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**NOVEMBER 9, 1989**  
THE DAY THAT CHANGED EUROPEAN HISTORY

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### Cooperation between Africa and Nordic countries is historical as it started before independence. In Tanzania, they have worked a lot in improving social services and uplifting economic growth

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli yesterday called on African countries to invest heavily in improving business environment so as to attract investors from Nordic countries and the rest of the World.

Addressing the two-day African-Nordic ministers' meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Dr Magufuli said that Tanzania recognizes the importance of creating a better business environment to enhance investment operations.

He said that the government has taken a number of measures to ensure that traders and investors operate smoothly, including

reviewing of policies and laws, and implementation of various strategies.

The government also implements the Blueprint on Regulatory and Licensing Reform, a move which will see more laws and policies being reviewed including those governing Value Added Tax (VAT), indicative prices for imports, immigration and labour, social security and environmental management among others to attract local and international investors.

"Others include improvement of infrastructures such as roads, railway, ports and power. We have invested much

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President John Magufuli exchanges greetings with former President Jakaya Kikwete, who is flanked by former President Ali Hassan Mwinyi and former Prime Minister Joseph Warioba, shortly after opening the 18th African-Nordic Foreign Ministers Meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House



## SADC ministers scorn infant formulas, breastfeeding best

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTERS responsible for health and HIV/AIDS from the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) have agreed to invest heavily in promoting infants' exclusive breastfeeding to fight diseases and deaths of under-five children.

Among others, the ministers have developed regional regulations to fight promotion and use of artificial milk to infants.

Addressing journalists, the Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Ummu Mwalimu said that among agenda items for the meeting is how to come up with better ways to improve

nutrition within the bloc.

"After going through intense discussion on how to encourage exclusive breastfeeding for infants, we (ministers) decided to come up with an agreement to restrict promotion of artificial milk," she said.

The minister said that many babies in the country are not well breastfed with some mothers opting to use artificial milk for unnecessary reasons.

Recently, a pediatrician and breastfeeding specialist at the Aga Khan Hospital, Dr Mariam Noorani said that breast milk is a baby's first vaccine, the first and best protection they have against illness and disease with newborns.

Lack of breastfeeding accounts for nearly half of all deaths of children under five, so early breastfeeding can make the difference between life and death, she stated.

"With breast milk being the major medicine and protection for various baby diseases, we have as specialists to intensify our efforts so that many more Tanzanian children and their mothers benefit from optimal breastfeeding

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## Heeding Uhuru's call, elders pledge to end FGM by 2022

NAIROBI

Community elders and religious leaders from across the country yesterday committed to ending female genital mutilation (FGM) in Kenya by 2022.

The leaders made the commitment at State House, here, during a meeting with President Uhuru Kenyatta and First Lady Margaret Kenyatta.

The declaration by the opinion leaders from 22 counties most affected by FGM is in support of the declaration by President Kenyatta to end the illegal practice in the country by 2022.

"We appreciate the government's efforts to



**We appreciate the government's efforts to end FGM through creating and implementing progressive policies and legislative frameworks and programmes towards its eradication**

end FGM through creating and implementing progressive policies and legislative frameworks and programmes towards its eradication," said Njuri Ncheke Secretary-General Josephat Murangiri, who read the elder's declaration.

As part of their anti-FGM efforts, the elders said they would work with both the national and county governments and other stakeholders in creating awareness on the need to promote education and the wellbeing of the girl child.

President Kenyatta thanked the elders and religious leaders for agreeing to lead the onslaught against the retrogressive practice and assured them of the government's backing.

The President termed FGM an archaic cultural practice that assaults the wellbeing of individuals and society, and pitched for its complete eradication.

"FGM is a retrogressive practice whose continued existence in our country, in actual fact, assaults our individual and our national

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# Me

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

AFTER the successful maiden effort Tanzania is now rolling out the second phase of electronic auctioning for tourist hunting blocks with the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) citing 24 vacant blocks up for grabs.

Imani Nkuwi, the Deputy Commissioner for Tourism and Business Services with TAWA, said that through open online bidding going live 15th of November, values of the 24 hunting blocks will essentially be market driven and determined by buyers who win tenders after the fall of the digital hammer.

"Eligible hunting companies can be allocated up to five hunting blocks each but falling under different categories," he explained, noting that Southern Africa Development



Community (SADC) member states permit hunting activities in such precincts.

TAWA is thus inviting bids from qualified applicants for block allocation through electronic auctioning (e-auctioning), he said.

Currently, there are 24 vacant tourist hunting blocks within game reserves, game controlled areas and open areas, all being readily available for e-auctioning, the deputy commissioner affirmed.

Extension has been done on the tenure allocated for holding hunting blocks, which now entails 10 years for those falling under categories 1 and 2, while blocks in category 3 will command an extended duration of 15 years.

Tanzania introduced online auctions for high-class hunting blocks with the first phase

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Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister Constantine Kanyasu in a tête-à-tête with China's Ambassador to Tanzania, Wang Ke, moments before the handing over of agricultural inputs and anti-poaching gear to residents of Mhende village in Kilosa District, Morogoro Region, yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## JPM marks out doing business issues at Nordic-Africa meeting

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in aviation and marine sector by purchasing more airplanes and ships," he said.

He commended Nordic countries of Norway, Denmark, Finland and Iceland for their keen support for African countries, urging them to focus more on economic partnerships.

The theme for this year's meeting is 'Partnering for Sustainable Development,' with the meeting involving the participation of 29 ministers from Nordic and African countries.

He said Nordic countries have been working on improving health, education, infrastructure, energy and various other sectors in Africa for many years.

"Cooperation between Africa and Nordic countries is historical as it started before independence. In Tanzania, they have worked a lot in improving social services and uplifting economic growth," he said.

Nordic countries constructed the Uyoile Agriculture Centre as well as the Kibaha Education Centre, under the Nordic-Tanganyika Project, he said.

President Magufuli further urged African countries to learn from Nordic countries to achieve various

development goals.

Despite having a population of around 27 million, Nordic countries have a Growth Domestic Product (GDP) of \$1.1 trillion while Africa which has a population of around 1.2 billion has a total GDP of US\$2.33 trillion, the president intoned.

He said Africa has a number of investment opportunities with eligible land for agriculture, livestock keeping and other potentials which are yet to be fully exploited.

The meeting has brought together representatives from Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Egypt, Ethiopia and Ghana.

Other countries are Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the hosts, Tanzania. Sweden, Norway, Finland, Iceland and Denmark are all attending the meeting.

Participants are expected to discuss investment opportunities, trade, peace and security, crosscutting issues like climate change and development partnership among individual countries.

## Empower people with disabilities with financial knowledge, says PS

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), Joseph Nyamuhanga has directed district executive directors to come up with programmes to provide financial education to people with disabilities.

He said despite the government programme to set funds aside for people with disabilities, youth and women, most people with disabilities

do not have knowledge on tapping such opportunity, thus a lot of money remains unspent.

Speaking at a panel discussion during the ongoing CSOs Week 2019, he stated that one of the challenges facing people with disabilities is access to the empowerment fund as some of them do not have entrepreneurial skills.

The session of the meeting organized by the Tanzania Federation of Disabled People's Organizations (SHIVYAWATA) and Oxfam was debating the current policy on the issue.

The panel examined implementation of the government policy that requires district councils to set aside 10 percent of own source revenue for youth, women and people with disabilities.

"I have realized that most people with disabilities do not access the loans provided as per government directives on special groups because they lack the knowledge and skills," he said.

It is quite sad that many of them do not go for the money, thus the need for district councils through

local authorities to plan how to empower them with knowledge that can help them access the support, he emphasized.

The PS noted that the ten percent portion of revenue allocated by district councils is a by-law and every district council in the country ought to comply with it, failure to which leaders in any council failing to do so will face disciplinary procedures.

In the 2018/19 financial year, district councils set aside a total of Sh 54.08 billion for groups of youth, women and

people with disability but until 30th June, 2019 about Sh 42.06bn had been disbursed in loans.

Out of this group, people with disabilities got Sh 3.87 billion, much smaller than Sh 23.18 billion for women and Sh 15.01 for youth.

The government has set aside Sh 66.22 billion in the 2019/2020 whereby women and youth are allocated Sh 24.9 billion and people with disabilities Sh 12.4 billion.

Speaking at the same debate, SHIVYAWATA Secretary, Jonas Lubago

also said that many people with disabilities do not have knowledge on finances, especially borrowing money to start income generating activities.

"It is sad that some of us are not aware that there is such empowerment fund set by the government" he said, adding that there is need for more public education on this.

He appealed to the government to consider allowing individual people to borrow the money unlike the current situation where the money is just given to groups of people.

## Ministry launches hunting blocks electronic bidding second phase

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of online auction having taken place mid-June, from June 10 to 17 when a total of 26 hunting blocks were sold on the ministry's portal.

Contributing over 17.5 percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), tourism activities in Tanzania rake in nearly US \$ 2.5 billion/-. This annual sum translating to over 5.6 trillion/- is the highest figure in foreign exchange earnings ever recorded, he specified.

When electronic bidding started

there were 160 potential hunting blocks but 78 of them had already been occupied and 81 blocks were put on e-auctioning in three phases, the first took phase was in mid-June and the second is coming up next week.

Local trackers through professional hunting associations lauded the government's move to float the hunting blocks through online auctioning, saying the decision will make bidding more transparent and reveal the actual value of each and every hunting block.

## Heeding Uhuru's call, elders pledge to end FGM by 2022

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consciousness," he said at the ceremony that was used to launch the national policy on the eradication of FGM. "The practice is inimical to our shared fundamental values as enshrined in our very own constitution that we as Kenyans passed."

The President called on Kenyans to shun destructive practices such as FGM and embrace progressive cultural activities that bestow honour and dignity on women and girls.

"A time comes when one gets exposed to newer ways of life. It is time therefore for all of us to discard retrogressive cultures for the benefit of the nation," the Head of State said.

He tasked government officials in the ministries of gender, education, health and public administration to take the lead in championing government efforts aimed at ending FGM in all parts of the country.

"If you find any government official, whether a chief or assistant chief, who supports this retrogressive culture, inform relevant offices so they are dealt with firmly."

The President cautioned cross-border communities against escaping to neighbouring countries to undertake

FGM, saying he and his counterparts were discussing how to deal with offenders in other jurisdictions.

Dr Ademola Olajide, the County Representative of the United Nations Population Fund, said FGM is one of the initial violations of the rights of women and girls.

Dr Olajide further noted that FGM has serious economic and health consequences on the victims.

He thanked the President and First Lady for their leading roles in the fight against the practice and assured them of the organisation's full support in ensuring the country ends the practice by 2022.

Gender Cabinet Secretary Margaret Kobia commended the First Lady for her outstanding contribution to the promotion of maternal and child health, and to safeguarding women against consequences such as obstetric fistula through the Beyond Zero Initiative.

ICT minister Joseph Mucheru, Gender Chief Administrative Secretary Rachael Shebesh, Canadian High Commissioner Lisa Stadelbauer and Austrian Ambassador to Kenya Dr Christian Fellner also attended the ceremony.



Yusuph Ngalemwa (L) of the Open University of Tanzania's Singida regional centre briefs Dr Inmi Patterson, Chargé d'Affaires at the US Embassy in Tanzania, on the use of traditional farm implements when she visited the centre and the Singida regional museum earlier this week. Photo courtesy of the US Embassy

## SADC ministers scorn infant formulas, breastfeeding best

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practices," she emphasized.

She said that the rate of malnutrition among children in the country remains a challenge due to ignorance about appropriate infant feeding, with two-thirds of deaths of under-five children blamed on improper feeding.

Reports show half of babies in Tanzania are not exclusively breastfed in the first six months, while babies who receive no breast milk at all are seven times more likely to die from infections than those who received at least some breast milk in their first six months of life.

The reports also show that many mothers don't follow recommendations by health experts that babies should receive regular breastfeeding for their first six months, which results in acute malnutrition and stunting among children.

Other estimates show that Tanzania

has more than 2.7 million children aged less than five years who are stunted. Another 430,000 plus children suffer from acute malnutrition, with 100,000 of them diagnosed as having severely acute malnutrition, which means they are at high risk of dying if they don't receive proper treatment.





Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission researcher Christina Nyakvi verifies instruments used in examining rays. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# CSOs have changed the nation, says Jafo

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

SELEMANI Jafo, minister of State in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government, yesterday applauded the Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in the country for great contribution that has helped shape the country.

Speaking while officiating at the closure of the CSOs Week 2019, here, the minister said while the fifth phase government has done a lot to improve lives of people, it is worth noting that there are the things that CSOs shouted for.

He said achievements in various sectors are on the main issues raised by the organisations at some point back. Outlining the performance of the government in the past four years, he said all could not have been done had the CSO failed to play their roles effectively.

"The government acknowledges your contributions that have led to positive changes in almost all sectors of development," he said, adding that members of the CSOs should feel proud, knowing that they have changed lives.

He singled out key areas like education, health and agriculture, among others that CSOs had in the past advocated for improve but the current government has done a lot on them.

According to the minister various development in different sectors, associated with the fifth government is due to contributions of different stakeholders, but strongly the CSOs.

He directed the sector coordination's desk at his office to give CSOs due attention they deserve whenever they seek services there.

He issued the same directive to all the regional administration authorities, calling on them to receive organisations and coordinate their activities in the regions.

He also observed that the CSOs have helped create employment for many people, reducing the burden of unemployment to the government, calling on them to focus on sustainability.

Reminding the meeting that he once worked in one of the CSOs in the country, Jafo said the organisations are good at training people to work hard for better results unlike in the government where they are elements of laxity.

He attributed his performance as one of the hardworking ministers in the government to good practices he learnt while serving at the CSOs.

However, the minister who spent one and half hours addressing the meeting warned the CSOs to refrain from any unlawful activities, saying that despite the good deed, there are some few rogue CSOs who do not mean well for the nation.

He said before the government pounce on such organisations, members of the CSOs fraternity should openly point fingers and warn them against their bad deeds.

Jafo also called on them to be patriotic, knowing that Tanzania is for all and any bad thing in the country affect all people.

Speaking earlier, the Foundation for Civil Society (FCS)'s president Stigmata Tenga said the participants and the organisers were pleased with the government, parliament and other stakeholders participation in the week-long event.

"We are glad of the ministers, members of parliament, the speaker and other stakeholders who participated in the debates and discussion during the week," she said, adding that it has never been this way in the past.



**The government acknowledges your contributions that have led to positive changes in almost all sectors of development**

# Agriculture minister dissolves TFC's board of directors, saying it has failed to deliver

By Guardian Reporter

THE Agriculture Minister, Japhet Hasunga, has dissolved Tanzania Fertiliser Company (TFC)'s Board of Directors for their failure to import fertiliser, hence the state-run firm failed to do business as required by the law governing its establishment.

He also said that the board and its director general failed to provide solutions to the high cost of fertiliser as well as ensuring that farmers get the farm inputs at low price in line with soil type and on time.

Other issues mentioned was their failure to revive the company as they were required to.

Minister Hasunga made the decision yesterday during the meeting held at TFC Offices in Dar es Salaam.

He also transferred the TFC general manager Salum Mkumba to the ministry of Agriculture so that he complete one month of his contract.

The TFC board was appointed on December 1, 2017 with six members including Eng Eli Pallangyo, Nuru Ndile, Rosemary Msabaha, Peter Shao, Dr Kadida Mashaushi and the late Prof

Egid Mubofu.

The minister gave a two-week ultimatum for the TFC staff to ensure that 127 containers of fertiliser which are at the Dar es Salaam Port are released and reached farmers across the country. "We need the fertiliser as soon as possible," he stressed.

He also tasked TFS workers to submit changes in the firm's capital that goes in line with the companies' laws as well as coming up with action plan that shows how they will distribute fertiliser to farmers this year.

The action plan should also indicate

ways they can distribute pesticides, seeds and other farm inputs.

Hasunga said that he would send special team of auditors to audit the state-run company to establish as to why it failed to execute its duties as expected.

The minister also annulled the appointment of Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Tito Haule, Acting Director General of Tanzania Coffee Board, Primus Kimaryo and tobacco Board acting Director General, Dr Julius Ningu for what he said they have failed to execute their duties.

# Africa poised to lead way in global green revolution, says IEA report

By Guardian Reporter

AFRICA is poised to lead the world's cleanest economic revolution by using renewable energy sources to power a massive spread of urbanisation, says an International Energy Agency (IEA) report.

The IEA, or International Energy Agency, predicts that solar energy will play a big role in supporting the continent's growing population and industrialisation over the next 20 years.

Africa has less than half the solar power installations seen in the UK, despite the sunnier conditions, but the IEA is predicting a solar boom in countries across the continent, which could give hundreds of millions of homes electricity for the first time.

The report forecasts that Africa's appetite for energy will grow at double the rate of the global average in the coming decades as the continent overtakes China and India as the most populated region in the world.

Africa's population is expected to grow to more than 2 billion people by 2040, a rise of 800 million from today or the population equivalent of the US and Europe combined, says the report.

People are expected to turn to cities and towns at a rate never seen before, where the demand for new houses and infrastructure will ignite an energy-hungry industrial revolution.

Fatih Birol, executive director of the IEA, said Africa had a "unique opportunity" to leapfrog the fossil fuel dependency of other industrialised regions and host the

first economic transformation that did not contribute to the climate crisis.

"I am optimistic about Africa's energy future - it will surprise pessimists," Birol said. "I have great expectations for the energy industry in the years to come, both in terms of bringing energy access to Africa's people but also driving economic growth."

He urged Africa's leaders to take advantage of the natural resources available through solar power generation, and the mining of raw minerals needed to make electric and hydrogen batteries, which are in high demand across the world.

He said some fossil fuels, such as natural gas, would be needed to support Africa's heavy industries as they built the towns and cities needed to house the continent's growing population. But the increase would be insignificant in the wider global climate effort, according to the IEA.

Birol said: "Africa's total contribution to cumulative global emissions from energy over the last 100 years is only 2%, which is half the emissions of Germany today. If everyone in Africa had access to energy this 2% will rise to just 3% - it's still nothing. It's peanuts compared to other countries in the world which are using fossil fuels such as coal for energy."

"But while Africa does not contribute to climate change the continent is on the frontline of its potential effects, including droughts. Africa is perhaps the most innocent continent in terms of its contributions to climate change, but they will be the victims."



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa makes remarks shortly after prayers at Nunge mosque in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: PMO

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

# Multiple lane highway nearing halfway point

THE major construction project involving expansion of 19.2 kilometers of the Morogoro Road to four lanes on either side has reached 48 percent.

The project which covers part of the road from Kimara in Dar es Salaam to Kibaha in Coast region will be completed by January 2021.

Works, Transport and Communication Deputy Minister Atashasta Nditiye told the lawmakers that the project is being executed

by a local company—Estim Construction Co. Ltd, supervised by the Engineering Consulting Unit (TECU) tied to the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS). "This project is fully funded by the government at a cost of 140.45bn/-. Completion of the Kimara-Kibaha stretch will pave the way for extension of the four lanes a side beyond Kibaha along Morogoro Road," he said. Currently, it is estimated that over 50,000

motor vehicles traverse Morogoro Road on a routine basis. The road is an important link to Dar es Salaam port which serves neighbouring landlocked countries of Rwanda, Burundi, Zambia, Malawi, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The current expansion work to four lanes either side will stretch from Kimara to Kibaha, at a point around 150 metres

after crossing the old weighing bridge, he remarked.

In some areas the road will be expanded to six lanes a side, while the project involves construction of flyovers at Kibamba, Kiluyva, Mpiji and Mloganzila. He was responding to a basic question by Kibaha Urban MP Silvestry Koka (CCM) who had tasked the government to extend the road expansion work to Mlandizi area in Coast region.

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# Govt in talks with potential buyer of over 8 million kilos of tobacco

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE British American Tobacco Ltd is in talks with the government as a potential buyer intending to purchase more than 8 million kilos of the cash crop starting 2019/2020 farming season.

Agriculture Deputy Minister, Hussein Bashe told the National Assembly that the government met with various potential buyers and stakeholders in September this year to discuss challenges and solutions to the available challenges.

According to Bashe, estimated tobacco production for the 2019/2020 season is 42,225,985 kilos as per survey conducted in July this year by Alliance One Tobacco Tanzania Limited, Japan Tobacco International Leaf Services and Premium Active Tanzania Limited.

He said production estimates helps farmers, cooperative unions and the government to make early preparations such as distribution of seeds and other agricultural inputs.

The country's demand for tobacco fertilisers is 14,951 tonnes. Of the number, 3,139 tonnes are planting fertiliser and another 27 percent for growing.

"We have procured enough fertiliser which is now distributed to tobacco growers across the country. The exercise is supervised by farmers' cooperative unions. Until October 2019, we have distributed 1,774 tonnes (82.13 percent) of fertiliser in Urambo district against the demand of 2,160 tonnes.

Bashe noted that as part of initiatives to boost tobacco production as well as strengthening market systems, the government is consulting various stakeholders to secure markets in member countries of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

(COMESA).

"We want our tobacco to be sold in COMESA countries. Currently, Algeria, Egypt and Sudan purchases Tanzanian tobacco produced in Moshi, Kilimanjaro region," said the deputy minister.

He added that the government sponsored five tobacco experts in China undergoing trainings on how best farmers in Tanzania can cultivate the crop. He said the aim is to ensure production of quality tobacco that matches China's market standards.

Following the trainings, he said, five new tobacco varieties were imported from China and are being tested at various parts across the country whereas ten acres have been planted under the supervision of Tobacco Research Institute of Tanzania (TORITA) and Tanzania Tobacco Board (TTB).

He was responding to a question by Special Seats MP, Margareth Sitta who wanted to know measures the government was taking to find solutions to the many challenges facing tobacco farmers in the country.

Sitta said tobacco farmers especially those in Urambo district face a number of challenges including destructive pests, lack of reliable markets and delayed distribution of inputs.

According to the Tanzania Tobacco Board, production of the cash crop had been on the decline since the 2013/2014 farming season.

Production of tobacco declined from 105 million kilogrammes in 2013/2014 to 93 million kilogrammes in 2014/2015. Also decreased from 72 million kilogrammes in 2015/2016 to 60 kilogrammes in 2016/2017 and to further 50.5 million kilogrammes in 2017/2018.

Tanzania is second in Africa in tobacco production after Malawi.



Multi Cable Limited official Rukhsar Kanji (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday explaining to visitors at the firm's pavilion at the three-day (November 7 to 9) 22nd East Africa International Trade Exhibition. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Chinese Embassy embarks on anti-poaching campaign in Mikumi

By Guardian Reporter

THE Chinese Embassy in Tanzania has come up with an initiative to capacitate residents living around Mikumi National park with essential skills and equipment on smart farming so as to fight poaching and improve wildlife protection.

Speaking during the event to hand over various agriculture inputs to the community at Mhenda village in Kilosa district, Morogoro region deputy minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Constantine Kanyasu said that community engagement in wildlife protection is a key area.

Kanyasu said that the Chinese

embassy has donated 2500 kg of maize seeds, sunflower seeds (150kg) and 800kg of peas seeds to enable the community venture into agribusiness to improve their income.

"Apart from the seeds, the embassy has also donated 13 pairs of security clothes, 13 pairs of boot shoes, a desktop computer and a television which will be used to train the residents in best farming practices...this will transform the villagers mindset and enable them embark on farming for their development," he said.

The deputy minister further hailed China for their support to the community as well as its decision to ban elephant tusks market.

Earlier, Chinese ambassador to Tanzania Wang Ke said that experts from China will train the community on smart agriculture by using modern technology as well the importance of protecting wildlife.

According to her, with the use of technology, farmers can increase their productivity by doubling their yields something which will encourage them to shun poaching acts. Mhenda Ward councillor Ali Athuman commended the Chinese embassy for their support vowing to ensure that the training brings positive impacts in the area.

Recently, the minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Dr Hamisi Kigwangalla said that the government

through the Nation's Taskforce Against Poaching (NTAP) is preparing zero poaching campaign which is aiming to eradicate poaching businesses by 2024.

The minister said that despite efforts by the government authorities, there are still some challenges in curbing poaching, citing increased demand for government trophies in the illegal export market.

He decried increased illegal human activities within wildlife areas, increase of human wildlife conflicts, rising illegal trade of bush meat, increasing demand of charcoal in and outside the country, poverty and low understanding among Tanzanians as some of the impediments of anti-poaching drive.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister William Lukuvi issues directives on land-related conflicts to Kilosa district executive director Asajile Mwambambale. The minister was in the district earlier this week. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

## UNIDO to launch bioethanol stoves in Dar es Salaam

By Guardian Reporter

THE United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) in collaboration with TIB Development Bank and Consumer's Choice are today expected to launch a promotional roll-out campaign to distribute bioethanol cook stoves.

To be launched at Tabata JICA School, in Dar es Salaam's Ilala District, the campaign is under the project for Promotion of Bioethanol as a Clean Alternative Fuel for Cooking.

According to a statement issued yesterday by UNIDO, the event will bring together different

stakeholders, including Local Government, Private sector and Community residents.

"The project aim is to bring clean cooking solutions to half a million households in various wards of Dar es Salaam starting with Tabata Ward, Ilala District.

