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National Pg 3 PS hails teachers on performance



National Pg 4 Review of student assessment tests



National Pg 5 Mbeya college campus construction



National Pg 7 TAMWA congratulates Dr Issa



OLD MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

Page 3



LAND RENT DEFAULTERS

Page 5



WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

Page 5



Remanded Ethiopian migrants await airlift



President John Magufuli exchanges greetings with his Ethiopian counterpart, Sahle-Work Zewde, shortly after she landed at Chato Airport in Geita Region yesterday for a one-day official visit to Tanzania. Photo: State House

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA has expressed its readiness to release unconditionally a total of 1,789 Ethiopian illegal immigrants now in different prisons in the country.

President John Magufuli made the commitment yesterday when speaking at a joint press conference with visiting Ethiopian president Sahle-Work Zewde, who was in the country on a one-day official visit.

Dr Magufuli told the high level visitor that the government was willing to let the Ethiopian government airlift the remanded migrants from Tanzania anytime it wishes.

"There are 1,789 Ethiopians who are in our prisons for illegal entry. We have talked on how to plan for the repatriation and I have told her that we have no conditions and we'll allow them to leave free," he said.

"Some of the immigrants are in our prisons for more than seven years and I am ready to release even those who have been convicted today so that they leave the country, and this is brotherhood," he further declared.

Noting that Ethiopia Airways has many flights with the capacity

TURN TO PAGE 2



Traffic fines: Police nab 1000 defaulters

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

MORE than 1,000 drivers have been nabbed in Morogoro Region in a crackdown targeting fine defaulters arising from various traffic offences.

Regional Police Commander Fortunatus Muslim (pictured) said here at the weekend that 1,384 drivers were arrested in the police swoop that began on Monday last week, affirming that the police operation is being conducted countrywide on all types of

motor vehicles.

He said in the past drivers were required to pay the fines on the spot, but there were complaints that some had no cash at hand and would later pay at any police station, while others said they were on urgent trips.

"The government listened to their complaints and introduced a system in which they were given seven days to pay the imposed fines, but most drivers are now ignoring this duty," he stated.

Drivers have not been paying the fines, which compels traffic police to hunt them down, he elaborated, asserting that drivers who have defaulted on their fines offences would rather settle their dues as they have no anywhere to pass. The traffic police are well mobilized to take note those offenders when they pass, he declared.

The RPC said that a total of 396 passenger motorcycles were locked

TURN TO PAGE 2

Market Zanzibar abroad, Dr Mwinyi tells missions

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has beseeched Tanzanian envoys in foreign countries to vigorously market Isles' investment and tourism opportunities as well as looking for markets for its distinctive spices.

Dr Mwinyi issued the plea at the weekend during talks with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Prof Palamagamba Kabudi, at the Zanzibar State House.

Prof Kabudi was accompanied by Deputy Minister William ole Nasha and Permanent Secretary Brigadier General Wilbert Ibuge.

Dr Mwinyi said: "Our foreign envoys have all the reasons to utilize the



The time has come for Zanzibar youth working in the Foreign Affairs Ministry in the Isles to be empowered with more skills from exchanges at their work centres in Zanzibar and Dodoma

opportunity to advertise Zanzibar outside the country, taking into consideration that the Isles have many tourist attractions and a favourable business and investment environment."

With the envoys taking up that role, the government is likely to continue enhancing its economic growth targets including developing the blue economy, he said, noting that the blue economy includes tourism and spices marketing internationally.

Dr Mwinyi further said the Isles authorities shall continue to develop fish farming at Beit el Ras to enable it produce enough fish for internal consumption and for export.

"The time has come for Zanzibar

TURN TO PAGE 2

Govt eyes new tobacco outlets

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government is considering exploring the Middle East, Northern Africa and Eastern Asia markets for its locally produced tobacco as it attempts to enhance its position in the global tobacco market.

Despite dramatic declines in smoking, the tobacco industry remains a major



provider of foreign currency in the country with an annual return of \$265m.

Agriculture minister Prof Adolf Mkenda (pictured) made these remarks shortly after meeting with the Tanzania Tobacco Board, noting that the government wants to export its finest tobacco to China, the Middle East, Indonesia, Algeria, Egypt, Sudan, etc.

"To succeed we must revive our processing factories immediately," he said, underlining that two processing factories in Morogoro and Songea are no longer working.

Prof Mkenda, who seemed irked by foreign buyers trying to monopolise the cash crop, said the ministry will seek an audience with the Foreign Ministry to chart

TURN TO PAGE 2



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Remanded Ethiopian migrants await airlift

FROM PAGE 1

of carrying more than 250 passengers at once and the flight time to Addis Ababa is only two and a half hours, he said the remandees and prisoners can be airlifted in one day.

In their talks, the two leaders agreed to strengthen long standing bilateral relations by boosting trade and investments, the president noted, citing the leather industry as a potential area of cooperation, the president said her country was ready to take the relations between the two countries to another level by boosting trade. Ethiopia was ready to do business with Tanzania given the long standing and historic relations, the visiting leader noted.

President Magufuli said Ethiopia being Africa's leading country in livestock population stands as a role model for the leather and meat sub-sectors.

"Tanzania is second in livestock population in Africa but it has not benefited from the vast number of animals. We need to learn from Ethiopia, by tapping some experience on how to make large herds beneficial to the country," he said, affirming that Tanzania and Ethiopia have opportunities to cooperate more on leather products.

Data shows Ethiopia leads with an overwhelming 60.39m cattle, while Tanzania is second with 33.9m cattle, the president highlighted, noting that the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC)

has registered 13 projects worth \$14.57m by Ethiopian investors, from 1990 to 2020.

The projects have created 677 jobs in the manufacturing sector, works, transport and tourism sectors, he stated.

Tanzania and Ethiopia have good relations since the 1960s, when Ethiopia under Emperor Haile Selassie was the leader of Africa at it emerged into independence.

For her part, President Zewde commended Tanzania for its decision of releasing remanded Ethiopians unconditionally, promising that the Addis authorities will do everything possible to airlift them rapidly.

The Ethiopian leader also said her country was ready to take the relations between the two countries to another level by boosting trade. Ethiopia was ready to do business with Tanzania given the long standing and historic relations, the visiting leader noted.

Formal ties go back to 1963 when Tanzania opened its embassy in Ethiopia, following the formation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which became the African Union at the turn of the century.

Ethiopia has an embassy in Tanzania since 2018, working to cement diplomatic relations and cooperate in tourism, works, security, industries and culture, the visiting president intoned.



Water minister Jumaa Aweso pictured in Dodoma city yesterday responding to questions and views from members of the Parliamentary Agriculture, Livestock and Water Committee with respect to legislation on water and sanitation services. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

FROM PAGE 1

a government-based contact strategy to reach out to foreign markets.

"The situation where some buyers are skipping the locally produced tobacco or demand to buy it at a very low price pushes farmer to sell their produce to neighbouring countries," he said.

Traders go to Zambia to buy the same tobacco they rejected in Tanzania and at a higher price, he

Govt eyes new tobacco outlets

stated, insisting that the practice was unacceptable.

He urged the board to ensure competitiveness in purchasing the crop as the government struggles to reach a wider market, expressing concern that the contracts reached between farmers and dealers don't reflect the volume of tobacco produced in the country.

He appealed to the country's embassies and high commissions abroad to help explore more foreign markets, pointing out that Tanzania is the 9th largest tobacco producer globally. World market buyers control the price and volume of tobacco that enters the market, the minister lamented.

Deputy Minister Hussein Bashe said the global demand for

tobacco has declined by five per cent in the past year, while local production is expected to rise to 67,000 metric tonnes during fiscal 2020/21 from 42,000 metric tonnes in 2019/20.

Emergence of local buyers has helped to propel greater production, with 65 per cent of cigarettes produced in Tanzania exported outside, he added.



Chief of National Service Major General Charles Mbugu in celebratory mood at Chita camp in Ifakara District, Morogoro Region, at the weekend with servicemen deployed in the implementation of an irrigation scheme there. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Market Zanzibar abroad, Dr Mwinyi tells missions

FROM PAGE 1

youth working in the Foreign Affairs ministry in the Isles to be empowered with more skills from exchanges at their work centres in Zanzibar and Dodoma," he declared.

The main task now is to ensure Zanzibaris attain the development they anticipate, by implementation of election campaign pledges, he further affirmed.

Prof Kabudi said the ministry was ready to assist in attaining aims of developing the economy, the union, unity, solidarity and accord as much support as possible.

He praised efforts taken by the Zanzibar Government in cementing unity, reconciliation and solidarity in order to strengthen peace for the country's

development.

Prof Kabudi also advised Zanzibar leaders to instruct its ministries and institutions to set aside special budgets for implementing the country's foreign policy and other strategic areas including regional groupings like the African Union (AU), the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and the East African Community (EAC).

He explained the ministry's aim in its major renovations of its offices in Zanzibar and frequent shifting of officers between Dodoma and Zanzibar for the purpose of exchanging experience.

The ministry also seeks to persuade foreign embassies in the country to open consulates in Zanzibar, he added.

Traffic fines: Police nab 1000 defaulters

FROM PAGE 1

in over various traffic offences including non-wearing of crash helmets, carrying more than one passenger, etc.

Out of those impounded 354 drivers were handed fine demands, 22 cautioned and 20 drivers still have their motorcycles at police stations as their drivers fled during the operation, he specified.

Traffic police headquarters lately announced collections of 1.4bn/- of fine arrears mainly within five days in an operation that kicked off last Wednesday.

These amounts were fines collected from 24,521 drivers whose vehicles were impounded after failure to pay their fines.

On the first day when the operation was launched the force collected 290m/- from 5,197 drivers across the country, with the amount reaching 300m/- the following day, Thursday January 21, from drivers of 5,277 vehicles.

On Friday the collection took to the government coffers another 296m/- from drivers of 5,258 vehicles whereas on Saturday

the force collected 289m/- from another batch of drivers of 5010 cars. Sunday January 24 raised 221m/- from drivers of 3,779 vehicles, the department noted.

Inspector General of Police Simon Sirro has since appealed to those with fine demand notices to surrender to the police to avoid being arrested and charged with contempt of lawful responsibility. "There is no one who was going to escape this operation," the police chief underlined.

"Dodging to pay accumulated fines is defaulting and puts one in greater trouble. We therefore call on all those affected to pay the fines during this period before you are arrested," the IGP added.

Kagame supports proposed global social protection fund

NAIROBI

RWANDA'S President Paul Kagame has welcomed the proposed establishment of a global social protection fund, saying it will build resilience among societies to help them navigate the economic impact of future pandemics.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed glaring inequalities among the world's workers. Nearly half of the globe's 3.3 billion workforce has been thrust into the risk of losing their livelihoods by the crisis, the World Economic Forum said.

It has particularly hit many of Africa's workers, who toil in informal sectors without any rights such as a minimum wage, creating the need for universal social protection, Kagame told

a virtual meeting of the World Economic Forum.

"This is a bold idea that merits serious consideration by policymakers," the president said.

Governments, which are spending trillions of dollars to help economies survive the coronavirus crisis, can start social universal protection funds with a fraction of the cash, said Sharan Burrow, the general secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation.

"It will go to the G20 this year," she said of the proposal, which also aims to help the world's poorest nations start to bridge an \$80 billion funding gap for social protections.

Proponents of the global social protection fund, which is part of the United Nation's sustainable aims, want it to be funded by

a combination of existing aid assistance from rich nations, increased taxation of firms, and contributions from existing funds. That can be complemented by debt relief or cancellation.

Once set up, it will offer basic income like cash transfers to the poor, pensions for the elderly, disability benefits and unemployment benefits, child benefits and access to the health, education and housing services, the Brussels-based International Trade Union Confederation said.

Burrow, speaking on the same panel as Kagame, said governments could boost the fund through ensuring big firms pay their fair share of taxes.

Rwanda, which has seen a surge of COVID-19 cases this year, has been providing food and health insurance to at least two million

of its most vulnerable citizens, Kagame said.

It also set up a \$100 million fund to help businesses that have been hit hard by the impact of the pandemic to stay afloat through access to affordable financing.

"Everybody needs to be brought into the fold and engaged," he said.



This is a bold idea that merits serious consideration by policymakers



There is no one who was going to escape this operation



Deogratius Ndejemi, Deputy Minister in the President's Office (Public Management and Good Governance), views goats at the residence of a Tanzania Social Action Fund (Tasaf) beneficiary during a tour of Kinamagi village in Uyui District yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Kiteto

Minister directs farmers and pastoralists to conduct activities in designated zones

Livestock and Fisheries minister Mashimba Ndaki has directed farmers and pastoralists in the country to conduct their activities only in the designated zones and stop invading restricted areas so as to avoid unnecessary conflicts.

Ndaki made the directive over the weekend during his tour that aimed to address land conflicts between farmers and pastoralists in the villages of Amei, Loolera, Lesoit and Lembapuri in Kiteto District, Manyara Region.

The minister said that the government has been working very hard to ensure that it allocates enough areas for farmers and pastoralists so as to avoid conflict

between the two groups.

Speaking to farmers and pastoralists in the area, minister Ndaki said that the ministry doesn't want to see any more unnecessary land conflicts in the areas because many of them were the cause of property destruction and deaths.

"We have set aside special grazing areas for the pastoralists but we also have special land for farming. All these efforts are meant to ensure that both herders and farmers conduct their activities smoothly to

improve their incomes. So it is prohibited for a farmer to conduct agricultural activities in grazing areas or for a herder graze livestock in people's farms," he said.

He wanted farmers who invaded grazing areas in the villages of Amei, Loolera, Lesoit and Lembapuri located in Loolera na Lengatei wards to vacate the areas immediately because they have violated the country's laws and regulations.

Manyara Regional Commissioner Joseph Mkirikiti

wanted farmers and pastoralists to live in harmony while also respecting each other's boundaries. "This has been a chronic behaviour of some farmers who have been repeatedly conducting farming activities in grazing zones, so I want this to stop immediately because the government treats both farmers and pastoralists equally," he said.

The regional commissioner wanted village leaders to supervise the boundaries to ensure that laws are adhered to avoid the conflicts.

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

Ministry dismisses VETA's construction project report

EDUCATION, Science and Technology deputy minister Omari Kipanga has reacted angrily to a report on the construction of VETA College in Ikungi District, Singida Region, registering his concern over the amount of money so far spent on the project.

In the circumstances the deputy minister instructed the police in Ikungi District to arrest four government officials who were supervising the college's construction to pave way for investigations on funds embezzlement.

He issued the instructions after inspecting work progress of the project to cost 1.6bn/- and discovered loopholes of funds embezzlement.

The issue also placed in a bad spot the project's supervising committee after the deputy minister dissolved it.

He named the officials detained

for further investigations as including the head of the VETA College Paulo Batoleki, procurement officer Lyina Nimrod, construction supervisor Salumu Mohamed and the acting accountant Dlusy Rwejuna.

In addition, the deputy minister directed the Prevention and combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) in Ikungi District to immediately launch investigations on the four officials.

For his part, Ikungi District Commissioner Edward Mpororo said since the start of the project's construction there has been a big secrecy in getting its report from project's authorities.

The DC, who is also the chairman of the District Defence and Security Committee said whenever they visit the project's

site for inspection, they have been unable to get from the relevant officials reports on the project's various agreements as well the true cost of the project.

In the circumstances, Mpororo disowned all technicians of the project.

Earlier, presenting his report to the deputy minister, the head of the VETA College in Singida Region Paulo Batoleki said the project that begun march 18 last year was expected to be completed within 12 months.

However, he mentioned some of the challenges they faced as including lack of all-weather road to the construction site for transportation of building equipment and materials and scarcity of cement between September and October last year.

Telecom firm operators counselled to phase out 'old' mobile technology

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

TELECOM operators in the country have been urged to phase out 2G mobile technology to make room for new, powerful, reliable and sustainable technologies.

The call was made by Communication and Information Technology minister Dr Faustine Ndigulile here yesterday shortly before witnessing the fifth phase of the signing of agreements to transmit rural communications.

The agreements were inked between the Universal Communication Service Access Fund (UCSAF) and three telecom service providers; Vodacom, Tigo and Airtel.

The minister said the ruling Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM) election manifesto targets to increase internet penetration from 43 per cent to 80 per cent by 2025.

"It is important that we must start switching off the 2G technology and allow mobile technologies that accommodate 3G and above," he said, adding that Tanzania should not lag behind in technology growth.

Dr Ndigulile was quick, however, to warn telecom operators that are leaking privacy information of their customers, saying the ministry will enact stern regulations to protect mobile users' privacy.

"The government is aware of growing number of dishonest employees in the telecom companies this must end," he said.

There 50 million registered sim cards according to official government records. 29 million mobile users access mobile services while 24 millions

of subscribers go on the internet using their phones.

The minister directed UCSAF to take serious actions to improve communication services in border areas.

Director of technical service at Vodacom Tanzania speaking on behalf of mobile operators expressed concern that a large number of mobile users phones only support 2G mobile technology.

He seconded the minister that availability of more powerful technology improves efficiency hinting that some countries in the industrial world are now rolling out 5G technologies.

"There more efficient systems and it is good thing for the government to recognise the potentiality to switch to 4G and 5G," he said, calling for the government to set strategies that will help the availability of 4G and 5G supported handsets.

UCSAF's Chief Executive Officer, Justina Mashimba, said the agreements signed yesterday will improve communication network in 173 villages across 61 wards in the country.

She said the contracts are for nine months and that upon completion over 700,000 residents will benefit. Mashimba said the agreement worth 6bn/- is part of the fund's strategy to improve communication service in the country.

Apparently she said the fund has already earmarked areas in the border posts that need communication transformation and is working towards addressing the challenge. This year's initiative will ensure a total of 12 million residents have access to quality communication in 3,025 villages or 1,055 wards.

TEXTILE VACANCIES

Position:

Regional Sales Manager

Qualifications and Experience:

- Diploma in Business Discipline
- 5 years of sales experience (Textiles, Garments and Clothes)

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for achievement of sales and collection target of zones allocated.
- Job requires extensive travelling to various branch locations across zones.
- Responsible for stock analysis (which includes item wise design wise stock) and sales analysis of branches in zones and strive for continuous betterment.
- Analyze regional market trends and discover new opportunities for growth; report on regional sales results.
- Prepare database of textiles retailers in zones and schedule regular visits to enhance customer base for branch.

Application Deadline:
10th Feb 2021

All applications should be sent to recruitment@metl.net

TEXTILE VACANCIES

Position:

Branch Manager (Sales)
(Dodoma, Singida, Tabora, Shinyanga, Mbeya, Kiyela, Songea and Musoma)

Qualifications and Experience:

- Diploma in Business Discipline
- 5 years of sales experience (Textiles, Garments and Clothes)

Responsibilities:

- Accountable to achieve monthly and quarterly sales and collection targets.
- Accountable for total stock availed, tracking of sales collection and preparation / submission.
- Responsible for stock analysis (which includes item wise design wise stock) and suggest strategy to ensure regular rotation of goods.
- Build network of retail customers of sale of textile range of products.
- Accountable for clarifications on regular audit of cash and stock.

Application Deadline:
10th Feb 2021

All applications should be sent to recruitment@metl.net

VACANCY **Position:** Clearing and Forwarding Manager

Qualification and Experience:

- Diploma in Clearing and Forwarding
- 5 years of experience in shipping and clearing and forwarding.

Responsibilities:

- Issuance of shipping and documentary instructions to suppliers, follow up with suppliers to complete imports documentation.
- Follow up of issues with shipping lines D/O's, ICD nominations, empty units returns and related matters via shipping team.
- Follow up of assignments and various Government permits related matters via imports team.
- Follow up of customs documentation and clearing issues through imports customs operations team.
- Follow up of port / ICD clearing status of consignments, ICD nominations via shipping team.
- Follow up of L/C issuances and related matters i.e. amendments. (Procurement team / Banks)
- Emails and letters correspondence with various correspondents - local and international.
- Outdoors tasks i.e. Customs, banks, ICD, shipping

- lines, Government Depts, inspection companies, etc.
- Manage clearing of imports consignments and documentation with suppliers, customs, regulatory depts., shipping lines, port/ICD clearances.
- Deal with outside clearing agents for clearing of import consignments.
- Deal with TMDA, TBS, GCLA, Weight & Measures, for import permits and related issues.
- Follow up claims with suppliers, insurance (P&I), TPA, shipping lines, etc.
- Deal with local inspection companies, deal with inspection companies abroad to organize loading inspections for shipments being loaded.
- Payment of taxes, port charges, etc, when required.
- Any other assignments related to imports dept / clearing operations.

All applications should be sent to recruitment@metl.net

Ministry expresses concern on dubious testing of students

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training has expressed concerns over evaluation tests performed by students in both public and private schools, saying some are just dubious and add no value to academic progress.

The observation was made by Permanent Secretary in the ministry, Dr Leonard Akwilapo, yesterday, explaining that the ministry is considering freezing the evaluation tests which had become exaggerated.

Speaking during a two-day annual general meeting organised by the Christian Social Services Commission, he said, "In some schools, pupils are subjected to weekly boot camps and taking tests even at weekends". The commission had raised concern that there were too many tests of dubious value.

The PS said the ministry is aware of the tests and is currently engaging experts within and outside the ministry to weigh on whether to officially suspend or improve intervals.

Dr Akwilapo was of the view that improved academic performance among the pupils and students in schools is a result of quality teaching and management.

He hailed the Christian Social Services Commission for considering to use information and communication technology among other means to improve teaching for nurseries and primary school pupils.

He assured the commission that the ministry is ready to work with the commission to enhance teaching and learning among the pupils in the country.

The commission supervises

about 1223 education training institutions involving 404 nurseries, 268 primary schools, 373 secondary schools, 50 seminary schools, nine teachers training colleges, 96 vocational training centres, and 22 higher learning institutions.

Peter Maduki, the Commission's executive director told the PS that schools under the Roman Catholic had adopted assessment tests which are organised with help from the National Examination Council of Tanzania (NECTA).

He said the exams are organised in every zone involving both primary and secondary schools. "Unfortunately, explosion of tests has emerged in wards and districts whose quality of education is questionable," he said.

He urged the government to revisit the tests and reduce the intervals to give chance for a pupil and student to learn. He explained that the meeting is strategically organised to bring together experts from the ministry of education and from regional administration and the local government charged with supervising the education sector.

The Commission hopes the meeting will provide a platform to discuss opportunities and challenges facing the sector including discussing better ways to adopt ICT in teaching and learning.

The PS said the ministry is aware of the tests and is currently engaging experts within and outside the ministry to weigh on whether to officially suspend or improve intervals.



KCB Tanzania Arusha branch manager Judith Lubuva (C) presents sanitary equipment in Arusha city at the weekend to Paulina William (R), a winner of the bank's 2Jijiri entrepreneurship programme draw. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

Deputy PS extols head teachers for Form IV exams performance

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda, Mwanza

DEPUTY Permanent Secretary in the ministry of State, President's Office, Regional Administration and Local government (Education), Gerald Mweli has commended public secondary school head teachers following good academic performances in last year's Form Four national examinations.

He made the remarks recently when presenting awards to the best students and teachers from Mwanza Region whose schools performed well in last year's national Standard Seven and Form Four examinations.

Mwanza city council was ranked 3rd in national Standard Seven examinations countrywide while two schools were among the top ten in national Form Four examinations in the 2020 academic year.

Over 70 percent of government schools are now doing well in national examinations contrary to previous years, he said linking the good performance with government efforts in developing the education sector.

Mweli urged students to continue studying hard and avoid being involved in acts that can ruin their academic performance. He said the government spends a lot of money in ensuring provision of quality education for both primary and secondary schools.

"Your future leaders; you must thrive for the best to be able to acquire various leadership posts in future," said Mweli.

Ruling CCM chairman in Nyamagana District, Mwanza Region, Zebedayo Athuman appealed to the ministry of education to see how it can also provide awards to city primary education officers because they are part of the recorded successes.

"It is a good thing to appreciate someone who has done well for the country's development. Awarding education officers may inspire others to put more efforts in improving provision of quality education in their respective areas," he noted.



Your future leaders; you must thrive for the best to be able to acquire various leadership posts in future



BARRICK
NORTH MARA

REQUEST FOR TENDER MINING RELATED SERVICES

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from interested and qualified parties to provide various mining related services.

Available Packages - Mining Related Services

- (1) Rock Crushing/Screening and Rehandle
- (2) Rehandle and Crusher Feeding
- (3) General Services and Machine Hire
- (4) Minor Services including construction and cement handling
- (5) Surface Piping Installation
- (6) Labour Supply Services

Information to Tender

Information to Tender may be obtained from:
nm.proposal@barrick.com

Applicants must quote reference "Mining Related Services MINE11/2020" in the subject line of your email and submit your company profile. Interested parties may submit tenders for select individual packages, or for all available packages.

