"We want to show our support to the government for their many efforts to stop the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. We at Grumeti Fund continue to support the initiatives of the government in fighting this pandemic. We aim to help protect our surrounding communities by helping where we can," said Mwakipisile.

Grumeti Fund is a non-profit organisation carrying out wildlife conservation and community development work in the western corridor of the Serengeti ecosystem. Their vision is a world in which people and wildlife live together sustainably, forever.

Former PM calls on Tanzania to engage in beekeeping sector

By Guardian Correspondent, Songea

by Tanzania.

FORMER Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda has called on Tanzanians to grab opportunities in beekeeping industry for income generation.

Pinda gave the remarks here at the weekend when opening World Beekeeping Day celebrations at Majimaji Grounds, the event that was also attended by various government officials including those from various institutions under the Natural Resources and Tourism Ministry.

He said bees' products have great benefits in trade as well as food hence it is important to engage in beekeeping to reap its products including honey, and beeswax that are of great demand in the world.

"Our country is blessed with many forests for beekeeping purposes without affecting their ecosystems," he added.

Pinda further said honey, food from bees' products is of great benefits to human as well as cure and added that in Africa Ethiopia leads in honey production followed

However, he called on Tanzanians to establish beekeeping groups at villages level and mobilise the community on the importance of beekeeping for income generation.

Earlier, Songea District Commissioner, Pololet Mgemu who was representing Ruvuma Regional Commissioner Brig. Gen. Wilbert Ibuge, said there are many good areas for beekeeping, adding that the celebrations should spur Tanzanians to grab the opportunity in beekeeping.

He said the education provided by experts from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism should be a pillar of learning on the better beekeeping practices whose products provide nutrients for family members as well as for income generation.

For his part, the founder of Majimaji Serebuka celebrations who is also the Natural Resources and Tourism minister Dr Damas Ndumbaro thanked former PM Mizengo Pinda for coming to grace the event.

Govt calls for next generation future radio access network

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has reiterated the commitment to ensure all Tanzanians are connected to radio and telecommunication networks by 2025, saying, currently 66 per cent of the country get the service.

Communication and Information Technology minister Dr Faustine Ndugulile made the remarks at the weekend, calling on willing stakeholders to join hands and use government's existing infrastructure to help realise the goal.

He said the ministry was doing everything possible to connect the unconnected population, especially those on the marginalized areas like country borders.

Speaking while officiating at the launch of the Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC) broadcasting station of TBC Taifa and TBC FM at Sesenga village in Morogoro

District, Morogoro region.

The station was built through support from the Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF) in effort to help increase and improve access of radio communication in the area and the neighbouring villages including the strategic project of Julius Nyerere Hydropower Station.

"The government is working day and night to ensure that all Tanzanians have access to radio and telecommunication networks and with no interference with connections from the neighbouring countries on those living at the borders" said the minister.

In order to increase access of connectivity at the areas, the minister directed UCSAF to hold talks with mobile phone companies and those who provide broadcasting services to use the newly erected government network tower and

invest in the communication services in the area.

While stating that geographically, at least 66 per cent of the country has coverage to the networks, Ndugulile said that the target is to have full national coverage by 2025. As at now, UCSAF has announced tenders to increase coverage in some 190 villages at the borders.

On internet penetration, the minister said some 43 per cent of the population have access to internet connectivity and the target is to reach 100 per cent too by 2025.

For his part, Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Innocent Bashungwa thanked UCSAF, through the ministry of Communication and Information Technology for practically implementing the ruling party, CCM's 2021-2025 manifesto by helping TBC acquire modern equipment that will improve its

connectivity and access throughout the country.

Speaking on behalf of the parliamentary committee on Infrastructure Development, Innocent Karogenis, thanked the two ministries for collaboratively heeding directives of the committee.

On her part, UCSAF's Chief Executive Officer, Justina Mashiba, noted that the fund has disbursed 450mn/- for the establishment of the broadcasting station, mainly through purchase of equipment, being part of its plan to increase access to communications throughout the country.

TBC's Director General, Dr Ayub Rioba appreciated the support, stating that the establishment of the station is of great importance to the people in the area and the neighbouring areas like the Selous game reserve that will soon be able to access both TBC Taifa and TBC FM.

Tanzania readies to participate in UN Food Systems summit

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S preparations to participate in the forthcoming United Nations food systems summit are in full gear.

So far, about 11 broad-based and inclusive food systems dialogues have been convened to rally stakeholders to develop a comprehensive summary of recommendations and commitments for Tanzania that will be presented at the UN 2021 food system summit.

"Tanzania must be on the front seat in the food systems transformation, which requires public and private sector coordination, participation and investments. We want to ensure safe, nourishing, sustainable, equitable and resilient food systems to drive the growth of the local and export market," noted the director of the national food security unit, Dr Honest Kessy.

Dr Kessy is also the convener of dialogues in Tanzania in preparations for the UN 2021 Food System Summit.

The summit seeks innovative solutions to transform food systems and drive the progression towards the attainment of UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), implemented in Tanzania through national medium-term plans.

The second-largest economy in East Africa serves as the regions grains breadbasket but exports most of its grains and other agro produce unprocessed.

However, the country is implementing a flagship project to drive agro industrialization and turn the situation around.

At a national dialogue on food systems in Dar es Salaam recently, there was a consensus that improved food systems are a must.

It emerged that the country needs heavy investments to improve food systems to cement its place as the region's agriculture powerhouse, building on its strong point in the grains market while addressing its weak issues.

The national dialogue in Dar es Salaam followed ten other conferences in the regions in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar. The food systems dialogues involved public, private, and civil society sectors examining emerging issues to collate information to create a common position for the country to be presented at United Nations Food Systems Summit in September.

Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) in Tanzania is a keen supporter of the food systems dialogues, and it has provided some financial support for some dialogues.

AGRA Tanzania County Manager, Vianey Rweyendela noted that Tanzania's agriculture sector was at a turning point.

"With food self-sufficiency having been surpassed for several years, it is time to direct the excess production into agro-industrialization and commerce in general in ways that benefit the smallholder farmer in Tanzania," he noted.

Rweyendela noted the dialogues would help synthesize consolidated country position paper identifying opportunities that include practices, policies, actions, partnerships, and commitments for presentation to the UN 2021 Food System Summit.

Summit.

Neema Lugangira, Special Seats MP, representing NGOs, and chair of Parliamentary Caucus on Food Safety was the guest of honour at the national dialogue in Dar es Salaam. To increase agricultural contribution to the gross domestic product, she argued that the government, private sector, and development partners must work together to strengthen food systems and raise farmers' output.

She highlighted four key issues that

need to be addressed urgently, namely: a review of policies, laws, regulations to improve and strengthen food systems; educating the population on nutrition; re-examine food systems anew from the source to the consumer, and increased allocation to the government's budget to agriculture.

Clara Makenya, the UN environmental program resident coordinator in Tanzania, noted that food security and food systems are part of UN's SDG 1 and 2. "Eradicating hunger and poverty are

closely related to food," she said.

Richard Kipara, a small scale farmer from Arusha region, rooted for stakeholders to prioritise education around growing and handling food safely for market and consumption.

Erasto Mndanda, a Small-scale farmer from Mvomero, Morogoro region called for public sector institutions handling agriculture issues to be harmonised and work as a team. "Those dealing with land, livestock, and agriculture must work together to avoid repetitive operations and address challenges collectively," he noted.

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BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

Govt to extend chick imports to curb 1.6 million gap

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government is to extend permits for importation of day-old chicks after failing to meet the target of importing two million in the past three months.

Director of Veterinary Services at the Ministry for Livestock and Fishery Dr Prof Hezron Nonga said in an interview that the government target is to ensure the chicks are available and at affordable prices.

He said the government eased importation of the chicks as short term measures to bridge the gap available in the country that was caused by the covid-19.

The director said since the government eased restrictions, between 350,000 and 400,000 chicks have arrived out of the target two million chicks in a period of three months.

He said the imported chicks arrived from Kenya, Uganda, Zambia and India admitting that the speed is very small compared to the

expectation.

"We opt to extend permits to the importers to reduce unnecessary cost to the local producers of buying chicks at a hiking price," he said.

He said the government has so far inspected 20 investors registered in the country's subsector to know whether they can start production as soon as temporary restrictions come to an end. "Despite the fact that the local investors have assured the production to resume normal as agreed, we are not sure and therefore opt to extend import restriction just in case fail to meet the target," he noted.

A cross section survey conducted by the Guardian Newspaper showed that it takes 45 to 60 days for breeders to get his or her order.

As a result it has continued hiking prices of day old chicks (DOC) to 2300/- and 2500/- per single chick which is very expensive.

Furthermore, the date set by the agents becomes unpredictable hence customers lose confidence.

For those who order direct to the breeders the price stands at 1600 per chick and the nearest order is from august this year.

Early this month, the government temporarily eased restrictions on importation of chicks after a huge shortage that forced farmers to wait for three months.

The move came after scarcity of the chicks in the country since April due to global impact of Covid-19 pandemic which affected importation of parental stock.

As a result, farmers in the country could not get the chicks from breeders and most were told to wait until August this year, forcing others to close shop.

"As a short term measure, we have issued importation permits and the first batch of 100,000 chicks will arrive next week for June, July and august gap," he said.

He said the imported chicks will arrive next week from countries like Zambia, Israel, UK, India, Netherlands and Belgium.



Tanga regional commissioner Adam Malima (C, in cap) is briefed on sisal-based items produced by NSSF subsidiary Sisalana at a factory in Muheza District, where he was on a tour at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

EAMCEF issues 350m/- to support conservation initiatives at Amani Nature Reserve for 15 years

By Guardian Correspondent, Muheza

THE Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund (EAMCEF) has in the past 15 consecutive years issued a total of 350m/- to support conservation initiatives at Amani Nature Reserve in Muheza and Korogwe Districts, Tanga Region.

The fund targeted deforestation activities, upgrading of tourist roads and other tourist attractions as well as the planting of tree seedlings that are being distributed free to the reserve's neighboring villages.

Chief conservator of Amani Nature Reserve, Fikiri Maiba said that initiatives to upgrade and strengthen boundaries of the forest reserve have helped to reduce the number of conflicts between neighboring communities.

He said that the initiatives have greatly helped to address repeated attacks and fire incidents in the forest.

Maiba said due to massive improvements conducted at the nature reserve, a number of tourists are flowing to witness various attractions including special birds, trees, flowers. Some people also arrive in the nature reserve for research purposes.

"During cleaning of boundaries and improvement of infrastructures in the reserve, we closely engage residents living near the reserve and this has been strengthening cooperation as well as improving income in the communities," he said.

He said that despite issuing the funds, EAMCEF has also focused on empowering people living along the reserve by providing them with environmental-friendly projects including growing tree seedlings, modern stoves, and beekeeping which through their groups, the communities have been able to increase their income while conserving the environment.

EAMCEF programs officer in the

northern zone, Margreth Victor, said groups in the communities have been receiving funds to implement various projects of tree planting, modern stoves, and fish farming.

The initiatives have greatly helped to increase incomes of the citizens as well as reducing the harvesting of forest resources.

Villages of Mesa, Kisiwani and Mashewa are among the beneficiary areas that are implementing the projects where the majority of them are women.

"These projects have benefited us a lot, by selling the tree seedlings which we grow in our nurseries since 2007, we have been selling and this has improved our income. Some of us have even purchased farms, motorcycles as well as sending our children to school," said Nietiwe Robert, chairperson of Kazamwendo Women Group which engages in growing spice trees including cloves and cinnamon.



REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

RFQ Title: Printing & Dissemination of IEC Materials for K2 Close Out Events

RFQ Number: 2021-K07/02

Date of Solicitation: 2nd August 2021

Closing Date and Time: 12th August 2021, 11:00am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

Questions and Clarifications: Due by 9th August 2021

Estimated Delivery/ Performance Date: 13th September 2021.

Introduction to Pact:

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

About USAID Kizazi Project:

USAID Kizazi Kipya Project is a five-year United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) funded project implemented by Pact Tanzania in collaboration with Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF), the Aga Khan Foundation, Railway Children Africa, and the Ifakara Health Institute (IHI) working to transform lives of vulnerable children and youth.

The project aims to enable more Tanzanian Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) – children, adolescents, and young people orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV and other adversities – to use age-appropriate HIV- and AIDS-related and other services for improved care, health, nutrition, education, protection, livelihoods, and psychosocial wellbeing. The overall goal of USAID Kizazi Kipya is to ensure children and youth thrive and survive through sustainable improvement and social wellbeing. The project is working across all regions of Tanzania.

Overall Objective:

The overall objective of the assignment is to print and disseminate Information, Education, and Communications (IEC) materials in Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Mwanza, Mbeya, Tabora, and Ruvuma.

A. Requirement/ Technical Specifications

S/No	Items	Specification	Quantity
1	Project Booklet	30 pages, B6 paper size, 170gsm coated glossy paper (text), color printed, (250gsm, glossy paper), bound with pin	1000
2	Project Compendium	120 pages, B5 paper size, 170gsm coated glossy paper (text), color printed, cover (300gsm, glossy paper), bound with hot glue	1000
3	Vocational Scholarship Service Model Booklet	30 pages, B5 paper size, 170gsm coated glossy paper (text), color printed, cover (250gsm, glossy paper), bound with pin	1000
5	A/CLHIV Service Model Booklet	30 pages, B5 paper size, 170gsm coated glossy paper (inside), color printed, cover (250gsm, glossy paper), bound with pin	1000
6	Backdrop banner	13m x 8 m	4
7	Forex Boards	High quality made forex board pasted with sticker Size: 2m x 2 cm	20
8	Name tags with lanyard	High quality printed on 250gsm with matt lamination Size: 10 x 14.5cm, Lanyard 45 cm	200
9	Newsletter	16 pages, B5 paper size, 250gsm with glossy lamination and text on 150gsm	400
10	Project Profile	A5 paper size, 200gsm	500
11	T-shirts	V collar, grey/white colour, pure cotton/0.5 cotton-polyester	300
12	T-shirts	Round colour, white/grey, pure cotton/0.5 cotton-polyester	1000

Interested vendors should request the full Terms of Reference (ToR) through email with the subject line "TOR for Printing & Dissemination of IEC Materials" to ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org before Thursday, 5th August 2021.

All questions and requests for clarification should be directed to ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org with subject line "Request for Clarification: Printing & Dissemination of IEC Materials" before Monday 9th August 2021.

B. Eligibility

In order to be considered for award, Vendors must be currently legally operating in Tanzania and the quotation must include all of the following information:

- Ability to meet or exceed the Requirements/Technical Specifications outlined in Section A;
- Ability to deliver the items/services specified in Section A no later than the date(s) required.

C. Submission Instructions

The following information to be included by vendor in quotation:

- 1 A completed copy of the Form C "Quotation Coversheet" attached to the ToR
- 2 Quoted price in for each item or service specified in Tanzania Shillings. This price should be all inclusive, delivery, and taxes if applicable
- 3 Validity period of offer (Offer should be valid for at least 45 days).
- 4 Credit Payment Term: Pact is preferable payment with 1-month credit, after delivery of goods.
- 5 Indicate of delivery duration weeks to supply and delivery of goods after PO issue.
- 6 Your quotation must be on official letter head with authorized signature and stamp.
- 7 Specifications of the products offered in Section A fully addressed.

Vendors who wish to answer this RFQ should send their quotations in sealed envelopes to Pact Tanzania office at the following address, by 9th August 2021, 11:00 am, PACT TANZANIA Standard Time and please label your sealed envelopes as "PRINTING & DISSEMINATION OF IEC MATERIALS FOR K2 CLOSE OUT EVENTS"

Office Address :

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

Quotes must be containing a completed quote cover sheet (attached to the ToR appendices)

- Proposals submitted through emails will not be considered.
- Quotations received after that time or at a different address may not be accepted
- All quotations and delivery dates shall be valid for a period of ninety at least 45 days following the submission due date mentioned above.

The Guardian Limited

VACANCY

Freelancer Sales Executive

The Guardian Limited is looking for self driven sales personnel to join our advertising Sales Team in Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Arusha, Zanzibar, Tanga, Morogoro and Kilimanjaro.

Responsibilities

- Be responsible for aggressive development of new clients and growing existing business.
- Proactively develop new business avenues
- Devise and monitor business plans to ensure substantive sales
- Develop strategic solutions that meet the unique needs of each client

Qualifications

- The position requires someone who can deliver the set targets within deadlines under competitive working environment.
- Applicants need to be highly organized, self-motivated with a positive attitude, and can thrive on setting and reaching new goals.
- Holders of a University degree or Diploma in Business Administration
- Experience in Sales and Marketing is an added advantage

NOTE: This is a commission Based Position

Please send your application via Email to vacancy@guardian.co.tz before 15th August, 2021.



Youths just through a three-day KCB Bank Tanzania's ZJajiri Youth Entrepreneurship Training programme capacity building seminar show their certificates of attendance in Zanzibar at the weekend. The training was organised by the bank in collaboration with the National Economic Empowerment Council. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tari-Uyole researches on low cost and high yield maize fertiliser

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Uyole Centre of Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute in Mbeya Region (TARI-Uyole) says it has done research resulting in the new type of fertiliser that can help maize farmers to increase production of the crop and earn higher income.

It said the results of the research underwent experiment in four areas of the Southern Highlands Zone - Mbozi, Uyole, Mufindi and Kilolo.

A TARI-Uyole Researcher, Frederick Mlowe said here at the weekend that the research aimed to help farmers to incur little cost but reaping higher, better maize yields compared with the situation now.

He said after the research, the farmer can now use 2 bags only of the fertiliser instead of four or five as is the case now.

"We did the research by taking into consideration the area's climate and soil condition from various areas in the Southern Highlands regions and came up with the new better fertiliser for maize farmers," Mlowe added.

For his part, TARI-Uyole Director Dr Tulole Bucheyeki said the farmer will have to use only a small quantity of the fertiliser as compared with other types.

He said the new fertiliser has the ability to produce from 15 to 25 bags of maize per acre and has all the essential minerals and other nutrients.

Some farmers, including Samuel

Sinkonde from Uyole Ward said he has tried the low cost fertiliser and found out that it has the ability to increase crops yields.

For his part, TARI-Uyole practical student, Jenista Nyiwili said the fertiliser has brought benefits to farmers because it has all essential nutrients and is of low cost to farmers.

She said her main responsibility is now to mobilise farmers on the correct application of the fertiliser to enable them increase their maize yields and asked TARI to distribute the input to many other areas in the country.

He said after the research, the farmer can now use 2 bags only of the fertiliser instead of four or five as is the case now.



Plot 4B, Nyerere Road, P.O Box 911, Dar es Salaam
Telephone: +255 22 2860047/9, Fax: 2 8 64041, E-mail: info@tolgases.co.tz

NOTICE

2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Meeting of the Shareholders of TOL Gases Limited for the year ended December, 31, 2020 will be held on a hybrid of physical attendance at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) and via ZOOM video conferencing on 27th August, 2021 at 9.00 am to transact the following business:-

1. Adoption of the Agenda.
2. Confirmation of Minutes of the year 2019 Annual General Meeting held on 28th August, 2020.
3. Matters arising from minutes of the year 2019 Annual General Meeting.
4. Chairman's Statement.
5. To receive the Directors' Report, Auditors' Report and the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2020.
6. To approve Dividend Payment.
7. Election of Directors
8. To approve Directors' Fees.
9. To appoint Auditors for the year 2021.
10. Any other business (Duly notified at least seven days before the meeting)

Registration for participating in the ZOOM Video Conferencing should be done through phone no 0685750201/0685750203.

A member entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting is entitled to appoint any person (whether a member of the Company or not) to attend and vote in his stead.

All proxy forms or letters appointing proxy must be lodged at the office of the Company Secretary at least 48 hours before the time fixed for the holding of the meeting or via email to mjuliana@tol-gases.co.tz / nlulu@tol-gases.co.tz

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

JULIANA MARIKARIA - MWAKYOB
FOR COMPANY SECRETARY

Directors: M.N.Shirima – Chairman(Tanzanian), S. Mponji – (Tanzanian), J.Massawe – (Tanzanian), S.Selestine – TR – URT (Tanzanian), Prof.A.Temu – (Tanzanian), Eng. J. Machange – (Tanzanian)

216384801



Plot 4B, Nyerere Road, P.O Box 911, Dar es Salaam
Telephone: +255 22 2860047/9, Fax: 2 8 64041, E-mail: info@tolgases.co.tz

BOARD MEMBER VACANCY.

TOL Gases Limited is the leading manufacturer and distributor of Industrial and Medical Gases. Additionally the Company distributes high quality brands of welding and related consumables as well as medical oxygen related appliances within Tanzania and the neighbouring countries through distributorship arrangements.

The Company was established in the 1950's and has been listed in the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange since 1998.

The secretariat of the Board of Directors of TOL Gases Limited, do hereby invite applications from suitable candidates who wish to be elected to fill one vacant position of Board Membership representing experts.

Requirements:

1. Expertise in Accounting and Finance, Engineering or Governance.
2. Applicants are required to be nominated / proposed by a Shareholder who is duly qualified to be present and vote at the meeting and has signed the proposition to concede his willingness to be elected.
3. Any shareholder who would like to nominate / propose a person for election to represent professionals/experts, may submit the following to the Secretary not earlier than 9th August 2021 and not later than 21st August 2021 :-
 - Notice of his/her intention to propose such a person signed by the proposed person conceding his willingness to be elected.
 - Resume of the proposed person with due consideration to the requirements of the Companies Act and the Company's MEMARTS.
4. Submission should be delivered to the following address.

Company Secretary
TOL Gases Limited
Plot 4b, Nyerere Road
P.O.Box 911,
Dar es Salaam

Email: nlulu@tol-gases.co.tz / mjuliana@tol-gases.co.tz

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

216384801

Directors: M.N.Shirima – Chairman(Tanzanian), S. Mponji – (Tanzanian), J.Massawe – (Tanzanian), S.Selestine – TR – URT (Tanzanian), Prof.A.Temu – (Tanzanian), Eng. J. Machange – (Tanzanian)



Plot 4B, Nyerere Road, P.O Box 911, Dar es Salaam
Telephone: +255 22 2860047/9, Fax: 2 8 64041, E-mail: info@tolgases.co.tz

WITO KWA WANAHISA KUFUATILIA MALIPO YA GAWIO LA MWAKA WA FEDHA 2018 & 2019.

TOL Gases Limited ilikasimisha jukumu la kulipa gawio kwa wanahisa wake kwa CSD & Registry Company Limited (CSDR) kampuni tanzu ya Soko la Hisa la Dar es Salaam. Hata hivyo kufikia tarehe ya tangazo hili, bado kuna wanahisa ambao hawajachukua fedha zao za gawio la mwaka wa fedha 2018 & 2019. Na hii inatokana na CSDR kutokuwa na tarifa zao za kibenki au namba za simu ambazo zitawezesha kulipwa gawio.

Hivyo basi Mwanahisa ambaye hajalipwa gawio anapaswa kutuma taarifa za kibenki (Namba ya Akaunti na Jina la Benki), Namba ya Simu ya Mkononi pamoja na nakala ya nyaraka zifuatazo:

1. Stakabadhi ya Umiliki wa Hisa (CDS Receipt)
2. Kitambulisho (Kati ya kitambulisho cha taifa, pasi ya kusafiria, leseni ya udereva au kadi ya mpiga kura)

Mwanahisa anaweza kutuma taarifa zake kwa barua au kujaza fomu ya kuboresha kumbukumbu za Mwanahisa inayopakana kwenye tovuti ya CSDR www.csdr.co.tz na kutuma kwa Sanduku la Posta, barua pepe au whatsapp kupitia anuani ifuatayo:

Msajili wa Hisa
CSD & Registry Company Limited
Kambarage House, Gorofa ya 2, Mtaa wa Ufukoni,
S. L. P 70081
Dar es Salaam
Simu: 0746 160516/0677070414 /0685750201
Barua pepe: registrar@csdr.co.tz au nlulu@tol-gases.co.tz

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
TOL GASES LIMITED.