Dar es Salaam city has been identified as one of the major charcoal consuming markets in the country," the statement reads in part.

"The proposed intervention will stimulate the enhanced production of bioethanol from molasses as a by-product of sugarcane processing."

Currently molasses are being

produced in Tanzania sugar factories and, are not being utilized to their full potential. Molasses are the raw material for production of fuel-grade bioethanol - which can be used as a clean fuel for cooking in households, while offsetting Green House Gas (GHG) emissions attributed to over reliance on traditional biomass.

"The Bioethanol Cookstoves will be distributed to the households through a roll-out programme that will go from ward to ward and from street to street. A private company - Consumer Choice Ltd. has been appointed to distribute ethanol stoves to a total of 110,000 households for the first phase of the

project."

In Tanzania more than 80 percent of households depend on biomass as a major source of energy. The most commonly used household cooking devices in the country include three stone fires, metal charcoal stoves, improved charcoal stoves, kerosene stoves, gas stoves and electric cookers.

Typical cooking fires can produce significant amounts of smoke and, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO) reports, prolonged exposure can be associated with respiratory infections, eye damage, heart and lung diseases.

## Polls schedule intact despite Chadema boycott - Waitara

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

A day after the opposition party-Chadema announced to boycott the coming civic polls, the government has maintained that Tanzanians will vote to elect local leaders on November 24, 2019.

"We have heard about their decision to boycott local government elections. Polls will be conducted as scheduled", said Deputy Minister in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) Mwita Waitara.

Waitara told the National Assembly yesterday that the government is prepared to ensure peaceful elections warning the opposition and other citizens to refrain from instigating chaos during and after the election.

Stringent legal measures will be taken against anyone attempting to disrupt the elections, he said adding that allegations that Chadema candidates were disqualified are baseless.

The Deputy Minister directed Regional, District Commissioners and security committees to take action against anyone instigating chaos in their specific areas.

"This country is governed by law. Eligible opposition candidates who claim to be disqualified were required to follow proper channels in finding solutions to their registration challenges", said Waitara noting that the government was set to listen to all candidates' queries from today.

The explanations followed a query raised by Sumve legislator, Richard Ndassa (CCM) on what was the government stance following Chadema's announcement to withdraw from the coming polls.

Similar question was raised by Singida North legislator, Justine Monko (CCM), asking the government to issue an official statement following Chadema's withdrawal in the coming civic polls.

In addition, Home Affairs Minister, Kangi Lugola directed the Inspector General of Police (IGP) to take action against some few people allegedly

instigate chaos at various parts of the country including those claimed to destruct farms in Mbozi district, Mbeya region.

"Security organs including the police force are determined to ensure peace throughout elections. We will use all the resources we have to control malpractices during election and ensure Tanzanians practice their right to vote," said Lugola insisting the force is closely monitoring the situation in streets and social networks to identify and take measures against the culprits.

Lugola urged Chadema to ensure it secures permit from responsible authorities before conducting party and public meetings.

On Thursday, the opposition, Chadema, announced its withdrawal from the forthcoming civic polls citing massive disqualification of its candidates as the main reason.

The party's National Chairman, Freeman Mbowe announced the boycott at a press conference in Dodoma after a day-long meeting of the party's Central Committee and its parliamentary caucus.

There are 22 registered political parties in Tanzania.

The coming civic polls will be the sixth since the country re-introduced multiparty democracy.

Minister of State in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government, Selemani Jafo, said recently the target was to register 22.9 million voters but only 19.7 million registered for the polls.

Statistics from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) shows there are 26,960,485 eligible voters in the country.

**“We have heard about their decision to boycott local government elections. Polls will be conducted as scheduled**



# GERMANY CELEBRATES

# 30 YEARS

# FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL



## Why was the Berlin Wall built?



In the aftermath of World War II the Western Allies and the Soviet Union divided Germany into four occupation zones. Four years later, in 1949, out of these zones two separate countries would emerge, the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) and the Soviet controlled German Democratic Republic (East Germany). Berlin, which was located deep within East Germany, was also divided in two because it was granted a special status after the war.

In 1952 the GDR closed the inner border between East and West Germany by installing fences, guards and "protection strips". Up to then it had been relatively easy to cross the border in most places. However, it was not completely closed and there remained one way in particular on which GDR citizens could enter West Germany: the border to West Berlin.

In the following years a wave of migration from East Germany to West Germany ensued.

Between 1949 and 1961 a total of about 2.7 million East Germans left the GDR, most of them to West Germany. As a consequence of this brain and labor drain the GDR was on the brink of economic collapse. With the construction of the Berlin Wall the loophole for GDR citizens was ultimately closed and mass migration stopped.

Although Walter Ulbricht, the then highest-ranking GDR politician, had declared in June 1961 that nobody had the intention of erecting a wall, preparations for the construction began a mere two months later on August 13, 1961. In the early morning hours police and military forces began tearing up the asphalt and turning away all traffic on the connecting roads between East and West Berlin. Temporary barriers and barbed wire fences were put up to separate the two sectors. In the following days and weeks these were then replaced by concrete elements and large blocks, forming

the Wall proper. Modifications, reinforcements and further extensions were made in the years to come.

The Berlin Wall, which was called "anti-fascist protective rampart" by the East German propaganda, but which actually only served to isolate the own population, stretched 43.1 km through Berlin's city centre and included a further 111.9 km of border fortifications separating West Berlin from the territory of the GDR.

During the 28 years in which the Wall stood, thousands of people risked their lives trying to leave the GDR across the inner-German border. Attempting to leave the GDR over the Berlin Wall, at least 140 people lost their lives.

The border between West and East Berlin would remain closed until the fateful day of November 9, 1989.

# NOVEMBER 9, 1989

## THE DAY THAT CHANGED EUROPEAN HISTORY

Guenter Schabowski's press conference on November 9, 1989 was a fairly dull affair for most of its duration, according to those present. But a question by an Italian journalist right at the end turned it into one of European history's most memorable events.

Schabowski [Editor's note: a high ranking official of the Socialist Unity Party of the GDR] was asked just before 7 p.m. about when a new law permitting GDR citizens more freedom of travel would go into effect. Schabowski famously told the journalist: "As far as I know, that goes into effect now, immediately."

Since television viewers in both East and West Germany were following the live press conference, his comments electrified East Germans and eventually led to a redrawing of the European map.

Immediately following the remark, GDR citizens rushed to the border separating East and West Berlin, wanting to visit the western part of the city. The GDR border guards were unaware of the press conference, and, taken aback by the crowds gathering in front of them, made repeated calls to their superiors asking for guidance. They successfully prevented citizens from crossing the border for three hours.

But later in the evening, the guards relented and opened the borders. People were able to cross freely from East to West for the first time since the wall was erected on Au-



People celebrate on the Wall on November 10, 1989.



Seat of the German Bundestag (Federal Parliament)

gust 21, 1961. In the months prior to Schabowski's press conference, thousands of GDR citizens had taken to the streets demanding political reform.

The so-called "Monday Demonstrators" in the eastern city of Leipzig had drawn special attention for their protests. Shouts by demonstrators of "We are the people!" became commonplace, followed by "Gorbi! Gorbi!" - calls directed at Mikhail Gorbachev, the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Since 1985, Gorbachev had been implementing reforms in his country, and Germans living in the GDR hoped to see his ideas adopted there as well.

However, the hardline government under GDR leader Erich Honecker was not interested in reform, and the government's refusal to change ultimately led to its own demise.

On October 18, 1989, Honecker was forced to step down. He was replaced by Egon Krenz as head of state, but even this shift could not prevent the GDR's collapse.

A November 4 protest at Berlin's Alexanderplatz attracted 500,000 people, making it clear that a change of leadership would not win the people's trust. When the Berlin Wall opened five days later, demands for reunification of East and West Germany grew louder. In light of the increasing support for reunification, Western diplomats travelled

to the GDR a few weeks after the Wall's opening. France and England in particular reacted with mistrust to the prospect of the large and economically powerful German state that reunification would create in the heart of Europe. If they could not stop reunification entirely, the two countries at least hoped to apply political sanctions on Germany.

Helmut Kohl, then-chancellor of Germany, kept their position in mind as he delivered a speech in front of the ruins of Dresden's "Frauenkirche" cathedral that drew worldwide attention. Kohl declared that German unity would only be possible in the context of a more unified Europe generally. He said German and European unification were just two sides of the same coin. His speech garnered thunderous applause from the GDR citizens in attendance.

Nevertheless, French President Francois Mitterrand travelled to the GDR two days later in an attempt to prevent West Germany from annexing the East.

By early 1990, the international community watched closely the process of German reunification to ensure that the interests of Germans as well as of the four conquering allied powers from World War II (England, France, the US and the Soviet Union) were respected. German negotiators worked out the conditions of a German reunification internally, while both West and East German officials consulted with the four powers about the international ramifications of their proposal.

This so-called "2 plus 4" process (representing the two German states and the four allied powers) concluded with a declaration of sovereignty for Germany on September 12, 1990. German negotiations had already resulted in a contract that specified all aspects of the new relationship between East and West Germany on August 31, 1990.

On October 3, 1990, the former East German states officially joined the Federal Republic of Germany. The date marked the end of the GDR and the beginning of a reunified Federal Republic.

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People climbing the Wall shortly after its opening



# A commitment to strong multilateralism

**Foreign Minister Heiko Maas on Germany's challenges in the United Nations Security Council, the heart of the international order.**

On 1 January 2019, Germany became a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the 2019/2020 term. As a result, Germany has assumed major responsibility for peace and security in the world for the sixth time in this role.

Our two-year term on the United Nations Security Council began on 1 January 2019. In the elections in June 2018, 184 states gave us their vote - a huge mark of trust in

difficult times. As a member of the Security Council, we now want to help find concrete solutions to the pressing crises and conflicts of our age.

The Security Council will thus also be the central point for our engagement for multilateralism and the rules-based international order. Criticisms of the Security Council notwithstanding, I would not like to imagine a global order without this crucial forum for crisis diplomacy. Germany has in

the past benefited greatly from multilateral cooperation; it is the foundation for our security and our prosperity. Again and again we see that it is to the benefit of all if we work together, coordinate at international level and elaborate and apply rules together. Our maxim is: "Together first".

We want to work with the other European Security Council members to strengthen Europe's voice in New York. And if we Europeans find a common position,



Heiko Maas, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs

our voice will have greater weight. I am particularly pleased that we are planning joint presidencies with France for March and

April 2019. Such a move is unprecedented in the Security Council, and it issues a signal: for a strong Europe in New York and for the

Treaty of Aachen. Germany and France intend to place their joint focus on strengthening international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles. Together we want to orient the Security Council more to crisis prevention and sustainable peacekeeping. In this context, it is important that the Council cooperates better with other bodies within the UN system, such as the Human Rights Council.

It also involves paying greater attention to the impact climate change has on peace and security. The subject of climate and security was already on the agenda at the start of our term in January. During the discussions, it became clear that the Security Council cannot close its eyes to the effects of climate change on peace and security. Climate change is real; it has a global

reach and so needs to be taken into account in all conflict situations.

During our Council presidency, however, we also want to intensify our efforts in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation and advocate for the further strengthening of the "Women, Peace and Security" agenda. This includes ensuring better protection for women against sexualised violence and strengthening their role in peace processes.

Germany has been engaged on the ground in many specific crises for years, as one of the largest donors of humanitarian assistance in the world, or in special formats, such as the Normandy format on eastern Ukraine or the Small Group on Syria.

I am looking forward to these two years in which we hope to play an active role in shaping the Security Council and to be a clear European voice. That is multilateralism in practice. And we need more of that!

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## Germany and Tanzania: A strong and respectful relationship

### Interview with Jörg Herrera, Chargé d'Affaires of Germany in Tanzania

November 9, 2019, marks the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall

On November 9, 1989, Berlin was reunited. The fall of the Berlin Wall marked the collapse of a massive border complex that divided the city into an eastern and western part for 28 years, tearing apart families, friends and neighbors.

Today, Berlin is known as a place of freedom, opportunity and individuality. But that was not always the case. On August 13, 1961, work began on the construction of the Berlin Wall. It stood as a symbol of a divided city and country, of oppression and the Cold War. Overnight, it changed the face of an entire nation.

For many people November 9, 1989, was a day of joy as it was the day they regained their freedom after years or even decades of peaceful struggle against the oppressive GDR regime.

In 2019, the year of the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, Berlin and the whole of Germany are celebrating this peaceful revolution and the German unity that was to follow.

As Germany celebrates the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, tell us about the new Germany.

The fall of the Berlin Wall on November 9, 1989, eventually led to German reunification in 1990. Germany has since then developed a strong and resilient economy and has become the most populous country in Europe. This came, of course, with increased international responsibility. Having learned from our history, our most important political goals are the further integration of Europe and contributing for peace and stability in the world through multilateralism.

Germany currently occupies a non-permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council and will assume the presidency of the European Union in July 2020. We know that today's challenges cannot be tackled alone: climate change, poverty reduction, armed conflicts around the globe - all these require mul-

tilateral answers and solutions.

In today's Germany, even after almost three decades of German unity, differences between East and West still remain. The economy of the Federal States in the East continues to be weaker than in the western regions. The creation of equal living conditions therefore is still a major social concern in Germany.

**What is the current relationship between Germany and Tanzania like?**

Our two countries look back on a long and intensive relationship that started in the colonial era at the end of the 19th century. During the cold war there was close cooperation between Tanzania and the German Democratic Republic in various social sectors. Our current relationship and cooperation is deep and strong. There is regular contact between our political leaders, only a few months ago German Chancellor Merkel and President Magufuli discussed over the phone various issues of mutual interest. German politicians in general have continuously shown strong interest in Tanzania, we have had half a dozen of political delegations visiting Tanzania since the beginning of this year. As far as our development cooperation is concerned, we signed two bilateral agreements with the Tanzania Government last month alone and over the years we have supported Tanzania with projects of an amount totalling over 2 billion Euros. There is also strong cooperation in the security sector, with German armed forces actively supporting Tanzania People's Defense Forces with equipment aid in the medical field, thereby acknowledging the important role Tanzania's armed forces play in UN peacekeeping missions in Africa.

In a nutshell, our relationship is deep and respectful, we have been partners for a long time and will be partners for many decades to come.

**Tanzania and Germany have been cooperating in various areas. What is the**



**status of economic and trade relations between the two countries and how do you see it developing in the future?**

A large number of German companies have been present in Tanzania for many years. Either with their own offices and subsidiaries or represented by local companies. In the last years, we have seen increasing interest by German companies in investment and trade with Tanzania. In April 2018, we opened a branch office of the German Chambers of Commerce Abroad (AHK) in Dar es Salaam in order to promote business relations between our two countries.

We also regularly bring trade missions to Tanzania and arrange meetings with representatives of the Government, private sector and other stakeholders. Germany has been participating at the Dar es Salaam Industrial Trade Fair Saba Saba in the last years, with our exhibition having received the award of the best foreign pavilion during the last three years.

There are a number of German blue chip companies

with offices in Tanzania like Siemens or BASF, but the backbone of our industry back home in Germany is the so-called Mittelstand, which are medium size companies. This is where we see a lot of potential in the coming years. The Tanzanian Government has acknowledged that the business environment has been challenging in the last years, mainly because of necessary legislative action in the fight against corruption. But there are measures taken that will have positive effects in the near future, like the implementation of the Blueprint under the leadership of the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

We also have high hopes with regard to the East African Community (EAC) and for Tanzania to become a regional hub and entry point into the East African market. This of course requires further economic integration within the EAC and ease for cross-border traffic of goods and people. But our companies back home are on standby and are observing the developments closely.

**How is Germany contrib-**



**uting to the Tanzania's industrialization? Is there an intention of creating a trade and investment climate that's conducive to foster a greater bi-lateral relationship?**

As I said, there are a number of German companies present in Tanzania that are investing in production and manufacturing. Some of them are considering expanding their production, which might eventually lead to the creation of industrial clusters.

I clearly see an intention to improve the business and investment climate in the country. As mentioned before, the implementation of the so-called Blueprint is an important step in this direction. The Tanzania Investment Centre also plays a vital role and has been supportive when it comes to facilitating investment. We have been in discussions with the Tanzanian Government over the construction of a fertilizer plant in southern Tanzania, near Lindi. This joint German-Danish investment has

a volume of 3 billion USD. Negotiations have been ongoing for some years but we're very positive that they will come to a conclusion soon. Not only local farmers would benefit from the production of high-quality fertilizer, the products would also go into export which will in turn create income for Tanzania. And, most importantly, this fertilizer plant would lead to the settlement of more industries and the creation of an industrial cluster in one of the less developed parts of the country, thus creating jobs for the local population and income for the region.

**What are the key lessons that Tanzania can learn from Germany?**

The question should rather be about what we can learn from each other. Germany can certainly provide expertise and experience in the economic field. For instance, we have been internationally renowned for our concept of vocational training. This mix of practical training and theoretical learning has been exported to many countries around the world. We have a number of small joint projects with our Tanzania partners (VETA and VTA). Another sector where Germany has developed expertise is the energy market, especially renewable energy. We are in the process of overhauling Germany's energy supply, moving away from nuclear and fossil fuels towards renewables and better energy efficiency. Today, about one third of the energy consumption in Germany comes from renewables. Tanzania has very favorable conditions for renewables,

esp. for wind and solar energy. We offer our expertise in order to make full use of this enormous potential.

And there's a lot we can learn from Tanzania: the peaceful co-existence of various religions in this country is exemplary, also the way this is constantly supported and fostered by the Government. Tanzania has been welcoming refugees from its neighboring countries for decades. Over the years, it has provided shelter to hundreds of thousands of refugees. Looking at the Tanzanian example, Europe should be humbled considering our ongoing discussion back home on whether to provide shelter for more refugees from Syria or Afghanistan.

It is also impressive to see how Tanzania is committed to preserving its natural resources. About 30 percent of the national territory is protected and the recent ban of plastic bags is exemplary.

**Germany has been supporting the government of Tanzania on issues such as health care, water supply and sanitation, as well as biodiversity. How would you describe the progress made so far?**

I cannot overemphasize the strong, successful development cooperation that our two countries have enjoyed for many decades.

Last month, Germany signed an agreement with the Ministry of Finance and Planning, committing 8 million EUR (about 20 billion TSH) for the strengthening of the national health insurance system through digitization. This new project marks another great milestone of

our cooperation in the health sector. German development cooperation further aims at supporting the Tanzanian Government's efforts in the field of maternal and newborn health and we are particularly proud of our joint achievements in the regions of Lindi and Mtwara where we saw a drop of newborn mortality in our project hospitals by 38 percent in two years. Through the project "Tumaini La Mama", we have supported more than 1.1 million women and their newborns who have benefited from a comprehensive health insurance package in over 1,000 health facilities.

In the water sector we focus on improving water and sanitation services. Our cooperation over the years has significantly contributed to the installation of water supply services for more than 18 million people in rural areas and more than 10 million people in urban areas. A few weeks ago, H.E., President Magufuli, inaugurated the Sumbawanga Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Project, which is co-financed by Germany and the European Union. And capacity development, too, is showing tangible results: over 100 water and sanitation utilities now produce more water, generate more income, have fewer leakages and serve more customers.

Our cooperation in biodiversity is rooted in the friendship between former President Julius Nyerere, and Prof. Bernhard Grzimek, former President of the Frankfurt Zoological Society. Both men were visionaries with regard to nature conservation and therefore Tanzania and Germany have been close partners in conservation for generations.

Since 2012, Germany has contributed almost 100 million Euros to conservation efforts in Tanzania. Our common objective is the sustainable use of natural resources and ensuring that ecosystems remain intact. We also want to secure and help increase the substantial revenues originating from nature-based tourism. Our cooperation has not only improved infrastructure for the management of protected areas but also contributed to income generation in communities surrounding protected areas as well as helped to mitigate human wildlife conflicts.



Inauguration of the Tanzanian Office of the German Chambers of Commerce Abroad (AHK) in Dar es Salaam (2018)



# Land reforms must benefit women more, experts say

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya, Morogoro

LAND reforms and programmes should benefit women who form a large part of the Tanzanian population, experts have suggested.

They made the suggestion when speaking at the two-day training to journalists focusing on women's land rights and sustainable investments.

Landesa's Land Tenure Specialist and Lawyer Godfrey Massay said that it was crucial important for women to own land.

Landesa Rural Development Institute champions and works to secure land rights for millions of the world's poorest mostly rural women and men to provide opportunity and promote social justice.

He said that women who have secured land among many other benefits, can have higher self-esteem, are better able to participate in local committees and governance structures, and are able to invest in their homes.

Massay further said that securing of land and property rights can enhance women's abilities to participate in informal trading and negotiate access to higher income emerging markets in the formal sector.

He said that when women have ownership, access and occupy and have control to land there were various benefits the community around could economically benefit.

Massay mentioned some of those benefits as an increase in productivity, income and expenditure.

Also they become self-reliant by reducing government expenditure on basic needs, contributions to country development through taxes, improved economic activity such as business engagement and bank credits. And cause impacts on population growth as women are more likely to negotiate reproductive rights.

Furthermore, when women have more choice and stronger voice, their social status would be improved, more women will engage in political activities and hence attain their other rights.

He further noted that when women get the right to land, automatically their families' nutrition, education, and health change positively.

Citing one of the World Bank, World Economic Development report, Massay said that gender equality smart

economics, enhanced productivity and improved other development outcomes.

But, "Inequality and sex-based discrimination with regard to land ownership and its effective control, is the single most critical contributor to violations of the economic, social and cultural rights of women among the agrarian economies of most developing countries."

So, "A gender approach to land rights can enable shifts in gender power relations, and assure that all people, regardless of sex, benefit and are empowered by development policies and practices to improve people's rights to land."

However, Massay mentioned some of the barriers to women's land and resource rights among many as: Cultural or legal inability to acquire land rights through markets, inheritance, transfer, or gift.

Barriers to rights created by intra-household customs (marriage/divorce, bride price/dowry, and polygamy).

Discriminatory laws and policies at the central or local level; poorly drafted regulations and laws governing land and property rights; and lack of knowledge, information, and enforcement.

He mentioned other barriers that hinder women's rights to collectively held property as: Lack of clear legal rules on who is a member of the community. Customarily married-in women considered a "stranger" in their husbands' community.

For her part, veteran journalist who is also one of Landesa's Board Members Eda Sanga while officiating the training said that land is life, and is everything.

Sanga said "If our well formulated laws, regulations and policies on land ownership are well utilised, women, particularly rural women and the entire community could abundantly benefit."

However, she said that the challenge is that they were not effectively utilised.

Meanwhile, Sanga has urged journalists to use the knowledge they received to educate the community, especially women on land ownership.

Studies indicate that women with strong property and inheritance rights earned up to 3.8 times more income. And children whose mothers own land devote more of their budget to education.



Fresh coconut fruit juice, a popular thirst quencher particularly along the eastern African coastline, on sale at a spot in Dar es Salaam's Vingunguti suburb yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

By Guardian Reporter

COMMONWEALTH law ministers have unanimously resolved to remove barriers to access to justice in their respective countries, and to deliver Sustainable Development Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions by 2030.

The biennial Commonwealth Law ministers meeting concluded on Thursday with a set of proposed actions to be taken at the national and Commonwealth level.

Ministers agreed to address the justice needs of vulnerable persons, including by expanding specialised justice services and targeting root causes of legal problems.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland said: "The Commonwealth Law ministers meeting is a powerful platform for mutual support and collaborative action to help all our member countries deliver on the values of our Commonwealth Charter, and towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals."

"The active circulation of ideas and solutions amongst such a diverse group

# Commonwealth law ministers resolve to take action on accessing of justice

of nations, and the resultant outcomes, are all testament to the value of the Commonwealth and its networks in supporting good governance and the rule of law."

Minister of Justice and Prison Reforms of Sri Lanka Thalatha Atukorale, who chaired the sessions, said: "Equal access to justice is integral to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and fundamental to defending human rights and democracy."

"However, new challenges require a trans-national and trans-institutional effort with international coordinated action. In this context, the Commonwealth is one of the most suitable platforms to work together on the same mission."

Ministers considered a major study on international commercial arbitration in the Commonwealth. They agreed this method of resolving cross-border disputes could be especially helpful for

small and medium-sized enterprises.

Countries were encouraged to consider signing the New York Convention on international commercial arbitration and adopt compatible national laws.

Ministers also welcomed a package of anti-corruption benchmarks, drafted by the Secretariat, designed to help governments and public sector bodies measure their anti-corruption activities, and make improvements if needed.

The benchmarks cover 25 areas, including corruption offences and public procurement. They will be submitted for final approval to Commonwealth Heads of Government at their biennial meeting in June 2020.

Ministers debated the transformative impact of technology in the delivery of justice, including ethical considerations. They agreed to explore the creation of Commonwealth

guidelines on the use of artificial intelligence in the legal sphere.

Countries agreed to support each other in adopting new technologies to ensure timely, convenient and equal access to justice, in a low-cost and people-friendly manner.

Finally, ministers called for a study on restorative justice in the Commonwealth - reconciling offender, victim and community to resolve disputes - taking note of indigenous, traditional and customary justice systems. The findings may be developed into Commonwealth good practices on the issue.