Key Dates

- Last date to request Information to Tender 28 January 2020
- Tender submission closing date 12 February 2020

North Mara Gold Mine Limited
19 January 2020



**MARYLAND GLOBAL
INITIATIVES TANZANIA LIMITED**

RE: REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ) FOR SUPPLY OF ICT EQUIPMENT FOR TELECONFERENCE

RFQ No: MGIT-01-1-21
ISSUED DATE: Jan 26, 2021

Maryland Global Initiatives Tanzania (MGIT) is an International Non-Government organization under University of Maryland Baltimore Implementing Public health projects in Tanzania. MGIT is currently Implementing Technical Assistance Project funded by the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC).

MGIT in Supporting the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children now invites sealed Bids from interested, eligible and reputable ICT companies dealing with ICT equipment to supply Teleconference equipment for Extension of Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) program as demonstrated in the RFQ document as per below schedule of requirement

Lot	Equipment	Quantity
Lot 1	Desktop Computers	39Pcs
	UPS	39Pcs
	VGA Converter to HDMI	39Pcs
	HDMI cables of 20M	40Pcs
	HDMI Splitter	1Pc
	Internet modem	39Pcs
Lot 2	Smart Television (TV)	40Pcs
	Wall bracket to mount TV on the wall	40Pcs
	Power surge protector	40Pcs
Lot 3	Conference camera-type 1	38Pcs
	Conference camera-type 2	1Pc
	Wall bracket to fix conference camera on the wall	39Pcs

Interested and eligible bidders are invited to come physically at MGIT office located at Plot 6 Kenyatta Drive, Oysterbay, Dar es Salaam. (Tel: +255 22 2666849) to collect the complete set of Request for Quotation (RFQ) document with all bid information and other conditions.

All quotations/bids properly filled, sealed in and enclosed plain envelopes marked: **Bid for supply of Teleconference equipment** must be delivered physically to **Plot 6, Kenyatta Drive, Oysterbay**. Envelope should be marked **Country Director, MGIT, P.O. Box 75568, Dar es salaam. Att: Procurement Lead**
Deadline for submission of quotations is on Friday, 05th February 2021 at 3:00pm
Late bids will not be accepted irrespective of any circumstances.

Country Director
Maryland Global Initiatives Tanzania
Plot 6, Kenyatta Drive, Oysterbay
P. O. Box 75568,
Dar es Salaam

More than 7,000 people in Kibaha District gain from Dawasa-executed water supply project

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

OVER 7000 residents from five wards in Kibaha District, Coast Region have benefited from a special water supply project implemented by the Dar es Salaam Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (DAWASA).

DAWASA Regional Manager-Kibaha office Alpha Ambokile said that the implementation of the project has brought relief to the residents who have been grappling to access the precious liquid for many years.

According to him, the project's major aim was to ensure that all areas with no access to water in the region are reached with the service so as to, among other things, stimulate economic growth.

He named the beneficiary wards as Ungindoni and Kigero in Kibaha Town as well as Vikuge, Dengwa, Soga and Kipangege wards located in Kibaha rural.

Ambokile said that the project complements the existing project which has failed to accommodate the entire population both in the urban and rural areas.

The project which started in October last year, involved installation of large water pipes in a distance of 3-kilometers to enable easy flow of water to reach the residents in rural areas.

"We decided to implement the project in order to expand the flow of water and to strengthen the availability of water services to residents in the area," he said.

He said the project has seen construction of a network of 2.5km small distribution pipes to connect water from the main

pipeline to the households for the residents to access it easily.

Ambokile called upon beneficiaries and the public in general to protect the water infrastructures for them to last long and benefit future generations.

"This project is part of the government funded projects which costs a huge amount of money; therefore, it will be irrelevant if the project will be destroyed. We encourage the public to report to the authority of village leadership whenever they witness any fault, vandalism, or any activity that seems to sabotage water infrastructures," he insisted.

Shomari Minshehe, Soga ward councillor said the residents have all the reasons to smile after long suffering with no access to water service.

"Currently, water service is active, and I hope that people will now spend much of their time in economic activities instead of searching for water," he said.

Fatuma Kazi, resident of Kibaha village in Soga ward said the water project has enabled her to carry out her economic activities more easily than it was in the previous years where they were spending hours in a day to search for the precious liquid.

Reports show that, only 50 percent of Tanzania's population has access to an improved source of safe water, and only 34 percent of Tanzania's population has access to improved sanitation. Under these circumstances, the poor, particularly women and girls spend a significant amount of time travelling some distance to collect water.



Universal Communications Services Access Fund CEO Justina Mashiba (L) and Airtel Tanzania Plc chief operations officer Dr Prosper Mafole sign a rural communication services agreement in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Meat Board (TMB) has directed traders, abattoirs and butcher owners to ensure that they all the time maintain hygiene in their places of work so as to protect consumers' health and prevent outbreak of diseases.

TMB acting registrar, Imani Sichwale made the directives during the weekend when he visited various meat processing factories in Kibaha District, Coast Region to oversee their progress.

Sichwale wanted meat processors and sellers to ensure that their trading centres meet standards or else stern legal measures will be taken against

Meat board's order to traders and owners of abattoirs, butcheries: Maintain hygiene

them.

"One of the major mandates of the board is to work closely with stakeholders so as to have a proper system that will supervise standards and value addition of meat. We also supervise to ensure that meat traders observe hygiene measures for their safety and consumers' health too," he said.

According to him, TMB has been also supporting investors to establish meat processing factories smoothly by facilitating them to access permits as well as

reliable markets.

"We work to ensure that our investors operate comfortably, produce quality meat products for local needs and others for export. So, we welcome more investors to establish processing factories because the demand is high locally and in the international markets," he explained.

He also said that the board has also invested much in searching for markets abroad so as to ensure that investors do not encounter challenges while exporting

meat products in the respective countries.

Tanzania Meat Board is a government institution established under section 8 of the Meat Industry Act No. 10 of 2006 and was inaugurated on November 14, 2008. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Tanzania Meat Board is mandated to restructure the Meat Industry, to establish a proper basis for its efficient management, to ensure provision of high quality meat products and for matters related therewith.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development deputy minister Dr Angeline Mabula (2nd-L) presents land title deeds to Bariadi District residents Ramadhani Zongo and his wife, Martha, while on a tour of Simiyu Region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter, Simiyu

Revoke title deeds of hardcore land rent defaulters - Mabula

LANDS, Housing and Humana Settlements Development Deputy minister Dr Angeline Mabula has instructed land officers in the country's local council authorities to embark on revoking title deeds of all owners of land who are hard core defaulters for land rent in accordance with the law.

According to Section 33 (1) of the Land Act (No 4 of 1999) all land owners are supposed to pay land rent.

In addition, Section 48(1)(g) of

the Act says if land rent is not paid within a period of 6 months after the owner received demand letter thereof, his/her title deed can be revoked.

During her one-day official visit in Simiyu Region yesterday to mobilise for land rent payment Dr Mabula instructed experts in the land sector to ensure they implement the law's requirements.

She called on Chairmen of

Land Tribunals in the districts to perform well their responsibilities to assist speeding up hearing of cases hard core land defaulters in order to mete out justice.

The deputy minister also called on District Executive Directors in Simiyu Region to utilize well lands departments in regard to all issues on land including urban planning because land planning authorities are under the local councils.

She also expressed her concern

of snail's pace in land rent collections in Simiyu Region, saying hitherto, the region collected 87,654,120 or 24 per cent while it is owed more than 5.5bn/-.

Simiyu Region Assistant Commissioner for Lands Essau Mwakatumbula told Dr Mabula that his office will make sure it increases the pace in land rent collections by closely following up hard core defaulters.

He said despite efforts by

the Simiyu Region to ensure all hardcore defaulters pay up, there were some public institutions that

owe the ministry millions in land rent including VETA, SIDO and SHIRECU.



She also expressed her concern of snail's pace in land rent collections in Simiyu Region, saying hitherto, the region collected 87,654,120 or 24 per cent while it is owed more than 5.5bn/-.

CBE discloses plans to construct buildings at its Mbeya city campus

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

COLLEGE of Business Education (CBE) Mbeya Campus has unveiled a plan for the construction of the college in Iganzo Ward in Mbeya City that would enroll students within and outside Mbeya Region.

Introducing the plan, CBEMbeya Campus Principal Prof Emmanuel Mjema said as of now they are in rented buildings, the situation that causes inconveniences to students, tutors.

Prof Mjema was speaking at the weekend during the 55th CBE Graduation Ceremony and the seventh since the establishment of the Mbeya Campus.

He said the plan aims to eradicate the infrastructure problem they were facing, and added: "Due to lack of adequate infrastructures we are forced to accept just a few students, hence we have come up with a permanent solution - having our own buildings at Iganzo area for a big college to accommodate many students."

He said the college has 48 girl students many of who under 20 years of age, hence they need special care and surveillance

to enable them realise their life dreams.

Prof Mjema said to enable then acquired quality education they have embarked on the construction of a girls' hostel to move them out of the rented quarters they were in in various areas of the city.

The graduation ceremony's official guest, Mbeya Urban Member of Parliament and Deputy Speaker praised CBE for coming up with the plan.

She promised to work together with the government to finalise the construction of the college that will cover 54.5 acres.

She said she will also participate in various fund-raising events by the college and will also mobilise other stake holders to support the efforts aimed at creating a friendly environment for students to study.

Dr Ackson also advised graduates in various courses to abandon the concept of being employed and instead use the knowledge gained by being innovative in various business projects for their own wellbeing.

A total of 274 students in various courses graduated, including 158 boys and 116 girls.



Swedeferida Musoma, a teacher at Saniniu Laizer English Medium Primary School in Manyara Region, in class with newly enrolled Class One pupils yesterday. This is the very first intake of pupils at the school, whose construction was fully funded by Tanzanite billionaire Saniniu Lazier of Naisinyai ward in Simanjiro District. Photo: Correspondent Woinde Shizza

Lake Zone residents appeal to TBS to continue offering education on cosmetics quality, safety

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

SOME residents in Lake Zone regions have appealed to the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) to continue providing education to the public on how to differentiate between genuine and fake cosmetics.

Speaking in Mwanza city recently, the residents were concerned that most of the people especially those in rural areas are unaware of the counterfeit products, hence the need to educate them.

Machibya Samuel and Alex Bundala said educating the public would save them from the adverse

health impacts caused by the use of harmful cosmetics.

Machibya who is a cosmetic trader added: "Enabling people to differentiate between fake and genuine cosmetic products would save them from a number of health risks. The bureau's intervention would also help us conduct our businesses in a conducive environment."

Last week, officials from the Bureau conducted inspection and sensitization campaign in the Lake Zone whereas education was provided to the public on 13 types of cosmetics.

Speaking during the exercise, TBS Acting Head in Lake Zone,

Evarist Mrema said they have inspected cosmetics sold in various shops and sensitized residents in Nyamagana and Ilemela District in Mwanza city.

Mrema said the inspection and sensitization campaign also involved cosmetic traders in retail and wholesale shops, distributors and supermarket attendants.

"We want traders to know the adverse impact of selling fake cosmetics. We are doing this because some of them sell the products out of ignorance," he added.

He said the 13 types of cosmetics which traders were educated on include children products such as

powder and shampoo and other adult products used in bathrooms.

Education was also provided on cosmetic products used in beautifying hair and skin products like smearing oil, lotions and several others.

Mrema urged citizens to create a culture of buying certified products to avoid loss and health impacts. He noted that fighting against circulation of fake products is a responsibility of every Tanzanian.

"You shouldn't leave everything to TBS, you can also play part in this by tipping our officials on the presence of counterfeit cosmetics in the market," he said.

Prominent lawyer issues warning relating to 2020 Zanzibar Act on alcohol

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

A Zanzibar lawyer, Rajab Abdallah, has said firms that were illegally given permits to import alcoholic drinks into the Isles are conducting their businesses illegally and could be prosecuted.

He told journalists at the weekend that according to the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act (No 9 of 2020) only three firms are qualified to be issued with permits to import alcoholic drinks into the Isles.

"Section 33(1) of the Act says permits to import alcoholic drinks will be issued to not more than three firms by adhering to set conditions - first the applicant must be a Zanzibari, must be a taxpayer, must have a warehouse for storage as well as a vehicle for distribution of the drinks," said advocate Rajabu.

He said the move by the Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board to issue permits to six firms instead of three was in violation of the law, "hence both the board chairman and members thereof are supposed to tender their resignations."

"In truth, the decision to ignore the law's requirement by issuing six permits instead of three was in contravention of the law and against the foundation of the rule of law," he added.

He said if the law had shortcomings in its implementation they were supposed to submit their recommendations for amendments to the minister concerned who would table the same to the Zanzibar House of Representatives.

Rajab said before the law was passed by the House and became effective in January this year, its Bill was widely discussed by alcoholic drinks stakeholders, Permanent Secretaries and others before it was submitted to the House for passage and thereafter signed by the President in May last year.

"Hence what we now see in the legal perspective is that all the firms that were issued with additional permits will be conducting illegal business as the permits were given in violation of the law.

Human rights and good governance activist Ali Makame Issa said the aims for the new law are good but its implementation is now very distrustful to the board's decision to flout sections of the law.

He said the new law says a bar selling alcoholic drinks must be 1,000 metres from away from areas that provide social services such as houses of worship, schools, hospitals, but some of these bars continue to operate near these areas.

When asked to comment on the matter, the Zanzibar Attorney General Dr Mwinyi Talib Haji declined to say anything, apart from the issue having created a huge storm in the Isles.

However the chairman of the Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board Abdulrazaki Abdulkadir said the decision reached by the board abided by the country's wide interests including increasing of government revenues, and added that it was also reached after discussion with the minister concerned including two senior Zanzibar State House officials.



MWALIMU COMMERCIAL BANK PLC

PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Issued pursuant to regulation 7 of the Banking and Financial Institutions (Disclosures) Regulations, 2014

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020 (Amounts in million shillings)	Current Quarter 31-Dec-2020	Previous Quarter 30-Sep-2020
A. ASSETS:		
1. Cash	616	514
2. Balances with Bank of Tanzania	4 727	5 290
3. Investments in government securities	-	-
4. Balances with other banks and financial institutions	154	49
5. Cheques and items for clearing	22	24
6. Inter branch float items	261	268
7. Bills negotiated	-	-
8. Customers' liabilities for acceptances	-	-
9. Interbank loans receivables	8 300	4 000
10. Investment in other securities	-	-
11. Loans, advances and overdrafts (Net of allowance for probable losses)	19 206	15 766
12. Other assets	5 064	4 867
13. Equity investments	-	-
14. Underwriting accounts	-	-
15. Property, plant and equipment (net)	918	1 037
16. TOTAL ASSETS	39 267	31 815
B. LIABILITIES:		
17. Deposits from other banks and financial institutions	-	-
18. Customer deposits	18 683	15 802
19. Cash letters of credit	-	-
20. Special deposits	-	-
21. Payment orders/transfers payable	-	-
22. Bankers' cheques and drafts issued	-	-
23. Accrued taxes and expenses payable	941	836
24. Acceptances outstanding	-	-
25. Interbranch float items	417	294
26. Unearned income and other deferred charges	425	281
27. Other liabilities	1 322	1 215
28. Borrowings	-	-
29. TOTAL LIABILITIES	21 788	18 428
30. NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES) (16 minus 29)	17 479	13 387
C. SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS:		
31. Paid up share capital	30 912	30 912
32. Capital reserves	-	-
33. Retained Earnings (14 445)	(14 445)	(14 445)
34. Profit (Loss) account (3 988)	(3 988)	(3 980)
35. Others capital accounts (Advance towards share capital)	5 000	-
36. Minority interest	-	-
37. TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	17 479	13 387
D. SELECTED FINANCIAL CONDITION INDICATORS		
- Shareholders' Funds to Total Assets	45%	42%
- Non Performing Loans to Total Gross Loans	2.0%	1.8%
- Gross Loans and Advances to Total Deposits	101%	98%
- Loans and Advances to Total Assets	48%	49%
- Earning Assets to Total Assets	70%	62%
- Deposits Growth	16%	77%
- Assets Growth	23%	23%

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (Amounts in million shillings)	Current Quarter 31-Dec-2020	Comparative Quarter 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Cumulative 31-Dec-2020	Comparative Year Cumulative 31-Dec-2019
1. Interest income	807	721	2 765	2 936
2. Interest expenses	(334)	(98)	(694)	(547)
3. Net interest income (1 minus 2)	473	623	2 071	2 389
4. Bad debts written-off	-	-	-	-
5. Impairment losses on loans and advances	(27)	(25)	(80)	(80)
6. Non-interest income:				
6.1 Foreign currency commissions and transaction gains/loss	192	144	388	454
6.2 Fees and commissions	189	114	370	403
6.3 Dividend income	-	-	-	-
6.4 Other operating income	2	24	11	21
7. Non-interest expenses:				
7.1 Salaries and benefits	1 571	1 578	6 472	7 735
7.2 Fees and commission	708	708	2 801	3 337
7.3 Other operating expenses	863	870	3 671	4 398
8. Operating income/(loss)	(906)	(764)	(3 988)	(4 812)
9. Income tax provision	-	15	-	15
10. Net income/(loss) after income tax	(906)	(799)	(3 988)	(4 827)
11. Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
12. Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	(906)	(799)	(3 988)	(4 827)
13. Number of employees	65	59	65	59
14. Basic Earnings Per Share	(15)	(13)	(65)	(78)
15. Number of branches	2	2	2	2
SELECTED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS				
(i) Return on Average Total Assets	-2%	-3%	-13%	-16%
(ii) Return on Average Shareholders' Funds	-6%	-5%	-26%	-29%
(iii) Non Interest Expense to Gross Income	236%	206%	263%	289%
(iv) Net Interest Income to Average Earning Assets	2%	4%	6%	12%

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (Amounts in million shillings)	Current Quarter 31-Dec-2020	Previous Quarter 30-Sep-2020	Current Year Cumulative 31-Dec-2020	Comparative Year Cumulative 31-Dec-2019
I. Cash flow from operating activities:				
Net (loss)/profit before tax	(906)	(1 153)	(3 988)	(4 812)
Adjustment for:				
- Impairment/amortisation/depreciation	369	379	1 413	1 710
- Net change in loans and advances	(7 739)	(3 419)	(10 353)	3 104
- Net change in deposits	2 881	6 876	7 610	3 284
- Net change in short term negotiable securities	-	-	-	(27)
- Net change in other liabilities	487	65	536	(764)
- Net change in other assets	(427)	76	599	(973)
- Tax paid	-	-	-	-
- Others	-	-	-	(270)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	(5 315)	2 824	(4 183)	1 252
II. Cash flow from investing activities:				
- Dividend received	-	-	-	-
- Purchase of fixed assets	(17)	-	(29)	(55)
- Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	-	-	-	-
- Purchase of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	-
- Proceeds from sale of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	1 121
- Others	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	(17)	-	(29)	1 066
III. Cash flow from financing activities:				
- Repayment of long term debt	-	-	-	-
- Proceeds from issuance of long term debt	-	-	-	-
- Proceeds from issuance of share capital	-	-	-	-
- Payment of cash dividends	-	-	-	-
- Net change in other borrowings	-	-	-	-
- Others (Advance towards share capital)	5 000	-	5 000	375
Net cash provided (used) by financing activities	5 000	-	5 000	375
IV. Cash and cash equivalents:				
- Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(332)	2 824	788	2 693
- Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	5 781	2 957	1 557	1 585
- Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the quarter	5 449	5 781	2 345	4 278

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020 (Amounts in million shillings)	Share Capital	Retained Earnings	Regulatory Reserve	Bond Revaluation Reserve	Provision General Reserve	Total
Current Year						
Balance as at the beginning of the year	30 912	(14 445)	-	-	-	16 467
Profit for the year	-	(3 988)	-	-	-	(3 988)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advance towards share capital	5 000	-	-	-	-	5 000
Provision General Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the current period	35 912	(18 433)	-	-	-	17 479
Previous Year						
Balance as at the beginning of the year	30 912	(9 976)	-	-	179	21 294
Profit for the year	-	(4 827)	-	-	-	(4 827)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advance towards share capital	179	-	-	-	-	179
Provision General Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the previous period	30 912	(14 445)	-	-	-	16 467

SELECTED EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

In preparation of the quarterly financial statements, consistent accounting policies have been used as those applicable to the previous year audited financial statements

Name and Title	Signature	Date
Richard L. Makungwa (Chief Executive Officer)	(signed)	22 January 2021
Selemani Kijori (Head of Finance)	(signed)	22 January 2021
Patrick Mashallah (Head of Internal Audit)	(signed)	22 January 2021

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

Name	Signature	Date
1/ Francis Ramadhani	(signed)	22 January 2021
2/ Celestin Muganga	(signed)	22 January 2021

MINIMUM DISCLOSURE OF CHARGES AND FEES MADE UNDER REGULATION 11

SL	DESCRIPTION	CHARGE	Deposit Rate
1	Account opening/entry fees	100 000	
2	Account maintenance fees	100 000	
3	Account closure fees	100 000	
4	Overdraft fees	100 000	
5	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
6	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
7	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
8	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
9	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
10	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
11	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
12	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
13	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
14	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
15	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
16	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
17	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
18	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
19	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
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27	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
28	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
29	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
30	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
31	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
32	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
33	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
34	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
35	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
36	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
37	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
38	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
39	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
40	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
41	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
42	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
43	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
44	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
45	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
46	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
47	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
48	Inter-branch float items	100 000	
49			

Dr Rwakatare son: Education calls for greater investment

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TANZANIANS have been called upon to remember the late Reverend Getrude Rwakatare by investing heavily in education and developing interest in helping the needy.

The call was made over the weekend in Dar es Salaam at Mlima wa Moto Church Mikochei in Dar es Salaam, by the school's director, Muta Rwakatare during thanks giving prayers organised by St Mary's schools following the school's colorful performance in national examinations results.

The director who is the last born of reverend Dr. Rwakatare said their mother introduced the schools to help Tanzanian children after she saw huge number of parents send their children abroad in search for quality education.

She said during those days many parents were preferring to send their children to Uganda and Kenya where they spent a lot of time and money because by that time there were no English medium schools in the country.

"One day she was traveling to Kenya for her businesses on her way she saw many children and some of them were very little who needed parental attention, she was shocked and from that day she developed the idea of introducing English medium schools to stop the tradition of sending children to Uganda and Kenya," said Muta.

He said they started with one school at their home ground in Tabata but they expanded slowly and opened another St. Mary's schools in Mbagala, Mbezi, Morogoro, Mwanza, Mbeya and Dodoma saying that all the schools are still active and their good performances are promising.

Another schools director, Dr. Rose Rwakatare said they decided to come to church with some students and teachers of the schools to thank God for the excellent performance of their schools in Standard Four, Form Two and Form Four results in their schools countrywide.

"Last year we lost the founder of the schools Reverend Dr. Getrude Rwakatare but because she prepared us to be leaders we are confident and everything is going as normal and the evidence of my words is the last year's results in Standard Four, Form Two and Form Four national results where our schools did wonderful," said Dr. Rose who is the first born of Dr. Getrude Rwakatare.

She applauded teachers and all staff of the school as the source of the good performance of the schools promising that they will not relax but will maintain the spirit to make sure they perform even better for the coming national examinations.

One of the St. Marys students, Abigael Msuka appreciated Dr. Rwakatare's idea to introduce English medium schools in Tanzania and empower them with modern facilities and teaching staff.



Rehabilitation of Dar es Salaam Rapid Transport bus stand under way, as captured yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Guardian Reporter

TAMWA Zanzibar congratulates Dr Issa

THE Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA) in Zanzibar has congratulated the association's director, Dr Mzuri Issa for being awarded a certificate of lifetime achievement.

The award was issued by organizers of the Zanzibar Youth Award, which has been issued for the second time. The award is provided annually.

Unveiling the award, Chief

Judge Rashid Mohammed said that apart from recognizing the excellence in youth, they have decided to also award the people who largely contributed to youth empowerment and dynamic.

Other four people who were awarded during the ceremony are Daudi Kombo Maalim, Shaib Ibrahim Mohamed, Raza Lee and DJ Saleh.

The brief celebration was

graced by the Minister of Information and Youth, Tabia Mwita at the Michenzani Mall in Stone Town.

In particular, Dr Mzuri's award was attributed to her role on women and girls social economic empowerment.

Other categories of the award include; Outstanding Youth in Education, Tourism Champion of the Year, Outstanding Youth in Agriculture, Best Entrepreneur of the

Year, Best Photographer of the Year, Best Tech/Science Innovator of the Year, Best Tech/Science Innovator of the Year, Outstanding Youth in Youth Empowerment, Best Media Personality of the Year, Outstanding Youth in Health Care, Outstanding Diaspora in Community Impact Award, Best Cultural Promotion Award and Best Filmmaker of the Year.