216384801

Directors: M.N.Shirima – Chairman(Tanzanian), S. Mponji – (Tanzanian), J.Massawe – (Tanzanian), S.Selestine – TR – URT (Tanzanian), Prof.A.Temu – (Tanzanian), Eng. J. Machange – (Tanzanian)

Rungwe DC promises fair prices in milk production

By Guardian Correspondent, Rungwe

RUNGWE District Commissioner in Mbeya Region Dr Vincent Anney has promised dairy cows keepers that they will start reaping benefits following efforts to find investors who will buy milk at better prices than it is now.

Dr Anney made the remarks here at the weekend at the Rungwe District Council Councillors meeting in which various issues were raised in regard to low prices dairy keepers were getting from their high quality milk.

Among Dr Anney's strategies is to finalise agreement with Asas Dairy Company and other investors who have been wooed by the District's

good environment in the dairy sector.

"A litre of milk is sold at 600/- and the buyer, say Tanga Fresh Company, sells at 1,200/- while the District's milk production is 60 million litres per year, which shows how dairy cows keepers are being shortchanged of their product," he said.

He added that they will soon add more modern dairy cows to make sure milk is obtained abundantly to meet the available market.

In regard to the cocoa crop, Dr Anney said the government has announced its indicative price - 4,200/- per kg and directed all buyers to abide by the price.

He said so far in some areas

farmers are complaining for lack of the cocoa crop due to buyers not going to cooperatives societies, and promised to discuss with investors to establish cocoa processing factories including chocolate making.

For his part, Rungwe District Council Chairman, Mpokigwa Mwankuga said the Council's position is to remove all middlemen defrauding dairy cow keepers and urged other investors to come forward to assist them.

The Council's Executive Director, Loema Peter said dairy products has had great contribution in income generation and that they will continue to improve the environment to achieve higher prices to benefit keepers.



Barrick country manager Georgia Mutagahywa (2nd-L) makes a presentation at a local content workshop organised by Twiga Minerals Corporation and held at Barrick North Mara Gold Mine at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

BARRICK has pledged to continue strategising to ensure the company sees successful implementation of the mining Act's Local Content regulations (2019), which provide that big and medium sized mining companies include Tanzanians in the value chain.

The mining firm's country manager Georgia Mutagahywa made the commitment over the weekend during a two-day local content workshop, organised by Barrick and Twiga Minerals Corporation whereas in attendance were the firm's senior managers, chairman and senior executives from Tanzania Mining Corporation as well as stakeholders from various government institutions. The workshop held at Barrick's North Mara mine.

On her presentation on Barrick's local content complying efforts, at the workshop, Mutagahywa said as part of implementation of the Local Content regulations the company has taken action in areas of employment and offerings of tenders; as well as running community development projects in the vicinity of the its mines of Buzwagi, Bulyanhulu and North Mara through the company's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy.

However, she noted that Barrick still needs immense support from the government to ensure effective and successful implementation of the Mining

'Barrick keen to implement local content regulations'

Act and the Mining Local Content Regulations.

Mutagahywa said the mining company is in the process of starting a Local Business Development Program (LBD), which will be the foundation of overseeing implementation of the regulations to ensure that Tanzanians benefit from it by improving their livelihoods through the mining sector.

Chairman for Tanzania Mining Commission, Prof. Idrisa Kikula said since the inception of the Mining Commission, it has been in the forefront to coordinate implementation of the Local Content requirements as per the Mining Act and Mining Local Content Regulations.

"We have been closely monitoring Tanzanian participation in the Mining sector by ensuring that preference is given to goods that are produced or available in Tanzania and services which are rendered by Tanzania citizens and indigenous Tanzanian companies, and our monitoring efforts have started to yield positive results."

Prof. Kikula further explained that the Mining Commission is ready to support to Twiga to facilitate the creation of sustainable opportunities for Tanzanians in the Mineral value chain. He noted that to support mining company

in this, the Commission is ready to provide detailed clarifications on various challenges that the company encounters in the implementation and compliance of the Local Content.

The two-day seminar was conducted as a discussion as well as training whereas senior executive from the Tanzania Mining Commission, Janeth Lekashingo, Terrence Ngole, Venance Kasiki and Godfrey Nsemwa presented about Local Content Administration, Local Content Plan & Sub-Plans and Local Content Performance Reporting.

Local Content regulations requires investors in the mining sector to prioritize usage and utilization of local products and services with the exception of those that are unavailable in the country whereas foreign tenderers are required to partner with indigenous companies. This is geared to increase growth of the Tanzanian business sector and ultimately economic growth at the individual and national level at large.

The local content regulations further directs mining companies to offer employment opportunities to Tanzanians and ensure pay equity for Tanzanians and foreigners who perform similar duties such as equal pay for work of equal value.

Centre advises govt to adopt community based water management model system

By Getrude Mbago

THE Centre for Community Initiatives (CCI) has urged the government to adopt the 'community based water management model for informal settlement' developed by the centre so as to address water challenges facing various communities in the country.

The model has been piloted in Keko Machungwa Street in Miburani ward, Temeke Municipal in Dar es Salaam and produced positive results which include increasing transparency and accountability as well as increased cooperation between leaders and community.

Speaking during the project's evaluation meeting held in Dar es Salaam recently Samwel John, CCI's water and sanitation engineer said the model started to be implemented in 2011 in Keko Machungwa where a big water well was drilled closely engaging the local communities.

"This model involves closer engagement of the local community when implementing water projects, it enables the community to be supervisors of the projects, this promotes the suitability of the projects to benefit others in the future," he said.

He said to make the project sustainable, CCI mobilized federation groups within settlements. The groups aimed

to do daily savings, loaning and addressing development issues.

Also groups collect the information through enumeration and mapping and use the information as the base for planning and addressing issues within the community.

The groups are among the bigger network of community groups known as Tanzania Urban Poor Federation (TUPF) which are implementing community development projects including water projects.

"The constructed water well in Keko Machungwa benefits over 600 residents, markets and guest houses. 27 households have been connected to water and six water centres have been built," he said.

The water well has the capacity to pump 10,000 litres of water per hour supplying it to various connected houses and areas.

"If the government could adopt this model, it can help address various water challenges facing communities in rural and urban areas. Big water wells can be drilled in villages and thus be able to supply water to people seven days a week," he explained.

Samwel said during inception communities participated in conducting need assessments, digging trenches, purchasing equipment, selection of areas, negotiation with colleagues in their areas, and choosing a place to invest in the project.

"The model has brought a number of positive impacts which include strengthened sustainable supply of clean and safe water in the intervention areas; time spent on fetching water is now invested on other developmental issues; There is improvement of health especially sanitation and hygiene related issues; capacity strengthened to group members on leadership, decision making, resulted to increased assertiveness even at local meetings."

The project has also opened up additional opportunities for women, and they have learnt on how to grab them through different connections at Ward, Municipal, and Ministry's level.

Antonia Lucas, secretary, Amka group, who are the supervisor of the project at community level (Keko Machungwa) said hundreds of residents have got relief following the implementation of the water project in the area.

She said the project has brought happiness to the residents especially girls and women who are the biggest victims of the challenge as they were walking early in the morning to search for the precious liquid.

"If we fail to walk to the water sites, we are then forced to buy a bucket of 20-litres between five 500/- and 1000/- from water vendors. We are very grateful to CCI for bringing us this water project here," Antonia said.



MSPH Tanzania LLC, 7th Floor, Jangid Plaza, Plot No. G6, Chaburuma Road (Off-Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road) P.O. Box 80214, Dar es Salaam, email: icap-tz-info@columbia.edu phone: +255 (0) 22 270 0719+255 (0) 22 270 0725

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION - MSPH-TZ-RFQ-005

Introduction:

Mailman School of Public Health Tanzania LLC (hereinafter referred to as "MSPH Tanzania LLC" or "the organization") is a not-for-profit organization registered and operated by The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York, in the United States of America. MSPH Tanzania LLC is also known locally as ICAP, has been operating in Tanzania since 2004, with funding from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). ICAP is expecting to implement Bio-Behavioral Survey (BBS) among High-Risk Women (HRW) and People who inject Drugs (PWID) in Tanzania.

This survey will be led by the Tanzania Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly, and Children (MoHCDGEC) - National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through CDC Tanzania Country Office (CDC Tanzania), National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the Tanzania HIV/AIDS Commission (TACAIDS), the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR), the National Health Laboratory Quality Assurance and Training Centre (NHLQATC), Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) and The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

This study is intending to measure prevalence of HIV/AIDS and Sexual Transmission Infections (STI) among HRW and PWID. Furthermore, the study will enable to provide a size estimate of these populations that are needed to guide policy, resources allocation, clinical and preventive service delivery, program implementation, monitoring, survey, and reporting.

Scope of Service

Subjected to funding availability MSPH Tanzania LLC - ICAP has set aside funds to implement BBS study for one year starting from October 2021 to September 2022. The study will be implemented in Mwanza, Dodoma and Mbeya regions and is expected to reach a total 1200 clients.

MSPH Tanzania LLC - ICAP now invites quotes from eligible and registered service providers for the following

Lots.

SN	Description of requirement
LOT 1	Medical supplies
LOT 2	Lab supplies
LOT 3	IT Supplies
Lot 4	Office Supplies and Consumables

Note:

- Please clearly indicate lot numbers, failure to comply will disqualify your application.
- Eligible companies should request for items indicated in each lot and full specifications from ICAP Tanzania through TanzaniaProcurement@cumc.columbia.edu
- Shortlisted Companies will be contacted to provide samples and should clearly indicate availability and delivery period of the products.

General Criteria for Submission

- The tender validity period is for at least 90 days and delivery period should be clearly indicated.
- Current and updated company profile must be submitted
- Copies of registration certificate and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, TMDA, TIN Number, and other relevant documents
- Evidence of similar work/assignment with at least three reference from clients served must be submitted
- Payment terms must be indicated
- Manufacturer authorization should be attached for all distributors (if Any)
- The public tender opening will be made in presence of all bidders or their official representatives. We encourage all bidders to attend through zoom conference meeting and Zoom conference Link will be sent to all applicants.
- MSPH Tanzania reserve the rights to disqualify any offer based on failure to follow solicitation instructions.
- MSPH reserves the rights to waive minor proposal deficiencies that cannot be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition
- The evaluation of bids will be conducted as per MSPH Tanzania LLC - ICAP Procurement Guidelines.

How to Apply:

Interested and eligible Companies should submit tender documents on the below email to procurement department at TanzaniaProcurement@cumc.columbia.edu. For more clarifications on specifications should email TanzaniaProcurement@cumc.columbia.edu

The Tender Committee,
MSPH Tanzania LLC - ICAP,
Jangid Plaza 7th Floor - Chaburuma Road
P.O Box 80214, Dar es salaam, Tanzania
All quotes must be in Tanzania Shillings

The deadline for the submission is 10:00am East Africa Time on 16th August 2020.
No tender fee charged for this invitation



GRADUATION DAY: Ubungo district commissioner Kheri James (2nd-R) presents a leaving certificate at the weekend to Asimwe Mwemezi, who has just completed primary school at Dar es Salaam's St Anne Marie Academy. The DC is flanked by the academy's director, Dr Jasson Rweikiza (R) and headteacher Gladius Ndyetabura. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Govt support for business research and innovation of immense use

By **Grtrude Mbago**

THE government is planning to invest heavily in research and innovation in the next five years so as to facilitate education institutions to produce well skilled graduates to build a competitive economy.

Deputy minister for Education, Science and Technology Omar Kipanga made the statement in Dar es Salaam during the weekend when closing the 6th exhibitions on Higher Education held at Mnazi Mmoja grounds that were organised by the Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU).

Kipanga said the government will strengthen systems for provision of quality which include monitoring systems for higher learning institutions and technical colleges; invest in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and capacity building.

He said for the country to attain its development goals of having an industrial economy, there is a need for concerted efforts to prepare human resources that possess competencies required by the market. "We will also put more emphasis on public-private partnerships (PPP) and encourage more players from the private sector to invest in education and support provision of quality education in the country," he said.

He added that the government is also working to review and amend the country's education system so as to align with the current

demand and employment market considering changes in science and technology.

He wanted higher learning institutions to be creative, invest in research and new curriculums so as to produce competent graduates who will be able to contribute more and bring changes in the country's economy.

The deputy minister universities should establish programmes that complement the country's development priorities, market demand and development of science and technology.

TCU executive secretary Prof Charles Kihampa said the exhibitions attracted 74 higher learning institutions and other education organisations to showcase their services.

He said visitors got opportunity to learn and expand their understanding on several areas of finance, engineering, aviation, construction, education and others.

In addition, Prof Kihampa said that since the commission opened its first window of application for first degree programmes for the 2021/22 academic year, three weeks ago, a total of 52,336 candidates have submitted their applications in various universities and colleges.

"Within a short time applicants have responded well and this has been contributed by the exhibitions. So we will continue improving them every year," he said.

By **Correspondent Joseph**

Mwendapole

Charge reasonable school fees, Ubungo DC tells private schools

PRIVATE schools have been tasked to charge reasonable school fees so as to enable children from low income families get access to better education.

Ubungo District Commissioner, Kheri James made the call over the weekend when speaking at the 18th primary graduation ceremony at St Anne Marie Academy in Dar es Salaam

He said if the private schools will charge affordable fees many Tanzanians will get access to better education and contribute to the government's efforts in improving education sector. "I would like to tell St Anne Marie Academy that you

are doing wonders academically, but please charge affordable rates to enable many parents to send their children here," he said

He further said the success of the school is the results of restless efforts by teachers, the founder of the schools Dr Jasson Rweikiza, Dar es Salaam education office and Ubungo District education office.

"I commend Dr Jasson Rweikiza for this important investment in our country because you have helped the government efforts in improving education sector and am

told that you have employed over 200 staff this is good to our country and people should learn from you," he said

Kheri also saluted parents who have continued to trust the school and pay the school fees on time something which he said has helped the school to run smoothly.

Kheri said during the visit to the school he was amazed by the beauty of the school's library which have good number of books and different learning materials with full air condition.

"It is my first time to see a primary school library full of air condition, for sure Dr Rweikiza you are doing better so make sure you continue with this spirit," he said

School head teacher, Gladius Ndyetabura, said in standard seven results in 2017, St Anne Marie emerged number one in Ubungo District, number one in Dar es Salaam and number eight at national level and in 2018 the school maintained the same position at Ubungo and in Dar es Salaam and become number sit at national level.

Environmentalists launch tool kit for continent's youths on climate change

By **Guardian Reporter**

AMBASSADORS from Kenya, Ghana, Liberia and Tanzania last week discussed how to improve climate literacy among Africa's youth and announced the launch of a toolkit for the campaign.

The campaign aims to push for climate and environmental literacy becoming a compulsory subject from kindergarten through to university level across the continent.

Clara Makenya, the representative for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Tanzania, said the programme had five priorities, namely climatic mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity conservation, addressing waste and hazardous chemicals, resource efficiency and environmental governing.

She said the UNEP had an education for sustainable consumption programme, which looked at teaching children, educators and policymakers about building a sustainable lifestyle.

The UNEP hopes to improve climate education by supporting policymakers with tools that enhance their understanding of the importance of education for sustainable consumption. The UN agency also aims to provide guidance on how to integrate environmental education into school curriculums and provide educators with the necessary tools and resources.

Derrick Mugisha, the regional director for Africa at environmental group Earthday.org, said climate and environmental literacy, combined with civic education, would create greener consumer markets and enable citizens to work with governments in a meaningful way to mitigate climate change.

The campaign also aims to tap into the African perspective of addressing climate change.

"We have to look at the climate crisis as a crisis of our own," said Ezekiel Nyanfor, the founder of a youth network in Liberia that is working with Earthday.org. "We need an African approach to solve the climate crisis."

Earthday.org is urging those interested in supporting or learning more about the campaign to visit its website, sign petitions and make donations.

Visit Ruhila Zoo regularly, minister Ndumbaro advises people in Songea

By **Guardian Correspondent, Songea**

MINISTER for Natural Resources and Tourism Dr Damas Ndumbaro has urged the people of Songea Municipality to imbibe a culture of visiting the Ruhila Zoo regularly to boost local tourism in the area.

Dr Ndumbaro made the call over the weekend while inaugurating wild meat-eating day at Ruhila Zoo.

Organised by Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA), the function was attended by various leaders from the

government and institutions under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism as part of the annual Majimaji Serebuka Festival.

Dr Ndumbaro who is also an MP for Songea Urban said that people had a great opportunity to do local tourism as the Ruhila Zoo is close to human settlements and also has many gentle animals such as zebras, monkeys, and fish.

He said that due to the nature of the park it is important for various institutions, schools, and colleges to develop the habit of having a system of

visiting the area for tourism activities and learning about various biodiversity issues.

TAWA's acting Deputy Commissioner for Tourism and Trade Services, Musika Nyangapo said that many citizens are eager to eat wild meat where TAWA is the main administrator. Wildlife issues have taken on the responsibility of bringing wildlife for the benefit of the people.

Nyangapo said that the wildlife in the zoo would continue to reproduce and provide various opportunities for the

people and the government, so it is very important that local tourism activities continue for visitors to photograph, watch animals, birds, and plants and take day breaks by setting up tents.

Ruhila Zoo was established in 1973 and fenced in 1974 under the supervision of Ruvuma Region in 1992 where the entire buildings and area were handed over under the supervision of the Wildlife department.

By 1916 the area had been handed over to the Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA).

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MONDAY 2 AUGUST 2021

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Could ATCL bear with Treasury on plane ownership, large debts?

RATHER familiar perceptions of how large corporate entities ought to operate were somewhat audible during a frank exchange of views between the management of Air Tanzania Co. Ltd (ATCL) and the government as a whole, at a function to receive a newcomer to the growing ATCL fleet. It was on Friday when the management outlined a number of challenges it wants to be resolved to allow it to effectively implement its newly-drafted business plan that focuses on expansion and profitability. Director General Ladislaus Matindi told President Samia Suluhu Hassan that one of the issues hindering the national carrier's smooth operations is the company's ownership structure, with it finds onerously restrictive.

The country's top leadership was at hand to receive a new Dash 8-400 aircraft at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) whose arrival brings the ATCL fleet to nine aircraft, and the ATCL management was complaining that it does not own that fleet. The planes are owned by the government through the Government Flight Agency (TGFA) which unquestionably the ATCL management sees as a superlative agency, as the planes are intended for ATCL operations. As a matter of fact the government thinks differently, as at one time the late President John Magufuli said that the government was leasing the planes to ATCL as a priority rather than a right, intoning that the planes can be loaned elsewhere.

The ATCL management evidently wishes for a shift in attitudes where ATCL is consecrated as the rightful custodian of government aviation carriers planning, not where it is operating someone else's planes but its own. In other words the

public entity be taken as a sufficient corporate structure where the government can place planes worth more than one trillion shillings and expect a return of capital and a profit. It isn't surprising that the government is exercising a measure of caution, which the company says it doesn't allow it to "make certain business decisions such as increasing our fleet." Another challenge is a pile of inherited debts making its earnings be directed to servicing the debts. That may look surprising.

The debts can be said to have been inherited by the current ATCL management and not by ATCL as such, as they aren't inherited from the old East African Airways that collapsed towards the end of 1976. The firm's CEO went on to illustrate a similar snag, that ATCL used to own 20 per cent of shares of Sky Chef—a company providing on board catering services—but the shares were taken over by the Treasury Registrar. He asked that the shares be returned to ATCL to improve the firm's financial position, which is definitely an arguable case, but to the fifth phase government that was a different source of revenues. In addition, outsourcing services means that one gets a service and pays for it, thus enhancing accountability.

Reacting to the remarks, President Samia acknowledged that she had indeed obtained the corporate entity's current plan and expects to sit with top level advisors and see how to move forward. It is evident that there is a gap in perception, where the entity wishes to be free like other entities, though lacking in their ownership structures. To be operationally free, it would have to be largely privatised like the former govt-owned banks, NMB or CRDB; they no longer have to take business plans to the presidency, etc.

Obesity crisis threatens Africa's health system

OBESITY is a major cause of morbidity, disability and premature death, compared to smoking because of its associated disease burden and impact on population health. Obesity is a medical condition in which excess body fat has accumulated to an extent that it may have a negative effect on health. People are generally considered obese when their body mass index is a measurement obtained by dividing a person's weight by the square of the person's height. Obesity is correlated with various diseases and conditions, particularly cardiovascular diseases, type 2 diabetes, obstructive sleep apnea, certain types of cancer, and osteoarthritis.

Obesity has individual, socioeconomic, and environmental causes, including diet, physical activity, automation, urbanisation, genetic susceptibility, medications, mental disorders, economic policies, endocrine disorders, and exposure to endocrine-disrupting chemicals.

A new study conducted by the Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) has shown that obesity cases are rising in Tanzania, increasing the risk of non-communicable diseases.

The study shows that if no action is taken the situation will impose heavy economic burden on individuals, families and the government.

The Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRA) in their report following the research calls for urgent policy intervention by the government to arrest the trend it says has led to upsurge of non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

Apart from the ever rising death toll from the NCDs, individual patients incur medical and non-medical costs totaling million shillings annually, on average, as well as indirect costs such as loss of income, according to the

report. The cost to the government of caring for NCD patients nearly doubled from 142.7 million dollars in 2015/16 to 280.6 million dollars in 2019/20.

Obesity and NCDs are a global concern. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), 39 per cent of the global adult population or 1.9 billion people were overweight in 2016 while 13 per cent (650 million people) were obese. Some 41 million children under five years were also diagnosed overweight or obese.

The research by the policy think tank found that five percent of Tanzania's adult population had excessive weight in 2008, but this rose to 8.4 percent in 2016 whereas deaths from NCDs accounted for a third of all deaths. Obesity was reported to be higher among females (12.7 per cent) than men (4.1 per cent) and it affects the age group 45-54 years most.

Lack of community awareness on NCDs and the government's concentration on curative care services rather than preventive measures is blamed for the continued growth of the diseases.

The study led by Professor Fortunata Songora Makene, ESRF's head of strategic research and publications department, found that 97 percent of the government's total health service budget was spent on caring for NCD patients and only three percent went to management of the diseases.

Obesity is the accumulation of excessive body fat, which is largely the result of habitual consumption of high caloric foods and drinks. The ESRF research, sponsored by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada, built its analysis on the already established strong effect of Sugar-Sweetened Beverages (SSBs) on weight gain and found them strongly related.

