

National Pg 3
ICRISAT awarded African Food Prize



National Pg 4
TB a challenge despite intervention



National Pg 5
NCDs transferred to PM's Office



National Pg 6
Wildebeests' population in Serengeti



President Samia Suluhu Hassan dressed up in traditional attire as Head of All Chiefs in Tanzania, with the honorific title of 'Hangaya,' meaning 'Shining Star'. This was at a countrywide festival of traditional chiefs held at Red Cross grounds at Kisesa in Magu District, Mwanza Region, yesterday. Photo: State House

IMF avails 1.3trn/- to soften Covid-19 woes

By Guardian Reporter

THE International Monetary Fund (IMF) executive board has approved US\$567.25m (over 1trn/-) loan to Tanzania to mitigate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to the economy.

The IMF country office relayed a statement yesterday that \$189.08m is disbursed under the Rapid Credit Facility (RCF) and a purchase component worth \$378.17m is placed under the Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI).

The advisory said that Tanzania's economic outlook has deteriorated as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, touching off the collapse in tourism due to travel restrictions. The economy decelerated to 4.8 per cent growth last year and growth is expected to remain subdued in 2021, it said.

The country faces an urgent balance of payments need of about 1.5 per cent of GDP as the authorities implement a comprehensive plan to mitigate the effects of the pandemic and preserve macroeconomic stability in the face of a reported third wave of the virus, it further noted.

The RCF disbursement and RIF purchase facilities will help finance interventions needed to mitigate severe socio-economic impacts of the pandemic and catalyse support from development partners, it said.

"The authorities have indicated that they are committed to pursuing economic policies appropriate for addressing the impact of the pandemic and are committed to strengthening coordination and transparency to ensure that RCF and RFI resources are spent on fighting the pandemic.

"These measures include publishing reports of RCF and RFI resources spent and undertaking a post-crisis audit of all pandemic-related spending," the lender emphasised.

Deputy managing director and chairman of the executive board, Bo Li said in the statement that the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted Tanzania's macroeconomic outlook, and the health and wellbeing of its population.

"Growth decelerated in 2020 and is expected to remain subdued in 2021, increasing poverty and negatively affecting employment. Tanzania's risk of external and public debt distress increased to moderate, this mainly due to the pandemic's effect on tourism exports," the director observed.

Tanzania's macroeconomic outlook hinges on satisfactorily addressing the pandemic, but significant downside risks remain due to uncertainties

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Emergency support under the Rapid Credit Facility and Rapid Financing Instrument will substantially contribute to filling immediate external financing needs and help catalyse donor support



TCB unveils women entrepreneurs facility

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Commercial Bank has initiated a unique platform to empower women entrepreneurs through tailor made financial solutions addressing their entrepreneurial challenges.

Dodoma regional commissioner Anthony Mtaka (pictured) commended the bank for this initiative at an inaugural TCB Women Business Forum held here yesterday.

He said the facility was an example of top notch creativity not only for women's financial liberty but as roundtable for charting out ways to make women enterprises a force to reckon with.

The novel TCB project takes up aspirations expressed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to accord women an opportunity to play their due role in managing the economy and contribute meaningfully towards overall national development.

"In that regard, banking and other financial institutions are a pivotal aspect in

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Germany grants 68bn/- for ecosystems project

By Henry Mwangonde

TANZANIA and Germany yesterday signed a €25m (67.82bn/-) grant agreement for financing sustainable development of protected areas' ecosystems project.

The German Development Bank (KfW) will give Tanzania around 8m euros (21.7bn/-) in the first portion for the Serengeti ecosystem, while in portion two of the agreement about 17m euros (46.12bn/-) will be directed to the Katavi, Rukwa and Greater Mahale ecosystems.

Treasury Permanent Secretary Emmanuel Tutuba said at the signing ceremony yesterday that the overall objective is effective protection and sustainable use of natural resources, enhancing economic development

in the various districts via conserving the global important ecosystems.

The funds will support income generating activities in adjacent districts, the formation of community conservation banking (COCOBA) along with park management and infrastructure. The latter includes construction of bridges, national park management offices and law enforcement efforts, he said.

Ecosystem intervention will involve natural resources management and livelihood improvement involving land use planning and the provision of certificates of customary right of occupancy.