George Nyanda, a coordinator with a CSO known as Rafiki Social Development Organisation, has an audience with young boys and girls at Shilabela village in Shinyanga Region at the weekend on the need to report cases of gender-based violence against women and children. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Three arrested in Ruvuma over possession of elephant tusks

By Guardian Correspondent, Songea

POLICE in collaboration with the anti-poaching unit of the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) in Ruvuma Region have arrested three people alleged to illegally own ten pieces of elephant teeth weighing 20 kilogrammes.

Addressing journalists at his office yesterday, Ruvuma Regional Police Commander, Simon Maigwa said the seized elephant teeth were wrapped in a sulfate bag that was hidden in one of the rooms at a house located at Melikebu Street in Bombambili ward within Songea District.

Maigwa said the suspects were nabbed in the evening of January 24, 2021.

He said police in collaboration with the TAWA anti-poaching unit in Songea District conducted the operation and succeeded

in arresting the three suspects believed to have killed two elephants.

"We are consulting the Ministry of Natural resources and Tourism to know the exact cost of the seized pieces of elephant teeth," said the RPC adding the suspects will be taken to court as soon as investigation is completed.

Commander Maigwa warned poachers and all those involved in the killing of elephants to immediately stop as the force is determined to protect the wild animals.

In April last year, police in Tunduru district arrested a Kidodoma village resident in the district found in possession of 10 kg of buffalo meat. The man, Hamisi Nasoro Chamtumavi (24) was arrested by police officers in conjunction with game officials in Tunduru district.

He said the man was arrested

on the night of 3-4 April this year with 14 pieces of the game meat after the police received a tip off from good citizens.

RPC Maigwa said in his earlier statement from the suspect, the police realised that there was a network of game meat poachers whose other members were from Kilwa district in Lindi region.

Maigwa said the police were still hunting for other members of the network who kill game using machetes.

He said according to the suspect's statement, the poachers do the hunting during the night in the reserve forests.

RPC Maigwa said whilst in the forest the poachers use powerful flashlights which they attach on their foreheads and direct the beam to the animals that become dazed by the high intensity beam and stay still.



INVITATION TO BID: NO. ITB/2021/SUP/002

FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FRAME AGREEMENT FOR THE SUPPLY OF DIESEL FUEL – BULK DELIVERY

1. Background:

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Representation Office in Dar es Salaam invites reputable and qualified suppliers to submit firm offers for establishment of a frame agreement for the supply of diesel fuel – bulk delivery

2. Eligibility:

Suppliers duly registered with relevant government authorities, with sound financial basis, relevant experience, reputed clientele and with knowledge of how to meet UNHCR's requirements are invited to participate in the bidding process.

Kindly download the tender documents in the below link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1L-lhJ_1dUospFRkXj-7YdRLUo7fsQIbKW?usp=sharing

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CRUCIAL DATES FOR THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Pre-bid Conference meeting will be held	Monday 08 th February 2021 at 1000 hrs EAT
Deadline for receiving requests for clarification	Friday 19 th February 2021 at 2359 hrs EAT
Deadline for submission of offers	Wednesday 03 rd March 2021 at 1700 hrs, EAT

UNHCR tenders are free of charge, no fees are charged to collect the tenders.

RADI SERVICES LTD

PUBLIC NOTICE

SALE/SCRAPING NEGLECTED/UNCLAIMED MACHINES

We wish to inform our esteemed customers and the general public and all those whose machines or uncollected equipment or neglected in our workshop for a long time after serviced, to come at our office Plot No. 895 Tangi Bova, Mbezi Beach Area, Dar es Salaam to collect their items after paying in full of their inspection fees, repair cost and storage charges within 21 (twenty-one) days from the first appearance of this advertisement. Failure to comply with this notice shall leave us with no other alternative but to scrap them give space for new jobs. Below are some list of clients and their machines which will be scraps after 21days, this advertisement issued on January 2021

CUSTOMER NAME	TYPE OF MACHINE	Power
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2. Kisarawe/Turks Group	Slipring Motor	400HP/ 375 KW
3. Kisarawe/Turks Group	Slipring Motor	450HP/335KW
4. Mithwa sugar	Distribution Transformer	1000 KVA/11KV
5. Mithwa sugar	Centrifugal Motor	375/750/1000rpm
6. Kilwa Steel Group Ltd	3hp HT Motor	450 KW
7. Interchick	3Hp Induction Motors	160 KW
8. TPCC Ltd	Gear Motor	13.1KW
9. TPCC Ltd	Slipring Motor	35 KW
10. Mbeya Cement	Slipring Motor	670kW
11. Suma JKT	3Hp Induction Motor	200 KW
12. CCECC	Traction Motor	Locomotive motor

Eng. A.H. Abdallah
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TUESDAY 26 JANUARY 2021

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Digital transformation in technologies crucial

DIGITAL Transformation is the use of new, fast and frequently changing digital technology to solve problems often utilising cloud computing, reducing reliance on user owned hardware but increasing reliance on subscription based cloud services. Some of these digital solutions enhance capabilities of traditional software.

As the companies providing the services are guaranteed of regular usually monthly recurring revenue from subscriptions, they are able to finance ongoing development with reduced risk historically most software companies derived the majority of their revenue from users upgrading, and had to invest upfront in developing sufficient new features and benefits to encourage users to upgrade, and delivering more frequent updates often using forms of agile software development internally.

The change to the subscription model also reduces software piracy - which is a major benefit to the vendor.

Some of these digital solutions enable - in addition to efficiency via automation - new types of innovation and creativity, rather than simply enhance and support traditional methods.

One aspect of digital transformation is the concept of 'going paperless' or reaching a 'digital business maturity' affecting both individual businesses and whole segments of society, such as government, mass communications, art, medicine, and science.

Digital transformation is already underway, but is not proceeding at the same pace everywhere. According to the McKinsey Global Institute's 2016 Industry

Digitization Index, Europe is currently operating at 12 per cent of its digital potential, while the USA is operating at 18 per cent. Within Europe, Germany operates at 10 per cent of its digital potential, while the UK is almost on par with the US at 17 per cent.

African leaders in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector have proposed an idea to harmonise digital policies to accelerate the continent's digital transformation.

The leaders met in Kigali for the India-Africa ICT Summit and Expo. Rwanda's Minister of ICT and Innovation, Paula Ingabire suggested the need for African nations to have inclusive policies to facilitate the delivery of equitable opportunities for the entire African population. Policymakers ought to leverage on the continent's youthful population, which is agile and adaptable to drive digital transformation.

More than ever, countries across the continent are talking about digital transformation and investing in technologies. There is a flourishing section of firms providing services to the population. Policy making institutions should be proactive to properly harness digital technologies and leverage the unprecedented benefits. Without political leadership commitment, Africa will never be able to achieve its policy targets.

We have to remove the borders; we have to work as one African family. If we are to have our own Alibaba, we have to look at Africa as one global village when it comes to technology. The World Bank predicts that by 2032, the impact of 5G alone in Sub-Saharan Africa will be \$30 billion.

African organisations must fight antimicrobial drug resistance

IN Africa, research findings estimate that 4.1 million people could die of failing drug treatments by 2050 unless urgent action is taken. Antimicrobial resistance is a matter of concern for Africa because of the public health threat on African citizens and the negative socio-economic impact on wellbeing and livelihoods.

The global partners cemented their collaboration recently with a joint statement by eight senior representatives on the first day of the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) Campaign for Africa, noting the "silent public health threat that AMR poses in all countries in Africa" and expressed concern for the "uncontrolled antimicrobial use across the African continent."

An antimicrobial is an agent that kills microorganisms or stops their growth. Antimicrobial medicines can be grouped according to the microorganisms they act primarily against. For example, antibiotics are used against bacteria, and antifungals are used against fungi.

The main classes of antimicrobial agents are disinfectants non-selective agents, such as bleach, which kill a wide range of microbes on non-living surfaces to prevent the spread of illness, antiseptics which are applied to living tissue and help reduce infection during surgery, and antibiotics which destroy microorganisms within the body.

With antimicrobial resistance (AMR) threatening development

and health in Africa, six international and continental organisations are launching the first partnership of its kind to combat this public health crisis on the continent.

Antimicrobials include antibiotics, antivirals, antifungals and antiparasitics and are used to prevent and treat infections in humans, animals and plants. Antimicrobial agents have saved millions of lives, protected animal health and welfare as well as food security. But their rampant misuse in health settings and agriculture is killing 700 000 people annually around the world. While data on AMR are sorely lacking on the continent, there are signs that resistance to commonly prescribed antimicrobials is significant. Malaria, which kills 3000 children in Africa every day, is increasingly showing resistance to once-effective treatment options. Tuberculosis is becoming resistant to the drugs typically used to treat it. Current studies indicate that drug resistance to HIV is increasing and could cause 890 000 deaths by 2030 in sub-Saharan Africa.

An estimated one in ten medicines globally is substandard or falsified, and the African region is one of the most affected in the world. In markets and on street corners, people are buying antimicrobials of unknown quality. Without proper medical supervision, people often stop their drug course too soon or they double-dose rather than keep to a prescribed strict time interval for appropriate drug-taking.

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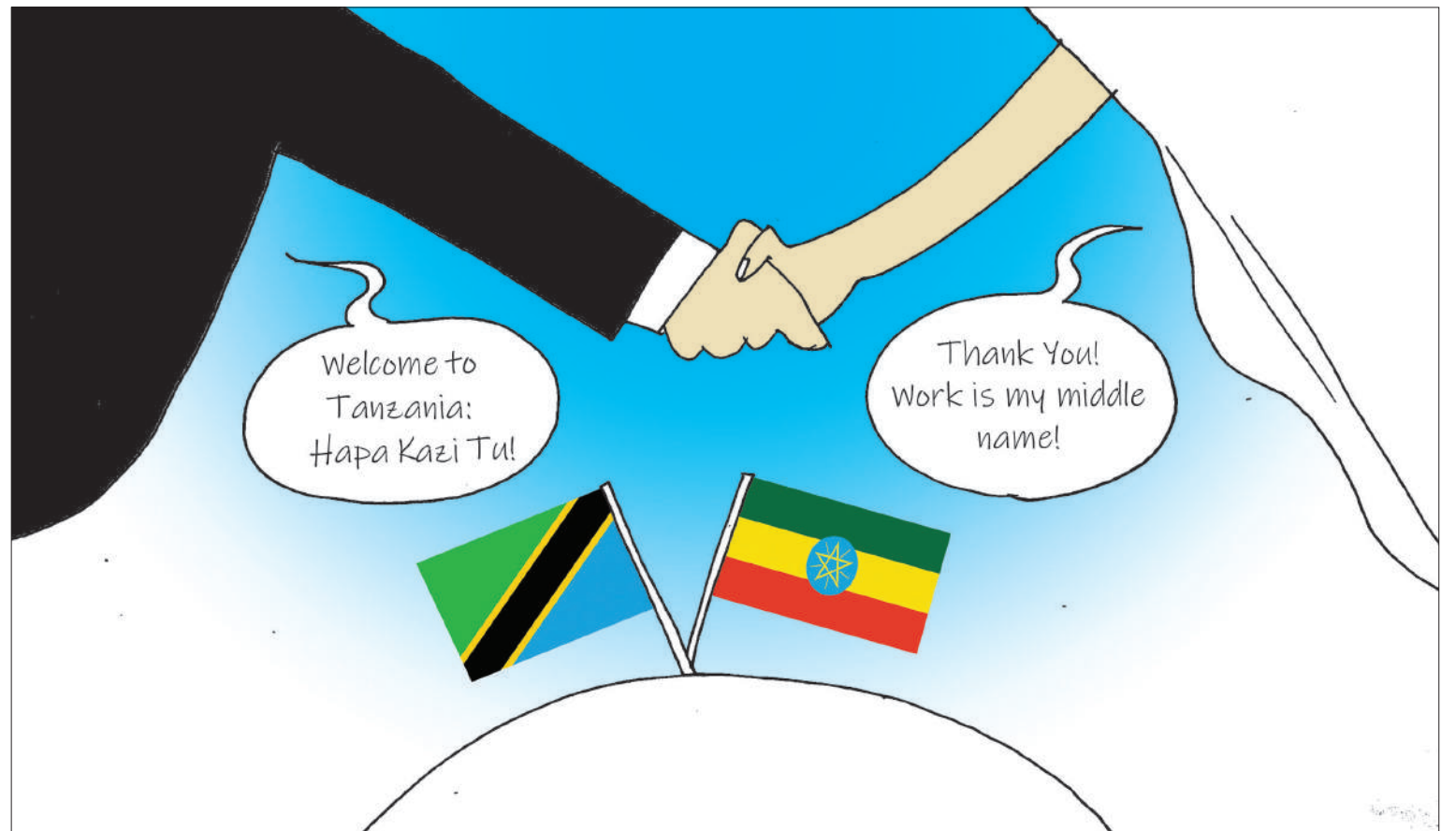
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By Oliver Dickson

IT is inconceivable that the industry could survive further intermittent bans on the sale of alcohol over the next three to five years - which would most likely be the case if government holds on to the belief that a ban is necessary every time we experience a rise in the number of COVID-19 cases.

Policymaking is, at its core, a process of solution modelling to problems. To correctly model an effective and efficient solution, the problems have to be thoroughly understood by closely analysing the facts, empirical data and the context in which the problem(s) and stakeholders are located.

The solution modelling to the problem(s) is a careful balancing act of trade-offs. Simply put, solve the problem within the resources available to you while mitigating the unintended consequences.

You might find this conceptualisation of policymaking relatively intuitive, but our government, Cabinet and particularly our National Coronavirus Command Council (NCCC) are either oblivious to this intuition or are just bad at policymaking, particularly in a time of an unmitigated crisis and disaster such as the one in which we find ourselves.

The government demonstrated its deficiency in policymaking through holding on to counterintuitive policies during our perpetual coronavirus lockdown - and nothing is more indicative of this than the third episode and ongoing ban on the domestic sale of alcohol.

It is important that we dig into how the president and his Cabinet got this wrong as it serves as a useful case study.

So how did they get it wrong?

At the start of the outbreak of Covid-19 in South Africa in March 2020, we all had very little idea about what we were dealing with. So it was important to shut down as much of society as we could to adequately prepare ourselves. As the president stated at the time, the initial 21-day lockdown was to suppress the spread of Covid-19 so that hospitals could ramp up their resources (PPE, bed capacity and staff complement). Businesses and other organisations also used this time to figure out how to adapt to a world in which a deadly, highly contagious virus has become part of everyday life.

In doing so, government put a ban on the sale of alcohol. This was necessary at the time because we had very little information with which to model any sort of solution that would work for our context. But as time went by, we learnt very crucial things about Covid-19 that we should

The alcohol ban is a policymaking blunder that has to be corrected

have made centre points in our attempts to model our short- and medium-term future.

Crucially, we learnt that Covid-19 mutates. We saw this happening in other countries; we should have modelled scenario planning around this and invited all sectors of society to participate in this national scenario planning - but we didn't. In fact, this is what the national Disaster Management Act legally mandates its custodians to do.

We also learnt early on that we might experience multiple waves of the spread of Covid-19. The experts warned that this could be the case and the minister of health and the president expected this to be the case - yet the president and his NCCC did not use this downtime (lockdown Level 2 and Level 1) as an opportunity to truly form the social compact necessary for the short-term and medium-term future around Covid-19.

Neither was this time used as an opportunity to invest in ramping up our critical healthcare resources such as rapidly building more ICU and trauma units. This should have been done given that we expected a second wave (and now a third wave and fourth wave, as warned by Professor Tivani Mashamba, who specialises in diagnostics research at the University of Pretoria).

And so when the second wave hit, the president once again put a ban on the domestic sale of alcohol, again citing the pressure that alcohol-related violence places on the strained and limited ICU and trauma resources within our hospitals.

At face value, it is very easy to understand that alcohol-related violence and trauma place a strain on ICU and trauma resources. But not only has this statement been exaggerated by the government, it has also been something that the government poorly prepared for, to the detriment of the hundreds of thousands of South Africans whose livelihoods are inextricably tied to the alcohol industry value chain one way or the other.

It is important to closely analyse the empirical data to determine to what extent alcohol-related violence places a strain on ICU and trauma resources within our hospitals. This is a crucial step in the process of policymaking because once you establish the scale of the problem, you can adequately model, at scale, a solution to the problem. This our government has not attempted to do.

In their court papers challenging

the alcohol ban, South African Breweries (SAB) calculates that alcohol-related trauma accounts for 2,000 general ward beds per week nationally, which averages out at five beds per hospital and a further 1,600 ICU beds per week nationally, which averages out at four beds per hospital.

If this calculation is true, it is unfathomable why the government has not capacitated each hospital with five to 10 additional ICU beds since the start of the lockdown.

More than that, government argues that the ban on the sale of alcohol prevents people from unnecessarily moving around to places that accommodate on-site consumption. This is true. But the solution to this is not a blanket ban on the sale of alcohol, the logical conclusion should be to prohibit on-site consumption to encourage at-home consumption. Not only will this prevent unnecessary movement that could potentially spread the virus but it also significantly reduces the chances of alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents. It should also be worth noting that people move around less because of the strict curfew.

Importantly though, we have to realistically calculate how much longer we expect to be living under a state of disaster and lockdown. To this question, the answer is, scarily long.

There is a naive belief that with multiple-approved Covid-19 vaccines, we will soon be out of the woods, but that is not remotely close to the truth.

At stake are 165,000 jobs, and in South Africa, 165,000 jobs means more than 600,000 people who depend on those 165,000 people will be impacted adversely.

The UK, for instance, has already started their vaccine roll-out programme and is currently inoculating 300,000 people per week. At its current rate, it is estimated that the UK will take seven years to vaccinate the whole country - during this period, experts in the UK are fearing a third wave.

South Africa, which battles with a similar but more transmissible variant of Covid-19 as the UK and has a similar population size to the UK - but has far fewer resources - needs to look at this as an example of how long we should anticipate to battle with Covid-19.

It does not seem that South Africa will be out of the woods anytime within the next three to five years, assuming we have enough money to buy enough vaccine doses to cover two-thirds of the country to achieve

herd immunity. While this is happening, experts are fearing a third and fourth wave.

Moreover, we should not lose sight of the fact that many medical experts are worried that the current approved vaccines may be ineffective against the 501.v2 Covid-19 variant that we are battling with in South Africa and there is the fear that the world could possibly have to deal with new mutations and variants as time goes by.

This all indicates that we have to plan for the worst-case scenario and build policies around that. It is inconceivable that the industry could survive further intermittent bans on the sale of alcohol over the next three to five years - which would most likely be the case if government holds on to the belief that an alcohol ban is necessary every time we experience a rise in the number of Covid-19 cases. So how, then, do we get out of this ban and prevent the next one?

President Cyril Ramaphosa continuously speaks of building social compacts to battle our challenges, but has kept the alcohol industry out of participating in any of these social compacts. This is an industry with vast resources, ideas and expertise that could be of great value to the ongoing social compact.

Many of these resources could relate to enterprise development and assistance of small businesses within the alcohol value chain which have suffered and are suffering as a result of the pandemic and are on the brink of shutting down.

Some of these resources could be dedicated towards assisting government in managing hospital resources and further capacitating hospitals within hotspots. The already-lost R5-billion to tax collection from SAB alone as a result of the ban could have gone a very long way to building additional field hospitals and ICU beds across the country.

At stake are 165,000 jobs, and in South Africa, 165,000 jobs means more than 600,000 people who depend on those 165,000 people will be impacted adversely. The government has not used the relevant data to configure policies to achieve the balancing act of saving lives and saving livelihoods. The government has not sought to mitigate the unintended consequences of the ban policy and the government has not been appreciative of and sincere about the context within which these problems are located. This has been a policymaking blunder that needs to be corrected.

Hungry for business, restaurant industry faces more red tape

By Ray Mahlaka

“I feel like I’m running on a treadmill that is going backwards.” This is how Frankie Gianfranco has described ongoing efforts to ensure that his eatery survives the crippling effects of tightened lockdown regulations.

Gianfranco is the owner of Frankie’s Food and Coffee in Johannesburg’s trendy 44 Stanley Avenue, which is normally bustling with hipsters, students and working professionals, but lately resembles a ghost town.

Walk into Frankie’s and surrounding restaurants, and you’re likely to be confronted by empty tables and waiters eagerly waiting for customers who may never come. Gianfranco said generating daily sales of about R1,500 to cover the take-home pay of his two workers (already reduced to 65%) and operating costs is becoming a herculean task.

“I’m mortgaged to the hilt. I’m now lending money from my family to pay workers and other business expenses because the restaurant is not making money. If this continues until March, I might not be able to keep the restaurant open,” he told DM168.

Many more may not survive. Already reeling from the lockdown, under which the sale of alcohol is banned and public life is restricted through a 9pm curfew, restaurants have been thrown another curveball by the government.

The Department of Employment and Labour has pushed new regulations that will require businesses that sell food and beverages to provide, among other things, improved remuneration for workers, including mandatory December bonuses (of one week’s wages), take-home pay that is above the R3,500 national minimum wage, and weekly payments to workers if they are required to wash their uniforms.

The new regulations came into effect on Monday 18 January and mainly affect businesses in the hospitality industry such as restaurants, coffee shops, pubs, taverns, catering companies and others. From Monday, businesses have 30 days to comply with the regulations.

More pay and benefits for workers

Minister of Employment and Labour Thulas Nxesi is apparently vexed by labour violations in the hospitality industry, prompting him to sign the new regulations to promote fair working conditions and remuneration benefits for vulnerable workers.

Questions sent by DM168 to Nxesi’s department about the exact motive behind the regulations were unanswered at the time of publication.

The wide-ranging regulations are part of a collective agreement by the recently established Bargaining Council for Fast Food, Restaurant, Catering and Allied Trades, which has been extended to all employers in the hospitality industry - even those who are not part of the bargaining council. A bargaining council is a labour mechanism that



deals with collective agreements, solving labour disputes and promoting consultation between employers and workers on labour laws.

Under the regulations, businesses must pay wages that exceed the minimum wage by at least 7% (especially for low-paid workers) and wage increases should be inflation plus 1.5% in the future.

Business owners will also be required to match worker monthly contributions to pension fund savings, funeral plans and a range of levies paid to the council.

The new regulations exclude businesses in Johan-

nesburg and Pretoria, as both cities already have collective bargaining structures in place. Up until Monday, the hospitality industry in other parts of SA had been governed by a sectorial determination, which has less onerous requirements.

Industry response

Although Gianfranco’s eatery in Johannesburg won’t be affected by the new regulations, he said businesses will struggle to keep up with the added cost and burden of compliance.

“It will be a final nail in the coffin for many businesses,” he said.

The timing of the new regulations couldn’t be worse for an industry that is a casualty of the lockdown, said Wendy Alberts, CEO of the Restaurant Association of South Africa, a lobby group for the sector.

“This is not the time to look at any increases in business costs, as we are battling to keep people employed,” said Alberts, adding that the hospitality industry supports 740,000 direct jobs and contributed 8.6% to SA’s GDP in 2019. “One would think that during these challenging circumstances, the government would stand with the restaurant industry.”

The Federated Hospitality Association of South Africa (Fedhasa), another industry body, plans to drag Nxesi’s department to court to overturn the regulations and start a new consultation process. A sore point for Fedhasa is that Nxesi’s department did not embark on a consultation process or get the requisite representation of 50% plus one (majority rights) from the industry to back the new regulations.

Rosemary Anderson, the national chairperson of Fedhasa, said the representation blunder was largely made by the Registrar of Labour Relations, who is tasked with determining majority industry representation before any regulation can be signed by Nxesi.

Employer organisations that form part of the hospitality industry bargaining council - mainly the Guardian Employers Organisation (GEO) and the Catering, Restaurant and Tearoom Association (Catra) - had a strong presence in Gauteng, said Anderson, but lacked representation in other parts of SA, where the new regulations applied.

The registrar received representation from GEO and Catra, organisations that Anderson said did not represent the interests of the broader hospitality industry. “Everyone is dumbfounded by what has happened. No one can believe it,” she said.

In Anderson’s “cordial engagements” with Nxesi’s department, she was informed that the only way to challenge the regulations would be to approach the court.

DM168

Revealed: Biovac’s plan for distribution of the first tranche of SA’s Covid-19 vaccine

By Ferial Haffjee

IN August last year, the CEO of South Africa’s vaccine company Biovac, Dr Morena Makhoana, and his team started working the phones to vaccine manufacturers. As a member of government’s vaccine advisory council, he could see how quickly vaccines were being developed across the world.

When the first one million vaccines touch down at OR Tambo International Airport next Friday, Makhoana and his team will be there. The Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine is the cheapest on the market and is well suited to SA conditions, but Business Day has reported that the US\$5.25 (R79.30) a dose price tag is higher than the rest of Africa and European countries. More about that later.