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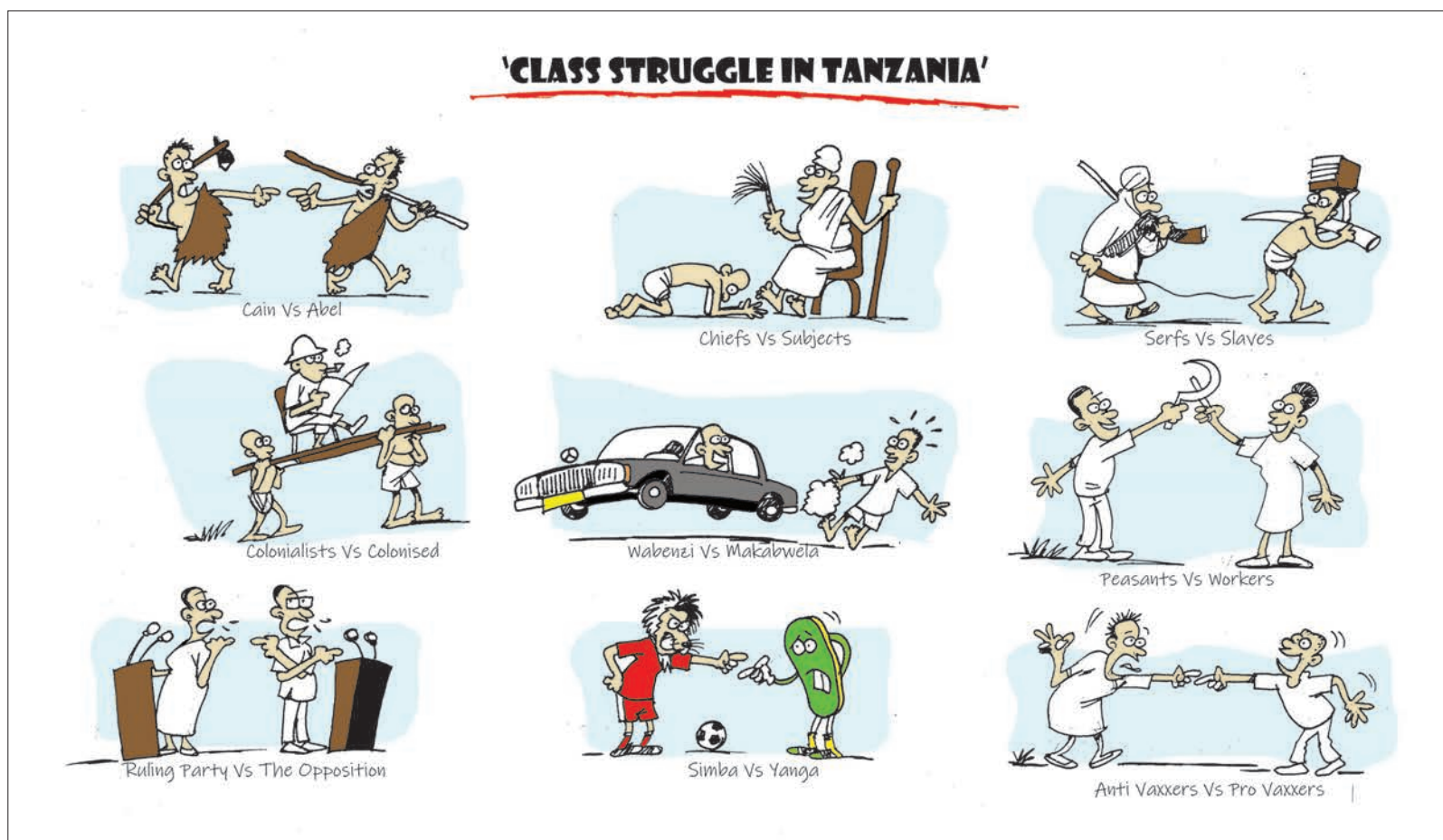
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Beating corruption needs everyone's input

By Special Correspondent

CORRUPTION-RELATED activities such as favouritism and abuse of office are still serious problems in Zimbabwe despite the major culture change introduced by President Mnangagwa and the Second Republic and as the President noted this week still needs all of us to actively fight it.

The battle is not and cannot be fought on one front, by the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission which is mandated as the lead agency in the Constitution, or even just by the Government.

The corrupt come from all walks of life, and insinuate themselves into all walks of life as they pervert institutions and seduce the honest.

This is why the National Anti-Corruption Strategy launched last year includes a national steering committee, already in place, that comprises senior Government officials, legislators, representatives of the public and private sector as well as civic society. Just as corruption can be everywhere so the fight must be everywhere.

Now the strategy is getting down to detailed plans and detailed action in the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Strategic plan for 2021 to 2023 that the President launched on Monday, the Fifth African Anti-Corruption Day.

This plan recognises the lead constitutional role of the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission, but also lays out how every other relevant agency and body needs to work with the commission.

There are obvious improvements that must be made. For a start, while a lot of those suspected to be involved in what can be called "big time" corruption in Government and major national agencies have been arrested and remanded, their trials tend to take forever.

Some of the delays are the result of excellent lawyers working for the defence, who seek out, as they should, every loophole in the State case, and, less nobly, find other reasons for delay.

But some are the result of incomplete investigations, it being common in many hearings for further remand for yet another month that the State still has investigations to conclude.

This is starting to bring in applications for refusal of remand, and at some stage judicial officers will have little option, but to accede to such applications under our rules of natural justice.

Of course such accused, when removed from remand, can still



be summoned for trial, but in the meantime there is nothing to stop them taking a very holiday in a country that has no extradition treaty with Zimbabwe.

We already have some citizens, once very prominent, whom the police are anxious to interview, but who have decided, wisely when looking at it from their point of view, to continue pressing their applications for permanent residence in another land.

Not only the commission, but also the relevant CID units in the police, auditors and others need to accelerate the gathering of hard evidence. This might well mean a few extra high-class people on the payroll.

The Auditor-General has already complained about the staff levels in her office, and that office is often the starting point for an investigation and certainly a major revealer of wrongdoing as well as a gatherer of hard evidence for a criminal trial.

The police need their own special skills, besides the ability to catch a thief that detectives do learn. They either need to encourage suitable officers to seek training in advanced skills or open their ranks to special entrants.

One reason why the old settler police were able to nail a lot of the corrupt was a decision to allow experienced chartered accountants with a military commitment under the call-up to serve in the fraud squad.

The National Prosecuting Authority also needs to think how it can move things along faster. Again this might mean a special team of double-qualified prosecutors,

able to manoeuvre in the realms of the law and the financial fiddling that the corrupt tend to surround themselves with.

We have suggested before that in some areas, and corruption seems to be one, a closer relationship between prosecutors, police and the commission is needed so that all the angles are covered more quickly. Other countries find that useful.

As the President noted there are other paths of attack. Creating systems that make it hard for a corrupt official to cheat is one, and the President brought up ICT solutions; those have the advantage that it is impossible to destroy the old document and even if you change it, the old version is buried in a database somewhere.

Laying out a "paper" trail in court, even a long one, does result in conviction.

The Government has already in many areas of its reform programme removed the human element. Just for example in the allocation of foreign currency, it authorised the switch to the auctions which not only stabilised exchange rates, but removed a personal decision making process, with allocations now settled by bids.

Of course there is still cheating, this time almost entirely from the private sector, but systems are in place to catch that, and now law in place to hammer the cheats with civil penalties.

But we also need to remember, at the lower levels of corruption as well as the higher, that most corrupt acts have at least two criminals, the person who seeks the bribe or other

advantage and the person who pays. Of course we also get those who manipulate systems and steal that way, without someone else, but usually someone else has to be involved even here.

The President's ideal of every Zimbabwean learning from early childhood onwards what is or is not acceptable, and very importantly what to do if they find something going on, makes sense.

The kombi driver slipping a policeman US\$1 to pass a roadblock is just as guilty as the policeman accepting the buck. In that particular case, the Government has tried to remove the temptation for corruption by licensing private bus owners into the Zupco franchise, and that sort of policy can be extended into other areas.

The Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission can never have the staff and resources to hunt down the myriads of little corrupt acts that bedevil our culture.

It can go after the big shots and can go after systems that encourage or allow corruption, but in the end the defeat of the corrupt needs all of us to play our part.

If everyone refuses to pay bribes, and will blow the whistle if this emerges in conversation, then we can beat the small timers and change our national culture.

As the President noted, with his multi-year programmes, defeating corruption will not be instant. But the victory can be won, and will be won, when a multi-pronged strategy of changing cultures, making it a lot more difficult to be corrupt, and catching the perpetrators is forging ahead.

What kind of journalism do we need when a crisis hits?

By Jonathan Widder

WHEN the Covid-19 pandemic swept the world more than a year ago, I thought: Okay, that's it. Now is not the time for the positive, constructive topics as we typically collect them with Squirrel News.

What was unfolding was just so much more important, and dire - exponentially growing infection figures, sudden curfews even in democracies, images from overloaded intensive care units, coffins stacked on top of each other.

What a mistake. It took me - and many others - some time to realise that the pandemic would last for quite a while, and that we shouldn't just sit back and watch everything go up in flames. Instead, we should try to help find a way out of it.

As the crisis worsened, and the more haphazardly many politicians acted, the clearer it became that there was something we didn't have enough of: solutions, alongside high quality, in-depth reporting on them.

I read reports in German media about successful contact tracing efforts in countries in Asia that we could learn from. This included one about South Korea in the beginning of 2020 and another about backward contact tracing in Japan at the end of the year. Not many more.

Why were there so few? Perhaps relatedly, contact tracing efforts in Germany struggled during the pandemic.

The consequences have literally been fatal, as identifying infections and at-risk contacts is vital for curbing the spread of the virus.

This was especially so during the first year of the pandemic. The better it works, the more infections can be avoided and the more lives can be saved.

More solutions-focused reporting could have helped improve the public's knowledge of these approaches and placed more pressure on politicians to act accordingly.

As a citizen, I would also love to see a shift to a more active style of politics. But where could this come from? Could the media and the public accelerate, or encourage, it? And if they could, what would be the driving force, if not solutions-focused journalism?

The nature of the Covid-19 crisis has facilitated this type of journalism. The issues around the pandemic were relatively easy to grasp: there is a clearly defined problem - the virus - and with vaccines, one ideal solution.

There has been significant learning among the public about virology and infectious diseases, a surge in expert-led podcasts, and extensive debates surround-



ing the necessity of short and medium-term solutions - like wearing masks and social distancing.

The Guardian, for one, reportedly "upped their constructive coverage from two or three solutions stories per week to two or three per day".

Finally, another perspective. We launched Squirrel News in June 2020, just a few weeks after the first wave of high Covid-19 infection rates, lockdowns and overwhelmed emergency rooms around the world.

It was eye-opening to see how our curated solutions-focused collection of reporting helped readers manage during these trying times.

However, the need for this type of journalism existed long before the pandemic. This also becomes obvious in many reviews of Squirrel News in app stores.

One of the words we come across again and again is "finally". Readers have explained to us how our constructive approach has helped them navigate the crisis.

Some German TV journalists who visited us for a shoot a few months ago said that they were happy to cover something positive for a change. They noted

how they were tired of having to report only topics with high levels of drama and conflict, to attract high numbers of viewers.

Had they visited a little later, I would have sent them a link to this recent study on solutions journalism that shows how it outperforms purely problem-based reporting in many ways. One of the most poignant reactions - which has even led to collaboration on a forthcoming podcast - came from Los Angeles-based writer and comedian Ed Crasnick, who has infused his comedy with a focus on mental health.

Having stumbled upon Squirrel News, Crasnick reached out to us, explaining what our little news operation has provided him.

"The reason I love Squirrel News is because it's changing your men-

tal health without talking about mental health," he said.

He elaborated: "They should make everyone read this kind of news. And I'm not even talking about the stories; it's the headlines alone already. They're called headlines for a reason - they go directly into your head."

Although the historic origin of the word "headline" might be different, I think I prefer Crasnick's definition. It describes with utmost clarity one key impact of solutions-focused journalism.

A reader who contacted us in January expressed a similar opinion, writing: "I think everyone should know about you. What you have started could contribute to a positive change in society, in the long term."

Others wrote, for instance, that "the concept is great because finally something is being done to counter the flood of bad news that provokes feelings of powerlessness, resignation and fear".

Or they just described Squirrel News as "a pleasant change from the negative reporting that generally prevails." Yet others pointed out that they "enjoy reading the news again" after years of avoiding it.

An IJNet dispatch. Jonathan Widder is the founder of Squirrel News, a curated platform and app for solutions-focused news. Prior to that, he has worked as a freelance journalist for major German newspapers and helped launch several media startups.

Time Bomb South Africa: The building blocks that triggered, facilitated and sustained the civil unrest

By Susan Booysen

AS clues accumulate as to who cast the match that ignited Time Bomb South Africa, it is clear that the insurrection 'masterplan' built on known factors ranging from state weakness and ANC paralysis, to the lawlessness and realities of poverty and deprivation.

At the core of South Africa's July uprising was the political spark of "Free Zuma". It has been taking shape since the pre-Polokwane times when former president Jacob Zuma and his cohort planned and executed the takeover of ANC and South African state power. A few years of rule by President Cyril Ramaphosa have not defused this political catalyst.

The political-cum-socioeconomic uprising was enabled by the weakness of the South African state. The feeble state then interfaced with a long-standing popular culture of lawlessness and the ANC government's practice of "soft law" against citizens and factions. Soft law refers to the ANC's reluctance to act against citizens breaking the law for fear of this causing alienation and lack of electoral support.

This analysis explores these building blocks that helped build the facilitative context for the uprising to take place. It asks whether both the spark and the contributing factors are likely to persist or disappear.

The weaknesses of the South African state are at the core of the problem of having enabled the events of chaos and anarchy that engulfed much of KwaZulu-Natal and parts of Gauteng. There are indications that dark forces within the state security apparatuses, with links to the dark side of civil society, have been masterminds. These forces, constituting parallel structures and processes, were identified in the 2018 Report of the High-Level Review Panel on the State Security Agency into the malfunctioning of the State Security Agency (SSA), soon after Ramaphosa came to power. Security



experts reported this week that to this day nothing significant has been done to clean up the deep network of illegal intelligence operations that served, or still serve, Zuma.

The week's government security pronouncements demonstrated the fragility of available state intelligence operations. The week's briefings represented the insights from the NatJoints structure that brings together intelligence by the police Crime Intelligence, military intelligence and the SSA. Despite assurances that much had been thwarted, this Justice, Crime Prevention and Security cluster instilled little confidence. Beyond these structures, the deputy minister of intelligence reported that from interacting with communities at the sites of ravaged shopping malls he had learnt about the causes, unearthing details the security services had not been privy to!

The minister of defence on Monday authorised the deployment of 2,000 troops to support the police in securing infra-

structure and did not want to deploy larger numbers "for the sake of deploying". By late Wednesday, the optimal number was raised to 25,000.... Also bear in mind that citizens know from experience that the military comes scarred, its reputation dented by the early Covid-19 deployment casualties.

The South Africa Police Service (SAPS), in the words of the minister of police, is not trained to handle an uprising (they only handle policing, he says). This was clear amid images of the police being spectators as shopping malls were looted (more than 200, it is estimated) and often torched. There was a flood of statistics on the number of arrests. Yet, from experience, we know that a fraction of these cases will be prosecuted, and those numbers are most likely to fizzle out too, a phenomenon that I write about in my book, Precarious Power.

The SAPS is also scarred both by the Marikana and Wits student shooting cases. Its licence to use force is curtailed

rightly so, yet with implications for law enforcement. Its social legitimacy as a community-friendly force and its responsibility to ensure safety and security fight each other. Law-breaking citizens exploit this.

Ramaphosa in his address early this week did not build confidence in state and government being in charge of the crisis either. Ramaphosa was a touch more assertive than in his usual speeches to the nation, but concurrent images of continuous looting mirrored his address. There was a sense of the president being out of touch, besides being out of control. Overall, this reflected a weak state - and the scene is set for diluted state authority.

The potential for uprisings to take hold, however, does not simply come from openings at the top. South Africa has a long-established culture of protest that is tolerated and co-exists with electoral support for the ANC. A part of this culture is that there will be limited consequences in the case of protests that go beyond

merely the constitutional right to protest.

The established culture of torching and looting of trucks on South Africa's major transport corridors is one example. Food-bearing delivery trucks have long been looted, with gay abandon. There have been limited consequences. The study of protest over time, as I elaborate in Precarious Power, shows how the soft practice of a handful of arrests, followed by a few prosecutions, then culminates in a small number of drawn-out court appearances. This de facto culture of no consequences, especially in the face of crimes of poverty, is a pre-eminent part of South Africa political culture - and it facilitates the uptake of looting protests. The brazen looting of July 2021 has been building on this base.

As in the case of the surges in xenophobic violence, especially since 2008, there are additional mediating factors. They include being in the influence sphere of hostel areas and some of their associated taxi networks... or, in the often interrelated social media networks. Comparable networks had a role in the 2018 Mooi River xenophobic truck attacks.

The fact that the revolt has roots in pro-Zuma mobilisation means that the ANC stands vulnerable to being accused of "purging", which may lead to the alienation of many of isiZulu origins and ANC declines in provincial and national standings. This means that the ANC cannot freely act against possible perpetrators, and these persons know this. About 20% of the ANC's membership base comes from this province - and that ANC provincial power had peaked when Zuma became the face of the ANC.

Civil society pushback and counter-looting mobilisation is taking shape, and could help to quell the current uprising. It could strengthen the ANC's hand. However, successful community action could also dilute ANC government power and public image: these forces acted where the state failed.

A test of the state's authority will come in the form of the Constitutional Court ruling (judgment is reserved at this stage) on whether its preceding judgment to imprison Zuma for his contempt of court following his repeated acts of contempt of the Zondo Commission of Inquiry will be rescinded. Victory for Zuma's application will show weakness of the Constitutional Court as the apex court. Inversely, the Constitutional Court upholding its previous incarceration judgment may strain the state apparatuses to a renewed breaking point. If that hurdle is passed, the ball will be back in the ANC's court. It may signal that it is time to try to invent a strong state, in the interest of South Africa generally. That would require cutting the costs that come with maintaining unity with the Zumaist shadow state within the state. The July uprising highlighted, with grim consequences, the cost of trying to retain ANC unity above all.

Several of the factors that enable and facilitate uprisings will remain, but one of the core triggers will be defused.

War against the masses and separatism

By Omotayo Olorode

THE Socialist Congress of Nigeria (SCON) strongly condemns the widely-reported armed attack and disproportionate use of force by security operatives on the private residence of Mr Sunday Adeyemo (also known as Sunday Igboho) at Ibadan, Oyo State, in the middle of the night of Thursday July 1, 2021.

In this growing frequency and intensity of the deployment of heavy armed force during civil disturbances, we recall the heavy military barrage against, and the resultant carnage on, the compound of Mr El-Zak Zaky a few years ago in the city of Zaria; the massive and unprovoked military attacks and killing of unarmed peaceful protesters at the Lekki Toll Gate in Lagos on October 20, 2020; and the current entrenchment of routine attacks on peaceful protests including the recent police murder of a student protesting against increases in school fees in Kaduna State. This sustained state terror across Nigeria, of course, has its antecedents in the brutal economic and social policies imposed with impunity especially since the late 1970s!

On the specific case of the attack on Igboho's residence, it is unacceptable in a law-governed society that a full "shoot-out" military operation was carried out on a citizen's residence, reportedly, without a search warrant or any invitation by police to such a citizen to report at a designated police establishment;

even when law-enforcement agencies claim to be in possession of "intelligence reports"! These questions arise because of the numerous instances of what amounted, in the past, to summary executions and disappearances of "suspects" by police!

We must add that the intractable fundamentalist militancy in the North East of today and the current militarization and state-sponsored violence in the South East are traceable to the impunity of state power and state actors ahead of the current separatist, secessionist, ethnicized and religionized phase of violent conflicts in Nigeria! Over time, a police state developed in our country because the ruling coalitions had failed consistently in the last two decades at least to deliver on the simple responsibility of securing the lives and property of citizens!

We must declare that we in SCON believe that any peaceful separatist or even secessionist program is, or may be, legitimate; but we know that there are hardly any antecedents or examples of such peaceful secession! Even the possibility or actual peaceful breakup of Nigeria as it is today, with the generalized socially irresponsible and looting mentality of the ruling class, will simply sustain the interests of the ethnic faction of the Nigerian ruling class against that of the oppressed and marginalised masses of people in the putative "new" country! These are the lessons of the history of separatism; not figments of our imagination.

Assuming that a breakup of Nigeria can be achieved peacefully, immediate and practical problems of creating and maintaining new borders, massive refugee problems (housing, food, water, health care, jobs, agricultural land, etc.) and attendant security crisis in the "new countries" and their borders will fester for decades to come. The poor and marginalized masses, not the various ethnic wings of the Nigerian ruling class, will necessarily bear the burdens of these consequences. We must also state emphatically that a breakup of Nigeria, peaceful or not, will lead to loss of the inherent advantages of the beauty and diversity of the geographical, resource, and cultural diversity which have enabled, and continues to enable, the masses of ordinary people to build, exchange, and sustain authentic solidarity and fraternity, livelihoods, and opportunities! Clearly these advantages are realizable only if the struggles of the masses produce a Nigeria that is owned truly by the masses.

For the reason of all of the foregoing, we condemn, in very strong words, the continued irresponsible deployment of the police and the army and other multiplying wings of Nigeria's neo-colonial, largely punitive occupation "law-enforcement formations" against our people across Nigeria. At the same time, the ruling class cannot secure the life and property of our people; not just in the increasing ethnic and religious conflicts, but also in ruling class-instigated inter-



community, intra-community, and religious clashes!

Imposing "disaster" economic and social policies, divide-and-rule, and repressing popular resistance: how constantly-regrouping elites from all over Nigeria stay in power to accumulate wealth.

It is looking more and more obvious that the instigation of ethnic and religious conflicts in Nigeria is a ruling-class program of manufacturing "disasters" to divert the attention of the masses from the violent economic and social policies imposed on them especially in the last 20 years or so—policies that generate and multiply poverty, inequality, hopelessness, and manifested in unemployment, unpaid salaries and pensions, cuts in workers' sala-

ries, increases in fuel and electricity prices, abandonment of infrastructure and public-funded education, security and health care.

Beyond enabling the ruling-class coalitions they call political parties to maintain a divide-and-rule hold on the victims of their IMF/World Bank economic and social policies, the said policies are the direct causes of the ethnic, religious, farmer-herder, and communal antipathies and clashes, fear, cultism, ritual murders, urban and rural decay, banditry and generalized violence. In turn the generalized violence breeds the culture of groups and individuals resorting to "self-defence" and taking the law into their own hands—creating, predictably, the current

Nigerian state of barbarism which human beings have been trying to overcome in the last 5000 years or so!

In the circumstance imposed on Nigeria by overlapping generations of Nigeria's ruling class and their handlers in the World Bank and the IMF, we repeat our call on the masses of the Nigerian people to begin to build independent peoples' coalitions such as the current effort of The Peoples Alternative Political Movement (TPAPM) which SCON is fully involved in. A Peoples Alternative movement will work towards a New Nigeria, guaranteeing peoples power and enforcement of fundamental economic and social rights of all Nigerians—sovereignty of the people and putting the commanding heights

of the economy under popular public control, massive public support for urban and rural renewal and environmental rehabilitation; popular and community control of law-enforcement and law-enforcement agencies; reversal of all the looting they call privatization; right to security of life and property, right to jobs, right to food, water, shelter, public-funded education and health care and affordable public transport.

We pose the foregoing fundamental conditions as the cure for escalating mass poverty, fear, ethnic and religious divisions, separatist and secessionist agitations, banditry, general insecurity of life and property and generalized violence across Nigeria.

When branded as a born criminal: The plight of India's de-notified tribes

NEW DELHI

BRANDED as being born 'criminal' 150 years ago under British colonial rule, De-notified Tribes (DNTs) continue to bear the brunt of the various laws that stigmatised them since 1871.

Dakkin Chhara, the award-winning filmmaker and DNT activist, shared how the DNT community in India continues living an abysmal existence because of a centuries-old criminality stigma. Chhara calls his community an "invisible population" owing to their absence from government records, welfare schemes and a complete lack of political will to address their marginalisation.

"Even within a village in India, one can see the clear demarcation of localities based on caste, religion etc. One of the most marginalised, Dalits (former untouchables) also have an area where they stay, but for DNTs, there is no

space within this structure," Chhara said in an exclusive interview with IPS. "They are not considered worthy of being part of the village, and most end up living in jungles, moving from one place to another, isolated and stigmatised."

In 1871, nearly 150 tribes were notified to be criminals by the 'Criminal Tribes Act' passed by the British, meaning, just being born into one of these tribes made one a criminal. The absurdity of the rationale behind this discriminatory law, introduced in 1871 in India, a society largely based on caste and caste-based discrimination, can be seen in the British official's introduction to the bill. He said: "People from time immemorial have been pursuing the caste system defined job-positions: weaving, carpentry and such were hereditary jobs. So, there must have been hereditary criminals also who pursued their forefathers' profession."

Academics say the creation of these criminal tribes was a "colonial stereotype". It was to justify the British to discipline or control a section of the population who did not fit into the colonial power's moral order they were trying to enforce on rural society. Among the worst victims were communities like the DNTs, who did not have a sedentary lifestyle. This made it more difficult to demand their subservience.

