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Trial runs for electric locomotives



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UNICEF hails Zanzibar's development



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Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey



Dr Mengi's body arrival today: RC charts route to Lugalo hospital

The RC yesterday appealed to city residents to come out in large numbers today and give a fitting reception to the late Dr Mengi as his body arrives in the city, as most of the late Dr Mengi's adult life and most of his businesses are centred in the city

By Henry Mwangonde

AUTHORITIES in Dar es Salaam yesterday announced the route through which the body of the late Dr Reginald Mengi will pass upon arrival today afternoon from Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, to give city residents an opportunity to see his coffin.

Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Paul Makonda told this paper in an interview that the hearse carrying Dr Mengi's remains will move from the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) to Vingunguti, Buguruni, Karume, Kigogo, Magomeni, Magomeni Catholic Church,

Tandale, Sinza Kijiweni, Bamaga, ITV, Mwenge and finally Lugalo military hospital.

The body will be preserved at the military hospital until tomorrow when it will lie in state for public viewing and last respects at the Karimjee Hall in Dar es Salaam.

The RC yesterday appealed to city residents to come out in large numbers today and give a fitting reception to the late Dr Mengi as his body arrives in the city, as most of the late Dr Mengi's adult life and most of his businesses are centred in the city.

"We at the regional level are working with security agencies including the police traffic

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Mourners with disabilities arrive at the home of the late IPP Executive Chairman in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The body of Dr Mengi is expected to arrive in the country today. Photo: Selemani Mpochi



TAEC to host cancer treatment facility

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

THE government is to set up a new cancer screening and treatment facility in Arusha at the cost of 9bn/- in a bid to handle thousands of new cases recorded in the country every year.

The Director General of the Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TAEC) Prof Lazaro Busagala said here at the weekend that the facility will also manufacture cancer medicines for local demand and export to neighbouring countries.

Prof Busagala noted that the centre

will be located within TAEC premises and will be equipped with the Linear Accelerator—a device most commonly used for external beam radiation treatments for cancer patients.

"Once operational, the facility will save the nation millions in foreign currency spent by the government in procurement of cancer medicines abroad," Prof Busagala said.

Apart from its primary focus on cancer, the facility will also serve as a screening and research centre for a host of other human diseases, he stated.

Since cancer is on the increase not only in Tanzania but other countries as well, medicines from the facility will be a foreign currency earner for the country as there is a ready market in the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC), he also noted.

Speaking at the climax of this year's World Cancer Day in Dodoma in February, the Minister for Health, Community

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Isles leader condolences laud work with Dr Mengi

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has sent condolences to the family and workers of IPP Media following the passing of Dr Reginald Mengi, Executive Chairman of IPP Group of Companies.

Dr Mengi (77) died in the early hours of May 2, 2019 at a hospital in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

President Shein said: "I received with shock the news about the death of Dr Reginald Mengi. My condolence goes to his family, workers, the disabled, environmentalists, and all Tanzanians. May his soul rest in peace."

He said that Zanzibar residents are mourning



He said that Zanzibar residents are mourning the late Dr Mengi, praying to Almighty God to give strength to his family and IPP Media workers during this sorrowful moment

the late Dr Mengi, praying to Almighty God to give strength to his family and IPP Media workers during this sorrowful moment.

President Shein said the late Dr Mengi will be remembered for pioneering environment conservation campaigns. He said they worked together in a number of environment campaigns when Dr Mengi was the chairman of the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) and himself serving as Union Vice President.

The office of the Vice President is responsible for environment and Union matters.

He said Dr Mengi promoted intra-territorial trade within the East African Community (EAC)

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Ten die in Uvinza road horror

By Guardian Correspondent, Kigoma

TEN people have died and 12 injured in a grisly road accident at Murela village, Uvinza district in Kigoma region.

Kigoma Regional Police Commander Martin Otieno (pictured) linked the accident with over speeding and tyre burst which led to the driver of the T 247 BNG Toyota Hiace losing control. The accident occurred on Saturday evening.

Commander Otieno said the driver was trying to overtake another car when he had a tyre burst. Police are holding the driver, Rajab John who is hospitalized at the Maweni Regional hospital.

"The driver will be arraigned after completion of investigations," he said.

Maweni Regional Hospital Supervisor, Ernest Joseph confirmed to have received eight bodies. He said that two out of the 12 injured had descended



into a coma and died while receiving treatment in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

The other seven injured persons were admitted at the hospital, while hospital officials are still looking for the mother of a three-month child who is among the accident victims admitted at the hospital's children ward, he further noted.

One of the injured persons, Baraka Athumani (31) a resident of Kalenge village said he was heading to Kigoma town.

"The driver exceeded speed limits as he attempted to overtake another vehicle...our vehicle lost control after one of the back tyres ruptured," he said.

In February this year, the chairman for the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security parliamentary committee, Mussa Zungu (Ilala, CCM) told the National Assembly that the

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Ten die in Uvinza road horror

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number of traffic accidents in the country dropped by 15.2 per cent to 1,272,998 between July and December 2018 compared to 1,446,639 accidents recorded in the same period in 2017.

Zungu told the august House that despite the decrease in number of accidents, there was an increase of road

users (drivers) who are less observant of traffic rules and regulations.

The committee underscored the need for government to review the Road Traffic Act, 1973 to successfully control road accidents.

Zungu said the reviewed law is expected to eliminate loopholes in the existing act by touching all areas which contribute to road crashes.

Tanzania to take part in this year's East African petroleum conference

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

TANZANIA is set to take part in the ninth East African Petroleum Conference and exhibition to discuss investment opportunities to enhance socio-economic transformation.

This year's conference is themed: "East African Region - the destination of choice for Oil and Gas Investment Opportunities to enhance Socioeconomic Transformation".

Chairperson of the organizing committee, Marin Heya said over the weekend that over 1,000 local, regional and international delegates will be attending the three-day conference that will be in Mombasa from May 8.

"The conference will help attract investors on oil and gas into the region given the potential in the region," Heya said in Nairobi.

He revealed that the Chinese geospatial and survey firm BGP and CNOOC are among the companies that are expected to attend the three-day conference.

The official said that the East African Community (EAC) member states, including Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, will also exhibit at the conference alongside international oil companies.

"We are also going to discuss a common legal and policy framework for countries in the region," he added.

Heya noted that the conference is coming at a time when Kenya and Uganda have started drilling oil while Tanzania is exploring gas.

He revealed that Kenya is keen at marketing its oil blocks with the aim of attracting investors into the industry.

The Kenyan official said the conference is in line with the EAC Vision 2050 on the energy sector development that is aimed at ensuring sustainable, adequate, affordable, competitive, secure and reliable supply of energy to meet the regional needs at lower cost.

"By 2050, the region targets to transform the energy landscape to have efficient distribution of petroleum product with sufficient reserves," Heya said.

The biennial conference has been going on since 2003 when the first conference was held in Kenya.

The Conference offers a wide range of technical presentations reflecting developments in the oil and gas industry in East Africa and around the world. It aims to provide a forum for discussing the legal and policy framework and the overall business environment prevailing in the region.

The Conference also gives stakeholders in the oil and gas sector an opportunity to interact with EAC senior government officials and decision makers.



Mourners at Dr Reginald Mengi's residence, Kinondoni district in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

By Guardian Reporter

A TOTAL of 91,442 candidates are expected to sit for Advanced Certificate of Secondary Education Examinations (ACSEE) that starts today across the country.

Executive secretary of the National Examination Council of Tanzania (Necta) Dr Charles Msonde said that 12,540 other candidates will sit for certificate and diploma courses exams at teachers' colleges.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday Dr Msonde said that Form Six candidates have increased by 4 per cent in 2019 compared to 2018, noting that candidates at teachers'

90,000 candidates to sit for this year's Form Six exams

colleges increased by 41 per cent.

According to him, last year, 77,222 candidates were registered for ACSEE and 7,422 candidates for teaching examinations.

He said that out of 91,442 Form Six candidates, 80,305 are school candidates, while 11,137 are private candidates.

Dr Msonde said 46,224 candidates equivalent to 57.56 per cent of school candidates are male, while the

remaining 34,081 candidates (42.44 per cent) are female.

He further revealed: "102 candidates have special needs. While 67 of them have low vision, 16 candidates are the blind, 18 are the deaf, while one candidate has mental disability."

Dr Msonde said that of the 64.68 per cent are male, whereas 3,927 others equal to 35.32 per cent are female.

According to him, 7,594 out of those registered for teaching examinations

were expected to sit for diploma examinations, 4,946 others will sit for certificate in teaching examinations.

"Of the 7,594 diploma candidates, 5,615 equivalent to 74 per cent are male, while 1,979 equal to 26 per cent are female," he said, adding.

At least 2,795 candidates registered for certificate in teaching examinations equivalent to 57 per cent are male, 2,151 others equal to 43 per cent are female, he said.



Azam Media Group Managing Director Tido Mhando interviewed by ITV presenter at Dr Reginald Mengi's residence, Kinondoni district in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

Dr Mengi's body: RC charts route to Lugalo hospital

FROM PAGE 1

division to ensure that security is tightened in all the places mentioned that the body will pass," he said.

During the three days that the body will be in Dar es Salaam, the regional administration is prepared to ensure that security is tightened, he said.

He explained that on the first day, today the body will be arriving and

tomorrow it will be taken to Karimjee Hall for last respects by the general public and Wednesday when it will be leaving for Machame in Kilimanjaro region for burial on Thursday.

"We are working closely with the family to ensure the programme is observed as planned," he said.

The RC called upon Dar es Salaam residents to come out in large numbers to pay their last respects to the man

who dedicated his life to serving others. RC Makonda said Dr Mengi raised his voice for street children, the disabled and he did this without expecting any return.

The late IPP Executive Chairman will be laid to rest on Thursday at his rural home in Machame, Hai District in Kilimanjaro Region.

His body is expected to be flown into the country via an Emirates regular

flight on Monday from Dubai and it is expected to land at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) at around 2PM.

Dr Mengi died on the wee hours of Thursday last week at a hospital in Dubai.

Various distinguished persons including President John Magufuli have poured their condolences following Dr Mengi's demise.

Isles leader condolences laud work with Dr Mengi

FROM PAGE 1

when serving as chairman of the East African Business Council (EABC) in 2008/2009.

"He will be remembered for improving the media fraternity since he was the first person to initiate the Excellence in Journalism Awards for journalists from the EAC," said Dr Shein, underlining that the late Dr Mengi was a real patriot who supported national football teams, including the U-17 Serengeti Boys.

Dr Mengi's story is narrated in his book: 'I Can, I Must, I Will' in which he shows how he was born into a poor family but managed to beat the

circumstances and establish one of the largest business groups in Tanzania.

The late Dr Mengi studied accountancy and worked with Cooper Brothers in Britain, and after being accepted as a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales, he returned to Tanzania in 1971 where he was employed by the accounting firm Coopers & Lybrand (Tanzania).

He stayed with Coopers & Lybrand Tanzania (PriceWaterHouseCoopers, later) up to September 1989 serving as Chairman and Managing Partner. In October 1989, Dr Mengi left Coopers & Lybrand to concentrate on his own businesses.

TAEC to host cancer treatment facility

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Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Ummu Mwalimu advised the public to ensure they seek early detection and thus treatment of cancer.

The country records 55,000 new cancer cases annually, she said, elaborating that 28,610 people die of cancer every year, equivalent to a half of new cancer cases reported annually.

Speaking during the opening of a breast cancer forum at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) Mloganzila teaching hospital on the outskirts of Dar es Salaam last month, MNH Executive Director Prof Lawrence Museru announced the start of a new treatment technology without removal of the relevant organ.

The technology known as breast conserving surgery will be an alternative to mastectomy surgery, following the recent procurement

of state-of-the-art cancer care and treatment equipment at the Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI).

Breast cancer incidence rates are higher in high-income countries than in low- and middle-income countries but deaths are higher in low and middle income countries due to limited capacity for prevention, early detection and treatment programs, the don asserted. In Tanzania, breast cancer represents 14.4 per cent of new cancer cases among women, annually, he pointed out.

Breast cancer is the most common cause of cancer deaths among women worldwide, representing 25 to 35 per cent of all female cancer cases.

The lifetime risk for developing breast cancer in Tanzania is approximately 1 in 20, and around half of all women diagnosed with breast cancer are likely to die of their condition, the director added.



Supply brewery operations (BOP) planning and performance management (PPM) manager for Ab-inbev East Africa operations, Nancy Riwa, speaks during the women's forum held in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Right is head of communication and public relations at Vodacom Tanzania, Rosalynn Mworira. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

WFP and TADB emphasise innovations for agriculture

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Food Programme (WFP) and Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) have expressed their commitments in spearheading development of agricultural sector in the country.

A joint statement issued in Dar es Salaam yesterday said that the two partners in their recent meeting discussed current areas of collaboration and identified potential new areas of partnership.

"Innovation is a key element in the transformation of the agricultural sector in the country, both TADB and WFP are working to promote innovation in agricultural production systems in the country in varying ways," reads the statement in part.

It pointed out that the Bank and WFP are working in partnership in implementing the Farm to Market Alliance (FTMA) project, a cooperation which has enabled TADB to provide loans of over 750m/- to eight maize farmer groups with a total of 867 farmers and about 2,789 acres in Ruvuma and Rukwa regions of the southern highlands.

"The plan is to explore ways to scale up the FTMA model and have more smallholders under this arrangement," reads the statement.

It noted further that while the bank manages a fund that promotes innovation in rural Tanzania, WFP strives to be the field hub of innovation.

Together, the two entities have agreed to partner to devise methods that would contribute to the reduction of post-harvest losses in grains thus increasing food production and bettering nutrition across the country.

The partners hinted that through the "Boresha Lishe project" implemented in Singida and Dodoma, food security has been greatly improved.

"The bank is working to develop schemes and methods that will increase crop diversification and improve access to finance and hence make its presence better felt in the regions," reads the statement.

In line with the Agricultural Sector Development Plan (ASDP) II component of sustainable water and land use management, TADB is setting out to reach the objective of financing at least 20 irrigation schemes, promoting three alternative irrigation technology schemes, financing an agri-park in the Lake Zone area and offering financing solutions to at least ten major projects related to climate change management.

WFP has expressed readiness to provide technical assistance as well as programme design and management to assist the bank in question to achieve this ambitious transformative objective.

The continued alliance between TADB and WFP provides farmers with the opportunity to secure affordable loans and agricultural technologies alongside other benefits, all of which are pivotal in raising farmers' incomes and improving the livelihood of millions in Tanzania.



Innovation is a key element in the transformation of the agricultural sector in the country, both TADB and WFP are working to promote innovation in agricultural production systems in the country in varying ways

Govt set to test its first electric train in July

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA is set to test its first, maiden, cheaper and very superior own funded electric train. The train is tipped to be one of Africa's high speed trains with projected speeds of up to 160 mph.

Speaking at a historic event to launch the flash butt welding of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) exercise that took place at Soga in Coastal region outside Dar es Salaam, the Minister for Works, Transport and Communications, Eng. Isack Kamwele said first trials for speedy electric train will be conducted in July this year to cover a section of the SGR.

The first 300 km phase running from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro with 6 stations in between will commence

its operations in December this year. There will be three passenger trains in phase one at the starting point that will be taking daily round trips between the two cities. Each passenger train is capable of making 9 to 12 trips a day or even more.

The train will use concrete sleepers which improve durability and give the railway network capacity to carry up to 35 tonnes per axle loads. The rails can survive up to 40 years before any major repairs while the train bridge can survive up to 100 years.

So far, over 26,000 employment opportunities have been created by the US \$1.9bn project and more job opportunities will be created in the second phase and subsequent ones and once the stations becomes fully operational.

VACANCY

Head of Investment Banking

Stanbic Bank Tanzania Limited is a full service commercial bank which specializes in providing facilities and services to public and private sector corporations, diplomatic missions and international organizations.

Stanbic Bank Tanzania is a member of the Standard Bank Group of South Africa and was established in May 1995 when the Standard Bank Group acquired the operations of Meridien Biao Bank Tanzania Limited.

The position reports to the Head, Corporate & Investment Banking Tanzania and Head Investment Banking East Africa, and will involve close interaction with Client Coverage Head for Tanzania in addition to the country client relationship management teams, Transactional Products & Services and Global Markets.

Each of these duties are described in more detail below:

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES
The roles and responsibilities of the incumbent will be as follows:

- Strategic Focus**
 - Has a good understanding of CIB Global's overall strategy, and of how the strategy of IB Tanzania supports this global strategy.
 - Drives the re-establishment of an Investment Banking Business in Tanzania.
 - Develops and nurtures strategic relationships with clients in Tanzania to ensure that the strategy and business objectives of clients and Standard Bank Group are aligned.
 - Drives and role models a superior culture that proactively provides solutions to client needs.
 - Together with the East Africa IB Head defines and continually reviews the Tanzania coverage strategy and business objectives.
- Business Acumen and Market Understanding**
 - In depth understanding of financial services industry trends and the evolution of Corporate and Investment Banking practice both nationally and internationally.
 - Aware of and has intimate understanding of the activities of traditional and non-traditional competitors and how this affects CIB East Africa's client relationships.
 - Develops an intimate understanding of clients' industries and businesses, analysis of their modus operandi, management practices, judgment of various influential decision makers, and market conditions affecting the long-term viability of both individual clients and industry sectors.
 - Utilizes management information systems and processes to pre-empt selling opportunities and proactively identify opportunities and threats to both clients and the Bank.
 - Effectively uses client, industry and market knowledge to continually provide information, thereby ensuring that the Bank's products and services continually meet the client needs and stay abreast with world best practice.
 - Has a good understanding of the economies of Tanzania and the wider East African region, the strategic direction the countries in the region are taking and the impact of such developments on clients and industries.
 - Has a good understanding of both the similarities and the differences in the East African countries.
 - Has a good understanding of key drivers in changes in Foreign Direct Investment (sources of, and key sectors).
- Client Profitability and Risk Management**
 - Monitors markets and pre-empt risk for both the Client and the Bank.
 - Monitors progress and implementation of client penetration strategies.
 - Ensures that Product and Country partners understand the overall client coverage strategy and, in particular, that the IB Franchise names are appropriately covered by the relevant IB Champion envisioned with the aim of originating and executing transactions.
 - Delivers budgeted IB number on an annual basis together with product.
- Relationship Building**
 - Establishes credibility and overall profitability for the Bank and clients by the skilful application of specialist knowledge to deal with diverse client environments and provide qualified leads to relevant areas within the Bank e.g. Global Markets, Investment Banking Execution teams.
 - Appropriately balances technical input and marketing skill to address client environment and needs.

Personality

- Observant
- Forward planner
- Innovative
- Resourceful
- Assertive
- Decisive
- Socially confident (at ease meeting and interacting with other people)
- Organized
- Self-motivated
- Achievement/results orientated
- Enthusiastic
- Energetic
- Adaptable to change

Success Indicators:

- Successfully completed transactions.

Key Performance Measures

- Transactions originated and executed.
- Customer Satisfaction re: service quality/turnaround times.
- Meeting Investment Banking budgets.

What Success will look like

- Market leadership in chosen Investment Banking product areas and markets.
- Co-ordinated approach to Regional and Pan African clients.
- Excellent understanding within Investment Banking teams of the range of products and services available within Standard Bank Group.
- Cross fertilization and implementation of ideas, structures and solutions across Africa.
- Vibrant deal pipelines.

Experience

- At least 6 years general banking experience of which at least 48 months should have been in a CIB Banking environment.
- Knowledge and understanding of key IB product areas, Global Markets.
- Experience with interacting with Business leaders at a senior level.
- Preferably some experience interacting with Business leaders in more than one East African country.

KEY SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND PERSONAL COMPETENCIES

SKILL

- Effective Team Player**
 - Able to inspire team members
 - Empathetic about the needs of team members
 - Ensures that the business objectives of the team are achieved
 - Ability to play a facilitation role with their team
- Communication**
 - Open and frank communicator
 - Fluent in verbal and written communication in English
 - Able to analyze and communicate research findings/management information data to others
 - Comfortable with conducting presentations/negotiating business cases in group forums
- Listening**
 - Makes time to listen to others' with interest
 - Attuned to all possible sources of useful information
 - Encourages and seeks to understand other viewpoints and perspectives
 - Receptive to constructive critique, feedback and ideas

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

Intellect

- Strategic and lateral thinker.
- Thorough understanding of strategic business plans and performance measurement.
- Able to apply academic knowledge to practical solutions.
- Able to grasp new concepts/ideas quickly.

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SIDO receives 3 industrial sheds worth 850m/- from SUMA JKT

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

ENTREPRENEURS have been urged to make use of the industrial sheds available in various regions to put up small industries under the guardianship of the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO).

Speaking in Dodoma during the handover ceremony of three buildings constructed by the National Service Corporation Sole (SUMA JKT), the Director General of SIDO, Prof Sylvester Mpanduji said the completion of the project symbolizes a commitment towards building a middle income and industrial base economy.

Prof Mpanduji noted that the sheds would also go a long way in enabling entrepreneurs find spaces to put up small factories and as a result uplift the sector.

"This is an opportunity for entrepreneurs in Dodoma Region to make use of this sheds to invest in a form of small industries under our guardianship, our role will be to ensure that there is efficiency and quality is harnessed," Prof Mpanduji said.

He said that the buildings have cost a lot of cash from tax payers and thus SIDO was committed in ensuring that tenants are found to shun underutilization of resources.

"We (SIDO) have a role of advertising the buildings which have been put up in over five regions and make sure that they are occupied by entrepreneurs as was the intention of the government to use the sheds to further the objective to build a middle income and industrial

country by 2025," he said.

He named the regions where the sheds have been put up as including Mtwara, Manyara, Geita, Kagera and now Dodoma, adding that information on how to invest in the buildings were available in SIDO's regional offices.

"Our intention is to support entrepreneurs and uplift them from the lower class product of goods to middle and eventually become larger producers while insuring that they meet set quality standards and get certification from government agencies dealing with quality control," he said.

Prof Mpanduji noted that the sheds are intended for small entrepreneurs only who are expected to move to other bigger facilities when their factories grow giving room to others to benefit as well.