They commended the legal work of the Secretariat, including on virtual currencies, legislative drafting and cyber issues. The outcomes of the law ministers meeting will be tabled at the Commonwealth Heads of Government at their next meeting in Rwanda, in June 2020.



Registered Nurse Intisar Ahmed Saleh (L) of the Dar es Salaam-based Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) demonstrates to journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday how to conduct spontaneous vertex delivery as part of the commemoration of the organisation's 25th anniversary. The agency works to improve the quality of maternal and newborn health care and to prevent disability as well as provide affordable medical and rehabilitative services, and empower people with disabilities and their families. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# ANAPA dishes out 50 beehives to forest conservation group in Meru

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

ARUSHA National Park (ANAPA) has handed over 50 modern beehives worth 10m/- to an environmental conservation group in Usa River, Arumeru District.

Handing over the beehives, assistant regional administrative secretary, Hargenery Chitukuro said that the donation will empower group members to venture into commercial beekeeping, hence address poverty as well as scale up environmental conservation drive.

Chitukuro urged group members to properly manage the beekeeping

project and its related products.

He also commended efforts made by ANAPA in recognizing importance of forestry sector and beekeeping in increasing people's income.

According to Chitukuro, Arusha has a wide-range of investment opportunities particularly in the forestry sector, which are yet to be explored.

He cited Meru Council as one example, which has a total of 16,371 hectares of natural forest and 3,000 hectares of planted forests—all these are good avenues for running beekeeping projects.

Forest management is the responsibility of everyone in the society and not the government alone, he said, urging Tanzanians to explore the opportunity for their own development and the nation at large.

Arusha regional natural resources and Forestry officer, Julius Achiula cited limited budget as one of the challenges thwarting tree planting endeavors in the region. "This has been failing the region to reach the target of planting 10 million trees every year.

Citing example, Achiula said in 2013/2014, the region planted

5.4 million trees, which is 52 percent of the target, while in 2014/2015, 7.4 million trees were planted, which was 70 percent of the target.

"Failure to meet the target was caused by limited budget," he said. According to Meru Council natural resources and forestry officer, Charles Mungure every village has formed a special committee that spearheads environment and tree planting issues.

He said that so far 59 environmental and tree planting groups have been established across the district council.

# CCBRT supports 23 health facilities in maternal, newborn healthcare in Dar

By Guardian Reporter

THE Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) has managed to reach 23 public health facilities in maternal and newborn health care in Dar es Salaam since 2010.

According to a statement issued yesterday, CCBRT achieved this in collaboration with Dar es Salaam Regional Health Management Team, Five council health management teams, and hospital management teams.

"This month, CCBRT celebrates 25 years of providing quality care to those living with a disability or at risk of developing a disability. Recognising that prevention is more impactful than treatment and that safe births prevent lifelong disability, CCBRT began providing comprehensive interventions to the maternal health system in Dar es Salaam in 2010," a statement reads in part.

"At this milestone, CCBRT thanks and recognizes the efforts of the 23 public medical facilities it supports across the region, and reflects on the successes of the partnership."

"CCBRT believes in collaboration between partners to achieve the goal of reducing maternal and neonatal deaths. The achievements in strengthening the health system are largely due to the excellent relationship and support from the Regional and Municipal authorities," said Yohana Kaswala, Capacity Building Programme Operations Manager.

"Now, facilities are better equipped, and changes made to both infrastructure and staff capacities have made safe, quality care accessible for mothers and newborns," he said, adding:

"Systems, such as the referral system, have been strengthened to decongest facilities. Facilities are collecting more accurate and robust data, using sophisticated systems such as the Perinatal Problems Identification Programme (PPIP) which helps clinical staff to understand and prevent neonatal deaths.

The availability of blood is improving, ensuring that women and neonates will always be able to receive donated blood

in the case of an emergency. Leaders are engaged and take ownership over Quality Improvement systems."

"Together with its 23 partner facilities, CCBRT is counting every death and making sure every death counts. Death audits are a valuable tool in ensuring continuous learning and the sharing of best practices. These interventions have lowered the maternal mortality rate in Dar es Salaam, and will continue to do so."

"Despite these achievements, we have a long way to go and CCBRT will continue to work towards improving maternal health outcomes in Dar es Salaam until all women have a safe, dignified, and comfortable birth experience. Starting next year, CCBRT will also support this objective with the addition of its own Maternal Hospital, which will handle 12,000 deliveries per year," he said.

He added: "As CCBRT celebrates its first 25 years of service and prepares for the next 25, the organisation thanks the clinical staff of its partner facilities for their continued passion for and dedication to providing the highest quality care and safe deliveries. "Together, we will see a day where every woman can expect a safe and joyous pregnancy and delivery. Many thanks for your support and collaboration on this lifesaving work."

In another development, in a public-private partnership with the Government of Tanzania, CCBRT is also in the process of establishing the CCBRT Maternity and Newborn Hospital which will be a referral hospital for high risk cases in the region. Together the Maternity and Newborn Hospital and the existing Disability Hospital form the Super Specialist Hospital for the Eastern Zone of Tanzania. CCBRT's vision is a Tanzania where people have access to quality disability services as well as safe maternal and newborn healthcare.

"We are happy with the On Job Training approach used by CCBRT because it builds skills and knowledge of healthcare providers and this is also for sustainability," said Dr Ndeniria Swai, Dar es Salaam Regional Health Management Team (RHMT) member.



## Why do so many people disregard expert advice on taming diabetes?

**G**LOBALLY, an estimated 422 million adults are living with diabetes, according to the latest 2016 data from the World Health Organisation (WHO). Diabetes prevalence is increasing rapidly; previous 2013 estimates from the International Diabetes Federation put the number at 381 million people having diabetes. The number is projected to almost double by 2030.

The International Diabetes Federation (IDF) estimates that 14.2 million are living with diabetes in Africa. The region of Africa has the highest percentage of undiagnosed diabetes cases reaching 66.7 per cent, the highest proportion of diabetes mellitus related mortality and the lowest health expenditure spent on diabetes.

Type 2 diabetes makes up about 85-90 per cent of all cases. Increases in the overall diabetes prevalence rates largely reflect an increase in risk factors for type 2, notably greater longevity and being overweight or obese.

Diabetes mellitus occurs throughout the world, but is more common (especially type 2) in the more developed countries. The greatest increase in prevalence is, however, occurring in low- and middle-income countries including in Asia and Africa, where most patients will probably be found by 2030. The increase in incidence in developing countries follows the trend of urbanization and lifestyle changes, including increasingly sedentary lifestyles, less physically demanding work and the global nutrition transition, marked by increased intake of foods that are high energy-dense but nutrient-poor (often high in sugar and saturated fats, sometimes referred to as the Western pattern diet). The risk of getting type 2 diabetes has been widely found to be associated with lower socio-economic position across countries.

The WHO estimates that diabetes resulted in 1.5 million deaths in 2012, making it the 8th leading cause of death. However another 2.2 million deaths worldwide were attributable to high

blood glucose and the increased risks of associated complications (e.g. heart disease, stroke, kidney failure), which often result in premature death and are often listed as the underlying cause on death certificates rather than diabetes.

World Diabetes Day is the primary global awareness campaign focusing on diabetes mellitus and is held on 14 November each year. Led by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), each World Diabetes Day focuses on a theme related to diabetes; type 2 diabetes is largely preventable and treatable non-communicable disease that is rapidly increasing in numbers worldwide. Type 1 Diabetes is not preventable but can be managed with insulin injections. Topics covered have included diabetes and human rights, diabetes and lifestyle, diabetes and obesity, diabetes in the disadvantaged and the vulnerable, and diabetes in children and adolescents. While the campaigns last the whole year, the day itself marks the birthday of Frederick Banting who, along with Charles Best and John James Rickard Macleod, first conceived the idea which led to the discovery of insulin in 1922.

World Diabetes Day was launched in 1991 by the IDF and the World Health Organization (WHO) in response to the rapid rise of diabetes around the world.

By 2016, World Diabetes Day was being commemorated by over 230 IDF member associations in more than 160 countries and territories, as well as by other organizations, companies, healthcare professionals, politicians, celebrities, and people living with diabetes and their families.[4] Activities include diabetes screening programmes, radio and television campaigns, sports events and others.

Healthy diet, regular physical activity, maintaining a normal body weight and avoiding tobacco use are ways to prevent or delay the onset of type 2 diabetes. Diabetes can be treated and its consequences avoided or delayed with diet, physical activity, medication and regular screening and treatment for complications.

## Let's mark World Science Day for Peace and Development with a sense of purpose

**W**ORLD Science Day for Peace and Development highlights the important role that science has in society and is celebrated each year on November 10. It also highlights the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues. World Science Day was proclaimed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2001 and celebrated for the first time in 2002.

By linking science more closely with society, World Science Day aims to ensure that citizens are kept informed of developments in science. It also underscores the role scientists play in broadening our understanding of the planet we call home and in making our societies more sustainable.

The objectives of World Science Day for Peace and Development are to: Strengthen public awareness on the role of science for peaceful and sustainable societies; promote national and international solidarity for shared science between countries; renew national and international commitment for the use of science for the benefit of societies; draw attention to the challenges faced by science and raising support for the scientific endeavour.

Individuals and institutions around the world are encouraged to organise an event or activity on World Science Day, including government officials, students, the media and school pupils. World Science Day for Peace and Development has generated many concrete projects, programmes and funding for science around the world. It has also helped foster cooperation between scientists living in regions marred by conflict, one example being the UNESCO-supported creation of the Israeli-Palestinian Science Organization (IPSO).

The impact of science on people's daily life and its profound societal implications, including those of an ethical nature, make scientific literacy a prerequisite

for effective democratic processes. At the World Conference on Science in Budapest, Hungary, in July 1999, which had been co-organised by UNESCO and the International Council for Science (ICSU), many delegates voiced support for greater public awareness of science. The delegations of Ethiopia and Malawi, together with the British Association for the Advancement of Science, proposed that a World Science Day or World Science Week be created.

Subsequently, the action plan adopted by delegates to the World Conference on Science, entitled Science Agenda - Framework for Action, called for an international programme to promote broad-based scientific literacy and culture. UNESCO's executive board, which meets twice a year, was responsive to these calls, recommending at its 160th session (Paris, October 1999) that a feasibility study be undertaken on a Science Day for Peace and Development.

The feasibility study encompassed a broad consultation with stakeholders and was approved by UNESCO's executive board at its 162nd session in October 2000 before being endorsed by the 31st session of the UNESCO General Conference (Paris, October-November 2001). The general conference brings all member states of UNESCO together every two years to adopt the programme and budget for the coming biennium. It was decided by the general conference to proclaim 10 November of each year World Science Day for Peace and Development and to encourage member states, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, universities, research institutions, learned societies, professional associations and schools to take an active part in the event. All partners in the follow-up to the World Conference on Science were invited to participate in the preparation and celebration of the first World Science Day for Peace and Development in November 2002.

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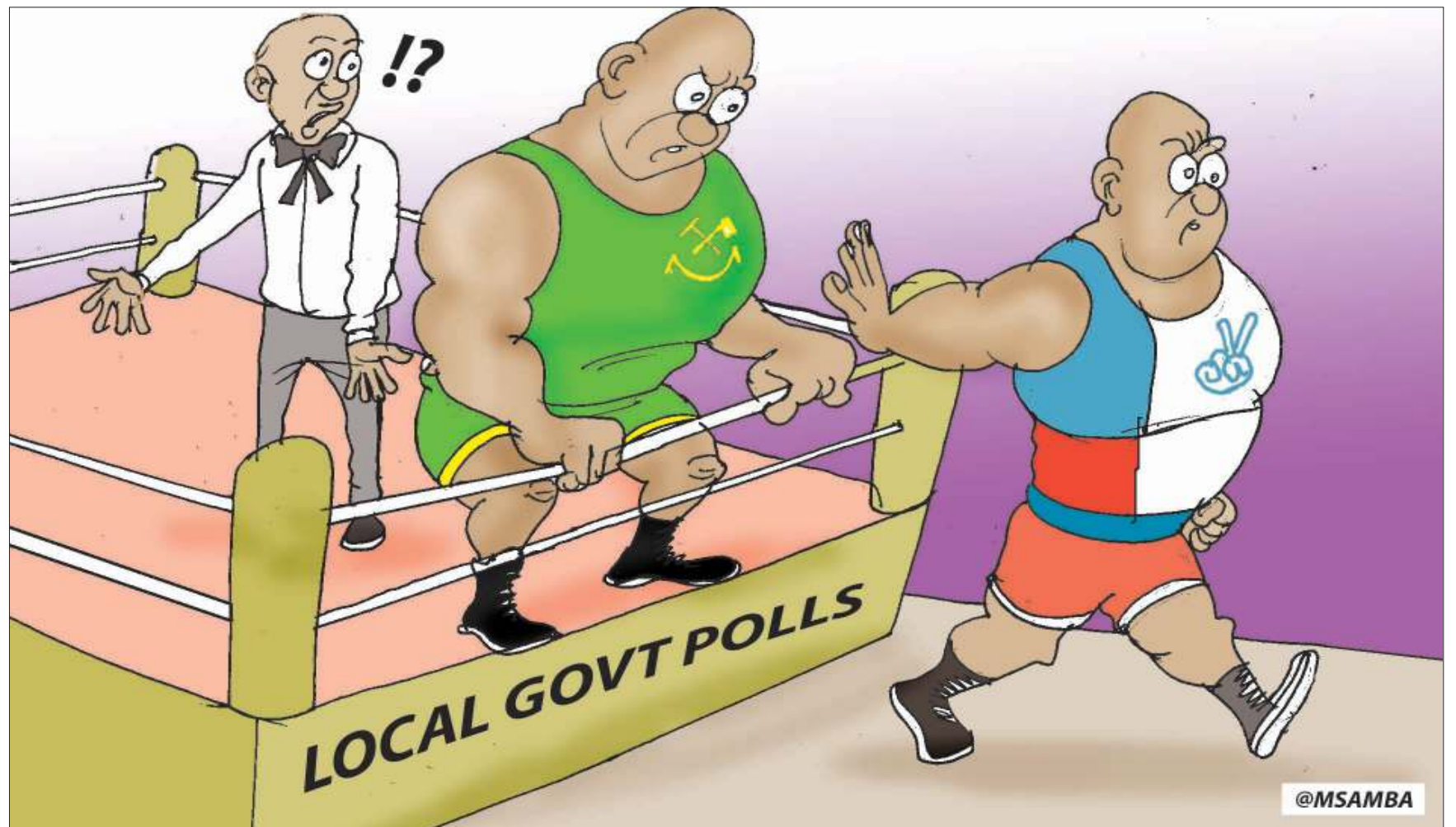
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BY EBRAHIM HARVEY

**I** AM confident that most historians who reflect in the future over the past week's dramatic events in the Democratic Alliance will show that the primary reason for the resignations of the leader, Mmusi Maimane, and Athol Trollip, past federal chair, was Helen Zille.

Her late decision to enter the race for the election of a new Federal Executive chair of the DA - just a few weeks before it took place - is what analysts need to turn their attention to in order to understand the mind of Zille and her supporters in the leadership of the DA. Why did she decide to do that?

Zille, probably in consultation with a few senior white leaders in the DA, decided that it was strategically necessary to do so because the party under Maimane's leadership was drifting in a direction they felt had to not only be stopped but reversed. That direction was a greater influx of black people into the party and the accompanying stress on racial diversity in its structures.

There is an inverse relationship between race, power and control and an abundant literature on those interrelated themes. Zille has all along shown a huge appetite for the power which comes with leadership. There is an inner compulsion for her to be in the senior leadership, not for its own sake however, but rather as a means to an end, which in this case was to stop and hopefully reverse the racial diversity processes Maimane had set into motion as party leader.

Zille reckoned that by winning the powerful federal chair post she would be in a key position to carry out that mission. Her strategy would have been to subtly but steadily encroach upon the territory of Maimane's leadership in order to bend the DA away from race and diversity issues and towards a race-free liberal democratic space, which she and other mainly white leaders in the DA believed was the traditional mandate of the DA. This mandate she believed Maimane and a few other black leaders in the party who stress racial diversity and redress were subverting.

What the group who backed Zille for the Federal chair post opportunistically did was to utilise a party report on the 2019 elections results which suggested that Maimane step down. This they did together with exploiting adverse publicity which emerged around Maimane using a car which belonged to Steinhof's Markus Jooste, even after it was meant to be returned, a version of events which Maimane disputed the accuracy of.

This adverse publicity included controversy over a R4 million home

# Helen Zille and the age of unpredictable volatility



The Democratic Alliance's leader Helen Zille launches the opposition's election campaign in Kliptown, Soweto, in March 2011.

in Claremont, in Cape Town, which he had rented, but which the DA's finance committee, upon investigation, cleared him of any wrongdoing.

But Maimane repeatedly claimed that the idea of all this adverse publicity was to smear him in order to reflect negatively on his leadership of the DA, especially after its poor performance in the May 2019 elections, for which he was also held responsible.

The question that needs to be addressed in the light of the fact that the DA's own internal investigation showed that there was nothing illegal or no wrongdoing by Maimane in the case of both the car he drove and the house he rented in Cape Town, is whether the adverse publicity was not calculated to inflict damage on his reputation in order to affect his leadership of the DA.

That appears indeed to be the case. Note in this regard that Trollip himself stated that the DA has not treated Maimane fairly.

But there are overarching themes which emerge from this unprecedented crisis in the DA, the magnitude of which probably exceeds anything experienced earlier in the party and in fact in the history of liberal mainstream politics in South Africa.

The first thing that is striking is how liberalism in this country had shifted from its historical white English character to a more open and 'non-racial' one, except that the racial cleavages which the current crisis has opened up shows that ultimately race is so powerful a factor that even in a putatively 'non-racial' DA it came to explode the party in this crisis.

In this regard it is very important to look at the resignation a few days earlier of Herman Mashaba, the former DA Johannesburg mayor. While he stopped short of stating so openly the 'right-wing' shift in the DA he referred to as the reason for his own resignation was clearly about white leaders in the party who supported Zille for the Executive chair post.

The DA crisis not only shows how deeply embedded race is in this country but that we are in fact reliving our history today. There are several key lessons that emerges from this crisis in the DA.

The crisis in the DA was produced by that same history of ours, in which a powerful white racist elite (not "white people" as such) were for a very long period the rulers of black (African, Coloured, Indian) people and which

did not substantially change after the political transition of the 1990s.

But there is in fact a convergence of the crisis in the DA with the crisis in ANC itself in the specific sense that both are produced by the underlying socioeconomic crisis, which is in fact of even greater proportion than the political crisis in both parties.

It is this subterranean soil which catalysed the political crisis in both parties but in very different ways.

My argument is that due to the marked switch to the essentially neoliberal policy trajectory of the ANC since it came to office in 1994 it has been reduced to a typical liberal party and that in fact it is the merger of the DA with the ANC that might occur as a realignment of mainstream politics in the future. In other words, what the ANC has become is more in line with what the DA was and is.

Rather than a merger between the ANC and the Economic Freedom Fighters in the future I think it is a merger between the DA and the ANC, unlikely as many might argue that is now, that we might see over the next decade. Such is the age of unpredictable volatility we live in.



Oleg Yegorov

After colonial empires in Africa collapsed, Moscow did all it could to make "African comrades" embrace socialism - but the romance didn't last long.

"During yet another crisis in Angola we used to transport weapons there via planes and ships, there were tonnes of it," one Russian military specialist said while describing how much assistance the USSR provided to Angola's socialist government during the civil war in the 1970s.

It's hard to overestimate how much attention Moscow paid to Angola. According to Sergei Kolomin, a former military interpreter who served there from 1975 to 1991, a total of 105 generals and admirals and 7,211 officers from the USSR were present in Angola as military advisors.

Angola wasn't the only country in Africa embraced by the Soviet Union. From the 1960s to the late 1980s Moscow sent officers, engineers and technical specialists to help Africans build (or rebuild) their infrastructure; welcomed African students in Soviet universities; and spent billions of dollars directly in financial assistance.

Not much was paid back - as President Vladimir Putin noted last month, Russia had cancelled \$20 billion in African debts to the USSR. So why did the USSR help the Africans and why did it receive so little in return?

"Africa started to become a matter of concern for some Russians during the 19th century and the Second Boer War," historian Irina

Filatova told Kommersant, adding: "The next period of Africa obsession began with the Comintern - an international union of the communist parties led by the USSR, which was active 1919-1943. It was interested in the communist movement in South Africa and insisted on creating there 'an independent aboriginal republic', without explaining precisely what was meant by that."

Until 1958-1960, though, the USSR didn't pay much attention to Africa and the issues of the continent, being too occupied with maintaining its industry and safety and fighting in Europe during World War II.

Several students from Africa studied in Moscow, some money was sent to African communists, but it really was a drop in the ocean. "Moscow paid little attention to Africa's specifics for they didn't really know Africa at all," Filatova explained.

Everything changed in the 1940s and 1950s when European powers - mainly the UK and France - began to lose control of their former colonies. With new states appearing on the map and left-wing movements on the rise worldwide, the USSR tried as hard as possible to paint Africa red.

They started with the Arab countries in the northern part of the continent: for instance, Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt (president 1956 to 1970) was one of the USSR's best friends and enjoyed Moscow's support during Arab conflicts with Israel.

Egypt was the first African country with which the USSR signed a trade treaty, followed by Tunisia (1957), Morocco (1958), Ghana, Ethi-

## How the USSR fell in love with Africa



Among other things, the USSR was helping Africa with medicine. Here is a Soviet midwife at work in Lubango, Angola. Photo: B. Baratov/Sputnik.

opia and Guinea (all in 1959).

Later, the USSR showed its enthusiasm for working in sub-Saharan Africa as well: Nikita Khrushchev (Soviet leader in 1953-1964) used a UN speech to call for colonial African independence and welcomed the decolonisation process.

"The USSR established especially close ties with the so-called countries of the socialist development model (Guinea, Ghana, the Congo Republic, Mali, Ethiopia, Angola, Mozam-

bique and Benin)," TASS notes.

Alexey Salmikov, a high-ranking KGB officer, recalled Khrushchev saying: "We are basically selling communism to Africa. But in fact, we have to pay the Africans to buy it." Khrushchev meant that most Africans were not ready to embrace communist ideas without serious economic assistance. Everything worked just as Karl Marx predicted: economy defines politics.

The Soviets signed coopera-

tion treaties with 37 African countries and participated in the building of some 600 enterprises, factories and plants. Among them, for instance, are the Aswan Dam, which is crucial for Egypt's agriculture and energy supply; the Capanda hydroelectric dam, which provides most of Angola with electricity; plants in Congo and Nigeria; and other major infrastructure projects across the continent.

The USSR also provided

many of its African clients with financial credits and sometimes with selfless financial assistance. Later, such generosity would become an object of criticism - as it really didn't help much, as it turned out.

Soviet "military advisors" participated in African wars unofficially - their work was classified. They played an important role in at least three wars.

One: The Angolan Civil War (1975-1992), where the USSR supported the left-wing People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola.

Two: The Mozambique Civil War (1977-1992), where Moscow also sided with left-wingers.

Three: The Ogaden War between Ethiopia and Somalia (1977-1978). This was a tricky one: Moscow had to choose between two officially pro-Soviet states that clashed over Ogaden region in East Africa. The Soviets preferred Ethiopia, which forced the Somalis to side with the Americans.

In each of these wars, African countries were basically a chessboard where Moscow and Washington supported different parties. The business was deeply secret. "No one sent the Soviet army there," explained Sergei Kolomin, adding: "But our advisors, our specialists, paramedics, pilots... all were there." The military help was palpable: the pro-Soviet side won each of these conflicts.

Apart from economy and politics, the Soviets made a big effort raising new, pro-Soviet African elites, inviting students from Africa to study in the USSR. From 1949 to 1991, around 60,000 Africans studied in the USSR.

The biggest university to welcome them was the UDN (People's Friendship University) in Moscow, named after Patrice Lumumba, the pro-Soviet premier of Congo who was killed in 1960.

There were several grim episodes. For instance, a scandal erupted after a Ghanaian student was found dead in Moscow - some of his compatriots believed that he was killed by local hooligans and took to the streets in protest. But generally, the USSR was quite a welcoming place for Africans.

"Most Soviet people were friendly to us; they invited us to their houses... Some of us even married Soviet women," Edward Na from Ghana recalled in an interview with the BBC.

Many of those graduating from Soviet institutes shaped their countries' elites - especially in the fields of medicine and industry.

Unfortunately, the USSR's focus on Africa was too intertwined with ideology to withstand the collapse of the socialist system. In the 1990s, when the USSR ceased to exist and Russia had too many problems of its own, the level of Moscow's leverage in the continent fell drastically.

"The post-Soviet years were marked by a weakening of Russian attention towards Africa; in its turn, Russia's role in the continent shrank," Africanist Alexander Zheltov wrote in 2012.

Now, attempts to strengthen Russia's role in Africa are back on the agenda - such as the recent Russia-Africa summit in Sochi - but here Moscow really has to start from scratch.

## Gender festival reflections on combating 'sextortion': Interview with Professor Ruth Meena

By Brian Mshana

THE problem of sextortion is becoming increasingly noticed in the country, and has been impacting on women, girls, and even young men especially those who are poor. For a variety of reasons, including the society being shy about the issue, most of those affected stay quiet, and also because many such offenders are powerful people and are thus feared.