The Criminal Tribes Act, 1871, was repealed on August 31, 1952, resulting in the former criminal tribes 'de-notified' of this discriminatory tag. However, this was only on paper.

As in most groups, the women from these communities bear many layers of marginalisation. Sakila Khatoon from the north Indian state of Bihar belongs to the Nat community. Married off at a very early age, Sakila pursued her education and worked within the development sector on is-

suues concerning her community. Most women she works with, however, have not had that opportunity, she told IPS.

Women from the Nat community face prejudice and stereotypes because of their involvement in sex work, and those who wish to explore other avenues of livelihood are discouraged and not treated with dignity. Sex workers from the community not only face stigmatisation but also are targets of police excesses. Khatoon shared how children of these women are often discouraged from pursuing higher education and are recipients of undignified comments from people who know that their parents are sex workers.

"Encouraging and supporting women from our communities to pursue higher education is the key to their upliftment," Khatoon says.

Vijay (name changed)

from the 'Pardhi' community in the state of Madhya Pradesh shared how harassment by police led to many people belonging to his community commit suicide and how the authorities continue to ostracise them. Youth are arbitrarily arrested on mere suspicion because they are seen as habitual offenders.

Over the years, there haven't been any genuine attempts to address the plight of the DNT communities, and commissions aimed at improving their condition have failed.

Shiney Vashisht, a PhD research scholar at the Jamia Milia Islamia in New Delhi, who worked as a researcher at the National Commission for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi Nomadic tribes, confirms this.

"The National Commissions established and re-established over the years, have done nothing close to substantial for the DNTs ex-

cept for half-heartedly recommending welfare steps, that are a mere compilation of suggestions from previous commission reports, based on population projections of decades-old data," Vashisht says.

Based on her engagement with leaders from the community and field research, she argues that these communities deserve a designated commission, having a constitutional status on the lines of National Commissions for Backward Classes and Scheduled Tribes.

The commission should generate a database from a national survey of DNTs. The inquiries should have a strong mandate to recommend DNT specific welfare schemes.

Chhara adds that one of the demands of the DNT community is separate reservations. He gives the example of the state of Maharashtra, where within the

OBC quota, there is a separate reservation for DNTs and says that a model similar to this should be applicable throughout the country.

Chhara remembers how as children, his sister eventually gave up going to school after the humiliation of being falsely called a thief in front of the entire class and teacher when a few marble balls went missing.

Years later, little has changed. Chhara had to remove his children from their school after the principal told him that because the school's trustees belonged to the upper caste, the school had clear instructions of not admitting any children from communities that Chhara came from.

"It is not hard to guess that when something like this can happen to a man like me who has won national and international awards, what would the fate and plight of others belonging to our communities be?"

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 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

Adoption of environmentally friendly projects curbs deforestation in Chome Nature Reserve

By Guardian Reporter, Same

DEFORESTATION that was rampant in the Chome Nature Reserve (CNR) in Same District, Kilimanjaro Region has significantly gone down after some villagers bordering the reserve ventured into environmentally friendly projects.

Mbakweni village of Msindo ward is among the villages where women groups carry out fish farming as well as making charcoal-saving stoves, which all are friendly to the environment and the Chome Nature Reserve itself.

The women groups are being empowered by officials from the Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund (EAMCEF) through Same and Mwanga Environmental Conservation Advisory Organization (SMECAO) with skills on how to carry out environmentally friendly projects to earn a living as well as improving their nutrition status.

Roida Manase, one of the beneficiaries of income-generating projects in the area said: "We are making these charcoal-saving stoves as a source of income as we sell them to other people. The money we earn from these activities helps us to meet daily family expenses. That's why we're saying, these projects are our redeemer. We no longer rely on forest products."

Apart from improving income and nutrition, the projects have also reduced the number of trips people were spending to the forest for harvesting timber and burning charcoal, the situation which is a relief to the forest reserve. "These innovative stoves also reduced the number of firewood we were using before and now more time is spent for other economic activities," Manase

SMECAO has been in forefront towards empowering people with different income generating activities-- animal husbandry, beekeeping, fish farming and entrepreneurial skills as well as the need for them form Village Banking Community (VICOBA).

Margret Victor, EAMCEF Northern Region project officer said the main objective was to protect the biodiversity within the reserve due to its importance.

She said that Chome Nature Forest Reserve (CNFR) is rich in biodiversity and it is the main source of water for people living on the slopes of montane rain forest. "That's why it is important for the reserve to be protected for the sustainability of people's livelihoods," Margret said.

Same District Council chairman and a member of the advisory committee for EAMCEF projects, Yusto Mapande



The skull of the ancient man named *Zinjanthropus boisei* discovered over six decades ago by an English-born archaeologist Mary Leakey at Olduvai Gorge has been preserved at National Museum building in Dar es Salaam.

explained that the projects were being implemented at the right time when the reserve was overwhelmed with growing environmental degradation.

He called villagers around the reserve to ensure the sustainability of projects they are being executed.

In the period from 2015 the EAMCEF has pumped in more than 90m/- to SMECAO for the

implementation of charcoal saving stoves with the aim of increasing the people's incomes and conserving the environment.

Distribute condom dispensers, vending machines in all district councils, Ummu challenges TAYOA

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Youth Alliance (Tayoa) has been challenged to distribute condom dispensers and vending machines in all district councils to curtail the spread of HIV/Aids.

The call was made over the weekend by the Minister of State in President Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Ummu Mwalimu when launching condom dispensers and safari condoms in Dodoma.

Safari condoms and the dispensers

will be distributed by Tayoa through its social enterprise known as Vijanatz Industries Ltd in collaboration with TAMISEMI, Ministry of Health, Women Development, Gender and Children, National Aids Control Program (NACP) and Tanzania Commission for Aids (TACAIDS).

She said many people feel shy to buy condoms in public because of the notion that they will be regarded as prostitute so the creativity by Tayoa has come at the right time because people will be able to buy condoms in private environment and protect themselves from the VVU.

"I congratulate Tayoa for this creativity because this will help people to buy condom without fear and the situation is very bad for girls and women because when they buy condoms they are regarded as prostitute but I advise them to buy condom when they feel to have sex because they will be protected from many things," said Ummu

The Minister said since its establishment 24 years ago, Tayoa didn't lose focus on what is doing to address the aids pandemic which is still killing many Tanzanians.

"I knew this company before even

entering in politics, for all times your direction has been to fight aids and am very happy to see that you don't lose focus on this. Our current focus is in fighting COVID-19 but you help to remind us that even aids is still there something which is very good," said minister

Ummu requested government leaders in all district to collaborate with Tayoa during the distribution of safari condoms and condom dispensers to make sure they are sustainable for many years.

On his side, Tayoa Director, Peter

Masika said until now they have managed to distribute 40,000 condom dispensers in 169 district and they expect to distribute another 40,000 in another district adding that they also expect to distribute 5,000 condom vending machines in the duration of two years.

Masika commended its partners and sponsors who are Global Fund of USA, Ministry of Health, (TACAIDS) and TAMISEMI saying that they have been the cornerstone behind the achievements of his organization for many years.

He said currently Tayoa in collaboration

with AMREF they are implementing Global Fund project which focus girls who are at adolescent age in the regions of Dodoma, Morogoro, Tanga, Singida and Geita because that is the group which is vulnerable in the spread of VVU.

Masika commended the collaboration that Tayoa has been receiving from the Government since its establishment 24 years ago and specifically to the Minister Ummu Mwalimu who he said has been close ally to support activities established and implemented by his organization. Ends

Coca-Cola Kwanza donates desks worth 10mln/- to improve the education sector

By Guardian Reporter

COCA-COLA Kwanza Ltd has donated 100 school desks to Mbeya Rural District in the Mbeya Region in an initiative intended to support the government's efforts towards improvement of the learning environment in rural areas.

A subsidiary of Coca-Cola Beverages Africa's donation worth 10m/- which was received by Mbeya District Commissioner Dr Rashid Chuachua is aimed at lifting up the education sector in rural areas and addressing the challenges of school desks shortage.

Speaking at the event over the weekend, Coca-Cola Kwanza's Plant Manager in Mbeya, Robbert West said the company's donation aimed at bringing back to the community part of the gains.

"Coca Cola Kwanza's vision is to refresh and improve the lives of Tanzanians in various sectors including education. We do business the right way for a better-shared future, this support will resolve school desks shortages by benefitting 200 students at a time in Usongwe secondary school and can be used for over 10 years", he noted.

West added: "There is a great focus in the southern regions of Tanzania, we opened a Strategic Selling Depot (SSD) in Mbeya last year and we are planning to open others to bring our products closer to the consumers'



Coca-Cola Kwanza plant manager in Mbeya, Robbert West (right) Mbeya District Commissioner, Dr Rashid Chuachua sit on desks donated by the beverage company. The donation aims at lifting up the education sector in rural areas and addressing the challenges of school desks shortage. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

arm reach.

The Coca-Cola Kwanza's plant Manager (Mbeya) urged other institutions, stakeholders, and non-government organizations to work together and support the government's efforts in finding solutions to community problems.

In his address, Mbeya District Commissioner, Dr Rashid Chuachua said the donation of desks from Coca cola Kwanza demonstrate the good and healthy relations between the government and the private sector which is benefiting the community and the donation of desks has come at the right time when we have huge number of students in class due to free education.

Since launching the initiative of making school desks as part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR), Coca-Cola Kwanza Ltd has made and distributed over 3,500 desks to various schools, impacting lives of over 6,500 students at a time.

By Guardian Reporter

THE Mkombozi Commercial Bank Plc has announced 3.8bn/- profit after tax during the financial year for the 2020, thanks to the successful execution of the revenue growth and cost management initiatives.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during the bank's twelfth annual general meeting, the bank's board chairperson Prof Marcellina Chijoriga said the bank has made a profit of 3.8bn/- for the financial year 2020 up from the loss of 6.5bn/- during the financial year 2019.

"The profit the bank made for the financial year 2020 has mainly been contributed by the successful execution of the revenue growth and cost management initiatives", Prof Chijoriga said.

"Our customer's deposits in-

Mkombozi Bank posts net profit of 3 billion/-

creased by 14 per cent to 183bn/- in 2020 and that marked another milestone the bank has posted a positive result, she said adding that loans and advances to customers decreased by 1 percent while the quality of the book improved to the non-performing ratio (NPL) of 10 percent," added Prof Chijoriga

Speaking about the bank's plan to continue posting positive results, Chijoriga said the bank will heavily invest in digital platforms which shall cater for agency banking, mobile banking application, internet banking and payment solutions.

"We have secured regulatory approval to roll out Agency and Internet Banking solutions as phase one of the project", she added.

Mkombozi Commercial Bank plc chief operations officer, Thomas Enock said some of the challenges the bank faced for the year 2020 was operating under significant

capital challenge which inhibited business growth ambitions in 2020 due to limited capacity to invest.

Enock added, "The business recapitalization process was primarily aimed at meeting regulatory compliance as well as to facilitate investment and growth for the business. The current capital position of 18.5bn/- does not meet compliance requirements fully in terms of total capital adequacy ratio, which is at 13.68 percent against the regulatory requirement of 14.5 percent. This calls for continued intervention to raise necessary additional capital amounts for full compliance and meet business growth ambitions".

On future strategic plans, Enock said the critical priority for the bank is to address the current challenges faced in terms of capital adequacy which forms the basis for implementation of future strategic plans.

"Our business transformation and growth initiatives which also form part of the capi-

tal formation process are bearing fruits in terms of repositioning the bank's cost base in the right footing and growing the clientele base. We have implemented various cost cutting initiatives aimed at right-sizing the operational cost base of the Bank in line with its revenue generating capacity", said Enock.

He added that the niche market focus (on the church and its Institutions) is yielding fruits as demonstrated by commendable growth in the church clientele base by 150 percent in 2020 to 7,420 accounts (2019: 2,981 accounts). The primary focus is to build a strong institutional and consumer banking clientele base in order to achieve sustainable and profitable balance sheet growth.

"We are exploring opportunities in other lucrative sectors specifically service, trading and manufacturing by targeting value chains of key institutional clients as well as

select corporates and small and medium enterprises. We are intensifying our digital offerings in terms of investment in necessary technology", Enock said.

The bank has over 20.6 million shareholders where 43 percent are owned by individuals, the Catholic Church with 26 percent, TEC 22 percent and other institutions have 9 percent.



Our customer's deposits increased by 14 per cent to 183bn/- in 2020 and that marked another milestone the bank has posted a positive result

The government must move its promises from podium rhetoric to visible programmes to tackle growing poverty

By Bongani Mahlangu

THOSE who sit on the negative end of the inequality divide are unable to generate income surplus to lock away into a financial buffer for 'rainy days'. These households live from hand to mouth, not one cent of a month's income reaches the payday of the following month.

South Africa's poor and blue-collar workers continue to see a rapid decline in their purchasing and bargaining power, and an increase in household debt, as a direct consequence of declining national economic fortunes. This section of society, predominately African in demographic and a majority in number, are spectators in a country with weak fiscal buffers, as confessed by Treasury in the Medium Term Expenditure Framework Technical Guidelines 2021. The household income of this group is suffering rapid erosion due to debt, inflation, unemployment and no savings.

South Africa ended 2019 in a technical recession – defined as two consecutive quarters of decline in a country's productivity, measured as gross domestic product. In the following year, 2020, came the virus Covid-19 to our shores with the subsequent (economic) lockdown that was loud on saving lives, but low on protecting livelihoods.

Lockdown meant a persistent loss of jobs, as captured by Statistics South Africa in its Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS). Not only did unemployment increase, but underemployment followed suit, characterised mainly by wage cuts and reduced working hours. This was happening while household expenses remained the same at least, or increased at worst, forcing many households to seek a supplement to their incomes by means of credit.

South Africa has an average household debt-to-income percentage of 77.1%. That means that out of every one rand made by an average household, seventy-seven cents is consumed by debt. This is a very high proportion of debt to income, thanks largely to reckless lending from financial institutions, the issuing of expensive unsecured loans, and loans that don't require collateral such as credit cards, personal loans and overdrafts.

The lure of unsecured loans to supplement income becomes highly attractive in order to keep a household



Rhama Dakane from Dadaab (bending) during her work-based training at Ndovu Cement in Kenya. She is an industrial welding student at The East Africa Institute of Welding.

afloat during these tough times, albeit at a heavy cost. Among the poor and working class, there is also informal debt owed to friends, family and neighbourhood loan sharks.

The headline consumer price index – headline inflation that measures the total movement of prices in the economy including commodities such as prices of energy and food, often deemed volatile due to their rapid price fluctuations – currently sits at 5.2%, as last measured by Stats SA. This is a 30-month high. This is while household income is not increasing because many working-class households have not received annual increments.

Specifically, this includes government employees whose income has decreased in

real terms since the global economic recession, leading to downward social mobility and leading them closer to poverty. This results in increased borrowing to keep up with household expenses.

Unemployment and underemployment are two important and primary variables to consider when analysing labour market deficiencies as advised by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). These twin variables strangle the bargaining power of the unskilled and low-skilled members of the labour force. These types of workers are involuntarily forced to take what they can get from their employers due to the ease of replacing them should they demand wage hikes.

Thanks to high unemployment, there is

always someone willing and able to accept a lower wage for equal or more work, setting the stage for underemployment. The less employment there is available, the more this situation persists.

The South African household savings ratio (the income saved by households during a certain period), gross domestic savings (% of GDP), and its savings culture have received much publicity on formal as well as informal platforms, in academic and non-academic publications and dinner-table discussions. Those who sit on the negative end of the inequality divide are unable to generate income surplus to lock away into savings that would allow them to create financial buffers for "rainy days".

These households live from hand to

mouth. In fact, they live on critical deficits which increase the opportunity cost of not working with each price change reflected on a grocery receipt and declining basket items. Not even one cent of a month's income reaches the payday of the following month. Income evaporates mid-month for the lucky, and then after credit has been used to see the household to the end of the month.

The sixth administration has promised a speedy Covid-19 inoculation process to ensure the country reaches population immunity. The sixth administration has promised rapid industrialisation even though R250-billion has been cut to the government's baseline due to its austerity pro-growth fiscal consolidation strategy.

The sixth administration promised, cumulatively, to create hundreds of thousands of jobs – later rephrased from "jobs" to "job opportunities" with some linguistic gymnastics. The sixth administration has recently tried to raise the volume when referring to saving livelihoods. And now the sixth administration has meticulously centred all economic woes on the virus, a virus that led us to the lockdown that has been a catalyst for our already declining economic fortunes.

South Africa is a labour-intensive country with a fragile labour market, characterised by high-income inequality and skills shortages, which affects those at the bottom of the pile most severely. The economic challenges facing the country place the household income of this struggling group under heavy strain.

From the flames of looting to democratic regeneration

By Tracy-Lynn Field

OVER the past week, democratic constitutionalism and the rule of law have undergone a massive stress test. The power to determine the outcome of this stress test can never lie in the efficacy of the police services or the defence force. It lies with the choice of the people of South Africa.

Apocalyptic. This is just one of the words used to describe the destruction of property and tragically, life, that has ensued in the wake of the mad outburst of collective energy in South Africa over the past week.

Whether you choose to see the blockading of roads and burning of trucks that have throttled critical supply routes and the violent razing of shopping malls and warehouses as a form of protest, a coordinated strategy of economic sabotage, or simply the unsurprising response of a population seething under the harshness of life in one of the most unequal societies in the world the impact is the same: shock, disbelief, despair, trauma.

Perhaps most fearful is the

thought that what has gone up in flames and lingered for a moment in the hope of South Africa's constitutional democracy itself. Unless we stop the violence, unless we bring in more troops and declare a State of Emergency, some have said, our underlying democratic order – instituted with such hope and fanfare almost 30 years ago – is at stake.

And this is true. Over the past week, democratic constitutionalism and the rule of law have undergone a massive stress test, caught between those who wish for a broad-ranging and thoroughgoing destruction and breaking down, and those who wish to continue to struggle forward. But the power to determine the outcome of this stress test can never lie in the efficacy of the police services or the defence force. It lies with the choice of the people of South Africa. All 58 million or so of us.

In the weeks before the eruption of the worst violence of South Africa's democratic history I had been painstakingly writing an academic article about democratic sovereignty and the possibility of transformative change. To do this, I engaged

with scholarly debates about "transformative constitutionalism".

Mirroring the material and visceral struggles that have played out on the streets this week, this debate is polarised: On the one hand, "constitutional abolitionists" see the 1996 Constitution as a betrayal and argue for a wholesale overhaul to the philosophical, historical and cultural basis of the South African governing order. On the other, "constitutional optimists" are faithful to the Constitution itself as a moral, political and jurisprudential lodestar for South African society.

Neither position is correct, however, because the moral and political lodestar is the South African people itself, the demos of self-governing equals who came into being through the Constitution in a quest to rule themselves. While the demos can be guided by constitutional values and the incremental and accumulating constitutional jurisprudence of the courts, or by the much older values of ubuntu and other occluded epistemologies, it is the choice of the present generation of South Africans that matters.

With the flames of looting start-

ing to die down, what emerges from the ashes is that the vast majority of South Africans choose regeneration over destruction.

Through their actions and reactions, physical and verbal, the majority of South African people across racial, gender, ethnic and class lines are exercising their constituent sovereign power to say (reflecting back the words of an exhausted President Cyril Ramaphosa): "This is NOT us."

A WhatsApp message this morning from a friend who has been in the thick of the conflict in KwaZulu-Natal says it all: "We have not slept since this started. Now we pray for peace and a miracle. We are resilient people. Let's hope they are done and we can start to rebuild."

We are a resilient people.

As the people who are now inspiring hope and courage get to work on mopping-up operations and help those at the coalface of the devastation, it is worthwhile to recall why the South African democratic constitutional order was hailed as a miracle. It was a miracle because there was no pre-existing

basis to talk of a South African "people"; we were a mishmash of different races, classes and ethnicities with vastly conflicting worldviews. We were bitter enemies driven apart by walls of fear.

The naysayers of South Africa's experiment in inclusive democracy have been quick to give up, pointing to the democratic deficit associated with the drafting of the 1996 Constitution and the way it was bound to the terms of a negotiated settlement, the continuing and even deepening inequalities that the constitutional order has failed to address, and the immense challenges that still lie ahead. But they have underestimated the extent to which the South African people are being knitted together and are coming into being through our collective experiences of triumph (Rugby World Cup!) and suffering (looting, Eishkom, Day Zero, and the days-of-our-lives State Capture Commission, to name but a few).


The South African people choose regeneration and hopefully, when the next election rolls around we will remember those who affirmed protest, but called for restraint and

those who preferred the way of destruction.

Affirming democratic regeneration does not mean we don't need change or that we should not be urgently interrogating the effectiveness of our democratic institutions to stem the looting culture that has bedevilled our country's progress for so many years – at all levels of society, in government and the private sector and across all lines of difference.

We need to find ways of holding accountable those who grab without regard for others and who thereby destroy what is in the common and public interest. To do this we must use all the forms of governance that a system of self-rule allows, including protecting functioning systems of customary law. We are resilient people, but we need leaders who will take this kind of change forward.

We are a resilient people. We have gone through a lot, but we somehow always come out on the other side. May the flames of democratic regeneration burn bright in our country. South Africans, we can do this thing.



RADIO ONE

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 07:50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08:20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:30 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:40 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:50 AM BRAND TALK 09:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 09:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 09:20 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 09:30 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 09:40 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 09:50 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10:10 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:15 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:20 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:25 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:30 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:35 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:40 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:45 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:50 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:55 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:00 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:05 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:10 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:15 AM 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GROWTH

CRDB Bank sustains profit making with 127 billion/- posted in first half of 2021

By Guardian Reporter

CRDB Bank Plc has sustained profit making by registering a 26.6 percent growth during the first half of this year to 127bn/- compared to 100bn/- made during the same period last year.

The bank said in its results for the year ending June 2021 that total deposits, total loans and total assets, all registered growth during the period. Total assets rose by 15.2 percent from 7trn/- to 8.1trn/- while total deposits were up by 10.6 percent from 5.5trn/- to 6.1trn/- whilst total loans grew by 15.7 percent from 3.6trn/- to 4.2trn/- during the period.

Results indicate that the bank's

profitability was also underpinned by a drop of non-performing loans to 4.4 from 4.8 percent last year reflecting a well-maintained loan quality portfolio by the Dar es Salaam based lender.

"Our results have had a very positive evolution in the second quarter of 2021 with underlying net attributable profit standing at 89bn/-, even above pre-Covid-19 levels, on the back of a strong operating income," said group Managing Director and CEO, Abdulmajid Nsekela.

"We continue to advance at a solid pace in some key areas of our strategy because we have doubled our commitment to financing development sectors, and we have reported a record in



CRDB Bank Plc's CEO and managing director, Abdulmajid Nsekela presents the 2021 first half results to journalists last week. Left is director of corporate communications Tully Mwambapa. Photo courtesy of CRDB Bank

digital customer acquisition," Nsekela said.

Commenting on the results, acting Chief Financial Officer, Musiba Mugaya said net interest income and non-interest income combined to generate strong total net revenue of 447bn/- which was up nearly 11 percent year-on-year. "The bank was also able to drive further improvement in efficiency

ratio as a result of its ability to effectively manage expenses," Mugaya said.

He further pointed out that CRDB's management leveraged on the improved liquidity position to fund loan growth with high-quality borrowers throughout its network. Mugaya further noted that during the second quarter of 2021, the bank recorded interest income

of 371bn/- compared to 336bn/- made during the same period last year.

Figures for the first half of 2021 confirmed that digitization is accelerating and gaining traction across CRDB Bank with customer acquisition through digital channels growing at a record 30 percent since the launch of the enhanced SimBanking application early

this year. The platform enables customers to open bank accounts wherever they were, cost-free. Similarly, digital banking has contributed significantly to non-interest income with SimBanking doing 54 percent while CRDB Wakala managed 36 percent.

Due to the bank's high performance and increased stability, the basic earnings per share for the second quarter of this year improved to 16.4/- from 12.4/- reported during the same period of last year.