He thanked the fifth phase government for having issued 5bn/- in the financial year 2017/18 which enabled the construction of over ten industrial sheds in various regions.

For his part, the Deputy Managing Director of SUMA JKT, Col. Ahmed Abbas Ahmed thanked SIDO and the government for having awarded the tender to the military promising to continue doing good and quality job for the long-term benefit of the people and the country.

The Dodoma SIDO Regional Manager, Sempeho Manongi said the completion of the project provides an opportunity to entrepreneurs in the region to invest in small industries.



Indian High Commissioner to Tanzania, Sandeep Arya talks with ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran Dar es Salaam, Mousa Farhang about photographic images that demonstrate essential cultural values, human relationships and righteousness while touching upon the art, architecture, ornaments and costumes of old Persian manuscript of Ramayana containing paintings and text at the on-going Ramayana photo exhibition at the India High Commission over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

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KILIMANJARO
DRINKING WATER



Maji ya kuaminika kila siku

TGNP launches three-years campaign to empower women

By Felister Peter

A three years campaign to empower women and ensure their participation in decent work and social protection has been launched by the Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP).

The campaign dubbed "women labour, decent work and gender responsive public service" is also implemented in 45 African countries. It is supported by Oxfam, Action Aid, Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) among others.

The campaign focuses on women's labour force participation and access to decent work, recognition and redistribution of unpaid care-work and gender responsive public services, gender based violence at workplace, social protection rights and gender pay gap.

Launching the campaign in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, High Court Judge, Joaquine De-Mello asserted that social protection and decent work for both men and women are key elements as per the International Labour Organization (ILO).

According to De-Mello the campaign is vital since most of the women are engaged in the informal sector such as agriculture, hence missing some of their rights including social protection.

She challenged women to use the international Labour Day to discuss their employment rights as well as how they can engage men in bringing changes in the community.

Representing TGNP Executive Director, Gender and Human Rights Activist, Gemma Akilimali said through the campaign they are advocating for decent work but also equal payments to both, men and women.

"We are advocating for gender division of labour because most women are assigned to triple roles such as production, reproduction and community engagement which bars them from fully engaging in labour force participation. It's time for women to demand for their rights", she noted.

She said the many responsibilities that women have affects their participation in formal jobs as well as leadership positions while their counterparts do less of home responsibilities. She said the engagement of women in the informal sector leads to a number of challenges including poor coverage in social security and social protection.

Oxfam Country Director, Francis Odokorach said they are taking part in the campaign in support of women's decent work, gender distribution of responsibilities and equal payments.

Action Aid board member, Dr Azaveli Rwaitama said; "It important for both men and women to be involved in home responsibilities since they all deserve decent work".

Activist, Janeth Biseko insisted on the campaign to help rural women especially those engaged in agriculture. She said women should be empowered technologically as most of them miss job opportunities due to lack of computer skills.

A research conducted by Action Aid in 2018 shows that women participation is low since the national labour force participation rate for men is higher at 89.4 percent compared women's 84.2 percent.

The data shows a noticeable gender gap among the regular adult employees where males account for 40.5 percent compared to females with 22.7 percent. Results also show a larger gender gap in regular adult employment in private sector where males accounts for 29.4 percent compared to females with 14.2 percent.

On income from employment, the monthly income in 2014 was between 234,262/- and 278,748/- for males compared to 165,920/- for women. The results also indicate that paid employees have highest monthly income of 308,075/- followed by self-employed with an income of 215,541/- and agricultural employees who earn 131,943/- monthly.

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Width	-	3.20m
Height	-	5.20m

3. Route: From **DAR ES SALAAM to KAGERA** via **MWENDAKULIMA** Travelling time will be only day time (06:30 am – 06:00 pm)

We regret for any inconvenience caused.

215212701



PROJECT MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES AND GOOD PRACTICES TRAINING FOR PUBLIC SECTOR PROJECTS

Tanzania Institute of Project Management (TIPM) is an African based Regional Partner of TenStep Inc. (www.TenStep.com) which is headquartered in Georgia Atlanta USA, specializes in project management methodology development, training and consulting. Through TenStep Inc., we are REP (Registered Education Provider) on behalf of the PMI with accreditation/registration number 1774.

The main objective of Tanzania Institute of Project management is to promote project management profession and practice in Tanzania and across Africa.

About the course

In most organizations, Project Managers are accountable for the successful delivery of complete projects deliverable but project management competencies becomes vital for achieving project outcomes. Competency is more critical in public sector projects, due to the fact that public projects always deal with multiple, different stakeholders whose opinions can strongly influence the project. Very little attention has so far been paid to the distinctive features of public sector project managers' competencies necessary for team and stakeholders management.

Managing a project is not easy and project management skills do not come naturally. Fortunately, the skills associated with defining and managing a project can be learned. Understanding and practicing the concepts taught in this class will increase the likelihood of success on the project.

Learning Objectives

At the end of this class, participants will be able to:

- Distinctive features of Public Sector Projects
- The Role of the Client (The Government), Consultant, and Contractor in public sector projects
- Understand the value of utilizing appropriate project management processes, principles, tools and techniques in managing public projects
- Establish Client (Government) Project team to monitor progress, Quality and deliverables of projects
- Understand Project Pre-investment procedures (Project Identification, Pre-feasibility study, Feasibility study and Business Case preparations)
- Build and maintain an appropriate project schedule and budget
- Proactively identify and manage scope, issues, communication and risks
- Determine the appropriate methods to manage project documentation and archive lessons learned
- Identify the appropriate level of quality required and manage to that level
- Identify a set of metrics to improve project performance and declare project success

Who Should Attend

- Head of Departments, Project managers and team members that manage and work on projects
- Managers that manage project managers and monitor project status
- Finance and Procurement staff, Clients, Customers and all Stakeholders that participate on projects

The class contains numerous exercises, case studies, group discussions and questions and answers session.

Venue, Class Length Costs

- The training will take place in **Morogoro** – Kingsway Hotel for Five (5) days from 27th to 31st May 2019 and the cost is Tshs 1,000,000. 00 per participant

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Tanzania Agriculture Development Bank managing director Japhet Justine (5th L) together with World Food Programme Country director Wendy Bigham (3rd L) in a group photo with World Food Programme senior managerial (WFP) moments after their meeting in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Others are TADB Finance director Derick Lugemala (2nd L), Michael Dunford (4th L) from WFP, Riaz Lodhi WFP, TADB planning, research and policy Dr. Nyankomo Marwa and right is TADB director of credit and business management Augustino Chacha. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

UNICEF hails Zanzibar for improving children's health and education sectors

By Guardian Reporter

THE United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF) has hailed efforts by the Zanzibar government in offering services to children including improving health and education sectors.

Outgoing UNICEF country Director to Tanzania Maniza Zaman made the remarks at State House in Zanzibar when she held talks with Isles' President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein.

The envoy who was in Zanzibar to bid farewell to President Shein said the Zanzibar government has achieved various successes in taking care of children by ensuring that they get their basic rights including health and education.

The outgoing UNICEF country

chief said the agency will continue to support the Zanzibar government in its endeavors which includes reducing maternal deaths.

She hailed Dr Shein for the efforts to control Gender Based Violence and violation of children rights as well as fighting diseases such as malaria and cholera.

She added that Unicef will continue with its various programmes in Zanzibar including empowering children economically and many others. In His remarks, Zanzibar president Dr Shein thanked UNICEF for supporting Zanzibar and specifically thanked the former country director for the agency as well the outgoing UN agency boss for a job well done during his time in the country.

Dr Shein said Unicef has a big history

in development issues with Zanzibar including improving the education and health sectors especially to women and children. Dr Shein said Zanzibar will keep on working with various UN agencies including Unicef by ensuring that they receive their basic rights such as education and health.

Maniza Zaman has been the Unicef Tanzania representative since January 2016. Prior to this assignment Zaman was Deputy Director in Programme Division in UNICEF, New York. Her responsibilities included developing strategic management initiatives, planning and monitoring, leading the Division's field engagement strategy, as well as providing specific programmatic and policy guidance for the Young Child Survival and Development cluster.

ESA launches project to empower women in rice value chain

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

THE East and Southern Africa Breeding Network over the weekend launched the accelerated genetic gain in rice (AGGRI) project aiming at empowering women involved in rice value chain in the region.

The launch of the project was on the sideline of the just-concluded three-day 11th East and Southern Africa Breeding Network meeting held here.

Speaking soon after launching the initiative, representative of International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) for Eastern and Southern Africa, Abdelbagi Ismail said that the beneficiaries will be unified by a set of standards developed to make breeding decisions consistent with the demand of regional farmers, consumers and processors.

Funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), the initiative is also aimed at expanding International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)'s variety testing network into a globally aligned, modernized, rice breeding 'community' of practice.

In another development, IRRI's targets over the next three years will be to support Tanzania in achieving rice self-sufficient and becoming an exporter of the commodity in the region.

The number and diversity of IRRI staff deployed in the country will at least double; rice production technologies that increase yield by at least 0.5 tonnes per hectare will be delivered and adopted by farmers in pilot sites; and farmers, extension staff, seed technicians and researchers will be trained in various aspects of rice research.

He, however urged rice growers to embrace modern farming methods to increase production per acreage hence improve the country's food security.

He said that reports have it that most rice growers have been growing using traditional methods, with no application of fertilizer and use of archaic farming tools, ending up getting little.

"It is high time for farmers in the region to venture into the effective use of improved seeds and agricultural inputs to increase productivity," he said.

Dr Hans Bhardwaj, plant breeding management leader at IRRI suggested the need for Africa to stop importing rice from outside the continent and instead increase production locally.

"Experts and decision makers should encourage farmers to venture into growing improved seeds and use modern farming practices."

The meeting involved a number of stakeholders and rice breeders from eastern and southern countries such as Tanzania, Kenya, Burundi, and Mozambique.



It is high time for farmers in the region to venture into the effective use of improved seeds and agricultural inputs to increase productivity



TRIBUTE TO A PIONEER OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN TANZANIA



The Late Dr. Reginald Abraham Mengi

On behalf of the Board of the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation, the TPSF Members and Secretariat, the Business Community who knew and worked with Dr. Reginald Abraham Mengi; we would like to pay tribute to our departed colleague, mentor, pillar, brother and a friend Dr. Reginald Abraham Mengi, who passed away in the early hours of Thursday 2nd May, 2019 in Dubai. U.A.E.

Dr. Reginald Mengi was a very successful businessman since the mid eighties to date and he was one of the founder members and Executive Chairman of the IPP Group of Companies. Dr. Reginald Mengi was also one of the few pioneers who endeavored to organize the private sector immediately after Tanzania entered the open market economy. We shall remember him for coordinating the establishment of the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation in which he was the Chairman from 2013 – 2018 and continued to be a Board Member until his death. Dr. Reginald Mengi was also the Former Chairman of the East African Business Council where TPSF is the Focal Point Organisation.

In recognition of his efforts, he was a Board Member to several private as well as government institutions in Tanzania and until the time of his death; he was a member of the Tanzania National Business Council.

It is very hard to say goodbye to a man like Dr. Reginald Mengi. To the family, we pray that God gives you the strength to accept His will; and that He comforts you at this difficult time.

There aren't enough words that can describe the loss and the gap he has left at TPSF, the Private Sector fraternity and the nation at large.

He left his legacy and he will live forever through his book, "I Can, I Must, I Will"

We pray that the very precious memories that we have of Dr. Reginald Mengi become our shield during this very difficult time.

MAY THE ALMIGHTY GOD GRANT HIM ETERNAL LIFE AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON HIM. MAY HE REST IN PEACE. REST IN PEACE DR. REGINALD MENGI, YOU FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT - AMEN!

Dedicated to Promote Private Sector Development and Enterprise Competitiveness

Government to open PCCB offices in 21 new districts

By Guardian Reporter

STATE Minister from President's Office in-charge Public Service and Good Governance George Mkuchika has disclosed that the government is in the process of establishing Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau offices in 21 districts.

Addressing more than 2500 personal secretaries who are converging in Arusha for their annual general meeting, Captain Mkuchika said the move is targeting to enforce anti-graft war across the country and that, the delegates are in better position to help the state on this front.

"Personal secretaries, see, hear and experience many things in their respective public offices, which make you important tools in the war against corruption, helping the state organs through reporting such incidences," said Mkuchika.

It was previously mentioned also that maintaining and keeping secrets among personal secretaries are of great concern, just as the country experiences massive leakage of confidential information from public offices. These have been making rounds in online platforms and social media outlets, causing alarm.

That also became among the observations made here during the premier sessions of the ongoing 7th Conference of the Tanzania Personal Secretaries Association (TAPSEA), taking place at the Simba Plenary hall of Arusha International Conference Center (AICC) here.

More than 2300 personal secretaries from all over the mainland and Isles are gathering in Arusha for the 7th meeting, with the theme 'Time Management for better productivity,' and according to the TAPSEA chairperson, Zuhura Maganga, the delegates need to learn the importance of integrity and confidentiality.

"Personal Secretaries are important

components of any institution, organization or ministry but their significance have always been downplayed, or belittled to an extent of them losing morale," reminded the chairperson of TAPSEA, who also advocated for the increment of PS's salaries and improved remuneration.

But for the other major concern it has been observed that most Personal Secretaries serving various offices in Tanzania are still stuck in the previous generation, the type who were trained on short-hand jotting and manual typewriters and now it was thus time to upgrade them so that they may fit into the new digital world.

Anneth Charles, the Secretary General of TAPSEA said the association has 1900 registered members and that Zanzibar Isles have pumped in over 100 personal secretaries to attend the 2019 event.

The Tanzania Personal Secretaries Association (TAPSEA) though the two-day conference and the third day's Annual General Meeting, targets address the issue of the impact of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in modern working environment plus the required training among personal secretaries and how the profession can be improved against the backdrop of developments in science and technology.

The TAPSEA conference is third to be held at the national level in Arusha. The inaugural one was held in Arusha in 2011 and climaxed with some members of the delegation fighting.

The second meeting was held in Mwanza in April 2012. The third, well attended one returned in Arusha in May 2013.

The Arusha Conference this year has brought together nearly 2500 personal secretaries from government ministries, institutions and private companies from both the Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar over 90 percent of these are women.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa presents a certificate of participation to Vodacom Tanzania Plc Central Zone sales manager Grace Chambua during the 10th anniversary of Universal Communications Service Access Fund in Dodoma over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

AMREF Health Africa has launched new CDC-supported project named "Afya Kamilifu" in Zanzibar that aims at scaling up HIV care and treatment efforts in the region joining the global efforts to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030.

Speaking over the weekend at the official launch of the project, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Asha Abdallah Ali said that the Zanzibar government will continue to support endeavors made by Amref Health Africa in the fight against HIV/Aids.

The PS urged the organization to increase their efforts to special groups such as drug users, sex workers, and men who have sex with men, where the infection rate is high.

She however said that Zanzibar's infection rate remains at 1 per cent and

AMREF Health Africa launches new project to scaling up HIV care and treatment efforts

the government is working hard to address the vice.

She also urged Amref Health Africa to actively engage leaders at the grassroots levels by ensuring that people are aware of the disease.

Amref Health Africa country director Florence Temu said the project is meant to boost the number of people who are HIV positive get healthcare services.

At the end of the day we want to ensure that all people who are HIV positive and those living with HIV/Aids understand their status and get treatments, Temu said.

For his part, project manager, Ed-

win Kilimba said that for more than 30 years Amref Health Africa has been working closely with the Tanzanian government in scaling up health service system.

The five-year project is being implemented in Tanga and Zanzibar in collaboration with The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is the leading national public health institute of the United States. The CDC is a United States federal agency under the Department of Health and Human Services and is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia.

Its main goal is to protect public health and safety through the control

and prevention of disease, injury, and disability in the US and internationally.

The CDC focuses national attention on developing and applying disease control and prevention. It especially focuses its attention on infectious disease, food borne pathogens, environmental health, occupational safety and health, health promotion, injury prevention and educational activities designed to improve the health of United States citizens. In addition, the CDC researches and provides information on non-infectious diseases such as obesity and diabetes and is a founding member of the International Association of National Public Health Institutes.



TENDER NOTIFICATION

Consultancy Services to Develop Computer Based Offline Data Collection Platform/App

The Organization

The Legal Services Facility is an independent basket fund registered in 2013 as a Tanzanian non-profit company limited by guarantee. LSF strives to increase access to justice for all, in particular for women, through a legal empowerment approach. LSF channels funding on equal opportunity basis to organizations which promote, provide or support legal aid and paralegal services and work toward empowerment of poor women, children and men.

Objectives of the Computer-Based Offline Data Collection Platform/App

The overall objective of this consultancy is to develop an Offline computer-based platform/App to integrate with the existing online monitoring and results system for data capturing. An integrated platform/App shall take into account with a capacity of working offline mode using desk top computers, laptops, mobile phones and any other devices as needed to capture data while offline and submit the data while online.

Specific objectives:

- To develop a platform/App that will be accessible and deployed to different users with varying levels of access and requirements (of paralegals (implementers), grantees and LSF);
- To build the capacity of the relevant staff to manage the platform/App on a sustainable basis through specific training, development of guiding materials and video tutorials.

Scope of work

This assignment is expected to be complete and functional within 90 working days after signing of the contract. The supplier/developer will have to review the existing online systems and prototype developed to better define the idea behind, and requirements of, for the offline system. The supplier/developer will need to meet with LSF team in particular closely working with Monitoring and results unit to fully understand the requirements of the offline Reporting system, and translate that into the technical language.

The **supplier/developer** will work under the overall supervision of LSF's Senior data analyst officer and Monitoring and Results Manager. The terms outlined in the ToR of this procurement are a bit generalized description. The LSF has prepared some pre-defined detailed requirements to be followed but this does not limit the role of the **supplier/developer** to propose the specific and comprehensive low-level technical requirements for each of the components of the assignment as needed or required.

1.1. Specific Tasks:

- Review the background materials about the purpose and intended functionality of the online system available at LSF.
- Discuss with LSF team as needed to get additional information about the offline system requirements.
- Develop the required offline system as agreed with specifications provided by LSF.

Tender procedure

To assist in the preparation of the Tender, the LSF has compiled a tender package that contains the Terms of Reference, Tender Submission form and other documents.

- The tender packages will also be available and forms can be downloaded from our website www.lsfz.org as from 06th May 2019 onward.
- The tenders should follow the formats and provide the documentation as indicated in the tender package.
- A clarification meeting for interested parties will be held at the LSF office on Tuesday 14th May 2019 at 14.00 hrs.

The deadline for submission of the tender is Tuesday 21st May, 2019 at 16.00 hrs.

All tenders have to be submitted in a sealed envelope by hand delivery (a signed and dated receipt will be provided to the deliverer) to the address below:

Chief Executive Officer
Legal Services Facility
Bima Street, Nyati Rd Mikochehi B
P.O. Box 31480
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Tel: 0222 781061

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OPPORTUNITY - SENIOR DATA ANALYST

Background: The Legal Services Facility is an independent basket fund registered in 2013 as a Tanzanian non-profit company limited by guarantee. LSF strive to increase access to justice for all, in particular for women, through a legal empowerment approach. LSF channel funding on equal opportunity basis to organizations which promote, provide or support legal aid and paralegal services and work toward empowerment of poor women, children and men. LSF Strategic goals for 2020 is "Increasing access to justice for all, in particular for women". Abstaining a smart Senior Data Analysis Officer is paramount to achieving this strategic goal.

Job purpose: The incumbent will report to Manager Monitoring & Evaluation and be responsible for data collection, analysis and tracking project performance as well reporting for several projects, assist in designing, coordinating and conducting project evaluations, carry out field visits, develop an effective project monitoring plan, and ensure proper collection, storage and management of essential data ready for analysis. He/she will also ensure quality implementation throughout the project cycle. In addition, support grantees in the actualization of their regional strategic plans aligned to Vision 2025.

Education, Experience and Skills: Bachelor's degree in Statistics, Computer Science or related courses is desired. Masters degree in Project Management or M&E will be an added advantage. Three years' experience in data analysis. Familiarity with principals and contemporary approaches to M&E using both quantitative and qualitative methods, demonstrated understanding of Donor funded projects requirements and guidelines for M&E, Excellent command of computers and statistical software, especially experience with MS Access Excel, SPSS or STATA. Able to priorities work, multi task and meet deadlines, Strong IT, analytical skills and attention to details and Excellent report writing skills.

If you meet the profile above, please submit your single page application letter with updated Curriculum Vitae to emaron@emarongroup.com before May 20th 2019 at 5pm. Only profile meeting the standards will be notified. Find the advert in www.lsfz.org / www.emarongroup.com

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NOTICE TO ALL SHAREHOLDERS OF MKOMBOZI COMMERCIAL BANK PLC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Tenth Annual General Meeting of Mkombozi Commercial Bank Plc will be held on 25th May, 2019 at Msimbazi Centre Cardinal Adam's Hall Dar es Salaam from 9.00 a.m.

AGENDA

- 10.1 OPENING OF THE MEETING
- 10.2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
- 10.3 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 26TH MAY 2018
- 10.4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 26TH MAY 2018
- 10.5 TO RECEIVE, DISCUSS AND ADOPT THE DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018
- 10.6 TO RECEIVE, DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE BANK'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018 AND ADOPT EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE BANK FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018
- 10.7 TO RECEIVE, DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE BANK'S PLAN TO RAISE ADDITIONAL CAPITAL
- 10.8 APPOINTMENT OF STATUTORY AUDITOR
- 10.9 TO SET THE DATE FOR THE NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- 10.10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS
- 10.11 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

Take further notice that:

1. A member wishing to attend the meeting must come with a copy of his/her receipt for purchase of shares of the bank or a Share Certificate of the same.
2. A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint a PROXY to attend and vote on his/her behalf in accordance with the provisions of the Company's Articles of Association. A PROXY FORM must be deposited at the registered office of the bank and should arrive not later than three (3) days before the meeting. The form should be in the following format:

"Mkombozi Commercial Bank Plc"

I/We _____, of _____, being a Member/Members of the above-named Company, hereby appoint _____ of _____ as my/our proxy to vote for me/us on my/our behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the bank to be held on the 25th May, 2019 and at any adjournment there of. Signed this _____ day of _____ 20_____.