Recently a veteran activist and chairperson of the board of directors of Women Fund Tanzania (WFT), Prof. Ruth Meena (pictured), was interviewed on the breadth of the problem, gender humiliation and what needs to be done to eradicate it.

**Q: Before settling on the problem of sextortion, readers would wish to know what is Women Fund Tanzania (WFT) and what are its purposes?**

**A:** WFT is a non-governmental organization (NGO) which was started in 2007, but was unveiled to the public in September 2013. Its founders are its current managing director Mary Rusimbi and Marja te Riele from the Netherlands. The purpose of that organisation is to provide grants to groups and women's organizations and other sections of society working on development and raising the interest and voice of ordinary people in society, especially women and girls. These grants are usually given in order to contribute to the work of members of society in various areas, including this question of preventing sextortion. Secondly, WFT has set out to build or enhance the capacities of various women's groups in Tanzania for purposes of bringing about



development and building their understanding of various spheres of knowledge on women's rights and girls' rights - especially when it is taken into account that many of them do not know their economic and social rights. Lastly, WFT contributes in generating collective energies among groups of women and girls in various levels of society so that they build solidarity and push forward their agenda of standing for their various rights.

**Q: Thanks for that explanation. We know that in fighting for the rights of women and girls, EFT has anchored its work in issuing grants to educate members of society on the evils of sextortion which is said to have taken root in the country. Some of our readers do not understand how this form of corruption is different from routine corruption; can you elaborate?**

**A:** It is true my dear journalist that many people do not know the difference between ordinary corruption and the sex form of corruption. I will explain. Routine corruption is when someone does something with intent to obtain a certain advantage, for instance money or other rewards like motorcycle, car or other. So this form of corruption is

development and building their understanding of various spheres of knowledge on women's rights and girls' rights - especially when it is taken into account that many of them do not know their economic and social rights. Lastly, WFT contributes in generating collective energies among groups of women and girls in various levels of society so that they build solidarity and push forward their agenda of standing for their various rights.

**Q: And what is meant by 'sextortion'?**

**A:** On the basis of article 25 of the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Act issued in 2007, at paragraph 11 says "it is an offence for anyone in a position of authority to demand or plead for a sexual bribe from any person as a condition of giving a job position, favouritism, elevating the person in rank, providing a just need or special service."

In that sense the government via PCCB and other organs recognize this form of bribe as another criminal offence despite that it is different from how other forms of corruption (bribes) are conducted. On this account PCCB and the whole Government are alert so that this form of bribery eradicated and should not continue in the country. These days for example PCCB have a special Desk to fight sexual corruption, a move which WFT and its associates support and applaud - as this is a move in the right direction to show that this important national organ bracing itself to eradicate sexual corruption or sexual extortion in the country.

**Q: At WFT have you conducted research to figure out under what conditions sexual corruption occurs?**

**A:** Yes, this form of corruption takes place when a person in authority (such person can be a man or a woman) uses his or her authority to compel or per-

suaude another person to have sex with him or her with a promise to give a job placing, a specific favor for instance travelling inside or outside the country, or any other bona fide right. This kind of situation leads to turning the right of the victim into a privilege to be given by the one with authority.

We have many examples we can give. A teacher or tutor in a school or college can give a student of his many marking points in an exam she did on condition that she first has sex with him. Many girl students have met with this debacle. Or an employer instead of hiring a person who fits after conducting an interview decides to give one who is not fit with intention to having sex with her. A prosecutor can suppress a rightful person in court because she refused to have sex with him. There are many examples which illustrate forms of humiliation which occur in various fields.

**Q: Now you at WFT and other activists, precisely what bites you - are there any effects from sexual bribery?**

**A:** There are many effects but I will mention a few. First is that sexual corruption leads to the humiliation of women, girls and all other weak persons, in the sense of enhancing humiliation or violence on a sexual or gender basis, which is unacceptable in law. In that context, this idea of sextortion is an act intended to hurt and abuse a woman, a girl or a young man. Such acts include being hurt physically, psychologically, being discriminated upon, being insulted, threatened and generally to be robbed of their basic rights.

Secondly, in many cases sexual bribery arises from the misuse of authority or power that one disposes. They are acts done by persons with authority or power somewhere, and they demand sexual favors as a substitute for the demander not giving the victim her proper rights which ought to be so recognized constitutionally and lawfully. This situation is grave and where this kind of offence has been committed it builds an environment for the victim to have little or no room not to be ensnared in the sex bribery trap (sextortion).

Third, this kind of bribery ends up robbing the victim of a voice, especially women and girls or young men

by making them feel weak and failing to discuss this kind of humiliation in public on account of shame encrusted as to them by society. That is why many victims of this form of bribery decide to remain quiet but at heart they are greatly pained. In many cases victims of this form of corruption are believed to have consented to bribe such person sexually or to accept that this evil be done but all the time this is untrue, and if you investigate you will find out that they were compelled by prevailing circumstances.

**Q: You have said many of the victims remain silent; why wouldn't they to the police or to responsible authorities to report what they have experienced?**

**A:** You know that in a society where patriarchal relations are entrenched and at times repressively, victims of mistreatment fail to stand by their rights on account of the repressive structures which accentuate repression in various ways. For instance a woman goes to seek a loan in a certain institution. There she is asked to offer herself so that she gets the loan, or short of that she doesn't get it. In that situation the woman is put in a difficulty where often she had to avail that bribe unwillingly so that she gets what she needs. It is a situation of that sort which makes a person lose her right and being made to enter into a humiliating situation, including remaining silent.

**Q: What acts of sexuality are not related to sextortion?**

**A:** It is true that not all acts of sexuality are related to sextortion. For example, a situation where a woman is compelled to have sex either by being beaten or being threatened with a knife or a gun is rape. Secondly, a man forcing his wife to have sex with him where perhaps she is not ready is not sextortion but sexual violence or marital rape. Thirdly, a man who is availed sex after conning a woman that he has a lot of money in the bank, or has a high ranking public position, or has commercial property in Kariakoo, all that is not sextortion by sexual conning. There is also a situation where a parent marries off an underage daughter so that he gets money to pay debts or obtain capital for a business that too

isn't sextortion but putting a child in the condition of sexual slavery by going to be mistreated by a man who is not of her age.

**Q: So what should be done so as to reduce this problem and even eradicating it completely?**

**A:** WFT and other gender activist organizations have resolved to increase speed in enhancing awareness of society on sextortion so as to break the silence on humiliation and victimization of this sort. We shall continue giving out grants to develop education and discussions through newspapers, radios, television and even social media outlets. We already started a campaign on sextortion a few years back and in cooperation with other organs this aspect about breaking the silence on sextortion has started to manifest itself in the society.

Secondly, we are working with the networking group 'Break the silence: Sextortion kills and humiliates' to reach victims of sextortion so that they also get the daring it needs to break their silence and attain confidence so that along with others they build strategies to combat sextortion in the country. This includes fighting the prevailing cultural habit of blaming the victim - which includes booing, carrying the burden of shame and at times an unwanted pregnancy) while the perpetrator is left free by society. This humiliating practice is rife, while the society, social organizations and especially those standing for the rights of women have no option but pressurize for the breaking of silence, raise national debates starting from the village level, districts and regions so that we can together confront the problem.

Along with this it is needful to empower more people to build common energies in various ways, including registering shock when it is claimed that sextortion has occurred somewhere, or in the place they live or work. They should not laugh but be sad or revolted and object to that humiliating situation which leads to not just individuals or families but also the whole nation to lose out economically, etc. We as citizens can reject sextortion in society if all of us, women and men, detest it and take steps by reporting it and taking measures to stop it. At the time of debate to prepare a new constitution we were able to pressurize to insert a premise of defending the human dignity of women and girls in that Constitution and despite that this Constitution has not been adopted, it enhanced awareness of recognizing the issue of sextortion as robbery of dignity and rights. So, we should continue pressurizing for the rights of women, girls and other people who meet with this calamity of sextortion in every corner of our country.

Third, we also have a strategy of working with responsible Government organs in preventing and combating sextortion so that the law and government efforts in this area care known to more people, but more so these organs be given needed reports on this matter so that the law can take its course more forcefully. We have been seeing various government efforts for offenders of this sort being arrested and arraigned in court but we need to see those affected using law enforcement organs more and not being dispirited by society not helping them to do so.



By Sasha Planting

# Saving the planet requires a new economic model, it's that simple

Nat Ware was born in one of the poorest suburbs in Australia to two school teachers. At 16, he raised more than \$100,000 to rebuild a school in Mozambique; at 19, he founded a consultancy to improve the effectiveness of educational organisations and at 25 he did a PhD on education finance at Oxford to get to the heart of the problem.

In the process, he developed a better way of financing education at no cost to individuals or governments, and created his company, Forte, to give it life.

Society doesn't have a way to finance high-quality education, particularly vocational retraining, at the scale required.

"It is not just the millions of tech-induced unemployed that will require re-skilling," Ware says. "It could also be refugees, former prison inmates, racial minorities and indigenous populations."

Expecting people to finance their mid-career education when they are living paycheck to paycheck is unrealistic. For various reasons relying on loans, government funding or philanthropy is unrealistic at scale, which is why he invented tradeable income-based securities (Tips).

This enables the cost of education to be covered by the increase in future income tax revenue caused by that training.

"The cost of training is often less than the increase in future tax revenue caused by that training. Think of it as 'Lydia's future taxes paying for Lydia's present training'," Ware says.

Investors, via Forte, cover the cost of training for individuals who would otherwise be paying no or negligible tax. This training, by



Thousands of citizens and activists marched to Parliament in Cape Town, South Africa, forming part of a global movement that demands an end to the age of fossil fuels and embraces a new age of renewable energy and climate justice, 20 September 2019. Photo: Daily Maverick.

its nature, increases expected employment, income and government income tax revenue.

In return, each year, for a set number of years, the government passes back to investors, via Forte, a portion of the tax revenue collected that is attributable to the training recipients.

Ware is one of a growing number of people who recognise that the current economic system, which presumes the world's resources are infinite, needs to change. "Capitalism is a powerful tool and the profit motive is powerful. However, we need to adjust that motive in order to align social and profit returns," he says.

He was presenting at The Club of Rome's annual summit, held outside Stellenbosch at Spier on 6 November 2019. The organisation, founded in Italy in 1968, is comprised of

individuals who are trying to promote understanding of the global challenges facing humanity, while simultaneously proposing solutions through scientific analysis, communication and advocacy.

The club is probably best known for a seminal piece of research, released in 1972, entitled *The Limits to Growth*. The central message, which still holds true, is that the earth's interlocking resources – the global system of nature in which we all live – cannot support present rates of economic and population growth much beyond the year 2100, even with advanced technology.

This was viewed as heresy at the time. Yet now, more urgently than ever, human society needs to rethink its approach to climate change, as well as the economic and financial models that sustain

society as we know it, if we are to avoid a cataclysmic climate event.

"We have lost our way as a human community," says Dr Mamphela Ramphele, who is co-president of the Club of Rome, along with Sandrine Dixon-Declève. "The biosphere is under severe stress. It is appropriate that we have come back to where the human story began to discern the lessons from the mother continent. We need to harvest the wisdom that enabled humanity to evolve here. We need to understand what went wrong and why. We also need to embrace complexities as we explore how we emerge from the climate emergencies we have brought upon ourselves."

The biggest existential crisis facing the planet and those that live on it is planetary warming.

Temperatures have already

increased by 1°C in the past 100 years and are rising at an exponential rate.

"A 2°C change is at the boundary of extremely dangerous climate change, 3°C represents extreme social chaos and 4°C is where we are headed," says Ian Dunlop, chairman of Safe Climate Australia and a former chairman of the Australian Coal Association.

"While the Paris Climate Agreements commits us to keeping warming below 2°C, a 1.5°C change by 2030 is inevitable. The challenge is to stop us going above 2°," he says.

Part of the problem lies in the way we talk about the climate crisis. People don't understand the hard-nosed impact. How will farmers cope with drought, floods, dying animals. Do we understand that one billion people will be displaced? he asks.

The absolute bottom line is

that the expansion of fossil fuel usage must be stopped, and fast.

"That is the only thing that will stop us going above 2°C."

But the fossil fuel economy is well embedded in the global economy. It is funded by global banks and pension funds which invest ordinary people's savings into it.

In turn, the revenues, profits and taxes from this economy keep nations afloat and giant multinationals powerful.

"We have the know-how and scientific means to have a successful low carbon economy," says Dhesigen Naidoo, CEO of the Water Research Commission. "The limitations are not science and technology; it is the way we are locked into the system."

This means re-framing economics and finding new finance mechanisms. The current system is deepening inequality and the prospect of catastrophic climate breakdown is getting closer and closer.

"We are on a path to self-extinction. This reality stems from the destructive impact of deeply flawed cultural, institutional, technological, and infrastructure choices," says David Korten a former professor at Harvard Business School and president of the Living Economies Forum.

In the past 40 years, humanity as a whole has gone from using one planet's worth of natural resources each year to using one point seven times, and is on course to using three planets' worth by 2050, he says.

The root cause of this is how the economy is currently configured: in a way that does not account for the cost to nature, in a way that is almost blind to distribution of resources, in a way that does not reward the best attributes of people – for instance a mother's work in the home

is not recognised – and in a way that puts measures of progress such as short-term profit and GDP to the fore.

It doesn't have to be this way – after all, the economic system was designed by people, and can, must, be adjusted, Korten says.

However, pockets of change are visible across the world.

A global alliance of citizen movements has banded together under the banner of WEALL to work for an economy devoted to the well-being of people and planet.

The government of Bhutan, sandwiched between India and Tibet, led the way when it enshrined the philosophy of Gross National Happiness in its constitution in 2008.

More recently, the government of New Zealand announced a new budget that shifts the focus from growing Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to growing well-being. This is being mirrored by others including Iceland and Northern Ireland.

A youth-led political movement in the United States calls for a Green New Deal and Rethinking Economics, a global student movement, demands reform of economics seminars that rarely mention poverty, climate change or inequality.

The Club of Rome, a global alliance of new-paradigm thought leaders, has launched initiatives on the climate emergency, a new civilisation, a new economics and a new finance.

"Maintaining the status quo is not a viable option," says Korten. "But we can also see that this crisis presents an unprecedented opportunity. We can rethink the choices we have made and commit to achieving something different, a world that is community-centric, ecologically balanced and spiritually fulfilling."

DM

## Maghrebi irregular migration is down but for how long?

BY MATTHEW HERBERT

As Tunisians headed to the polls on 13 October to elect their new president, 110 men and women quietly boarded a fishing boat near the southern city of Sfax and set off north towards Italy. Some of the irregular migrants were Tunisian, others hailed from West African states.

The group was ultimately caught by Tunisian authorities, a fate shared by nearly 4 000 others intercepted while leaving the country in 2019. Thousands more were caught by Italy – or successfully disembarked in Europe in hope of a better life. They are part of a wave of Maghrebi – Moroccans, Algerians, Tunisians and Libyans – who continue to risk their lives in irregular migration attempts across the Mediterranean Sea.

The Institute for Security Studies has tracked the evolution of Maghrebi irregular migration since 2016, detailing its history, the sharp rise in numbers in 2017 and 2018, and the factors driving the situation. What has changed in 2019?

The main shift is in irregular migrant numbers. Over the past 10 months, irregular migration by Moroccans, Algerians, Tunisians and Libyans has declined sharply compared to the year before. Slightly more than 20 000 Maghrebi irregular migrants were intercepted this year by the authorities in Spain, Italy,



Fewer people tried to migrate this year, but the factors driving young people to leave North Africa remain. File photo

Greece, Tunisia and Algeria, compared to around 40 000 in 2018.

The decline is seen both in the central Mediterranean, where Tunisians and Algerians leave from their home countries towards Italy, and in the western Mediterranean, which sees mostly Moroccan and Algerian migration towards Spain. Spanish and Italian apprehensions of Maghrebi on both routes are roughly 50% lower than 2018. North African states are also catching fewer irregular migrants than in 2018.

However the decline is far more limited than that seen

in European arrest levels. To date, 2 862 arrests of migrants attempting to cross the Mediterranean were reported by Algeria, roughly a quarter lower than in 2018. Tunisia's interceptions, at 3 786 are only a sliver less than 2018 overall. However, in sharp contrast to 2018, when few non-Tunisian migrants transited the country, this year roughly a quarter of those arrested are foreigners – mainly from West Africa.

The pattern of arrests on both sides of the Mediterranean suggests two things. First, for reasons that are not clear, fewer Maghrebi attempted to

migrate irregularly this year. Second, Algeria and Tunisia, and probably Morocco, have become more focused and successful in halting embarkations from their shores, resulting in the countries accounting for a higher percentage of arrests than in previous years.

However, even with the drop in migration from the Maghreb, the absolute number of Moroccans, Algerians, Tunisians and Libyans being apprehended is far above what was seen between 2012 and 2016.

Some things, however, have not changed. The main route for Maghrebi irregular migra-

tion to Europe is (still) in the western Mediterranean. Spain has intercepted slightly more than 10 000 Moroccans, Algerians and Tunisians this year. The other main route is in the central Mediterranean, where Italian authorities have caught roughly 3 700 Tunisians and Algerians. Most Maghrebi depart directly from their home countries for Europe.

Hundreds of Tunisians have been arrested by Spain while trying to cross from Morocco into the enclave of Melilla. Small numbers of Algerians and Moroccans have begun to fly to South America before

journeying north towards the United States.

Smugglers continue to play a role in helping Maghrebi reach Europe. But self-smuggling – when migrants source boats and motors themselves and head north unaided – continues to grow, especially in Morocco and Algeria.

A vibrant social media ecosystem abounds with details on how to undertake the process of migration. Videos shot by migrants while in transit on boats or trains or walking across land borders demystify the process for youth watching what is, for many, far more gripping entertainment than what's available on state TV.

There are also no significant changes in any of the factors that drive young people to leave North Africa. Economic options are still limited for large parts of the region's population, especially the youth, those from rural and remote areas, and those bereft of the family connections vital to surmounting structural inequality. Many are further squeezed by rising costs and depreciating currencies. There is little optimism that the region's economies will improve in the coming year.

Seismic political events have occurred in the Maghreb in 2019, including the revolution that forced Algerian president Abdelaziz Bouteflika from power in April, and Tunisia's presidential and legislative elections. But it remains to be seen whether this will ad-

dress persistent frustration among the youth that their governments are only minimally responsive to their needs.

In Algeria, a momentary halt in migration after the resignation of Bouteflika gave way to rising interceptions in the late summer and autumn. While it is normal for migration to increase in the latter part of the year, it also underscores that the hope that the revolution would lead to improved economic and social situations may be dissipating. Without sustained and broad-based change, irregular migration to Europe will probably continue at relatively high levels.

Doubling down on efforts to halt migration from the Maghreb via security aid or the deployment of security forces offers only limited, expensive and fleeting success. Instead, the European Union and member states should help in the difficult process of transformation that needs to happen in the Maghreb.

An equitable approach grounded in both European and Maghrebi needs is required. It should germinate from honest dialogue between governmental and non-governmental actors on both sides of the Mediterranean. This is the only way to achieve effective change for young migrants and would-be migrants dreaming of a better future.

Dr Matthew Herbert, Senior Research Consultant, ISS



# Market holds promises of profitable horticulture

By Guardian Reporter

OVER 3,000 farmers will benefit from the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion Approach, so called SHEP Approach, including 1,000 farmers as direct beneficiaries. Since January 2019, the "Project for Strengthening DADP Planning and Implementation Capacity through Use of SHEP Approach (TANSHEP)" has been jointly implemented by Ministry of Agriculture, President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Tanga Regions are the primary target areas of TANSHEP.

Through this Project, selected farmers' groups participate in a series of activities, including farm income recording, market survey, match-making fairs with private/public stakeholders, and technical training for production and marketing improvement. In many cases in Tanzania, farmers sell their produce to middlemen at their farms without first knowing market trends and/or requirements. But now with the TANSHEP, they first of all visit markets physically and investigate buyers' requirements and competitiveness in the market, which leads to making their own decisions on how, when and what volume to produce

before sowing seeds at their farms.

On 8th November 2019, TANSHEP Taskforce members will hold a progress review meeting in Dodoma to summarize the results of the market survey and match-making fairs, through which target farmers are equipped with potential business models and market strategies, including collaboration with various stakeholders such as RijkZwaan, YARA, Kibo Seed, Solidaridad, East West Seed Co, ETG Inputs LTD, SEVIA, NMB, EFTA, and Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB).

Through the meeting, the Taskforce members will also develop the guidance on how to facilitate farmers' groups in formulating action plans and cropping calendars by themselves based on outputs of the hitherto activities. As such, TANSHEP creates an environment in which the farmers are not aid-receivers, but action-takers with their own decision.

The SHEP Approach, which was firstly innovated by a JICA project in Kenya in 2006, is a unique approach to agricultural development, in which it emphasizes the concept of "Grow to Sell" among farmers to replace their conventional thinking of "Grow and Sell". SHEP has so far been implemented in 23 countries, including Uganda, Rwanda and Malawi in East and Southern Africa.



## African cities call for local climate action, adaptation finance

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

THE Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa have called on local authorities to make a political commitment for access to energy, climate mitigation and climate adaptation

In recent years, there has been much focus on the climate actions of cities, provinces and other sub-national entities. It is due to the realisation that national actions will, alone, not be sufficient – neither for limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (or even 2°C) by the end of the century nor for adequate adaptation.

Thus, the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, in his opening piece, after the Climate Action Summit in September, applauded the fact that 100 cities had committed to net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

While the recently concluded C40 World Mayors Summit in Copenhagen had representation from 94 cities on all continents, there are few such initiatives focusing on the global south.

One exception is the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA), which was founded in 2015 with the aid of the European Union and is part of the Global Covenant of Mayors on Climate and Energy.

It presently has about 180 signatory cities and municipalities from Benin, Burundi, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The covenant encourages local authorities to make a political commitment that contributes to its three pillars, namely access to energy, climate mitigation and climate adaptation.

The covenant conducted the Climate Chance Summit Africa in Accra, between October 16 and 18, 2019. Besides the sharing of cities' experiences, the key theme of the summit was "Towards the Institutionalisation of Local Climate Action

and Access to Finance".

Chairing the opening of the first day's sessions, Jean-Pierre Elong-Mbassi, secretary general of the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa called for more adaptation finance for Africa.

"Africa is the region of the world with the lowest access to energy and the least equipped to face extreme climate events brought about by climate change," said the President of Ghana Nana Akufo-Addo in his opening address.

Further, the Ghanaian Minister for local government Hajia Alima Mahama pointed to the imbalance between mitigation and adaptation finance, stating that the international community had committed to \$600 billion for the former and only \$200 billion for the latter.

On these lines, the declaration at the end of the summit noted that African climate priorities must focus on adaptation and access to energy, though mitigation could also be addressed in the process through initiatives such as clean energy.

Besides an emphasis on finance for adaptation, highlighting the importance of localism in climate action was key on the agenda. The declaration called on African national governments to enable actions by local and regional governments.

It also called for the Green Climate Fund to set up a dedicated window for local and regional governments and for more local climate funding from the African Development Bank.

It further emphasised the importance of a bottom up approach to the revision of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) through the formulation of locally determined contributions (LDCs) to feed into the NDCs.

Calling for capacity building of local institutions to formulate such plans, it argued that accelerating the ownership of the climate agenda by all stakeholders would align climate actions at all levels of government, while at the same time complying with the Katowice rulebook of the Paris Agreement.

The declaration called for Ghana to champion this approach at the upcoming 2019 UN Climate Change Conference, or COP25, at Santiago and at next year's COP 26

## More than 52 million people across Africa going hungry as weather extremes hit the continent

By Guardian Reporter

MORE than 52 million people in 18 countries across southern, eastern and central Africa are facing up to crisis levels of hunger as a result of weather extremes, compounded by poverty and conflict.

Some areas are facing a second extreme drought in four years and worse than that sparked by El Nino in 1981.

In the South, parts of Zimbabwe have had their lowest rainfall since 1981 which has helped push more than 5.5m people into extreme food insecurity. Zambia's rich maize-growing area has been decimated and exports are now banned; 2.3m people there are food insecure. The situation is worsening including in Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Madagascar, Namibia and Zimbabwe. There are reports of farmer suicides in South Africa.

Drought has also hit the East and Horn of Africa particularly Ethiopia, Kenya and

Somalia. At the same time, record-breaking temperatures in the Indian Ocean have dumped ultra-heavy rainfalls into Kenya and South Sudan, causing flash flooding especially along major river arteries. South Sudan has declared a state of emergency with more than 900,000 people hit by floods.

In Africa extreme weather events have hit many countries already suffering from ongoing conflict. Across the continent, 7.6 million people were displaced by conflict in the first six months of 2019, and another 2.6 million by extreme weather. In the Horn, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan have simultaneously faced over 750,000 people displaced by conflict and 350,000 displaced by extreme weather.