Additionally, the bank's cost to income ratio improved to 59.3 percent from 63.2 percent, return on equity increased to 16.9 percent from 15.4 percent while return on assets increased to 3.4 percent from 3.0 percent indicating a solid financial performance in Q2 of 2021.

"Overall, we are very pleased with our performance through the first half of the year. Our team's incredible efforts to help businesses and Tanzanians easily access banking services and critical funding amidst Covid-19 challenges have helped us attract new customers and deepen relationships with existing ones," the group CEO and MD added.

"Looking at the quarters ahead, we are poised for strong earnings growth fuelled by digital financial services, retail momentum, robust balance sheet and operational efficiency," Nsekela noted while thanking staff, shareholders and clients for support during the period.

INCENTIVE

More Israelis coming, thanks to govt's Covid-19 recognition

By Francis Kajubi

TOURISTS' arrivals from Israel have increased this year following the government's move to take measures to curb the spread of the coronavirus outbreak including observing World Health Organization's protocols.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam over the past weekend, Tanzania Tour-

ists Board Chairman, retired Justice Thomas Mihayo said more than 150 tourists will today arrive at Kilimanjaro International Airport heading to Ngorongoro Crater, Tarangire and Serengeti National Parks.

"On August 9 another 200 tourists from Israel will arrive at KIA for a one week stay in the country while on August 10 another 150 Israelis will arrive in Zanzibar for an eight

days visit," Judge Mihayo said adding that another group of 200 tourists will also arrive at KIA on August 17 from Israel.

According to him, there have been frequent tourists arrivals from Israel since mid of July this year and more are booking to visit the country thanks to improved Covid-19 measures being implemented by authorities.

Justice Mihayo said about

nine medical doctors from the Jewish state had between April and May this year visited the country to see if precaution measures against Covid-19 are being observed by the government.

"The medical doctors' delegation had established that without doubt, Tanzania is safe and thus Israelis can come to visit the country and go back home safely," he

added saying TTB expects the flow to increase significantly by next September.

He asserted that up to the end of last year only 6,000 tourists have arrived into the country due to Covid-19 but more are expected this year because of the government's approach towards the pandemic.

He added that with the execution of the REGROW project

targeting the Southern Highlands, an increasing number of tourists is expected in the regions this year. REGROW is a World Bank funded project being implemented jointly by Tanzania National Parks Authority, TTB, Tanzania Forest Agency, National Irrigation Commission, Rufiji River Basin Board and Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute.

"As the project covers four

prioritized national parks of Ruaha, Udzungwa, Mikumi and Nyerere, which have already been given all necessary requirements for active operations," he noted saying Ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources has already received a loan of US\$150million International Development Association of the World Bank Group to finance REGROW Project.



EABL Group managing director and CEO, Jane Karuku.

APPRECIATION

EABL revenue recovering amidst challenging market environment

By Guardian Reporter

EAST African Breweries Limited defied challenges facing the alcoholic beverages market which include the coronavirus outbreak to post a 15 percent growth in revenue to Kshs 86.0 billion for the year ended June 2021.

In a statement, the Nairobi based brewer said profit before tax was up by two percent to Ksh 10.9 billion which was a slower profit growth rate caused by the impact of cost of inflation, adverse foreign exchange and tax charges.

EABL Group Managing Director and CEO, Jane Karuku, said: "Through fiscal 2021, the pandemic continued to impact the business negatively across East Africa due to restrictions in Kenya and Uganda and the general decline in disposable incomes in the region."

Karuku said EABL's performance was delivered on the back of a tough operating environment but management responded with agility, leveraging changing consumer behaviour and channel shifts, especially around e-commerce, home delivery and take-home trade.

"We responded to the new realities by continuing to invest behind the brands, expanding capacity and sustaining produc-

tivity initiatives to manage our cost base to ensure we emerge stronger," the EABL chief noted.

She said looking into the future, her management is cognisant of the fact that the uncertainty posed by the pandemic will continue. "However, we are confident that our strategy is working and will continue to focus on business recovery to grow top line and recover margin," she noted.

According to the results, Kenya Breweries Limited registered 10 percent year on year revenue growth, with second half growing at 45 percent off-setting a 10 percent decline in the first half thanks to expanding and adapting.

In Uganda, Uganda Breweries Limited's revenues grew by 33 percent year on year, with beer and spirits both recording double-digit growth thanks to the business' agility in response to the changing consumer shifts and emerging channels.

As for Tanzania, Serengeti Breweries Limited's revenues were up 15 percent with beer and spirits both registering double-digit growth as the business sustained strong growth through investment behind the brands and capacity expansion for both beer and local spirits production.

JOHANNESBURG

First National Bank hunts for top tech talent

BIG-four bank FNB is looking to hire 300 experts as it looks to bolster its fintech and platform-related aspirations in banking, insurance, investments and telecommunications.

In a statement, First National Bank says along with many other businesses in the market, it is reigniting a call for the private and public sectors to prevent "brain drain" by investing in high-quality critical skills in domestic markets.

The bank is calling for a collective effort to avail economic opportunities, better employment and career prospects to quell talent migration to overseas markets. FNB further encourages local talent that is overseas to consider returning for opportunities in domestic markets across the African continent.

The bank will be recruiting 300 additional

experts with engineering, technology, data and quant skills to supplement its existing cohort of more than 5 000 equivalent skills. It is looking for industrial engineers, software developers, cloud engineers, cyber security specialists, data and quant scientists, systems and solutions architects, test engineers, chemical and mechanical engineers, actuaries, business and systems analysts, customer and user experience specialists, as well as content and design specialists.

Jacques Celliers, FNB CEO, says: "Investing in top talent with critical skills allows economies and businesses to unlock innovation, investment, global competitiveness and social upliftment. "As an employer to an inclusive and di-

verse group of more than 40 000 employees, our response to this challenge starts with recognising the need to empower the youth with meaningful work experience.

"Through our internal FirstJob programme, we've now enabled over 2 500 youth to gain experience, with over R280 million invested since 2018. For over a decade, we've also been running a highly successful graduate programme and continue to employ most of the participants. Some of those graduates are leading key positions in our business to deliver helpful solutions to our customers," he says.

As an employer of choice, FNB continues to enhance its employee value proposition, Celliers says. "The bank is ahead of the curve

in creating a conducive work environment for employees. Roughly three years before the COVID-19 pandemic, FNB began encouraging a culture of remote work in areas of the business where it is feasible to do so. In the last year, it accelerated its efforts by further investing in technology and infrastructure to enable a productive remote work experience.

"As an example, FNB employees use the same award-winning FNB App that customers use, to perform tasks like applying for leave, viewing and downloading payslips, accessing organisational content and fulfilling compliance requirements. Furthermore, the bank has already redesigned its main campuses to allow employees to adopt a blended work

model which comprises hot-desking, working remotely and using any of its campuses post the COVID-19 pandemic.

"People are the heartbeat of our organisation and remain core to creating life-changing financial services and fintech solutions for our customers.

As a result, we're investing heavily to create an innovative, productive and rewarding environment for our people across our markets. We also enable and support innovative minds through our industry-leading innovators programme that has been running for over 15 years.

We are excited to security with top talent to delight our customers with contextual platform-based solutions to help them better manage their money," adds Celliers.

FNB notes the application process for the

ON-SCHEDULE

Turkish contractor of Dar to Moro SGR says over 90pc work complete

By Guardian Reporter

OVER 90 percent of construction work of the Dar es Salaam to Morogoro Standard Gauge Railway is completed hence making the mega project ready to start operations later this year.

Briefing CRDB Bank Plc's board of directors and senior management officials who visited the project last week, Yapi Merkez's Planning Engineer, Maureen Tizzy said the 202 kilometres project is almost done.

"This train will have capacity of 35 metric tons and its speed will be 160 kilometres per hour. It is modelled along European system, a train from Europe can operate on our this single line system," Engineer Tizzy said.

She pointed out that the electric installations, communication systems and passenger ticketing system are at different stages of completion all averaging above 80 percent hence meeting the client's deadline.

"The Dar es Salaam to Morogoro lot will have six stations only as per Tanzania Railway Corporation's specifications," she said while adding that the majority of employees implementing the project are Tanzanians who are gaining knowledge and skills from Yapi Merkezi and

Mota-Engil Engenharia of Portugal.

Eng Tizzy further noted that while 20 percent of the project's workers were supposed to be expatriates and the rest local, the number has since increased thanks to stringent work permits issuance system.

She said the local SGR has bigger capacity compared to that of Kenya which has an axle load of only 25 metric tons. "This means that we will carry more freight and people across the railway than Kenya," she noted.

CRDB Board Chairman Dr Ally Laay and Managing Director, Abdulmajid Nsekela wondered why there are only six stations between Dar es Salaam and Morogoro but also the costs of construct a bridge over Nkrumah Road which was demolished due to faulty construction.

Project Manager, Giray Kumas said the six train stations were per TRC's specifications in the contract while demolition of the Nkrumah overpass structure hardly increased project costs by a percent. "This structure had to be demolished because of a number of factors in the crowded area which has a lot of different infrastructure systems," Kumas said.

Nsekela said CRDB has so far invested over 220bn/- to facilitate smooth operation of the project



An engineer with Yapi Merkez (L) explains to CRDB Bank Plc board chairman Dr Ally Laay (2nd L) and other board members and senior management officials led by managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (4th L) what constitutes the main SGR station in Dar es Salaam. The bank's officials visited the project last week. Photo courtesy of CRDB.

which include guarantees to Yapi Merkez while local sub-contractors and suppliers have also been fi-

nanced to ensure that work does not stop.

"We have participated in lot 1 and

2 and are ready to also finance lot 3 and 4 if need arises," Nsekela said adding that the bank's management

and board had visited the project to get a firsthand account of its progress.

BAD-NEWS

EABL freezes dividend on flat profit growth

NAIROBI

EAST African Breweries Limited (EABL) reported a marginal net profit drop in the year ended June as higher costs offset increased sales, with the company freezing dividend payouts to preserve capital.

The firm's net earnings in the review period stood

at Sh6.96 billion compared to Sh7.02 billion a year earlier. "In recognition of the continued uncertainty in the external environment due to Covid-19 related restrictions, the directors do not recommend a final dividend," EABL said in a statement.

The company last paid an interim dividend of Sh3 per

share for the half year ended December 2019. Its dividend last peaked at Sh8.5 per share in the year to June 2019. Net sales jumped 14.7 percent to Sh85.9 billion, with most of the growth coming in the second half when Covid-19 restrictions in the East African countries were less severe compared to the first half.

The company also adapted to the pandemic, finding new routes to market including distributing products to consumers' homes. Sales in the Kenyan market rose 11 percent, particularly in spirits while demand for beer was hurt by restrictions including closure of bars and night-time curfew which reduced drinking hours at so-

cial joints. Uganda's sales grew by the largest margin of 24 percent, helped by increased demand for beer and production capacity expansion. Sales in Tanzania increased 10 percent. The higher turnover was accompanied by cost escalation across production, distribution and other areas, holding down

the bottom-line. Undisclosed costs increased the most by Sh2.6 billion to Sh9.8 billion while administrative expenses expanded by Sh755 million to Sh9.3 billion. Selling and distribution costs also increased by Sh771 million to Sh7.3 billion. The company invested Sh7.8 billion in the period in what it says will

support growth. "We are cognisant of the fact that the uncertainty posed by the pandemic will continue. However, we are confident that our strategy is working and will continue to focus on business recovery to grow top line and recover margin," EABL's chief executive Jane Karuku said in a statement.



An e-learning expert and lecturer at Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy in Zanzibar, Dr Venance Kalumanga speaks to students on the importance of 4G internet in education. This was at a workshop organised by Zantel last week. Photo courtesy of Zantel

DIGITISATION

Equity Bank chief says clients to transact across EAC, SAD on new digital platform

By Guardian Reporter

EQUITY Bank Tanzania Limited's local clients can now transact seamlessly with their peers in five East African countries thanks to introduction of a new platform named Equity Bank Interbank transfers which allows real-time transactions at any of the group's branches.

Unveiling the new platform in Dar es Salaam on Friday, Equity Bank Tanzania Managing Director Robert Kiboti said the new product provides a reliable financial link between local clients with the rest of the bank's network through One Equity Inter-Country services at minimal cost.

"The primary purpose of the product is to provide solutions for Equity Bank customers and non-customers (deposit only) across the group to access their accounts and transact from any of the Equity Bank group subsidiaries, in any of the local currencies," Kiboti said. He said Equity Bank Tanzania clients will be able to make deposits, receive deposits, and make withdrawals at any of the bank's branch online in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, South Sudan and DR Congo as a domi-



Equity Bank Tanzania managing director Robert Kiboti speaks at a past event in Dar es Salaam. File photo

cile country.

Kiboti said Equity customers can also transfer to their peers in any country of operation adding that through the bank's world-class digitization of the product, customers will enjoy the freedom of accessing all services at their convenience through Eazzy Banking App, and Eazzy N-tand Eazzy Biz- Inter-country funds transfer on online banking platforms.

"We believe this will be an important solution to facilitate cross-border payments between Tanzania, Kenya,

DR Congo, Rwanda and the rest of Equity Bank network. I call upon all cross-border traders, including SMEs, transporters and the likes to capitalize on these new services from Equity Bank," he added.

According to the MD, another new service to hit the market is of remittance solution within the SADC block is called Integrated Regional Electronic Settlement System (SIRESS).

This is an automated interbank settlement system by the SADC participating member countries of Angola,

Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe," The Equity Bank Tanzania CEO noted.

Through these services, customers and non-customers will perform low-cost and secured cross-border payments within the region and make payments between countries. "For us, it's all about lowering costs and reducing risks for those seeking to send and receive payments within the SADC block," Kiboti pointed out.

Equity Bank Tanzania began its operations in February 2012 and is a commercial bank licensed and regulated by Bank of Tanzania. The bank is also a member of the Tanzania Institute of Bankers and has a footprint of 14 branches supported by 3,279 Equity Wakala, 2,302 merchants and a network of 21 ATMs. Equity Bank Tanzania is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Equity Group Holdings Plc, a financial services company listed at the Nairobi Securities Exchange, Uganda Securities Exchange and Rwanda Stock Exchange.

TECH SAVVY

Experts highlight importance of 4G internet communication in transforming education

By Guardian Reporter

EXPERTS in Zanzibar's education sector have commended use of fourth generation (4G) communication in improving the learning environment as the world heads towards digitization.

Speaking in Zanzibar last week, Zantel's Brand Manager, David Maisori told workshop participants that the objective was to discuss deeply on how education stakeholders are using internet to their advantage to transform the sector.

"Zantel has done a big job to ensure that we have enough 4G infrastructures across Zanzibar. So far, we have more than 100 4G sites in both Unguja and Pemba Islands and are continuing to extend 4G coverage," said Maisori.

He added, "So it is up to students, teachers, lecturers, government, and all other stakeholders to utilize these infrastructures to their advantage." Maisori argued that the coronavirus outbreak has shown the power of the internet in transforming different aspects of life including education which has adopted online classes due to closure of schools.

He noted that students have more room to sharpen their skills through internet beyond what they learn in class if they will use it effectively. "Understanding the needs of students, Zantel has a most affordable phone 'SMARTA' retailed at 39,999/-

that supports 4G. Also, we have university offers that allows students to get more value in internet packages that can be used to study online and exchange information with others," Maisori noted.

Backing the Zantel Brand Manager was Director of ICTs at Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Omari Saidi Ali who said that the government has put in place infrastructure to ensure that people have access to reliable communication services through construction of National Optic Fibre broadband backbone and network towers.

"We have done a lot of efforts to ensure that our country adopts science and technology rapidly. Also, we have established come up with policies including the e-government one to enhance the use of internet in the country," Ali said. He added, "We all witnessed how Covid-19 forced schools and colleges to close down in different countries but internet turned to be an important tool for teaching and learning."

Another ICT expert, Dr Venance Kalumanga who is a lecturer at Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy in Zanzibar, urged students and teachers to embrace online learning online because it's a tool that is efficient and perfect. "Students and youths can use internet to acquire entrepreneurship skills and prepare themselves for self-employment after finishing studies," Dr Kalumanga said.



Zantel has done a big job to ensure that we have enough 4G infrastructures across Zanzibar. So far, we have more than 100 4G sites in both Unguja and Pemba Islands and are continuing to extend 4G coverage

RELIEF

China's factories likely to show economic recovery is stable

BEIJING

CHINA'S factory conditions likely stabilised in July, implying a more steady recovery in the economy in the second half of the year as growth risks mount.

The official manufacturing purchasing managers' index, due to be published Saturday, is forecast to slip slightly to 50.8 in July from 50.9 in June, according to a Bloomberg survey of economists, remaining above the 50 line that separates expansion from contraction.

The non-manufacturing gauge, which measures activity in the construction and services sectors, is expected to have softened to 53.3 from 53.5 in the previous month. A shortage of computer chips and electricity in July likely weighed on factory output, although export demand continues to be a strong support for the sector. Recent Covid-19 outbreaks, like in Jiangsu province, a major manufacturing hub, are also a worry, threatening to hamper some production and weigh on consumer spending.

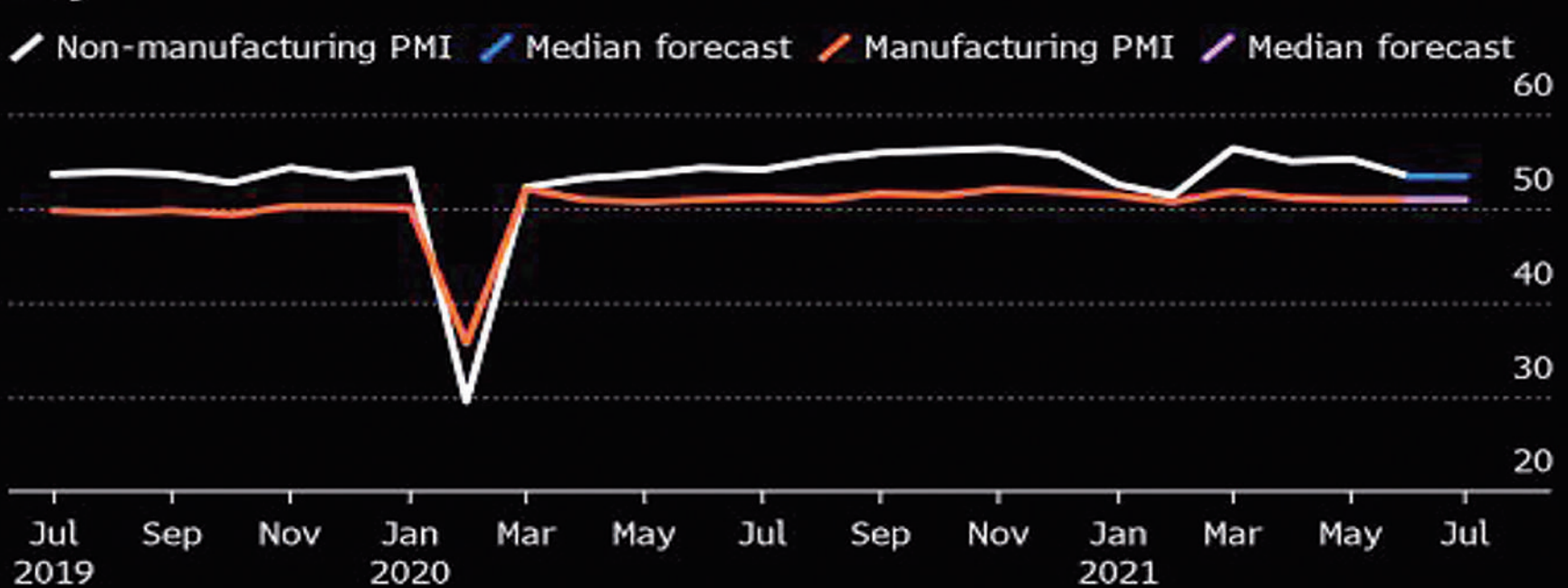
The data come as top Communist Party officials meet at a key Politburo meeting this week to review the economy's performance in the first half and set policy priorities for the rest of the year. Economists expect the leadership to signal a shift toward more monetary and fiscal support as growth gradually slows.

Price effects
Construction activity likely stayed stable or contracted slightly in July as local governments slowed the pace of special bond sales used to finance spending on infrastructure like highways and houses. "It's possible that provincial decision makers are having difficulty identifying projects that meet the investment criteria, as scrutiny over big projects increases," Freya Beamish, chief Asia economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics Ltd. wrote in a note.

The input and output price sub-indexes will also offer some clues as to whether producer inflation has peaked yet. China's factory-gate inflation eased to 8.8% in June from the highest in almost 13 years in May, but some economists expect faster price gains in July after a marginal drop. Officials have said that PPI will slow in the second half of the year.

Holding Steady

Readings of China's purchasing managers' index likely softened slightly in July



Source: China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing, Bloomberg

Bloomberg

China factory production graph

What Bloomberg Economics says

Manufacturing activity likely eased somewhat in July on a maturing recovery and slower summer construction work. The non-manufacturing PMI may see a steeper drop in July, reflecting reduced construction activity

and pressure on consumption and services from Covid-19 outbreaks. - Chang Shu, chief Asia economist, and Eric Zhu, economist

The PMI forecasts are largely in line with a set of early indicators tracked by Bloomberg, which showed China's economy

continuing to recover at a stable pace in July, though with some signs of weakness. Property sales slumped, small business confidence slipped and the stock market fell, the latest gauge showed.

Officials expect the recovery to remain stable in the second half of the year but have warned

of some downward pressure on growth, including a likely slowdown in trade. Even so, on a two-year average basis, which strips out the base effects from last year's pandemic, growth will largely be stable for the full year, People's Daily, the flagship newspaper of the Communist Party, reported Friday.

BULLISH

Ethereum's London upgrade could improve its price through burns

LONDON

ETHEREUM - the second-biggest cryptocurrency and one that's home to many new financial applications - is getting a face-lift, one that could potentially boost the coin's price.

Ethereum will soon undergo a major software upgrade, code named London, that will trim the pace at which the supply of Ether tokens grows. A change called EIP-1559 will split up the roughly 13,000 new Ethers issued each day for miner payment "gas fees" into three parts. One of these, the minimal or base fee that users pay to process transactions, will now be removed from circulation in a process known as burning.

"The London upgrade is one of the most interesting and important upgrades in the history of Ethereum," said Kyle Samani, co-founder of investment firm Multicoin Capital, which holds Ether, citing the reduction of the coin's supply as a path to higher prices through increased scarcity.

User base fees now account for somewhere between 25% to 75% of the gas fees paid to miners, Tim Beiko, the coordinator for the core Ethereum developers, said in an interview. Once these coins are burned, Ether's current supply increases of roughly 4% a year will be reduced.

The supply could drop further once Ethereum moves to a different mechanism of verifying transactions, probably in the first quarter of next year. This new verification system will use computers supporting the Ethereum network to stake Ether coins instead of miners in most cases. The amount of new coins issued will slow, which could increase the price, Beiko said.

The London upgrade, which will take place on Aug. 4 or 5, depending on when the system reaches the point on the blockchain where the update is scheduled, will also benefit Ethereum users by making user fees more predictable and reduce delays in processing most transactions, Beiko said.

"It's just going to make the overall user experience better, because, in theory, there should be fewer failed transactions," Katie Talati, vice president of research at Arca, a crypto asset-management firm, said in an interview.

The miners' views

While the London upgrade will create an initial revenue hit for miners supporting the network, over time they should still benefit as the value of their Ether holdings grows, Beiko said.

"If the Ethereum ecosystem becomes stronger and larger, we will of course benefit from that, just like ordinary users," said Slava Karpenko, chief technology officer at 2miners, an Ether mining pool. And miners will still be able to earn coins by helping traders execute transactions such as arbitrage trades.

While some miners might not go along with the upgrade and create a separate version of Ethereum - a so-called fork - that's unlikely to gain a lot of traction. "At the end of the day the miners are going to have to follow the users, because they are the ones paying the fees," Talati said. What's more, London contains code that will deploy a "difficulty bomb" in December, which can make the coin impossible to mine without using a software upgrade.