3. All shareholders and/or representatives will be required to register before entering the meeting hall on the date of the meeting.
4. The booklets showing financial statements of the bank will be available in the bank's branches one week before the meeting.

For further information contact the Bank's offices at:

Mkombozi Commercial Bank Plc
Plot No.40, Behind St Joseph Church
Mansfield Street
P.O.Box 38448
DAR ES SALAAM
Tel.no.+255 22 2137806/7,
Toll free no. 0800 750 040
Email:info@mkombosibank.co.tz
Web:www.mkombosibank.co.tz

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD.
BALTAZAR B. MBILINYI
COMPANY SECRETARY

APRIL, 2019



TRIBUTE TO DR. REGINALD MENGI

The staff and management of Dar es Salaam Serena Hotel are deeply saddened with the untimely demise of Dr. Reginald Mengi. He was a good supporter and friend to many and we pray that his soul rests in eternal peace. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this very difficult time.

You will be dearly missed by everyone.



DAR ES SALAAM SERENA HOTEL

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We should be on the move to a safer world for migratory birds

INTERNATIONAL Migratory Bird Day is a conservation initiative that brings awareness on conserving migratory birds and their habitats throughout the Western Hemisphere. This programme is dedicated to international conservation efforts and environmental education in Canada, the United States, Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Originated by the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Centre, it is now coordinated by environment for the Americas.

International Migratory Bird Day officially takes place on the second Saturday in May in the U.S. and Canada and on the second Saturday of October in Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean each year. Recognizing that this date does not work well for all places or for the migratory birds themselves, sites host these programmes at their convenience throughout the year.

This programme engages the general public to care about maintaining healthy bird populations and protecting breeding, non-breeding, and stop over habitats used by migratory birds. International Migratory Bird Day programs often are informal science education or informal science learning activities such as bird walks, art competitions, nature based festivals, and presentations.

These programmes take place in a variety of settings such as zoos, aquariums, protected lands, biospheres, museums, and schools.

Every year International Migratory Bird Day has a new conservation theme with corresponding artwork, educational materials, and activities.

In 2006, the United Nations established World Migratory Bird Day to be held on the second weekend of May every year. The event was founded

as an effort of the UN's Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds to raise awareness of the migratory linkages between regions of the globe. World Migratory Bird Day events have been held in 118 nations. Each year, the United Nations announces a uniting theme for official events.

The first such holiday was established by Charles Almanzo Babcock, the Oil City superintendent of schools, in 1894. It was the first holiday in the United States dedicated to the celebration of birds. Babcock intended it to advance bird conservation as a moral value. It is celebrated on May 4 of every year.

National Bird Day is an annual holiday with half a million adherents who celebrate through birdwatching, studying birds, and other bird-related activities. Bird adoption is a particularly important National Bird Day activity.

According to the newspaper Atlanta Journal-Constitution, many bird enthusiasts celebrate by adopting birds and by educating future bird owners about the special issues involved with taking care of birds, including their screaming, biting, constant cleanups, the need for daily interaction and a varied diet. The Avian Welfare Coalition's National Bird Day campaign aims to improve the welfare of parrots and other birds by discouraging their purchase as pets, and encouraging the support of wild bird habitat conservation programmes and captive bird rescue organizations and sanctuaries. National Bird Day takes place every year on January 5.

Since 1979, bird lovers in the United Kingdom have taken part in the annual Big Garden Birdwatch. In the annual event coordinated by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, up to half a million people spend an hour counting birds.

Time of remembrance, reconciliation for those who lost their lives during WW 11

WORLD War II was the deadliest military conflict in history. An estimated total 70-85 million people perished, which was about 3 per cent of the 1940 world population (est. 2.3 billion).

World War II fatality statistics vary, with estimates of total deaths ranging from 70 million to 85 million. Deaths directly caused by the war military and civilians killed are estimated at 50-56 million people, there were an additional estimated 19 to 28 million deaths from war-related disease and famine.

Civilians deaths totaled 50 to 55 million. Military deaths from all causes totaled 21 to 25 million, including deaths in captivity of about 5 million prisoners of war. Statistics on the number of military wounded are included whenever available. More than half of the total number of casualties are accounted for by the dead of the Republic of China and of the Soviet Union.

The government of the Russian Federation in the 1990s published an estimate of USSR losses at 26.6 million, including 8 to 9 million due to famine and disease. These losses are for the territory of the USSR in the borders of 1946-1991, including territories annexed in 1939-40. The People's Republic of China as of 2005 estimated the number of Chinese casualties in the Second Sino-Japanese War from 1937 to 1945 are 20 million dead and 15 million wounded.

In 2000, the total number of German military dead was estimated at 5.3 million by Rüdiger Overmans of the Military History Research Office (Germany); this number includes 900,000 men conscripted from outside

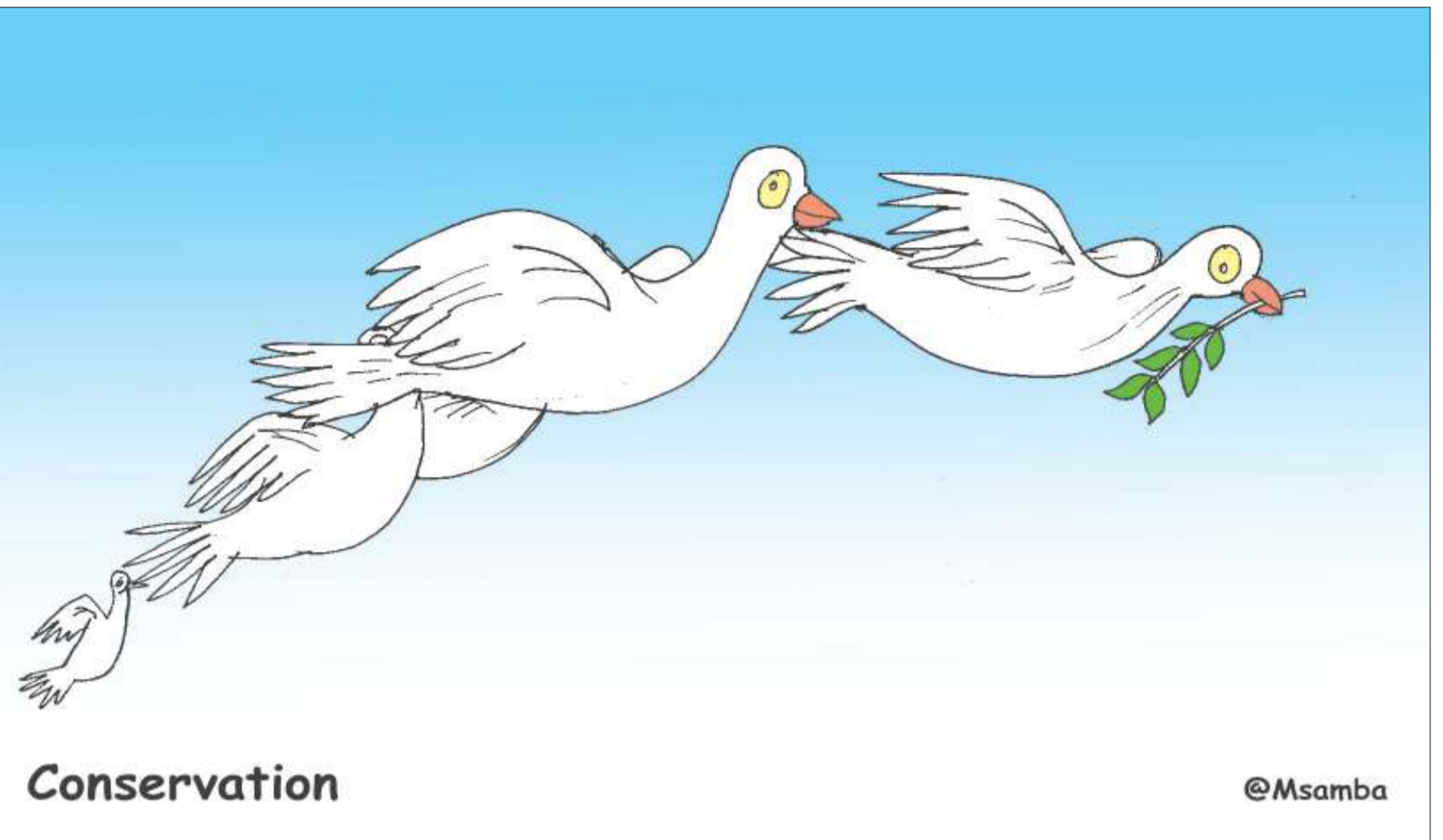
of Germany's 1937 borders, in Austria, and in east-central Europe. Civilian deaths are not included. However, in 2005 the German government put the war dead at 7,395,000 persons (including 4,300,000 military dead and missing) from Germany, Austria, and men conscripted from outside of Germany's 1937 borders.

The number of Polish dead are estimated to number between 5.6 and 5.8 million according to the Institute of National Remembrance (2009). Documentation remains fragmentary, but today scholars of independent Poland believe that 1.8 to 1.9 million Polish civilians (non-Jews) and 3 million Jews were victims of German Occupation policies and the war for a total of just under 5 million dead.

The Japanese government as of 2005 put the number of Japanese deaths at 3.1 million.

Compiling or estimating the numbers of deaths and wounded caused during wars and other violent conflicts is a controversial subject. Historians often put forward many different estimates of the numbers killed and wounded during World War II. The authors of the Oxford Companion to World War II maintain that casualty statistics are notoriously unreliable. Civilian casualties include deaths caused by strategic bombing, Holocaust victims, German war crimes, Japanese war crimes, population transfers in the Soviet Union, Allied war crimes, and deaths due to war related famine and disease.

The sources for the casualties of the individual nations do not use the same methods, and civilian deaths due to starvation and disease make up a large proportion of the civilian deaths in China and the Soviet Union.



By Issa Sikiti da Silva

ON a bus in Cotonou, Benin's commercial capital, four Nigerian girls aged between 15 and 16 sit closely together as they are about to embark on the last part of their journey to Mali, where they are told that their new husbands, whom they never have met, await them.

They started off from their homes in Eastern Nigeria where their parents had reportedly agreed that they be "commissioned" to become the wives of Nigerian men living in Mali.

"Four compatriots asked me to bring them young wives because they want to get married. I'm sure they will be happy," a human smuggler, who only identifies himself as Wiseman, tells IPS as the bus prepares to depart for Bamako, Mali's capital. IPS is not allowed to speak to the young girls, who appear anxious.

When asked if the girls' parents are aware they have to travel to Mali, Wiseman says: "I negotiated with them and gave them something as a down payment for their dowries, which will surely help them [the parents] start a small business or buy seeds for farming. These kids should count themselves lucky because they will work and perform wives' duties, so their lives should improve big time."

But nobody knows the real intentions of the men who "commissioned" these girls. Or if they exist.

Pathfinders Justice Initiative, an international non-government organisation dedicated to the prevention of modern-day sex slavery, says Nigeria is a source, transit and destination country when it comes to human trafficking with Benin City, in Nigeria's Edo State, being an internationally-recognised sex trafficking hub.

Nigeria ranks 32 out of 167 countries with the highest number of slaves (1.38 million), according to the 2018 Global Slavery Index report. While Nigeria has the institutional framework and laws against trafficking, at least one million people are trafficked there every year, according to the country's National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP).

NAPTIP, working in collaboration with Malian authorities, recently said that nearly 20,000 Nigerian girls were forced into prostitution in Mali. The girls were said to be working in hotels and nightclubs after being sold to prostitution rings by human traffickers.

In West Africa, children remain the most vulnerable to trafficking.

The latest Global Report On Trafficking In Persons by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) found that young boys and girls where among those most trafficked in the region.

West Africa's fine line between cultural norms and child trafficking

At the end of April, Interpol announced that it rescued 216 trafficked victims—including 157 children—from Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo. Interpol is part of a global task force formed to address human trafficking.

Some of the trafficking victims were working as sex workers in Benin and Nigeria, while others worked all day in markets and at various eating places. Some were as young as 11 and had been beaten, subject to abuse, and told they would never see their families again.

Forty-seven people were arrested. "Many of the children are shipped actually into these markets to carry out forced labour. These are organised crime groups who are motivated by making money. They don't care about the children forced into prostitution, working in terrible conditions, living on the streets, they are all after the money," Interpol's Director of Organised and Emerging Crime Paul Stanfield said in a video.

Benin, a low-income country, has always been a transit route for west African migrants looking to irregularly make their way to Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, and finally to Europe.

The city of Cotonou appears to be a huge transit route through which women and girls trafficked to North and West Africa pass as they are transported to various countries of their destination. While Togo, Burkina Faso, Benin and Mali have laws against child trafficking, nothing covers trafficking in persons above the age of 18, according to the UNODC report. Niger has no laws against trafficking.

The Economic Community of West African States' policy of free movement of goods and people seems to make this easier as corrupt immigration officers at border posts look away in exchange for a few euros. When IPS asks Wiseman about border controls, he brushes aside the issue, saying he knows "how to handle them".

When asked if he is responsible for the girls' welfare, Wiseman replies: "I'm not a social worker, I'm a businessman and a helper. I help people to get good wives and lift the girls' families out of poverty in exchange for money. The rest is history."

When the incident about the Nigerian girls is described to Hassan Badarou, a community-based caregiver and religious leader from Benin, he says "they could be used as sex slaves by those men or sold to crime syndicates to serve as prostitutes in Mali or even as far as in North Africa."

"It's a pity parents allow their children to just leave the country in

exchange for a few dollars. All of this wouldn't have happened if they weren't poor," he says.

Poverty plays a huge role in the trafficking of women and girls in the region. But so too does culture.

In 2014, a female friend of Suzie's family came to collect the then 12-year-old from her home in northern Benin.

"She promised to help me attend school after working at her home for one year, but she didn't," Suzie tells IPS in the local language, Fon, through a translator.

"Things started to go wrong when I started to remind her about that. She stopped paying me my salary and increased the workload and cut my meals down from two to one per day. And she started beating up me every time I protested," the 16-year-old who lives in Cotonou tells IPS.

As time went by, the women's male family members, who lived in the same house, started to make sexual advances towards Suzie. She refused the advances but eventually ran away because she could no longer bear the situation.

No police please

When asked why she doesn't report the incidents to the police, she says: "I can't do that. The woman is like my aunt so I couldn't do it as this would have brought a conflict between the women's family and ours back home."

Badarou, the religious leader, explains that he has mediated in cases like Suzie's.

"If you see the way these women ill-treat these girls, it should make you cry. I have documented many cases of abuse and have tried to mediate between some of these women and the girls."

But he's never reported any of these cases, however abusive, to the police.

"The only thing you cannot do is to report these cases to the police. We are all brothers and sisters of this country and we believe in solving our problems in harmony and peace through dialogue. Besides, it's not our culture to report everything to the police. I blame West African governments for allowing this thing to go on and on to the extent of becoming a cultural norm institutionalised deep in the fabric of society. It's now hard to break it," he says.

Badarou explains that the actions are cultural.

"In the face of this deeply-entrenched culture of 'helping each other' by 'handing over' your girls to someone well established who is living in the cities, even the United Nations and

children's organisations sometimes have no choice but to turn a blind eye. I'm not saying they are not doing anything about it, but you can't break up someone's culture, especially in a region such as this where grinding poverty rules," he says.

Richard Dossou seems to agree. He tells IPS that his uncle's friend, a father of 18 children, is looking for "Good Samaritans" from Benin to take in some of his girls as he is unable to provide for them.

"I'm planning to travel to their village to negotiate with him with a view of taking even one, not as a wife, but as a maid. Then we will see how it will lead us. We help each other like this to fend off poverty and misery in this region," Dossou says.

While Benin's poverty hovers at about 40 percent, a report released in 2018 by the World Poverty Clock said in Nigeria a total of 86.9 million people are living in extreme poverty.

The fine line between cultural norms and child trafficking

Asked if this West African practice of "handing over" girls is a cultural norm of lifting families out of poverty, Jakub Sobik, communications manager for London-based Anti-Slavery International, tells IPS via email: "What you describe above are cases of child trafficking, when children are being recruited or harboured with a view of exploiting them."

"Slavery doesn't occur in a vacuum, it is underpinned by many factors, including poverty, discrimination, lack of access to education and decent job opportunities, the lack of rule of law, as well as practices that are culturally accepted in societies," he explains.

He says that it is often the case that parents are "deceived about the conditions their children will be offered, and send them away in a genuine belief that they will get a better chance of education and life opportunities in surroundings of cities and perhaps better-off societal circles."

He adds that in some societies children working is culturally accepted, because it has been the norm for generations. "We have a lot to do to change that and offer children childhoods, education and opportunities in lives they deserve."

As the bus continues on the final journey that is meant to lift the Nigerian girls out of "poverty" to "freedom", back in Cotonou Suzie wonders the city's dark streets hand in hand with a Zemi-djan—a motorcycle taxi driver—who appears to be aged between 40 and 50 and whom she describes as her boyfriend.

Start the week with Cynthia Stacey

Conservation versus profit...which is winning in Tanzania today?



Photo caption: A Dar es Salaam gem, the old German building that once housed the popular Salamander Café, which was demolished along with much else of historical value in the city centre. Many such structures have often been declared 'unfit for human habitation', and often sold off to dubious 'developers.' Can we be sure therefore, that what little is left in the conservation category, is now soundly safeguarded. (File photo)

"About half the buildings in the city are supposed to be condemned, as they're occupying potential areas of land which can be sold to developers, and many are worth 300 to 400 millions shs. Most of the condemned houses are on Samora Avenue, and it's the duty of the Ministry of Lands and National Housing Corporation to sell them".

Well greetings for the week, and just glancing at the above paragraph which I can't get out of my head, never ceases to depress me.

This incriminating statement was published by PST news services in June 2000, and was said by a senior city planner with Kondononi Municipal Council, who seemed unaware of the implications of his words, but wished to remain anonymous... understandable if you're that uncultured, and bordering on being mentally deficient!

This issue is forever topical, how can it not be, as long as there are historic buildings to destroy for profit, or misguided necessity, like the one recently written about by local writer Elsie Eyakuze in the East African.

She writes of the famed author and scholar of the Kiswahili language Shaban Roberts, whose old home in Tanga was in the way of an ongoing a water project, so the authorities decided to demolish it. However, the local community refused, and told them to find another solution. A good result ensued, but Elsie, who says she doesn't trust the government with their 'mechanical thinking' rightly asks "...how long will we be able to resist development by force"...

Well not long, if the so called planners with blinkered vision, who've destroyed almost all vestiges of character in Dar es Salaam, continue with its destruction, by equating progress only with high rise office blocks etc. But they also appear incapable of defining good

modern architecture from bad, which is why Dar city excels in the latter.

Their European counterparts also made the same mistakes on a massive scale, and have been trying to rectify the disastrous effects ever since.

Towns and cities can't remain static, but a balance must be found between preserving the old, which portrays the history of an area, whilst allowing well designed modern buildings to exist alongside as a challenging contrast.

This obviously involves demolitions, but the dubious background of one infamous attempt to do this, maybe revealed the bogus reasons behind many others.

In August 2006, one Friday evening when the premises were empty, there was an attempted demolition of an old German colonial building, part of which housed the popular Salamander café on the corner of Samora Avenue and Mkepu street, and owned by a company that bought it prior to its conservation listing.

Notices were furtively pasted on it, supposedly conveying the right to demolish the structure. In fact these were invalid, being only photo copies, whilst the law required a certified demolition order from the courts.

Fortunately, some locals were alerted to the intention, and called the Director of Antiquities, who came at midnight and attached a stop order to the building, invoking the law protecting structures over 100 years old, or less if having special merit.

But early next morning, a group of youths arrived, ignored the order and sprayed the premises with graffiti saying "Ondoka Inavunjwa"...(get out - this will be demolished) and started smashing the roof, resisting attempts to stop them. This was a strange way to effect a supposedly judicial operation.

Ultimately, and

witnessed by many senior officials, it was only the arrival of the OCD and OCS from the central Police station that halted the destruction. Strangely, the Municipal Engineer Mr. Kisassa, found no record in his office of the demolition instructions, but issued another, nullifying it.

Sadly this historic area on Samora Avenue, didn'teventually escape the wreckers ball, and there were many people in the town centre who's legally owned homes were bulldozed, and became impoverished over the years, and repeatedly denied justice through the courts.

In 1996, a local paper The Express (now closed) referring to the mass demolition exercise of mostly Asian homes, ran the headline, "Idi Amin comes to Dar", thereby angering an official responsible for newspaper registration.

It was ironic that he should have felt sensitive about this, given the fact that no sensitivity was shown during the state sanctioned rampage of destruction. At the time, this exercise was referred to as "facilitating the city re-development plan", but you can't get more anti-developmetn than making people jobless and homeless.

Further house demolitions took place the following year, including a shocking case of tenants who'd raised the purchase price to buy their block, and were entitled to priority buying rights from the National Housing Corporation. Though instead, the building was declared unfit for human habitation (just like the Samora avenue case, and an often used ploy) and unsurprisingly, offered to a 'developer', a huge misnomer if ever there was one.

Round about the same time, the then City Director and the NHC boss, wer also found guilty of allowing similar acts to occur, but

amazingly, the courts only fined them 100,000sh, which as I wrote then, was possibly the office petty cash tea and biscuit fund!

So were these cases exercises in 'city improvements', or just examples of collusion and corruption by greed driven opportunists, and the National Housing Corporation, who along with other sectors of officialdom, have long been notorious for such acts, but have always escaped investigation and censure, as they did then.

For over eight years, in the same time span, there was a large empty dumping site in the middle of Samora Avenue. Formerly this area housed thriving businesses, which were all brutally bulldozed, many along with their contents, which if not crushed were looted.

I don't think the perpetrators, (possibly the biscuit fund duo) have ever been called to account, or asked what possible criteria was used to justify the mad haste of the crudely implemented exercise.

The destroyed businesses, could have been providing employment and generating income for many people over the years, and to demolish them so prematurely, then leave the site vacant for nearly a decade, was criminal stupidity. Also, the bulldozing of so many shops, killed off the vibrancy of a once prospering and vibrant area, from which it never recovered.