A punishing second wave of Covid-19 has brought the frontline of healthcare workers to its knees. And the jab in the arm can stand between life and death.

SA is buying Covishield vaccines made by the Serum Institute in India under licence from Oxford-AstraZeneca, which is the only company (as far as DM168 can establish), that has licensed its patent for manufacturing to sell to poor countries at US\$3 (R45.32), the price likely for most sub-Saharan African countries. SA is middle-income and is being charged the higher price.

Biovac is able to distribute nationally between 72 to 96 hours after the Covishield jabs land from India and after they get through regulatory and lab approvals, once its processes have been calibrated.

“We supply and distribute between 70% and 80% of paediatric vaccines and last year started manufacturing a six-in-one vaccine,” says Makhoana.

Biovac is a public-private partnership with 47% of its shares owned by government and the rest by the management team.

SA has a well-developed paediatric vaccine programme and the Department of Health’s expanded programme for immunisation is a well-oiled machine. The immunisation history can provide the spine of a national Covid-19 immunisation strategy with the private sector system supporting it.

Here’s how it will work. Serum manufactures the vaccines, fills the vials and puts them in insulated containers to be flown to various export destinations. The first one million doses will be flown from Pune, India to OR Tambo airport.

These insulated containers have temperature logging devices that track the temperature of the vaccine during flights. All vaccines, including Covishield, need to be able to stay cold typically between -2 and -8 degrees Celsius throughout. (Pfizer’s Covid-19 vaccine is an exception and needs to be stored at -70 degrees Celsius.) Once it lands, the insulated boxes are quickly cleared through customs and transported to cold rooms in Jo’burg. Biovac’s headquarters are in Cape Town but it has facilities in Jo’burg.

When the vaccine gets to its cold room warehouse, temperature loggers are downloaded and loaded into the system to analyse and ensure that the cold chain was maintained during transportation. Then samples are taken to a lab in Bloemfontein, says Makhoana. Why Bloem? “The South African Health Products Regulatory Authority appoints a national control laboratory, which has to test every batch of vaccines...,” explains Makhoana. “For Covid-19, it is likely to get done in a matter of days. It will be fast-tracked,” he explains.

Once the vaccines are released, Biovac distributes them according to a Department of Health distribution list. “Once it gets to the facilities, our responsibility stops there,” says Makhoana. Government buys the needles, syringes, swabs and other vaccine paraphernalia. With

nurses so overstretched by the second wave, medical students may be used to administer the jabs. The private sector hospital groups have advertised for retired healthcare workers to assist. The national vaccine strategy plans are to have vaccine centres, while Dis-Chem, Clicks and other pharmacies are likely to vaccinate too.

A long walk to immunity

But even when they are vaccinated with a first dose, immunity is some way off for the frontline health corps. The supervirulent new strain of coronavirus (501Y.V2) is still being studied to see how it responds to the vaccine, said the chairperson of the Ministerial Advisory Committee, Salim Abdool Karim, on 18 January. After a second dose four weeks later, the AstraZeneca vaccine should offer efficacy of between 62% and 90%, depending on the dose, says The New York Times vaccine tracker.

“Authorised so far in Britain, India and several other countries, this shot is cheap and easily stored, raising hopes that it could protect most of the world. Many scientists were puzzled, however, by data showing that its efficacy may depend on the strength of the initial dose or the gap between doses.”

Why is South Africa paying so much more and why is the vaccine so late?

The Serum Institute is a 54-year-old vaccine manufacturer started by entrepreneur Cyrus S Poonawalla in 1966. Indians suffered diseases and health risks which had been made treatable or immunisable in the north, so Poonawalla started Serum with a public health mission. Serum is now the largest manufacturer by volume in the world and has become a global pharma giant, which may explain the relatively high price tag for SA - some say its sense of mission has been lost or perhaps it is just too busy.



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The Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) is a 5 year global project funded by the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), dedicated to achieving and maintaining HIV epidemic control. The project provides strategic technical assistance and direct service delivery to break through barriers to 95-95-95 and promote self-reliant management of national HIV programs by improving HIV case-finding, prevention, and treatment programming. In Tanzania, EpiC will be implementing an HIV service delivery project among key and priority populations, adolescent girls and young women; and orphans and vulnerable children which aims to reduce HIV infections in pursuit of reaching 95-95-95 goals. To achieve this goal, the program will support targeted prevention and case finding strategies at community level amongst the targeted populations.

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FHI 360 is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Closing Date: February 02, 2021. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

India's Agony: Farmers' protest set to test government commitment to Gandhi's non-violence

By Archis Mohan

As the protest against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's farming reforms enters its third month, farmers and farm hands remain steadfast in their opposition to laws they say will disenfranchise them and destroy their way of life - amid calls for a strong-arm response.

For about 60 days now, caravans covered in slogans of a tenacious farmers' uprising have blocked three of the highways leading into New Delhi, India's national capital. The longest of these caravan towns, consisting of rows upon rows of tarpaulin trailers, stretches over a distance of 20km.

The trailers are home to tens of thousands of farmers and farmhands, who endured police batons and water cannons on their way from India's northwestern provinces of Punjab and Haryana (the country's food bowl), to the outskirts of Delhi two months ago.

Ever since, they have sat on New Delhi's borders in protest, demanding from India's federal government, led by the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), that it repeal Three Farm Laws it had pushed through as ordinances in June, and subsequently in the country's parliament in September.

In June, and again in the run-up to the passage of the bills in September, farm unions had accused the government of failing to consult any of them, including the 472 unions supporting the protest.

A fate worse than death

The first of the laws provides for setting up a mechanism allowing the farmers to sell their produce outside government-run grain markets. The federal government initially claimed this would end the role of intermediaries, who "exploited" farmers. The second law is to allow farmers to enter contract farming, and the third amends an existing law to free food grains, pulses, edible oils and onion for trade except in crisis.

The protesters say they would rather die on the outskirts of New Delhi than leave without winning this battle. Many protesters understand that the battle isn't merely against the laws - they believe they are in the midst of a struggle to preserve food democracy in India and to halt the complete collapse of their way of life.

It is a battle many have lost against creeping urbanisation, a takeover of agriculture by big corporates, and of ecological destruction wrought by the "Green Revolution", the vagaries of which the farmers of Punjab have already come to experience.

The protesters are convinced that the plots of land they own, however small, are their only insurance against falling into abject poverty - a fate increasingly befalling many of their ilk in the rest of the country.

They argue that the laws are intended to benefit a couple of big corporate groups, especially the Adani Group and Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries. They fear the implementation of these laws would eventually lead to a monopoly of these companies in the purchase of their agricultural produce and lead to further indebtedness and dispossession of their lands.

Hardship and sacrifice



Indian farmers during a protest against new farm laws at the Delhi-Haryana state border.

More than 70 protesters, many of whom were elderly, have died in this non-violent "siege of Delhi" in the past two months. While most succumbed to the elements as they slept in tents or tarpaulin-covered trailers - New Delhi experienced sustained rainfall and one of the harshest winters in recent years - nearly half a dozen sacrificed themselves to the cause.

The protests, which initially started in Punjab in September, spreading to provinces of Haryana, Rajasthan and parts of Uttar Pradesh, have gathered support from all corners of India and from the Punjabi diaspora across the world. Well-known artists, singers and even sportspeople drop by regularly to show support.

The international community has also sat up and taken notice. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, more than a hundred British MPs and dozens of academics and intellectuals from across the world have asked India's federal government to heed the farmers' calls.

The protests are neither led nor backed by any of the mainstream political parties of India, and have remained non-violent. Any violence that has taken place in the 130-odd days since the protests first started in Amritsar in Punjab was perpetrated by police and paramilitary forces, who dug trenches and blocked roads with concrete boulders to stop the protesters from reaching New Delhi.

Learning from the diaspora

The experience of the Punjabi, especially Sikh, diaspora in North America has significantly shaped the understanding of the farm laws. The first Punjabi farmers landed in North America over a century back, and have witnessed first-hand, especially since the 1970s, how rural life was transformed as small farmers were edged out because of increasing indebtedness.

They see in the laws an attempt to replicate that "failed" model in India. There is also a good understanding among the leadership of the urban bias in policy making in India. For example, the need for crop diversification in Punjab has been spoken of for years. But according to one estimate a measly sum has been spent on it by governments in the past three years while purse strings are liberally loosened for construction of dozens of flyovers and erecting of statues.

The tenets of Sikhism have been a source of strength for the protesters. Founded in

the 16th century as a reaction to the caste system of Hinduism, the dominant religion of India, Sikhism stresses the breaking of caste barriers.

Disinformation

The battle remains unequal. The mainstream media in India, a few honourable exceptions aside, tends to toe the official government line. In the initial weeks of the protest, a concerted effort was made to paint the protesters as separatists or militants, supported by India's enemies.

The protesters took to social media to dispel the misinformation, and even embarrassed some of the private TV networks hostile to them by boycotting them publicly. When the attempts to defame the protests failed, the federal government renewed talks initially started in October. The tenth round of talks took place on 20 January 2021. The government offered to put the laws in abeyance for 18 months for a committee to study them.

But the farmers' leaders insist that the laws should be repealed, believing that the government has negotiated in bad faith.

Earlier this month, an attempt by the Indian Supreme Court to form a committee to resolve the crisis failed to take off when it became apparent that most of those

nominated to the committee had previously expressed their support of the farm laws.

A symbolic show of strength by farmers is being planned for India's Republic Day. The day, traditionally used as a platform to celebrate the government's military might with a display of its arsenal of battle tanks, missiles and jets, will also see a parallel 'farmers' parade' of tractors in New Delhi.

Private sector investment

India's federal government has tried to make the three laws acceptable by arguing that these would unshackle the country's agricultural sector, opening it up for much-needed private sector investments. It has said the move is akin to the economic reforms of 1991.

However, there already exists a widening trust deficit between farmers and the federal government. The Modi government has more than once in the past six years promised to double farm incomes, and even announced measures seemingly to achieve that objective, but failed to deliver.

The farmers have witnessed how urban areas have suffered in the past couple of years because of economic decline, and know that the

land they own is what separates them from joining millions of migrant labourers, many of whom had to walk home hundreds of kilometres during the coronavirus lockdown.

The farm laws come in the wake of economic decline, a dip in consumer demand and industrial production, and increasing joblessness since November 2016, when Modi demonetised Rs 500 and Rs 1000 notes, which jolted the Indian economy.

An underprepared goods and services tax regime rolled out seven months later in July 2017 hurt any hopes of an economic revival. According to surveys conducted by non-governmental organisations, the lockdown between the third week of March 2020 and June pushed millions into poverty.

At the protest sites, the narrative is that these three moves were meant to uproot smaller businesses to benefit the bigger players, and the farm laws have been brought in to replicate the model in the agricultural sector.

It's not the middlemen

Farm leaders are convinced the real objective of the farm laws isn't to rid the government-run grain markets (operating mostly in Punjab, parts of Haryana

and Rajasthan and western Uttar Pradesh) of "middlemen", but to completely destroy them.

Farmers in these regions bring their produce of wheat and paddy (the unmilled rice crop) to the markets, and get an assured sum of money per quintal, called the minimum support price (MSP). They know how farmers in the eastern province of Bihar suffered once the government-run grain markets were discontinued there in 2005-06, and the lot of the farmers in the rest of the country where such markets do not exist.

India, suffering from food grain scarcity and having to import grains for its fast-growing population in the 1960s, turned to American agronomist Norman Borlaug's model of the so-called Green Revolution, focussing on high-yielding varieties of wheat and paddy.

The region chosen for the model to be rolled out was the well-irrigated province of Punjab and nearby areas. To encourage farmers of the region to grow wheat and paddy, the government promised MSP, which meant they would not have to rely on the vagaries of an open market.

Deep distrust

Now, the backers of the

farm laws argue that farmers of the region should get out of excessive wheat and paddy cultivation as the country's godowns (warehouses) are bursting with grains. However, few are convinced of the genuineness of the federal government's intent.

Farmers, leaders and activists say the farm laws are a ploy to pave the way for corporate groups to take over farming by weakening the government-run grain markets. This, they believe, would enable the revenue-starved federal government to exit its responsibility of paying MSP amounting to nearly three trillion rupees to the farmers. There are increased misgivings about the fact that one corporate group, known for its proximity to the governing party, has already taken to buy land and godowns in Haryana from 2017 onwards.

There have been suggestions, including in the country's mainstream newspapers and TV networks, that the protest should be crushed.

India honours Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi as the "father of the nation". We shall soon know if its rulers can bring themselves to honour the Mahatma's method of non-violent protest, or Satyagraha, which he perfected in South Africa more than a century ago. **DM/MC**



Farmers shout slogans as they participate in a protest at the Delhi-Singhu border.

New ECA report shows that tackling educational attainment gaps can uplift African women entrepreneurs

By Special Correspondent, Addis Ababa

A new report finds educational attainment gaps limit the success of women-owned businesses in Africa while offering solutions to tackle the imbalance.

The UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) released its report on women's entrepreneurship today, which studies data from tens of thousands of African entrepreneurs and firms to establish links between education, ac-

cess to finance and improved productivity.

First, the report reveals that education is a critical factor for productive female entrepreneurship in Africa. For instance, women with primary education or less are 27 times more likely to have started a business by necessity than those with higher attainment driven by opportunity.

Necessity-driven entrepreneurs lack productive and innovative activities which could transform their businesses. In comparison,

opportunity-motivated entrepreneurs are more likely to operate in profitable sectors and are expected to add about 17 more jobs in the next five years.

Second, increasing women's educational attainment can improve their ability to own a bank account and save for business. Women with secondary education are 51 times more likely to have a bank account and 22 times more likely to save than those with lower attainment.

Finally, findings show a positive link between access to finance and women's business practices and performance. Firms with credit innovate more, purchase more assets and borrow more from banks than those that are financially constrained.

The Commission's Director for the Gender, Poverty and Social Policy Division, Ms. Thokozile Ruzvidzo, said: "Women's entrepreneurship is recognized as the biggest yet underutilized opportunity for sustained economic growth and social development."

While Africa leads the world in terms of numbers of female entrepreneurs, they largely start a business by necessity, tend to be smaller and face more barriers in securing support and investment.

Ruzvidzo added: "Our report examines the factors behind this context and identifies evidence-based recommendations, which will guide governments in crafting conducive policies so that all women have adequate education, skills and resources to run, grow and sustain lucra-

tive businesses. "Successful female entrepreneurship is not only a catalyst for women's economic empowerment and regional self sufficiency but is also essential to recover from the economic impacts of COVID-19."

The report recommends African countries to focus on increasing women's education beyond primary schooling and enforcing laws to remove barriers to education such as early marriage and pregnancy.

Regarding access to credit, the report urges governments to regulate gender-sensitive financial products, including digital solutions, which cater to the constraints faced by women entrepreneurs, especially those at the bottom of value chains.

It also proposes market-specific vocational education, soft and hard skills training and mentorship opportunities which prepare young women for opportunity-driven and high-value entrepreneurship.

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Towards sustainable seed systems in eastern and southern Africa

By Grace Waitira

THE AVISA project has rolled out its seed systems strategy in Tanzania, Ethiopia and Uganda with an aim to increase ESA's varietal turnover rate and boost adoption of improved varieties.

Digital seed roadmaps, increasing private seed sector and community seed producer participation, innovating digital tools and building business cases for the crops are part of the strategy.

High quality seed is a prerequisite for sustainable increase of agricultural production. Quality seed determines the potential of crop yield and return of investment on land, labor and capital. Sustainable access to quality seed of improved varieties remains a major challenge and hinders agricultural development efforts.

For decades, more than 80% of smallholder farmers in developing countries, mainly sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) and to some extent South Asia (SA), heavily rely on farm saved seed of non-improved varieties.

ICRISAT and partners in the Accelerated Varietal Improvement and Seed Delivery of Legumes and Cereals in Africa (AVISA) project have designed and rolled out a sustainable seed production and delivery strategy involving diverse actors in Tanzania, Ethiopia and Uganda as part of larger efforts to strengthen the national seed systems in East and Southern Africa.

The project worked with Tanzania's national groundnut and sorghum seed systems teams to co-develop digital seed roadmaps for five groundnut varieties (Nachingwea 2009, Massasi 2009, Naliende 2009, Mnanje 2009 and Nachi 2015) and three sorghum varieties (Macia, NACO Mtama I, NACO HI) prioritized for promotion.

It also meant to facilitate involvement of seven seed companies to produce and avail foundation and certi-

fied seed of groundnut and sorghum across Tanzania (Lima Africa Ltd, Mbozi Highlands Economic Group Ltd, Alssem Ltd, Agriseeds Ltd, Temnar Seed Ltd, IFFA Seed Co, Dodoma Agricultural Seed Producer Association (DASPA)) in addition to the ongoing seed production and delivery work with the public seed company, Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA).

Co-develop and implement a study on business cases for groundnut and sorghum varieties. The study revealed that the return on investment for seeds and grain production ranges from 80-250% and 80-100% over the use of non-improved varieties of sorghum and groundnut, respectively, and that there is potential to increase this using high quality seed and accompanying good agronomic practices.

Co-develop and launch the Seed Revolving Fund Initiative, Youth Engagement and Gender Inclusion (SRF-YEGI).

The initiative identified four commodity corridors for groundnut and sorghum in Tanzania—Southern Zone corridor, Southern Highlands corridor, Western Zone corridor and Central Zone corridor.

In the south, the Southern Highlands corridor includes Mbeya Region. It supplies Zambia and parts of DR Congo. The Southern Zone Corridor comprises Mtwara area that, mainly supplies Dar es Salaam.

The Central Zone corridor including Dodoma, Singida and parts of Manyara has its produce going to Dar es Salaam or Arusha and to Kenya. The region has the potential to supply sorghum and groundnut to neighboring Rwanda, Congo, Burundi, Uganda, Kenya and Zambia.

The Western and Lake Zones Corridor comprise Tabora, Shinyanga and the surrounding areas. The produce from this corridor is sold to Rwanda, Burundi and parts of DR Congo.

Dr Akpo Essegbembon, Seed Specialist, ICRISAT-ESA,



says the project activities including trainings, on-farm activities and seed delivery system innovations have not been disrupted by COVID-19.

The innovations he mentions include seed revolving fund initiatives for sorghum and groundnut value chains in Tanzania, Tanzania that can boost access to quality seeds of improved varieties in rural regions. Also, SEEDx, a data collecting mobile application is being rolled out with an intent to collect, organize and make robust data available to all the users.

Additionally, a digital plan of work has been developed for Uganda. A data collection tool has been developed with National Semi Arid Resources Research Institute (NaSARRI) scientists to study the influence of the brewery industry in enhancing sorghum seed sector development.

seed revolving fund was also initiated with NaSARRI

based on the Tanzania experience.

NARO holdings Ltd, NARO-Uganda's business wing, has already received groundnut breeder seed for bulk-ing and production of foundation seed, besides closely engaging seed companies (Equator seeds & Pearl seeds) and seed certification agency. NARO is Uganda's national agricultural research organization.

The AVISA Project aims to increase the rate of varietal turnover. The project is funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

It consolidates gains made by earlier initiatives Tropical Legumes III, HOPE-II and HarvestPlus - all funded by the BMGF - while refocusing the work to improve the breeding and seed delivery systems of CGIAR and national agricultural research systems in seven countries of Sub-Saharan Africa.

Lake zone TMDA's lab to bolster quality of disinfectants, antiseptics

By Correspondent Devota Mwachang'a

IN 2006, the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) expanded its wings in the rock city of Mwanza by establishing zonal offices in a move aimed at improving services in the lake zone regions of Mwanza, Shinyanga, Simiyu, Mara, Geita, and Kagera.

The authority also works closely with the authorized country's entry points such as Mutukula, Sirari, Rusumo, Kabanga, Mwanza lake port, and Mwanza airport.

As it is to the TMDA's headquarters, the Lake zone office is tasked to do a number of activities such as carryout inspection of regulated products, respective premises, and ports of entry; issuing of business, import and export permits; post-marketing surveillance; handling customer complaints and feedback; and premises registration.

But, taking samples to TMDA's Dar es Salaam laboratory, becomes hectic, the situation that made the authority establish a modern lab in Mwanza city, which is one of the centres of excellence for testing of disinfectants and antiseptics in Tanzania and the region at large.

The Mwanza laboratory according to TMDA's lake zone manager, Sophia Mziray says the ultra-modern lab will be among the best in the African continent and intends to ad-

dress various challenges including issues of quality of disinfectants and antiseptics.

Disinfectants are liquid chemical compounds designed to inactivate or kill harmful microorganisms on inanimate surfaces. Antiseptic is a chemical agent that inactivates microorganisms on external surfaces of the human body so that they do not enter the body and cause diseases.

"We are in the process of making the facility one of the largest, best, and most efficient laboratories for testing samples within the Southern African Development Community (SADC)," Mziray told a team of journalists who visited the lake zone-based laboratory to observe various activities conducted at the facility including testing, medical equipment, and reagents

She further notes that such improvements will go together with the provision of capacity building training for the staff and procurement of modern equipment to make it more efficient.

According to the official, all the preliminary preparations have been completed including documentation and feasibility study. The facility will also carry out tests of medicines, medical devices and reagents from other neighboring regions. "This also serves money and time," she stresses.

"The authority will also provide education to the public to increase their understand-



ing on quality, safety, and effectiveness of the products."

"We want the public to have a good understanding of the reagents and disinfectants because they are part of the regulators; they should be able to identify and report side effects to our offices," she adds.

Mziray explains that the six regions in Lake Zone still face challenges in the control of medicine, reagent and medical devices importation, taking into accounts that most of the time medicines are imported through formal and informal borders, "but we're

working hard to end this endemic problem."

The lake zone office requested municipal councils within the six regions—Geita, Mwanza, Shinyanga Kagera, Simiyu, and Mara to appoint inspectors who will collaborate with TMDA staff in fighting against illegal importation of the medicines and medical equipment.

Lameck Kapilya, a drug analyst from TMDA Lake Zone lab says: "In our laboratory, we have high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) which is used to measure the level of the active pharmaceutical ingre-

dent in the drug being tested."

Kapilya says the HPLC uses reference standards which are the active ingredients of a standard drug in comparison to the sample being studied whose standard is being sought to satisfy its quality. "That's why we're saying that our lab is one of the best in the east and central African region."

TMDA Manager for Communication and Public Education, Gaudensia Simwanza the authority has a 'stand-alone lab' in Mwanza Region which has met the quality criteria recognized by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Simwanza added that testing results provided from the lab are unquestionable.

The laboratory has received sample tests conducted in Germany and South Africa but the test results from TMDA laboratory became a solution," she stressed.

Acting Head of Lake Zone Laboratory, Bugusu Nyamweru said the laboratory is responsible for analyzing various pharmaceutical products through its chemistry and microbiology laboratories.

AWF extends virtual safari programme to educate stakeholders on threats to pandemic-stricken conservation communities

WASHINGTON, DC

AFRICAN Wildlife Foundation hosted its first ever virtual safari to Tanzania in October, which focused not only on giving participants a real taste of the safari experience, but offered an opportunity to learn from AWF experts about pandemic threats, including efforts to conserve wildlife and support wildlife communities.

The success of this event led to the creation of a virtual safari series to continue in 2021. AWF announced the additional

events - guided online tours to Uganda (next Thursday, January 28) and a third in Zimbabwe in March.

The primary goal of AWF Virtual Safaris is to engage its supporters with special access and offerings providing tangible take-aways about the connection between the tourism industry, wildlife, and community livelihood in African communities working to protect endangered and threatened wildlife.

This unique formula has made a difference over the past year and helped the or-

ganization to conduct a highly successful emergency response to COVID-19.

AWF Safari Program Manager Carter Smith said: "We launched the virtual safaris series for our members and future travelers but realized along the way that there were benefits for other stakeholders.

These virtual safaris are not only a creative way to take our folks on safari during this strange time of restricted travel, but they are a terrific way to show solidarity with our partners in the safari industry

as well as to highlight the important work that we are doing."

AWF Trustee Stephen Golden said: "AWF created the Virtual Safaris event for our group of 12, whose planned in-person safari was squashed by COVID-19. On what would have been our first day in the bush, we were joined on our video call by a top-rated Tanzanian guide and a couple of AWF staff members.

They tailored the event like a fireside chat and spoke to us about what was happening as a consequence of the pandemic

and the impact of dramatically reduced tourism. They then took us on a drive through the Serengeti right from our living room."

In addition to helping with awareness, AWF Virtual Safaris program amplifies an emerging theme as part of AWF's new 10-year vision strategy, launched in 2020. Conservation investments are currently dispersed and disjointed, protecting islands of wildlife and wildlands.

AWF believes funds must be redirected to larger landscapes and ecosystems.