Scientists have demonstrated how climate change is increasing the frequency or severity of many extreme weather events. Over the last decade,

these 18 African countries have collectively suffered average annual losses of \$700m from climate-related disasters – and this is without counting the cost of these latest crises, says Oxfam. However, there has been minimal progress globally in raising funds specifically to address loss and damage from climate change. Africa contributes less than 5% of total global emissions but is suffering some of the most severe impacts of the climate crisis.

Officials will meet at the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) in Durban Nov 11-15 to discuss the future of Africa's "environmental sustainability and prosperity". Oxfam urges ministers to demand that industrial nations honor their promises to avoid escalating human and financial costs and to pay for damages.

"We are witnessing millions of already poor

people facing extreme food insecurity and exhausting their reserves because of compounding climate shocks that hit already vulnerable communities hardest. They need help urgently. The scale of the drought devastation across southern Africa is staggering," said Oxfam's Southern Africa Regional Director Nellie Nyang'wa.

"In western Kenya, the crop harvest is 25% down and in parts of Somalia up to 60%. Livestock in many rural areas are emaciated and milk production is down. Cereal prices in some areas have rocketed up to five-year highs, pricing out poorer people. Nearly 7m people in the region are living just below the catastrophic hunger line," said Oxfam's Horn, East and Central Africa regional director Lydia Zigomo. "It is a vicious cycle where poor and marginalized communities, mostly women and girls, are more exposed to the climate crisis and less able to cope

and recover from its harm." Mithika Mwenda, chief executive of Oxfam's partner Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), said "communities at the frontline of this climate crisis are overstretched and may be facing potential annihilation. But local people are doing everything that can to overcome the challenge. There are unprecedented levels of organization happening where governments have let local people down."

"We're seeing people trying to cope with shifting seasons and erratic rainfall by finding new ways to make a living off-farm. Women are coming together to pool their resources through small internal lending communities, buying food together, growing sweet potatoes instead of maize – all without outside support. Local people have the solutions but what they lack is resources, especially funding.

## Sub-Saharan Africa tops global 'offline population' - ITU report

By Guardian Reporter

A report by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) has revealed that sub-Saharan Africa has the highest number of people offline out of the 3.6 billion without access to internet connection.

According to a press release accompanying its latest report, ITU data showed that while the digital gender gap has been shrinking in the Commonwealth of Independent States and Europe, it is growing in the Arab States, Asia-Pacific and especially in the Africa region.

It is widest in developing countries, especially Least Developed Countries, the report

which highlighted the digital gender divide added.

It is estimated that Africa region has offline population of over 71 percent while Europe has the lowest of 17.5 percent, whereby Europe region has the highest internet use (82.5 per cent), while Africa region has the lowest (28.2 per cent).

Internet use in developed countries is nearing saturation levels, with close to 87 per cent of individuals online.

By the end of 2019, ITU estimates that 57 per cent of households globally will have internet access at home.

Computers are expected to become less important to

households thanks to smart phones.

An estimated 4.1 billion people are using the Internet in 2019, reflecting a 5.3 per cent increase compared with 2018.

Between 2005 and 2019, the number of internet users grew on average by 10 per cent every year.

ITU's measuring digital development reports are a powerful tool to better understand connectivity issues, including the growing digital gender divide, at a time when over half of the world's population is using the Internet," said Houlin Zhao, ITU Secretary General.

"ITU statistics help policy-makers and regulators make informed

policy decisions to connect the unconnected and track progress at the global level."

ITU is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is responsible for issues that concern information and communication technologies. It is the oldest global international organisation.

The ITU coordinates the shared global use of the radio spectrum, promotes international cooperation in assigning satellite orbits, works to improve telecommunication infrastructure in the developing world, and assists in the development and coordination of worldwide technical standards.



BY KAREN ALLEN

Last week Facebook revealed that it had disabled hundreds of fake accounts that had sought to meddle with the electoral processes of eight African countries. The campaigns, which used more than 200 such accounts, attracted more than a million followers. This shows that unless robust countermeasures are taken, Africa risks becoming a safe haven for those seeking to manipulate democratic processes digitally.

Evidence of concerted digital disinformation campaigns linked to Russia has emerged from Facebook's joint investigation with Stanford University's Internet Observatory. It found that a network of Russian accounts used fake or compromised user accounts to tamper with domestic electoral processes in Madagascar, Sudan, Libya, the Central African Republic (CAR), Mozambique, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ivory Coast and Cameroon. They date from 2014 to just a few weeks ago.

The operations included the establishment of accounts purporting to be from genuine news organisations or other forms of misrepresentation. Researchers say this is the work of 'entities' associated with Russian financier Yevgeny Prigozhin, a man known colloquially as 'Putin's chef', because of his close friendship with the Russian leader

and the lavish dinners he throws.

Among the dubious activities allegedly linked to Prigozhin's interests was an attempt to undermine the presidential race in Madagascar last year. Fake social media posts and staged street protests were among the tactics used to denounce French policy on the island state and offer a pro-Russia stance.

Stanford University researchers told ISS Today that they'd identified a number of other accounts, linked to the Russian leader's friend, seeking to influence political processes in the CAR. The fake accounts were traced to operatives in Madagascar, where a cell allegedly working for Prigozhin was based.

Russia is by no means the only actor behind such digital disinformation campaigns but its expansion into Africa and efforts to extend its sphere of influence through defence contracts and international trade is well documented. Its strategy is to tap into anti-western sentiment on the continent and target its messages accordingly.

Although attempts to shape the political narrative during election time aren't new, the internet offers a new tool with the possibility of reaching audiences at unprecedented speeds. Shelby Grossman, who led the research at Stanford University, says 'it is significant that a foreign actor is seeking to shape the internal domestic affairs of a sovereign state, undermining democracy.'

## Taking social media at 'Face'book value in Africa



Facebook's revelation about fake accounts designed to influence elections shows the risks for Africa's already fragile democracies. File photo.

Commenting on Facebook's announcement that it was taking down the network of fake accounts, Dr Nomsa Masuku, a South African electoral commissioner and respected academic, said it showed that Africa's 'digital ecosystem is in need of reform.' Masuku expressed concern that the use of local agents was making the issue of tracing far more 'complex.'

As recently as a few weeks ago, researchers say, sites directed at the Mozambican

electorate made claims that the opposition Mozambican National Resistance had signed a contract with China allowing them to dump nuclear waste in Mozambique. The wild claims weren't taken at face value, Grossman observes. A number of social media users in Mozambique questioned the authenticity of the claim, pointing out that the opposition had no authority to sign such contracts.

That bodes well for those advocating public digital literacy

campaigns which may be the surest way to protect citizens from manipulation. However internet penetration in sub-Saharan Africa currently stands at around 11.9% of total world users and other priorities such as healthcare, schooling and crime compete for limited resources.

Avani Singh, a South African information rights advocate who recently joined a panel at an Institute for Security Studies seminar on digitisation and

elections in Africa, says the electorate needs 'accurate, credible and reliable information, both in terms of the outcomes of elections [and] the potential for inciting hatred and violence.'

The revelation that Facebook's platforms have been used to influence turnout, sway opinion or tell blatant lies to shape political outcomes on our doorstep is concerning. It adds to the current debate about when and whether tech companies should remain 'net neutral', or proactively remove accounts that knowingly peddle falsehoods.

Facebook has found itself under increasing pressure from its own staff to take a stand. Now that it has gone public about its Africa investigation, it's drawing attention to plans for a Kenya-based 'content review centre' in order to filter content in a number of vernacular languages. This may indicate that to reduce reputational damage, tech companies such as Facebook must get off the fence and offer a duty of care to their customers.

Mistrust of mainstream media and limited freedom of speech in many parts of Africa have allowed platforms such as Facebook to position themselves as champions of unfiltered free expression. Yet whether users trust Facebook more than mainstream media is an open question. If the answer is yes, the power of Facebook may well be amplified.

Nevertheless, the Mozam-

bican example cited above surely puts paid to assumptions of a passive and naïve African internet user. If anything, mistrust of traditional institutions could make users in this part of the world more questioning.

Masuku admitted that electoral commissions across the continent were ill-informed about the potential of digital disinformation campaigns. The Southern African Development Community also has only limited mention of social media in its election guidelines.

Theo Watson, a lawyer with Microsoft, which owns a number of social media platforms, argues that Africa needs to 'use technology to grow democracies, the democratic processes and structures that underpin it.' But he warns 'we also need to upskill and educate ourselves to be aware of the dangers and downsides that new technology brings.' In resource-poor settings, surely there is a role for the private sector to step in?

In 2021 nearly a dozen prominent election campaigns will be fought across Africa. As the Cambridge Analytica saga has shown, Russia and China don't have the monopoly on election manipulation. So across Africa, as with the rest of the world, indifference to the threat of digital tampering is no longer an option.

**Karen Allen, Senior Research Adviser, Emerging Threats in Africa, ISS Pretoria**



Activist with banners protest in the Atrium of the Senate Hart Office Building before their arrest during the fourth Fire Drill Friday. File photo

By Katie Redford

I firmly believe in the role and importance of civil disobedience as a critical strategy in social change movements - I grew up in the United States where the actions of people like Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks are celebrated, and even romanticised. But, as a human rights lawyer, I have always felt that getting arrested and breaking the law was not my role.

I reasoned that I was more useful to the human rights movement as a lawmaker, not a law breaker - as an "upstanding member of society" with a clean rap sheet. In my work at EarthRights, for example, when you go up against corporations like Chevron, Shell, or Chiquita, they'll use anything against you - and I never wanted to give them the ammo that, "oh, these are just a bunch of rabble rousing lawyers who will do anything to

prove their point: 'look, she was just in jail last week - she doesn't respect the law so why would you respect her and her position in this case?'"

But after 25 years of using the legal system, obeying all of the rules, and indeed, often winning, I have come to realise that the power of law, alone, is not enough.

As the recent unprecedented statement signed by over 11,000 scientists has screamed out: the science

## Civil disobedience in a time of climate crisis

around the climate crisis is clear, we don't have the luxury of the time it takes for the legal system to resolve a crisis of this magnitude, nor is it designed to do so. Due process is lengthy and time consuming - we've sadly pushed the planet to its scientific limits and are in a situation where the earth can't wait.

Of course, my organisation, EarthRights, does use the legal system to seek justice, and we are using litigation to go straight to the source of the problem. EarthRights is suing fossil fuel corporations in the US, seeking justice on behalf of communities who are already suffering, and paying for the damage caused by climate change.

I'm proud of our lawyers and our legal strategies, and the fact that our case is the first to be cleared to proceed in state court, which is where we want to be and where the companies like Exxon and Suncor do not.

But we've spent the past two years fighting JUST about that - whether to be in state or federal court - and we simply don't have the time to wait for the courts to decide who should pay for climate change.

At EarthRights, we believe in movement lawyering - that litigation is part of our broader strategy to unleash the power of affected communities, inspire action on policy, and help build the political power that is necessary to actually achieve the transformational change that we need. Until now, I didn't think that me getting arrested would help - but at this point, I feel like we need to try anything, so that's what I decided to do.

I have always believed in that famous quote, attributed to Martin Luther King (although I don't think he actually said it), that all social justice activists comfort themselves with at various points in their career: "The

arc of history is long, but it swings towards justice." Unfortunately, the science has made clear that we don't have the time for it to swing in this particular situation.

We need to throw down, and rise up, in new ways.

Perhaps it's another law that transformational change - of the kind we need here - only ever happens when people put their bodies on the line.

Let me be honest at the outset: In the US, as a white citizen, protesting in Washington DC - with the protection of the extra attention that celebrities like Jane Fonda, Catherine Keener, Katherine LaNasa and Rosanna Arquette bring - I knew I wasn't taking any kind of risk that could ever be compared to the kinds that people have taken in the past, such as in Tiananmen Square or Burma or, more recently, in Hong Kong, Sudan or Iraq.

I knew that the Washington DC capital police were ready for dozens of women, that they have their "arrest the protesters" drill down to a science, and that they would be extra careful given the celebrities involved. So, I wasn't putting my body on the line, really.

But I did decide that it's time to put my body where my mouth is.

And so I joined the Fire Drill Fridays movement. This was week four of Jane Fonda's four-month call to action to support the youth climate strikers' demands for immediate action. The week-four theme was Fire Drill Fridays: Women Can't Wait! which focused on the disproportionate impact of the climate crisis on women and celebrated women's leadership in fighting back.

I will admit that I am usually sceptical about celebrity causes and protest speeches, but I feel that this one is different.

Jane Fonda moved to DC and organised four months straight of weekly rallies and

civil disobedience actions, using her networks and celebrity to draw attention to, and build political power around, this crisis with the specific demand of ending fossil fuel expansion and keeping existing reserves in the ground.

Not only is this the only message that I can get behind at this time (and the only one the science supports), but the method in which she is using her celebrity is inspiring and effective. This is not a stunt - it's a strategic, highly organised mobilisation of power. Every week is focused on a different aspect of the climate crisis, and she gathers experts and celebrities alike in two days of activities around that particular issue.

On Thursday evening, before each rally, she hosts an hour-long online teach-in where the experts - and celebrities passionate about that particular issue - educate tens of thousands who tune in to learn and answer questions during the Facebook live event. Then, on Friday, those same celebrities, experts, and others join Jane near the capital for a public rally, which includes more speeches, more public education, singing and art... and then the protest action for those who want to partake.

Those who decide to risk arrest with Jane march together to the chosen site and, in a peaceful and orchestrated way, break the law. And the fact that Jane was getting arrested for the fourth straight week - and therefore destined to spend time in jail - made me think that this was something different.

In DC, if you have no recent arrests, you can usually pay \$50 and get released that same day. The second time, same thing. The third time, you have to show up for a court date. But if you have a pending court date and you get arrested again, then

you have to go to jail. Since this was Jane's fourth arrest in four weeks, she knew she was going to jail.

She's the real deal! If you listen to her National Public Radio interview that day, when they asked her if she was afraid to go to jail, she said, "I'm 82 years old. And, no, it's very hard to scare me - intimacy maybe, but not jail." (In fact, Fonda turns 82 in December 2019.)

Also, when we were in jail together, she was spending the time trying to strategise her next actions. I'm speaking at her event on 3 January 2020, which is the penultimate Fire Drill Friday - it's about who should be held accountable for climate change, who should pay. She was asking me and others where we should protest, where we should get arrested... I'm telling you, if I'm even half that active and badass at 81, I'll be proud.

When I decided to put my body where my mouth is, some friends and activists were critical of my decision. My husband, Ka Hsaw Wa, for example, thought I was nuts and kind of silly. He protested that "people like me from countries like Burma spend our lives trying to stay out of jail, we hate jail, it's a terrible place of suffering and abuse, why would you ever try to go..."

It's not that he doesn't get civil disobedience, he just doesn't necessarily think it's helpful given his experience. For many activists a prison - even if only for a few hours - evokes trauma. Ka Hsaw Wa was tortured and spent time in real jail, not like my four hours in what was more like jail camp with some amazing women...

Linked to this, family members in Burma and also colleagues from countries around the world were worried, even scared, when they saw photos on Facebook of the police carting me off. Outside of the US - where arrest and jail are the real deal

- people were frightened and concerned. Reminding me that my experience would have been totally different if I were black, brown, or not a citizen.

So, in addition to the urgency around climate crisis, there is also an urgency around defending the right to protest. In the US and across the world this right is under attack, and often by the same industries and forces that are fuelling the climate crisis.

And, as revealed in recent reports, protest is increasingly deadly for many environmental activists.

But as a result of protests, fossil fuel industries are facing more scrutiny than ever, and are finally being held to account - or soon will be. They know their days are numbered, they are in their death throes, and like any dying beast, they have become more vicious and desperate as they retaliate against those who threaten them.

In the US, whether it's weaponising the legal system against activists, as in Standing Rock (see the Protect the Protest website); or the EarthRights lawsuit where we defended Krystal Two Bulls and other activist organisations against the crazy Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organisations Act (RCO) claims against them; or whether it's the spate of new "critical infrastructure" bills being introduced to heighten penalties against protesters of fossil fuel projects, this industry is going after our First Amendment Rights in unprecedented ways.

Protest matters, and protest works. It's because of this that the right to protest is under attack. We need to defend it fiercely - and that includes me actually taking risks, however small, to exercise and demand that right, as long as I still can.



## BUSINESS



A rescued pangolin.

## CONCERN

## Pangolins threatened by criminal networks in southern Africa

## LONDON

Pangolins are under threat from illegal trafficking networks, conservationists said on Wednesday, as they urged southern African countries to step up protection of one of the world's most smuggled mammals.

Around 100 000 pangolins are plucked from the wild each year in Africa and Asia, according to conservation group WildAid. The flesh of these endangered scaled mammals is considered a delicacy in China and Vietnam, where their bones and blood are also used for traditional medicine. Demand for pangolin scales exploded over the past decade, with seizures rising from 21 kilograms in 2011 (£56) to 68 000 kilograms this year, says WildAid. That trade became illegal when pangolins were placed under full protection from international trade by the wild fauna and flora CITES convention in 2016.

But an EU-funded research project has found that criminal gangs have since tapped into the industry. "It is

vital that we understand and prevent the illicit trade in pangolins before it is too late," said researcher Richard Chelin in a statement on Wednesday.

He added that strategies to combat illegal wildlife trafficking had focused mainly on iconic species such as elephants and rhinos, at the expense of lesser-known animals such as pangolins.

"The threat to the rhino shows that early interventions are better than reactive measures at the height of a crisis," said Chelin. Southern Africa remains the only region with a reasonably healthy pangolin population. Conservationists are lobbying the government to do more to protect the species.

"A small fine or a few days in jail is not a deterrent for organised criminals in a high-value industry," said South Africa environmental inspector Fanie Masango. While hunting elephant and rhino in South Africa can lead to a R100 000 fine and a ten-year prison sentence, a pangolin hunter can get away with R1 500.

## DIVERSITY

## Guinness master brewer toasts to new beer flavours in Kenya

## NAIROBI

There's scarcely anything celebrity about Peter Simpson. It is easy to walk past him on the street, yet, when millions around the world toast their Guinness drink, they do so in honour of his craftsmanship.

The 6-foot tall Irishman, with an unmistakable polish of a gourmet and a broad Irish drawl to boot, is a taste whiz and master brewer at Guinness, one of the world's largest beer makers. Beer and food are Simpson's scene - he worked as a sommelier after leaving college. But no word captures his journey quite like destiny. He discovered his true North aged only 12. "My father used to drink homemade booze, which he crafted himself using traditional techniques," he narrates. Watching the older Simpson perform magic, and lending a hand at times, he had dipped his forefinger into the exciting world of brewery.

A degree in chemical engineering from Swansea University in Wales - later, Simpson found his natural environment at the legendary St James's Gate in Dublin, the home of the Irish beverage maker. "My family, and dad in particular, couldn't be prouder of me," he says in a transport of delight.

Simpson is part of an initiative by Diageo that promotes innovation by its pool of talented brewers globally

by licensing them to explore new recipes for its breweries. He was recently in Kenya for the launch of Guinness Smooth, the new addition to Guinness's repertoire of drinks. Simpson is one of the geniuses behind the youngest sibling in the Guinness family.

"Smooth combines great aromas and smoothness as the main properties," he explains, lapping foam off his glass with practised relish. "It's a great balance between smooth and bitter attributes. It's like velvet in the mouth." Guinness introduced Smooth in response to the dynamic flavour trends among Kenyan drinkers.

Simpson clocks hours in the laboratory "crafting and experimenting with different recipes from which we brew new beers in our breweries around the world." "Based on the reception of drinkers at our experimental bars, the beers are either approved for the market or withdrawn," he explains, calling his a job of love and passion.

Being at the helm of flavour at Guinness is an enormous and challenging role, but an exhilarating one nonetheless, Simpson says. "Creating a beer that delivers a desired outcome comes with immense pressure. You must study it under a flavour profile very keenly to attain this," he says.

## CAUTION

# Does too much screen time truly stunt toddlers' brains?

## WASHINGTON

The United Nations has released its first-ever recommendations on physical activity for children under five, with disputed advice on subjects ranging from screen time to "tummy time."

Toddlers who spend loads of time looking at tablets, smartphones or TVs may be changing their brains, and not for the better. A new study using brain scans showed that the white matter in the brains of children who spent hours in front of screens wasn't developing as fast as it was in the brains of kids who didn't.

Quality of experience  
It's in the white matter of the brain where language, other literacy skills, and the process of mental control and self-regulation develop, researchers say. "What we think happens is that the development of these skills really depends on the quality of the experience, such as interaction with people, interaction with the world and playing," explained lead researcher Dr John Hutton. He is director of the Reading and Literacy Discovery Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. 'Edtech' boom transforms how Indian kids learn

From a multi-billion-dollar education startup to wired-up mannequins, technology is helping to revolutionise the way Indian schoolchildren are learning - provided their parents can afford it. The first five years of life is the critical time when these brain connections are rapidly



Too much time staring at screens can hamper a child's development.

developing, Hutton explained.

"Some types of screen media may provide sub-optimal stimulation to reinforce the connection of fibres in the brain and the skills they support, such as early language and literacy skills," he said. Although TV has been around for decades, Hutton pointed out that the recent explosion of portable screen devices has greatly increased the time kids spend looking at them.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that kids under 18 months shouldn't be exposed to screens at all. From 18 to 24 months, if parents choose, digital media should include only high-quality programming that

the child and parent watch together.

Cognitive skills

For kids aged two to five, screen time should be limited to one hour per day, and parents should watch the programmes with their child. Also, parents should have times when screens are turned off, and bedrooms should be media-free.

For the study, Hutton and his colleagues did MRI scans of the brains of 47 kids, aged three to five years. The children also took tests to evaluate their cognitive ("thinking") skills. Parents were asked to complete a questionnaire that identified their ScreenQ, which tells how much time their children

spend in front of screens, and how closely they follow the AAP recommendations.

The researchers found that the higher the ScreenQ score, the lower the child's ability to rapidly name objects (a measure of mental-processing speed), and the lower their developing literacy skills. Also, higher ScreenQ scores were tied to delayed white matter development, specifically the process that allows nerve impulses to move more quickly throughout the brain. Hutton believes that the developing brain needs the stimulation of other people and the real world to rise to its potential.

Passive and two-dimensional "Young children really

depend on relationships with people, interacting with the world, using all their senses," he said. "The more parents can keep their children off screens in early childhood and let them interact with people in the world, the better."

It's possible that the delayed brain development caused by screens can be made up later, but it's harder for the brain to change the older you get, Hutton added. Reshma Naidoo, director of cognitive neuroscience at Nicklaus Children's Hospital in Miami, said that watching screens is passive and two-dimensional, both of which aren't good for developing brains.

"From my perspective, the biggest problems we are seeing is a lot less social engagement with children," she said. "We're starting to see a lot more children that have these very dysfunctional social patterns, and they're more responsive to media."

Interaction more important

Parents need to set the example for their children, Naidoo said. "We need to shift their focus and engage with our children," she added. Parents who let their children watch screens should use the time to interact with their child rather than making screen time passive, she advised. "But I strongly recommend limiting the amount of time that you spend in front of those environments," Naidoo said.

## EGGHEAD

## Leading with humility - FNB's youngest chief executive

## JOHANNESBURG

It's not every day one meets a banking executive whose face lights up when they talk about their passion for communities instead of money. It's even more scarce when that executive's award-winning idea changed the face of banking.

So when City Press met up with Philani Potwana, the chief executive of FNB Easy, one of the bank's five customer segment units, it was an eye-opening insight into what the new breed of future banking executives might be.

At 31, Potwana is the youngest chief executive at FNB; one of the youngest in that sector and he is anything but the traditional corporate suit. Born in Kwamnyana village near Mount Frere in the Eastern Cape, Potwana is one of three children of a single mother. He and his family moved to Maluti Township near Matatiele where he matriculated from Mariazel High School at just 15 years old.

"The life at Maluti shaped me because, coming from a deep rural village, I was exposed to fancy cars with Joburg registration plates and that made me want to be a 'big person' in Joburg too," he says. After matriculating, he headed to the University of KwaZulu-Natal to pursue a degree in information technology.

"I matriculated at 15 and wanted to study IT. I had no plan B, it was IT or nothing. I went with my mother to a bank to get a loan because although she worked, she fell into the gap market and I didn't qualify for a government grant or National Student Financial Aid Scheme. We were declined for a loan," he says, adding that being rejected made him want to work for the bank that did - that bank was FNB.



Philani Potwana, the chief executive of FNB Easy.

At university he enrolled for the extended four-year bachelor of commerce degree in information systems. He completed the degree in three years and went on to do his honours. While he was studying a towards his honours degree, he seized on an opportunity to apply for FNB's graduate programme and a few interviews later was recruited as a 20-year-old trainee systems analyst.

"Four months after joining the bank I asked myself: Why can't clients withdraw money without a card? So I came up with an idea. It's not an eWallet, it's just the ability to withdraw cashless without your bank card.

"The culture of the bank is that no matter how junior you

are, you can walk into the CEO's office and have a chat and that is exactly what I did," he says of the idea that eventually earned the bank an innovation award in 2011.

In 2010 Potwana progressed to business analyst and a few more roles later he ended up as head of student and personal loans products, a move that seemed like a conclusion of a chapter in his life. "When I was product head, it was surreal because I wanted to work for the bank because my loan application had been rejected.

"I was later asked to be acting CEO for the same business of loans and when the acting period ended an opportunity for chief executive of FNB Easy opened so I just grabbed it with

both hands," he says.