The upgrade is happening just as Ethereum celebrates six years since the software's initial release. The network now supports many popular and fast-growing decentralized-finance apps holding more than \$66 billion that allow people to trade, lend and borrow coins peer to peer, without intermediaries like banks, according to DeFi Pulse.

Even after a price rally during the past 10 days, Ethereum's \$271 billion market cap is still nearly half of what it was in May, when Ether hit its all-time high. Most cryptocurrencies have been sliding in recent months due to factors such as tightening government regulations.

ITV PGM SCHEDULE			
MONDAY 19 July			
5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	21:30	Chetu ni chetu
6:00	HABARI	22:15	Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
6:40	Kumekucha	23:00	Habari
7:30	HABARI	23:30	The Base
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	00:30	AI Jazeera
8:55	Habari za saa	02:00	DWTV
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	WEDNESDAY 21 July	
9:30	Soap: Uzalo	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
9:55	Habari za saa	6:00	HABARI
10:00	Watoto wetu	6:40	Kumekucha
10:55	Habari za saa	7:30	HABARI
11:00	ITV Top 10 rpt	8:00	AI Jazeera
11:55	Habari za saa	9:00	DWTV Journal
12:00	Igizo rpt: Rebecca	9:30	Soap: Uzalo
12:55	Habari za saa	10:00	Watoto Wetu rpt
13:00	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanzania Yetu	10:30	Usafiri waoko rpt
13:45	Habari za saa	10:55	Habari za saa
13:55	Mjuzi Zaidi	11:00	HABARI
14:00	Art and Lifestyle rpt	11:55	Habari za saa
14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	12:00	AI Jazeera
14:55	Habari za saa	12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
15:00	Meza huru	12:55	Habari za saa
15:55	Meza huru	13:00	Jagina rpt
16:30	Watoto Wetu	13:30	Chetu ni chetu rpt
17:00	The Base	13:55	Habari za saa
18:00	Jiji Letu	14:00	Chetu ni chetu rpt
18:10	Albu yako rpt	14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
18:15	Igizo: Mizengwe	14:55	Habari za saa
18:30	DWTV: Kesho leo	15:00	Meza Huru
19:00	Afya ya Jamii	15:30	Watoto Wetu
19:30	Soap: Uzalo	16:30	Watoto Wetu
20:00	Habari	17:00	The Base (DJ Show)
21:05	Dakika 45	17:30	Kiliani
22:00	Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	18:00	Jiji Letu
23:00	Habari	18:15	Mjuzi Zaidi rpt
23:30	The Base	19:00	Shamba lulu
00:30	AI Jazeera	19:30	Soap: Uzalo
02:00	DWTV	20:00	Habari
TUESDAY 20 July			
5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	20:00	Habari
6:00	HABARI	21:05	Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
6:40	Kumekucha	21:30	Ripoti Maalum: Masoko Chakavu
7:30	HABARI	22:10	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	23:00	Habari
8:55	Habari za saa	00:30	AI Jazeera
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	02:00	DWTV
9:30	Soap: Uzalo	THURSDAY 22 July	
9:55	Habari za saa	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
10:00	Watoto wetu rpt	6:00	HABARI
10:30	Jungu Kuu rpt	6:40	Kumekucha
10:55	Habari za saa	7:00	HABARI
11:00	The Base rpt	7:30	HABARI
11:55	Habari za saa	8:00	AI Jazeera
12:00	Igizo rpt: Rebecca	8:55	Habari za saa
12:30	Afya ya Jamii	9:00	Watoto wetu
12:55	Habari za saa	9:30	Shika Bamba 5
13:00	Ripoti Maalum rpt: Masoko Chakavu D'Salaam	10:00	Mjuzi Zaidi rpt
13:55	Habari za saa	10:30	Chetu ni chetu rpt
14:00	Shika Bamba rpt	11:15	Hawavumi lakini wamo
14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	12:00	Kipindi Maalum rpt: TMDA
14:55	Habari za saa	12:30	Jijie sheria rpt
15:00	Meza huru	12:55	Habari za saa
15:55	Meza huru	13:00	Shamsham za Pwani rpt
16:30	Watoto Wetu	13:55	Habari za saa
17:00	The Base	14:00	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
18:00	Jiji Letu	14:55	Habari za saa
18:10	Albu yako rpt	15:00	Meza huru
18:15	Igizo: Mizengwe rpt	16:30	Watoto Wetu
18:30	Uchumi na bashara	17:00	The Base
19:00	Jarina la wanawake	18:00	Jiji Letu
19:30	Soap: Uzalo	18:15	Magishi rpt
20:00	Habari	18:30	Jagina
21:00	Kipindi Maalum: Tanzania Yetu	19:00	Usafiri waoko
FRIDAY 23 July			
5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI	7:00	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	7:30	HABARI
8:55	Habari za saa	8:00	AI Jazeera
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	8:55	Habari za saa
9:30	Soap: Uzalo	9:00	Watoto wetu
9:55	Habari za saa	9:30	Shamsham za Pwani
10:00	Watoto wetu rpt	10:00	Igizo: Rebecca
10:30	Jungu Kuu rpt	10:30	Art and Lifestyle
10:55	Habari za saa	11:00	ITV TOP 10
11:00	The Base rpt	12:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo
11:55	Habari za saa	13:00	Soap: Uzalo rpt
12:00	Igizo rpt: Rebecca	00:30	DWTV
12:30	Afya ya Jamii	SATURDAY 24 July	
12:55	Habari za saa	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
13:00	Ripoti Maalum rpt: Masoko Chakavu D'Salaam	6:00	HABARI
13:55	Habari za saa	6:40	Kumekucha
14:00	Shika Bamba rpt	7:00	HABARI
14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	7:30	HABARI
14:55	Habari za saa	8:00	AI Jazeera
15:00	Meza huru	8:55	Habari za saa
15:55	Meza huru	9:00	Watoto wetu
16:30	Watoto Wetu	9:30	Shika Bamba 5
17:00	The Base	10:00	Mjuzi Zaidi rpt
18:00	Jiji Letu	10:30	Chetu ni chetu rpt
18:10	Albu yako rpt	11:15	Hawavumi lakini wamo
18:15	Igizo: Mizengwe rpt	12:00	Kipindi Maalum rpt: TMDA
18:30	Uchumi na bashara	12:30	Jijie sheria rpt
19:00	Jarina la wanawake	12:55	Habari za saa
19:30	Soap: Uzalo	13:00	Shamsham za Pwani rpt
20:00	Habari	13:55	Habari za saa
21:00	Kipindi Maalum: Tanzania Yetu	14:00	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
SUNDAY 25 July			
5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	14:55	Habari za saa
6:00	HABARI	15:00	Meza huru
6:40	Kumekucha	16:30	Watoto Wetu
7:30	HABARI	17:00	The Base
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	18:00	Jiji Letu
8:55	Habari za saa	18:15	Magishi rpt
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	18:30	Jagina
9:30	Soap: Uzalo	19:00	Usafiri waoko
9:55	Habari za saa	19:30	Soap: Uzalo
10:00	Watoto wetu rpt	20:00	Habari
10:30	Jungu Kuu rpt	21:00	AI Jazeera
10:55	Habari za saa	09:00	Watoto Wetu
11:00	The Base	10:00	Soap: Uzalo rpt
11:55	Habari za saa	11:35	Bongo Movie rpt
12:00	Igizo rpt: Rebecca	14:00	Tamasha la Michezo
12:30	Afya ya Jamii	15:30	Mwanga
12:55	Habari za saa	16:30	ITV Top 10
13:00	Ripoti Maalum rpt: Masoko Chakavu D'Salaam	17:30	Kipindi cha kiristo
13:55	Habari za saa	MON 19 July	
14:00	Shika Bamba rpt	6:00	AI Jazeera
14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	6:40	Kumekucha
14:55	Habari za saa	7:30	HABARI
15:00	Meza huru	8:00	Kumekucha Michezo
15:55	Meza huru	8:55	Habari za saa
16:30	Watoto Wetu	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
17:00	The Base	9:30	Soap: Uzalo
18:00	Jiji Letu	9:55	Habari za saa
18:10	Albu yako rpt	10:00	Watoto wetu rpt
18:15	Igizo: Mizengwe rpt	10:30	Usafiri waoko rpt
18:30	Uchumi na bashara	10:55	Habari za saa
19:00	Jarina la wanawake	11:00	HABARI
19:30	Soap: Uzalo	11:55	Habari za saa
20:00	Habari	12:00	AI Jazeera
21:00	Kipindi Maalum: Tanzania Yetu	12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: TMDA
Tues 20 July			
6:00	AI Jazeera	12:55	Habari za saa
6:40	Kumekucha	13:00	Shamsham za Pwani rpt
7:00	HABARI	13:55	Habari za saa
7:30	HABARI	14:00	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	14:55	Habari za saa
8:55	Habari za saa	15:00	Meza huru
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	16:30	Watoto Wetu
9:30	Soap: Uzalo	17:00	The Base
9:55	Habari za saa	18:00	Jiji Letu
10:00	Watoto wetu rpt	18:15	Magishi rpt
10:30	Jungu Kuu rpt	18:30	Jagina
10:55	Habari za saa	19:00	Usafiri waoko
11:00	The Base rpt	19:30	Soap: Uzalo
11:55	Habari za saa	20:00	Habari
12:00	Igizo rpt: Rebecca	21:00	AI Jazeera
12:30	Afya ya Jamii	09:00	Watoto Wetu
12:55	Habari za saa	10:00	Soap: Uzalo rpt
13:00	Ripoti Maalum rpt: Masoko Chakavu D'Salaam	11:35	Bongo Movie rpt
13:55	Habari za saa	14:00	Tamasha la Michezo
14:00	Shika Bamba rpt	15:30	Mwanga
14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	16:30	ITV Top 10
14:55	Habari za saa	17:30	Kipindi cha kiristo
15:00	Meza huru	Wed 21 July	
15:55	Meza huru	6:00	AI Jazeera
16:30	Watoto Wetu	6:40	Kumekucha
17:00	The Base	7:30	HABARI
18:00	Jiji Letu	8:00	Kumekucha Michezo
18:10	Albu yako rpt	8:55	Habari za saa
18:15	Igizo: Mizengwe rpt	9:00	Watoto wetu
18:30	Uchumi na bashara	9:30	Shamsham za Pwani
19:00	Jarina la wanawake	10:00	Igizo: Rebecca
19:30	Soap: Uzalo	10:30	Art and Lifestyle
20:00	Habari	11:00	ITV TOP 10
21:00	Kipindi Maalum: Tanzania Yetu	12:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo
Thurs 22 July			
6:00	AI Jazeera	13:00	Soap: Uzalo rpt
6:40	Kumekucha	14:00	Tamasha la Michezo
7:00	HABARI	15:30	Mwanga
7:30	HABARI	16:30	ITV Top 10
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	17:30	Kipindi cha kiristo
8:55	Habari za saa	Mon 19 July	
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	6:00	AI Jazeera
9:30	Soap: Uzalo	6:40	Kumekucha
9:55	Habari za saa	7	

WORLD

Thousands protest against COVID-19 health pass in France

PARIS

THOUSANDS of people protested in Paris and other French cities on Saturday against a mandatory coronavirus health pass for entry to a wide array of public venues, introduced by the government as it battles a fourth wave of infections.

Protesters injured three police officers in Paris, a police spokesperson said. Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said on Twitter that 19 demonstrators were arrested, including 10 in Paris.

It was the third weekend in a row that people opposed to President Emmanuel Macron's new COVID-19 measures have

taken to the streets, an unusual show of determination at a time of year when many people are focused on taking their summer break.

The number of demonstrators has grown steadily since the start of the protests, echoing the "yellow vest" movement, that started in late 2018 against fuel taxes and the cost of living.

An interior ministry official said 204,090 had demonstrated across France, including 14,250 in Paris alone. This is about 40,000 more than last week.

"We're creating a segregated society and I think it is unbelievable to be doing this in the country of human rights," said



Protesters march waving French flags during a demonstration in France, on Saturday. AP

Anne, a teacher who was demonstrating in Paris. She declined to give her last name.

"So I took to the streets; I have never protested before in my life. I think our freedom is in danger."

Visitors going to museums, cinemas or swimming pools are already denied entry if they cannot produce the health pass showing they have been vaccinated against COVID-19 or have had a recent negative test.

Parliament approved a new law this week that will make vaccinations mandatory for health workers and extend the health pass requirement to bars, restaur-

ants, trade shows, trains and hospitals. About 3,000 police officers were deployed in the capital, with anti-riot officers striving to keep demonstrators on authorized routes.

Authorities sought to avoid a repeat of events last week, when scuffles between police and demonstrators broke out on the Champs-Élysées.

Protesters were also out in other cities like Marseille, Lyon, Montpellier, Nantes and Toulouse, shouting "Freedom!" and "No to the health pass!".

Agencies

Tunisian president says he will not become a dictator

TUNIS

TUNISIA'S president promised on Friday he would not turn into a dictator and rejected accusations he had staged a coup, as two parliament members were arrested following his decision to lift their immunity when he seized control of government this week.

Tunisia has been thrust into a political crisis by President Kais Saïed's move on Sunday to dismiss the prime minister and freeze parliament for 30 days, leading major parties to accuse him of a coup.

Saïed has yet to carry out steps that critics say are needed to reassure Tunisians, including the appointment of an interim prime minister and a roadmap to end the emergency measures.

"I know the constitutional texts very well, respect them and taught them and after all this time I will not turn into a dictator as some have said," the presidency quoted the former law professor saying.

Concerns over rights and freedoms in Tunisia, a democracy since the 2011 revolution, rose on Friday after the arrest of parliamentarian and influential blogger Yassin Ayari and the announcement of investigations into alleged violence by people protesting Saïed's actions during a demonstration on Monday.

The military judiciary said Ayari had been imprisoned by a judicial ruling issued three years ago for defaming the army. Saïed on Sunday removed the immunity of parliament members, leaving any with cases against them vulnerable to arrest.

Another member of parliament, Maher Zid of the conservative Muslim Karama party, was detained late on Friday, according to his lawyer, after being sentenced to two years in prison in 2018 for offending people on social media and insulting the then president.

On Monday, the biggest party in parliament, the moderate Islamist Ennahda, held a sit-in outside parliament after it was surrounded by the army. Hundreds of supporters of Ennahda and Saïed confronted each other, some throwing stones or bottles.

The judiciary said it had opened investigations into four people linked to Ennahda for "attempting to commit acts of violence" during the protest, including a member of a party council and two members with connections to its leader.

Saïed's move to seize executive control appears to have widespread popular support in Tunisia, where years of misgovernance, corruption, political paralysis and economic stagnation have been aggravated this year by a deadly surge in COVID-19 cases.

Saïed on Friday moved the country's COVID-19 nightly curfew back to 10 pm from 7 pm. Despite the political crisis, there have been no signs of unrest in Tunisia since the protest outside parliament on Monday.

UK advisers: Vaccine protection highly likely to wane over time

SAN SALVADOR / ADDIS ABABA

THE protection that vaccines give against coronavirus infection, and potentially severe disease, is highly likely to wane over time so vaccine campaigns will continue for years to come, scientists told the British government's advisory group.

"It is highly likely that vaccine induced immunity to SARS-CoV-2 infection, and potentially severe disease (but probably to a lesser extent) will wane over time," according to an executive summary of a document considered by the government's Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE).

"It is therefore likely that there will be vaccination campaigns against SARS-CoV-2 for many years to come, but currently we do not know what will be the optimal required frequency for re-vaccination to protect the vulnerable from COVID disease," the scientists said.

The document, titled "How long will vaccines continue to protect against COVID?", was written by prominent virologists and epidemiologists from Imperial College London, University of Birmingham and Public Health England.

UK officials are close to an agreement to allow travelers to pass through airports in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Istanbul, Doha and Bahrain, without having to quarantine in a hotel when they arrive, the Telegraph reported Saturday.

The move will make it cheaper and easier for business travelers and families to reunite with relatives in Australia, New Zealand and the Middle East who often have to pass through these transit hubs.

Agencies

Agencies

China moves quickly to contain COVID-19 resurgence

BEIJING

In the face of new spikes in sporadic COVID-19 infections, governments at various levels across China have promptly taken measures to contain the spread of the coronavirus in an orderly fashion.

This round of infections started in Nanjing, in east China's Jiangsu Province, when nine airport cleaners at the Nanjing Lukou International Airport tested positive during routine testing on July 20.

The mega-city with a population of more than 9.3 million had reported a total of 190 locally transmitted confirmed cases by Friday, according to local authorities.

By Saturday noon, Nanjing had designated 30 areas as medium-risk for COVID-19 and one as high-risk. All tourist sites in the city have been closed since Saturday.

Nanjing authorities also announced a 10-day overall disinfection plan for the Lukou International Airport on Saturday. The city is also drafting a disinfection plan for the residence of airport staff.

In order to enhance its nucleic acid testing capabilities, Nanjing has built six advanced air-inflated testing labs, which can screen up to 1.8 million people every day by using the mixed testing approach.

Three rounds of testing

have been conducted city-wide. Municipal authorities said Saturday that the city will organize vaccinations for those who are qualified to get the second shot in low-risk areas.

Viral genome sequencing has found all strains to be the highly infectious Delta variant, said Ding Jie, deputy director of the Nanjing municipal center for disease control and prevention, on Friday.

Also in Jiangsu Province, the city of Yangzhou has reported a total of 16 locally-transmitted confirmed COVID-19 cases since Thursday, and the first case was a visitor from Nanjing.

On Saturday, the city suspended all inbound and outbound flights at its Taizhou International Airport, and closed major scenic spots, including the Slender West Lake and the Daming Temple.

Sporadic cases and cluster infections have also been found in other parts of the country, and many of the most recent patients diagnosed have recently traveled to Zhangjiajie, a world-famous tourist destination in central China's Hunan Province.

Zhangjiajie has reported five confirmed locally-transmitted cases since Thursday. The city closed all tourist sites and upgraded 11 neighborhoods to medium-risk ar-



Aerial photo taken on July 27, 2021 shows "Falcon" air-inflated testing labs for COVID-19 nucleic acid testing at a stadium in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province. Xinhua

reas for COVID-19 on Friday.

All stranded tourists are required to receive nucleic acid testing three times before leaving the city, and all results must be negative.

Emergency channels have been set up for them at all testing sites citywide, and local authorities have coordinated travel agencies and hotels to provide essential services to those tourists before their departure.

The central Chinese city of Zhengzhou, which was recently hit by heavy floods, classified one area as high-risk for COVID-19 and three areas as medium-risk on Saturday, all of them are in Erqi District, after one asymptomatic COVID-19 case and several suspicious cases were reported since Friday. The

city is also planning to launch city-wide nucleic acid testing for COVID-19 in a timely manner.

Since Wednesday, the national capital of Beijing has reported two confirmed locally-transmitted cases. They are a couple who recently visited Zhangjiajie.

Nine residential compounds in Changping with about 41,000 residents in total have been put under closed-off management, Tong Lizhi, deputy head of the district government said Thursday.

Beijing has urged unremitting efforts to prevent and control the virus spread during the summer vacation and strengthen the management of inbound and outbound tourists.

A series of measures such as

flow restriction, temperature measurement, health-code verification and mask-wearing in parks, scenic spots and traffic stations, will be strictly implemented, the municipal government said Friday.

Zhang Wenhong, a renowned medical expert in China, said that no community cases were found outside of the transmission chain of Nanjing airport, which indicates that the epidemic situation is still under control.

According to Shao Yiming, a researcher with the China Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the spikes in cases are limited to a relatively small scale, especially compared with the situation in other countries and regions of the world.

"Judging from our experience since the second half of last year, we are able to detect the epidemic early and take intensive measures to contain it within a few weeks," said Shao. Shao said the pressure of imported cases will continue in the future, but China's prevention and control measures have also been strengthened.

"Last year, we only had routine public-health precautions, but vaccines have been available since the beginning of this year. We can now bring this outbreak under control more effectively and faster with a two-pronged approach," he added.

Xinhua

Lithuanian opposition figure's case fabricated, politicised, says Russian foreign ministry

MOSCOW

THE case against the Lithuanian opposition politician Algirdas Paletskis is fabricated and politicized, Deputy Director of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Department Alexander Bikantov said in a commentary released on Saturday.

"This criminal case was initially fabricated and po-

liticized. It serves as another example of Vilnius' using the punitive justice against those having a view on historical issues different from that of the official authorities," he said.

"We will continue bringing up the issue of illegal kangaroo court of Algirdas Paletskis, together with other facts of lawlessness ongoing in Lithuania, at relevant international organizations," the

diplomat added.

Paletskis was found guilty and sentenced to six years in prison.

The sentence is not final and could be challenged in the Lithuanian Court of Appeal. The prosecution demanded a sentence of nine years.

The case involved two suspects: the former leader of the Socialist People's Front

party Paletskis, and businessman Deimantas Bertauskas.

They were accused of two episodes. One involves the collection of information about Lithuanian judges and prosecutors who worked on the 1991 January Events - allegedly on the request of Russian intelligence services; another one involved a search for medics, who would allegedly agree to issue a fake

medical noted about the health of Russian citizen Yuri Mel, sentenced under the same case, who is suffering from diabetes.

Paletskis did not acknowledge his guilt, but did not refuse to testify.

He was put under arrest in October 2018 and was released into intensive supervision in April 2020.

Agencies

China gathers pace in integrating new technologies into transportation sector

IN May, Changsha, capital city of central China's Hunan province, put into trial operation its first smart commuter bus, which is connected via the Internet of Vehicles (IoV) to traffic lights at 26 crossings along the bus route from Yuelu district to High-Tech Industrial Development Zone of the city.

When the bus arrives at an intersection, the traffic light automatically turns green on the premise of safety, thus ensuring that it passes smoothly.

"Thanks to the bus, I can sleep half an hour longer before going to work," said a resident surnamed Xing in Yue-

lu district.

Recently, China's first batch of shared robotaxis, which are operated by Chinese tech giant Baidu, was officially launched in Beijing. Users can order robotaxi service through a mobile app.

These robotaxis are completely unmanned. Relevant information about the ride, such as the starting point, destination, and speed limit, is displayed on the screen in the vehicle, which is able to decide the route according to road conditions. Human intervention is not needed unless there is an emergency.

Intelligent transportation is the result of comprehensive application of information, communication, and sensing technologies to transportation.

Unlike the traditional way of improving transportation intelligence mainly through equipment integration, new-generation information technologies including AI and 5G are expected to promote the leapfrog development of intelligent transportation.

Equipped with advanced AI, radar and geographic information technologies, the "brain" of vehicles has

evolved rapidly, which gives vehicles better "vision" and "intelligence quotient" that enable them to make decisions on their own, representing a great stride of driverless vehicles.

The rapidly developing 5G technology, which features low latency and wide connection, is considered a powerful tool for pushing ahead intelligent transportation. For example, it has guaranteed accurate, reliable, and extremely quick-response transmission signal for controlling subway trains running in autonomous driving mode.

In April, Shenzhen city, south China's Guangdong province, put into

operation its first 5G-based driverless subway line.

Various fields of transportation industry are making efforts to advance intelligent transportation, from optimizing the control of traffic lights to establishing a smart platform for urban transportation.

Smart transportation is at its start-up stage, and will soon embrace rapid growth, according to Nie Yuren, general director of the solution department of Baidu's Intelligent Driving Group.

Despite the huge potential, intelligent transportation still has a long way to go in terms of large-scale applica-

tion on the whole. Intelligent transportation cannot run well without a set of mutually supporting systems. The lack of any one single part of these systems may result in failure of the operation of the whole intelligent transportation system.

For example, the realization of high-level autonomous driving requires both "smart" vehicles and "smart" roads, which calls for the establishment of a vehicle-road collaboration network involving intelligent infrastructure, data-based decision-making and management systems.