But time to close on a relevant note...during the time of the demolition excesses, in 1996 an investment company wanted to build on someland off Samora Avenue, and a spokesman said: "It depended on feasibility studies...and whether the plot was still up for grabs". Marvellous...a perfect description of the crooked land disbursement methods at the time, but 23 years later...and fortunately, we've really moved on now...haven't we?!



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Amref Health Africa is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) whose mission is "to improve the health of people by partnering with and empowering communities and strengthening health systems". Amref Health Africa has over 1000 employees throughout Africa with its headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. Amref Health Africa has offices in Tanzania, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, and South Africa, Malawi, Zambia, South Sudan and Senegal and a number of offices in Europe and North America for fundraising.

Amref Health Africa-Tanzania is largely supported by Multilateral, Bilateral and National donors, implementing several programmes including HIV/AIDS/TB/Malaria, Reproductive, Maternal, New-born and Child Health, Water and sanitation, e learning programme and clinical outreach. Amref Health Africa -Tanzania has the following vacancy:

1. VACANCY POSITION: HEAD OF FINANCE
LOCATION: DAR ES SALAAM
REPORTS TO: COUNTRY DIRECTOR AND GROUP CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

JOB OBJECTIVES

To lead and manage the production of accurate and timely financial information needed to facilitate the efficient operations of the activities of Amref Health Africa Tanzania. To ensure that there is an effective financial management system in place required to maintain financial integrity and accountability as well as to protect and safeguard Amref Health Africa Assets and play oversight roles on Finance Procurement and IT functions.

KEY DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES/KEY RESULTS AREAS (KRAS)

1. Technical support

- Provide technical financial and accounting services to all Amref Health Africa operations in Tanzania and monitor their overall financial performance
- Provide technical support on Audit and following to ensure the action plan are implemented as agreed.(Statutory, Project and Internal audits)
- Review of various reports Management reports, donor reports and project to ensure its accuracy and completeness
- Supervising data posting and validation daily to facilitate monthly and annual closure of accounts.
- Filling in the Organization's Control Self-Assessment checklist online and reporting the program expenditure analysis to Headquarters
- Liaise with internal and external auditors and respond to queries, observations and recommendations

2. System development and Implementation

- Lead in developing, implementing and maintaining good quality, efficient financial systems that are appropriate in the setting and communicate the key controls across the relevant staff in the programme.
- Efficient and reliable accounting, banking and treasury services. Accounting transactions managed in real time.
- Leading the installation of the Microsoft Dynamics Navision system in Tanzania over the first few months in the role and make recommendations to improve its performance over time.

3. Accounting and cash flow management

- Ensure proper books of account are maintained and kept up to date and that the requirements set out in the Finance Manual and the Procurement Manual are met
- Monitor staff and other debtors' accounts regularly to ensure timely recover
- Manage donor call down requests and cash flow planning, ensure availability of adequate cash balances at Tanzania Country Office
- Ensure availability of cash office services within agreed hours and surplus cash balances at agreed ratio to support HQ
- Comply with all statutory requirements and deadlines as impact on the Finance function
- Manage the cash resources of AHA TZ as effectively as possible, recovering debtor balances quickly.

4. Policies and Procedures

- Ensure that statutory requirements affecting both Amref Health Africa and Amref Health Africa in Tanzania are met accurately and on time
- To ensure Amref Health Africa Tanzania is operating

business according to applicable regulatory requirements policies and procedures. reporting Non-compliance issues to management

5. Staff Management and Capacity Building

- Manage performance and development of all line reports and their teams
- Continuously evaluate the performance of the finance department in Tanzania and build individual and institutional capacity in financial management
- Ensure training needs are identified and satisfied.

6. Budgeting and Reporting

- Manage the budgeting, performance and forward planning systems including annual, quarterly and ad hoc budgets and report these to HQ on a timely basis
- Ensure timely preparation of financial reports to donors and management at all levels, explaining the outputs and enabling quality decision making across the programme

7. Compliance

- Ensure that statutory requirements affecting both Amref Health Africa and Amref Health Africa in Tanzania are met accurately and on time
- To ensure Amref Health Africa Tanzania is operating business according to applicable regulatory requirements policies and procedures. Reporting Non-compliance issues to management

8. Procurement and IT

- Ensure that oversight role on Program procurements is delivered in a fair and transparent manner in line with the procurement manual.
- Ensure administrative and transport functions provides efficient effective services to the Country program
- Oversight role on IT unit such as ensuring TCO receives better IT services (Navision system, Paymaster, Email Internets security and PABX)

QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE:-

- Master's degree in Accounting and Finance/ Business Administration or other relevant discipline and must possess Bachelor degree in Accounting and /or Finance, or Post graduate in Financial management Professional Certifications /Qualification: CPA (T) , ACCA, CIMA and Project Management
- Should have strong experience and background in managing compliance issues relating to donors regulations, statutory regulations and local/international established professional standards
- Minimum 8 years' experience in similar role, and working at least five (5) years in an NGO or a donor funded project

OTHER SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

- Strong organization, management and reporting skills
- Close attention to detail and self-discipline
- Multi-task and flexibility
- Negotiation experience
- Ethical approach and Integrity

If you meet the criteria given above and interested in the vacancies, please send an application letter and CV combined in as one document indicating your present employer and position, daytime telephone contact, names and addresses of three referees. To be considered, your application must be received by **16.30 Hours May 22, 2019**. Please mention the job title/vacancy name or use the job title as the subject line when applying for this position failure to do that your application may not be retrieved. **All correspondences should be directed to: Email: jobs.tanzania@amref.org**. Direct application through mail or hand delivery will not be accepted.

1. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

2. *Amref Health Africa is an equal opportunity employer and has a non-smoking environment policy; Women and People with disability are encouraged to Apply*

3. *"Amref Health Africa is committed to the principles of safeguarding in workplace and will not tolerate any form of abuse, wherever it occurs or whoever is responsible"*

4. *Amref health Africa -Tanzania regrets that only short-listed candidates will be contacted.*

The need for public awareness campaigns, climate financing and gender were some of the main issues that transpired during the 5th Annual Climate Change Symposium and Expo 2019 held in Dodoma recently. The annual symposium was organized by FORUMCC in collaboration with other partners such as the Tanzania Traditional Energy Development Organization (TaTEDO) and the Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF), and OXFAM with financial support of the European Union (EU). Our Correspondent Gerald Kitabu caught up with the Executive Director for the ForumCC, Rebecca Muna and in this interview she sheds light on the symposium: Excerpts.

QUESTION: I understand that you are one of the organizers of this symposium. Briefly explain what real came out clearly in the symposium?

ANSWER: In fact one of the main issues that came out very clear in this climate change symposium is the realization. People have realized that each one has a role to play especially civil societies (CSOs) who are working in the service provision and around climate change area. Some didn't know how they can conceptualize and put to context issues of climate change in the areas they are working in. So, I think and believe that many NGOs attending this symposium and even others who could not make it up are going to integrate climate change in their programming and in their projects.

Besides the realization, another issue was awareness. It was clear that there is a knowledge gap and misconception about climate

change. People are confusing between environment issues and climate change. These are some of the areas that we should think on how we can invest in addressing knowledge gap so that people are well informed with the right information so that they can take appropriate measures. We need to address climate change issues at all levels from the grassroots level where the communities are supposed to adapt but again policy and decision makers like parliamentarians who are also part of that process.

Q: Why do you think the issue of gender dominated the discussions?

A: It is true and I expected so because women are more vulnerable to the effect of climate change than any other group and this calls for policy and decision makers and other groups to plan and design our interventions with gender eye. We need to look at women in a specific and serious way on

Promoting rights-based climate finance for people and planet



Executive Director for the ForumCC, Rebecca Muna (Right) moderating at the symposium. photo by Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

how we can reduce that huge burden for women right from the household level. Women are involved in many and important activities such as energy, food, water for the family. They also constitute large number of smallholder farmers. This means that they are exceptionally affected by climate change.

Q: So, what is your message to the general public as far as climate change is concerned?

A: The general public should take climate change seriously and look at its correctness context. Climate change is not all about planting trees, it is not all about the environment, climate change concerns our livelihood, concerns our source of income because it affects most of the main sectors that provide means of livelihood to most Tanzanians. It is not only the farmers, Livestocks and tourism that are direct linked to natural resources are affected by climate change, but also even business and industries are affected. If energy

is scarce it means the industries will bear a very high cost in terms of operational costs. If climate change affects let say agriculture, the agricultural products which are needed as input for industries will also be affected. Most of the industries use water, climate change affects water, so, it is like all important sectors are affected by climate change. Therefore, we need to look at climate change into those lines and see how we can address them at all levels from the household level, local government level and sector level and see how we can integrate climate change.

Q: Is Climate change a new thing?

A: It is not a new thing, we need to change the way we do things. For example, if I am building a bridge, I must take into consideration that there are times of floods, so, I should improve the quality and strength of the bridge so that when the floods come, the bridge won't be washed away by heavy running water. If I am

building a tarmac road and I know that heavy rains destroy our roads, people who are planning and designing roads, standards and quality of roads. They need to consider that there are times when heavy rains would come so that the rains don't destroy our roads because it takes a lot of money to rehabilitate them. If one is building a house he or she need also to consider the effects of climate change. So, it is like most of the things that we do in our daily activities in one way or another are affected by climate change. It is important therefore that we look at how we are affected and start taking steps. We may use simple or complex technologies depending on the level of engagement of entity or community.

Q: Some Members of Parliament and stakeholders hinted on the inadequate budget on climate change what do you say about this?

A: We all know and appreciate

at all levels that there is scarcity of resources especially in developing countries. We know our economy is at infant stage, we don't have much money to address the impact of climate change. Two me, it is like there are two levels of looking at climate finance, the level of the country and international level. It is a reality that we are affected whether we put efforts in building roads because if we don't consider the effects of climate change it means the roads will be destroyed. So, climate change is slowing down our development efforts, this is a matter of fact. As a country, we can't say that climate change happens because industrialized countries are causing this problem and so they should pay for it while our people are dying. That won't help much. Country like Tanzania is now using the available scarce resource to address the problem of climate change. I have said and I repeat, we need to change the way we do things. I know for example, the Ministry of agriculture has been promoting im-

proved seeds. Besides improved seeds, we need also to have resilience to drought and crop diseases. So, if we change a little bit the way we do things and apply appropriate technologies that we use, we are going to address climate change.

Another level is at international level. Tanzania as a country we participate in various processes at international level, it is a high time we don't lose focus of demanding industrialized countries to pay for the commitment that they have made given the historical background of their responsibility that have caused the environment to be vulnerable to the effects of climate change. We need to continue our agenda polluters must pay and this is not only Civil Society Organizations but also the government must stick to the demand that have been there for many years. So that is another level where we can push for more resources to address climate change.

But again, there are various current climate financing opportunities, so other countries we need to be strategic on how we can access funds at international level. Tanzania as a country can access that funds directly. We need to have joint efforts, we need to come together and strategically think through how we can access the funds and think which institution is real more viable in terms of managing that funds. I think that will take us forward.

Before I finish, I would like to thank the European Union (EU) for the financial support, the government of Tanzania as well as our collaborating partners for participating and enabling this symposium which has been very beneficial in terms of sharing experiences, knowledge and continued partnership.

African common market, nationalism and xenophobia

By Marcel Okeke

A recent event in Lagos, The Bullion Lecture, organized by the Centre for Financial Journalism, the President and Chief Executive of the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank), Professor Benedict Okey Oramah, made a moving presentation in favour of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). So detailed and persuasive was Oramah's treatise that virtually all who were present joined him in urging Nigeria to sign and ratify the AfCFTA agreement without further delay. According to the initiators of AfCFTA, it is intended to create a single continental market for goods and services, with free movement of business persons and investments, and thus pave the way for accelerating the establishment of the Continental Customs Union. It also aims to expand intra-African trade through better harmonization and coordination of trade liberalization and facilitation regimes and instruments across Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and across Africa in general. AfCFTA also aims to resolve the challenges of multiple and overlapping memberships and expedite the regional and continental integration process, among others.

After reeling out these objectives, Oramah went to great lengths to explore and expatiate on benefits that could accrue to Africa and its component states, when AfCFTA is in place. According to him, the Continental Free Trade Area will bring together fifty-four African countries with a combined population of more than one billion

people and a combined gross domestic product (GDP) of more than US\$3.4 trillion. He said the continental body would offer a platform for (united) trade negotiations with other regions of the world, as against individual African countries negotiating alone. Professor Oramah was also of the view that the existence of AfCFTA would address the problem of multiplicity of currencies on the African continent, a situation that currently poses a constraint to smooth intra-continental trade.

As promising and alluring as these potential benefits of the AfCFTA are, it is still irresistible to interrogate the viability of the continental body (as proposed), given the structure and coloration of subsisting relations and interactions among the disparate African countries and regions. Is the coming into existence of AfCFTA evolutionary or revolutionary? In other words, is the Continental Free Trade Area a natural destination to be arrived at, due to a harmonious existence and relations among African countries? Have the individual countries been fully weaned off the apron strings of their colonial overlords? Or, would they continue (as in the Africa Union, ECOWAS, COMESA, etc.) to pander to the whims and caprices of their colonial masters, and keep acting as centrifugal forces within the continental body? Will each of the member states of AfCFTA accept to trade more with its fellow African countries rather than their 'traditional colonial trading partners'?

Is the pursuit of AfCFTA in tune with the wind of crass nationalism, protectionism and "unilateralism" that is currently blowing in many parts of the globe? Trade wars (no more mere



President, AfreximBank, Dr. Benedict Oramah

threats) are ongoing between hitherto major trading partners; high tariff barriers and other trade restrictions are being re-introduced. In the past one year or so, the Sino-U.S. economic and trade friction has assumed worrisome dimensions, including the U.S. filing a request for consultation to the World Trade Organization (WTO) 'in regard to concerns that China was violating intellectual property rights'. The slogan: "America for Americans" is becoming real to the extent of the United States making 'serious efforts' to build walls between it and its neighbours (Mexico, for example). President Donald Trump of the U.S. has even publicly threatened pulling his country out of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the military alliance among the U.S, Europe and Canada, formed in 1949. The U.S. has actually withdrawn from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) that involved Australia, Canada and the South-East

Asian Nations (ASEAN). The Association of South East Asian Nations--ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) formed just in 2015 is tottering, with numerous crises within and among its members.

The United Kingdom, sequel to a referendum in June 2016, has been struggling to pull out of the European Union (EU) under what is now popularly called 'Brexit'. But for the complexity of issues involved and divergence of interests in the UK-EU separation process, the 'Brexit' would have been concluded last March (It is now extended to end-October 2019). At the core of the 'Brexit' is UK's pulling out from permanent membership of the European Single Market and EU Customs Union. The UK has been a member of the European Community (later, European Union) since 1973. Should the UK succeed in pulling out of the EU, there is growing fear and speculation that 'Brexit' could trigger a bandwagon ef-

fect: some other EU members might opt to go the way of the UK. It is beyond doubt that the economies of a number of EU states had in recent times practically constituted a drag on the wholesome growth and development of the rest of the members.

If all these are currently happening in the UK, US, EU and ASEAN which have served as models in economic and trade policies and practices to Africa, then the Africa Free Trade Area 'experiment' could be a 'disaster waiting to happen'. Already, the rising wave of nationalism and separatism across the African continent is manifesting in widespread xenophobic attacks, killings and looting of properties belonging to fellow Africans. Black Africans no longer want blacks from African countries on their soil. In South Africa, blacks from other countries of the continent are being killed in large numbers or pursued out of the country by 'indigenous blacks'. In Ghana, on several occasions, Nigerians are being chased out of the country, and having their businesses destroyed by indigenous Ghanaians. In other countries such as Libya, Morocco, Sudan, etc., nationals of other African countries are being 'bought and sold' as slaves. Hardly is there a week that hordes of these Nigerian 'slaves' will not be repatriated and dumped at our major airports.

It is also apposite to ask: has the existing sub-regional bodies on the African continent fared so well to warrant the current railroading to continental single market and ultimate customs union? Specifically, have the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), for instance, im-

acted meaningfully on the disparate economies of their member states? From Nigerian perspective, ECOWAS (founded in 1975) has made little positive impact on the economic progress of the country. Indeed, even the most basic of the objectives of the sub-regional body namely, free movement of goods, services and persons, is yet to be achieved. Smuggling and other informal trading as well as cross-border crimes are the order of the day.

The much-flaunted ECOWAS Common Currency (Eco) project, for instance, which is part of the sub-regional monetary union expected to be in place by 2020, has made little progress in the past two decades. Its take-off has been postponed for the umpteenth time. The basic convergence criteria have hardly been met by a good number of the members. For instance, Nigeria, a key member of ECOWAS and the proposed monetary union, has not attained a single-digit inflation in recent years, nor the appropriate level of public debt-to-GDP ratio, among others. Records of many other member countries are even worse than Nigeria's. The rigid divide between the Anglophone and Francophone monetary zones in the sub-region is yet to give way. Yet, the Afreximbank boss believes that the coming into existence of AfCFTA would be the magic wand to wipe away these stifling challenges of the Eco and others like it in other sub-regions of the continent.

For Nigeria, the effectuation of the continental free trade area would at first, lead to a sudden loss of pub-

lic revenue (Customs collections): tariffs, excise duties and sundry levies. By the intensions of AfCFTA, the existing tariffs would be hugely slashed; and many levies and restrictions could be totally collapsed. But more serious for Nigeria is the uncompetitive business environment; one that is dominated by weak infrastructure, frustrating judicial/legal process, fragile democracy and deadly separatist tendencies: banditry, insurgency, brigandage, terrorism, skirmishes, etc. Thus, given the country's large population, with AfCFTA, Nigeria could end up unwittingly being the market for virtually all goods and services from the rest of the continent, where it is cheaper to produce them in a convivial setting. In other words, Nigeria could only serve as an unmitigated dumping ground.

In all, Nigeria and indeed, the entire African continent needs to make haste slowly as regards birthing AfCFTA. All precautionary measures must be taken; and so many unresolved 'domestic issues' must be handled expeditiously. No one says the (CFTA) idea should be jettisoned. None. But would Africa not be swimming against the heavy tide of renescent nationalism, separatism and xenophobia that is blowing across the globe? If long-existing regional and continental single markets, monetary or customs unions and other ties among developed economies are crashing, is this the time to rush AfCFTA into existence? In whose best interest, ultimately?

App helps farmers in Tanzania, Uganda and Ghana, with data collection, sharing

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

A Smartphone app is helping farmers in Africa and Latin America to collect data, share information on new agricultural practices and tackle climate change-related impacts.

The app, named GeoFarmer, offers the possibility for farmers and agricultural practitioners to properly manage crops, farms, reduce risks in production while increasing productivity and eventually improve farmers' livelihoods, according to a study published in the March 2019 issue of Computers and Electronics in Agriculture.

"The idea is related to citizen science, where citizens, in our case farmers, can participate in the process of testing new practices together with experts or scientists," said Anton Eitzinger, a co-author of the study and a senior climate change scientist at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture, which helped develop the tool in collaboration with partners including the CGIAR Research program of Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security.

Eitzinger added that the rationale was to create a tool to stimulate a two-way

communication between agricultural experts and farmers while testing new practices so that farmers can share their experiences, share it with experts but also with other farmers. The app features a free customisable survey tool that can collect information about situation analysis and a mapping tool to help users to upload pictures, audio messages or make comments.

Researchers piloted the use of the application for data collection in Tanzania in 2014 to 2015 and used the lessons for further data collection in Uganda in 2016. Additional pilot tests were conducted in Colombia and Ghana in 2017.

The study adds that the tool has an offline and synchronization capability that facilitates data collection even if Internet access is poor. For example, in Ghana, users of the tool collected more than 60,000 records from 356 farmers in two weeks with poor Internet access.

"We demonstrate that GeoFarmer is a cost-effective means of providing and sharing opportune indicators of on-farm performance. It is a potentially useful tool that farmers and agricultural practitioners can use to manage their crops and farms better."

Osana Bonilla-Findji,

a co-author of the study and science officer of the CGIAR Research program of Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security, told SciDev.Net that "In the next version of GeoFarmer, the partners will include access to the results right away after finishing each survey in the application so that a farmer using the application will be in a position to have access to the overall results of the surveys."

According to the researchers, the approach complements traditional methods of project monitoring by increasing the frequency of consulting key actors to understand the impact of interventions and provide timely information for action. Prince Maxwell Etwire, a research scientist at Ghana's Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, tells SciDev.Net that the use of information and communication technologies can help smallholders improve their farming practices and yields.

Etwire recommends a need to boost uptake of applications such as GeoFarmer by smallholders through increased mobile phone coverage and improved use of information and communication technologies to provide client-specific advice.



Deputy minister for Natural Resources and Tourism official Constantine Kanyasu gives orders to Swagaswaga Forest manager Alex Choya before the inspection of the ongoing hostel building with the capable to accommodate 77 tourists in Chemba district in Dodoma region over the weekend. Photo: MONT

UDSM don counsels Tanzanians to adhere to transparency

By Correspondent James Kandoya

A don at the University of Dar es Salaam, Dr Ulingeta Mbamba has appealed to Tanzanians to adhere to transparency as people of Republic of Korea did to achieve their development goal.

Dr Mbamba, the Dean of Dar es Salaam School of Business (UDBS) said that over the week end in the live gospel performance made by the Olam group from Korea.

He said the performance was organized in collaboration between the University of Dar es Salaam through UDBS and the Embassy of Republic of Korea.

Dr Mbamba said transparency and

time keeping were very necessary for an person as individuals or nation as whole to achieve its goals.

"We need to borrow a leaf from the people of Republic of Korea in terms of time keeping and transparency," he said.

The don further explained that also commitment was very important to ensure all what agreed are implemented.

He said initially Korea was very poor but due its transparency and commitment, it has recently realized faster development.

According to the don, Tanzania can realize faster its economic development if it can practically do the same as its counter apart Korean

did. Commenting on the gospel performance, Dr Mbamba said culture was important icon to introduce any nation before others as well as part of development.

The cultural performance is further aimed at promoting the bilateral relationship between the two countries.