As chief executive of the segment, which is one of the more competitive ones and in charge of the income bracket of up to R120 000 a year, Potwana is charged with taking care of low-income earners and that, it seems, is exactly where he fits like a hand in a glove.

"I feel like there's so much we can do for people from a banking perspective where they can trust banks." The biggest misconception most people have about banking is that it is expensive and it's one of the myths he hopes to crush in his role.

"When I was head of product, I would have stopped for a while there but I was raised with the belief that I must

never settle. You must never be happy with the little you have. You must always strive for a little bit more but, most importantly, strive to make a difference.

"So I felt that being CEO of the low-income segment I could make a little bit more difference," he says. Having blazed through the company, Potwana harbours ambitions of being more involved in the community and it's that involvement which makes his face light up.

"In the next decade I see myself in banking but more involved in communities. I feel as if our communities need to be given more, not with money but with time. I think that's what they need most," Potwana says. Staying humble, Potwana says, has been the ultimate lesson he has learnt on his journey to the top.

Like a true villager at heart, Potwana is still passionate about going to his Eastern Cape village and sitting with the elderly, bantering about what matters most to them. "Leadership is about people, not the individual and that I learnt from my mother," he says.

In his role as CEO, Potwana says he has to change the way people think about banks while also imparting financial knowledge. "The biggest lesson we have to teach people is to spend less than they earn while also rewarding themselves by saving," he says.

The husband and father of two is already involved in mentoring pupils from Alexandra and it's an initiative that remains close to his heart. He is a sport fanatic and a very keen Formula One supporter.



## OUTSTANDING

## Wandile Mabaso is putting SA cuisine on the map

JOHANNESBURG

Wandile Mabaso, a Soweto-born chef who trained at a restaurant in Paris that has two Michelin stars, has opened a fine dining restaurant called Les Créatifs in Bryanston, Johannesburg. The eatery is set to redefine the notion of South African cuisine through Mabaso's take on his childhood experiences and exposure to South African cultures.

"I'm pure South African, born and bred in Soweto," he says. "We grew up eating bunny chows. We grew up eating tripe and samp, and I was exposed to different cultures of eating." Mabaso notes that many of the top chefs in the country, especially in Cape Town, are not South African and are out of touch with South African food.

"They cannot relate to what South African food really is, and they try too hard to be European," he says. Living with his single mother in Soweto, Mabaso learnt to make his own meals after school. He started with the basics and, gradually, cooking became a hobby he enjoyed. After matric, Mabaso intended to pursue cooking, but his father disapproved. The family reached a compromise and Mabaso studied hotel management.

After graduation and an internship on board an Italian chartered boat, Mabaso enrolled in culinary school. Before he'd completed his training, his passion and technical precision were noticed and he was scouted to work as a chef in Miami in the US. After 10 years working



Chef Wandile Mabaso at work.

abroad, he returned to South Africa.

Mabaso is classically trained in French cuisine

and aspires to achieve the level of refinement associated with the world's top French chefs.

"[The food is] pretty; it's got a story behind it. It's meticulous. It's refined, expressive, colourful and

opulent, and is at the highest level of cooking," he says.

He explains how Japa-

nese, French and Italian cuisines have taken staples and refined them to achieve fine dining experiences, but we haven't managed to accomplish that yet in South Africa. "For guys like me, it's inspiring because there's an opportunity to do something like that and be the first to do it properly."

At Les Créatifs, the menu changes weekly to allow Mabaso to experiment with ingredients and flavours, and slowly incorporate them into the menu. He ferments chakalaka in beetroot juice, tests samp as a risotto base and whips amabele into velvety smooth ice cream.

Mabaso draws inspiration from the seasons, his experiences and the freshest produce available. "As a chef, my job is to be an interpreter between nature and human beings, so I need to teach human beings how to eat, what to eat and how to transform food," says Mabaso.

The desserts at Les Créatifs are not just visually exquisite, they encapsulate sensory memories. Guava parfait and charred oranges evoke African winter sunshine; a lemon sablé (French shortbread) evokes the tangy sweetness of tea-time lemon creams.

At 35, Mabaso believes he has a long way to go before he achieves his goal. He hopes to open more restaurants and make South Africa a gourmet food destination which the world will travel to experience authentic and refined South African cuisine.

## PROFITABILITY

## Vodacom Tanzania's H1 core earnings rise on M-Pesa, data revenue

DAR ES SALAAM

Vodacom Tanzania's core earnings rose 9.3% in the six months to the end of September, driven by increased revenue from its financial and data provision services, it said on Friday.

Tanzania's biggest telecoms operator, which is partly owned by South Africa's Vodacom, said revenue from its M-Pesa financial services operations grew 15.9%, while its data business posted 17.4% revenue growth.

Earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation and amortisation, known as core earnings, were 147 billion shillings (\$63.91 million). The company added 760,000 new customers during the period, said CEO Hisham Hendi, adding that he expected further growth momentum from the financial services business.

M-Pesa expanded to Tanzania from neighbouring Kenya, where it was launched by Safaricom, part of the Vodacom group, in 2007. It now contributes just over a third of Vodacom Tanzania's total revenue, the firm said.

Hendi said the company was rushing to comply with a government order to register all mobile phone subscribers using their biometric features to curb cyber-crime by the end of this year. "There are concerns (about) the wider impact of the envisaged deadline if customers have to be switched off to ensure compliance," he said.

## COMPETITIVENESS

## Rwanda courts international flower market

KIGALI

Rwanda flower growing companies are seeking to expand their global market reach by showcasing at the world's biggest flower market place International Floriculture Trade Fair (IFTF).

The fair, which opened yesterday in its The Netherlands, is in its 10th edition with Rwanda featuring for the third time. The Netherlands is the world's biggest flower market and by far the largest contributor to Rwandan flower exports (98 per cent).

The three-day trade fair brings together the world's floriculture industry, to promote fresh flowers and plants, while aiming at increasing production and consumption. This year, Rwanda is featuring with intentions to grow and promote the country's floriculture sector. The intended outcome is a positive impact on sales and demand of Rwandan flowers through the Netherlands flower auction market.

The IFTF experience has also oriented the companies to improve their production area. The floriculture sector in Rwanda has in recent years grown to attract investors and a market due to opportunities and market links for the cash crop.

Rwanda's delegation includes two flower growing companies (Bella Flowers and Bloom Hills) as well as representatives from National Agricultural Export Development Board (NAEB). Cynthia Uwacu, the representative of NAEB at IFTF 2019, said that the fair is an opportunity for the Rwandan delegation to create international market linkages between Rwandan roses and summer flowers producers and international buyers.

"We are here to create awareness of the 'Rwandafresh' brand on the global market," she said. Shungo Harada, the Managing Director of Bloom Hills Company, added that they chose to participate with an aim to interact with buyers, learn about prevailing market trends and understand the dynamics in the floriculture auction market.

The attendance of the Rwandan delegates at the IFTF will be an opportunity to draw lessons about "flower branding and tourism" from the Netherlands and replicate in Rwanda. The delegates' participation in the IFTF 2019 also aims to support the target of growing exports to \$140 million by 2020.

The current production acreage of flowers in Rwanda is projected to increase from 40 hectares to more than 500 hectares in 2050. Sustaining the projected increase in production will require equal initiatives in creating market links through the Netherlands market and flower hub.

In support of the goals and objectives, Rwanda has introduced a weekly direct cargo flight to Europe with hopes to ease the transportation of agriculture exports. The new cargo service, operated by UK-based Magma Aviation, specialises in air freights globally, operating every Friday, carrying 25 metric tonnes.



Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote (L), and the world's richest man, Bill Gates, at a past event.

## PLUTOCRACY

## Billionaires' wealth falls for the first time in a decade

LONDON

The world's richest people became a little less well off last year, according to a report by UBS and PwC, as geopolitical turmoil and volatile equity markets reduced the wealth of billionaires for the first time in a decade.

Billionaires' wealth fell by \$388 billion globally to \$8.539 trillion, the UBS/PwC Billionaires Report found, with a particularly sharp decline in Greater China - the second-biggest home for billionaires after the United States - and the Asia-Pacific region more broadly.

Private banks including the world's largest

wealth manager UBS have felt the effects of US-China trade tensions and global political uncertainties, as clients last year shied away from trading and taking on debt in favour of hoarding more cash.

"Billionaire wealth dipped in 2018 for the first time since 2008 because of geopolitics," UBS's head of ultra-high net worth clients, Josef Stadler, said in the report published on Friday. The net worth of China's richest dropped 12.8% in dollar terms on the back of tumbling stock markets and a weaker local currency and as growth in the world's second-largest economy slowed to its lowest level in nearly three decades in 2018, the

report found, knocking dozens off the billionaires list.

Despite the drop, China continues to produce a new billionaire every 2.25 days, Stadler said. Worldwide, the number of billionaires fell everywhere except in the Americas, where tech entrepreneurs continued to buoy the ranks of the United States' wealthiest.

"This report shows the resilience of the US economy," where there were 749 billionaires at the end of 2018, said John Matthews, head of private wealth management and ultra-high net worth business for UBS in the United States.

While a stock market recovery from a steep drop in late 2018 has helped wealth managers increase their assets, the world's richest families remain concerned about global affairs from trade tensions and Brexit to populism and climate change and are continuing to keep more of their money in cash.

"It is likely that billionaire wealth will go up again this year," said Simon Smiles, UBS's chief investment officer for ultra-wealthy clients, adding it would likely be a more muted increase than the wider financial market rally might suggest.



FORTUNE

# There are billions in unclaimed assets out there, some could be yours

NEW YORK

Before his mother died in 2018 at the age of 84, Thomas Plante used some of his time on frequent visits to her home in Rhode Island to help get her estate in order. Early on, he found a life insurance policy that a relative had bought for her in 1933, when she was born. Because his mother had always lived in Rhode Island, Plante searched the state's unclaimed property website for other assets.

"I knew that if there was any money, that's where it would be," he said. "Once you start looking, you find – wow! – she had a bank account I didn't know about." He also found that she owned a few shares of stock in AT&T, SBC Communications and BrightHouse and had a number of uncashed dividend checks.

The total value of her financial assets was modest,

a little more than \$10,000, but Plante, 59, said it was enough to give her a proper funeral, which was important to his mother, who was Catholic.

Plante's mother was one of many people for whom government agencies hold tens of billions of dollars' worth of bank accounts, insurance policies, stocks, bonds, jewelry and other unclaimed assets. The owners of those assets have died, moved without leaving a new address or simply lost track of their property.

No government agency tracks the value of all unclaimed assets throughout the country, but independent estimates, including for matured Treasury savings bonds, run as high as \$80 billion. And the total has been growing faster than states can find owners or heirs.

In 2015, the most recent year for which complete statistics are available, state agencies returned \$3.235 billion to the rightful owners,



US dollars bills are a common denominator for billionaires globally.

but the agencies received \$7.763 billion in new assets. Gift cards are a fairly recent source of revenue in some states, which claim the value on those cards when they aren't redeemed by the recipient. (In other states, the value on the card goes back to whoever issued it.)

States and federal agencies publicize their efforts

to deliver unclaimed assets to the correct party, but it can be challenging for heirs to establish ownership after the death of the named owner, whether it is a parent, a partner, a sibling or a spouse. Careful record-keeping by people with assets and their families, as well as improved access to government records, can make it

easier for survivors to find their property and claim it.

Technology has made it easier for people to discover and recover forgotten wealth, but there are still hurdles. For one thing, there is no central database for all unclaimed assets in every state, which means people might have to look in multiple places.

The National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators, a group affiliated with the National Association of State Treasurers, has collected unclaimed asset listings from 41 states on the website MissingMoney.com. However, the site does not yet include data from several states with large inventories, including California (\$9.3 billion in unclaimed assets) and Pennsylvania (\$3.5 billion). Those states' websites must be searched separately, along with the websites of a number of federal agencies: the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Internal Revenue Service, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., the National Credit Union Association, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Railroad Retirement Board and the Treasury Department, which is holding \$25.5 billion in matured savings bonds.

Posting these assets on

searchable websites "seems to be encouraging more people" to look for them, said Burton Hollifield, a professor of financial economics at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

But government agencies could return more assets to individuals by being more aggressive in their marketing efforts, said Darrin Wilson, an assistant professor of public administration at Northern Kentucky University. He wrote a paper with Derek Slagle at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, about how states manage unclaimed property.

"When a department had a dedicated marketing staff, there was a statistically significant increase in the amount of money distributed," Wilson said. Sen. John Kennedy, R-La., has proposed a different approach to speed the return of about \$25 billion to the owners of matured savings bonds. In August, he introduced a bill that would authorize the

Treasury's Bureau of the Public Debt to effectively deputize states to act on its behalf, actively seeking the owners of those unredeemed savings bonds.

The sheer volume of unclaimed assets, and the public's inexperience in claiming them, has produced a new service industry: asset locators, who will hunt down unclaimed property for a percentage of what they find. The amount varies by state; Wisconsin caps asset locators' fees at 20%, while Tennessee and Vermont limit them to 10% and Washington to 5%. New York's cap is 15% of the recovered assets.

Locators may be able to find assets that survivors would be likely to overlook, but state officials encourage heirs to try searching government records before hiring someone. In any case, experts say consumers should avoid paying locators money upfront or signing contracts without reading them carefully or consulting a lawyer.

LEISURE

## Jumeirah Beach Hotel's new 'holistic' gym that costs from Dh33,000 per year

DUBAI

Jumeirah Beach Hotel reopened after its five-month refurbishment over a year ago now, but its fancy new fitness offering has had a much longer incubation process.

The J Club is the hotel's brand-new wellness club, though to label it as such seems to somewhat underplay it. There is a gym, sure, but there's also several indoor studios, an upcoming outdoor gym, a lap pool, tennis and squash courts, state-of-the-art body scanning machines, a "holistic" approach to training - and a hefty price tag to go with it. Memberships start from Dh2,750 per month (working out at Dh33,000 per year) for the basic membership for new members, Dh3,750 for couples and Dh5,500 for families (two adults plus children).

However, that's not exactly out of the realms of the ordinary in Dubai. Symmetry Gym in Dubai's Gold and Diamond Park offers "the most expensive and intensive 28 days of fitness in the UAE" at Dh36,000. Ultimate Performance in DIFC offers 12-week sessions from Dh16,560. Embody Fitness offers each member a full team, including a nutritional adviser, sports therapist and personal trainer, and session rates that start from Dh450 per hour.

The J Club is the result of Jumeirah carving off its gym and fitness programmes from under its Talise Spa umbrella, and choosing to market it as a separate, stand-alone "wellness club" that could attract members not affiliated with the

hotels. It has also meant the transformation of the former sites of two of its restaurants; Mahiki (which is now the gym's changing rooms and indoor studios), and Jamie's Italian.

It's certainly an impressive new offering in a somewhat bloated Dubai fitness scene. The spin studio has the nightclub-esque lights to rival the likes of Flywheel or Crank, whereas the gym floor is wide and spacious and offers plenty of brand-new machines. The attendants, who are busy tidying the floor and dealing with equipment, double as trained physiotherapists and stretching gurus.

Inside the health club, there is a restaurant helmed by renowned Dubai chef Izu Ani, which focuses on wholesome yet indulgent cuisine, in that fresh produce and nourishing ingredients are cooked fine-dining-style.

One of the most exciting new additions to the club, however, is the Fit3D Scanner, a 3D body scanner which will tell you, in just a few short minutes, the entire make-up of your body's fat and muscle composition (however welcome or unwelcome that information may be). That information then provides the base for a trainer to provide a tailor-made fitness plan, accompanied by a nutrition plan and a sleep programme. This is all part of the all-encompassing approach to training the club is trying to provide.

The J Club general manager Joe Gates says it is trying to position itself as a high-end fitness offering, catering to anyone from casual members to endurance athletes. However, families were one of their largest markets, too.

"It's for anybody who has that kind of disposable income to afford it," he says.

"If you want to come here and lose a stone in a month, you can, but if you want to come and lose three stone in a year and completely change your life, you can do that too." The J Club, as well as Fika, is also being introduced to Jumeirah Carlton Tower in London, but will not be rolled out across all Jumeirah properties.

However, Gates says, the "principle" of the club would be implemented in other Jumeirah hotels, depending on each one's target market. Gates says Dubai would be the platform to launch the concept, but they hoped to take it international eventually. "We are fortunate to bring 1,000 members and the legacy of being part of a great hotel," Gates says. "[But] everything we're doing in this club is for the first time."

As well as the large gym floor and free weights area that looks out at the Burj Al Arab, there is also now three internal studios for classes, six tournament-sized tennis courts, three squash courts, a 25-metre lap pool, and luxury changing facilities (featuring steam room, sauna, experience showers and Dyson hairdryers).

Construction is currently underway on a 150 square metre outdoor gym, to be launched later this year. It is launching its own brand of fitness classes (J Box, J Stretch, J Condition, etc) but also offer Les Mills classes too. With your membership, you'll also get discounts at other Jumeirah offerings, such as Talise Spa, Wild Wadi, and at their restaurants.



**ISIDINGO** MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

**ITV**

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## WORLD

## US diplomat says Giuliani waged campaign of 'lies' against envoy to Ukraine

WASHINGTON

A top U.S. diplomat told congressional investigators that President Donald Trump's personal attorney Rudy Giuliani conducted a "campaign full of lies" against the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine before she was recalled from her post, according to a transcript of his testimony released on Thursday.

George Kent, a deputy assistant secretary of state, told the Trump impeachment inquiry that he was also subject to attacks by Giuliani but was told to "keep my head down" by a senior State Department official.

The Democratic-led inquiry in the House of Representatives is focused on a July 25 phone call in which Trump asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to investigate Joe Biden, a former vice president and now a leading Democratic rival in the November 2020 presidential election.

Giuliani is central to the inquiry and has been mentioned frequently in testimony by State Department diplomats who have painted a picture of the former New York City mayor running a shadow U.S. policy toward Ukraine to pressure it to carry out a corruption investigation into Biden and his son, who worked for a Ukrainian gas company.

Kent mentioned Giuliani 73 times in his testimony to lawmakers delivered

behind closed doors on Oct. 15 but only released on Thursday.

Marie Yovanovitch, the former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, was abruptly pulled from her post in May. Kent said Giuliani conducted a smear campaign against the envoy.

"His assertions and allegations against former Ambassador Yovanovitch were without basis, untrue, period," Kent testified.

"Mr. Giuliani, at that point, had been carrying on a campaign for several months full of lies and incorrect information about Ambassador Yovanovitch, so this was a continuation of his campaign of lies," Kent said.

Neither Giuliani nor a lawyer for him responded immediately to requests for comment on Kent's testimony.

Kent said Ukrainian officials understood when they met Giuliani that he was not a regular private citizen and understood he represented Trump.

"Giuliani was not consulting with the State Department about what he was doing in the first half of 2019. And to the best of my knowledge, he's never suggested that he was promoting U.S. policy," Kent said.

For nearly a year, Giuliani has pursued unsubstantiated allegations that Biden pushed to fire a Ukrainian prosecutor to stop him from investigating Burisma, the Ukrainian energy company on the board of which Biden's son, Hunter,



Rudy Giuliani

served. Giuliani also told Reuters he played a role in the effort to remove Yovanovitch.

## STAR WITNESSES

Democrats have been releasing transcripts of the closed-door interviews as they prepare for public hearings in Congress next week. Kent is among the three U.S. diplomats who will serve as star witnesses.

Lawmakers are trying to determine whether Trump froze \$391 million in U.S. security assistance for Ukraine to put pressure on Zelenskyy to conduct the investigation, thus misusing U.S. foreign policy for his personal gain.

Trump's defenders say there is no evidence of him and the Ukrainian president engaging in a "quid pro quo" - exchanging a favor for a favor - because the aid to Ukraine was released and Zelenskyy never explicitly promised anything.

A quid pro quo is not necessary to prove high crimes or misdemeanors, which is the standard the U.S. Constitution requires for the impeachment of a president.

Kent and William Taylor, the top U.S. diplomat in Ukraine, will testify on Nov. 13. Yovanovitch will testify on Nov. 15.

Acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney was subpoenaed by the House Intelligence

Committee Thursday night to appear on Friday, an official working on the inquiry said. This week, the White House rebuffed a committee request for Mulvaney to appear.

Mulvaney caused a stir with a statement at an Oct. 17 news conference that the White House had withheld security assistance for Ukraine. "There is going to be political influence in foreign policy," he said. If the Democratic-controlled House votes to impeach Trump, the Republican-controlled Senate would then hold a trial on whether to remove him from office.

Senate Republicans have so far shown little appetite for ousting the president.

The impeachment inquiry met on Thursday for the first time with an adviser to Vice President Mike Pence, but former national security adviser John Bolton failed to heed a request to appear.

Lawmakers are also seeking to find out how much Pence knew about efforts by Trump and those around him to pressure Ukraine to investigate Biden and his son.

Jennifer Williams, a career foreign service officer and special adviser to Pence for Europe and Russia, was testifying to members of the House Foreign Affairs, Intelligence and Oversight committees after receiving a subpoena to compel her testimony.

Agencies

## S. Sudan president, opposition leader agree to postpone formation of unity govt

KAMPALA

SOUTH Sudan President Salva Kiir and the country's main opposition leader Riek Machar on Thursday agreed to postpone the formation of a transitional government of national unity by 100 days.

A communique issued here after a meeting held at State House, Entebbe, 40 km south of the capital Kampala, noted that the incomplete critical tasks related to the security arrangements and governance, including the formation of a revitalized transitional government of national unity ne-

cessitated the extension.

"The meeting agreed to extend the pre-transitional period for 100 days effective from Nov. 12 and to review progress after 50 days from that date and a report to be submitted to heads of state and parties," said the communique.

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni and chairman of Sudan's Sovereign Council, Abdel-Fattah al-Burhan, convened the meeting as guarantors to Agreement on Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan.

The meeting was also attended by Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, special envoy of Kenya to South



Sudan.

The parties agreed to establish a mechanism from Guarantors and the parties to supervise the implementation of the critical tasks.

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"During this period, the four IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development) countries represented in the meeting agreed to request IGAD to address the status of Machar," said the communique.

The leaders urged the international community to continue supporting the implementation of revitalized agreement on resolution of the conflict in South Sudan.

The warring parties failed to form the transitional unity government in May and both agreed to a six-month extension before the formation of the much-awaited transitional unity government

on Nov. 12.

South Sudan has been suffering from a civil war since December 2013, following a conflict between Kiir and his former vice president Machar, which has left tens of thousands of South Sudanese dead and around 4 million others displaced.

A peace deal signed in 2015 collapsed after the outbreak of renewed violence in July 2016, forcing Machar to flee the capital.

Under the 2018 peace deal, Machar will take up one of the four vice presidency positions in the transitional government.

Xinhua

## China, Namibia to enhance cooperation using FOCAC, BRI platforms

WINDHOEK

NAMIBIA and China agree to boost cooperation through the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to promote the development of their comprehensive strategic and cooperative partnership, visiting Chinese Vice Premier Sun Chunlan said here on Thursday.

Sun (pictured) made the remark when meeting with Namibian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah.

Sun said that the traditional friendship between China and Namibia was rooted in the struggle for national liberation against colonialism. The two countries enjoy a solid political and public foundation and have carried out fruitful cooperation.

In recent years, thanks to the promotion of the two heads of state, the bilateral relationship has been upgraded from the all-weather friendship to a comprehensive strategic and cooperative partnership, Sun said.

The next year marks the 30th an-



new development

opportunities, Sun said.

China is willing to continue strengthening the foundation of mutual political trust based on mutual respect, mutual benefit, equality,

and win-win, and implementing the important consensus reached by the two presidents during their two meetings last year, Sun said.

Sun also briefed her host Chinese President Xi Jinping's important speech at the second China International Import Expo in Shanghai, saying that China is committed to jointly building a world economy that features openness for cooperation, innovation, and sharing with other countries. China is accelerating the formation of a new pattern of comprehensive opening up, which will bring more opportunities

to markets, investment, and growth, Sun said, welcoming Namibian enterprises to actively participate in import fairs and export more high-quality products to China.

Nandi-Ndaitwah said that Namibia and China enjoy a traditional friendship, similar historical experiences and face common development tasks. In recent years, the breadth and depth of cooperation between the two countries are expanding, which has injected strong momentum into the promotion of the "Harambee Prosperity Plan."

Xinhua

## Dozens feared missing day after deadly ambush in Burkina Faso

OUAGADOUGOU

DOZENS of people were feared still missing on Thursday after an ambush on workers near a Canadian-owned mine in Burkina Faso killed at least 37, the worst such attack for years in a country plagued by jihadist violence.

Quebec-based gold miner Semafo said five of its buses with a military escort came under fire on the road leading to its Boungou mine in the eastern region of Est, about 40 kilometres from Boungou, on Wednesday.

Sixty other people were wounded, authorities said. The assailants' identity was unclear, but Burkina Faso is struggling to combat surging Islamist violence in remote eastern and northern scrubland areas of the West African state.

"Once more our people are in mourning because of terrorist groups that are multiplying, murderous actions against our civilians and our defence and security forces," President Roch Marc Kaboré said in a televised address.