Congressional Democrats face challenges in repealing Wall Street-friendly rules

WASHINGTON

WITH Democrats controlling the Senate, progressives want to repeal the Trump administration's Wall Street-friendly rules, but they may struggle to win enough votes in a thinly divided Congress and risk obstructing President Joe Biden's agencies from writing stricter new rules, said lobbyists and legal experts.

Sherrod Brown, expected chair of the Senate Banking Committee, said this month he was drawing up a list of rules passed by Trump regulators that he hopes to kill using the Congressional Review Act (CRA), a 1996 law that allows Congress to reverse recently finalized federal regulations.

Since 2017, regulators have eased dozens of rules created following the 2009 financial crisis and in the decades before, arguing they were outdated and stymied economic growth. Liberals say the changes saved Wall Street tens of billions of dollars while increasing systemic risks and hurting consumers.

Reversing rules through an agency's internal process can take years whereas the CRA allows Congress to swiftly kill rules with a simple majority and the president's approval.

Democrats, who already led the House of Representatives, on Wednesday took working control of the Senate, with Vice President Kamala Harris holding a tie-breaking vote.

But with such a wafer-thin margin, Brown may struggle to win vital support from moderate Democrats, especially from those who have publicly supported similar rule-changes in the past.

Several centrists, for example, voted for a 2018 law easing post-crisis banking rules and have backed bills containing rules similar to those implemented in 2020 by the securities regulator which critics say muzzle shareholders.

"It's a lot harder than people think to get something changed via the Congressional Review Act, particularly with thin majorities," said Paul



A Wall Street sign is pictured outside the New York Stock Exchange in the Manhattan borough of New York City, New York, U.S., October 2, 2020. File photo

Merski, an executive at the Independent Community Bankers of America who lobbied in 2017 to reverse a rule banning forced arbitration via the CRA.

Issues related to bank capital requirements and liquidity may be too arcane to compete for limited Senate floor time with healthcare, labor and immigration measures, said Gregg Gelzinis, a senior policy analyst at liberal Washington think tank the Center for American Progress, which is discussing CRA issues with lawmakers.

"That education process is underway now to feel out which of these rules can get unanimous support in the caucus," he said.

Potential candidates could include a December rule relaxation that allows banks to hold more risky deposits, and a rule which could force banks to lend to contentious sectors, such as fossil fuel companies, said Gelzinis.

Brown's office said it will consult with Biden's new regulators on which rules the agencies can fix and which

would require congressional action. His office did not identify specific rules, but flagged those which "gutted fair housing protections, undermined state consumer protection laws, and threatened" financial stability.

Cam Fine, a seasoned lobbyist and CEO of Washington consultancy Calvert Advisors, said recent consumer finance rules which progressives say do more harm than good would be savvy political targets, as Democrats generally agree on the need to boost consumer protections.

"Brown would be more successful if he employed the CRA on consumer-focused issues - I think that's where he could unite his caucus," he added.

NOVEL TERRITORY

The CRA allows a new Congress to reverse rules passed during the final 60 working days of the previous Congress.

Before Trump took office pledging to slash red tape,

the CRA had been used successfully once. Republicans subsequently used it to reverse 16 rules created by Barack Obama administration regulators, according to Daniel Perez, senior policy analyst at George Washington University's Regulatory Studies Center.

Democrats, however, have never successfully used the CRA, according to Perez, and may veer into novel legal territory where their ultimate goal is to make rules tougher rather than scrap them. That's because once a rule is reversed using the CRA, agencies cannot write a "substantially" similar rule.

While that is a vague provision

that has never been tested, agencies have generally avoided revisiting rules Congress has overturned, said Perez.

"Where perhaps Democrats might want to do something more stringent, I think that might give them pause," he said.

Navigating this provision is part of the discussions, said Gelzinis. Progressives may want to rewrite some rules but could risk legal challenges arguing the rule is substantially similar.

"The overall guiding principle here is what is the most efficient way to undo this universe of Trump harms," he said. **Agencies**

Elderly care services get smarter in China

By Jin Chen

RECENTLY, senior resident Zhou Jufang living in Chongwen community, Laizhou, east China's Shandong province was suddenly struck by hypoglycemic and felt dizzy.

At the critical moment, the empty nester, whose antianemic drugs had all been used up, pressed an emergency button in her room, and soon drugs were delivered to her by social workers who received her call at the community service hall.

The "one-button" emergency call system, based on the Internet+ strategy, is a service tailored by Chongwen community for senior parents whose children have moved away from home in case of emergency situations.

Once the seniors need help after emergency happens, they can press the button on a pager to inform the social workers at the community service hall.

"Immediately after they press the button, relevant information will show up on a big screen of the community service hall and pushed to the phones of social workers, including the callers' names and addresses," said Zhang Songchun, deputy director of Chongwen community.

The service is one-step, and social workers are also standing by 24 hours a day, so that they can help the seniors solve emergencies and difficulties at any time, Zhang added.

Apart from the emergency call system, a smart watch that automatically calls for help when emergency happens is also very popular recently.

It has a nanosensor that monitors the heart rate, blood pressure and blood oxygen level of the wearer. When a wearer feels uncomfortable or emergency happens, the watch will inform the wearer's families at the earliest time, and service staff will also contact the wearer and his or her families immediately, so as to ensure the wearer receives timely help and avoid unfavorable situations.

Many seniors are facing various obsta-



Employees of a nursing home in southwest China's Chongqing municipality instruct seniors to use smart fitness devices, Dec. 8, 2020. File Photo

cles living at home, for instance, the lack of attendance and mobility difficulties. On a recent expo of senior care services held in east China's Jiangsu province, barrier-free prototype rooms designed for senior residents were exhibited, offering technical solutions for the seniors who want to enjoy quality care at home.

In the prototype rooms are cupboards with lift system whose height can be ad-

justed by remote controllers, as well as rotating closets equipped with remote-control hangers and special grabber tools which enable seniors to tidy up and fetch their clothes even on a wheel chair.

Apart from barrier-free home decor ideas, multiple new home care technologies were also exhibited in the prototype rooms at the expo, including single-operator electric patient lifts, rehabilitation

beds, and rehabilitation systems that turn rehabilitation training into leisure games.

All of these can help with the daily life of the seniors with partial disabilities and groups in need of special care, and meet their demands of rehabilitation.

The smart elderly care services couldn't have been meticulous without the strong support and guarantee from big data platforms.

As a pioneer of smart elderly care, Changning district of Shanghai has launched a smart big data platform to better its elderly care services, incorporating seniors' identities, relevant policies and consultants.

It is also connected with the municipality's data base of elderly care services. The platform covers all senior residents who live alone in the district.

People's Daily



CURRENT NEWS
DSE chief dares students to invest in stocks, shares

Page14



TOP VIEW
Sentry to provide Refinitiv with open-source data to tame illicit flows

Page14



VIEW FROM THE TOP
Buckreef's gold project development ticks all the right boxes

Page15

IMED Foundation grooming Don Bosco solar energy technicians

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

VOCATIONAL students from Don Bosco Centres across the country will be groomed to become solar energy systems assembling and servicing manpower thanks to a two year 'Tanzania Renewable Energy Business Incubation' backed by US based Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

IMED Foundation's Programme Manager, Junior Ndesanjo said that during the incubation period, students from Don Bosco centres will be equipped with practical knowledge on how to install and service solar energy systems so that they can provide the services to clients who use the clean energy mode.

Ndesanjo said through the TAREBI Phase II program, the technicians will be under incubation for much of the year with regular field operations. The students will also be trained on how to write business proposals, marketing and sales as well as financial management.

"Under the program, IMED Foundation will also provide mentorship and coaching on various aspects relating to the business of solar system management and deployment while linking them to financial institutions to access loans for capital to start their own businesses," he said.

To start with, 40 vocational training graduates from Iringa, Dodoma, Dar es Salaam and Ruvuma are already enrolled for incubation. Furthermore, Ndesanjo said his foundation has appointed mentors who are providing guidance to the students.

"Later on, those who perform well will be sent to India for a study visit to learn and gain experience from



Some of the beneficiaries of IMED Foundation's solar energy incubation program undertaking practical training in Dar es Salaam last week. Photo: Beatrice Philemon.

the country's successfully solar company peers," the IMED Foundation Program Manager noted saying India is a world leader in rural electrifi-

cation through solar systems. "Our business incubation program is designed to empower youths with limited resources to

start the entrepreneurial journey while existing businesses are helped to grow bigger," he added while stressing that individuals are providing with a range of customized services.

TAREBI Phase II is being implemented by IMED Foundation and SELCO Foundation of India.

The program's Incubator Coordinator, Haika Donath said so far, they have helped 80 percent of the students formalize their businesses by registering with Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA).

"But we have also helped them get markets for solar system installation in Iringa and Dodoma Regions with public confidence in their work being boosted," Donath said adding that the incubatees are also keep records of the businesses and clients being served.

She paid tribute to the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and SELCO Foundation of India for both financial and technical support which has enabled Don Bosco vocational trainees beginning to serve the market especially in rural areas where national grid electricity is not available.

One of the program's beneficiaries, William Kaduma from Iringa lauded IMED Foundation and the donors for coming up with a game changing experience in their careers.

"The program has opened my eyes and now I see opportunities in the market which I couldn't see before," Kaduma said while noting that apart from helping deployment of clean energy sources in the country, the program has also enabled them to employ themselves.

Slow Covid-19 vaccine rollouts delay world economic recovery

NEW YORK

THE world economy is facing a tougher start to 2021 than expected as coronavirus infections surge and it takes time to roll out vaccinations.

While global growth is still on course to rebound quickly from the recession of last year at some point, it may take longer to ignite and not be as healthy as previously forecast. The World Bank already this month trimmed its prediction to 4% in 2021 and the International Monetary Fund will this week update its own outlook.

Double-dip recessions are now expected in Japan, the euro area and UK as restrictions to curb the virus's spread are enforced. Record cases in the US are dragging on retail spending and hiring, prompting President Joe Biden's new administration to seek an extra \$1.9 trillion worth of fiscal stimulus.

Only China has managed a V-shaped recovery after containing the disease early, but even there consumers remain wary with Beijing partly locked down. High frequency indicators tracked by Bloomberg Economics point to a troubling start to the year

with advanced economies beginning on a weak note and emerging economies diverging.

"That's a reflection of the hard reality that, ahead of widespread distribution of the vaccine, a return to normality is an unlikely prospect," said Tom Orlik, chief economist at Bloomberg Economics. It's a stark outlook facing policy makers after \$12 trillion worth of fiscal support and trillions in central bank money printing failed to cement a recovery. Those from the Federal Reserve meet this week.

Market Optimism
Even as the economic outlook has darkened as the weeks of 2021 ticked by, financial markets have continued to rally on optimism government stimulus and the vaccine roll out will drive a recovery. Global stocks hit an all-time high last week.

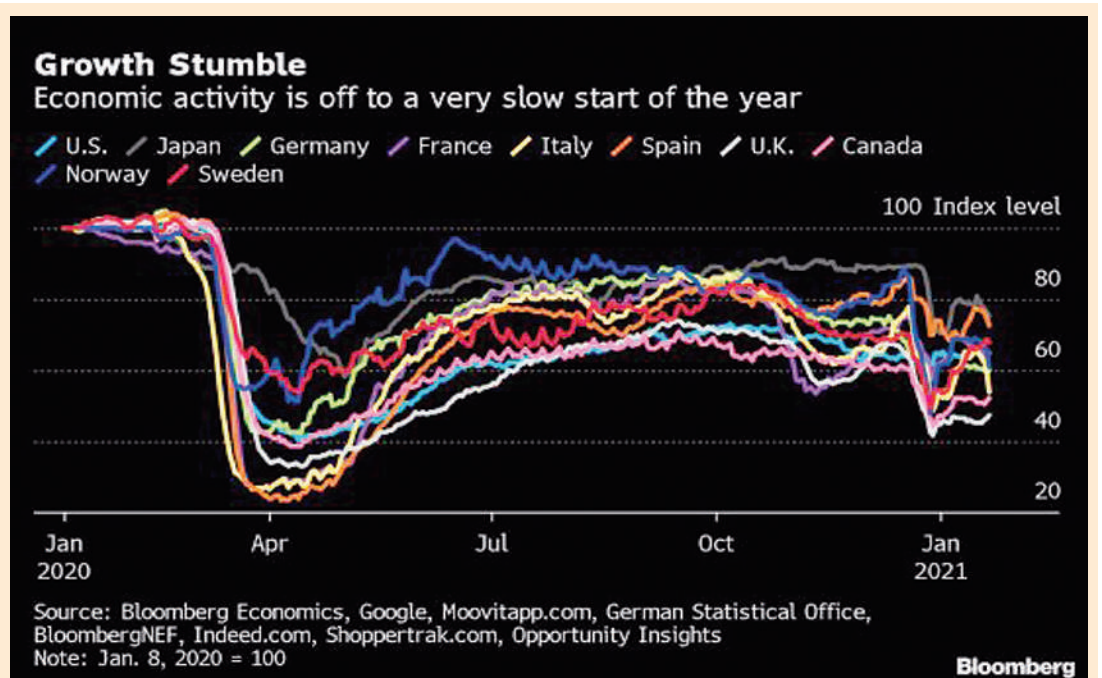
The unevenness is likely to feature in remarks by global leaders including Chinese President Xi Jinping, his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel and others who will speak at an online event the World Economic Forum is holding from January 25 to January 29 instead of its usual meeting

in the Swiss ski resort of Davos. The US, Britain and European Union are delivering vaccines, setting up a scenario where some parts of the world reach herd immunity while others lag, especially poorer economies.

The World Health Organisation will warn rich nations on Monday that their economies could be hurt unless they help developing countries speed up vaccination programs, the Financial Times reported, citing a study commissioned by the International Chamber of Commerce.

If the rollout of vaccines in poorer countries maintains its current trajectory, advanced economies faces an output loss of up to \$2.4 trillion of their annual gross domestic product before the pandemic because of disruptions to trade and supply chains, the WHO will say based on the ICC research, according to the FT.

"While there is light at the end of the tunnel, there is still a long and difficult road ahead before we are out," said Erik Nielsen, group chief economist at Unicredit SpA. "So long as the pandemic terrorises part of the world, normality will not be restored anywhere."



A graph depicting performance of the world's major economies.

The optimistic outlook rests on authorities getting the vaccine out on a material scale by mid-year and neutering the threat of more transmissible variants of the virus. The ongoing provision of easy monetary policy and hope that governments won't pull back their sup-

port prematurely as some did after the financial crisis should also assist. Lockdowns and other restrictions on movement also appear to be having less of a detrimental economic impact this time than last year as consumers and business have found ways to adapt. And China's lead

in the global recovery shows what's possible once the virus is controlled. "The first quarter will be worse than we had thought," said Shaun Roache, Asia Pacific chief economist at S&P Global Ratings in Singapore. "But we see a delayed, not derailed recovery."

More income for farmers as coffee price increases by 15 percent

KIGALI

FARMERS are set to earn more from their coffee produce thanks to a 14.8 percent increase in coffee farm gate price from Rwf216 in January 2020 to Rwf248 a kilogramme now. The new price will be effective this 2021 farming season, that started last week on January 20, 2021.

It implies that a farmer will earn Rwf32 more money per kilogramme of coffee they sell compared to the previous price. It was set by the National Agricultural Export Development Board (NAEB) and announced in a statement issued last week by the board's CEO, Claude Bizimana.

The Rwanda Coffee Cooperatives' Federation (RCCF), which represents coffee growers in the country, welcomed the new price, stating that it is an encouragement, especially during the challenging times occasioned by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Fulgence Sebazungu, the president of RCCF said that the farmers had been expressing concern over low coffee price which were disproportionate with their efforts. Through



Rwandan coffee farmers at work.

the price has not yet reached the desired level for the farmers, Sebazungu said, the increment made on the coffee cherry price is commendable.

"Having the price for coffee cherries increase, instead of going down during this Covid-19 period, is a motivation to the farmers for them to get interested in taking care of their coffee trees for to more yields," he said.

NAEB said that the farm gate price was set after it considered market price fluctuation and other factors that would influence the coffee business at large. They include production costs and other attendant costs as well as prices at international market. US Dollar inflation and coffee pricing at New York Commodities Market are other major factors, it indicated.

For instance, NAEB pointed out that the unit price of one Kilogramme [of processed coffee] in Rwanda has increased by 12 percent, the international coffee price by 14% (beside Covid19 pandemic) while the US \$ inflation increased by 5.3 percent, all in comparison to the previous season.

"This new price is expected to boost farmers' morale, help improve production and attract more people into coffee growing," said Pie Ntwari, NAEB's Communication Specialist. The biggest market for Rwanda is mainly in Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, South Africa, Nigeria, China, Germany and South Korea, among others.

During the 2019/2020 fiscal year, Rwanda's coffee exports generated over \$60.4 million, a decrease of about 12 percent compared to \$68.7 million in 2018/2019, according to NAEB's June 2020 report that compares the performance of the agricultural export in 2019/2020 and that in 2018/2019.

Coffee export volumes reduced by 9 percent to over 19.7 million kilogrammes in 2019/2020 from over 21.6million kilogrammes in 2018/2019. The average export price of coffee was \$3.06 in 2019/2020 down from \$3.18 a kilogramme in 2018/2019, a reduction of 3.7 percent. Rwanda targets to earn \$95 million from coffee exports by 2024.

DSE chief dares students to invest in stocks, shares

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

STUDENTS from higher learning institutions have been encouraged to invest in listed companies floated instruments at Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange to make easy money but also as a means of saving for the future.

Speaking during DSE Scholar Investment Challenge awarding ceremony of students who had excelled in a competition to invest profitably in listed stocks, DSE's CEO, Moremi Marwa said it's high time for the students to start looking at the financial market as a profitable investment vehicle.

Marwa said if every student in the country has dreams of living better life backed by strong finances then they need to exploit investment opportunities available at the bourse. "We have been conducting the DSE Scholar Investment Challenge to sensitize and mobilise students in the country to see benefits that they can get by investing in the financial market," he said.

The DSE chief further said investing at DSE is also an assured way of saving for the future as long as one is responsible and disciplined in spending profits accrued from listed companies and other floated instruments such as bonds.

"The importance of investing while you are still a student is that in future one has a strong financial base because of dividend earned but also the possibility of selling such stocks and invest in other business ventures," he added.

Marwa warned the students against impatience once they invest in the bourse because it takes sometime before returns are made, sometimes with a thin margin hence not good for those looking for quick fix gains.

"Today we have awarded students who have done well in their scholar investing



DSE's CEO, Moremi Marwa.

challenge where the winner was able to invest 3m/- capital and gained profit of 17m/- in a period of three months only (September-December)," he noted saying such super profits are possible at the bourse provided that one makes carefully choice of in which instruments or shares to invest.

In remarks after being declared as winner of the competition, Bakari Busoro, who is a fourth year student majoring in Architecture Engineering at Ardhi University in Dar es Salaam, said the many students don't understand that the bourse is a better place to make quick money because of ignorance.

"There is need to sensitize students on the potential to make money by investing at DSE because many of us lack such information," Busoro said adding that through the competition most students are beginning to appreciate presence of the bourse as a vehicle to boost investors' economic position. The winner has given a 1m/- cash prize which he vowed to invest part of it at the stock market.

The Sentry to provide Refinitiv with open-source data to tame illicit flows



Che Sidanius, head of financial crime regulation and industry affairs at Refinitiv.

By Smart Money Reporter

REFINITIV which is one of the world's largest providers of financial markets data and infrastructure, has entered into partnership with The Sentry, an investigative and policy team that seeks to prevent African war criminals and their business networks from abusing the international financial system.

In a statement last week, Refinitiv said the partnership with The Sentry will enable to curb losses of billions of dollars through illicit financial outflows from Africa. As financial crimes and serious violence often occur in tandem, The Sentry seeks to create significant financial consequences for kleptocrats, war criminals, and their international financial facilitators.

Co-founded by George Clooney and John Prendergast, The Sentry is a strategic partner of the Clooney Foundation for Justice. The organization uses open-source data collection, field research, and state-of-the-art network data analysis technology.

It works in partnership with local and international civil society organizations, journalists, and governments to track and analyze how armed conflict and atrocities are financed, sustained, and monetized.

Through the partnership, The Sentry will provide Refinitiv World-Check with hard-to-obtain information on illicit activities and individuals who operate in Africa. Relevant data provided by The Sentry will help expand World-Check's capacity to assist companies in their efforts to meet regulatory obligations with respect to money-laundering and the financing of terrorism.

"Two decades ago, we created World-Check to assist our customers as they sought new ways to meet regulatory obligations with respect to protecting their businesses from financial crime," said Che Sidanius, Head of Financial Crime Regulation and Industry Affairs at Refinitiv.

"As we mark World-Check's 20th anniversary, we continue to bolster our dataset and grow our partner network, most recently by joining forces with The Sentry. We're proud to work with The Sentry and we look forward to identifying new ways to help halt war criminals and war profiteers as our partnership continues to evolve," Sidanius said.

Sidanius was backed by Deputy Director of Illicit Finance Policy at The Sentry, Megha Swamy who said that in order to help prevent future mass atrocities, the public and private sector must target the financial infrastructure enabling armed violence and grave human rights abuse.

"As a pioneer in using data and technology to combat financial crime, we welcome Refinitiv's expertise and global reach in the fight against war criminals and war profiteers," Swamy said while adding that by integrating The Sentry's data with World-Check, they partners will get closer to targeting those responsible for fuelling war and mass atrocities where they are most vulnerable - their money.

The World-Check Risk Intelligence database delivers accurate and reliable information to help businesses make informed decisions. It has hundreds of specialist researchers and analysts across the globe, adhering to the most stringent research guidelines as they collate information from reliable and reputable sources - such as watch lists, government records, and media searches.

CTA for in-depth analysis of benefits, shortfalls of AfCFTA before ratification

MAPUTO

EIGHTEEN days ago, the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) went into force in more than half of the African countries. Not in Mozambique though, as the country has not yet ratified it.

However, before ratifying, the national private sector, represented by the Confederation of Economic Associations of Mozambique (CTA), has called on the government to carry out an exhaustive study to ascertain the advantages and disadvantages from implementing the treaty before ratification.

One of the disadvantages of the AfCFTA is the non-tariff barriers (with the gradual elimination of customs duties over a period of 10 years) in the framework of foreign trade, which could overload public expenditure in the country's current context, according to Public Integrity Centre economist Celeste Banze. On the other hand, AfCFTA will allow greater visibility, with the circulation of Mozambican products in other countries, besides southern Africa, almost free of customs duties.

The tax reduction to the state coffers and the diversity of national product markets mentioned above are illustrative aspects on how the AfCFTA is, on the one hand, disadvantageous, but on the other, necessary for the country.

The President of the Department of Customs Tax Policy and International Trade at CTA, Kekobad Patel therefore calls on the government to make a thorough analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of the agreement before ratifying it, with a view to implementing it successfully.

In that process, Patel said consultation with the private sector is crucial, as it will play a very important role in the implementation of the treaty. Patel stressed that the analysis will - in addition to guiding the government's decisions on the agreement - also be a source of information for national entrepreneurs.

"Many entrepreneurs are still unaware of the advantages and harms of the agreement. Therefore, this year, the benefits and disadvantages of the ratification and entry into force in Mozambique of the agreement should be analysed. We need to carry out a study. The analysis will provide information on, for example, how many companies are expected to go bankrupt with the entry into force of the agreement in the country," said our interviewee.

In addition to the study, it is necessary to improve the business environment in Mozambique, Patel says, especially with regard to foreign trade and legislation. "It is necessary to put the laws and the order to work," the President of the Department of Customs Fiscal Policy and International Trade at CTA underlined.

Patel explained that the greater the improvement in doing business in Mozambique, the greater the growth in investment, both domestic and foreign, to explore the country's geostrategic advantages for doing business, in the context of the opportunities to be created by the AfCFTA.

Speaking on behalf of the private sector, Patel also warns of the need - before the entry into force of the agreement in Mozambique - to carry out reforms in industry, mainly manufacturing, as it adds value to raw materials and opens up employment opportunities for Mozambicans.

Kekobad Patel also defends a strong focus on agribusiness, because agriculture is the main source of income for more than 50% of the 30 million Mozambicans. In fact, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) points to the sectors of textiles, clothing, furs and wood and paper sectors, in addition to vehicles and transport equipment, electronic products and metals, as those most benefited under the African Continental Free Trade Agreement.

One of the great challenges for the materialisation of the agreement across the continent is the quality of infrastructure, mainly railways and roads. In this context, Patel appeals to the executive headed by President Filipe Nyusi to invest in the extension and improvement of the existing road network in the country, to facilitate the flow of national products.

Allied to communication routes, our source said it was necessary to create conditions for improving logistics, reducing transportation costs. "In all this work, to be carried out by the government before the agreement is ratified, professionalism and rigor are required", Patel concludes.