For his part, Daniel Song, the singer said Tanzania was the potential country benefiting from people republic of Korea.

He said apart from Dar es Salaam, they will also perform in Mbeya region next week adding that there was also a plan to build a medical college and nursery school.

"All what is done is to promote the bilateral relationship and further strengthening the wellbeing of its people," he said.

It was last year reported that the Korean government had expressed its intention to transform Tanzania's Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to fast-track developments and become an ICT hub in the East African Community (EAC) region.

Interviewed by the Guardian in Dar es Salaam, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Tanzania Song Geum-Young said bilateral cooperation in the ICT would help to create more employment opportunities, especially for youths.



YETU MICROFINANCE BANK PLC

"Creating Wealth Together, Pamoja Tunaweza"

PUBLICATION OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

REPORT OF CONDITION OF BANK ISSUED PURSUANT TO REGULATIONS 7 AND 8 OF THE BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (DISCLOSURES) REGULATIONS 2014

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31TH MARCH 2019.			
Amount in Tzs.	Current Quarter 31-Mar-19 TZS	Comperative Quarter 31-Dec-18 TZS	
A. ASSETS			
1 Cash	386,677,366	375,447,532	
2 Balances with Bank of Tanzania	255,549,507	107,999,019	
3 Investment in Government securities	0.00	0.00	
4 Balances with other banks	598,868,586	411,157,188	
5 Cheques and items for clearing	-	0	
6 Inter branch float items	0.00	0.00	
7 Bills negotiated	0.00	0.00	
8 Customers' liabilities for acceptances	0.00	0.00	
9 Interbank Loans Receivables	0.00	0.00	
10 Investments in other securities	0.00	0.00	
11 Loans, advances and overdrafts (net of allowances for probable losses)	12,404,698,002	12,939,962,781	
12 Other assets	1,074,999,616	1,277,632,358	
13 Equity Investments	0.00	0.00	
14 Underwriting accounts	0.00	0.00	
15 Property, plant and equipment (net)	725,447,129.66	704,497,292	
16 TOTAL ASSETS	15,446,240,206	15,816,696,169	
B. LIABILITIES			
17 Deposits from other banks	-	-	
18 Customer Deposits	1,581,007,686	1,110,559,271	
19 Cash letters of credit	0	0.00	
20 Special deposits	1,585,187,087	1,688,328,257	
21 Payment orders/transfers payable	0.00	0.00	
22 Bankers' cheques and draft issued	0.00	0.00	
23 Accrued taxes and expenses payable	0	0	
24 Acceptances outstanding	0.00	0.00	
25 Interbranch floats items	0.00	0.00	
26 Unearned income and other deferred charges	-	-	
27 Other liabilities	62,709,834.1	129,024,082	
28 Borrowings	3,700,000,000	4,000,000,000	
29 TOTAL LIABILITIES	7,493,293,116	6,927,911,610	
30 NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	7,952,947,090	8,888,784,559	
C. CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
31 Paid up share capital	6,056,496,547	6,056,496,547	
32 Regulatory Reserves	0	0	
33 Statutory Reserves	0	0	
34 Retained earnings	1,512,555,000	2,293,869,509	
35 Profit/(Loss) account	276,730,778	298,103,133.3	
36 Other capital account	107,164,765	240,315,370	
37 TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	7,952,947,090	8,888,784,559	
38 Contingent liabilities	-	-	
39 Non Performing Loans & Advances	723,403,220	863,289,239	
40 Allowances for probable losses	831,397,072	1,001,343,399	
41 Other non performing assets	0.00	0.00	
D. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			
i Shareholders funds to total assets	51.49%	56.20%	
ii Non performing loans to total gross loans	5%	6%	
iii Gross loans and advances to total deposits	418%	498%	
iv Loans and advances to total assets	80%	82%	
v Earning Assets to Total Assets	84%	84%	
vi Deposits Growth	42%	18%	
vii Assets growth	-2%	54%	

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31TH MARCH 2019.			
Amount in Tzs.	Current Quarter 31-Mar-19 TZS	Comperative Quarter 31-Dec-18 TZS	Cumulative amount 31-Mar-19 TZS
1 Interest Income	1,274,548,605	1,289,161,932	1,274,548,605
2 Interest Expense	87,397,260	87,808,219	87,397,260
3 Net Interest Income (1 minus 2)	1,187,151,345	1,201,353,712	1,187,151,345
4 Bad debts written off	-	0	0
5 Impairment losses on Loans and Advances	169,946,327	15,577,003	169,946,327
6 Non Interest Income	165,079,650	207,035,546	165,079,650
6.1 Foreign Currency Dealings and Translation Gains/(Loss)	-	0	0
6.2 Commissions and fees	138,799,029	164,998,739	138,799,029
6.3 Dividend Income	0	0	0
6.4 Other Operating Income	26,280,620	42,036,807	26,280,620
7 Non Interest Expense	1,153,202,951	1,039,709,123	1,153,202,951
7.1 Salaries and Benefits	359,224,220	394,263,950	359,224,220
7.2 Fees and Commission	-	-	-
7.3 Other Operating expenses	793,978,731	645,445,173	793,978,731
8 Operating Profit/(Loss) before Income Tax	368,974,371	353,103,133	368,974,371
9 Income Tax Provision	92,243,593	55,000,000	92,243,593
10 Net Income/(Loss) after Income Tax	276,730,778	298,103,133	276,730,778
11 Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-
12 Total comprehensive income/(Loss) for the period	276,730,778	298,103,133	276,730,778
13 Number of Employees	125	125	125
14 Basic Earnings Per Share	30	29	30
15 Number of Branches	3	3	3
SELECTED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			
(i) Return on average total assets	51%	15%	51%
(ii) Return on average shareholders funds	20%	20%	20%
(iii) Non Interest Expense to Gross Income	85%	74%	85%
(iv) Net Interest Income to Average Earning/Assets	15%	15%	15%

In preparation of the quarterly financial statements, consistent accounting policies have been used a those applicable to the previous year audited financial statements (if there were changes during the quarter, the changes be explained as per IAS 34 & IAS 8) our knowledge and belief, have been prepared in conformance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act, 2006 and they present a true and fair view.

Signed by:

Altemius Millinga	Managing Director	.....	2nd May 2019
Samwel Gikaro	Finance Manager	.....	2nd May 2019
Angela Fanuel	Chief Internal Auditor	.....	2nd May 2019

We, the undersigned directors, attest to the faithful representation of the above statements. We declare that the statements have been examined by us and to the best of our knowledge and belief, have been prepared in conformance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act, 2006 and they present a true and fair view.

Signed by:

Ernest K. Ndlimbo	Board Chairman	.....	2nd May 2019
Happy sambega	Director	.....	2nd May 2019

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31TH MARCH 2019.					
Amount in Tzs.	Current Quarter 31-Dec-18 TZS	Previous Quarter 31-Mar-18 TZS			
I Cash Flow from Operating Activities :					
Net (loss)/Income	368,974,371	353,103,133			
Adjustments for non cash items :					
-Gain/loss on Sale of Assets	-	-			
-Depreciation of property and equipment	41,320,630	40,010,365			
-Amortization of Refurbishment	-	-			
-Amortization of Capital Grant	-	-			
-Amortization of Intangible assets	-	-			
- Change in Statutory minimum reserve (SMR)	410,295,001	393,113,498			
-Net change in loans and advances	(535,264,779)	(7,493,671)			
-Net change in other assets	(80,001,367)	(316,053,236)			
-Net change in deposits	470,448,415	105,209,544			
-Others- Special deposit	(103,141,170)	(254,955,606)			
-Net change in other liabilities	498,074,261	(93,511,071)			
Net cash flows/(used) from operating activities	660,410,361	(173,690,542)			
Operating Balance as at 01.01.2019	6,056,497	6,056,497			
II Cash Flow from Investing Activities	50,000,000	-			
Dividend Received	-	-			
Purchase of property, plant & equipment	(20,418,643)	(56,021,935)			
Proceeds from disposal of property and equipment	-	0.00			
Other- Fixed deposit	50,000,000	50,000,000			
Purchases of Non Dealing securities	-	0.00			
Proceeds from sale of Non-Dealing Securities	-	-			
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	29,581,357	(6,021,935)			
III Cash Flow from Financing Activities					
Repayment of Long term Debt	(300,000,000)	-			
Proceeds from issuance of long term debts	-	-			
Others (specify)	-	-			
Proceeds from issuance of paid up capital	0	0			
Payment of Cash Dividends	-	(2,357,093)			
Others (utilization)	-	-			
Net cash provided (used) by financing activities	(300,000,000)	(2,357,093)			
IV Cash and Cash equivalents					
Net increase (decrease) in cash & cash equivalents	346,491,718	(237,069,570)			
Cash & equivalents, beginning of year	894,603,739	1,133,673,309			
Cash & equivalents, end of quarter	1,241,095,458	894,603,739			

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY, Tzs. '000					
Tzs. '000	Tzs. '000	Tzs. '000	Tzs. '000	Tzs. '000	Tzs. '000
Share Capital	Share Application Money	General Reserve	Statutory Reserve	Capital Gains	Retained Earnings
6,056,497	-	124,847	66,617	1,522,511	7,507,637
Adjustment	-	-	-	-	-
Add: Addition (Deletion) during the period	-	-	-	(50,368)	(50,368)
Less: Transfer to retained income	-	-	-	(37,104)	(37,104)

Construction arbitration and infrastructure development - role of quantity surveyors

By Agele John Alufohai

Construction is very expensive business. BusinessNews, an online publication, estimated in its 2015 report that construction projects worth N700 billion would be delivered by 2018.

Some of these projects include the Nestoil Towers, Civic Towers and the British America Tobacco (BAT) building - mostly commercial office space on Lagos Island which have been indeed delivered.

In 2016, new office spaces built in Lagos equaled 20% of the then existing stock, according to the consulting firm, Estate Intel Limited. These figures clearly underscore the potential of the market, the sheer appetite for high-grade commercial property. I remain a Nigerian optimist. The recession of 2016 and the subsequent weak growth - below 2% since we came out of recession - are only a blip.

Much stronger growth is on the horizon as our politicians develop a better grasp of policies that unlock investment and the deliberative skills to negotiate consensus on and successfully initiate them. About 40% of the funds that go into high-grade commercial property come from abroad.

As we improve policies, including those concerning



mortgage banking and urban planning, we will see more foreign investment in closing our famed 17 million housing gap. There will be a similar boom in the construction of infrastructure for delivering gas and oil, including to power plants and industries, when Nigeria finally delivers new oil industry legislation popularly known as the Petroleum Industry Bills (PIBS) and resolves pricing issues surrounding gas and electricity. These are big-ticket

transactions. Where there is money, there is always risk. But any country that wants to attract a lot of money, i.e. investment, must take risk mitigation very seriously.

The practice of arbitration is a key tool in managing the perception of risk and stimulating investment in construction. But construction is also a complex and dynamic business, involving not only quite large sums but the engagement of diverse skills and industries, from law, to information technology,

logistics renewable energy, economics and various fields of engineering. A multiplicity of contracts and parties are also usually involved, often from different legal traditions.

So, to stimulate big-ticket investments in construction through the practice of arbitration, construction professionals, especially Quantity Surveyors, must invest in acquiring globally up-to-date arbitration knowledge and skills.

The Quantity Surveyors Academy has partnered

with the Institute of Chartered Arbitrators to enhance the knowledge of Quantity Surveyors and Cost Economists in the construction industry about arbitration. We will build on and deepen such partnerships to better position ourselves to leverage reforms that will see heightened interest in investing in construction in Nigeria.

Construction is fraught with all sorts of risks; from delayed delivery to cost overrun. For a country

like Nigeria with a huge infrastructure gap and limited means of financing, we have no choice but to procure infrastructure increasingly using Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs).

Anyone who wishes to protest this point must first reflect on the fact that we now spend at least 50K out of every N1 the country earns on servicing debt, while we have the highest number of people living in extreme poverty in the world. Where will the funds required for urgent investment in infrastructure come from? If big-ticket construction projects are fraught with risks because they have considerable possibility for dispute, PPPs multiply the risk.

Arbitration is thus a means of considerably de-risking investment in construction generally and in projects procured through PPPs particularly.

This is my own idea as I am convinced that we need to attract private investment into infrastructure. We should certainly note that Global Infrastructure Partners, one of the biggest private investors in infrastructure which has in a bold and unprecedented move poached the President of the World Bank, Jim Yong Kim, is headed by one Adebayo Ogunlesi, a slightly Nigerian sounding name! His outfit, GIP, currently has \$450 billion under management and has poached the World

Bank President to guide and enhance their capacity to do deals in emerging markets.

Let me end by saying Nigeria should work hard to ready ourselves for receiving as much as possible of the projected investment. The Quantity Surveyors Academy, working in conjunction with the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NIQS) and the Quantity Surveyors Registration Board of Nigeria (QSRBN), have started this hard work.

The Quantity Surveyors Academy will be conducting high quality training in many other areas such as oil and gas and heavy engineering, focusing on new trends in construction in these areas, including economics and technology as well as private and public sector financing. It is my fervent hope that our colleagues in the public sector will also try as much as possible to take advantage of these courses, as we need a public-private partnership in to run a knowledge-based economy.

It's obvious that the quality of public regulation and policies define the opportunities for investment and growth of the construction sector and the general economy.

Our ideas and technical know-how to do things more efficiently or stimulate investment would have far greater impact if we speak the same language with our public sector counterparts.

The Guardian Limited VACANCY

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- 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

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before 10th May, 2019.

How rampant deforestation made Mozambique more vulnerable to cyclone Idai

By Brecht De Vleeschouwer

Cyclone Idai's recent devastation was amplified by deforestation in the region. Mozambique took the hardest hit. The country has seen between 10 and 15 percent of its forests disappear amid illegal logging and charcoal production in the past 25 years.

More than 600 people were killed by Idai in Mozambique alone, many in landslides and floods. Another tropical storm, Kenneth, is due to bring strong winds and more heavy rain to the southern African nation in the coming days.

Before Idai, Rami Mariano farmed corn and sesame seeds to feed his family. Looking out at his ruined crops in the village of Metuchira, about 120 kilometres from the coastal town of Beira, he said he will now turn to charcoal production - made by cooking wood in a low oxygen environment - to earn a living.

"In a few weeks, I want to have my bags of charcoal ready for sale," said 27-year-old Mariano, who was waiting for his harvest when Idai struck last month.

Since 1980, Mozambique has lost some 370,000 square kilometres of its forests - an area larger than the size of Germany. Much of the loss has been attributed to slash-and-burn agricultural practices, but charcoal and timber production have also played a part.

Mozambique suffered the greatest damage when Idai struck the coastal city of Beira, swelling rivers and saturating the land. More than 340 people were killed in neighbouring Zimbabwe and 59 in Malawi. The two countries have also seen more than nine percent of their forests disappear since 2000, according to Global Forest Watch.



The effects of tropical storms such as Idai can be worsened by deforestation, explained Allan Schwarz, founder of the Mezimbite Forest Centre, a community-based programme that trains people in forest conservation, produces sustainable timber products, and participates in large-scale replanting programmes.

Without shade, he said, air pressure fluctuations between the land and the sea can increase wind speeds. "A healthy forest (also) slows down the speed of water until it reaches the ground," Schwarz said. "This makes it possible for about 80 percent of the water to get absorbed into the soil... If the forest is lost, water moves faster and is substantially less absorbed."

As authorities have attempted to limit and control charcoal production by requiring licenses, but production still continues illegally around Gorongosa National Park. The park, at the southern end of the Great African Rift Valley, used to support thriving wildlife, but its fragile ecosystems suffered during Mozambique's 1977-1992 civil war. Recently, it has also seen some of its trees being cut down for timber or charcoal.

Some 20 people - seven Chinese nationals and 13 Mozambicans - were arrested last year for illegal logging in an area near the park. China buys the majority of Mozambique's timber.

"Permissions are expensive, and it is easier to pay a bribe to an official than to get a charcoal licence," said a producer who asked to be identified only as "Augustinho M."

Idai damaged or destroyed many roads and supply routes, causing the price for charcoal to rise significantly - a motivating factor for farmers like Mariano.

Producers can make 300 meticals (\$4.60) for a large bag of charcoal. When the same-sized bag reaches the cyclone-damaged port of Beira, it can fetch 1,500 meticals (\$23).

"We know that chopping trees is bad for our fields, but at the moment it is the only way to have a possible income in the weeks to come," said Raymundo Bartolomeu, 50.

When Bartolomeu was 25 years old, there were still vast parts of the forest blanketing the Nhamatanda district where he lives. Loggers started by taking the larger and most valuable trees for export, and then small-scale farmers began chopping down other trees for charcoal production or crops.

In Nhamatanda, deforestation caused a 16 percent loss of tree cover between 2001 and 2017. Because it is close to the road leading to the port city of Beira, the area has seen large-scale industrial logging as well as charcoal production.

Schwarz said charcoal production itself doesn't have to be seen as the main problem. "Wood is a renewable natural resource," he said. "That's why I think we should create charcoal farms for national production to make the process more sustainable."

He said the msasa tree, known for its red and burly leaves, can grow large enough in 10 years for charcoal production. The process could be sustainable if managed well, he said.

Andrew Hobbs, from the University of California's Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics, said charcoal production can only be sustainable when communities have a way of managing their resources so they avoid chopping down trees faster than they can grow back.

"However, as the climate changes, resource management systems that were once sustainable may be no longer," he said. "This can be exacerbated if migration from climate change leads to more concentrated populations in certain areas."

Additionally, Hobbs said regulations on charcoal production have been difficult to enforce.

Farmers say they are conscious that deforestation worsens the effects of climate change but insist they have no other choice now to make a living.

"Normally I would produce about five to 10 bags every two months," said Dio Sumeira, 70. "But I have nothing to harvest now so I probably will double my production."

Farmers say they are conscious that deforestation worsens the effects of climate change but insist they have no other choice now to make a living.

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BUSINESS

MITIGATION

Eni to focus on saving African forests to offset CO2 emissions

ROME

Eni's plan to offset emissions from its oil and gas operations will focus on working with African communities to prevent deforestation.

The project is part of the Italian energy giant's goal of removing the equivalent of 20 million tons a year of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere by 2030. On top of efforts to improve operational efficiency and minimize waste, the forest initiative would result in net zero emissions from its upstream fossil fuels business, Eni says.

The company has clarified its plans after the initial announcement in March appeared to involve planting 20 million acres of new forests, an area roughly the size of the US state of South Carolina. While Eni's initiative will involve planting some new trees, the main focus is on preserving mature forests "which play a crucial role to absorb CO2 from the atmosphere," the company said.

"We pursue an approach which aims at the sustainable management of forests, their conservation, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, also leveraging local population as crucial players," an Eni spokesperson said.

Industry plans

The Italian company will spend about 1 billion euros (\$1.1 billion) on "circular economy" initiatives to reduce emissions over the next four years. Other oil majors have also turned to the forests to offset their climate change footprint.

Eni's European rival Royal Dutch Shell plans to plant and conserve trees to offset emissions through a \$300 million investment over three years. The company will provide carbon credits to its diesel and gasoline customers in the Netherlands. Total expects to invest about \$100 million in forests starting in 2020.

The oil and gas explorer said it will develop forestry projects through REDD+, a program to reduce emissions stemming from deforestation or forest degradation. The company has formed partnerships with Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Mexico and Brazil. Talks are underway to develop new initiatives in Congo, Indonesia, Mozambique and Ghana, it said.

The strategy includes growth in Eni's portfolio of low- or zero-carbon energy sources, with an increasing share of gas, biofuels, solar, wind, and "a circular approach to maximize the use of waste as a feedstock and to transform and extend the life of industrial sites," the company said.



Deputy Minister for Communication, Transport and Works, Atashasta Ndiye (L) listening to Airtel Tanzania Marketing Manager, Baraka Ndelele when he visited the company's pavilion during an exhibition to mark ten years of Universal Communication Access Fund held in Dodoma last week. Photo: courtesy of Airtel.

INVESTMENT

Sunshine Group building 46bn/- explosives factory in Bagamoyo

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

Construction work of a US\$20 million (over 46.01bn/-) factory to manufacture explosives for civilian use in Bagamoyo, Coastal region is going on and will have capacity of 20,000 metric tons per annum.

The investment is being made by Poly Sunshine Chemical and Mining Services Limited which is a subsidiary of Sunshine Group of companies, will employ over 200 people directly.

Sunshine Group's Chairman, Tony Sun said the factory will be completed

in 12 months time and will begin manufacturing explosives for civilian use immediately. "The factory will be equipped with the most advanced machinery with software system for automatic control of the production process," Sun said in Dar es Salaam during the weekend.

Sun the factory is expected to generate nearly US\$30 million in sales annually while paying about US 5 million in taxes to Treasury. "This factory will also help save foreign currency which we use to import such explosives," he noted while suggesting that the investment will help the country narrow its balance of trade

deficit with other countries.

"Poly Sunshine is mainly engaged in manufacture and transporting of dynamites for mine blasting and other related products," the Sunshine Group Chairman noted while pointing out that the company will be the first in Tanzania to manufacture explosives for civilian use.

He said while fully meeting the market demand for civilian explosives in the local market, the factory will also export excess to neighbouring countries of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Kenya, Malawi and Zambia.

"In addition to drilling and blasting, we are also capable of providing customers with integrated services of shovelling, loading and transportation of explosives. The factory will also be equipped with on-site mixed-loading trucks, which can provide large-scale mine users with various types of on-site production, distribution, charging of mixed explosive and other services," Sun added.

Sunshine Group has subsidiaries in edible oil manufacturing, transportation, agribusiness, trading and clearing and forwarding with its headquarters in Dar es Salaam.

LITIGATION

Dutch court to hear case against Shell from Nigeria activist widows

THE HAGUE

A Dutch court said on Wednesday it has jurisdiction to hear a damages suit brought against Royal Dutch Shell by four widows of activists executed by the Nigerian government in 1995.

In a preliminary decision, judges at the Hague District Court said they would allow the suit to go forward, a rare win in a decades-long legal fight, though the claimants must still prove their case. Shell denies wrongdoing or responsibility.

"The court considers itself capable" of hearing the case, said presiding

judge Larissa Alwin, reading the decision of a three-judge panel. "This procedure will continue."