"The grant is timely as we all know that the tourism sector has been highly affected

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EAC protocol on pests, disease control ratified

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE National Assembly yesterday ratified the East African Community (EAC) Sanitary and Phytosanitary Protocol (SPS) 2013 to enhance food safety.

Among others, the step will improve access to a greater choice of safe foods and provide rules for the management of aflatoxins which pose hazards to human and animal health.

The EAC SPS Protocol was developed in line with Article 151 of the EAC Treaty, which requires partner states to harmonize sanitary and phytosanitary measures for pest and disease control. Tanzania has delayed ratifying the protocol for eight years.

Agriculture minister Prof Adolf Mkenda said that ratification of the protocol would boost trade between Tanzania and other East African countries and ensure safety of food, plants and animals. Implementing it shall accelerate EAC zone growth, especially in the agricultural sector, he stated.

"We are expecting the protocol to boost trade in food crops between partner states and increase business opportunities as Tanzania's products will easily gain access to EAC markets. The endorsed protocol seeks to harmonize entry/exit points inspection procedures and certification

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Home Affairs minister George Simbachawene (R) welcomes UNHCR director for the Horn of Africa, East Africa and the Great Lakes, Clementine Salami, at his office in Dodoma for talks yesterday. Photo: MoHA

South Sudan joins Tanzania, other countries as new members of ATU

NAIROBI

THE African Telecommunications Union has welcomed its 49th member state after the Republic of South Sudan was officially admitted into the Union through an announcement made here at the ATU Headquarters. South Sudan will be joining 48 other African countries and 54 ICT companies under the ATU umbrella.

As a specialized agency of the African Union in the field of telecommunications/ICT, ATU represents its members' interests at global decision-making ICT conferences and provides a forum for stakeholders involved in ICTs to formulate effective strategies to improve access to information infrastructure and services in the continent.

When signing the membership agreement, South Sudan Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ambassador Beatrice Khamisa was joined by the Director-General of the National Communications Authority of South Sudan, Eng. Napoleon Adok Gai.

OMO lauded the East African State for the decision to join the Union and further reiterated the importance of partnerships.

"Collaboration among African

countries and regional organizations accelerates the development of ICT in the continent and provides a platform for exchanging information, expertise and technology relating to info-communications for the benefit of all," he said.

Both the ATU membership and now South Sudan, will be expected to front a stronger position especially in rolling out initiatives to integrate regional markets, implement ICT projects, attract investment into ICT infrastructure, and build institutional and human capacity. Coming at a strategic time when for the first time, Africa will host the ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-21) in November 2021 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, South Sudan's admission into ATU presents the potential of strengthening the African common positions in the conference as well as others in future.

In her remarks, Ambassador Beatrice Khamisa, South Sudan's top diplomat expressed her country's openness to partnerships, investments, and innovations in ICT that will create employment opportunities and accelerate the young nation's development. "It has been a long wait for South Sudan to realize this important achievement in its quest to establish itself as an ICT centric model country," she said.

EAC protocol on pests, disease control ratified

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schemes to ensure market standards, so crops are delivered safely and efficiently," he said.

Prof Mkenda said the protocol shall provide opportunities for EAC experts to cooperate in preparing standards and enforcement mechanisms in food safety, plant and animal health. EAC partner states will jointly defend the quality of agro-sector products exported to international markets, he specified.

Harmonization of agro-sector laws, policies and regulations encompasses measures to control importation of genetically modified products in line with Tanzania's position on the matter. The country has taken precautions to control importation of agricultural products that are likely to

threaten the country's food security, he reiterated.

The 27th meeting of the EAC Council of Ministers held in August 2013 directed the Secretariat to adopt a multi-sectoral approach that encompasses agriculture, health, environment, trade and industry sectors in the implementation of the aflatoxin interventions at national and regional levels.

Dr Christine Ishengoma, the chairperson of Agriculture, Livestock, and Water parliamentary committee, urged the government to put in place strategies to ensure fair competition as there are possibilities of the country not benefitting from the protocol.

Although Article 4(2)(b) of the protocol outlines the supervision and importation of GMOs, products of modern biotechnology and biological

control agents, "the government should work on policy, laws and regulations that would clearly state its stance on GMOs," she emphasised.

Special strategies are needed to empower farmers, livestock keepers and traders exporting food crops to ensure exported products meet the required EAC market standards, she said.