The AfCFTA envisages the creation of a single market of 1.3 billion people with a gross domestic product (GDP) of US\$3.4 billion, covering the vast majority of African countries. In the context of the implementation of the AfCFTA, UNECA forecasts a doubling, from 15 to 30%, of goods traded on the continent by 2040.



Kekobad Patel President of Department of Customs Tax Policy and International Trade at CTA.

SAB lays off 550 temporary workers

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH African Breweries (SAB), a unit of Anheuser-Busch InBev, has suspended the contracts of 550 temporary workers indefinitely with immediate effect due to the latest ban on alcohol sales, Business Times reported on Sunday.

This will reduce SAB's current workforce to 5 357, the Sunday Times business paper said, adding that staff affected received their last payment on Friday and will receive no income during the suspension. "The third alcohol ban has resulted in reduced demand for temporary workers' skills.

"We realise the impact this decision will have on 550 families who will sadly have to go without because of the uncertainty of the alcohol ban." SAB was not immediately available for comment. The workers who have lost their jobs are mostly part of the brewer's supply and logistics division and include packers and delivery personnel, Business Times said. South Africa recently banned alcohol sales for the third time as part of efforts to free up space for Covid-19 patients in hospitals burdened with alcohol-related injuries.

About 30% of local breweries have been forced to shut their doors permanently and some, including SAB, have abandoned planned investments in South Africa, where more than 165 000 people in the industry have lost their jobs since lockdowns started at the end of March.

Lisa told Business Times that no retrenchments have been made yet. SAB is currently in court challenging the government's decision to re-impose the ban and has suspended commitments to retain workers and investments, agreed as part of its merger with AB InBev.

Buckreef's gold project development ticks all the right boxes



Tanzania Gold CEO Stephen Mullooney (3rd L) and technical director Ulrich Rath (R) at Buckreef oxide mining site end last year. Photo courtesy of Tangold.

By Smart Money Reporter

IN Geita Region, a world class gold mine is currently heading towards commercial production. The Buckreef Gold Project which is a joint venture between State Mining Corporation and Tanzanian Gold Corporation, comprises the dormant Buckreef gold mine and four prospects with known mineralisation: Buckreef, Buziba, Tembo and Bingwa.

By all accounts, the project is very promising, pointing towards a modest sized gold project based on mining and processing about a million ounces of gold. According to Tangold's Technical Director Ulrich Rath, under normal circumstances, the company would have progressed towards the final step of a full feasibility study. But, after Tangold Executive Chairman, James Sinclair asked him about the project's potential, the company decided on an ambitious expansion programme comprising three key aspects.

The first move was for the company to drill 20,000 metres on the Buckreef shear zone and the results indicated that the shear zone is continuously mineralised along the surface for a distance of 1.2 kilometres. It was also discovered that the gold extends for at least 400m, possibly more. "As a result, we built our own resource model," Rath explained.

"This model contains data from 150,000kms of drilling from previous campaigns on the property, including gold assays, mineralisation and

geology. We then used that model to update our mineral resources to a measured and indicated resource estimate of two million ounces," he said. In addition, the company published inferred resources of 635,000oz and what it estimates exists in its exploration targets.

These are targets that have not yet been fully defined but Rath believes there is enough evidence to indicate the presence of gold and these targets could add up to an additional two million ounces. Next, Tanzanian Gold undertook extensive additional metallurgical test work.

"We sent samples to SGS Lakefield in Ontario, who is our lead advisor on all technical matters. As a result of this metallurgical testing, we concluded that the best economic returns could come from two plants - one plant that treats only the oxide ore and the second plant that treats only the underlying sulphide ore. "Initially, the PFS advised one plant that initially treated oxides and then sulphide material. We modified that plan to incorporate two plants," Rath added.

Production already in progress

The Tangold Technical Director further explained that the third step was to develop a detailed mine plan for the oxides. "We drilled 7,000m of grade control holes in the zone that our model had identified as having a high-grade oxide ore. We started mining and stripping what we call the oxide pit. We then built stockpiles of ore and built a test pilot mill to treat the oxides, thus enabling us to confirm the flow-sheet for a much larger oxide plant. This pilot plant has now produced gold successfully for a number of months," he noted.

Following such progress, the company has secured financing from South African based investor fund, River Fort, to provide the capital to continue expanding its oxide operation.

Subsequently, Tanzanian Gold has submitted a plan to the government to build a 40 tons per hour oxide plant with construction planned to start upon government approval later this year.

According to Rath, the plant has sufficient reserves for a six-year life of mine. Recently however, the company has

encountered several new exploration zones that could potentially add additional oxide resource.

In the space of two years, Tanzanian Gold has gone from an exploration company to a gold producer with at least four million ounces in resources and the possibility of extending Buckreef's lifespan to between 10 and 15 years. Sinclair puts the success of the project down to the company's culture and its team of highly skilled individuals.

"We had to change diametrically. An exploration company is incapable of becoming a significant producer unless it builds on its assets, its capital and most importantly, the expertise of the people involved in pursuing the goal," he stated. Sinclair is no stranger to mining in Tanzania, having begun the development of Bulyanhulu Mine in 1990.

And while there has been a lot of negative sentiment surrounding the country's mining regulations, he believes that the regulations will benefit the country's people and economy.

"We have adopted an integrated approach. So, when it comes to the construction, we have selected a few companies that we believe can do this," Sinclair stated. "We're going from an exploration company to meaningful production.

What we're trying to do is grow in progressive steps that we can manage," he concluded. Part of the story was published in Mining Review Africa No. 10 of 2020.

Nigeria now boasts 53,460 3G, 4G telecom towers - Danbatta

LAGOS

THE Executive Vice Chairman of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), Professor Umar Danbatta, has revealed that the third-generation (3G) and fourth-generation (4G) base transceiver stations (BTS) deployment in Nigeria has increased from 30,000 to 53,460 while Fibre Optic Transmission cables expanded from 47,000km to 54,725km in the last five years, resulting in improved broadband/telecoms service delivery to Nigerians.

Danbatta recently made this known at a briefing in Abuja for the new Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy, Engr. Festus Yusuf Daudu, on the functions and regulatory activities of the Commission in Abuja on Tuesday.

In the comprehensive briefing, the EVC spoke on NCC's enabling laws, mandates of NCC, the structure of NCC, implementation approach of its mandates and methodology, key focus and targets, scorecards, the new soon-to-be-unveiled Strategic Management Vision (SVP), NCC's contributions to the economy, various regulatory frameworks aimed at improving service delivery, challenges confronting the sector and proposed solutions, among others.

According to Danbatta, the effective regulatory regime implemented by the leadership of the Commission has resulted in increased deployment of infrastructure by telecoms operators, which in turn, helped to improve broadband penetration and other related service delivery in the telecoms industry.

"The BTS, fibre optic cables and other related infrastructure are central to the provision of improved service experience for Nigerians by their respective telecoms service providers," he said, adding that the licensed Infrastructure Companies (Infra-Cos) are also expected to add 38,296km to optic fibre cables when they commence full operations.

According to the EVC, as at November 2020, active telephony subscribers stood at 208 million with teledensity standing at 108.92 per cent while active Internet subscriptions were 154.9 million and broadband penetration of 45.07 per cent, among others.

He also talked on various initiatives undertaken by the Commission to ensure consumer protection and empowerment. These, according to him, include the Declaration of 2017 as Year of the Telecom Consumer, the introduction of the 622 Toll-Free Line for lodging and resolving consumer complaints and the provision of the 112 Emergency number and activation of 19 Emergency Communications Centre (ECCs).

Other such consumer-centric regulatory measures intervention, according to the EVC, include the issuance of various directions to mobile network operators (MNOs) to protect the consumers from being short-changed, ensuring the smooth transition of Etisalat to 9Mobile, consumer outreach programmes, introduction and enforcement of mobile number portability (MNP) as well as introduction of the Do-Not-Disturb (DND) 2442 to check cases of unsolicited text messages.

The EVC disclosed that the number of subscriptions to DND service has hit over 30 million as the service empowers Nigerians to be able to protect themselves from the menace of unsolicited text messages.

In recognition of the tremendous economic growth opportunities afforded by the deployment of broadband and its associated technologies, Danbatta said the Commission has positioned itself in government's drive for a digital Nigeria, as contained in the Nigerian National Broadband Plan (2020 - 2025), the National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy (2020 - 2030) and the Strategic Management Plan (2020 - 2024) of the Commission.

"The Commission will continue to put in its best in the discharge of its mandates, especially in facilitating the deployment of broadband, which is central to diversifying the Nigerian economy and national development. Also, we believe that the communications industry, under the leadership of the Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy, will experience more quantum leaps and retain its current leadership role in the telecommunications space," he said.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Write-offs being sold to unsuspecting used-vehicle buyers

JOHANNESBURG

UNSUSPECTING used vehicle buyers are purchasing cars without knowing they have been previously written off because the registration code of the vehicle - possibly through fraud, bribery and corruption - has not been amended to reflect this.

Not only does this lead to consumers purchasing a used vehicle at an inflated price but these rebuilt vehicles are often un-roadworthy and dangerous to drive and require the new owners to spend a significant amount of money to get them into a safe and roadworthy condition.

This has resulted in the South African Motor Body Repairers' Association (Sambra), an association of the Retail Motor Industry Organisation (RMI), appealing to the SA Insurance Association (Saia) to allow public access to the vehicle salvage database to allow consumers to check if a vehicle has been written off before concluding a transaction.

Inspection reports highlight the dangers

Sambra has provided Moneyweb with inspection reports and photographs of two vehicles that were previously written off, subsequently poorly repaired and then sold to unsuspecting consumers. An Audi Q5 that was written off in Cape Town in February 2019 was sold on auction as a Code 2 ('second hand vehicle') instead of Code 3 ('written

off, rebuilt vehicle'). It was then poorly repaired and ended up at a Randburg dealership, where it was sold.

The problems ranged from both chassis legs being bent and still visibly distorted to the front X-member that holds the front engine mount being missing. "The mere fact the front main X-member was not refitted is very dangerous and makes this vehicle unsafe to drive," according to the report. "The engine is leaning forward into the front radiators." The R378k purchase with '35 serious faults'

The other example involves East London-based Thabiso Mahamba, who purchased a second hand Ford Ranger from a Gauteng dealer for R378 000 in August 2020 without knowing it had previously been written off and deemed uneconomical to repair.

An inspection report lists 35 serious faults, including hydraulic brake lines being secured with cable ties, multiple structural repair issues on the frame and a front suspension that could break, collapse or shear because of the use of heated second-hand suspension parts.

'Unacceptable'

Sambra national director Richard Green said these are perfect examples of why Sambra is urging insurers to release a write-off register which can protect unsuspecting buyers. "The lack of information available to potential buyers in the used vehicle market about previously 'written off' vehicles is just



Sambra national director Richard Green.

unacceptable," he said.

Green added that access to the write-off register is arguably the only way potential used car buyers can check that previously written-off vehicles have been repaired to the correct standard. He said Sambra believes a formal, publicly accessible write-off register will minimise the illegal use of vehicle identifiers in the rebirthing of stolen vehicles and in curtailing stolen vehicle parts being used in the repair of damaged vehicles while also helping to eliminate unsafe vehicles for unsuspecting purchasers.

Green said the only way for a vehicle that has been written-off to be registered as a Code 2 vehicle rather

than Code 3 is through bribery and corruption. He said a roadworthy certificate is not of any assistance to consumers because "that part of the industry is fraught with fraud".

Green said it is difficult to know how prevalent this problem is because it "comes up from time to time and then goes away." He said Sambra has employed a full-time investigator "to build up a body of evidence."

'Significant problem'

TransUnion Africa vice president of auto information solutions Kriben Reddy said that not being able to check if a vehicle has been previously written off is a significant problem because many vehicles are being cloned. "Consumers could be better empowered and enabled through the access to additional data on a used vehicle. As it stands, consumers' access to additional information is limited," he said.

The answer is still 'no' 15 years later. Saia insurance risks GM Pamela Ramagaga said Saia has in the past been requested to make the Saia member vehicle salvage database public and this conversation has been ongoing for more than 15 years.

"However, the same reasons we gave then are still valid today. The Saia vehicle salvage database is for Saia member consumption and has been created to combat crime that the non-life insurance industry is struggling

with. It therefore was never created for public utilisation," she said.

She said Saia does not believe the database is the solution but rather effective policing of vehicles that are bought and repaired after being sold by, by auction houses for example, and that these vehicles reflect the right code in line with the Saia Code of Motor Salvage.

Ramagaga stressed it is not the responsibility of the non-life insurance industry to follow-up on a correctly coded written-off vehicle that has been sold but only to ensure that all legislative process requirements in line with the code have been adhered to by the salvage agent.

Regulatory obligation

She confirmed there is a regulatory obligation on insurance companies to amend a vehicle's registration on eNatis, for instance, to Code 3 if it is written off or to Code 4 if it is irreparable and must be permanently destroyed.

Ramagaga stressed that insurers will not be involved in the classification/coding of about two-thirds of the vehicles on the road that are uninsured. She added that there is clear complaints process in the code in cases where there are allegations that any of Saia's members did not follow the code but are yet to receive any formal complaints or report of such instances.

WORLD

Japan likely to hit COVID-19 herd immunity in October, months after Olympics, says researcher

TOKYO

JAPAN is likely to achieve herd immunity to COVID-19 through mass inoculations only months after the planned Tokyo Olympics, even though it has locked in the biggest quantity of vaccines in Asia, according to a London-based forecaster.

That would be a blow to Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga who has pledged to have enough shots for the populace by the middle of 2021, as it trails most major economies in starting COVID-19 inoculations.

"Japan looks to be quite late in the game," Rasmus Bech Hansen, the founder of British research firm Airfinity, told Reuters. "They're dependent on importing many (vaccines) from the U.S. And at

the moment, it doesn't seem very likely they will get very large quantities of for instance, the Pfizer vaccine."

Hansen said Japan will not reach a 75% inoculation rate, a benchmark for herd immunity, until around October, about two months after the close of the Summer Games.

Japan has arranged to buy 314 million doses from Pfizer, Moderna Inc and AstraZeneca Plc, and that would be more than enough for its population of 126 million.

But problems seen in vaccine rollouts elsewhere stir doubt that Japan will get those supplies on time.

Taro Kono, Japan's vaccine programme chief, said last week it would begin its first shots in February, starting with 10,000 medical workers, but



Staff wearing protective face shields amid the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak work at a reception desk at an exhibition centre in Tokyo, Japan, January 13, 2021. REUTERS

he walked back on a goal to secure enough vaccine supplies by June.

Japan is particularly vulnerable because its initial inoculation plan is dependent on Pfizer doses, which are at risk of being taken back by U.S. authorities to fight the pandemic there.

"There simply aren't enough vaccines for all the countries that Pfizer made agreements with," Hansen said.

"America needs 100 million more Pfizer vaccines to be on the safe side to reach their goals, and a lot of those 100 million would come from the Ja-

pan pile." Japan's health ministry did not immediately respond with comment on Airfinity's forecasts. Pfizer said in a statement it is working to boost capacity to meet global demand, aiming to make about 2 billion vaccine doses in 2021.

Pfizer is scaling up its Puurs, Belgium facility, which will result in a temporary impact on some shipments until mid-February. Meanwhile, the company is "working closely with all governments on allocation of doses."

Agencies

Portugal president Rebelo de Sousa wins new term

LISBON

PORTUGAL'S center-right president, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, won a second term on Sunday in an election marked by record abstention as the country battles a crippling third wave of coronavirus contagion.

The 72-year-old former leader of the Social Democratic Party, known for his warm persona and habit of taking selfies with supporters, won 61 percent of the votes, above his 52 percent win in 2016.

Still, 60 percent of voters abstained - the highest figure in Portuguese history - in part because 1.1 million voters from abroad were added to the electoral register for the first time,

but also due to hundreds of thousands of people in quarantine.

The president holds a largely ceremonial role but can veto certain laws and decree states of emergency, a power Rebelo de Sousa deployed often during the pandemic, taking parliament's lead.

"The most urgent of tasks is to combat the pandemic. This is my priority, in total solidarity with parliament and government," Rebelo de Sousa said in his victory speech.

Andre Ventura, a lawmaker for the far-right Chega party, narrowly lost out to left-wing candidate Ana Gomes in the fight for a distant second place, with 12 percent of the vote to



Gomes' 13 percent.

The result was nevertheless a significant jump for Ventura, a close ally of European far-right parties who dubs himself 'anti-system' and has fuelled fears among rights groups for discriminatory views towards minorities. His party won just 1.3 percent of votes in the 2019 legislative elections.

Rebelo de Sousa, in an apparent dig at Ventura - whose campaign catchphrase was that

he would represent the "good Portuguese" and not those who lived off the state - vowed to be a president who "stabilizes, unites, who is not only of the 'good' against the 'bad'".

COVID-19 deaths, cases surge

Masked, socially distanced and using their own pens, voters were subjected to extensive measures by local councils to prevent contagion during the voting process.

Still, almost two-thirds of Portuguese thought the election should have been postponed because of the pandemic, a poll last week by research institute ISC/ISCTE showed.

"Since the date of the elec-

tions wasn't changed, I decided to come early," said Cristina Queda, 58, who arrived at her polling station in Lisbon as soon as it opened at 8 a.m. to "avoid groups and queues".

The country of 10 million people is reporting the world's highest seven-day rolling average of new cases and deaths per capita, according to Oxford University data tracker www.ourworldindata.org.

The number of COVID-19 deaths broke records for the seventh day in a row on Sunday at 275, with hospitalizations also at an all-time high and ambulances queuing for several hours at Lisbon hospitals full to capacity.

Agencies

US still in brutal battle against COVID-19 with infections top 25m

WASHINGTON

A YEAR into the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States is still fighting a brutal battle against the virus as its total number of infections topped 25 million on Sunday.

U.S. COVID-19 cases rose to 25.1 million with over 491,000 deaths as of Sunday evening, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University.

It took the country just over a year to hit the grim milestone of 25 million infections. The first U.S. COVID-19 case was reported in the state of Washington last January.

Health experts have attributed U.S. failure to control the virus to political polarization, a rejection of science and an absence of a national strategy under the Trump administration.

The 25 million mark came as President Joe Biden is introducing new measures to bring the pandemic under control.

During his first week in office,



Biden issued a detailed new anti-pandemic strategy, pledged to boost testing, vaccinations, supplies and treatments, and mandated masks on federal lands and in inter-state train, bus and air travel. Stanley Perlman, professor of microbiology and immunology at the University of Iowa, told Xinhua on Sunday that Biden's plan will help better control the virus.

"I think that they will help. Just having a president who believes in the seriousness of the pandemic will help," said

Perlman. The soaring infections have further increased an urgency for a speedier and more effective vaccination push in the country.

The Trump administration failed to fulfill its target of immunizing 20 million Americans by the end of 2020. Biden's national vaccination campaign aims to administer 100 million doses of two-stage coronavirus vaccines in his first 100 days.

"I think that 100 million doses is feasible, but requires increases in manufacturing and more

importantly, more aid to local and state governments to enable effective vaccine distribution," said Perlman.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the country's top infectious disease expert, said Sunday that Biden's target of 100 million doses in 100 days is not a final number. "It is really a floor and not a ceiling," Fauci told CBS' "Face The Nation." "It is going to be a challenge. I think it was a reasonable goal that was set. We always want to do better than the goal that you've set."

However, a new model by scientists at Columbia University shows that "vaccines alone are not enough," said a report by New York Times on Sunday. The coronavirus pandemic in the United States has raged almost uncontrollably for so long that even if millions of people are vaccinated, millions more will still be infected and become ill unless people continue to wear masks and maintain social

distancing measures until mid-summer or later," said the report titled "Why Vaccines Alone Will Not End the Pandemic."

Moreover, the spread of a more infectious variant of the virus in the United States could make matters worse.

The new variant, first identified in Britain, has been detected in at least 22 U.S. states, according to data posted Friday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

A model developed by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the University of Washington shows that the United States is projected to see more than 566,000 COVID-19-related deaths by May 1. Taking into account multiple scenarios based on masking mandates, vaccine distribution and other behavioral changes, the model predicts that deaths in the country will not start leveling off until early March.

Xinhua

Ugandan court lifts opposition leader Bobi Wine's house arrest

KAMPALA

A Ugandan court has ordered security forces to cease surrounding the home of opposition leader Bobi Wine, whose house arrest since a mid-month presidential election has drawn international pressure, his lawyer said yesterday.

Troops have blocked the 38-year-old pop star-turned-politician from leaving his house in a suburb of the capital Kampala since he voted in the Jan 14 election where he ran against long-serving incumbent President Yoweri Museveni.

"The judge ordered that the state and its agencies should immediately vacate his property and his right to personal liberty should immediately be reinstated," lawyer George Musisi told Reuters.

Museveni, 76, who has been in power since 1986, was declared winner of the poll with 59 percent of votes versus 35 percent for Wine, who had for years denounced corruption and nepotism in his songs. He rejected the result, alleging fraud which the government denies.

Musisi said the judge also ruled that if there were any serious allegations against Wine, he should be brought before a court or police.

Police spokesman Patrick Onyango said he had no immediate comment as the ruling had not been received.

There was no immediate reaction from the government or confirmation from the court.

US ambassador Natalie E Brown had tried to visit Wine at his home, drawing an accusation of meddling and subversion from the Ugandan government.



Digital vaccine certificates could help return of international students

CANBERRA

Australian Education Minister Alan Tudge said a digital vaccine certification system could pave the way for the return of international students to the country.

Under the proposal raised by Tudge yesterday, incoming passengers to Australia who have been inoculated against COVID-19 would not have to quarantine for 14 days.

However, its success is dependent on the government finding a way to link vaccine certificates to a new digitized system for incoming passenger cards it plans to introduce in 2021.

Tudge said if a solution could be found, the certificates could be a pathway for international students to enter Australia in large numbers.

"If a vaccine works and stops the spread, and it can be rolled out effectively in source countries and we can have surety over vaccination certificates, then there is the potential to be able to bring in more international students without them having to quarantine," he told Nine Entertainment newspapers. "In part, that would be facilitated by the fact that we're digitizing the incoming passenger card. Our aspiration is that we would then be able to electronically staple an authenticated, biometrically connected vaccination certification to that card."

Xinhua

South African mutation of novel coronavirus not exposed in Russia yet - watchdog

MOSCOW

THE South African mutation of the novel coronavirus has not been exposed in Russia so far, the consumer rights watchdog Rosпотребнадзор told TASS yesterday.

"Most of the test systems being used in Russia and around the world are capable of effectively identifying different versions of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, including the South African and British ones. So far, the South African variety has not been exposed in Russia," the watchdog said in a news release.

The watchdog explained that contrary to warnings by some researchers about the risk of repeated infection with the South African strain there have been no publications in reviewed science magazines that might confirm this.

"These issues are subject to further research," the watchdog said.

Earlier, the portal Medical Xpress said citing the results of preliminary studies that the strain discovered in South Africa was fraught with considerable reinfection risks for those who have already recovered from the disease.

The South African authorities on December 21, 2020 said that a new, very aggressive variety of the coronavirus had been identified in the south of the country.

The virus marked as 501V2 triggered a second wave of the pandemic, which peaked in the middle of January. Preliminary research indicates that this variety of the coronavirus is capable of spreading extremely fast.

Agencies

Energy saving diagnosis services make industries greener

ON Enda Street, Pingshan district, Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong province, stands a high-tech firm that produces printed circuit boards - YanTat Circuit (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd.

The production of electronic information products features high energy consumption. Given the accelerated technological improvement and iteration of products, energy consumption was once a big headache for the company.

However, in September 2019, the company was named a green manufacturer by China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) for its green production and low energy consumption.

"The achievements came from an energy saving diagnosis," disclosed Han Yiwei, manager of the company's R&D division.

In May 2015, the MIIT released a plan promoting energy saving diagnosis for enterprises with weak foundation of energy management and major high energy-consuming industries, so as to further improve the efficiency of these industries and make further progress of green development.

By replacing equipment and improving management, the company constantly upgraded its energy saving approaches, Han told People's Daily. However, the deeper they went, the more they found

that they were in urgent demand of a professional "expert" that could help them better locate energy problems.

Shenzhen Green Creating Promotion Center of Living Environment, a consulting group that guides enterprises to use energy in a more efficient manner, started serving YanTat Circuit (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd. since the summer of 2019. In two months, the service provider spotted a series of energy efficiency problems of YanTat, including the inefficient compressed air system and the low utilization of the waste heat from boilers.

Han told People's Daily that the company could save 270 tonnes of

standard coals each year if it followed the transformation scheme, and now the suggestions raised by the Shenzhen Green Creating Promotion Center of Living Environment are being implemented on the production lines.