Dutch courts do not award large punitive damages claims, though the case has the potential to embarrass Shell and provide a measure of comfort for the activists' families if it finds the company bears responsibility in their deaths.

The men executed were a group that became known as the "Ogoni Nine" - activists who included writer Ken Saro-Wiwa. They had protested against Shell's exploitation of the Niger Delta until they were arrested

and hanged after a trial widely seen as flawed. Relatives have sought to hold the Anglo-Dutch energy company partially responsible in foreign courts, after exhausting legal possibilities in Nigeria.

Shell, headquartered in the Hague, paid \$15.5 million to victims' families in the United States in a 2009 settlement in which it also denied any responsibility or wrongdoing. The US Supreme Court rejected US jurisdiction in 2013.

"I am glad that the (Dutch) court has found it has jurisdiction," said lead plaintiff Esther Kiobel, whose

husband Barinem Kiobel was among the executed activists. "My husband was killed like a criminal. I want him to be exonerated."

Judge Alwin cautioned that the three-judge panel did not agree with assertions by the widows that Shell should have done more to prevent their husbands' executions. But she ordered the company to turn over documents that could help the claimants' case, including any evidence that Shell might have made payments to people who gave false information to Nigerian law-enforcement officials.



Chairperson of Dar es Salaam Women Economic Empowerment Forum, Mariam Mungula, speaking at an event dubbed 'A woman and the industrial economy' organized by Coca-Cola Kwanzaa bottling company's women in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Photographer.



An emblem of Royal Dutch Shell at its main offices in Lagos, Nigeria.

TRIBUTE

Dr Reginald Mengi built more than just a media empire

By Allan Brian Ssenyonga, Kigali.

Closer home, the passing of Dr Reginald Mengi came as a huge blow to East Africa as a region. The Tanzanian tycoon passed away in Dubai where he had gone to seek medical treatment.

Many outside Tanzania may not have known who Mengi was besides the usual businessman and philanthropist accolade and yet Mengi owned one of the largest media conglomerates in Africa, IPP Media which runs a total of 11 newspapers, radio and television stations as well as internet properties.

He also owns Bonite Bottlers, the sole bottler of Coca-Cola products in Moshi, Tanzania as well as Kilimanjaro brand of bottled water. He built his empire starting with a pen assembly factory and when the money was indeed a lot, he was kind with it, sending so many children with heart ailments to India for treatment among other things. Building a media empire in East Africa is no mean feat and Mengi deserves all the accolades in this regard.

I have mentioned before in these pages that the business community, sometimes without knowing, shapes the concept of the East African



The late Dr Reginald Mengi and his wife, Jacqueline Ntuyabaliwe Mengi.

Community. For example, Dr Mengi's East Africa TV and Radio that used to broadcast beyond Tanzania did a lot in popularising Tanzanian music but also East African music in general.

It was through the videos on East Africa TV that many got introduced to what was then referred to as Bongo Flava with the likes of Professor Jay, Mr Blue, Saidakaroli, Ferooz, Juma

Nature, Mwana FA, AY and many other artists.

The Tanzanians also got to know about music outside their borders especially when the artistes put together enough Swahili

lines to keep the attention of the good folks from the land of Nyerere.

Today, the music industry in the region has grown by leaps and bounds but still the Tanzanians remain ahead of

the pack. With some of their musicians like Diamond Platnumz even owning media houses of their own.

It was during the peak era of EATV and EA Radio that DJs started appreciating East

African music and would play it as a whole session in clubs around the region.

I know a veteran journalist who argues that you can tell a country's development by looking at the news stand

the moment you land at the airport. I had this thought when I travelled to Tanzania my first time.

I was shocked to see they had broadsheet newspapers and newspaper stands with so many titles. There were so many Kiswahili papers but also some in English. During my stay, I enjoyed reading The Guardian newspaper from Dr Mengi's IPP stable and even got inspired to do some stories for this paper.

Last year, Dr Mengi launched his autobiography titled, "I can, I must, I will: The Spirit of Success." The book that essentially talks about his life's journey and is filled with lots of words of wisdom for those finding their feet in the business world today.

In a region where the reading culture remains poor and many having to rely on oral narratives, it is really commendable when one sits down and documents things for posterity. It is always good to walk into a bookstore and find so many books by African authors.

For a man whose empire included a pen factory and several newspapers, a book at the evening of his life was quite a fitting way to sign out. It is fair to say that the old man lived a full life and left a legacy worth emulating. May he rest in eternal peace.

INVESTMENT

City of Kigali wants budget increase for roads, junctions

KIGALI

The City of Kigali wants an increase in its 2019/2020 budget to allocate funds for expanding some junctions and roads so as to ease traffic flow as part of preparations for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) to be held in 2020 in Kigali.

Marie-Chantal Rwakazina, the Mayor of Kigali, revealed the plans during the 2019/20 budget hearings in parliament on Friday. The current draft budget for City of Kigali for 2019/2020 is Rwf23 billion. She said the 2018/19 budget had been executed at 63 percent so far due to different challenges which include delays in expropriations.

"We are still facing budget gaps in terms of expanding about five road junctions and about 41 km of roads that will mainly help us to cope with traffic jam during the Commonwealth meeting. We have started talks with different partners including the committee preparing the CHOGM meeting so that we get a budget to finance the expansion," she said.

Some of the junctions include Gishushu junction, Kisimenti junction, Giporoso junction, Kimironko-Kibagabaga junction.

"The budget is yet to be obtained but the junctions



Marie-Chantal Rwakazina, the Mayor of Kigali.

expansion is part of a package of preparing for the Commonwealth meeting. We will finalize the needed budget after discussions with all stakeholders."

The officials explained that the junctions will be expanded and have additional features in a way that it will allow some cars to continue driving without waiting and passing through traffic lights.

They include road from Amahoro Stadium, Migina neighborhood, Five to Five hotel, Airtel towards new Gasabo district office and RDB.

The other is from Controle Technique, Nyabisindu to Nyarutarama-MTN center. Others that have been on progress of rehabilitation include Ruliba-Karama-Nyamirambo, Nyacyonga-Batsinda-Kagugu, and Nyacyonga-Gasanze-Birembo-Kami-Zindiro, Nyamirambo-Rebero-Nyanza and Rwandex-Kigali Convention Centre.

"We have two bridges to be expanded on Nyabugogo catchment. We are also looking at how next year we can have dedicated bus lanes where we will show public buses which routes to use in the morning busy hours and evening hours," she said.

She said that a feasibility study on Bus Rapid Transit system will be completed before this year but it also requires detailed studies before implementation. "We are looking at buses that look like trains as well as cable cars whose memorandum of understanding to launch trials will be signed at the end of this year," she said.

EXPANSION

Surya Capital targets schools, fintech in east African drive

PORT LOUIS

Surya Capital is taking notes from South Africa's PSG Group by targeting education and financial services as a blueprint for long-term growth.

The Mauritius-based firm plans to invest as much as \$100 million in some of the continent's fastest-growing economies as it seeks to control companies that feed rising domestic demand and take advantage of the export potential of these nations, founder and Chief Executive Officer Riaz Currimjee said.

The investments will focus on payments using financial technology, healthcare and the private-education sector, he said. "We're looking at investing in companies that are headquartered in East Africa," he said. "That doesn't mean these companies, as they grow, won't set up operations in other parts of the continent."

Surya wants to build an East and southern African private-school chain that, once done, can be extended to other parts of the continent, such as Nigeria, Currimjee said.

Winning recipe

The firm is taking an approach inspired by Stellenbosch, South Africa-based PSG – whose founder Jannie Mouton created the nation's best-performing stock since its listing in the 1990s – and tweaking it to suit different markets. PSG built up interests spanning agriculture and education to stockbroking and banking by making long-term investments alongside management in businesses that had simple operating models.

Shares in PSG's educational investment Curro have increased more than sixfold since 2006, while Capitec Bank started as an unsecured lender in 2001 and now has a market-leading 11.4 million retail-banking customers. Surya describes itself as a principal investment firm that focuses on bringing "patient and flexible capital to businesses."



Surya founder and CEO, Riaz Currimjee.

Egypt non-oil private sector strongest since 2015

CAIRO

Egypt's non-oil private sector economy expanded at the fastest rate since August 2015 in April, driven by a rise in new orders, employment and purchasing levels, according to the latest economy tracker by Dubai lender Emirates NBD.

The seasonally adjusted Emirates NBD Egypt Purchasing Managers' Index – a composite indicator designed to give an overall overview of operating conditions in the non-oil private sector economy – rose to 50.8 in April from 49.9 in March, signalling the first improvement in

overall business conditions since August 2018.

The reading was also the highest observed in more than three and a half years, as business output grew for the first time in 17 months on the back of stronger demand and greater market movement, the tracker showed.

"This was the first time since August last year that the index has breached the neutral 50 level, which delineates contraction and expansion; the private sector has struggled to expand as it has borne the brunt of the ongoing economic reform efforts in Egypt, which began

in late 2016," said Daniel Richards, Mena Economist at Emirates NBD.

Egypt, North Africa's largest economy, sustained major setbacks due to political turmoil in recent years. However, the country has turned a page with President Abdel Fattah El Sisi ushering in political stability and an economic reform programme backed by a \$12 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund since late 2016. In the past two years, Egypt introduced at least 10 pieces of legislation intended to expand the private sector and boost economic growth.

Last month, output growth

was positive for the first time in 18 months as companies noted stronger demand, Mr Richards said on Sunday. Egyptian companies responded to favourable domestic demand by lifting input buying, and employment levels grew for the first time in eight months.

However, the rise in new orders was largely driven by domestic demand, as foreign sales continued to decline in April albeit at a softer rate, the tracker showed. New export orders remained in negative territory, and companies appeared to be shoring up domestic demand by price discounting – output prices

dipped below 50, the third time this year that they have declined.

"With input prices increasing at a faster rate than seen in March, firms' margins will be squeezed by ongoing price discounting," Mr Richards said.

Still, Egyptian companies were more positive in April than in previous months, due to the improving picture for the private sector, and output expectations were the second strongest in 12 months. Many companies cited growing tourism and export markets as the key reasons underpinning optimism, according to the tracker.

WORLD

Netanyahu: Israel will continue 'massive attacks' in Gaza

GAZA/JERUSALEM

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said yesterday he ordered the military to continue "massive strikes" against militants in Gaza as a surge in cross-border hostilities ran into a third day.

A rocket fired from Gaza killed an Israeli civilian yesterday and two Palestinian gunmen were killed in an Israeli strike, with no sign of any impending ceasefire in the most serious border flare-up since November.

Israel's military said more than 450 rockets, many of them intercepted by its Iron Dome anti-missile system, have been fired at southern Israeli cities and villages since Friday, and it attacked some 220 targets belonging to Gaza militant groups.

Police said one of the rockets hit a house in the city of Ashkelon, killing a 58-year-old man. That marked the first Israeli civilian fatality in a rocket strike from Gaza since a 2014 war between Israel and militants in the Hamas-run enclave.

"This morning I instructed the IDF (Israel Defence Forces) to continue with massive strikes against terrorists in the Gaza Strip and I also instructed that forces around the Gaza Strip be stepped up with tank, artillery and infantry forces," Netanyahu, who doubles as Israel's defense minister, said in a statement.

The escalation, comes just ahead of both the Muslim holy month of Ramadan and Israel's Independence Day holiday, prompted Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to convene security chiefs.

Egyptian mediators, credited with brokering ceasefires in previous rounds of violence, were working to prevent further hostilities.

The latest round of violence began on Friday when a Palestinian Islamic Jihad sniper fired at Israeli troops, wounding two soldiers, according to the Israeli military.

Israel retaliated with an air strike that killed two militants from the armed Islamist group Hamas, which controls Gaza. Two other Palestinians protesting near the frontier were killed by Israeli forces on the same day, Palestinian officials said.

Hamas and Islamic Jihad began firing waves of rockets into Israel early on Saturday. The Israeli military said its tanks and aircraft responded with strikes against more than 120 militant targets belonging to both groups.

Explosions shook Gaza City, where busy streets were packed with shoppers preparing for Ramadan.

The Gaza Health Ministry said a 14-month-old baby, her pregnant mother and another man were killed by Israeli strikes and at least 20 other Palestinians were wounded. Residents identified two of them as militants.

"The Israeli plane fired a missile near the house and the shrapnel entered the house and hit the poor baby," said her aunt, Ibtessam Abu Arar.

The Israeli military Arabic spokesman, Avichay Adraee, questioned whether the baby was killed in an air strike.

"According to indications, the infant and her mother were killed as a result of Palestinian terrorist activities and not as a result of an Israeli raid," he said



on Twitter, without providing further details.

Two multi-story buildings in Gaza City were destroyed by Israeli raids. One, the Israeli military said, housed Hamas's intelligence and security offices. The other housed Islamic Jihad facilities, Palestinian sources said.

Witnesses said the Israeli military had warned people inside to evacuate the buildings before they were bombed. One of them also housed the office of the Turkish state-run Anadolu news agency. Ankara condemned the strike.

A small armed pro-Hamas group in Gaza, the Protectors of Al-Aqsa, said one of its men was killed in another air strike.

The Magen David Adom ambulance service said two Israelis were wounded by shrapnel.

TRUCE EFFORTS

Israeli military spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Conricus said Israel was prepared to intensify its attacks. He added that Islamic Jihad was trying to destabilize the border and blamed Hamas for failing to rein it in.

Islamic Jihad said in a statement that the rocket barrages were a response to Friday's events and that Israel has been delaying the implementation of previous understandings brokered by Cairo.

In a joint statement, Hamas and Islamic Jihad said: "Our response will be broader and more painful if the enemy pursues its aggression."

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas condemned the Israeli actions in Gaza.

Hamas said on Thursday that its Gaza chief, Yeyha Sinwar, had travelled to Cairo for talks on efforts to maintain calm along the border and alleviate hardship in the enclave.

"Egypt has stepped up its efforts with Hamas, the Islamic Jihad and Israel, but there is no conclu-

sion yet," said a Palestinian official familiar with Cairo's mediation efforts.

The United Nations has also been part of the Cairo talks.

"The United Nations is working with Egypt and all sides to calm the situation," said UN Middle East envoy Nickolay Mladenov. "This endless cycle of violence must end and efforts must accelerate to realize a political solution to the crisis in Gaza."

"The United States strongly condemns the ongoing barrage of rocket attacks by Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad," a US State Department spokesperson said on Saturday.

Although aerial exchanges are frequent, Israel and Hamas have managed to avert all-out war for the past five years.

Israel is due to host the 2019 Eurovision song contest finals in less than two weeks in Tel Aviv, towards which long-range rockets were launched in mid-March.

Some 2 million Palestinians live in Gaza, whose economy has suffered years of blockades as well as recent foreign aid cuts. Unemployment stands at 52 percent, according to the World Bank, and poverty is rampant.

Israel says its blockade is necessary to stop weapons reaching Hamas, with which it has fought three wars since the group seized control of Gaza in 2007.

Over the past few weeks, Cairo's mediation had helped persuade Israel to lift some restrictions on the movement of goods and people in and out of Gaza and expand the Mediterranean zone where Gazans can fish.

But Israel scaled back the fishing zone this week in response to rocket fire and shut the border crossings entirely on Saturday after barrages from Gaza.

Agencies

Mass evacuations save lives as cyclone Fani hits Bangladesh

DHAKA/BHUBANESWAR, India

THE strongest cyclone to hit India in five years killed at least 12 people in eastern Odisha state, before swinging north-eastwards into Bangladesh on Saturday where four more people died although more than a million had been moved to safety.

After it made landfall early on Friday, tropical cyclone Fani had lost some of its power and was downgraded to a 'Deep Depression' by the Indian Meteorological Department as the storm moved inland over Bangladesh.

"The fear of a major disaster is mostly over as it has weakened," Shamsuddin Ahmed, director of the Bangladesh Meteorological Department, told reporters.

A storm surge still breached embankments to submerge dozens of villages on Bangladesh's low-lying coast, a disaster ministry official in Dhaka said.

About 1.2 million people living in the most vulnerable districts in Bangladesh had been moved to some 4,000 shelters.

The official said storm had dam-

aged more than 500 houses. It destroyed several houses in the Noakhali district, where a two-year-old child and a 12-year-old girl were killed, and about 30 people were injured, local official Tanmoy Das told Reuters.

Bangladesh's junior disaster minister Enamur Rahman told reporters that at least four people had been killed and 63 injured.

In India, authorities were assessing damage left behind by Fani, which had spent days building power over the northern reaches of the Bay of Bengal before tearing into Odisha.

Indian media reported that at least 12 people had died across the state, with most deaths caused by falling trees, but a mass evacuation of 1.2 million people in the 24 hours before the tropical cyclone made landfall averted a greater loss of life.

The seaside temple town of Puri, which lay directly in the path of Fani, suffered extensive damage, as winds gusting up to 200 kph tore off tin roofs, snapped power lines, and uprooted trees on Friday.

"Destruction is unimaginable... Puri is devastated," Odisha's Special



Damaged structures and uprooted trees lie along a road in Puri district after Cyclone Fani hit the coastal eastern state of Odisha, India on Friday. (AP)

Relief Commissioner Bishnupada Sethi told Reuters, adding that 116 people were reported injured across the state.

Video footage taken from an Indian navy aircraft showed extensive inundation in areas around Puri, with wide swathes of land submerged in the aftermath of the

storm.

At least six people died in Bhubaneswar, Odisha's state capital, where fallen trees blocked roads and electricity supply was still to be fully restored.

Ashok Patnaik, director of Capital Hospital, one of the largest state-run hospitals in Bhubane-

swar, said four people were received dead on Friday and two on Saturday. "All are cyclone related," he said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is in the midst of a general election, said in a tweet that he would visit Odisha on Monday.

Bhubaneswar airport suffered considerable damage, but would re-open on Saturday afternoon, India's aviation ministry said.

Shelters were set up in schools and other safe buildings to accommodate the evacuees, who included scores of tourists.

Neighbouring West Bengal state escaped substantial damage, but authorities moved nearly 45,000 people to safer locations.

The cyclone season in the Bay of Bengal can last from April to December. In 1999, a super-cyclone battered the coast of Odisha for 30 hours, killing 10,000 people.

But since then, technology advances have helped weather forecasters track the cyclones more accurately, giving authorities more time to prepare, and a mass evacuation of nearly a million people saved thousands of lives in 2013.

Agencies

Crowds gather for coronation procession of Thai king

BANGKOK

THAILAND overflows with the yellow color over the weekend thanks to hundreds of thousands of Thais lining along the streets under the scorching sun in Bangkok and cheering for the newly crowned King Maha Vajiralongkorn. The color is associated with the monarch and putting on yellow clothing shows people's support for the king.

The monarch, now known as King Rama X of Thailand as the 10th king of the Chakri Dynasty founded in late 18th century, rode in the royal palanquin in the royal procession around the city on Sunday fully dressed in golden royal fittings.

The procession started at 4:30 pm local time, but many people had arrived in the early hours of the morning and even the night before, hoping to reserve a good spot to see the king close-up.

"The majority of people in Thailand have never seen any coronation before," said Korn Dabbaransi, president of the Thai-Chinese Friendship Association. "So everyone looks forward to witness the coronation for the first time in their life." Maimoonorh Hiermayer, in a yellow dress, travelled with her sister from Nonthaburi province in central Thailand on Sunday and squeezed into a line outside the checkpoint near the Grand Palace by the afternoon. She had come from Vienna, where she lives.

"I feel very excited to see King Rama X," she said. And to her, "there will be no other country like Thailand where everyone in this country loves the king from the bottom of our hearts." King Vajiralongkorn, born on July 28, 1952, is the only son of the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit. After his father died in October 2016 after a reign of about 70 years, he ascended the throne on Dec 1 during the same year and observed two years of mourning before the weekend's coronation.

The coronation ceremonies from May 4 to 6 are the first time the country has organized since King Bhumibol was crowned on April 21, 1950. King Vajiralongkorn also granted Queen Suthida her full royal title, though their marriage was announced only recently.

Dabbaransi, also former deputy prime minister of Thailand, said: "The royal coronation for Rama X is another ceremony that all 70 million souls of the Thai people have been waiting for."

Many locals spent Saturday, the first day of official ceremonies and religious rituals crowning the King, watching live broadcasts, the first ever in Thai history. The king sat on a golden throne under a nine-tiered umbrella to receive royal regalia including a gold-enameled, diamond-tipped, high-reaching crown weighing 7.3 kg.

In a message of congratulation on Saturday, President Xi Jinping said the king is an old friend of the Chinese people and has been attending to and supporting the cause of friendship between the two countries for long.

Staffs at the Chinese Embassy in Bangkok, all in yellow shirts, joined the celebrations and expressed their best wishes for heart-to-heart bilateral exchanges between the peoples.

Thitinan Pongsudhirak, director of the Institute of Security and International Studies at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, said the role of the crown "will be key in restoring and ushering in some kind of a new normal, a new kind of political stability and balance". He added that the official enthronement will solidify kingship and enhance Rama X's aura as the new king.

"The late king was immensely popular because he worked hard and dedicated himself to Thai people," said Pongsudhirak. But his twilight was dotted with recurrent political conflict and polarization.

"The new king inherits this protracted conflict and polarization," he said, "and has an opportunity to build popularity." "Rama X will lead this kingdom into a time of prosperity and peace for the people of this land," said Dabbaransi from Thai-Chinese Friendship Association, adding that the relations between China and Thailand will continue to be as close as a family since the friendship is time-tested.

The ceremonies also caught the eye of foreign tourists. When planning for her nine-day trip in Thailand, Wang Yujie, 28, a project manager in a new energy company in Beijing, read online about the king coronation and decided to stay in Bangkok during the weekend to witness the special moment. "It's going to be a special experience to see the grand ceremonies," said Wang.

Agencies



King Maha Vajiralongkorn

UN hails consensus of South Sudan's parties on delay of unity govt formation

JUBA

THE UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) hailed yesterday the consensus reached between the country's warring parties to extend the period by six months to form a power-sharing government.

David Shearer, head of UNMISS, said the unanimous decision to extend the pre-transitional period of a peace agreement leading to the formation of a new, unified government is a sign of goodwill between the parties to end the

suffering of their people.