Contributing, Tabora North MP Almas Maige commended the government's move to ratify the protocol as it was affecting business between Tanzania and EAC partner states. The EAC SPS protocol will facilitate exportation of maize and other agricultural products to Kenya, he said.

Special Seats MP Rita Kabati advised the government to start working on suggestions by the committee in view of protecting the country's food safety.

IMF avails 1.3trn/- to soften Covid-19 woes

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surrounding the course of the pandemic, he further noted.

"The authorities are implementing a comprehensive pandemic response plan—Tanzania COVID-19 Socio-economic Response Plan (TCRP)—to address the fallout of the COVID-19 shock. Tanzania requires urgent financial assistance to implement the plan and avert the severe health, social and economic consequences of a reported third wave of the virus.

"Emergency support under the Rapid Credit Facility and Rapid Financing Instrument will substantially contribute to filling immediate external financing needs and help catalyse donor support. Temporarily loosening macroeconomic and financial policies will mitigate the pandemic's adverse impact, by deploying a vaccination campaign, increasing health and social spending, and supporting the private sector.

"Prioritizing on health response, strengthening coordination and transparency to ensure that funds received are spent on fighting the pandemic, and regularly and transparently reporting epidemiological data will be critical for the plan's success," the statement intoned.

"Maintaining fiscal and debt sustainability, and preserving financial stability, while supporting the economy will be very important during this time. Closely monitoring the banking system's health in light of increased banking sector vulnerabilities will be a key," it pursued.

"Once the crisis abates, the authorities appropriately intend to resume implementing reforms to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth. Their broader policy and reform agenda includes fiscal reforms to avoid domestic arrears and pay tax refunds on time, increasing support for education and health spending, and improvements to the business climate," it added.

TCB unveils women entrepreneurs facility

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shaping that agenda and Tanzania Commercial Bank has shown the way with the TCB Business Forum for Women," the RC declared.

CEO Sabasaba Moshingi said TCB is obliged to drive and support the women economic empowerment agenda following its acquisition of Tanzania Women's Bank.

He commended the government for merging TWB, Twiga Bancorp and TIB Corporate with operations of the Tanzania Postal Bank to create a new entity, saying that this move has greatly boosted the fortunes of TCB in the market, enabled it to enhance its services to the country's economy.

Through a clear empowerment strategy and a wide range of banking solutions, TCB is well positioned to serve even the less privileged women groups. The bank now has the requisite financial muscle to accomplish the mission, he asserted.

Figures he gave put its deposit base as standing at 888bn/- and total assets valued at about 1.04trn/- late 2020, with pre-tax profit rising from less than 1bn/- in 2007 to 21bn/- in the past calendar year. Its loans portfolio surged from 36bn/- to 618bn/- during the period, he pointed out.

The platform will advance women's banking through strategies enabling women entrepreneurs to unleash their potential and enhance their commercial clout, working to provide solutions to business challenges pertaining to women's engagement in productive activities.

"This forum will focus on women's roles as change makers and leaders in economy and how they can access and utilise business opportunities that TCB offers in banking

solutions and financial services," a background outline noted.

To deliver the desired results, the forum will be conducted in six regions in the Mainland as well as Zanzibar, hosting the next forum on Friday next week. Morogoro will then host the event, followed by Mwanza, Mbeya, Arusha and finally Dar es Salaam.

TCB initiated the forum to offer women-owned and women-led-businesses a unique opportunity to grow their enterprises to the next level, officials noted.

Themed: "The Role of Women in the Growth and Development of the National Economy" the Dodoma forum attracted about 350 participants women entrepreneurs who are both existing and prospective customers of TCB. The event was also attended by lawmakers, public and private sector officials, the civil society, students and other stakeholders.

Other unique services for women offered by the bank include the Tabasamu account, a special service window at branches, a life insurance product for groups whose members are mostly women, plous providing entrepreneurship training and financial literacy classes, the CEO noted.

TCB has extended more than 120bn/- worth of loans to women borrowers and managed to mobilize deposits worth 11.9bn/- through accounts of more than 300,000 savings groups whose 85 per cent membership are women," he elaborated.

With 51 per cent of the bank's workforce being women and 48 per cent in managerial positions, the bank is also a champion of workplace gender parity, he added.