People's Daily

UK's Delta rollercoaster flips between virus horror, hope

OTTAWA / ADDIS ABABA / BUENOS AIRES / SANTIAGO / HAVANA / KINSHASA / RABAT / JOHANNESBURG

TWO weeks ago, the Delta variant was ripping through the UK, stoking fears of a record wave of COVID-19 clobbering one of the world's most highly vaccinated countries.

Then, almost overnight, daily cases plummeted, renewing hope that the pandemic's end - at least in some parts of the world - is within sight.

Now, with the US and much of the world grappling with Delta's fury, people are looking to the UK for answers about how their respective outbreaks might unfold.

But there's no single answer, as mutations and varied vaccination coverage create conditions for swings in virus rates. While experts agree on some factors in the UK story, they're also struggling to make sense of what's truly accounted for the sudden reversal and whether it's really time to relax.

"This is a remarkably rapid decline and one that few anticipated," said Martin McKee, professor of European Public Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, who's scrutinizing everything from the possibility that young people are skipping COVID-19 tests to older people renewing their commitments to social distancing to the virus running up against a wall of immunity in the country. "Overall, it is a bit of a mystery."

New daily cases in the UK reached almost 55,000 on July 17, before dropping back below 25,000 earlier this week. The situation shifts day to day, but the weekly trend certainly looks promising.

There's consensus on one point: the high level of vaccinations in the UK, where about 57 percent of the population has had both shots, has been a godsend. That's higher than the European Union and the U.S., which are both closing in on the 50 percent threshold.

It's also a primary reason why the level of hospitalizations and COVID-19 deaths in the UK in recent weeks - while still going up - is nowhere near approaching the horrors of last winter.

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc's antibody treatment for COVID-19 received U.S. regulators' blessing as the first preventative therapy for unvaccinated and immunocompromised people in high-risk settings.

The decision by the Food and Drug Administration expands an emergency use authorization, first granted in November, for the antibody cocktail to treat mild to moderate COVID-19 infections in people 12 years old and up.

It allows Regeneron to offer the combination of casirivimab and imdevimab, called REGEN-COV, in more contexts to more patients in the same age group. The treatment still hasn't been cleared for patients hospitalized with COVID-19.

Antibody therapies are among the few treatments proven effective against COVID-19 infections, but they're usually administered at infusion centers. While many such therapies carry a hefty price tag, the U.S. government pays for patients' to receive REGEN-COV. The FDA's decision to allow Regeneron's therapy as a protective measure against COVID-19 could be a milestone for prevention of severe infections in high-risk individuals.

To be eligible, patients must have both a high risk of developing more severe disease from COVID-19 - either because they're unvaccinated or have a weak immune system - and have a good chance of getting infected because of known or likely exposure. One example could be someone living in a congregate space where another person is infected. Regeneron said its therapy can also be used across multiple months if exposure continues for a longer period.

WHO

The world is at risk of losing hard-won gains in fighting COVID-19 as the highly transmissible Delta variant spreads, but WHO-approved vaccines remain effective, the World Health Organization said on Friday.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has described the Delta variant of the coronavirus as being as transmissible as chickenpox and cautioned it could cause severe disease, the Washington Post said, citing an internal CDC document.

COVID-19 infections have increased by 80 percent over the past four weeks in most regions of the world, WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said. Deaths in Africa - where only 1.5 percent of the population is vaccinated - rose by 80 percent over the same period.

"Hard-won gains are in jeopardy or being lost, and health systems in many countries are being overwhelmed," Tedros told a news conference.

The Delta variant has been detected in 132 countries, becoming the dominant global strain, according to the WHO.

"The vaccines that are currently approved by the WHO all provide significant protection against severe disease and hospitalisation from all the variants, including the Delta variant," said WHO's top emergency expert, Mike Ryan.

Africa

Only 1.5 percent of the whole population of Africa has been vaccinated against COVID-19, and the continent might not even reach ten percent coverage by Dec. 2021, although the World Health Organization (WHO) wanted to cross that threshold by September of this year, WHO officials warned on Friday.

"Right now, we are not on track to hit ten percent coverage in Africa by the end of this year," said Bruce Aylward, senior advisor to the WHO director general, at a press conference here on Friday.

"That should be a scar on all of our conscience, quite frankly," he added, pointing out that the number of coronavirus-related deaths has increased by 80 percent on the African continent. **Agencies**

Xi chairs leadership meeting to study economic work

BEIJING

THE Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee held a meeting on Friday to study and analyze current economic circumstances and make plans for related work for the second half of 2021.

The meeting was chaired by Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee. Since the beginning of this year, China has coordinated COVID-19 prevention and control with economic and social development, effectively implemented macro policies, and ensured sustained recovery and improvement in its economy, said the meeting.

The country has also actively advanced scientific and technological self-reliance, enhanced reform and opening-up, effectively guaranteed people's livelihood, achieved new results in high-quality development, and maintained overall social stability.

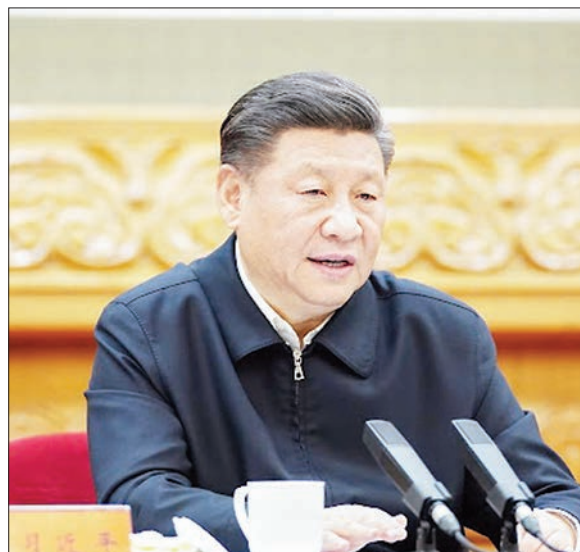
The meeting noted that the global COVID-19 situation is still evolving and Chinese economy faces an increasingly complex and grave external environment. The domestic economic recovery is still unfirm and unbalanced, according to the meeting.

To ensure sound economic work for the second half of 2021, the meeting stressed upholding the underlying principle of pursuing progress while ensuring stability, and the full, accurate and comprehensive implementation of the new development philosophy.

The meeting urged more efforts to deepen the supply-side structural reform, accelerate the building of a new development paradigm, and advance China's high-quality development.

It also stressed maintaining consistent, stable and sustainable macro policies, sound coordination to mesh this year's policies with those for 2022, and keeping the Chinese economy running within an appropriate range.

The proactive fiscal policy should generate greater



Chinese President Xi Jinping

effect, while the prudent monetary policy should maintain reasonably ample liquidity and support the continued recovery of small and medium-sized enterprises as well as stressed industries.

The meeting stressed keeping the renminbi's exchange rate basically stable at a reasonable and balanced level. It also urged efforts to ensure supply and stable pricing of commodities.

The meeting demanded efforts to tap domestic market potential and support quicker development of the new energy vehicles. Integration of the county's rural e-commerce system and express logistics distribution system, as well as construction on major projects in the 14th Five-Year Plan, should be accelerated, the meeting noted, promising more guidance for businesses to increase investment in technological upgrading.

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening tech-

nological innovation and industrial chain resilience, the meeting decided to carry out targeted campaigns to address "chokepoint" problems as well as develop specialized and innovative small and medium-sized enterprises.

China should stick to the high-level opening-up and unswervingly advance the high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative, said the statement.

The meeting called for the introduction of an action plan as soon as possible for achieving carbon peak before 2030.

It urged putting an end to "whirlwind campaigns" for carbon reduction and resolutely curbing the pell-mell development of high-energy intensity and highly pollutive projects. Efforts should be made to prevent and defuse risks in key fields and improve the regulation system on firms' overseas listings, according to the meeting.

The meeting stressed sticking to the principle of "houses are for living in, not for speculation," stabilizing the prices of lands, homes and expectation to promote the stable and sound development of the real estate market as well as accelerating the development of rental housing.

China should align efforts to consolidate and expand the achievements in poverty elimination with efforts to promote rural vitalization, the meeting said. The three-child policy should be implemented and supporting policies on childbirth, child care and education should be further improved.

It called for solid efforts on flood control and disaster relief to safeguard the safety of people's lives and property, and further advancing the country's COVID-19 vaccination program.

The meeting also stressed sound preparations for the Beijing Olympic Winter Games and the Paralympic Winter Games. **Xinhua**

Myanmar forms caretaker govt with Min Aung Hlaing as PM

YANGON

MYANMAR formed a Republic of the Union of Myanmar Caretaker Government, according to an order by the State Administration Council yesterday.

Under the order, the new caretaker government will be led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Sen-Gen Min Aung Hlaing as prime minister and Vice

Sen-Gen Soe Win as deputy prime minister.

The caretaker government body comprises union ministers, union attorney-general, permanent secretary of the office of the caretaker government.

Min Aung Hlaing, in his televised message on Sunday, pledged to hold the multi-party general elections in the second half of 2023.

"The constitution states the limitation for the duration of the state of emergency. According to subsection (b) of Section 421, if one cannot accomplish the duties within one year of the emergency period, it permits only two extensions of the prescribed duration for a term of six months for each extension. In the meantime, we have to do the things that should be done.

Then, we will take six months by August 2023 to prepare for the election according to the law," Min Aung Hlaing said.

The state power has been held by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Sen-Gen Min Aung Hlaing for six months since a state of emergency was declared in Myanmar on Feb 1 this year.

Min Aung Hlaing pledged to

hold the multi-party general elections without fail, stressing the need to create conditions to hold free and fair multiparty general elections.

The Union Election Commission canceled on July 27 the results of the previous multi-party general elections held on Nov 8 last year as the elections were not held in line with laws and were not fair. **Agencies**

Postgraduate students help vitalise rural areas in SW China's Guizhou province



A farmer in Longtu village, Guandong township, Congjiang county, southwest China's Guizhou province, fixes branches of passion fruit trees at a planting base, July 22, 2021. File Photo

SINCE 2017, Guizhou University in southwest China's Guizhou province has sent doctoral students and master's students to help villages of the province with development under a program designed to boost the vitalization of rural areas in Guizhou.

In midsummer this year, the kiwi fruit industrial belt in Shuicheng district, Liupanshui city of Guizhou, is about to embrace a good harvest, thanks to the guidance of Mo Feixu, a doctoral student majoring in plant protection at the College of Agriculture of Guizhou University.

Seeing plump kiwi fruits weigh down thick vines with lush leaves, farmers happily take and share photos of their orchards with friends on social media platform WeChat.

Zhang Rongquan, a horticulturist at the management committee of an agricultural industrial park of Shuicheng district, saw unusual white spots on some kiwi fruits from farmers' photos. Zhang was so concerned about the situation that he then consulted Mo about it.

"It looks like the tree has soft rot, but I can only confirm it after checking the tree on site," said Mo, who then went to the industrial belt together with four of his fellows. As the head of the kiwi fruit cultivation team under the program, Mo has been very meticulous about his work.

"It is indeed soft rot, a disease that causes the fruit to go bad from

the inside of its pulp. It is hard to be discovered at the early stage," Mo concluded, adding that 10 percent of the kiwi trees in the industrial belt had been infected and the output would be reduced by at least 20 percent unless prompt and effective measures would be taken to control and prevent the disease.

With the help of his doctoral supervisor Long Youhua, chief expert in kiwi fruit industry of Guizhou, Mo and his team members soon formulated a detailed plan for disease control. The plan was provided for all fruit growers in Guizhou as fruit management guidelines by Guizhou fruit and vegetable industry association.

"I'm proud to be able to help villagers solve problems using what I have learned at school," said Mo, who felt relieved that the disease of kiwi fruits got eased.

Centering around its 12 expert teams specializing in pillar

industries of rural areas, Guizhou University has established practice teams made up of doctoral students and master's students, with doctoral students being the main participants, for the program. These teams have facilitated the vitalization of rural areas in Guizhou by contributing

to the endeavor of the province to reduce poverty by developing industries and providing technical and talent support for these areas.

"Since the program was launched, we have sent over 300 teams involving more than 10,000 participants to help rural areas with development," said Qi Ya, deputy head of the postgraduate student office of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Guizhou University committee.

"As researchers on agricultural technologies, we need to connect our papers with the actual situation in fields and turn ourselves into pragmatic dream-seeker in modern agriculture," said Ji Da, a postgraduate student majoring in aquaculture at the College of Zoology of Guizhou University, as well as leader of the ecological fishery team under the program. Ji will soon lead his team to Duyun city in Guizhou to carry out artificial breeding of red carp.

"We have cultivated the first batch of hybrid fry, and will try to develop high-quality new varieties that grow fast as soon as possible to help farmers obtain greater economic benefits," Ji noted.

People's Daily

US Congress unlikely to hamper Nord Stream 2 launch - Russian lawmaker

MOSCOW

EFFORTS of the US Congress are unlikely to hamper the launch of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline project, but pose a challenge for US President Joe Biden's administration, a senior Russian lawmaker said on Saturday.

The House of Representatives passed a bill on the US Department of State's budget for fiscal year 2022, containing an amendment prohibiting the US administration from waiving sanctions against Nord Stream 2. According to Leonid Slutsky, who chairs the international affairs committee of the Russian parliament's lower chamber, the State Duma, US lawmakers demonstrated they "are still detached from reality."

"The decision is not final yet, the bill is yet to be approved by the Senate. It will be submitted to President Joe Biden for signing only if senators introduce no amendments to it," he said. "With the help of the Democratic Party's lawmakers, the White House will attempt to block the amendment, which runs counter to Washington and Berlin's agreements on Nord Stream 2." "It is a serious challenge for Biden. The new US administration will have to prove that it can honor commitments to their European partners," the lawmaker added.

In his words, the move by the US Congress is a matter of mostly domestic policy.

"One should keep in mind lobbyists of US liquefied natural gas supplies to Europe. This is a yet another example of unfair competition. However, all those rituals are unlikely to have any effect on the launch of Nord Stream 2," Slutsky said.

The Nord Stream 2 project envisages the completion of two lines of the gas pipeline with a total capacity of 55 billion cubic meters per year from the coast of Russia across the Baltic Sea to Germany. Work on the project was suspended in December 2019 after Swiss Allseas abandoned pipe-laying operations due to the then-looming US sanctions. In December 2020, the construction of the gas pipeline was resumed after a year's pause.

On July 28, a representative with Nord Stream 2 AG, the project's operator, told TASS pipeline was 99% complete, and the Fortuna pipe-laying barge was working at the final section.

On July 21, the US and Germany reached an agreement on the Nord Stream 2 project. Washington admitted that sanctions would not stop its implementation, while Berlin pledged to work towards an extension of the Russian gas transit through Ukraine. US President Joe Biden said was practically complete and it was impossible to shut down its construction. The US authorities reserved the right to take action in response to Russia's use of energy as a "geopolitical weapon" in Europe and "aggression against Ukraine", according to the US Department of State.

Russia has repeatedly stressed that Nord Stream 2 is a commercial project which is being implemented jointly with European partners. Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov expressed bewilderment at the attempts of some countries to determine the gas pipeline's fate on politically motivated circumstances. Furthermore, Moscow repeatedly stated that it has never used energy resources as a tool of pressure. **Agencies**

SPORT



MultiChoice Tanzania Head of Marketing, Ronald Shelukindo (3rd L), hands over silverware to Tanzania Sports Writers Association (TASWA) SC's players shortly after the outfit won a special bonanza, organized by DStv, targeting to launch the 2021/22 football season. Various sides, consisting of domestic football veterans that are followers of the English Premier League, Arsenal, Manchester United, and Liverpool, battled it out in the bonanza in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

DStv now ultimate destination for 2021/22 football season

By Guardian Correspondent

SUPERSPORT is gearing up to deliver some of the most action-packed football from the best players in the world when the top leagues in the world return to screens in August.

According to the company, football lovers can, on DStv, look forward to watching the return of the UEFA Europa League- the second most important competition in Europe-, after the UEFA Champions League- on the Channel of Champions.

The Europa League and FA Cup will be exclusive to SuperSport adding to the best football viewing experience across all the continent.

As the Tokyo Olympics take center stage, interest in the upcoming European football season is ramping up.

With the best leagues, a variety of viewing options, and expert commentary and analysis, DStv is the true home of football in Africa, offering a range and depth of action that no other rival can match - it is unbeatable football.

Tanzania football fans will, the company revealed, be able to follow comprehensive coverage of the most loved football leagues with hundreds of games from the English Premier League, La Liga, and Serie A matches on DStv.

MultiChoice Tanzania Head of Marketing, Ronald Shelukindo, said: "Building on the euphoria of an exciting 2020/21 season and the Olympics, we are excited to deliver world-class football

to fans wherever they watch, whether on television or digital platforms."

The official revealed: "This season we are delivering even more value to our DStv customers. We listened and have secured the Europa League as a Pay TV exclusive offering. In so doing we further entrench our promise as the best football watching experience in Africa."

That includes the Premier League, where Manchester City and Pep Guardiola will look to continue their dominance but are likely to face a renewed challenge from Liverpool, Chelsea, and Manchester United, while England's famed and beloved FA Cup remains an exclusive for SuperSport.

In La Liga, Atletico Madrid will start as favourites to hold off the challenge offered by Real Madrid and Barcelona.

An exciting Sevilla side however could be even more prominent in the title challenge.

A high turnover of coaches in Serie A makes the Italian top flight's new season entirely unpredictable.

Internazionale Milan is the reigning Serie A champion, but Juventus, AC Milan, Napoli, Lazio, and AS Roma, now managed by Jose Mourinho, will all be gunning for the Scudetto in 2021/22.

Football is about connection, sharing it with friends and family makes the sport, widely touted as 'The Beautiful Game', even more meaningful.

And in no competition is this more applicable than the UEFA Champions League and the UEFA Europa League, the ultimate expression of the club game in Europe that has become the true measure of the greatest players and

TFF ought to concentrate on early preps for Federation Cup final

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S 2020/21 football season has ended with the Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) final, bringing together Simba SC and Yanga, at Lake Tanganyika Stadium in Kigoma in July.

The 2020/21 Vodacom Premier League's champions, Simba, beat age-old rivals, Yanga, 1-0 in the ASFC final and won a domestic double.

Since 2017, the finals of the ASFC have been held in various regions in the country, starting with Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Arusha, Lindi, Rukwa, and, this season, the game took place in Kigoma.

It is a good idea for the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) to take this showdown's final to different regions because the approach helps to promote football at the local level.

The approach further unites the country as the interaction between people from different regions becomes more intense during these finals, as has been witnessed in all years.

The benefits come at a high cost of a good game, it should not be so.

Whenever soccer enthusiasts think of anything about football, the first question to ask themselves is 'do they support football?'

Scheduling a high-profile final like this to such a region like Kigoma that was unprepared for the event, amounts to frustrating the growth of football instead of structuring it.

Kigoma was unprepared. How do the teams playing in the final miss a training ground?

That is, apart from Lake Tanganyika Stadium, which was the venue for the final, Kigoma was not prepared for anything related to football.

It is as if the region did not have football officials who knew football. Sorry for that.

That is, when it comes to a region lacking a training ground, a person sits down and asks himself 'Do they know really about football and its development?'

There is only one stadium in Kigoma and the ASFC finalists trained together at different times, the clubs did not have that status.

When members of the local football fraternity do not help the growth of football, they support politics more than football.

The TFF officials count the finals played in different regions as a success for them, but football is not a success.

The hardships that the semi-finalists in Tabora and Songea, and the finalists who played in the Kigoma encountered, are indescribable.

The finals of such a major tournament like this are supposed to take place in a beautiful stadium in a planned city.

All finals of this tournament, except the first one, played in 2016, have been held in poor stadiums found in cities that were not prepared.

And the cause of all this is TFF, the tournament organizers. Why not announce now the city, where the next final will be held?



Yanga's attacker, Yacouba Songne (L), dribbles past Simba defender, Mohamed Hussein, during this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) final, which took place in Kigoma in July. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

The federation can even announce the finals for the next three years and it will all boil down to those, who are scheduled to prepare the finals for the respective years, to see to it the facilities are in good shape.

The FIFA World Cup Organizing Committee does the same, the African Cup of Nations (AFCON) organizers and even the European Champions League organizers do the same.

These federations and football associates in their continents are the people whose stadiums are ready all the time.

They can tell each other at midnight that tomorrow is the final, and they got over 100 stadiums that are ready.

But they are still giving the finalists time to prepare well. This comes about because the final is not just the 90 minutes of kicking the ball into the field, it is the whole cycle of life during that period.

The TFF should announce a venue for hosting the 2022 ASFC final and the conditions must be that the stadium has a modern pitch, which meets international standards.

There must be at least two training grounds for those teams, which will make it to the showdown's final.

There should be good hospitality infrastructure. Kigoma was overcrowded, hotels were not enough.

This means venues for the next three finals, 2022, 2023, and 2024, should be announced now.

After next season's ASFC final, the TFF has to announce 2025 final early.

This will help the regions prepare for the finals and get the respect they deserve for the smooth supervision of football, not politics.

These factors have brought about a decision by Council for East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA) to have this season's East Africa Club Championship, Kagame Cup, being played in Dar es Salaam.

The TFF officials have struggled to ensure this tournament comes to Tanzania because Azam TV has promised good money on broadcasting rights.

Azam TV does not want to see competitions being held in the country without home teams participating in them.

And the media outlet does not want to be burdened if the tournament takes place outside Tanzania.

That is what gave the heads of the regional federation the audacity to bring the competition here.

The leaders do not look at the football reasons that the hosts' players have not rested.

The football season was over on July 25, and then in August, Kagame Cup tournament begins.

It means the teams are not having a chance to rest. On September 10, the CAF inter-club competitions begin, and later the Mainland Premier League returns.

And then the country wants to protect its four CAF

spots for teams to perform well in continental football, something that cannot reach fruition if players do not have time to rest.

What will happen if the players are not given time to rest? But since the leaders are embracing the reasons behind hosting this tournament, which is not healthy for football, then they are just not doing it rightly.

The Kagame Cup is indeed crucial to football development in East Africa, but, let the hosts look at themselves first.

The country should not seek glory through a candle by destroying its players.

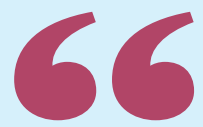
It would not be surprising to see domestic teams, which will feature in this season's Kagame Cup, use their respective U-20 squads in this tournament to protect their reliable senior squads' players for next season.

The Kagame Cup tournament could, as a result, see little known, fringe players battle it out in the showdown, thus affecting the showpiece's competitiveness.

This approach will moreover ruin the competition, it is just better the showpiece would not have taken place.

It would have been more understandable had the Kagame Cup not taken place than opting for a rash decision to host the showpiece.

This approach shows how unprepared the East Africa region is in its affairs.



This season we are delivering even more value to our DStv customers. We listened and have secured the Europa League as a Pay TV exclusive offering. In so doing we further entrench our promise as the best football watching experience in Africa

How can Super League be good in Africa, bad in Europe?

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

IN 1998, a private Italian sports management company, Media Partners, arrived at the headquarters of the Union of the European Football Associations (UEFA) to meet with the body's then-president, Lennart Johansson.

Officials of the company, however, had no choice but to propose the establishment of a new European Super League.

At the time, all of Europe was focused on the city of Milan where Real Madrid was up against Atletico Madrid in the UEFA Champions League final.

The UEFA did not agree with the idea but probably learned a lot from the proposal, which, as it emerged this year, would involve 14 major European clubs at the time.

The idea came up again this year and such big clubs like Real Madrid, Barcelona, Chelsea, Manchester United, Arsenal, Liverpool, and Juventus had already agreed to a deal, which would allow them to get tickets to the tournament without competing for a place in their home countries.

Other outfits, set to take part in the showdown, will though be forced to work hard to qualify for the few spots left.

Football associations, governments, and the sport's fans in different countries strongly opposed the plan, with UEFA threatening to crack down on participating clubs.

The idea was dismissed, although Real Madrid still speculates that the deal is ongoing and the European Super League may be in place next year.