"This united decision of the parties is important to reassure the people of South Sudan that the peace agreement is still alive," Shearer said in a statement issued in Juba.

"It is a step towards ending the suffering caused by the conflict and gives millions of displaced families the confidence to return home and rebuild their lives," he added.

The South Sudanese government and the oppositions signed a peace agreement in September

last year, aiming to stipulate a transitional government before a deadline on May 12.

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development, a regional bloc which is mediating the peace deal between the two parties, said Friday that the two sides agreed to extend the pre-transitional period by six months effective from May 12 to enable the execution of the critical pending tasks.

The decision came after a two-day meeting in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa in which they reviewed the status of the pre-trans-

sitional tasks.

Shearer said the responsibility lies with the parties to live up to their commitments, noting that key political leaders should meet regularly to ensure the agreement stays on track.

He, however, regretted that a number of fundamental issues remain unresolved, including the formation of a unified security force and the issue of boundaries and states.

"However, this six-month extension gives the parties more time to achieve the benchmarks agreed

upon and make peace a reality," he added.

Shearer acknowledged the progress made since September, including an overall reduction in political violence which has potentially saved thousands of lives.

"The resulting ceasefire has also enabled government and opposition forces to build trust and confidence through the holding of over 100 peace meetings and rapprochements across the country, many of which were facilitated by UNMISS," he said.

"UNMISS will be there as they

work to secure lasting peace for the sake of their people," Shearer said.

South Sudan descended into conflict in December 2013, killing tens of thousands and displacing about 4 million others.

An earlier peace agreement, signed in 2015, collapsed after clashes erupted in July 2016 in Juba, forcing opposition leader Riek Machar to flee the capital.

Under the 2018 peace deal, Machar will be reinstated as President Salva Kiir's deputy.

Xinhua

World benefits from western China's development

CHONGQING

KEBEDE Abera, consul of Ethiopia in China's Chongqing Municipality, believes western China will be the next main consumer of Ethiopian coffee.

"With a population of nearly 400 million people, western China is a big pie for Ethiopia, the world's leading coffee producer," he said.

The consumption of Ethiopian coffee has been maintaining a double-digit growth annually in western China. It first arrives in Chongqing before heading out into China's other western regions.

Located in China's inland southwest, Chongqing is connected to the eastern seaboard thanks to the Yangtze, China's longest river, making it a transit hub for trading commodities in and outside China.

But the long shipping distance on the Yangtze waterway was always a headache for businesses. More than 2,000 km from Chongqing to the east coast meant two or even three months of transportation.

But all have changed.

EASIER LOGISTICS

Easier logistics through the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and China's regional development and opening up, is improving transportation due to the rising number of China-Europe freight trains since 2011.

The trains helped slash travel from Chongqing to Europe to about 12 days, about one-third of ocean shipping time. A total of 1,442 freight trains traveled between Chongqing and Europe last year, compared with 100 in 2014.

Southeast Asian countries also enjoy the dividends of the China-Europe freight trains, especially after Chongqing launched the China-Singapore rail-sea transit route in 2017.

The New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor is a trade and logistics passage under the framework of the China-Singapore (Chongqing) Demonstration Initiative on Strategic Connectivity.

With Chongqing as the transportation hub, the new corridor uses ports in Guangxi's Beibu Gulf to reach ports in Singapore and other ASEAN countries and links China-Europe freight trains launched from other western Chinese cities before heading for Central Asia, South Asia and Europe.

By the end of last year, freight trains had made 805 trips via the corridor, which links 155 ports in 71 countries and regions.

Seven other Chinese provinces and autonomous regions -- Guangxi, Yunnan, Qinghai, Xinjiang, Gansu, Guizhou and Ningxia -- have joined trade cooperation via the corridor.

NEW FORTUNE

China put forward the West Development strategy in 1999 to help the underdeveloped western region catch up with the more prosperous eastern areas. Since then, China's west has maintained steady and rapid economic development.

Data from the National Bureau of Statistics show that the GDP of China's western region increased from 1.73 trillion yuan (257 billion U.S. dollars) in 2000 to 17.1 trillion yuan in 2017, annual



The land-sea freight train of the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor heading for Indonesia waits to depart in southwest China's Chongqing, April 26, 2019. (Xinhua)

growth of 11.6 percent.

Between 2012 and 2017, the western region had sustained an average annual GDP growth of 8.9 percent, 1.8 percent higher than the national rate, suggesting an ever-shrinking development gap between the country's east and west.

The fast development has attracted an increasing number of global businesses.

Xi'an, capital of northwest China's

Shaanxi Province, has attracted more than 210 of the world's top 500 companies and those in Chongqing and Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province, have all exceeded 280.

"With vast land, large population and fast growing economy, western China has provided considerable opportunities for transnational corporations," said Shane Tedjarati, president of Honeywell Global High Growth Regions,

which aims to be a leading software industrial company.

So far, Honeywell has established several branches and manufacturing plants in western Chinese cities including Chengdu, Chongqing and Xi'an. Among the company's Asia Pacific markets, business in western China enjoys better growth.

"I think now it's the right time to go westward to tap mid-segment market," Shane Tedjarati said. **Xinhua**

Trump's plan to blacklist Egypt-based Muslim Brotherhood triggers regional debate

CAIRO

THE recently announced intention of U.S. President Donald Trump to designate the Muslim Brotherhood group as a terrorist organization has raised debate among key players in the Middle East region.

About three weeks after the visit of Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi to Washington and his talks with Trump, the White House said last week that the U.S. president is working to label the group as a terrorist organization.

In response, the 90-year-old Islamist group said in a statement on its website that it will stick to its "moderate and peaceful" approach despite Trump's plan.

The U.S. plan is surely welcomed by Egypt and its allies in the Gulf region including Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) which largely supported the Egyptian army's ouster of former Muslim Brotherhood-oriented President Mohamed Morsi in July 2013.

The Egyptian authorities blacklisted the group a few months after the army removed Morsi in response to mass protests against his one-year controversial rule, launching a massive security crackdown on the group's loyalists.

Since then, Egypt has been facing a wave of terrorist activities that killed hundreds of policemen, soldiers and civilians, while the Egyptian forces killed hundreds of terrorists and arrested thousands of suspects in the country's anti-terror war declared by al-Sisi.



Meanwhile, Cairo's ties with Washington improved under Trump after a rift during the time of former U.S. President Barack Obama whose administration rejected Morsi's popularly-backed military removal.

"The anticipated move is a big change in the U.S. policy toward groups that the former U.S. government dealt with as political entities," said Samir Ragheb, head of the Cairo-based Arab Foundation for Development and Strategic Studies (AFDSS).

The Egyptian expert referred to a state of "closer understanding" between the United States and Arab allies like Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Bahrain, which led to a change in the U.S. position in their favor.

Most terror activities in Egypt over the past few years have been claimed by a Sinai-based group loyal to the Islamic State regional militant group.

The Egyptian leadership considers the Muslim Brotherhood the source of all evil and terror while the group denies it.

"If the U.S. decision is implemented, it will be considered a big victory for the Egyptian diplomacy," the AFDSS chief told Xinhua.

It took Egypt a lot of diplomatic efforts to dissuade the U.S. Democrats who used to see the Muslim Brotherhood as part of the solution in fighting terrorism, Ragheb added.

Meanwhile, regional players Iran and Turkey rejected the U.S. plan to classify the Muslim

Brotherhood as a terrorist organization, arguing that Trump's move would undermine the region's stability and promote extremism.

Ties between Egypt and Iran have been cut off for decades, since Egypt signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

Egypt is also at odds with Turkey and Qatar for hosting and sheltering fleeing Muslim Brotherhood members, accusing them of supporting terrorism and interfering in the Egyptian domestic affairs.

The charges have been dismissed by both countries.

The rift with Qatar led Egypt to join a Saudi-led blockade against Qatar in June 2017, cutting its diplomatic ties and economic cooperation with the oil-rich country to pressure it to give up its support for the Muslim Brotherhood.

"Implementation of the U.S. decision is likely to face some difficulties, including Turkey's rejection whose ruling party is affiliated with the Muslim Brotherhood," Ragheb said.

The expert pointed out that the required approval of decision by the U.S. Congress is among the challenges facing Trump's approach targeting Muslim Brotherhood.

Notably, Shiite Iran and Sunni Saudi Arabia are long-time regional rivals, as Riyadh sees Tehran's regional expansion ambitions as a threat to its sovereignty.

This also explains their conflicting positions on the controversial group which was founded in Egypt in 1928.

Xinhua

Russian, Venezuelan diplomats to discuss efforts towards political dialogue in Venezuela

MOSCOW

INTERNATIONAL mediatory efforts to promote dialogue between the Venezuelan government and opposition will be in focus of talks between the Russian and Venezuelan top diplomats on Sunday, the Russian foreign ministry said on Saturday.

"The sides will exchange views on the situation in and around Venezuela following the attempted coup in that country, as well as on the prospects for political and diplomatic settlement of differences within the Venezuelan constitution and options for international mediatory efforts towards promoting dialogue between the government and the opposition," the ministry said.

The two ministers, Sergey

Lavrov of Russia and Jorge Arreaza of Venezuela, will also discuss "steps to be done to expand the Russian-Venezuelan comprehensive partnership on the global arena, to invigorate efforts of the informal groups of nations to protect the goals and principles committed to paper in the United Nations Charter and counteract the illegally imposed unilateral sanctions that have adverse impacts on the socio-economic situation in that country", the ministry said.

Apart from that, they will touch upon the implementation of the practical agreements reached by the Russian-Venezuelan intergovernmental high-level commission at its meeting on April 4-5.

Grass-roots anti-government protests resumed in Venezuela on Tuesday after some of the

country's top brass had sided with opposition leader Juan Guaido. Four persons were killed and hundreds were hurt during riots.

Situation in Venezuela

In the recent years, Venezuela has been living through an acute socio-economic crisis amidst hyperinflation and devaluation of the national currency unit. The situation deteriorated in 2019 following a hike in frictions between the government and its political opponents.

Juan Guaido, Venezuelan opposition leader and speaker of the National Assembly, whose appointment to that position had been cancelled by the country's Supreme Court, declared himself interim president at a rally in the country's capital, Caracas, on January 23.

On the same day, the United States recognized him as an interim president, and the countries of the Lima Group (excluding Mexico) and the Organization of American States followed suit. Venezuela's incumbent President Nicolas Maduro blasted the move as an attempted coup and announced cutting diplomatic ties with the United States.

Most European Union member states recognized Guaido as Venezuela's interim president. Russia, Belarus, Bolivia, Iran, China, Cuba, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Syria and Turkey voiced support for Maduro.

On April 26, the US Department of the Treasury imposed sanctions against Jorge Arreaza, Venezuela's foreign minister since 2017.



Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov

Continuity, stability China's key policy goals

BEIJING

CHINA'S economic policies will maintain stability and continuity to enhance international macroeconomic policy coordination and tackle headwinds, economists said.

The importance of international collaboration in macroeconomic administration has been stressed by Chinese leaders as they have drawn a plan for more comprehensive opening-up.

Beijing's stance comes amid growing spillover effects of policies among countries and, according to forecasts by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, the likelihood that global growth may lose some steam this year, economists said.

One of the key ways to strengthen policy coordination is to maintain the yuan's exchange rate at a reasonably stable equilibrium, which can also avoid negative spillover

effects and foster cross-border trade and investment, said Sheng Songcheng, former director of the statistics department of the People's Bank of China (PBOC), China's central bank.

Prudent monetary policy and proactive fiscal policy will strengthen domestic demand as well as promoting exports and GDP growth for China's trade partners, Sheng told China Daily in an exclusive interview on Tuesday.

The "prudent monetary

policy" will be properly managed – neither too tightly nor too loosely – thus avoiding massive liquidity injections while maintaining liquidity at reasonably adequate levels. That will help enhance macroeconomic policy coordination with trade partners without exporting inflationary or deflationary factors, he said.

Zhou Qiangwu, director general of International Economics and Finance Institute of the Ministry of Finance, said proac-

tive fiscal policy will emphasize tax cuts, and the 2 trillion yuan (US\$297 billion) in reductions also will help secure economic growth and support supply-side restructuring reforms.

In the short term, the economic policies are meant to maintain continuity and stability, said Xu Xiujun, director of the division of International Political Economy at Institute of World Economics and Politics of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

President Xi Jinping announced a package of proposals to advance high-quality development under the Belt and Road Initiative at a forum on April 26. He said the international community should join in producing a "meticulous painting" of the BRI to continuously promote its high-quality development.

Xi said one of the key ways to deepen opening-up reform is more effectively implementing international macroeconomic policy coordination.

Other measures include broadening market access for foreign investment, strengthening international cooperation in intellectual property rights protection and increasing imports of goods and services. Xi also mentioned maintaining the exchange rate at a reasonably stable equilibrium.

"The Chinese central bank has never promoted exports through depreciating the yuan to offset the influence of US tariffs," Sheng said. **Xinhua**

Russia-US relations must become prerequisite of world peace again

NEW YORK

RUSSIAN-US relations must become a prerequisite of world stability again, for it was precisely this type of cooperation that made the allied victory in World War II possible, Russia's ambassador to the United Nations Vasily Nebenzya, told a crowd of participants in the Immortal Regiment procession in front of the World War II memorial in New York's Battery Park. The memorial was the final point of a procession by more than 2,000, including World War II veterans. Nebenzya made an address after a choir performed the national anthems of Russia and the United States.

"As we stood here listening to both anthems, it occurred to me that our countries have never been at war with each other. We've always been allies," Nebenzya said. "And we are obliged to do our utmost to ensure the relations between the two countries should become again a pre-requisite of world stability: the kind of relations that we achieved in those days of peace to let the world have a sigh of relief."

"The victory in what was our Great Patriotic War is built in our genotype and our DNA. It is inerascable," Nebenzya said. "Immortal Regiment is a wonderful happening and it gives an unforgettable feeling. The people have gathered here at the call of their heart. Everybody here has a very personal story to tell about that war, a story associated with the veterans whose portraits they carry. We march together side by side and we see the unbreakable bonds connecting generations." **Agencies**



Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA), Taher Kitisa (C), in a group picture with International Cricket Council (ICC) official (L), and TCA CEO, Zully Rehemtulla, during the annual Africa Regional Conference that took place in Windhoek, Namibia on April 27. ICC presented the Spirit Cricket honour to TCA in the ceremony. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA



Soccer coaches from across Tanzania in a group picture with English club Southampton FC trainers and SportPesa Tanzania Director of Administration and Compliance, Tarimba Abbas, after the completion of a clinic in Dar es Salaam last week. SportPesa organized the clinic in an effort to develop the sport at the domestic level. PHOTO: SPORTPESA

IOC head Bach says he has 'sympathy' for Caster Semenya

SYDNEY

IOC President Thomas Bach said Saturday he has "a lot of sympathy" for Caster Semenya after the South African runner lost her Court of Arbitration for Sport appeal in a landmark case against track and field's governing body.

Based on Wednesday's CAS decision, Semenya, who won the 800 meters at the 2012 and 2016 Olympics, would have to artificially reduce her levels of testosterone to defend her titles at the Tokyo Olympics in 2020.

After winning an 800-meter race at the Doha Diamond League on Friday, her reply to a question of whether she will now submit to new IAAF regulations and take hormone-reducing medication was: "Hell no."

At the Australian Olympic Committee annual general meeting on Saturday, Bach said at a media conference: "First of all I must say I have a lot of sympathy



Thomas Bach

for Caster Semenya over this decision."

"Having said this, the issue as such is extremely complex," Bach added. "It has scientific impact, it has ethical impact, it impacts on fair play in competition so

it's extremely delicate and it's extremely difficult to do justice to all these."

"The IOC respects CAS decisions, as we always do, but from a human point of view, yes, I have sympathy for her."

Bach said an IOC committee would go over the full CAS ruling once it was available, including recommendations on how the rules should be implemented.

During an earlier speech to the AOC meeting, Bach said: "In Olympic sport, all people are equal regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation, cultural background or political beliefs. Therefore, we stand firmly against discrimination of any kind."

Bach also said the IOC wants boxing at the Tokyo Games and is prepared to organize both the qualification and the competition on its own if the sport's troubled international governing body, the AIBA, loses its Olympic status over leadership and financial problems.

"You know boxing is an important Olympic sport," Bach said. "It's a very universal sport, so we want to have boxing on the program. And then if the case arises and we would have to make an effort then to have such a tournament."

AP

3 black women win Miss USA, Miss Teen USA and Miss America

NEW YORK

WHEN Cheslie Kryst won the Miss USA crown, it marked more than a personal triumph: It meant that for the first time, three black women are the reigning Miss USA, Miss Teen USA and Miss America.

The North Carolina lawyer completed the historic triple Thursday with pageant winners 2019 Miss America Nia Franklin and recently crowned 2019 Miss Teen USA Kaleigh Garris.

"The three young women who have focused their energy on demonstrating how standards of black beauty speak for American standards of beauty are to be com-

mended," said Thomas DeFrantz, a professor in the Department of African and African American Studies at Duke University.

"These three standard-bearers prove that black beauty is at the heart of a 21st century American ideal," he added.

Franklin, from New York, won her title in September in Atlantic City, New Jersey, becoming the first woman also to win the Miss America crown without having to don a swimsuit. Garris, from New Haven, Connecticut, won her crown in April, and hopes to become a trauma nurse.

Kryst, a former Division I athlete and attorney at Poyner Spruill LLP

in Charlotte, North Carolina, won her crown in Reno, Nevada. She holds an MBA from Wake Forest University.

"Mine is the first generation to have that forward-looking mindset that has inclusivity, diversity, strength and empowered women. I'm looking forward to continued progress in my generation," said Kryst, after accepting her crown. She now advances to the Miss Universe competition.

The oldest of the three is the Miss America pageant, which began in 1921 but women of color were barred from participating until the 1940s by a rule that said contestants must be of "the white race." Frustra-

tion led to the creation of Miss Black America contest.

In 1970, Cheryl Browne became the first black woman to participate in the Miss America pageant. Since then, more than a dozen black women have been named either Miss America or Miss USA, including actress Vanessa Williams, the first-ever black Miss America in 1983.

The Miss USA contest was created in 1952 and crowned the first African American contestant - Carole Anne-Marie Gist - in 1990. A year later, Janel Bishop won the Miss Teen USA title, becoming the first African American winner.

AP

Harden scores 41 as Rockets outlast Warriors 126-121 in OT

HOUSTON

JAMES Harden made a 3-pointer to finish off the Golden State Warriors in overtime.

Eric Gordon helped the Rockets get to that point with the best playoff performance of his career.

Harden scored 41 points, and Houston outlasted the Warriors 126-121 on Saturday night to cut the deficit in the Western Conference semifinals to 2-1.

A layup by P.J. Tucker put Houston up by three with about 2 minutes left and the Warriors missed shots on their next two possessions. That set up the 3-pointer by Harden with 49 seconds left that made it 124-118.

Kevin Durant made three free throws after that, but Harden added a layup to stretch the lead. Stephen Curry, who dislocated a finger in Game 2, missed a wide-open layup and Harden grabbed the rebound to secure the victory.

Gordon added a playoff career-high 30 points with a playoff-best seven 3-pointers.

"It's all about bringing something to the table, offensively, defensively every single night to give yourself a chance to win," he said.

Durant said Gordon was "very important" to Houston's win.

"He kept them afloat for a while," he said.

The Rockets withstood a 46-point



Houston Rockets guard James Harden (13) in action against Golden State Warriors during the Game 3 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series, Saturday, May 4, 2019, in Houston. (Agencies)

performance from Durant and late surge by the Warriors to avoid falling into a 3-0 hole in the best-of-seven series.

Game 4 is Monday night in Houston. Harden led the team despite recovering from injuries to both eyes he sus-

tained in Game 2 when he was hit in the face by Draymond Green. He said they didn't bother him on Saturday, but both

eyes remained bloody red in spots.

"That's James. That's what he does," Houston coach Mike D'Antoni said.

Curry finished with 17 points on 7-for-23 shooting after missing two layups in overtime. He wouldn't say if his injury was limiting him on Saturday night.

"I've just got to make those," he said. "If I'm out there playing, I've got to produce and it just didn't happen tonight."

Green added 19 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists.

Houston was clinging to a one-point lead when Iguodala's 3-pointer put Golden State up 112-110 with 45 seconds remaining in the fourth. Harden made two free throws a few seconds after that to tie it and Durant missed a jump shot on the other end to give Houston a chance to win it in regulation.

Chris Paul was in the lane when Klay Thompson forced a jump ball. Harden got the ball but didn't have time to get a shot off before the buzzer.

The Warriors used a 15-2 run at the end of the third quarter and the beginning of the fourth to take a 94-93 lead with about 10 minutes remaining. Durant was unstoppable in that stretch, scoring all 10 of Golden State's points to start the fourth.

Tucker, Houston's defensive stopper who had been on the bench with four fouls, re-entered the game to try and help slow Durant down. Tucker was really unhappy while he sat on the bench

and watched Durant singlehandedly give Golden State the lead.

Asked if he said something to D'Antoni about it to get back in the game he said: "Oh, I said something to all of them."

Durant cooled off after that, but Iguodala and Thompson both made 3-pointers soon after that and the Warriors remained up by a point with about 8 minutes left in the fourth.

The Rockets were up by nine at halftime, and Harden and Paul made 3-pointers on consecutive possessions in the third to push the lead to 72-61.

A 3-pointer by Curry cut Houston's lead to seven later in the period before Houston used an 8-2 spurt to extend it to 83-70 with about 3 minutes left in the quarter.

Houston had a 12-point lead after a dunk by Clint Capela with less than a minute left in the third. Golden State scored the last five points of the quarter, with a 3 from Green, to get within 91-84 entering the fourth.

Houston got out to a much better start on Saturday night after being outscored 57-39 in the opening quarter of the first two games and the Rockets only trailed by one entering the second.

They used a 33-point second quarter, powered by 13 points from Gordon, to take a 58-49 lead into halftime.