Finance and Planning minister Permanent Secretary Emmanuel Tutuba (L) and the KfW development bank director for Eastern Africa and African Union based in Germany, Christoph Tiskens, sign an agreement in Dar es Salaam yesterday on a 67.82bn/- grant for sustainable natural conservation and ecology system projects. Photo: MoF

Germany grants 68bn/- for ecosystems project

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by the Covid-19 pandemic imposing international travel restrictions," he said.

Over the past year Germany has supported Tanzania in various sectors to the tune of 248.79m euros (678.54bn/-) for water, health, energy, good governance and

environmental conservation.

In her remarks, Ambassador Regine Hess said the two countries share strong relationships for the past six decades, and the support was part of existing ties, noting that Germany had extended a 20m euros (56bn/-) grant four months ago to help in wildlife conservation efforts. The support cushions impacts

of the coronavirus pandemic on tourism and other sectors, and was directed to Selous Game Reserve as well as Nyerere and Serengeti national parks, reflecting continuous German commitment to assisting conservation countrywide.

One among areas of support is strengthening the management of the Selous Game Reserve and

priority parts of the buffer zone around the reserve and the Selous-Niassa wildlife corridor, she elaborated.

This is to ensure that the Selous ecosystem remains intact while conservation and sustainable use of natural resources contribute to rural development, the envoy affirmed.



Speaker of the National Assembly Job Ndugai (L) talks with Chairman for Tanzania Centre for Democracy (TCD) Zitto Kabwe (C) and Interim Chief Executive Officer for TCD Lawrence Mallawa when the two paid a courtesy call to the Speaker at his office in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TADB disbursed loans amounting to 281.74bn/- to support developments

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) has until July 31st this year disbursed loans amounting to 281.74bn/- to support development of projects in the agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors, the House heard yesterday.

The loans, according to the Deputy Minister for Finance and Planning Hamad Yusuf Masauni, have benefited 1,514,695 people including small holder farmers and 151 Agricultural Marketing Co-operative Societies (AMCOS).

Masauni made the statement in response to a question by Tabora North Member of Parliament, Athumani Maige (CCM) who wanted to know the number of smallholder farmers who have benefitted with loans from the agricultural bank.

The MP also queried about the bank's interest rates in relation to other commercial banks.

He said apart from direct loans to farmers and cooperative unions, TADB has also introduced the Smallholder Credit Guarantee Scheme (SCGS) which aims at motivating banks and financial

institutions to continue issuing loans for agricultural projects.

He said that until June 2021, a total of 11,244 small holder farmers, 181 farmers' cooperative unions and 43 small scale entrepreneurs (SMEs) have benefitted with loans worth 89.92bn/- which were issued by nine banks under the Smallholder Credit Guarantee Scheme.

The Deputy Minister noted that interest rates charged by TADB are low compared to other commercial banks. He said TADB charges an interest of between 9 and 13 percent depending on the type of borrowers

from the specific sectors.

He said the bank charges an interest rate of 10 percent for small holder farmers to enable them repay the loans on time.

In July this year, TADB signed a Memorandum of Understanding with African Guarantee Fund for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (AGF) that will allow the bank to disburse up to USD 20 million worth of loans to agribusinesses.

The MoU will enable the agri-bank to guarantee SMEs in the agri-value chain applying directly for loans at the bank.

ICRISAT awarded African Food Prize for improving food security

By Guardian Reporter

THE International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) which is implemented in Tanzania and 12 other sub-Saharan Africa countries has been awarded the 2021 Africa Food Prize for improving food security.

A statement released yesterday by Africa Food Prize said apart from Tanzania, the project has been implemented in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

Congratulating the winner, Olusegun Obasanjo, the Chair of the Africa Food Prize Committee and former President of Nigeria, said: "ICRISAT's leadership in developing seeds that not only end malnutrition but also survive in semi arid areas is inspiring other agricultural organisations to rethink seed development and farming practices that suit and solve Africa's agricultural challenges."

the national agricultural research and extension systems, without the support this would not have been possible.

We dedicate this award to the smallholder farmers in the dry lands of Africa, as they are the ones who inspire us with their patience and perseverance in the face of adversity," said Dr Hughes.

ICRISAT, is a non-profit, non-political public international research organization that conducts agricultural research for development in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa with a wide array of partners throughout the world.