"In general, it saves 1.7 million yuan of energy cost for the company each year, and the transformation input is 1.9 million yuan, which means we can recover the cost in two years," Han said.

Over 200 energy saving diagnosis institutions served more than 4,400 enterprises, according to an official from the MIIT's Department of Energy Conservation and Resource Utilization. A total of

7,930 suggestions were raised to improve energy efficiency, which is expected to save 14 million tonnes of standard coals, the official said.

Efforts still need to be made to translate relevant suggestions into concrete projects, the official told People's Daily. The lack of capital and long pay-off period were major hindrances for some enterprises. In addition, they are also concerned that transformation projects might place an impact on production stability and safety.

On the one hand, energy saving diagnosis shall focus on key links, so as to reduce the pay-off period for enterprises. "We shouldn't expect the diagnosis to cover all

fields. On the contrary, we must analyze enterprises' key energy issues," said an executive with CEPREI Certification Body, a company that offers diagnosis services.

On the other hand, energy transformation services shall be further expanded. "After carrying out energy saving diagnosis for 2,017 enterprises in 14 industries, we launched research and pilot projects to optimize energy consumption for five high energy-consuming industries, including steel making, casting and cement," said Liu Jidong, deputy director of the marketing department of the State Grid Corporation of China.

People's Daily

UN Secretary General has good chances of getting re-elected, Russian envoy says

UNITED NATIONS

CURRENT UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has good chances of being re-elected for the second term. This opinion was voiced by Russia's Permanent Representative to the UN Vasily Nebenzya in an exclusive interview with TASS.

"Of course, the current Secretary General has good chances of re-election, but all candidates presented will be considered. However, considering the fact that Guterres has performed well as the Secretary General, it is hard to say whether there will be many of those willing to compete with him," he noted.

"I haven't heard any fundamental objections to his candidacy from anyone," the diplomat added.

The envoy noted that Guterres is greatly respected worldwide. "Despite the fact that not everyone agrees with him on everything, still, the majority of countries support his policy. So, without a doubt, he has a large support group," he explained.

In early January, Guterres announced in his letter to the General Assembly and the UN Security Council that he decided to offer his candidacy for the second term in office. The first five-year term of Guterres, 71, expires at the end of 2021.

The Secretary General is elected by the UN Security Council and is approved by the General Assembly, the term lasts for five years with a possibility of a re-election. There is no limitation on the number of terms, however, nobody occupied this post longer than 10 years.

Agencies

Disciplinary work to better serve growth

By Zhang Yi



THE discipline inspection and supervision system will be better integrated into the national governance system this year.

The move will unleash greater effectiveness in governance and serve high-quality development as the country embarks on a new journey to fully build a modern socialist country, according to a communique released on Sunday.

The communique was adopted at the closing of the Fifth Plenary Session of the 19th Communist Party of China Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, an annual meeting held in Beijing from Friday to Sunday.

The top disciplinary body vowed to better adapt to the needs of the country's modernization work and provide a strong guarantee for the beginning of the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25).

President Xi Jinping, who is also general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, addressed the session on Friday. He stressed the importance of exercising full and strict governance over the Party and a steadfast political direction in ensuring the implementation of goals and tasks set out in the Five-Year Plan.

Xi underscored that improving the Party working style, boosting clean governance and the fight against corruption constitute a journey to which there is no end. The CPC, as a major party with a 100-year history, must ceaselessly move forward with work in this regard if it is to forever preserve its advanced nature, purity and vitality, he said.

The session considered that oversight and inspection will be strengthened in implementing the country's major policies, including building a new development paradigm, deepening supply-side structural reform and improving people's quality of life, the communique said.

Efforts will be made to consolidate and expand achievements in COVID-19 prevention and control and economic and social development, increase scientific and technological strength, enhance the capacity of the industrial and supply chains and accelerate agricultural and rural modernization, it said.

The communique said the fight against corruption will be pushed forward, with the focus on investigating cases where political and economic problems are intertwined and areas with huge policy support and intensive investment and resources.

Anti-corruption efforts in the financial sector, State-owned enterprises and the political and legal systems will continue to be enhanced. The country will also strengthen international cooperation in combating corruption and tracking down fugitives and recovering their assets, it added.

Agencies

China allocates billions for needy people ahead of Spring Festival

BEIJING

CHINA has allocated 104 billion yuan (about US\$16 billion) from its central budget to fund basic living allowances for needy people ahead of the upcoming Spring Festival, an official said yesterday.

Temporary assistance and subsidies will be provided directly by local authorities to those who face dire situations due to COVID-19, said Zhang Zaigang, deputy director of the social assistance department of the Ministry of Civil Affairs, at a press conference.

Zhang urged local authorities to ensure the timely distribution of subsistence funds to people ahead of the Spring Festival, the most important traditional Chinese festival, which falls on Feb 12 this year.

Assistance should also be offered to low-income residents in the country's northern areas to help them withstand the freezing winter temperatures, Zhang said.

Over 1.8 billion yuan in heating subsidies has been distributed in northern provincial-level regions including Heilongjiang and Liaoning, figures from the ministry show.

Xinhua

Anger and grief as United Kingdom's COVID-19 death toll nears 100,000

LONDON

AS the United Kingdom's COVID-19 death toll approaches 100,000, grief-stricken relatives of the dead expressed anger at Prime Minister Boris Johnson's handling of the worst public health crisis in a century.

When the novel coronavirus, which first emerged in China in 2019, slid silently across the United Kingdom in March, Johnson initially said he was confident it could be sent packing in weeks.

But 97,939 deaths later, the United Kingdom has the world's fifth worst official death toll - more than its civilian toll in World War Two and twice the number killed in the 1940-41 Blitz bombing campaign, although the total population was lower then.

Behind the numbers there is grief and anger.

Jamie Brown's 65-year-old father died at the end of March after it was suspected he contracted COVID-19 while travelling on a train into London for work. At the time, the government was mulling a lockdown.

Told by medics to stay at home, he awoke days later with a tight chest, disorientated and nauseous, and was taken to hospital in an ambulance. He died from a cardiac arrest five minutes after arriving.

His son said the virus had damaged his lungs to the point where his heart gave up. He was a month away from retirement. "For me, it has been terrifying and harrowing to see everything that you hope for taken away. He will never be at my wedding; he will never meet any grandkids," Brown told Reuters.

"Then, you watch the death toll rising whilst ministers pat themselves on the back and tell you what a good job they have done. It changes very quickly from a personal to a collective grief." Some scientists and opposition politicians say Johnson acted too slowly to stop the spread of the virus and then bungled both the government's strategy and execution of its response.

Johnson has resisted calls for an inquiry into the handling of the crisis and ministers say that while they have not got everything right, they were making decisions at speed and have among the best global vaccination programmes. The United Kingdom's death toll - defined as those who die within 28 days of a positive test - rose to 97,939 on Jan. 24. The toll has risen by an average of over 1,000 per day for the past 7 days.

JUST UNFORGIVABLE RESPONSE

In a series of investigations, Reuters has reported how



Burials take place at a cemetery in North East London, amid the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak, in London, Britain, on Saturday. REUTERS

the British government made several errors: it was slow to spot the infections arriving, it was late with a lockdown and it continued to discharge infected hospital patients into care homes. The government's chief scientific adviser, Patrick Vallance, said in March that 20,000 deaths would be a good outcome. Soon after, a worst-case scenario prepared by government scientific advisers put the possible death toll at 50,000.

Many of the bereaved are angry and want an immediate public inquiry to learn lessons from the government's response.

Ranjith Chandrapala died in early May at the same hospital where he took passengers to and from on his bus.

His daughter, Leshie, said the 64-year-old was slim, healthy and had not missed a day of work driving buses in the last 10 years.

She said he was not issued with a face mask - she bought him one herself - and

the passengers were not told to wear them. "The government's handling of the crisis has been negligent, it is just unforgivable," she said. "People in power just sent these guys over the line unprotected."

Chandrapala stopped work on April 24 after developing COVID-19 symptoms. He died in intensive care 10 days later, with his family unable to say goodbye in person.

Early in the pandemic in March, one of England's most senior doctors told the public that wearing a face mask could increase the risk of infection. The government made face coverings mandatory for passengers in England on June 15.

Nearly 11 months after the United Kingdom recorded its first death, some British hospitals look like a "war zone", Vallance said, as doctors and nurses battle more infectious variants of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus that scientists fear could be more

deadly. On the COVID-19 front-line, patients and medics are fighting for life.

Joy Halliday, a consultant in intensive care and acute medicine at Milton Keynes University Hospital, said it was "truly heart-breaking" for staff to see so many patients die.

"(Patients) deteriorate very, very quickly, and they go from talking to you and looking actually very well, to 20 minutes later no longer talking to you, to a further 20 minutes later no longer being alive," she said.

"That is incredibly difficult for everyone."

Agencies

Iran asks Indonesia to explain seizure of tanker

DUBAI / JAKARTA

IRAN has asked Indonesia to provide details about the seizure of an Iranian-flagged vessel, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said yesterday, a day after Jakarta said it had seized Iran and Panama-flagged tankers in its waters.

Indonesia said on Sunday its coast guard had seized the Iranian-flagged MT Horse and the Panamanian-flagged MT Freya vessels over suspected illegal oil transfer in the country's waters. Khatibzadeh said that the seizure was over a "technical issue and it happens in shipping field".

"Our Ports Organisation and the ship owner company are looking to find the cause of the issue and resolve it," Khatibzadeh told a televised weekly news conference.

Coast guard spokesman Wisnu Pramandita said the tankers, seized



Panamanian-flagged MT Freya, left, and Iranian-flagged MT Horse tankers are seen anchored together in Pontianak waters off Borneo island, Indonesia. (AP)

in waters off Kalimantan province, will be escorted to Batam island in Riau Island Province for further investigation.

"The tankers, first detected at 5:30 am local time (2130 GMT on Jan. 23) concealed their identity by not showing their national flags, turning off automatic identification systems and did not respond

to a radio call," Wisnu said in a statement on Sunday. Wisnu told Reuters on Monday that the ships were "caught re-handled" transferring oil from MT Horse to MT Freya and that there was an oil spill around the receiving tanker.

He added that 61 crew members on-board the vessels were Iranian and

Chinese nationals and had been detained. Indonesia's foreign and energy ministries did not immediately comment on the matter.

The International Maritime Organization requires vessels to use transponders for safety and transparency. Crews can turn off the devices if there is a danger of piracy or similar hazards. But transponders are often shut down to conceal a ship's location during illicit activities.

Both the supertankers, each capable of carrying 2 million barrels of oil, were last spotted earlier this month off Singapore, shipping data on Reginativ Eikon showed.

Very Large Crude Carrier (VLCC) MT Horse, owned by the National Iranian Tanker Company (NITC), was almost fully loaded with oil while VLCC MT Freya, managed by Shanghai Future Ship Management Co, was empty, the data showed.

Agencies

Zhejiang, Guizhou continue deepening medical pair assistance cooperation

By Jiang Nan, People's Daily

A remote platform is now connecting the ICUs of the Taijiang County People's Hospital in southwest China's Guizhou province and the Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University School of Medicine in east China's Zhejiang province.

On the platform, a patient surnamed Li who suffered severe pancreatitis introduced his previous treatment to Li Jiangtao, a pancreatologist of the Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University School of Medicine, in the Guizhou ICU.

Upon discussion, Li Jiangtao approved the treatment adopted by the county hospital, and said to determine follow-up treatment plans based on further observation.

Two weeks later, the patient was discharged from hospital. "Having such a severe disease, I must have been transferred out-of-town to a major hospital for treatment in the past. Thanks to the experts from the Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University School of Medicine, I'm cured at home," he said.

The Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University School of Medicine started offering pair assistance for the Taijiang County People's Hospital since 2016. As of Nov. 2020, the Zhejiang hospital has sent over 70 experts to the county hospital in Guizhou in 44 batches. There are 8 to 12 doctors from Zhejiang working in the county hospital each month. In addition, short-term guidance is also offered randomly.

Medical pair assistance has been car-



Officials from Zhejiang's health commission inspect pair assistance work in Guizhou, July, 2020. File photo

ried out extensively in Guizhou province over the recent years. Under the assistance of quality medical resources from the east, the medical capability of Guizhou province has been tremendously improved.

Since 2009, Zhejiang's and Guizhou's health departments established pair assistance mechanism. So far, pair assistance has been offered by 118 hospitals in Zhejiang province to 105 medical institutions in 9 cities and prefectures in Guizhou.

Last June, the two sides signed a fourth round of framework agreement for medical pair assistance. The agree-

ment will further consolidate previous achievements in medical pair assistance, improve the treatment capabilities and comprehensive strength of the aid-receivers in Guizhou, and enhance specialty development of the hospitals that receive assistance in an all-round manner.

Wang Jian'an, top management of the Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University School of Medicine, has led expert teams of cardiovascular disease to Taijiang county for times. He offered demonstration courses on cardiac intervention surgery, and helped the Taijiang hospital establish a cardiovascular

intervention center. Patients in severe conditions in Taijiang can receive treatment guidance from and be monitored 24 hours a day by the Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University School of Medicine through the remote platform.

A one-on-one tutorial system has been formulated between Zhejiang experts and the backbone doctors of the Taijiang County People's Hospital, which helped establish an outstanding medical team consisting of gastroenterologists, gynecologists and cardiologists for the Taijiang hospital over the past 4 years.

The doctors from the Taijiang County People's Hospital are also invited to Zhejiang for further study. Pan Nianze, an internist with the Taijiang hospital successfully performed continuous renal replacement therapy for a patient after returning from Zhejiang. He said without the expertise, the patient would have been transferred out-of-town, which might not only miss the best rescuing time, but also further increase the medical cost.

In 2017, only 5 percent of the patients received by the Taijiang County People's Hospital were transferred to other hospitals, down by 40 percent from a year ago. The numbers of patients received by the hospital's outpatient and emergency departments improved 28 percent and 18 percent in 2018 and 2019, respectively. Meanwhile, the hospital also performed 25 percent more surgeries from a year ago.

People's Daily

SPORT



Simba SC's head coach Didier Gomes Da Rosa

New Simba SC coach out to fulfil club's targets

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

NEWLY-recruited Simba SC's head coach Didier Gomes Da Rosa has vowed to fulfil the club's main targets including continuously winning the Mainland Premier League's silverware.

The French tactician was officially introduced as Simba's new coach in Dar es Salaam last weekend as a successor of Sven Vandenbroeck who parted ways with the club on mutual consent shortly after handing them progression to the group stage of this season's CAF Champions League.

Da Rosa (pictured) noted he is aware that Simba are an ambitious club which needs to do well in the CAF Champions League and the Mainland Premier League competitions, as such, he called on the club to be solid to successfully fulfil their targets.

"The league is very important and it is the main target of the club because we want to play in the CAF Champions League every year hence, we need to prepare very well for the upcoming three league matches in hand," he stated.

The coach said he goes for ball possession game just like the one implored by Simba, noting he usually demands his players to put on good fight in the game by upholding the winning spirit.

"At the start of the group stage, I will demand much competence from the players and I am sure that with the quality players in the squad, I believe they will be

solid enough to go far in the competition," he said.

He moreover pointed out that the presence of a big number of passionate fans at Simba attracted him to join the club and he is sure that they will achieve a lot of success this season.

Commenting on this season's CAF Champions League's Group A which has among others, Simba, the coach insisted that each team in the group has got equal chances to do well.

He nevertheless labelled his club as an 'experiment' now while insisting that he is convinced to take Simba as far as the quarterfinals of the elite competition.

"Simba are a very good team and from what I saw during their game against FC Platinum, Simba were much better and I can visualize good things for this club in the CAF Champions League."

"I love my players but I am very demanding. When you are an experienced coach, you know the best ways to deal with your players but, above all, discipline is very important to reach high level of success," he said.

Da Rosa had joined Egypt's Ismaily SC last January but was sacked seven months later due to poor performances.

The Frenchman then signed for Sudanese giants, Al Merreikh, where he had much success.

He helped them sit on top of the Sudanese Premier League table and qualify to the CAF Champions League group stage, before deciding to leave.

Da Rosa will have an uphill battle of guiding Simba to their fourth consecutive league title.

They currently sit second, behind leaders and age old rivals Yanga.

Yanga Princesses' striker steps up quest for Women Premier League's top goal scorer gong

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

MUCH as JKT Queens' striker, Fatuma Mustapha, is still the leading goal scorer in the 2020/21 Women's Premier League, Yanga Princesses' forward, Aisha Masaka, has said she is out to challenge the former for the league's top scorer prize.

Fatuma (pictured) is leading with 20 goals, Aisha is hot on the JKT Queens striker's heels after netting 15 goals, making the battle for the women's top flight top goal scorer prize thrilling.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam recently, Aisha said for a long time Fatuma had been excelling but this season the Yanga Princesses' forward has planned to challenge the latter in scoring.

"Every season, Fatuma has been the top scorer, but this season I have planned to make sure I challenge her, the five goals' gap is not much, I'm going to score more goals in the second phase," Aisha noted.

The striker added she needs to set a good record this season, which entails laying her hands on the top flight's goal score prize and seeing to it her club wins the league's trophy.

The goal getter, who joined Yanga Princesses from Mwanza's Alliance Girls, helped her new side, currently topping the Women's Premier League, collect six points and 12 goals in the outfit's games played in Manza.

The towering striker netted five goals in the matches.

Yanga Princesses, strong contenders for the Mainland Tanzania Women's Premier League's title, maintained their winning ways after posting a comprehensive 5-0 victory over Alliance Girls in a game played at Nyamagana Stadium last week.

In the highly competitive game, both teams seemed to attack each other in turn in the opening stanza, but in the second half, Alliance Girls lost steam and allowed Yanga Princesses dominate the match.

The Women's Premier League's leaders have

for that matter ended the first phase without conceding a loss.

Yanga Princesses' head coach, Edna Lema, disclosed: "Our goal is to win the league's top honour, we have decided to make sure we win every game and I know that when we do well in every game, we can meet our target, and we also want to set a record via finishing the league with unbeaten spell."

Commenting on the 5-0 loss to Yanga Princesses, Alliance Girls' coach, Ezekiel Chobanka, noted they met the best team on the field.

The defeat was the second in a row for the Mwanza' side, which uses the Nyamagana Stadium as the home venue.

The club had previously conceded 2-1 loss to JKT Queens 2-1 at the same venue.

Chobanka stated his youngsters were not particularly strong in the midfield and they found themselves giving opponents chance to attack all the time.

He said apart from the results, Yanga Princesses seemed to be improving in every department and he has extra work to do in making his squad regroup.

"My youngsters tried to fight but they were overwhelmed especially in the midfield and the opponents dominated the attack and managed to get the victory," he said.

Edna noted she was impressed her team collected the six points in Mwanza, but disclosed the goals scored are a catalyst for them in the pursuit of the league's top honour.

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SPORTS

Aishi Manula shines but Stars' attackers struggle

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA national football team, Tafa Stars, produced an improved performance from their 2-0 defeat against Zambia to edge out Namibia 1-0 in the Group D clash of the African Nations Championship (CHAN) played at the Omnisport Stadium in Limbe, Cameroon on Saturday night.

A second-half strike by Farid Mussa was all the Taifa Stars needed to win the first match overseen by all-female match officials in a CAF senior men's tournament.

The results means Taifa Stars keep their hopes of advancing, as they are placed third in the group with three points behind leaders, Guinea, and second-placed Zambia.

Tanzania will play Guinea in their final group game at the Stade de la Réunification in Douala on Wednesday while Zambia will face Namibia at Limbe Stadium in the matches that will be played simultaneously.

Nothing less than victory will see Taifa Stars advance to the quarterfinals for the first time.

Here is how we rate the Taifa Stars players in the penultimate group stage game against Namibia.

Aishi Manula 8

He made a series of massive saves late in the game, including a marvelous save from Absalom Limbondi's free-kick near the goal.

His four saves against Namibia kept Tanzania in the tournament, making him the goalkeeper with the most saves so far in this season's CHAN.

He also had the most saves in the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) finals' group stage.

He kept Tanzania in the game and he was so far the man of the match against Namibia

Shomari Kapombe 6

He was useful on the underlap when running out of defence, but caught in behind a few times on the counter.

Bakari Mwamnyeto 7

He was the best of the two centre backs with his defensive work but also pushed on to support build up play when given the chance.

He was very impressive at the back



Senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' players participate in training in Cameroon recently to shape up for 2021 African Nations Championship (CHAN) finals. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

with numerous big blocks to cut Namibia attacks off at key moments.

Kalos Kirenga 6.5

He was generally solid though he lost possession. He made more interceptions than any other Taifa Stars player on the night.

He was impressive at clearing the ball but looked a bit ropery and had to be bailed out by Mwamnyeto sometimes due to poor positioning.

Edward Manyama 6

He had an unconvincing night. Started poorly but managed to settle down though he still got a rough night against pacy Namibia team forwards.

Deus Kaseke 6

Worked hard but was not effective going forward. He was calm and composed when in possession and he often tried that forward passing on several occasions until he was subbed after 65 minutes on the pitch.

Feisal Salum 6

He was not off it but not on it, either. He showed a few moments of brilliance with his passing. He was booked for a clumsy challenge after carelessly losing possession.

Said Hamisi 6

He started ahead of Lucas Kikoti. He found space between the lines and advanced the ball a lot. He was never a threat but knitted Taifa Star's attacks together.

Ditram Nchimbi 6

He pressed well. He gave Taifa Stars more of a presence in attack with his excellent link-play with back to goal. He is not a deadly enough goal scorer to play as a centre forward.

Ayoub Lyanga 7

He showcased some nice twists and turns but did not do anywhere near enough with the ball.

He struggled in one-on-one situations. He redeemed himself with his cross inside the box that resulted in Taifa Stars' all-important goal.

Farid Mussa 7

He was awarded the man of the match prize for his well taken goal. He clearly showcased an improvement on Yusuph Mhulu but, apart from the goal, he did not have a big influence on the game.

He missed a glorious opportunity when he shot straight at the goalkeeper but he redeemed himself with the goal.

Simba SC allays fears on Morrison's fitness

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

DAR ES SALAAM'S Simba SC's management has confirmed the club's midfielder Bernard Morrison is fit and will play for it in a special tournament organized by the outfit, known as 'Simba Super Cup', slated to kick off in the city on Wednesday.

It was reported that Morrison will be out of action for six months due to health problems.

The midfielder is struggling to nail a place in his club's first team after joining the squad from Yanga.

Morrison was on Simba's bench in this year's Mapinduzi Cup tournament's final between the side and Yanga, which took place at Amaan Stadium in Zanzibar on January 13.

He had time to feature in his club's warm up session but the squad's coaches did not give him chance to play.

His team lost 4-3 to Yanga on penalties after 90 minutes had seen the clubs locked to a 0-0 draw.

A statement issued by Simba's Board of Directors' member, Kassim Dewji, stated: "Our player, Morrison, is ill and has been advised to undergo further tests so that he can return to the field."

"For a long time he has not been on the field and he has not been training with his teammates other than participating in light training. There is a program that he has been given so he will return to the field once he undergoes surgery."

"He has not been seen play for a long time and it is clear that he has been sidelined for six months and then he will return to his best," the statement said.

After the Mapinduzi Cup competition final, it was reported that the midfielder is suffering from hernia and he will not be on the field for six months.



Simba's information officer, Haji Manara, said: "Those who think Morrison will not play and will be out of action for six months should know he is fit and he will play in the Simba Super Cup."

"I used to hear people claiming Morrison is ill, I though see him fit and he is taking part in training so those who were wishing to see the player being

sidelined are irrelevant."

"Simba are a big team in Africa and we are doing well."

The Simba Super Cup competition is expected to start in the city on January 27, involving three outfits Tout Puissant Mazembe of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Al Hilal of Sudan and hosts Simba.

Lampard sacked by Chelsea, Tuchel lined up

LONDON

CHELSEA have parted ways with Frank Lampard, with sources telling ESPN they are set to appoint Thomas Tuchel as his successor.

They informed the players not to come to the club's training base at Cobham for their planned morning session while a formal statement was prepared.

"This was a very difficult decision for the club, not least because I have an excellent personal relationship with Frank and I have the utmost respect for him," owner Roman Abramovich said. "He is a man of great integrity and has the highest of work ethics."

"However, under current circumstances we believe it is best to change managers. On behalf of everyone at the club, the board and personally, I would like to thank Frank for his work as head coach and wish him every success in the future."

"He is an important icon of this great club and his status here remains undiminished. He will always be warmly welcomed back at Stamford Bridge."

Chelsea are finalising contract talks with Tuchel, who is out of work after parting company with Paris Saint-Germain, with the German expected to sign a deal in the coming hours.

The move comes after Chelsea beat Luton Town 3-1 in Sunday's FA Cup fourth-round clash at Stamford Bridge but following a serious downturn in Premier League form, losing five of their past eight games.