(AGENCIES)

Klopp calls Liverpool thriller 'a battle of will'

NEWCASTLE, ENGLAND

LIVERPOOL boss Jurgen Klopp called his club's thrilling 3-2 win over Newcastle a "brilliant" battle as his Reds continue to go back-and-forth with Manchester City in the race for the Premier League title.

"Today was a battle of will but it was a victory of passion, heart and absolute desire -- absolutely brilliant," Klopp said.

Substitute Divock Origi's 86th minute header -- after Liverpool had twice seen their lead rubbed out by a determined Newcastle United -- ensured the three points that put the pressure right back on Manchester City.

Saturday's match featured a scary moment with Mohamed Salah was stretched off the pitch after a head injury.

Klopp's side have 94 points and City, who face Leicester City on Monday, are two points behind. Never before have two teams passed 90 points in a Premier League season.

On the final Sunday -- May 12 -- Liverpool are at home to Wolverhampton Wanderers and City take on Brighton on the south coast.

"We could talk about football tonight, we could talk purely about showing real heart, showing real passion and showing real desire."

It was all the more impressive given that on Wednesday Liverpool had expended so much energy against Barcelona only to end up with a bitter 3-0 defeat in the first leg of the Champions League semifinals.

There was no sign of any hang-over from that experience however.

"It was just brilliant," Klopp said. "Newcastle showed it as well, unbelievable -- they gave us a proper game. I think in our situation with all the circumstances around, some people probably expected us to show a bit of nerves and the boys didn't. It was just a difficult game for difficult reasons."

Having been pushed all the way by former manager Rafa Benitez's side, Liverpool must now hope that another of their ex-bosses, Brendan Rodgers, can inspire his Leicester side to an upset against City at the Etihad on Monday.

But Klopp says he is a resigned to whatever fate will throw his team's way.

"I accepted long ago that we do everything, absolutely everything, the boys throw whatever they have on the pitch, so that means whether we are champion or not, it is destiny," he said.

"We do everything and we cannot do more -- can you get more than 94 points? Can you get more in all the other stuff? Not really.

"Wow, what a race."

Meanwhile, Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp could be without Mohamed Salah for Tuesday's Champions League match against Barcelona after the Egyptian was carried off with a head injury in Saturday's 3-2 win at Newcastle.

Klopp said it was too soon to say whether Salah would be able to play against Barca.

"What I heard, he got the hip of the goalie on his head," Klopp said. "He was then on the ground and the doc had to make a decision 'on the pitch or off the pitch' and the decision was off the pitch. We accept that of course.

"When we came in he was sitting in the dressing room watching the game on television. So he was then fine, but of course we have to wait. He got a proper knock, obviously, in that situation."

Liverpool will be without their Brazilian forward Roberto Firmino for the match against Barcelona.

Firmino, who has a muscular injury, was not included in the match day squad for Saturday's game and Klopp said he will not feature against the Spaniards as Liverpool look to overturn a 3-0 deficit from the first leg.

"He will not be ready for Tuesday and the rest we will see," said Klopp, whose side face Wolves in their final Premier League game on May 12.

Divock Origi, who grabbed the 86th minute winner at Newcastle, could start against Barca while Daniel Sturridge, who started on Saturday, would be another option.

(AGENCIES)



Jurgen Klopp

Zidane backtracks over recent Pogba praise

MADRID

REAL Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane has backtracked over his recent praise of Paul Pogba and said it doesn't mean he wants to sign the Manchester United midfielder.

Zidane returned as Madrid coach in March talking about big changes being made to an under-performing squad, speaking openly about liking Pogba "a lot" and suggesting Madrid could be the next club for a player he knows very well.

Pogba's future at United is uncertain amid links to Real Madrid but Zidane said: "I said Pogba was a good player, but I could say the same about other players.

"I know him, nothing else. I am not getting into something. If you ask me about Pogba, I say that he is a very good player, but he plays for Manchester United. At the end of the season we will see which players come here, and who leaves. But I did not say 'We are going to sign Pogba,' nothing like that. I will not say anything [about any deals] until things are done."

Madrid's troubled 2018-19 campaign is coming to a close, with the latest embarrassment last weekend's 1-0 defeat at relegation-threatened neighbours Rayo Vallecano.

Home fans are likely to vent their frustration during Sunday's visit of struggling Villarreal and Zidane said changes are coming in the summer.

"I was very angry the other day, the players were too, they did not enjoy it. Sometimes nothing goes for you," Zidane said.

"The season is what it is, but the fans must think about next season. There will be changes, but many of these players will stay. The fans will be the same, and most of the players, and we must stick together. We are going to have time to prepare for next season. Until August 31 anything can happen, so it will be a long summer."

Gareth Bale has been targeted by Madrid fans in recent months and Zidane was asked if he expected better from him.

"I expect the best of all the players," he said. "[Gareth] must train and think about playing. I cannot speak for Gareth or other players, just say that we wear the Real Madrid shirt so we all have a responsibility, even if the season is bad. I must pick the team and the bench. We will see what happens tomorrow."

Meanwhile, Vinicius Junior is set to return after two months out with a hamstring injury he sustained during the Champions League round-of-16 second-leg exit to Ajax.

"Vinicius is training much better, and ready to be in the match squad," Zidane said. "He is still 18. He is very good, an important player for future of this team and the seasons to come."



Arturo Vidal

'Pure Fire' - what makes Vidal vital for Barcelona

BY SID LOWE, ESPN SPAIN WRITER

WHEN Arturo Vidal was very small, his mother rescued him and his siblings from the family's burning home. His father, who had been kicked out, was the one who started the fire. Like the uncle who died of hypothermia out on the street one night, his dad was an alcoholic.

The family lived in a small wooden home in the neighbourhood of San Joaquin, Chile, and his mother washed floors. Arturo promised to get her out of there and wouldn't stop until he did. He didn't even stop when he did, in fact. They called him cometierra: he would eat up the ground, determined to get there, letting nothing stand in his way.

His hope was all of theirs. "We didn't have anything," Vidal has said in the past. But one thing he did have was fight -- and lots of it. Heart, too.

"I don't know where he keeps it," his former Bayern Munich teammate Thiago Alcantara told El Pais. "Not in his chest, that's for sure. It doesn't fit in there."

He also has a Mohawk haircut, of course. And tattoos. Lots and lots and lots of tattoos, all over his body and engulfing his neck. Oh, and talent. Lots of that as well.

Vidal is very good at football. This might sound like a severe case of stating the extremely obvious, but you know what? Sometimes it feels like it needs stating.

During the 2015 Copa America, Vidal crashed his car. He was drunk, on his way back from a casino. His manager, Jorge Sampaoli, said he knew it would end badly as soon as he saw him behind the wheel of the Ferrari; he also said he knew that without Vidal the team were going "nowhere." When the police came, Vidal said: "Handcuff me, but you're screwing the whole of Chile." He was banned from driving for two years but not banned from playing.

Two weeks later, Chile were champions.

"He can do stupid things and maybe he's not the man you would choose to marry your daughter," said Michael Reschke, the technical secretary who decided to bring him to Bayern Munich, "but that doesn't take anything away from his value as a player."

No it doesn't, but it does sometimes seem to take away from his value as a player. There's a reality here, and no one is suggesting otherwise, but could it also be that there's a bit of myth? A man who is typecast and

caricatured for his wild look and fast living? There may be more to him than meets the eye -- and boy, does Vidal meet the eye.

On Wednesday night, in the 90th minute of Barcelona vs. Liverpool, after Barcelona had suffered, sweated and, in Lionel Messi's words, found themselves "asphyxiated," struggling to breathe at times but leading 3-0, the visitors had another chance. It wasn't an opportunity to win, given the score, but a chance for Liverpool to get an away goal that might have changed things heading into the second leg.

The ball reached Sadio Mane and he brought it down on the chest, inside the area. The position was good and for a moment it looked like the ball would sit up nicely for the shot. Suddenly, there was Vidal, throwing himself forward, full length and fully committed. Risky, too. But he reached the ball first, taking it off Mane's toe. He got up and stood there, shirt ripped, chest out, tattoos everywhere, that look.

There was a roar from the crowd and a moment of pure Vidal. Mane reacted, Vidal reacted back. Inside, you were convinced he was enjoying this. And there it was: Arturo, defined. That moment illustrated why he played instead of Arthur, drafted in for a night of relentless speed and exertion, a battle as much as a match.

"If I go to war, I want Vidal alongside me," Pep Guardiola once said. He had not signed Vidal for Bayern and he is a purist, people argue, but those are qualities he appreciates. When Barcelona signed him, part of the argument was that he'd joined simply for games like this one: when fight was more important than football, when physicality came to the fore.

"He gives us character," said Barcelona's sporting director Eric Abidal at the time. "He gives us qualities that no one else does." Valverde has said of the Chilean -- qualities that he needed against Liverpool.

Barcelona had to match Klopp's team, or thought they had to, for intensity, speed, verticality and fight. "We were drawn into their game a bit," Messi said afterward. But were they drawn, or did they go more willingly than that? For many, the answer resides in Vidal, chosen from the start of the game rather than being introduced as it progressed. Valverde's selection was as much a definition as a decision. That was how it seemed, at least, and how it was presented: Arthur or Arturo, a small difference of

name that makes all the difference.

There was a headline not long ago that summed up the choice in musical terms -- "Arthur's symphony or Arturo's heavy metal" -- and Klopp, of course, has made much of his taste for the latter. Valverde went for Vidal and Barcelona thrashed out a different tune, going with what was effectively a 4-4-2 formation with Philippe Coutinho one side, Vidal the other, and Ivan Rakitic with Sergio Busquets in the middle. And with no Arthur, the man in whom many see a successor for Xavi, the man who gave them such control in the group stage game against Tottenham in London.

That night back in October, Vidal had expected to play. He'd not become a Barca regular yet but he thought Wembley was going to be his stage. When he didn't play, with Arthur starting instead -- and starting was the word, a new-old Barcelona appearing to emerge -- Vidal stuck a load of angry faces on Instagram. "Maybe he had an accident at home," Valverde said, tongue wedged in his cheek. "He didn't tell me he was angry." No, he told everyone else instead, and nor was it the last time. When he was made to warm up against Valencia but never got on, he posted a message that said: "don't fight with Judases; they hang themselves."

At that point, it felt like his time in Barcelona might be short and bitter, but things look very different now. Vidal has played over 2,000 minutes and while that's less than he's accumulated at any of his other clubs -- his participation has dropped closer to 60 percent of available minutes compared to well over 70 percent everywhere else -- his contribution might turn out to be crucial.

Vidal had expected to play that night in London; this week against Liverpool, most expected him not to, but there he was, his inclusion coming as a surprise. He has stepped forward more of late, and in the exhausted aftermath of an astonishing game, he was more accepted than ever. Even if, for some, his presence still jars. More, perhaps, than it should.

"You have to get angry," said Rakitic after Vidal's social media outburst back in October. "If not, maybe you lack ambition." That's another thing Vidal has never lacked. When he joined Barcelona, he said he expected to be a starter. He also said he wanted the Champions League: the one trophy he's not won. After 90 almost inhumanly intense minutes on

Wednesday night, he is that little bit closer even if he himself insisted afterward: "It's not done."

Whether Barcelona's plan was the right plan is difficult to judge -- who knows how the game might have gone with a different approach -- but it finished 3-0 and there was Vidal, eating up the earth, crashing about and flying into tackles, culminating in that last-minute challenge. There he was playing passes, too, something he also does.

You don't win eight league titles in a row at several different clubs without being a good footballer. You don't play for Guardiola if you can't pass. You don't play for Barcelona, either: not even this Barcelona. Vidal's pass completion stats are up by 90 percent this season. Against Liverpool, only two teammates played more.

Maybe sometimes those identities are too clear-cut, the story too easily told, his image interfering. Vidal is indeed all those things they say he is, and that he appears to play up, this man who calls himself "King Arturo" leading them into battle. Just look at him: he is wild, he does embrace chaos, the passion does punch you in the face. He does press relentlessly, hunt down opponents, accelerate play. He is a warrior -- "pure fire" in the words of a staff member at one of Vidal's former clubs. He is someone whose teammates want there when the going gets tough, the man who Chile's finest-ever footballer, Ivan Zamorano, once said "carries Chile on his back."

But don't just look at him. He is not only those things, nor is he there to single-handedly destroy an identity. It is not Arthur or Arturo, night and day, all or nothing, worlds apart. His inclusion is symbolic, many assume; it defines everything, and not always for the better, but it's not so straightforward. He is a fighter but a footballer too. As Zamorano added: "He does everything." Scores goals, provides assists, attacks, defends, plays.

Take away the haircut and the growling, gladiatorial, almost cartoonish presence, block out the back story, give him the tidy appearance of a Sergi Roberto, say, and a passport that says "Place of Birth: Catalonia" on it and there's a player there who maybe, just maybe, would be judged a little differently, recognised for doing more than rampage.

Arturo Vidal said that if he wins the Champions League, he'll get another tattoo done, but it wouldn't be a bad thing to look beyond that once in a while.

Van Dijk: Barca know semifinal is not over

LONDON

LIVERPOOL defender Virgil van Dijk has told ESPN Brasil Barcelona will come to Anfield for the second leg of their Champions League semifinal knowing the tie isn't over despite their 3-0 deficit.

Jurgen Klopp's men impressed at Camp Nou in their first meeting on Wednesday. But Luis Suarez's opener was followed by a Lionel Messi double to tip the tie in Barca's favour.

However, Van Dijk, who was recently named PFA Players' Player of the Year, said Liverpool are still in it -- and Barcelona know it.

"We played a great game, despite the result," the 27-year-old said. "We had a great chance to score as well."

"I think if we had scored at least one or two, people would have been talking a lot differently. We have to be realistic: we are 3-0 down at the moment. We have a big job to do at Anfield.

"We won't give up. We will definitely stay confident because we have to be. We have been having a fantastic season. It's going to be strange for them coming here with a 3-0 advantage but they still have in their mind that it won't be over."

The clash at Camp Nou saw Van Dijk come up against Messi and, despite seeing Barca's No. 10 score twice, the Netherlands international said he enjoyed the challenge.

"I think he's the best in the world,"

he added. "I said it before I even played against him."

"He's shown his class for the last 10 years. It's fantastic to see him play for a neutral -- but it's also great to come up against him."

"You can test yourself, you can see how you can cope against him. It was obviously great to come up against him but it's not about me, it's not about him. It's about Liverpool and Barcelona and both teams want to get to the final." (AGENCIES)

SPORT

'Pure Fire' - what makes Vidal vital for Barcelona

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Williamson on song but Hetmyer leaves Sunrisers sweating in IPL

SYDNEY

NEW Zealand captain Kane Williamson enjoyed a return to form but his Hyderabad Sunrisers were left sweating on their Indian Premier League playoff hopes after a four-wicket loss to the Royal Challengers Bangalore on Saturday.

Williamson's unbeaten 70 off 43 balls was his best innings in this season's IPL by a long mark but Bangalore, long out of the playoff picture, managed to overhaul Hyderabad's 175 for seven with four balls to spare.

India skipper Virat Kohli (16) and AB de Villiers (one) were unable to get Bangalore off to a flying start but Shimron Hetmyer filled the void by blasting 75 runs off 47 balls, including four boundaries and six sixes.

The left-handed batsman arrived in Bangalore with great expectations, and a heavy price tag, but it was only in his final innings that he was able to fulfil them.

"At the start it was tough for me, just getting used to the environment and getting used to the IPL itself," said the 22-year-old before he jetted off to join his team mates in the West Indies squad for the 50-overs World Cup.

"Just coming out today, I said 'let's have some fun'." With their top batsman David Warner already back in Australia preparing for the World Cup, the Sunrisers will be relying on results going their way in Sunday's final couple of group matches to get into the playoffs.

The Delhi Capitals will definitely be involved in the playoffs and they ended the slim hopes of the Rajasthan Royals with a five-wicket win in Saturday's other match.

At three-wicket burst from paceman Ishant Sharma in the powerplay set the home side on the path to their ninth win of the season and Rishabh Pant secured the victory with 23 balls to spare after smashing his fifth six in his innings of 53 not out.

The table-topping Chennai Super Kings visit bottom side Kings XI Punjab, while the third-placed Mumbai Indians host the fifth placed Kolkata Knight Riders on Sunday in the final group matches. REUTERS

5 UJENZI
EATV

TONIGHT @ 21:00



MONDAY

- 11:00 DADAZ (LIVE)
- 15:00 FUNGUKA
- 16:00 UTAKA
- 16:30 #HASHTAG
- 17:00 SSELEKT
- 17:55 KURASA
- 18:00 eNewz
- 18:30 Music
- 19:00 EATV SAA 1
- 19:30 MJADALA
- 21:00 UJENZI
- 21:30 SPORTS LIVE
- 22:30 BONGO HITS

Ujenzi Watch this informative show on the domestic construction process both on site construction and interior/exterior designing whilst using the latest technology and appliances that have made construction easier

eastafrika RADIO

- 05:00 EA Breakfast
- 09:00 Supamix
- 12:00 Kipenga Xtra
- 13:00 Planet Bongo
- 16:00 EA Drive
- 20:00 Kipenga
- 21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Lipuli FC eyes Yanga scalp in ASFC semi-finals



Lipuli Football Club

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

LIPULI FC has expressed readiness for Yanga when the two sides meet in this year's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) last four stage match at the Samora Memorial Stadium in Iringa today.

Lipuli FC, through the club's head coach Suleiman Matola, said they are well prepared for the encounter, which he described it as very difficult, but insisted they will come out victorious.

Matola said his team has prepared well to play Yanga in the semi-finals of the cup, maintaining the aim is to reach the finals of the cup as his side are not looking at the status of their opponents in the domestic league.

Azam FC has already qualified for the finals set for Majaliwa Stadium in Lindi on June 2, thanks to squad's 1-0 victory over Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC in the last four stage's game at the former's venue Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam on Friday.

Winners of the ASFC will represent the country in the 2019/20 CAF Confederation Cup.

And Matola said beating Yanga will be the best way to see

his team have realistic chances of representing the country in the CAF tournament.

"In terms of preparation, we are very well prepared and I am sure we will get the good results which we want, all of my players know the importance of winning this game," he said.

The last time the two teams met in the 2018/19 Mainland Premier League game at the same venue, it was hosts Lipuli who carried the day by beating Yanga 1-0 courtesy of Haruna

Mshamte strike.

However, this afternoon match will not be easy as Yanga are also looking forward to reaching the final of the cup.

Yanga head coach Mwinyi Zahera recently said his team are determined to reach the final of the ASFC.

Zahera did not watch that 1-0 defeat match as he was on other assignments.

"Federation Cup games have not been easy to us, but we are ready for Lipuli, it will not be an

easy game but we are ready for them as we want to reach the final of this competition," the coach was quoted after his side had reached the last four after beating Alliance FC in post-match penalties of the last eight stage.

As expected, Yanga will come into the game with a full squad which will include top scorer of the club Heritier Makambo, Ibrahim Ajibu, Feisal Salum and others.



Manchester City players celebrate winning the Women's FA Cup with the trophy. REUTERS

Manchester City clinch domestic double with FA Cup triumph over West Ham ladies

LONDON

MANCHESTER City completed a domestic double by comfortably beating West Ham United 3-0 in the Women's FA Cup final at Wembley Stadium on Saturday, following on from their League Cup triumph in February.

City, who missed out on winning the Super League which was clinched by Arsenal last week, made up for that disappointment with a commanding performance and three-second half goals against a valiant West Ham side playing in their first final.

In the fifth Women's FA Cup final to be played at Wembley, the attendance total of 43,264 was not quite enough to surpass last season's record crowd of 45,423 for a domestic-competition female soccer match.

Nick Cushing's City side started the brighter of the two teams, with England forward Nikita Parris stretching the West Ham backline with her darting runs, though without finding a clearcut chance.

However, West Ham, playing their maiden season as a professional

team and very much the underdogs given the gulf in resources, grew into the contest and even could have taken the lead at the half hour mark.

A flowing move ended with a deep cross into the box and Jane Ross was perfectly placed to head the ball in, but she was denied by England goalkeeper Karen Bardsley who dove across and pushed it wide.

City took the warning sign and came out more fired up in the second half. They broke the deadlock in the 52nd minute when Keira Walsh let fly from long range, with a wicked movement on the ball wrong-footing Anna Moorhouse in the West Ham goal.

The effort was City's first shot on target but it proved enough to unsettle Matt Beard's side.

West Ham regained some composure but were breached again in the 81st minute when young forward Georgia Stanway dribbled into the box and unleashed a right-footed shot at goal. The ball trickled past Moorhouse following a slight deflection off a defender.

With little more than a minute of normal time remaining, Lauren Hemp ran onto a long ball and expertly lifted the ball over the on-rushing Moorhouse from outside the area to seal the win and give City their second FA Cup in three years.

REUTERS

TTB commends SportPesa for Sevilla FC visit

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) has said Sevilla FC's tour of Tanzania, organized by gaming company SportPesa Tanzania, will continue promoting various tourist attractions in the country.

The tour of the Spanish La Liga giants has been facilitated by the leading betting firm in the country, SportPesa Tanzania, in collaboration with La Liga.

Geoffrey Meena, TTB Head of Marketing, said: "This is the betting firm's effort, SportPesa Tanzania, in promoting sports-tourism in the country."

Sevilla FC are expected to arrive in the country on May 21 and after two days they will face domestic soccer giants, Simba Sports Club at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Meena said their board is now in preparations that will see Sevilla FC players and officials view some of tourist attractions in the country.

He said the areas to be visited by the Sevilla FC players and officials would be announced after the completion of the preparations.

He said there are so many tourist attractions, which the club players and officials would like to visit, but due to the time limit, they will have to select few to inspire them.

"We commend SportPesa Tanzania for their efforts in promoting the country's sports and tourism. In 2017, we witnessed Everton FC from the English Premier League visit the country and conduct training for youths. They also visited tourist attractions," he disclosed.

"We are sure that even Sevilla FC's visit has been prompted by Everton FC's. We know Everton FCs have promoted the country's tourism following their visit to the country."

"They were hosted well and they played safely. Many people want peace, you cannot visit a country, where there is breach of peace," Meena disclosed.

Sevilla FC and Simba Sports Club match has been scheduled for May 23 at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