Between 2007 and 2019, ICRISAT led a collaboration of partners to deliver the Tropical Legumes Project. The project, undertaken together with the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), developed 266 improved legume varieties and almost half a million tons of seed for a range of legume crops, including cowpeas, pigeon peas, chickpea, common bean, groundnut, and soybean. These new varieties have helped over 25 million smallholder farmers become more resilient to climate change, as well as pest and disease outbreaks.

In addition to these new varieties, the project trained 52 scientists, who are already working in national research institutes across the continent. Training these next generation scientists in the countries where the projects were implemented, has helped strengthen the research capacity of national agricultural research systems in Africa and contributed to sustaining the gains the projects have made.

Dry land ecosystems cover 45 percent of Africa's landmass and feed and support almost half a billion people. However, these systems are fragile and prone to the effects of climate change and environmental degradation.

By Guardian Reporter

IRINGA Regional Commissioner Queen Sendiga has urged fertilizer inspectors to work professionally, avoid corruptive practices and place national interests foremost to speed up the country towards the industrial economy status.

The RC made the call on Monday this week when opening a five-day training on fertilizer inspection aimed at capacity building to agricultural officers at various levels in regions and local councils on the correct ways to inspect fertilizer as stipulated in the 2009 fertilizer Act and its 2011 regulations.

She said as of now, the strategies to advance the use of fertilizers was important in line with the government's aim to make the country attain the industrial economy status.

"To a large extent, these factories will depend on agricultural raw materials; hence, in order to attain this aim, every one of you must make sure benefits from

Iringa RC encourages fertiliser inspectors to avoid corruption

farming activities are enhanced.

"Fertilizer is among big ingredients in the issue and we expect to get reports on how regional administrations and local authorities would be dealing with the issue," she said.

She added: "It is an offence for a fertilizer inspector to participate, in one way or another in bribery, bullying or use of force while implementing your responsibilities."

She said the seminar's participants will be regarded as fertilizer inspectors and

"according to the Fertilizer act, you have been given powers to make inspections in shops, ships, dhows, aircraft, Customs warehouses, fertilizer factories, trains or anywhere you may deem fit to make inspections."

She added that soon after the training, they will be given guidelines on how to make such inspections.

"I therefore call on you to oversee agricultural activities to the best of your ability in order to support government's efforts attain its goals," she added.




United Republic of Tanzania
Ministry of Water

Belgian Development Agency

CALL FOR BIDS

ERRATUM TAN147 - Purchase of material for water storage tank

The Water and Sanitation Kigoma Region Project (WASKIRP) is inviting bids from suitably qualified suppliers to supply construction material for water storage tanks in Kigoma region. WASKIRP is a project jointly funded by the Kingdom of Belgium through Enabel and the Government of Tanzania through the Ministry of Water. This is a 5-year project which aims at providing sustainable water supply solutions in Kigoma region. Under one of its result areas, Enabel is now looking for suppliers to supply construction material for water storage tanks.

Supply contracts

There are now five lots to this public supply contract as follows:

- Lot 1: Purchase of pipes and valves for Nyakayenzi
- Lot 2: Purchase of pipes and valves for Kazuga
- Lot 3: Pump and solar energy system for Kakonko
- Lot 4: Pipes and Valves for Distribution Networks for Kibondo
- Lot 5 : Fittings for Kibondo

Interested companies can access more information and bid documents of these contracts at: <https://btctanzania.wordpress.com/>.

The same notice is also published on the Enabel website, www.enabel.be, in the Belgian Public Tender bulletin (BDA) and the European Union Official Journal. For any additional information contact the Intervention Manager of Enabel – Belgian Development Agency on amos.chigwenembe@enabel.be

"according to the Fertilizer act, you have been given powers to make inspections in shops, ships, dhows, aircraft, Customs warehouses, fertilizer factories, trains or anywhere you may deem fit to make inspections."

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KCU (1990) Limited has set aside funds for above mentioned services. The fund will be used to cover eligible payment under the contracts for which this Request for Proposal is issued.

SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES.