Opponents of the idea said the act of some teams qualifying automatically without competing for space eliminates the nature of competitive sports to get financial benefits.

Also, some felt it would be tiring for a big club to meet regularly in the same league.

Fans said the ones who agreed to the deal were selfish and prioritized money and the fans thus marched in protest of the decision.

The incident went as far as bringing about the postponement of the English Premier League's match between Manchester United and Liverpool.

Some, mostly small clubs, felt it was no longer possible for their teams to meet clubs like Barcelona, Real Madrid, Manchester United, and Juventus, because of the structure of the league.

The world football's governing body (FIFA) has threatened to ban all players, who would participate in the European



Confederation of African Football (CAF) president, Patrice Motsepe.

Super League, from taking part in the upcoming FIFA World Cup finals and even in club tournaments organized by either FIFA or member associations.

FIFA said the worldwide rules of competition, solidarity, and promotion are the basis of football and are the key to global success and are enshrined in FIFA constitution and federations' statutes and therefore do not agree with the European Super League structure of a club getting a chance without competing.

That was the second time such an attempt to establish a new league had failed.

The idea has its origins in the United States, where the National Football League (NFL) hardly has either promotion or relegation and it was no surprise for the American bank, JP Morgan, to be willing to pour billions of dollars into European Super League sponsorship.

While the idea demised on the strength of FIFA, UEFA, and the member states, the world football governing body now sees the idea as the best in Africa.

The Super League, however, is the brainchild of FIFA president, Gianni Infantino, who played a pivotal role in Patrice Motsepe's coronation as CAF president by acclamation in March.

The FIFA boss suggested that the African Super League should have permanent member clubs as well as others who would qualify via regional play-offs.

Infantino predicted that the new competition would bring in \$3 billion over five years.

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) president, Motsepe, had, on July 12, revealed that the governing body has opened discussions with broadcasters on the formation of an African Super League.

Motsepe was adamant that Africa will learn from the mistakes of the European Super League debacle.

How can the plan be good in Africa and bad in Europe? Are those FIFA rules for getting representatives on the field not applicable in Africa?

What environment do we have in Africa that makes the Super League good, but Europe is in conflict with the principles of football enshrined in the constitutions of FIFA, UEFA, CAF, CONCACAF, and the member associations of those federations?

What Arsenal can expect from £50m defender Ben White

LONDON

AT 23, Brighton's Ben White has become one of the most highly rated young centre-backs in England. Man United, Chelsea, Liverpool and Arsenal have all been linked with the defender in recent months, but it was the Gunners who spent £50 million to land the England international as United moved for Raphael Varane, Liverpool for Ibrahima Konate, while Chelsea want Sevilla's Jules Kounde.

Having taken a few years to reach the top level, White now looks comfortable in the Premier League and should strengthen Arsenal's backline after the exit of David Luiz. Here's the lowdown on a defender who idolised Rio Ferdinand and who could become a star for club and country in the future.

Where has he come from?

Born in Poole, White is a product of the Southampton academy. After not making the grade there, he was picked up by Brighton at age 16. After a few years in the youth teams, he spent the entire 2017-18 season on loan at Newport County in League Two, where he showed signs of things to come with an outstanding performance to hold off Harry Kane in a 1-1 draw at home against Tottenham in the FA Cup fourth round in January 2018, although he was less impressive in the replay as they lost 2-0. He then moved up the ladder with a League One loan spell at Peterborough the following year.

Something of a late bloomer, his proper breakthrough came during his loan spell at Leeds United in 2019-20. During their successful promotion campaign, White didn't miss a single minute in the Championship, which prompted efforts from the club to secure his services on a permanent basis with three offers, the last which was reportedly £25m.

However, having kept a close eye on the player's development under Marcelo Bielsa, Brighton knew better and wisely rebuffed any interest. White signed a new four-year contract with Brighton last September and went from strength to strength in the Premier League before the club eventually accepted a huge offer from Arsenal.

Position

Versatility is certainly a factor in why the 23-year-old is held in such high esteem. During his spell at Leeds, Bielsa mainly played White as a centre-back in a back four, although he did make a few cameos as a holding midfielder in the Championship.

With Brighton this season, he's started to appear more frequently further up the pitch, shielding the back three (or back four, on the rare occasion) from a defensive midfield position. Especially impressive was his performance in the 1-0 win away at Elland Road (ironically) a few weeks ago, in which he delivered a mature display; picking up loose balls, intercepting potential danger and distributing efficiently.

"I have taken all the knowledge from the games I played in central midfield for Leeds and tried to fit it in for Brighton," he told The Athletic. "It's obviously a different team, different players, differ-

ent league, but the basics are the same. You need to run, put pressure on people, get people's heads down and try to turn the ball over for your team."

While Brighton manager Graham Potter has recently seemed to favour White as the right centre-back in his back three, he also possesses the attributes to easily fill in at right-back.

Strengths

White offers a happy marriage between an old-school centre-half and the modern-day sophisticated centre-back. On the one hand he's one of the most eager tacklers in the Premier League and he does not shy away from the physical dimension of the game, while on the other he's mobile, quick at changing direction and moving around the pitch, calm in possession and a measured passer of the ball (the latter two qualities being useful in escaping pressing from opposing forwards).

Added to that he's aggressive, regularly wins the ball high up the pitch (obligatory in a Bielsa team and another reason why the Argentinian boss values him) and is confident enough to bring the ball out of defence, often dashing past a couple of opponents before releasing it.

White also plays with a high level of focus; he rarely "switches off," which is backed up by his penchant for spectacular goal line clearances.

Weaknesses

He is still a young, developing centre-back with just half a season's experience at the top level, so inevitably there's room for improvement in certain areas. Having said that, it seems that there are no severe shortcomings in his game, which is impressive, given his age. He already looks set to enjoy a fine future in the game, having been called up for England at Euro 2020.

Being mainly a proactive and aggressive centre-back -- who commits relatively few fouls for a player with his set of characteristics -- White is probably better off playing alongside a partner with a more calculated approach to defending (Lewis Dunk clearly fits this description at Brighton), as he can still appear overly eager to regain possession or take individual gambles.

At 6-foot-1, his lack of height is also a matter of trade-offs; if he were a few inches taller, he'd obviously win a higher percentage of his aerial challenges (he's in the 65%-70% range, somewhat on the low side for a centre-back), but he would not be as efficient at recovering the ball or winning challenges on the ground.

What's next?

As a quick, adaptable, alert centre-back who is good on the ball and keen to recover possession high up the pitch, it's no surprise that Arsenal moved for him. Having rendered himself so useful for Bielsa (albeit at one tier down), Mikel Arteta clearly appreciates the same skills that the Argentinian fell in love with, and White's mobility and pace should come in handy at the Emirates. Though whether he provides a return on the club's £50m investment remains to be seen.

ESPN



After Sancho, Varane signings, Man United have to win titles. Can Solskjaer deliver?

By Rob Dawson, ESPN Correspondent

TROPHIES aren't handed out in July, but Manchester United have at least used the summer to show they remain interested in winning some.

Toward the end of his time as manager at Old Trafford, Jose Mourinho came to believe the club were happy simply to compete in the big competitions -- United haven't won a trophy in any competition since 2017 -- rather than win them. After walking into one press conference to find no drink for him on the desk, he quipped: "No water? Are we saving money for the transfer window?"

His conversations with owners the Glazers and executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward in the summer of 2018 were not so light-hearted. Having finished second in the Premier League behind Manchester City, he expected significant investment to bridge the gap. It never arrived, reinforcing Mourinho's personal view that the will to compete with Europe's top clubs wasn't there, and after a complete breakdown in relations he was gone by December.

Last season, United again finished second behind City, but instead of sitting on their hands, the funds have been released and reinforcements have arrived.

Deals have been struck for attacker Jadon Sancho (from Borussia Dortmund) and defender Raphael Varane (from Real Madrid) for a combined fee of more than £100 million. Crucially, these agreements have been reached before the end of July, ensuring both players should be ready and available when the new season kicks off against Leeds United at Old Trafford on Aug. 14. It marks a change from last season when Edinson Cavani, who had been a free agent for the best part of four months, arrived with the campaign already seven games old.

Ironically, when Mourinho begged United to sign a new defender three years ago, Harry Maguire and Varane were two of the names at the top of his list and next season, his replacement, Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, will be able to pick both as his first-choice pairing in the centre of defence.

Varane, winner of three Spanish titles, four Champions Leagues and the World Cup, is a statement signing. The French defender will arrive once he and his family receive visas to travel to Manchester. He will also have to quarantine before undergoing a medical in line with the UK government's COVID-19 protocols. He is a player United have followed for more than 10 years and they have finally got their man after taking advantage of his contract situation at Real Madrid.

When Varane made it clear to the Spanish giants he would not sign a new deal, and the decision was made to cash in this summer rather than risk losing him for free in 12 months, they tried to bring Paris Saint-Germain and Chelsea to the negotiating table, but sources have



Carlo Ancelotti has returned to Real Madrid after winning four trophies in two seasons, including the Champions League, during his first spell at the Bernabeu. (Agencies)

only been interested in talking to United. Woodward continued negotiations with Real Madrid during a family holiday, while new football director John Murtough and technical director Darren Fletcher -- both appointed in March -- spoke to Varane to sell him the move to Old Trafford. Sources have told ESPN that Varane was particularly swayed by Fletcher, and a base fee of €39.8m (£34m) plus add-ons represents a good deal for a 28-year-old at the peak of his career.

Solskjaer's team were the second-highest scorers in the league last season, but only had the fifth best defensive record, and the hope is Varane -- quick, strong in the air and good on the ball -- will help improve it. Solskjaer has also appointed Eric Ramsey as the club's first specialist set-piece coach after problems defending corners and free kicks last season.

Only a couple of weeks ago, Woodward had lingering concerns that Varane was using United's interest to panic Real Madrid into offering him a massive new deal, but there were no such worries with Sancho. It was a deal Solskjaer had hoped to do last summer, but Woodward and chief negotiator Matt Judge believe their patience has been vindicated, having managed to get Borussia Dortmund's valuation down from €120m to €85m in the space of a year.

Sources have told ESPN that United estimate they have lost around £150m during the coronavirus pandemic, but point to their ability to sign Sancho and Varane during a window when a number of top clubs are relying on free transfers as proof that their financial model works.

Yet two high-profile arrivals will not completely dampen the anti-Glazer protests, which spilled into chaos at the end of last season and caused the game against Liverpool to be postponed. They will, though, increase the pressure on Solskjaer.

The Norwegian, rewarded with a new three-year contract this summer, has overseen two-and-a-half years of relative progress, but doubters will remain as long as there is no silverware to show for it. Even if no more signings arrive before the transfer deadline on Aug. 31, United

will be expected to seriously challenge Manchester City, Liverpool and Chelsea for the title and make significant progress in the Champions League.

Any further additions to the squad will rely on players leaving. The futures of Jesse Lingard, Andreas Pereira and Diogo Dalot -- all of whom spent time out on loan last season -- are up in the air. Pereira, who scored an outrageous volley in the 2-2 draw with Brentford on Wednesday, could return to Lazio on loan, but sources have told ESPN the Brazilian believes it's time to make a permanent move away. Turkish side Fenerbahce are interested.

Paul Pogba's contract is also a concern and Woodward must decide whether to entertain bids in the remaining weeks of the window or risk losing an elite player for nothing next summer. United are losing hope he will sign an extension and Paris Saint-Germain are circling, although there has not yet been direct contact between the two clubs. Sources have told ESPN that Judge has already talked to representatives of potential replacements, including Eduardo Camavinga, Ruben Neves and Saul Niguez.

The list of targets put together by Solskjaer and the recruitment department prioritised a winger, centre-back, central midfielder and right-back -- in that order. There is still interest in Kieran Trippier, but Atletico Madrid have so far given no indication they are willing to drop their £43m asking price. Meanwhile, plans are already in place to invest heavily in a striker ahead of the 2022-23 campaign with the hope that both Harry Kane and Erling Haaland are still on the market.

Sources have told ESPN there is a strong possibility Sancho and Varane will be the only major signings of the summer. That, though, will be enough to crank up the optimism around Old Trafford that this squad is capable of winning United a first league title since 2013. New signings will bring fresh hope, but also renewed pressure on Solskjaer. He can only hope his team can meet the expectations spawned by a successful summer.

Empty venues 'not as much fun' for Rapinoe

TOKYO

MEGAN Rapinoe scored the penalty that took the United States into the Tokyo Olympics semi-finals but the Women's World Cup winner is unimpressed by the lack of atmosphere at games, with COVID-19 restrictions leaving venues empty.

After their quarter-final against the Netherlands ended 2-2 following extra-time, Rapinoe's spot-kick sealed a 4-2 shootout on Friday that set up a last-four meeting with Canada in Kashima.

Goalkeeper Alyssa Naehar, who made an important stop from Lieke Martens nine minutes from the end of regulation, stepped up with another pair of big saves in the shootout before Rapinoe ended the match.

"The atmosphere is absolutely nothing, especially in a huge stadium," said Rapinoe. "I mean, I was kind of just like 'end it'."

"I much prefer playing in front of 50,000. It is way more fun. The entertainment value decreases when it is just the camera people behind. "It is not as much fun, but it is what it is. We practice penalties just like that all the time, because we are doing them in training. So we have got used to an awkward, empty stadium, so maybe that gave us a little bit of an advantage."

Rapinoe displayed her trademark confidence when she rolled in her spot-kick but it was the performance of Naehar that set the Americans up for victory.

A Women's World Cup winner alongside Rapinoe in 2019, the 33-year-old dived to her left to keep out Martens' attempt with the scores level at 2-2 late in the game.

In the shootout, she threw herself to her right to save the opening kick from Vivianne Miedema and also stopped Aniek Nouwen's unconvincing attempt.

"She has been huge this whole tournament," said Rapinoe. "With them going first, and taking that first one, it takes the pressure off the team. She's been immense. I don't know who invented this, the penalty shoot-out," she added. "It is such a cruel way to end a game."

Meanwhile, Players for the U.S. men's national team said in an amicus brief filed on Friday that their counterparts on the women's squad not only deserve equal pay but are entitled to more compensation than the men due to their unprecedented success on the field.

This is not the first time the men have voiced their support for the women's gender discrimination lawsuit against the U.S. Soccer Federation, which seeks \$66 million in damages under the Equal Pay Act.

But this time it comes at a critical juncture as the women appeal a district court ruling from May 2020 that

sided with the Federation with the hopes of having the case sent back to district court to be heard by a jury.

"The United States Soccer Federation markets the United States Men's and Women's National Teams under the slogan, 'One Nation. One Team,'" the brief said.

"But for more than thirty years, the Federation has treated the Women's National Team players as second-class citizens, discriminating against the women in their wages and working conditions and paying them less than the Men's National Team players, even as U.S. Soccer has enjoyed a period of extraordinary financial growth.

"The Federation has never offered or provided equal pay to the women, and the district court's holding to the contrary cannot be squared with the facts."

The men's team said U.S. District Judge R. Gary Klausner relied on "oversimplified math" when he decided that the women were paid more than the men by adding up the compensation paid to the men and women and dividing it by the total

number of games.

But the women only managed to get to the same total per game pay by having extraordinary success on the field, including two World Cup victories during the period covered in the case.

During the same period, the men's team did not qualify for the World Cup for the first time in more than 30 years.

"A woman's rate of pay is not equal to a man's if the woman must consistently achieve better outcomes merely to get to the same place," the players said.

"If the women had won fewer games, or if the district court had analyzed a more representative period of the men's performance as a point of comparison, the per-game disparity would have been obvious, glaring, and undeniable."

The men added that their collective bargaining agreement was signed in 2011 in the shadow of the financial crisis while the women's contract was negotiated in 2017 after the Federation had experienced huge financial growth.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

After Sancho, Varane signings, Man United have to win titles. Can Solskjaer deliver?



Deputy Minister for Information, Culture Arts and Sports, Pauline Gekul (3rd L), inspects Dar es Salaam's JKT Mbweni team shortly before the outfit locked horns with TAMISEMI Queens of Dodoma in this season's National Netball First Division League final that took place at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha recently. The JKT Mbweni emerged champions after beating TAMISEMI Queens 40-39. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Sports set to benefit from national sports development fund- official

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

DEPUTY Minister for Information, Culture, Arts, and Sports, Pauline Gekul, has disclosed the government will start supporting federations and sports associations in the country through the Sports Development Fund so that Tanzania can do well in international tournaments.

Pauline issued the statement after this season's Netball First Division League's final, which took place at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha last week.

The official stressed that through the budget for this financial year (2021-2022) the ministry has planned well to manage national teams and enable them to participate in various international competitions through the fund.

Dar es Salaam's JKT Mbweni team successfully defended their title after beating TAMISEMI Queens of Dodoma 40-39 while Dar es Salaam's Smart team triumphed in the league's men's category. "I am aware of the various challenges facing the game of Netball, including the lack of guardians and sponsors. However, we congratulate the association Leaders for continuing to work diligently and with knowledge," Pauline revealed.

She said the ministry through the Department of Sports Development is in the final stages of finalizing the Strategic Plan for Sports Development, which will help develop sports, including netball, in the country.

She called on the leaders of all sports associations and federations in the country to be well-organized in implementing the plan.

She said that this year her ministry is organizing a Women's Festival which will be large and unique, seeking to bring motivation to women's participation in sports. She thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for giving the former opportunity to work with her fellow leaders in managing sports, especially women's sports.

She congratulated the leaders of the Tanzania Netball Association (Chaneta) and all clubs that participated in the tournament.

"I congratulate all participating teams and all those who managed to emerge victorious in both sides," Pauline noted. She said through the tournament she is confident that there will be good, young, and talented players who will form a strong national that will participate in various competitions and represent the country well.

The Deputy Minister commended the Chaneta leadership for efficiently following their annual calendar and run all competitions, courses, and responsibilities.

Pauline asked other sports stakeholders to come forward to sponsor the tournament to continue to nurture young talent. The Deputy Minister further asked all regions to complete the election of their respective regions' netball associations leaders within a month ad after that the Chaneta election should be held immediately as so far four regions have completed this exercise.

In addition, Pauline called on all athletes to consider various ways for protecting themselves from the COVID-19 outbreak. She urged all districts in the country to establish athletics clubs as sports builds health.

She moreover called on the Administrative Secretaries of all regions in the country to competently manage sports and infrastructure in their regions.

CAF Women's Champions League now providing pathway to continental glory

PRETORIA

The TotalEnergies CAF Women's Champions League, COSAFA Qualifier, scheduled for August 26 to September 4, provides the seven competing teams with not only the chance to claim bragging rights in the region but also to represent their nation on the continental stage.

The tournament serves as the Southern African qualifier for the inaugural continental Champions League that will be staged in Cairo, Egypt later this year.

It is a massive step forward for women's football, not just in the region, but also in Africa as a whole, and ushers in a new era for the game that can only go from strength to strength.

The winner of the COSAFA competition will go forward to compete against the best from the rest of the continent, and that is an exciting prospect for players and coaches alike, not least because it will raise the standard of clubs across the region.

"With the COSAFA and CAF Women's Champions Leagues coming on board, I believe we will have the chance to compete with the European countries in the future," says Jerry Tshabalala, coach of Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies.

"How will the CAF tournament help us? Because of the increased level of competition among the players, one would know that after winning my local league, the chances are there for me to go and compete against the other African countries. It would mean a lot for us to qualify. This is something that I always repeat in my interviews. If you recall when our previous president, Patrice Motsepe, took over at Mamelodi Sundowns he said he wants the club to dominate African football."

"He wasn't just speaking about the men's side. He knew that something like this women's Champions League would come, so now is our chance as Sundowns to go out there and fulfil our former president's vision."

Tshabalala believes that teams should also be looking to play beyond the continent too and hopes FIFA's plans for a Women's Club World Cup come to fruition soon.

"Why not also have a FIFA Club World Cup? That is something I am hoping will come shortly. I hope the ladies will be more motivated to say, let's do our best so we can compete with the best in the world."

The coach of Lesotho Defence Force, former senior men's international Lengana Nkhethoa, echoes those thoughts.

"It's a big opportunity, we don't have that many players in our country that are playing abroad, so it will be a big opportunity for them to give themselves exposure to play for teams outside Lesotho," he says.

"That experience will allow our national team to improve also. It can make all our young players better. It is huge for women's football."

Lydiana Nanamus, the vice-captain of Namibian side TURA Magic, says the players will be motivated in their domestic competition knowing they have a chance to compete in a regional, and then continental, Champions League.

"We now have something more to play for, not only to win the league in our country but also to qualify for the Champions League. It is a great thing for the whole African continent," she said.

Motsepe, who was elevated to Confederation of African Football president last year, has made growing the game on the continent a key feature of his tenure.

Caravans B squad edges K&P Constructions outfit in Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League



Caravans B side's Anoop Kumar (2nd L), poses for a photo with the outfit's U-19 players once the squad took on K&P Constructions side in this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League (MNML)'s Division B 30 Overs match, which took place last week. Kumar that had got the clash's best player prize shared his award with the youngsters. Looking on (R) is Caravans A team's Kassim Nassor. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DC

By Guardian Reporter

CARAVANS B squad's cricketers have kept on pushing for success in the 2021 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League (MNML)'s Division B 30 Overs, notching a three-run victory over K&P Constructions outfit recently.

The duel's eventual winners, a second-string team of Caravans Cricket Club, had the opportunity to start batting, recording 190 runs for the loss of six wickets in 30 overs.

The opener, Anoop Kumar, almost single-handedly played part in his team's acquisition of the respectable score, given the cricketer put solid showing at the crease.

Kumar's innings saw the cricketer post 72 runs which included six fours.

The opener's showing, to some extent, made a brief spell by the fellow opener, Sunil Adiyodi, have little effect.

Sunil's efforts to make his presence felt were frustrated by the K&P Constructions team's Bogine Prasad that ended the Caravans B team's batsman's stint early.

Youthful cricketer, Johnson Nyambo, deployed as a middle-

order batsman, and Anand Ram sought to help their side add runs after notching 14 runs and 16 runs respectively.

Ram cleared the boundary twice, Nyambos stint saw the cricketer nail a boundary.

Issa Safari and Jayaraj Malayil ended the innings with the bat in hand, in which Issa notched 19 runs not out consisting of three fours.

Malayil ended with 31 runs not out clearing the boundary on four occasions.

Prasad and Naga Gurijala had the best bowling figures, in which Prasad took three wickets in six overs as was the case for Gurijala that had a five-over spell.

Needing to 191 runs notch victory, K&P Constructions outfit's players put spirited showing, they, however, faltered, ending with 187 runs all out in 30 overs.

Opener Hema Suryakant Mulpudi was the batsman with the most runs, notching 39 runs.

Fellow top order batsmen, Nagewara Ila Rao, Harish Munuganti, and Nassoro Zahoro batted zealously, seeking to have their team live up to expectation but in vain.

Rao ended with 25 runs,

Munuganti chipped in with 15 runs, and Zahoro, who looked to have found his groove at the crease, notched 34 runs.

Venkateswararao Katru and Prasad also recorded two-digit figures, with Katru recording 11 runs and Prasad ending with 17 runs.

Nyambo and Ram had three wickets apiece as the Caravans B team efficiently kept the K&P Constructions squad's batting unit in check.

The K&P Constructions team's Shaik Abdul Shaheel and Ramalingaiah Neelam that came on late failed to withstand Caravans B squad bowling unit's onslaught.

The low order batsmen's brief spells eventually frustrated the K&P Constructions squad's efforts to make successful fight-back.

A sportsmanship gesture was in view, when the tie had come to a close, given Anoop, the tie's best player, opted to share his prize with Caravans B outfit's youthful players.

The senior player's gesture sought to offer the youthful cricketers that showcased solid displays the much-needed motivation.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



5 EATV **TONIGHT @ 9:30** **5Sports**

MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:00 Wanawake Live (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:00 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 5SELEKT
17:55 Kurasu
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 5SPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hits

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