Semafo said the Boungou mine site remained secured, although it has suspended operations following the attack.

It was unclear exactly how many people were in the convoy, what their nationalities were or how many were missing. But two security sources said dozens may still be unaccounted for.

One miner was shot in the leg but survived because the bodies of other victims fell on top of him, shielding him from the hail of bullets, his brother Benjamin Compaore said.

"There were more and more shots and then because the others were on top and he was underneath, God protected him," he said, speaking outside the Ouagadougou hospital where the wounded were being treated and distraught family members gathered.

Some questioned why the authorities had not yet provided a full casualty list.

Theodore Silga said his younger brother Gilbert, 26, had been on one of the ambushed buses. "The people working with my brother said they have not heard from him."

Semafo has said that under new safety guidelines, Burkina employees travel to and from the mine with a military escort by road while international staff are flown by helicopter. Two separate sources, who have worked at the mine, said the convoy left weekly carrying about 250 staff, usually in five buses of 50-60 people each.

The company tightened security last year following attacks that killed three workers and five security officials.

Canada's foreign ministry said there were no reports so far of any of its nationals being victims of the attack, the worst in Burkina Faso since groups with links to Islamic State and al Qaeda began targeting it in January 2016. Then, al Qaeda militants killed 32 people in a raid on a popular cafe and hotel in Ouagadougou.

## Russian President's special envoy highlights five export development scenarios in 2020s

ST. PETERSBURG

SPECIAL envoy of the Russian President for digital and technology development Dmitry Peskov named five key scenarios of increasing the export share, which can be applied at the governmental level during the next decade.

"We have five basic scenarios in terms of exports. The first one is the offensive, market-based and champion's one. This is a hypothesis that we need technology champions with high capitalization and networks worldwide in order to compete on the global market in 2020s.

We will stimulate turbid growth of companies, their IPOs, set the goal, for example, of having ten unicorn companies in key areas of the technology development by 2025 and achieve this by any means," Peskov (pictured) said.

A "defensive" scenario could be the second one, with the stake on development of the infrastructure and support of the domestic technological sovereignty, the envoy said. "We will either broaden powers of our monopolies to the side of digitalization and technologies or will foster new technology monopolies," he said.

Supporting growth of thousands of Russian startups with the help of export instruments of development institutions is the third, the "romantic" way of building up exports, Peskov said.

The fourth one combines the first three scenarios - investments into the infrastructure and emerging quasi-monopolies, "provided that they foster ecosystems within and target global markets," he said.

The fifth scenario can be that the responsibility "for all these pieces" will be diluted in collective decision-making authorities, the official added.



## China to bring new growth opportunities for global economy

THE proposals put forward by Chinese President Xi Jinping to advance economic globalization and expand opening-up have demonstrated China's determination to bring new growth opportunities to the global economy.

The Chinese civilization has always valued peace under heaven and harmony among nations, Xi said in a keynote speech delivered at the opening ceremony of the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) on November 5 in Shanghai.

Underscoring that economic globalization is an irreversible trend of history, Xi proposed three initiatives to encourage countries from around the world to give more impetus to economic globalization and remove impediments, and announced five measures to bring

about opening-up at an even higher level.

With visionary initiatives full of Chinese wisdom and pragmatic measures, China has made clear to the world that the country is committed to deepening opening-up, confident about bringing new growth opportunities for the global economy, and shoulders its responsibility to contribute to an open global economy and a community with a shared future for mankind.

The CIIE is the world's first import expo held at the national level. It is a proactive policy of China to pursue a new round of high-level opening-up, advance Belt and Road international cooperation and build an open world economy with the rest of the world.

The second CIIE is larger in scale

compared with the first one held last November. A total of 155 countries and regions as well as 26 international organizations have participated in the event.

The exhibition area covers around 360,000 square meters. Sixty-four countries have hosted country exhibitions and 3,893 companies present at the business exhibitions.

In a short time, the CIIE started from scratch and quickly attracted wide participation of countries and enterprises from all over the world, said Xi when he hosted a banquet on November 4 evening in Shanghai to welcome distinguished guests from around the world, who are here to attend the second CIIE.

He noted that the expo has become a major initiative in the history of global

trade and an important platform for international cooperation in the new era.

In his keynote speech at this year's expo, Xi reviewed the initiatives of further opening-up China has taken since the first CIIE, demonstrating that China is a country that keeps its promises.

The country has resolutely supported trade liberalization and economic globalization and will open its door only wider to the world.

Economic globalization, as an irreversible trend of history, has greatly boosted global growth. While protectionism and unilateralism are surging and economic globalization has encountered headwinds, Xi stressed that economic globalization is like the world's great rivers and nothing can stop their mighty movement.

Xi noted that of the problems confronting the world economy, none can be resolved by a single country alone, suggesting that countries put the common good of humanity first rather than place one's own interest above the common interest of all.

The Chinese President called on countries to work together to build an open world economy through cooperation, with innovation and for mutual benefits. He expressed hope that all countries could have a more open mindset and take more open steps, and work together to make the pie of the global market even bigger. Meanwhile, he suggested that countries should strengthen the mechanisms for sharing benefits globally, and explore new ways of international cooperation.

The goal is to give more impetus to economic globalization and remove impediments as much as possible and make economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced, and beneficial to all, as he pointed out.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. For the past 70 years, the Communist Party of China (CPC) has led the people to create a miracle of rapid economic development and a miracle of long-term stability. The Chinese nation has achieved a tremendous transformation—it has stood up, grown rich, and become strong.

China's development, viewed through the lens of history, is an integral part of the lofty cause of human progress.

People's Daily



# China's opening-up measures lift global economy

CHINESE President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) on Nov. 5, charting the course for the country to continue to push forward opening-up at a higher level.

"Like the world's great rivers, the Yangtze, the Nile, the Amazon and the Danube – they all surge forward in relentless flow, and nothing can stop their mighty movement." "China will continue to encourage bold trials and experiments in pilot free trade zones."

Xi's remarks were lauded by government officials, experts and scholars, and industry insiders, who told People's Daily that China's resolve to expand opening-up has created unprecedented opportunities for global economic development.

"President Xi's keynote speech reflects a deep understanding of the Chinese path and the global pattern, as well as the confidence in China's development," said Yuan De, executive deputy director of the Center for China and Globalizing Asia Studies with Mahidol University in Thailand.

Openness and cooperation set direction for global economic development.

By holding the CIIE for the second year in a row, China has built a platform where domestic and foreign enterprises can carry out mutually beneficial and win-win cooperation, Yuan said, adding that China's opening-up measures are a rare highlight for global economy, at a time when trade protectionism is on the rise.

To expand opening-up is not just a verbal promise of China; to that end, the country has taken concrete actions, said Park Seung Chan, director of the China Business Research Insti-

tute in South Korea.

President Xi stressed that China will bring about opening-up at an even higher level, which means that the country will open more channels to strengthen economic and trade exchanges with other countries. The move bears great significance against the backdrop of a sluggish global economy, Park said.

"China has provided more opportunities of development for all participating countries of the CIIE, as well as more room for countries to conduct win-win cooperation," said Park, adding that the CIIE is a concrete practice of expanding opening-up.

As the world has seen, China's business environment keeps improving. In March, the country adopted the Foreign Investment Law. In June, the country rolled out new negative lists for foreign investment market access and a revised catalogue of industries that encourages foreign investment. In October, the State Council released a regulation to optimize business environment.

The country endeavors to build a market-oriented and international business environment based on the rule of law, and its market is releasing constant energy.

China has honored its commitments in building an enabling business environment, said Tang Zhimin, director of China ASEAN studies at Thailand's Panyapiwat Institute of Management.

"At the first CIIE, the country pledged to stimulate import potential, continue to widen market access, and foster a world-class business environment. One year on, these initiatives and steps have been by and large put in place," Tang said.

In October, the World Bank released



Foreign reporters work at the media center of the second CIIE. (People's Daily)

its Doing Business Report 2020, which ranks China 31st among 190 economies, up by 15 places from last year's ranking.

Striving to realize high-quality development, China has expanded inputs in scientific and technological research and development and upgraded industrial structure, said Claudio Puty, a member of Brazil's Chamber of Deputies, pointing out that the constantly improving business environment is attracting more foreign investors, especially those in the high-tech sector, to enter the Chinese market.

"We need to 'join hands' with each other instead of 'letting go' of each other's hands. We need to 'tear down walls', not to 'erect walls'." The words

by President Xi vividly stated China's firm support of an open global economy. President Xi once again told the world that China supports and safeguards the multilateral trading system, and elaborated on the importance of an open global economy and free trade, said Pascal Smet, Secretary of State of the Brussels-Capital Region.

The European Union (EU) is the largest trade partner of China and China is Belgium's second largest non-EU trade partner. Such fruitful economic and trade cooperation outcomes are yielded in an open Chinese market, he said.

The CIIE serves as a platform for opening-up and cooperation that is able to eliminate suspicion, and it promotes mutual understanding, mutual

learning and common development among countries, he pointed out.

China holds international events almost on a daily basis, said Robert Lawrence Kuhn, chairman of the Kuhn Foundation.

This reflects that the country is actively taking part in global affairs, and manifests the endeavors it has taken to deepen multilateral cooperation and advance globalization, he said.

As the country pursues a higher level of opening-up to deliver more opportunities for countries to have access to the Chinese market, expand investment and boost growth, it is bound to propel the building of a more open world economy.

People's Daily

## Kissinger thinks that US-Russian relations need to be improved – Russian ambassador

NEW YORK

FORMER US Secretary of State and National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger expressed hope that US-Russian relations will improve in a conversation with Russian Ambassador to Washington Anatoly Antonov on Thursday.



"Kissinger is confident that time will come when it will become very clear that it is necessary to improve relations," Antonov told reporters after the meeting.

"We discussed many issues on the bilateral agenda, as well as matters of strategic stability. Mr. Kissinger spoke in support of strengthening strategic stability between the Russian Federation and the United States," he added.

"The meeting with Dr. Kissinger was very successful, and it was very comprehensive, as usual," the ambassador noted.

"He is the man who has a lot of experience in developing Soviet-US relations, the man who contributed so much to preventing a war between our two countries.

Of course, he provided his assessment of the current situation, and the main thing is that the current situation, current relations are not in the interests of the US or Russian people," Antonov stressed.

"Our relations should not remain in this unsatisfactory condition, and they will not stay like this for long," he concluded. Agencies

## Bloomberg considers entering 2020 Democratic presidential race

WASHINGTON

FORMER New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg is strongly considering entering the race for the 2020 US Democratic presidential nomination, a move that could greatly disrupt the field just three months before the first nominating contests.

Bloomberg (pictured), the billionaire media mogul and philanthropist who served three terms as mayor of America's largest city, is skeptical that any of the current crop of Democratic candidates can defeat Republican President Donald Trump in next year's general election, a spokesman said.

"Mike is increasingly concerned that the current field of candidates is not well positioned to beat Trump, Bloomberg spokesman Howard Wolfson said in a statement.

Bloomberg, 77, is expected to file paperwork this week to run in the Democratic presidential primary in Alabama, which has an early deadline for qualifying for the ballot. That would keep his options open for a possible White House bid, a source familiar with his thinking told Reuters.

The Democratic field, now numbering 17 candidates, has coalesced into four top contenders according to recent polls: US Senators Elizabeth Warren and

Bernie Sanders, who represent the party's progressive wing, and former Vice President Joe Biden and Mayor Pete Buttigieg, of South Bend, Indiana, representing the more moderate wing.

Bloomberg, the chief executive officer and founder of Bloomberg L.P., served as New York's mayor from 2002 to 2013 and has been a leading advocate and philanthropist on the issues of climate change and gun violence.

"If Mike runs, he would offer a new choice to Democrats built on a unique record running America's biggest city, building a business from scratch and taking on some of America's toughest challenges as a high-impact philanthropist," Wolfson said.

"Mike would be able to take the fight to Trump and win," Wolfson said.

Asked about Bloomberg in a Fox News Channel interview, White House spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said Trump "has got the results to show that he's doing great things for the American people, so it doesn't matter who ends up running against him - the president will win."

Moderate alternative Bloomberg has been critical of Warren and her plan to institute a tax on the super-rich if she is elected president to fund programs ranging from universal healthcare



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to free college tuition. If Bloomberg were to enter the race, he would likely compete with candidates such as Biden and Buttigieg as a moderate alternative to Warren's populist progressivism.

But he would likely face a difficult road with the liberal wing of the party concerned about corporate money in politics and income inequality in America.

Tom Steyer, a billionaire candidate from California who has made climate change a centerpiece of his campaign, has spent millions only to see his bid languish amid criticism from his rivals for trying to buy his way into the election.

"More billionaires seeking more political power surely isn't the change America needs," said Sanders' campaign manager, Faiz Shakir.

Warren responded to the news of Bloomberg's preparations by tweeting at him with a link that showed how much he would pay under her wealth tax.

Bloomberg, whom Forbes ranks as the eighth richest American with an estimated worth of US\$53.4 billion, would be able to largely fund his campaign himself, perhaps allowing him to ramp up his candidacy quickly. Still, he would have to build a multistate organization on the fly.

At age 77 he would be the second oldest candidate among the Democratic contenders, behind Sanders, who is 78. Biden is 76 and Warren is 70. On the Republican side, Trump is 73.

The Iowa caucuses, the first nominating contest on the Democratic primary calendar, will be held on Feb. 3. Agencies

## All Essex lorry victims confirmed to be Vietnamese nationals

HANOI/LONDON

All 39 people found dead in the Essex lorry incident were confirmed to be Vietnamese nationals, Vietnam's Ministry of Public Security announced on Thursday evening.

The 39 victims were from six Vietnamese localities of Hai Phong, Hai Duong, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, and Thua Thien Hue, the ministry said on its website.

Sending his condolences to the victims' families, Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc called on Vietnamese authorities and people nationwide to support them to overcome the great loss.

The prime minister has directed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Public Security, and other authorities to work closely with the British side to urgently handle relevant issues, including identifying information and names of the victims and taking necessary protective measures so as to soon repatriate their bodies back home, said the statement published on the government's portal on Thursday evening.

According to a statement

from Essex police, they have been working with Vietnamese police officers to verify the identities of the 39 people discovered at Grays in Essex on Oct 23.

"A series of files have been brought before an Identification Commission, and HM Senior Coroner Mrs Caroline Beasley-Murray has now formally identified all of the victims, and the families of those victims have been notified," said the statement.

The senior officer in charge of the enquiry, Assistant Chief Constable Tim Smith, said: "This is an important step in the investigation and enables us to work with our Vietnamese Police colleagues to support the families of those victims."

"It is only right that we provide an opportunity for family members to take in the news confirming the death of their loved ones before releasing any further information. Our thoughts remain with the families and friends of those whose tragic journey ended on our shores."

The Vietnamese government strongly condemns acts of trafficking and calls on

countries in the region and the world to step up cooperation, and resolutely prevent and combat this particularly dangerous crime so as not to repeat the same tragedies, and complete investigations soon and bring the criminals to justice.

The Vietnamese government highly appreciates the cooperation of British authorities regarding the case, Phuc said, expressing sincere thanks to the British people, overseas Vietnamese in Britain and other countries for caring, sharing, and showing their sympathy for the victims in this incident. Xinhua



**A series of files have been brought before an Identification Commission, and HM Senior Coroner Mrs Caroline Beasley-Murray has now formally identified all of the**

## Economic globalisation 'surges forward in relentless flow'

WIN-WIN cooperation has always been the theme of global development and economic globalization always remains an irresistible trend.

This can be well explained by the importance attached by US enterprises to the Chinese market.

Last year, over 100 US enterprises attended the China International Import Expo (CIIE), and their total exhibition area stood at 36,000 square meters, ranking among the top three in all participating countries. This year, the number of US exhibitors increased to over 190, and their total exhibition area has hit 47,500 square meters, the highest in all participating countries.

"Economic globalization represents the trend of history.

Like the world's great rivers, the Yangtze, the Nile, the Amazon and the Danube – they all surge forward in relentless flow, and nothing can stop their mighty movement, not the current of undertows or hidden shoals or rocks beneath the water," Chinese President Xi Jinping said in his keynote speech delivered at the opening ceremony of the second CIIE.

Comparing economic globalization to mighty rivers, Xi profoundly revealed the irreversibility of economic globalization. Against the background of rising trade protectionism and anti-globalization, this far-sighted judgment is even more insightful and significant, indicating China's sense of responsibility. Economic globalization is an

inevitable result of the advancement of science and technology and the development of productivity in human society. The first Industrial Revolution led to the international division of labor, which enabled British cotton mills to process cotton from all over the world, and made cotton the earliest globalized commodity.

Since the 1970s, the information revolution has swept the world. The digital economy represented by the Internet has enabled people to live in a "global village" where everyone is closely connected like neighbors.

At present, a new round of scientific and technological revolution and industrial transformation featuring artificial intelligence, big data, quantum

communication and block chain is gathering strength.

Being open and sharing, these technologies will further promote the in-depth development of economic globalization, which is in line with the laws of history, represents the trend of times, and won't be changed at the will of anyone.

In a global market with free flow of production factors, different countries should give full play to their respective advantages, engage in healthy competition, and make wealth and improve people's livelihood through trade activities. The CIIE is exactly a platform to achieve that.

Thanks to the first CIIE, jute handicrafts made in poverty-stricken areas of Bangladesh have entered the high-end

department stores in Shanghai, and fresh fruits from Hawaii have been introduced to the bubble tea shops across China. Besides, Italian manufacturers of internet-famous household appliances are now joining Chinese e-commerce enterprises for larger market.

Free trade has created a truly win-win situation, and the process of economic globalization has greatly promoted the growth of wealth and social development. As an old Chinese saying goes, the wise build bridges while the fool build walls. If a country pursues isolation, resorts to the beggar-thy-neighbor practice, or even puts its private interests above the interests of all humanity, it will only end up harming the others without benefiting itself.

Economic globalization is unstoppable, and so is the aspiration of all countries for peace and development. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China 70 years ago, especially over the past 40 years of reform and opening up, China has actively integrated into the global market and participated in the international division of labor, and gradually developed into the world's second largest economy.

Nowadays, more developing countries hope to learn from China's successful experience, expand opening-up in a fair and orderly international environment, and be fully involved in the process of economic globalization so as to create more wealth in international trade and secure a better future.

No one can stop the people around the world from moving towards a better life, and no one can stifle their desire for peace, development and progress.

China is building three bridges: one to the world, one to prosperity and one to the future, said Christine Lagarde, former managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) at the first CIIE.

China is a staunch vindicator of economic globalization, a firm defender of free trade and a faithful constructor of a better future for mankind. While opening its door wider to the world, the country will take more concrete actions and measures to advance economic globalization.

People's Daily



The  
**Guardian**

# SPORT



Tiger Woods

## The captain becomes a player as Tiger Woods picks himself

BY DOUG FERGUSON

TIGER Woods will have an ear piece, a radio and his golf clubs at the Presidents Cup. Woods created his own slice of history Thursday night by becoming the first Presidents Cup captain to use one of his wildcard selections on himself.

He is the second playing captain in the Presidents Cup. Hale Irwin played in the inaugural matches in 1994 when he qualified for the team. He had Paul Azinger, who was recovering from cancer, as one of his assistants.

Woods was introduced as captain in March 2018, when he was just returning from a fourth surgery on his lower back. He has won three times since then, including his 15th major when he won the Masters in April.

"It's going to be a lot of work, but something I've been looking forward to for a long time," Woods said.

The decision was hardly a surprise. Woods not only is the Masters champion, just two weeks ago he tied the PGA Tour record with his 82nd career victory at the Zozo Championship in Japan. Woods said it was that trip – not just the victory, but the travel – that convinced him he was fully healed from minor knee surgery in August and capable of contributing in Australia.

The Presidents Cup is Dec. 12-15 at Royal Melbourne.

Woods also selected Tony Finau, who finished just outside the top eight who qualified; U.S. Open champion Gary Woodland, who is playing on his first U.S. team; and Patrick Reed.

Missing from the American team is Phil Mickelson, who had played in every Presidents Cup since the matches began in 1994. Woods also left off Rickie Fowler, who got married and has not played since the Tour Championship; and Kevin Kisner, who is 16-5-3 in match play, including a victory and runner-up in the last two Dell Match Play events.

And still to be determined is whether PGA champion Brooks Koepka, the No. 1 player in the world, will be ready to go. Koepka had stem cell treatment in his left knee after the Tour Championship, and that injured the knee while bracing himself after he slipped

on a wet piece of cement in the CJ Cup.

Woods said Koepka told him he was rehabbing the knee and that the focus now was on the 12 players who will try to win the Presidents Cup for the eighth straight time.

Woods did not say what kind of contingency plan he had if Koepka couldn't make it. He also left open the option of adding an assistant captain now that he'll be playing. He currently has Fred Couples, Steve Stricker and Zach Johnson.

Woods said those three had strong thoughts on him playing, especially Couples.

"Freddie was pretty ardent. 'You're on the team, quit being stupid.' At the time, I haven't even swung a club," Woods said. "I got back to him after Japan."

Everyone is required to play in at least one match ahead of the Sunday singles, meaning Woods only has to play twice. He said he could play more depending on what the team needs.

The rest of the U.S. team is Dustin Johnson, Xander Schauffele, Bryson DeChambeau, Justin Thomas, Matt Kuchar, Patrick Cantlay and Webb Simpson. Cantlay, Schauffele and Woodland are the only players who have never competed in a Presidents Cup or Ryder Cup.

International captain Ernie Els filled out his team Wednesday, adding two rookies (Sungjae Im and Joaquin Niemann) to a team that already had four Presidents Cup newcomers.

Royal Melbourne is where the International team had its only victory in 1998. The Americans won in 2011 at Royal Melbourne with Woods – a captain's pick – delivering the winning point.

Woods announced himself with his fourth and final pick.

"As captain, I'm going to choose Tiger Woods as the last player on the team," he said. "He's made ... nine Cups and he's played in Australia twice in the Presidents Cup, so this will be his third appearance as a player. And I find it interesting talking in the third person."

Even more interesting will be his week in Australia – at times in a cart, at times standing over a key putt, all the while thinking about pairings and what it takes to win.

## Rishard impressed by Prisons' showing in VPL

BY CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MCHEKADO-NA

TANZANIA Prisons' head coach Mohamed Rishard has said he is impressed with his team performance in the ongoing Vodacom Premier League and promised to turn it into a more improved team.

Prisons settled for goalless draw with the league's defending champions, Simba, in a clash which took place at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Thursday.

Rishard said although his team's plan was to win the game he is impressed with the performance of his charges.

The coach said the battle is still on, insisting there is a long way to go and anything can happen but what his charges want this season is to finish among top teams.

"Our aim was to collect maximum points, we did not achieve that but I'm happy with the point collected and I'm sure my team is now improving in each game," he said.

The Thursday goalless draw has made Prisons the only team in this season's Mainland Premier League



Simba SC forward, Medie Kagere (R), dribbles past Tanzania Prisons' Nurdin Chona during the Vodacom Premier League clash, which took place at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Thursday. The match ended with the two teams locked to a 0-0 draw. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

which has not conceded defeat.

Simba are still enjoying the driver's seat in the league having collected 22 points from eight games, while Prisons have 19 points in 11

matches they have taken part in.

Simba SC head coach Patrick Aussems said they played well but were frustrated by Prisons who were more organized in defense.

"Every game is a difficult match. Teams are fighting hard to get points, our aim was to collect maximum points, but in football anything can happen, we need to work harder for our next game," he said.



International athlete, Chinny Nwang'bo (with the ball), from the United States shares her basketball skills with Arusha's Orkeswa Secondary School students in Monduli district, on Thursday. Coaches Nwang'bo and Jim Clemons (not in picture) are in Tanzania conducting clinics as part of the Sports Envoy Program, which is a U.S. Department of State-sponsored program that brings professional athletes from the U.S. to empower Tanzania's youths through sports. The coaches are today expected to conduct similar clinics at the International School of Tanganyika (IST) in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: COURTESY OFF U.S. EMBASSY

## Clippers beat Trail Blazers 107-101 for Rivers' 900th win

LOS ANGELES

THE Clippers were kings of the fourth quarter. Portland star Damian Lillard lost his crown, at least for a night anyway.

Lou Williams made a go-ahead jumper with 58 seconds left, then added a 3-pointer and finished with 26 points to lift Los Angeles over the Trail Blazers 107-101 on Thursday for coach Doc Rivers' 900th career victory.

"Doc never stops going and grinding," Kawhi Leonard said. "He never gets bored."

Lillard and CJ McCollum led Portland with 22 points apiece, but surprisingly both got blanked in the fourth quarter. That's usually Lillard's time to shine, but the Clippers' defense wasn't having it.

"Usually I can make those shots down the stretch, but they

weren't falling," Lillard said. "They were coming out to guard me and picking up full court. Pat Beverley did a good job on defense."

Lillard missed four shots and went 0 for 3 from 3-point range, while McCollum also missed four shots.

"It's the third game that we've won, in my opinion, completely because of our defense," Rivers said. "Our offense was below average. If you can win a game and not play well offensively, that says a lot about your team."

Leonard had 27 points, 13 rebounds and six turnovers after missing a nationally televised loss to Milwaukee the previous night as part of load management for his knee.