ESPN reported recently that Chelsea were torn over the future direction of the club having become frustrated with a lack of progress under Lampard despite spending £220 million in the summer transfer window.

Chelsea had approached former RB Leipzig coach Ralf Rangnick to take the job on a temporary basis but he ruled himself out of the running. They also sounded out Leipzig coach Julian Nagelsmann over whether he would be prepared to leave the club mid-season but sources have confirmed that he also dismissed Chelsea's interest.

Tuchel has been out of work

since December and sources have told ESPN that he sounded out another Premier League club on Saturday to seek their assessment on Chelsea as he mulled over whether to enter advanced talks.

His subsequent decision to pursue an agreement has led to Lampard's departure, bringing to an end his 19-month tenure in charge of a club he spent 13 years with as a player.

Lampard leaves Chelsea ninth in the Premier League, 11 points behind leaders Manchester United having been appointed in July 2019.

The 42-year-old succeeded Maurizio Sarri and inherited a team reeling from the loss of talisman Eden Hazard to Real Madrid and a FIFA transfer ban which rendered the club unable to buy players during his first transfer window at the helm.

That ban was reduced on appeal which meant Chelsea could spend in January 2020 but opted not to do so with Lampard bringing through several young players including Mason Mount, Fikayo Tomori and Tammy Abraham.

Chelsea were outclassed by Bayern Munich at the Champions League round-of-16 stage but secured qualification for the following season's competition on the final day of the Premier League campaign by finishing in fourth place.

Chelsea went top of the Premier League on Dec. 5 as part of a 17-game unbeaten run in all competitions but their form nosedived thereafter, losing to Everton, Wolverhampton Wanderers, Arsenal, Manchester City and Leicester City in the space of five-and-a-half weeks.

ESPN reported last week that several players had become confused by Lampard's ever-changing team selection and disillusioned by his tactical approach.

Chelsea were also keen to find a German speaking coach to get the best out of two of their most expensive summer signings, Kai Havertz and Timo Werner, who have both under-performed since arriving for £71m from Bayer Leverkusen and £47m from Leipzig respectively in the summer.

ESPN

4 soccer players killed in Brazil plane crash had COVID-19

RIO DE JANEIRO

FOUR soccer players from Brazilian club Palmas died in a plane crash Sunday while traveling separately from the team after testing positive for the coronavirus, the club said.

The club's president also died in the crash after the plane suddenly plunged to the ground at the end of the runway while on takeoff in the northern state of Tocantins, the team reported. The pilot also died.

The players were on their way to Goiania, in the central region of the country, to play a match against Vila Nova.

The players were traveling in a private plane because they had tested positive for COVID-19, club spokesperson Izabela Martins told The Associated Press. Martins said that Sunday would have been their last day of isolation and that the rest of the team would travel on a commercial flight.

The victims were identified as president Lucas Meira and players Lucas Praxedes, Guilherme Noe, Ranule and Marcus Molinari, the club said. The pilot was not identified. There were no survivors.

Palmas Futebol e Regatas was founded in 1997 and plays in Brazil's fourth division.

The cause of the accident was not immediately known.

Tocantins fire officials reported that the twin-engine Baron model had a capacity of

six occupants. When firefighters arrived at the crash site, 500 meters from the runway, the aircraft was being consumed by fire. At least two explosions were registered, according to the official report.

The Brazilian Football Confederation expressed its solidarity with Palmas' family members and the club's fans in an official note, and it ordered a minute of silence in all matches played Sunday as a sign of mourning.

In 2016, a plane crash killed 19 players of the Chapecoense soccer club. Chapecoense's plane went down en route to the club's first-ever South American tournament final in Colombia after it ran out of fuel near Medellin.

"Unfortunately, we know what this moment of pain is like and we wish that no other group had to feel the same," Chapecoense said in a statement. "You won't go through this alone."

FIFA expressed its condolences to the six victims.

"Football extends its deepest sympathies to the victims and their families at this difficult time," it said on Twitter.

Alejandro Dominguez, the president of South America's soccer body CONMEBOL, also offered his condolences.

"I deeply regret the plane crash that affected Palmas," he said on Twitter. "My condolences to all those who make up the club, family and friends at this sad time."

AP

Mali, Cameroon qualify as Zimbabwe player subbed after 149 seconds

DOUALA, Cameroon

MALI and hosts Cameroon secured African Nations Championship quarter-finals places and a Zimbabwe player was substituted 149 seconds into the first half as Group A ended Sunday.

A Demba Diallo goal on 11 minutes gave Mali a 1-0 victory over Zimbabwe in coastal city Douala and first place in Group A with seven points from three matches.

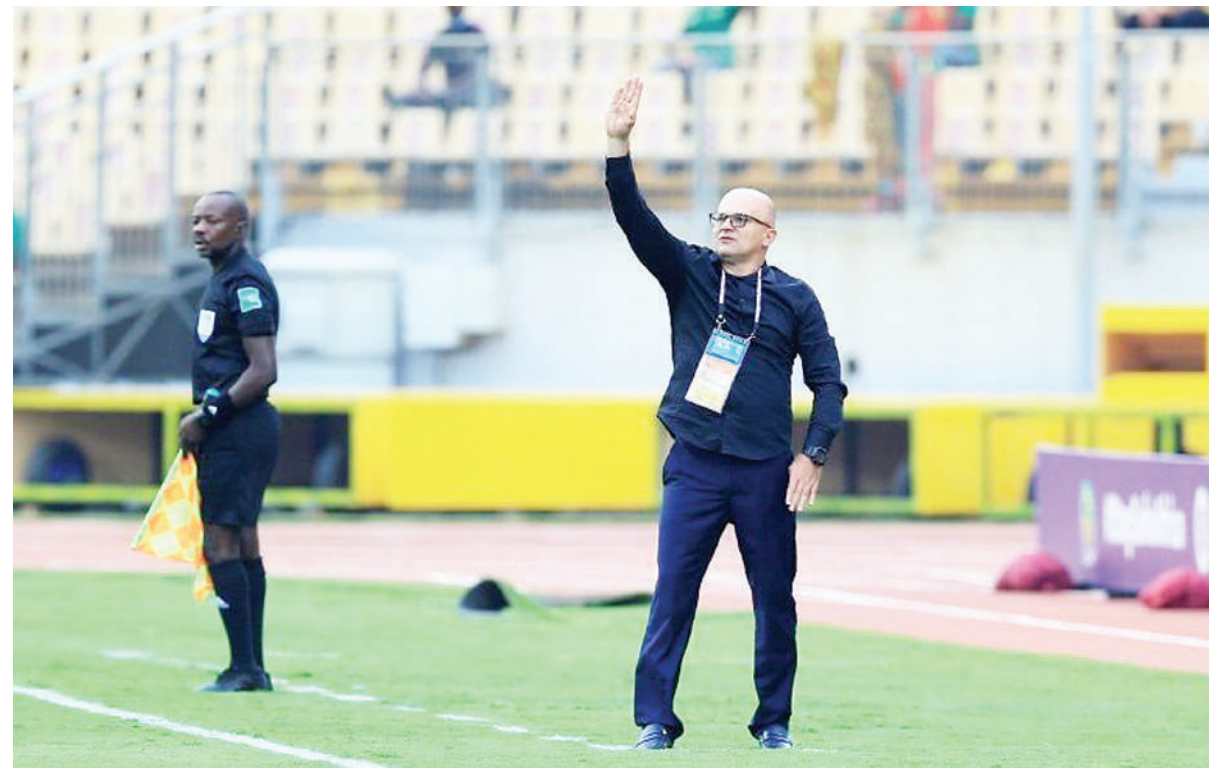
Cameroon, who hope to become the second host nation after Morocco to win the competition for home-based players, drew 0-0 with Burkina Faso to finish runners-up with five points.

Burkina Faso came third with four points while three losses meant Zimbabwe failed to collect even one point for the first time in five appearances at the tournament.

On Saturday, Mali will face the Group B runners-up in Yaounde while Cameroon make a 246-kilometre (153 miles) journey to Douala for a meeting with the Group B winners the same day.

Twice champions the Democratic Republic of Congo top Group B with four points ahead of the final round Monday with Libya (three points), Niger (two) and Congo Brazzaville (one) all in contention.

While the Malians and Cameroonians celebrated advancing to the knockout stage and the Burkinabe lamented missing several scoring chances, Zimbabwean Qadr Amin was the focus of much attention.



Zimbabwe coach Zdravko Logarusic made a substitution less than three minutes into an African Nations Championship match against Mali. (Agencies)

When Zimbabwe were awarded a free-kick about 30 metres from Malian goalkeeper Djigui Diarra, Amin stood along designated set-piece specialist Tatenda Tavengwa.

But as Tavengwa prepared to shoot at goal, Amin darted forward and fired the free-kick wide to the apparent fury of Croatia-born Zimbabwe coach Zdravko Logarusic.

With just two minutes and 29 seconds gone in the opening half, the electronic substitutes' board was raised by the fourth official, indicating that Amin would be replaced by Ian Nekati.

A dejected Amin walked off having made unwanted history as the Zimbabwean to spend the least time on the pitch before being substituted in a Nations Championship match.

Logarusic was successful at the last Nations Championship in 2018, guiding outsiders Sudan to third place behind champions Morocco and runners-up Nigeria.

In Yaounde, Burkina Faso needed maximum points to qualify and laid siege to the Cameroonian goalmouth in the early stages without converting several chances.

Mohamed Ouattara should at least have hit the target off a cross instead of firing wide and Ismahila Ouedraogo squandered another good chance to put the Burkinabe ahead.

The misses proved costly as Cameroon shed initial nerves and matched Burkina Faso throughout a lively second half.

AFP

After beating Liverpool, Solskjaer urges Man United to keep momentum

MANCHESTER, England

IN simple terms, Manchester United's 3-2 victory over Liverpool earned the right to play West Ham in the fifth round of the FA Cup, but it could end up meaning much more.

There were no points on offer and no positions at stake, but during a season in which United have positioned themselves in a Premier League title race for the first time since 2013, wins such as this are – at the very least – a psychological boost that also maintain valuable momentum.

Twenty-two years to the day since substitute Ole Gunnar Solskjaer scored a late winner to seal a United comeback that beat Liverpool in the FA Cup fourth round, the now-manager watched as substitute Bruno Fernandes scored a late winner to seal a United comeback that beat Liverpool in the fourth round of the FA Cup.

In 1999, Sir Alex Ferguson's team would not lose again on their way to a Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup treble. This United side would be unlikely to match that kind of run over the next four months even if they were not already out of the European Cup, but Solskjaer believes that certain results can galvanise a group – even in January – and this one had that kind of feel.

Behind to Mohamed Salah's 18th-minute goal, Mason Greenwood levelled before half-time and Marcus Rashford put United in front three minutes after the break, only for Salah to make it 2-2 just before the hour mark.

Liverpool looked more likely to score again and Salah was denied his hat trick by Dean Henderson's save, but Bruno Fernandes followed his introduction from the bench to score with a curling, 20-yard free kick with 12 minutes to go. Salah shot wide with a chance to force extra time and United held on the go through. For the first time since a March 2020 win over Manchester City, Solskjaer's team have beaten one of England's established "big six," an important hurdle to overcome ahead of the second half of the league season, during which they will play away at City, Tottenham, Chelsea and, next Saturday, Arsenal. Liverpool also visit Old Trafford.

"It's a fantastic to win games over last year's champions, a fantastic team," Solskjaer said. "We played on our terms, found a way the players believe in and we are getting stronger and stronger. "Look at the difference to six months back," he added. "You can't take too



Ole Gunnar Solskjaer

many big strides at once but we are getting better and winning tight games. The morale and confidence is very good." Jurgen Klopp fielded a strong team, with Salah, Roberto Firmino, Thiago, Fabinho, Trent Alexander-Arnold and Andy Robertson picked from the start, but the Liverpool boss is unlikely to shed too many tears for a competition in which he has only ever reached the fifth round once.

Klopp can be pleased that Liverpool's attacking zip returned against United and Salah got his first goals at Old Trafford, but a bigger worry is the trip to Tottenham on Thursday. Liverpool have not won or scored in the league for a month, and that must be remedied quickly if they are to put up a genuine title defence.

"It's not what we wanted, so it's frustrating," Klopp said. "We made a lot of steps in the right direction. The start

of the game was good, we wanted to change the fortune and we scored twice and that's good as well. That's all OK, but they scored three. We can take positives, I saw a lot of positives, we know what to work on but it's how it is. If you are in a situation you don't like, you take steps to get out of it."

Klopp insisted that there is nothing to worry about and that "as a group we are really together and we have to solve it together," and it is true that claiming Premier League and Champions League titles in the last two seasons means he does not need the FA Cup as much as Solskjaer, who is still looking for his first trophy in charge of United.

The only downside for the home team was the sight of Rashford, who was outstanding all evening, walking straight down the tunnel after being substituted; Solskjaer said United's joint-top scorer will have a knee scan

on Monday.

Moreover, while pleased with the result, the United manager also took the opportunity to remind his players that the optimism generated by beating Liverpool will mean very little if they cannot do the same against Sheffield United on Wednesday. "In the dressing room it's a great atmosphere, but I want to see a reaction," he said. "Everyone is elated and high and they should be, but tomorrow morning I want to see players thinking about Wednesday, not today."

Solskjaer said in the build-up to this game that, in 1999, it was only after the season ended that he could pick out the important moments that had helped Ferguson's team go on to bigger and better things. Taken in isolation, beating Liverpool in the FA Cup means little more than moving on to the next round, but it could turn out to be far more significant.

ESPN

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Mali, Cameroon qualify as Zimbabwe player subbed after 149 seconds

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Ngorongoro Heroes' head coach Jamhuri Kihwelu

TPBRC set to ban fake championships

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

BOXING officials in Tanzania who have been handing over fake championships to domestic boxers are now set to face the wrath of the Tanzania Professional Boxing Regulatory Commission (TPBRC).

The domestic boxers have of late been challenged to wear fake championship belts once they win bouts, but the pugilists are not recognized internationally.

Some of the country's most famous boxers have fought for the titles and the TPBRC's acting president, Agapeter Basil, has thus stated they have started a manhunt.

He noted: "There are fake belts that Boxrec, a network that keeps records for professional boxers globally, does not recognize."

"In the past, boxers were tricked into fighting such fights believing they were championship fights, but the fights' records end up in the local files, they are not known internationally," he said.

Despite Basil stopping short of mentioning the fake championships, The Guardian knows the championships. The TPBRC official insisted the championships will from now on not be contested.

He disclosed: "We will not accept those title fights and we will soon announce their cancellation, if they turn out to be eligible, then they should make sure Boxrec recognizes them and the title's winner is internationally known."

Emmanuel Mlundwa, who owns the Pugilist Syndicate Tanzania (PST), admitted the existence of fake championships.

"PST does not offer championships, but fake belts exist and boxers take part in bouts for the titles, believing they are champions once they emerge victorious, but they end up in the files of the associations' offices in the country," Mlundwa said.

In the previous main boxing events in the country, Tanzanian boxer Mfaume Said, who defended the East and Central Africa Professional Boxing Federation's Super Welterweight title after outpointing Malawian opponent Chikondi Makawa, on December 26 last year.

Said, nevertheless, did not accept the title, claiming that it was worn out and it was not the one he was shown during the weigh in.

Speaking on the incident, the bout's promoter, Selemani Semunyu, said they have given Mfaume a new title.

Semunyu explained that Said's demand was not according to the rules and regulations governing the game because he was defending his title.

He said Said was the title holder, who was supposed to present the title he won two years ago.

"I was disappointed because Said knows it well as we told him before to come with the title. Tony Rashid, who was defending his African Boxing Union's title, came with the title he won before and he managed to defend it, why not Said?" Semunyu queried.

He cautioned that professional boxing in the country will keep on lagging behind if boxers and officials deliberately continue to tarnish the good image of the game despite the fact that they know the regulations.

"What happened during the day is not good for the professional boxing development. It tarnished the game's image as boxers and officials know the truth of the matter and they are not ready to speak to the public," he said.

Ndayiragije: Taifa Stars now improving

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S national football team's head coach Etienne Ndayiragije has explained his satisfaction at seeing the team gain confidence in every game they play in the ongoing African Nations Championship (CHAN).

The coach noted the situation will help them build fighting spirit ahead of their crucial do or die battle with Guinea.

Taifa Stars revived their chances of qualifying to the quarterfinals of the competition for the first time following Saturday's 1-0 victory over the Brave Warriors of Namibia.

Taifa Stars would have been eliminated from the competition, had they suffered a defeat in the Group D match in Limbe, but they were rescued by a second half strike by Farid Mussa to register their first three points.

The results means both Zambia and Guinea maintain their places at the top of the group with four points apiece while Taifa Stars retain their third place. Namibia have no points after two matches and they have thus been eliminated.

Tanzania travel to the Stade de la Réunification in Douala to face Guinea on Wednesday in their last group stage game they must win to progress on head-to-head rule used by the Confederation of African Football, (CAF).

Despite criticism of Taifa Stars performance in the two games, Ndayiragije maintains things are heading in the right direction overall.

He disclosed: "The two games are



Senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' players celebrate a goal netted by winger Farid Mussa in this year's African Nations Championship (CHAN) finals' game between the squad and Namibia which took place in Limbe, Cameroon last weekend. Namibia lost 1-0 to Taifa Stars. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

different. My team is growing with the competition. We are looking at building the fighting spirit and getting three points in our games."

"We were shaky and tense in our first game. I don't think the Zambia match was harder than this one. This game was a tough one to win."

Ndayiragije was coy to reveal his tactical plan ahead of the Guinea game, saying he would rather wait and see after his charges have recovered from the physically taxing battle with Namibia.

He said: "I will like to see what will happen after our recovery sessions on Sunday. I don't want to disclose my plan for the Guinea game. We want to qualify."

In a related development, Taifa Stars, who failed to make it out of the group in their debut appearance in Ivory Coast in 2009, will miss the service of veteran utility performer Erasto Nyoni.

The utility player who is the only surviving member of the 2009 CHAN squad has now been ruled out of the tournament with an injury.

Nyoni arrived in Cameroon late and missed the first two games before being declared unfit and returned to Dar es Salaam on Sunday to continue with his recovery.

Ngorongoro Heroes handed tough U-20 AFCON tourney group

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S U-20 men's national team 'Ngorongoro Heroes' have been handed a tough draw for the upcoming U-20 Africa Cup of Nations tournament, slated for February this year in Mauritania.

Ngorongoro Heroes qualified for the U-20 Africa Cup of Nations after reaching the final of the CE-CAFA U-20 Championship, which served as qualifiers for the U-20 Africa Cup of Nations, hosted in Arusha.

They lost 4-1 to Uganda in the regional tournament final but the former booked a place in the continental tournament for the first time.

They have been drawn in Group C with Ghana, Gambia and Morocco in a draw that was conducted at the Hilton Hotel in Yaounde, Cameroon yesterday.

Ghana with three titles are the all-time record champions while Morocco won the 1997 edition.

Gambia are making a third appearance. Their best finish was coming third in the 2007 edition.

Confederation of African Football (CAF)'s Head of Competitions, Khaled Nasser, conducted the draw assisted by Cameroon legend Emmanuel Maboang.

Twelve African nations will battle to see who succeeds Mali, who won the last edition of the competition that took place in Niger in 2019.

Group A has hosts Mauritania, Cameroon, Uganda, and Mozambique. Group C has Burkina Faso, Tunisia, Namibia, Central African Republic.

The 16th edition of the U-20 Africa Cup of Nations showpiece, to be hosted by Mauritania, will take place from February 14 to March 04, 2021.

This will be the first edition in U-20 Africa Cup of Nations to have expanded to 12 teams instead of eight.

The expansion of the tournament has seen unprecedented seven teams qualify for the first time in their history.

Mauritania, Uganda, Tunisia, Central Africa, Mozambique, Namibia as well as Tanzania are all participating for the first time.

Host nation Mauritania will play Cameroon's U-20 side in the opening game on February 14.

The biennial international youth football tournament is organized by the Confederation of African Football (CAF) for players aged 20 and below.

Company boosts boxing promotion in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

THE Jackson Group Sports, in collaboration with World Boxing Federation (WBF), have organized a ring official seminar scheduled to take place at a hotel in Dar es Salaam today.

The seminar will feature 20 ring officials including referees, judges and others according to Jackson Group Sports' Chief Executive Officer Kelvin Twissa.

Twissa said that Jackson Group Sports are quickly leaving an imprint on Tanzania's boxing scene, almost two months since their very first boxing event and less than a week away from their second boxing event.

He said the seminar dubbed 'World Boxing Federation Ring Official Seminar 2021' gears towards uplifting Tanzanian boxing ring officials through an international standard training

which will focus on both institutional capacities building for members of Tanzania Professional Boxing Regulatory Commission (TPBRC) and Tanzania Ring Officials Association.

Twissa said WBF president Howard Goldberg is the seminar's instructor. He said Howard has an experience of over 40 years working in boxing and he managed to conduct the seminar in over 15 countries including, Ghana, South Africa, Egypt, Gabon and Zimbabwe.

According to Twissa, key areas to be covered during the seminar are judging, refereeing, disputes and unforeseen circumstances' resolving during training. The full course and trainers have been organized by Jackson Group Sports.

He disclosed: "We believe as we uplift our boxers in country, we need to ensure we also uplift our referees.

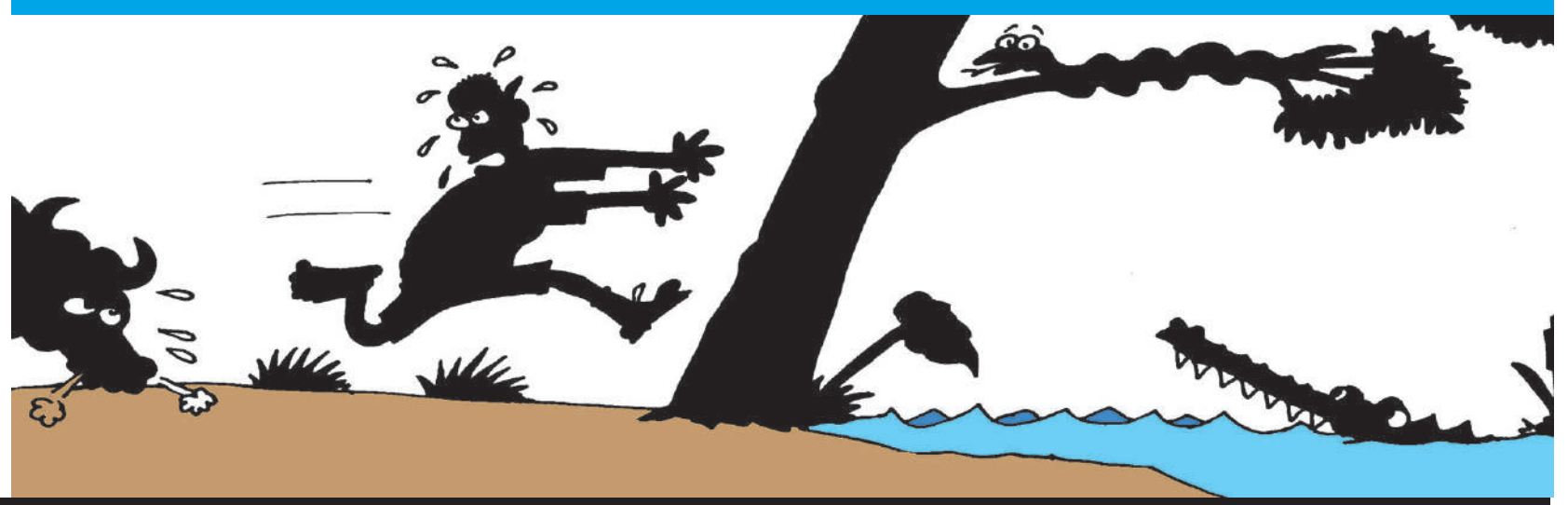
This training aims to deliver on our goal to see that key aspects in boxing are uplifted as a whole."

"This is our first seminar which is a pilot, we believe after today's session we are able to review on its success as well as areas of improvement for future seminars which we intend to hold," he noted.

The TPBRC currently has 25 experienced ring officials, with 18 of them currently active.

Jackson Group Sports, in the spirit of camaraderie, have reached out to TPBRC and Tanzania Ring Officials Association to have continuous refereeing and judging seminars in a capacity building role to improve the level of refereeing and judging in Tanzania, as well as uplift more officials into being world class officials.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



EATV TUESDAY

TONIGHT @ 9:00

NIRVANA

NIRVANA

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Msosi Kitaani (r)
13:00 Wanawake Live (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi
14:30 BBall Kings Highlights (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 5SPORTS (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 5SELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)

Nirvana explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

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06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

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