Leonard and Williams combined to score the Clippers' final

15 points. Leonard sealed the win with four straight free throws as fans chanted "MVP! MVP!"

"The Lou-him combination was lethal down the stretch," Rivers said.

With Lillard and McCollum not getting anything, Anfernee Simons scored 16 of his 17 points in the fourth, including Portland's first 12 of the quarter.

The Clippers rallied from eight points down early in the period, taking their first lead on Leonard's basket.

The Blazers tied it 98-all on a three-point play by Hassan Whiteside.

Williams' jumper put the Clippers ahead for good and he followed it up with a 3 – one of just four made by the Clippers in the game.

"I felt if I had an inch, I'd go for

the kill," Williams said.

The Blazers regained the lead in the third, outscoring the Clippers 36-23. Portland tied it 61-all on McCollum's 3-pointer, spurring an 18-7 run that sent the Blazers into the fourth leading 76-70.

Meanwhile, Charlotte, North Carolina, as he peered up at the videoboard suspended above the court, Kemba Walker broke into a wide smile and tears trickled down his cheeks.

The Hornets honored their all-time leading scorer with a highlight video Thursday night, giving the Boston Celtics point guard a hero's welcome in his return to Charlotte. As the tribute ended, the crowd erupted with a loud, one-minute standing ovation.

AP

## Olympic champ's heartfelt speech marks end of an era at WADA

KATOWICE, POLAND

THE only reason Beekie Scott's going-away speech to the World Anti-Doping Agency wasn't her finest moment was because of all that led up to it.

Bruised, berated and criticized by some colleagues over a six-year tenure at the worldwide drug-fighting agency, the head of the WADA athlete's committee left on her own terms.

"I'm going to remind you for one last time," she said at Thursday's board meeting. "You have thousands upon thousands of athletes counting on you to do right by them. Not by any other stakeholder, but by them."

Scott is a Canadian cross-

country skier whose own moment of Olympic glory was diminished by dopers. She finished third in the 5K pursuit but eventually ended up with a gold medal from the Salt Lake City Olympics. She didn't get it until 2004 – after cases were completed involving two Russians who were found to have been doping.

She received the medal in an art gallery in Vancouver.

It wasn't the last time Russians would make a lasting imprint on her life.

Her experience in Salt Lake City, and many more that others like her had endured, led her to seek a spot representing athletes at WADA.

One of her proudest accomplishments was getting

an athlete charter of rights approved for entry into the WADA archives. That happened Thursday, the last day of her term as chair.

"My hope is that going forward, voices that challenge or dissent will be heard and taken into consideration rather than undermined or dismissed," Scott said. "And my hope is that going forward, balance and independence will be restored to these tables, so that all interests and priorities here are aligned with equality of opportunity and fairness, rather than the business of sport."

She received applause at the end of that speech.

That has not been the norm. She has been under near-

constant pressure inside the halls of WADA – largely dismissed, talked over and ignored through the years, especially as her voice grew louder in dissent of WADA's actions in the Russian doping scandal that has rocked the agency over the past five years.

Last year, Scott resigned her position from the agency's compliance committee, disgusted with its decision to reinstate Russia's banned anti-doping committee in exchange for a promise of receiving data from its Moscow lab.

That data, received past a deadline WADA set and under conditions the agency had originally deemed unacceptable, has been tampered with; next week, the

same committee Scott resigned from will deliver another recommendation about Russia's fate.

But, Scott said, she stayed on in the athlete-representative role, "because I thought it was a cause worth fighting for."

It is not easy.

Roles in these worldwide sports organizations are accompanied by perks, new friends and expectations that don't always align with the priorities of the people, especially athletes, who elect their representatives. But once members are inside the circle, if they don't toe the line, they receive messages – some obvious, others more subtle – that their recalcitrance is not appreciated.

It happened a lot to Scott over six years.

"You're certainly treated very well, but I think with that comes expectations that you're a member of the club," Scott said in an interview after her speech. "For me, I felt that I was here as a representative of the athletes. And they're not part of this club."

The athlete's group Global Athlete put out a statement lauding Scott for standing up "to represent the voice of the majority – the clean athletes of the world."

"That took courage and it took fortitude, but thankfully the clean athlete community had a flag-bearer in Beekie," the statement said.

After the meeting was

adjourned, Scott smiled and breathed deeply, maybe for the first time in a long time. She had considered not giving the speech, but once she got inside the room, she realized it was her time.

What she really wanted to do, she said while standing outside the meeting room, was to "remind them of what they're here for and who they're supposed to be making decisions on behalf of."

"That's been lost for years," Scott said. "Geopolitics and the business of sports have trumped athletes for too long, and it's time to get back to representing athletes. And if that's not happening here, then what's the point?"

AP



## Bayern Munich decide against Wenger as next manager

MUNICH

BAYERN Munich discussed the potential of ex-Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger taking over at the German club but have decided to pursue other options.

Wenger had reached out to Bayern CEO Karl-Heinz Rummenigge on Wednesday to discuss the position.

The club confirmed the discussion to German outlet Bild, saying: "Arsene Wenger called Karl-Heinz Rummenigge on Wednesday afternoon and signalled his fundamental interest in the position at Bayern. FC Bayern highly value Arsene Wenger's work at Arsenal, but he is not an option to become head coach at FC Bayern."

Sources told ESPN FC that a sticking point was that Wenger would not accept a short-term contract until the end of the season, which Bayern was looking for.

Bayern dismissed Niko Kovac on Sunday after a string of bad results and uneasy mix of stagnation on the pitch and conflicts off it. Kovac took over at Bayern in 2018 after a spell in charge of Eintracht Frankfurt.

Hansi Flick, a former assistant of Joachim Low with the Germany national team, was appointed on a caretaker basis. He led the team to a 2-0 win over Olympiakos in Champions League group stage

action on Wednesday.

Among other names linked to the job have been Paris Saint-Germain coach Thomas Tuchel, Ajax boss Erik ten Hag, and ex-RB Leipzig manager Ralf Rangnick. All three have stated that they would not take the Bayern position.

According to sources, another potential option is Xabi Alonso, who manages at Real Sociedad B. The ex-Spain international played at Bayern for three seasons after stints at Liverpool and Real Madrid.

When asked about other candidates on Tuesday, Bayern sporting director Hasan Salihamidzic said: "I won't talk about any names."

Wenger told BeIN Sports on Wednesday that: "I'd never refuse to talk to Bayern Munich, because I know the people who have led the club for 30 years and I was nearly going to Bayern a long, long time ago. That's all I can say."

Wenger, 70, has been out of work since ending his 22-year reign at Arsenal in 2018.

Former Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri has also been linked but ESPN FC reported last month that he would take a sabbatical from management this season.

(Agencies)

## Familiar foe Sterling the prime threat to Liverpool's title charge

LONDON

MANCHESTER City and Liverpool's ascension to the two top dogs in the Premier League has seen every meeting in recent seasons met with increasing animosity, ahead of Sunday's latest battle for supremacy.

No player bears the brunt of that bad blood more than Raheem Sterling on his return to Anfield.

Sterling shot to fame as a teenager in the 2013/14 season as a roller-coaster ride took Liverpool agonisingly close to ending their long wait to win a league title.

Two years later, he left in acrimonious circumstances with Liverpool going backwards on the field and disputes over his contract off it.

Four-and-a-half years on, there is no doubt who got the better end of the £50 million deal that took him to City.

Sterling has flourished under Pep Guardiola, becoming a vital part of City's two title-winning campaigns in the last two seasons, while Liverpool's wait for a league crown has now stretched to 30 years.

The England international is one of many tales of what might have been for Liverpool over the past three decades, but is also symbolic of how times have changed at Anfield.

Sterling left just three months before Jurgen Klopp arrived to revitalise the Reds after a season in which they finished sixth, 17 points behind City.

Liverpool have still yet to finish above the English champions in Klopp's four seasons in charge, but the gap was down to a single point as City edged a titanic title race last season.

- 'All the credit' for Sterling -

And it is Liverpool who will start Sunday's top-of-the-table clash with an early six-point lead over City in the title race.

Sterling cannot be faulted for a sloopier start to the season by Guardiola's men after two near-perfect campaigns.

For club and country, Sterling has already scored 18 goals in 20 appearances, including his first against Liverpool as City won the Community Shield in August.

"All the credit is for him," said Guardiola after Sterling's recent Champions League hat-trick against Atalanta. "His physicality is incredible. He's strong the day after the game, he could play another game. He can play on both sides, is fast, defensively help us a lot, so is an extraordinary player."

Sterling's input at both ends of the field will be key if City are to somehow halt Liverpool's momentum and inflict a first league defeat at Anfield for the hosts since April 2017.

AFP

## Balotelli on abuse: 'Problem is that I am Italian'

MILAN

MARIO Balotelli says the racist abuse he suffered at Hellas Verona on Sunday was especially a "problem" because he's Italian.

The Brescia striker kicked the ball into the crowd and threatened to walk off the pitch early in the second half of his side's Serie A defeat at Verona because he said some fans were making monkey noises.

Serie A's disciplinary tribunal handed Verona a one match partial stadium ban on Tuesday for racial abuse and the club banned ultras leader Luca Castellini for 11 years after he claimed that Balotelli will "never be completely Italian."

Speaking to TV channel Italia 1, Balotelli, who was born in Italy to Ghanaian immigrants and has represented the Italian national team, said: "I am not saying that I am different from the other players who receive the same abuse, the same monkey noises, but the problem is that I am Italian."

The league had previously ignored monkey noises directed at Inter Milan's Belgian striker Romelu Lukaku during a match at Cagliari in September. There was also no pun-

ishment for racist chants aimed by Verona fans at AC Milan midfielder Franck Kessie, who is from the Ivory Coast, in September.

Derogatory chants have also been aimed at Dalbert Henrique, Miralem Pjanic, Ronaldo Vieira and Kalidou Koulibaly in Serie A this season. All the players targeted -- except for Pjanic, who is Bosnian -- are black.

Balotelli, who spent the past three seasons in France, returned to Italy this season with Brescia, his hometown club and a regional rival of Verona.

"I'll be honest, I really like the stadium in Verona and their fans, as they have always mocked in an amusing and ironic way," Balotelli said on the program. "If they want to distract a player, they can do it in a thousand ways, but not [with racism]."

"My daughter saw this on TV and that made it hurt three times as much," Balotelli added. "I can take all kinds of insults, but ones based on racism are not acceptable, have never been acceptable and never will be acceptable. Those who did it, and I repeat they are only a few, are complete idiots."

(Agencies)

## Man Utd ease into last 32, Celtic down Lazio to progress

PARIS

TEENAGER Mason Greenwood scored as Manchester United cruised into the Europa League last 32 with a 3-0 win over Partizan Belgrade at Old Trafford on Thursday, while Celtic stunned Lazio with a last-gasp goal in Rome to progress.

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's United knew that a third victory in four Group L games would be enough to send them through.

The 18-year-old Greenwood broke the deadlock in the 22nd minute with a cool finish to score his third goal of the season and second in this competition.

Anthony Martial doubled the advantage after the half-hour mark with a brilliant individual goal, before Marcus Rashford lashed home the third four minutes after the interval.

The comfortable victory saw United bounce back after a 1-0 loss at Bournemouth last weekend had ended a three-game winning run.

"I think it was a good performance but there are things we can improve on," Rashford told BT Sport. "We managed to score three goals but it could have been a lot more."

AZ Alkmaar thrashed Astana 5-0 in Kazakhstan to keep control of the race for second place in Group L behind United, eliminating their hosts and moving four points clear of Partizan.

Olivier Ntcham scored a dramatic injury-time winner to grab Celtic a 2-1 victory at Lazio.

Neil Lennon's outfit remain top of Group E with two games remaining, seven points clear of third-placed



Greenwood scored his third goal of the season on Thursday (AFP Photo)

Lazio after their second straight win over the Romans.

"It's great to have qualified with two games to spare," Celtic manager Lennon told uefa.com.

"It's too early to say how far we can go in this competition but we can be a difficult opponent for anyone."

- Ntcham strikes -

Ciro Immobile volleyed the hosts into a seventh-minute lead, but James Forrest drew Celtic level before half-time.

But substitute Ntcham latched onto Odsonne Edouard's pass in the fifth minute of added time and dinked a cool finish over Lazio goalkeeper Thomas Strakosha.

The other game in the group saw CFR Cluj move to within a point of qualification by beating Rennes 1-0 in Romania.

Celtic's Old Firm rivals Rangers gave their hopes of reaching the knockout stage for the first time since 2011 a massive boost with a 2-0 victory over Porto at Ibrox.

Second-half goals from Alfredo Morelos and Steven Davis fired Steven Gerrard's men second in Group G, three points ahead of Feyenoord after the Dutch side's 1-1 draw with Young Boys.

"He has been outstanding for us all season and he has turned up again tonight and got a very important goal for us to set us on our way," Davis said of Morelos, after the Colombian's 11th Europa League goal this term.

Bundesliga leaders Borussia Moenchengladbach grabbed their first win of the Europa League campaign as Marcus Thuram's 95th-minute strike sealed a 2-1 triumph

against Roma.

The German club moved second in Group J, ahead of Roma on head-to-head and two points behind leaders Istanbul Basaksehir, who saw off 10-man Wolfsberger 3-0 in Austria.

Wolves made it three straight Europa League wins despite Ruben Neves missing a penalty as Raul Jimenez's 92nd-minute goal grabbed a 1-0 success over Slovan Bratislava at Molineux.

Nuno Espirito Santo's men now sit five points clear of Slovan in second in Group K, with Braga a point ahead of the Premier League side at the top after beating Besiktas 3-1.

"We all felt maybe it was going to be one of those nights," said Wolves skipper Conor Coady. "This win was important. We did our jobs well."

- El Haddadi treble -

Former Barcelona winger Munir El Haddadi started with a hat-trick as Sevilla thrashed Dudelange 5-2 to also reach the knockout rounds.

Record five-time winners Sevilla knew victory in Luxembourg would send them through from Group A and their one-sided win also sealed top spot.

PSV Eindhoven, the 1978 winners, suffered a humbling 4-1 defeat by Austrian team LASK Linz to slip to third in Group D behind their opponents and Sporting Lisbon, who won 2-0 at Rosenborg.

Elsewhere, Espanyol moved to the brink of qualification by hammering nine-man Ludogorets 6-0, while Gent moved top of Group I with a 3-1 win at Wolfsburg.

AFP

## African players 'not respected' in Ballon d'Or vote, says Eto'o

PARIS

AFRICAN players still do not get the recognition they deserve, Cameroon legend Samuel Eto'o told AFP in an exclusive interview, as he hopes that this will finally be the year another player from the continent wins the Ballon d'Or.

George Weah, the former Paris Saint-Germain and AC Milan striker who is now the president of Liberia, won the Ballon d'Or in 1995 but remains the only African player ever to have claimed the award.

"Western media dominate our media in Africa, so they definitely have an influence. People prefer to see a Lionel Messi goal," Eto'o, 38, told AFP during a visit to Paris last month.

The former Barcelona star, once a teammate of Messi, believes that "African players are not respected" and are "not always properly appreciated".

He recently hung up his boots after a glorious career in which he won the UEFA Champions League three times and the Africa Cup of Nations twice.

He never won the prize for the world's best player, although he insists he has no regrets.

"No, because I won so many trophies, I made so many dreams and for me that is the equivalent of winning the Ballon d'Or. However, I do feel for my younger brothers who came along after my generation."

- Voting closes Friday -

There are five African players on the 30-man shortlist for this year's Ballon d'Or, with the winner to be announced at a ceremony in Paris on December 2.

The 180 journalists who will vote for the successor to Luka Modric as winner have until this Friday to do so.

Among the nominees are Senegal's Sadio Mane and Egypt's Mohamed Salah, both of whom starred in the Liverpool side that won last season's Champions League.

Both finished just outside the top three in FIFA's The Best awards in September, as Messi pipped Liverpool defender Virgil van Dijk and Cristiano Ronaldo to the prize.

Eto'o attended that awards ceremony in Milan and, when stopped on the red carpet and asked who he thought would win, he cited the names of Mane and Salah. A video clip of the brief interview went viral.

"That was an opportunity for



Samuel Eto'o

Africa to see a Sadio Mane or a Mohamed Salah on the podium, and why not win it. They both had wonderful seasons and it wouldn't have shocked anyone had they won," Eto'o said.

The captains and coaches of all 54 African national teams voted, but by

no means all of them gave their votes to Salah or to Mane, who reached the Africa Cup of Nations final with Senegal.

"Why is there this hate between us Africans? Why the misplaced jealousy? If we don't appreciate one another, others are not going to do it

for us," Eto'o said.

"It's a shame. If all Africans voted for other Africans, we would have had several awards for the best player."

- Premier League stars -

After winning the Cup of Nations with Algeria, Manchester City winger Riyad Mahrez has also been nominated, as has Napoli and Senegal defender Kalidou Koulibaly, and Arsenal and Gabon striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang.

"Africa needs to show how strong it is. We are lucky to have these good players, who scored more than ten goals in the Champions League -- we had the top three scorers in the English league (Mane, Salah, Aubameyang) but somehow these young guys don't have our support," Eto'o added.

"I want to accompany them as much as I can, defend them, protect them, because one day it will be their turn to pass on the torch."

"That is what we Africans have not always understood, at all levels, and that is why we are still trailing behind."

Prior to last year, Ronaldo and Messi had won 10 consecutive Ballon d'Or awards between them.

Both are nominated again this year, so would Eto'o be pleased to see Messi, his former Barcelona teammate, win it once more?

"He is the best player of all time. I was lucky enough to see him come through and to have had a good relationship with him. When I give my opinion on Leo even he tells me I am not objective."

"Everything Messi does...he is a footballing god. I'd be happy for him to win it again."

AFP

## Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Man Utd ease into last 32, Celtic down Lazio to progress

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

## Patrick Aussems slams Prisons' defensive-minded tactics



Simba SC head coach, Patrick Aussems.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

**S**IMBA Sports Club head coach Patrick Aussems has taken a swipe at Tanzania Prisons' playing style after his side was forced into a goalless stalemate by the latter in a Vodacom Premier League match, which took place in Dar es Salaam on Thursday.

The Belgian tactician, aged 54, said there were no excuses for Simba SC's lack of efficiency upfront but Prisons' defensive-minded approach is not what the beautiful game is all about. "Two completely different playing styles this afternoon,

one team which is playing football and another one which was only thinking to defend and use counter attacks," Aussems took to his Twitter account to complain about Prisons' approach.

"We need to respect this but football is not the beautiful game for everyone, we tried but we weren't efficient enough!"

The draw, played out in front of former Simba SC vice-president, Geoffrey Nyange 'Kaburu' who made his first appearance at a match since being released on bail following his two-year incarceration for multiple charges, extended Simba's lead at the top of the league by four points.

Simba SC fans flooded to Twitter and other social media networks to voice their thoughts on Aussems comments.

The supporters, on the one hand, felt the former Al Hilal coach is simply getting his excuses after failing to adjust his tactics considering the gulf in budgets between the two clubs.

"Is defending and counter attacking not part of football?! Why didn't you have an alterna-

tive plan B (thought you never had one)?" a soccer enthusiast, Stephen Nyamwihula, mused in response to Aussems' post-match comment.

"It is football, but poor approach and performance from you and some of the players, missing key players like Muzaamil Yassin and Miraji Athuman, delayed substitution of Deo Kanda were big mistakes today," Hassan Mtebwa, said.

"Let us focus on the next games but please do more changes, we need better results."

Simba SC information officer, Haji Manara, on the other hand, took a different approach to his coach and singled out Prisons' coach, Mohamed Rishard, for praise.

"Congratulations to Rishard, you contained us, you are really a good coach, your away approach was spot on considering you came up against a team as good as ours!"

"Congratulations to Prisons, it was a tough game today! Alhamdulillah for the one point earned."

**TONIGHT @ 21:00**

**UJENZI**

**MONDAY**

11:00 DADAZ (LIVE)  
15:00 FUNGUKA  
16:00 UTAKE  
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 SSSPORTS 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.

**east africa 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**

## Gidabuday delighted by AT achievements

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE outgoing Athletics Tanzania (AT) Secretary General Wilhelm Gidabuday has said he is leaving the office a happy person after fulfilling almost half of his promises.

Gidabuday issued the statement on Thursday in Dar es Salaam when he officially handed over AT office to the association.

He resigned from his post last week for what he termed as the benefit of athletics in the country.

The event was witnessed by many people who included AT's Acting Secretary General Ombeni Zavalla, the association's vice president responsible for administration and finance, William Kallaghe, and other members of the secretariat.

The handover included documents, equipment and financial records. Gidabuday promised to handover all of the remaining documents to the association within a week.

"I thank the executive members of AT for being with me all the time and also for accepting my resignation," he disclosed.

"I promise to help them in any way they feel my services are needed, the aim is to see to it athletics in the country is growing from strength to strength."

He further said his focus now is on talent identification and he will be basing in Arusha and Manyara regions.

On her remarks AT Acting Secretary General, Ombeni Zavalla, hailed Gidabuday for his services and asked athletics stakeholders in the country not to be worried because of Gidabuday's resignation but rather work together to develop the sport.

She asked all of athletics stakeholders to support her so that she can execute her duties diligently.

The association is set to host its annual congress in December.

The congress' attendants, among other things, will discuss the amendment of the association's constitution.

The amendment will, for one, see the elected secretary general serve as the association's Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

## Taifa Stars AFCON opponents appoint new coach, announce squad

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA's opponents in the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers, Equatorial Guinea, have appointed Sebastien Migne as the national team's new coach ahead of next week's clash with Taifa Stars.

Taifa Stars will entertain Equatorial Guinea in the first match of the Group J of the continental qualifiers at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam next week.

The French tactician replaces Angelo Lopez who resigned in September and the news of his appointment was first made public on his official Facebook page.

"New mission, new country, a new challenge. Official, I'm the new coach of Equatorial Guinea," Migne said on his Facebook page.

"I do not promise results, but hard work. I cannot say that I already know all the players of the national team, but I have been fortunate to follow the friendly Nzalang had with Togo in France and I can say that I have a good team. My plan is to meet with all the coaches in the country, to convey my work philosophy. It is the way we can do a teamwork," he said.

His appointment was later confirmed by the Equatorial Guinea Football Federation (FEGUIFUT) president, Gustavo Ndong Ed Akumu, through an official statement.

"We welcome you to Equatorial Guinea and wish you all the luck in the world, so that this new adventure is full of joys.

We have signed with you for your experience in African football and for your initiative to work from the base to achieve great achievements," Akumu said when he introduced the new coach.

Migne is expected to lead Equatorial Guinea in the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers. Equatorial Guinea are in Group J along with Tanzania, Tunisia and Libya.

His first match in charge of the side will be on 15 November when they travel to face Taifa Stars in their Group J Clash to be played at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

In Tanzania, Migne will be remembered for guiding Kenya's senior national team, nicknamed Harambee Stars, to a 3-2 victory over Taifa Stars in the AFCON 2019 finals' group stage match.

However, Taifa Stars had the last laugh when they eliminated Migne's Harambee Stars out of the Africa Nations Championship (CHAN) qualification race, a result which led to his sacking in August.

Equatorial Guinea had been one of the lowest ranked African teams until 2012 when they co-hosted the AFCON tournament with Gabon and in 2015 they finished at



Equatorial Guinea Football Federation (FEGUIFUT) president, Gustavo Ndong Ed Akumu (R), hands over the country's national team's jersey to newly appointed coach, Sebastien Migne, at the federation's headquarters in Conakry recently. AGENCIES

a respectable fourth place to catapult themselves into continental recognition.

In related development, a 26-man Equatorial Guinea squad set to face Tanzania has been announced.

The squad will be captained by Cyprus based striker, Emilio Nsue, and contains 14 Spain-based players.

Goalkeepers: Felipe

Ovono (Mekelle, Ethiopia)  
Aitor Embela (Figueres, Spain)  
Jesus Owono, (San Ignacio, Spain)

Defenders: Igor Engonga (Doxa Drama, Greece)  
Basilio Ndong (Shkupi, North Macedonia)  
Carlos Akapo (Cadiz, Spain)  
Miguel Angel Nzang (Deportivo Niefang )  
Luis Meseguer (Rayo Vallecano B, Spain )  
Jorge Akapo

( Deportivo Unidad )  
Vicente Asumu (Cano Sport )  
Esteban Obiang ( Sant Rafel, Spain )  
Marvin Anieboh (Alcorcón B, Spain )

Midfielders: Federico Bikoro (Zaragoza, Spain)  
Rubén Belima, (Estoril, Portugal)  
Pablo Ganet, (Algeciras, Spain)  
Nicolás Kata (Real Unión, Spain)  
José Machín (Pescara, Italy)

Pedro Obiang (Sassuolo, Italy)  
Jannick Buyla (Zaragoza B, Spain)

Forwards: Kike Boula (Ermis, Cyprus)  
Emilio Nsue (Apollon, Cyprus)  
Iban Salvador (Fuenlabrada, Spain)  
José Miranda (Getafe B, Spain)  
Pedro Oba (Futuro Kings)  
Jordan Nsang, (Peña Deportiva, Spain)  
Joanet López (Lleida Esportiu, Spain).

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