Scope and Objectives of the assignments are found on the tender document which will be made available to interested and eligible service providers after presenting evidence of payment of non-refundable fee of Tsh 100,000. The fee must be deposited at **CRDB Bank account number 01J1055955001 KCU (1990) LTD.**

Eligible Interested Consultants may obtain further information at the address below from 09.00 to 16.00 hours local time (Monday to Friday) exclusive of public holidays:

KCU (1990) LTD, Head Office P.O. Box 5, Bukoba, Tanzania. E-mail: finance@kcu.or.tz. Tel: 028 222 0229. Sealed Tender document (One (1) original and Four (4) copies) with accompanying relevant attachments should be submitted to the address below before or at 11.00 hours local time on 20 September, 2021

KCU (1990) LTD, P. O. Box 5, Bukoba Tanzania. Tel: 028 222 0229

SELECTION CRITERIA

Information indicating criteria for selection is found on the tender document some of which include; Consultant's profile, description of similar assignment, License and permit, availability of appropriate skills amongst staff.

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF OPENING The Bid documents submitted to the above address will be opened publicly at KCU (1990) LTD HQ immediately after 11.00 hours local time on 20 September 2021.

Late submission of the documents, portion of documents, electronic documents and documents, documents not opened at the opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances

GENERAL MANAGER
KAGERA COOPERATIVE UNION (1990) LTD.

President tours aimed at seeking markets for some strategic agricultural crops including maize and rice

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

RECENT tours by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in East Africa and Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries were among other things meant to seek markets for some strategic agricultural crops including maize, rice and beans, the National Assembly was told yesterday.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Deputy Minister, Amb Mbarouk Nasser Mbarouk said the ministry had recently arranged state visits from President Samia in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi whereas she met business communities and held forums targeting at finding markets for agricultural crops.

He said in May this year, President Samia visited Kenya resulting into the Heads of States agreeing to remove all the non-trade barriers (NTBs) to facilitate trade. He said as a result of the tour, Tanzania's maize can now be exported to Kenya.

"Kenya is among the main buyers of maize from Tanzania due to its quality and affordable prices. The Ministry coordinated President Samia's tours in Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda where she successfully searched for markets for agro-products," he said.

He said during her tour in Burundi, President Samia was accompanied by a delegation of business community who met their counterparts and discuss various issues aimed to facilitate trade between the two countries.

Amb Mbarouk noted that the ministry has directed institutions and authorities to start visiting countries within East Africa and SADC in search of markets for agricultural crops.

"The President's tours are also meant to cement bilateral relations with the particular countries and enhance economic diplomacy," said the Deputy Minister as he responds to a question from Mbararli Member of Parliament, Francis Mtega (CCM).

The legislator asked whether the ministry had any plans to arrange tours for top government officials in foreign countries for purposes of searching for markets for maize and rice crops.

Thursday last week, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said the government is aware of the piled maize stocks in maize producing regions—Katavi, Ruvuma, Njombe, Songwe, Mbeya, Rukwa, Iringa and Tabora, saying the government has permitted farmers to sell their grains to markets within and outside the country.

Maize farmers can now export the grains to Zambia, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Mozambique.

He said early this month, the government disbursed 15bn/- to the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) for the purchase of maize in southern zone regions. He said they have also directed the Cereals and Other Produce Board of Tanzania (CPB) to start buying maize in particular regions.



The President's tours are also meant to cement bilateral relations with the particular countries and enhance economic diplomacy



Tanzania's Livestock Research Institute Uyole Centre in Mbeya Region Dr Edwin Chang'a (R) elaborates on research of pastures to Mbeya Regional Commissioner Juma Homera (L) moments after his visit at the TALIRI on Monday. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

TALIRI urged to train herders on animals fodder growing

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MBEYA Regional Commissioner Juma Homera has instructed Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALIRI) at Uyole to start providing education to herders on the preparation of better animals' fodder to reduce conflicts pitting them and other users of land as well as for improving their livestock.

RC Homera issued the instructions during his inspection visit to animal fodder research blocks for various types of animals' fodder some of which were natural and some introduced in the country from

China.

He said the Institute has the responsibility to assist herders to prepare for their own animals' fodder in their areas to improve their herds including products therefrom such as milk, beef and hides.

He called on the Institute to distribute animals' fodder to herders after they finish their research to enable the institute's benefits discerned by the community.

He said local councils are required to assist herders to grow the fodder in the areas allocated to avoid conflicts with farmers.

He also advised the region's local

councils to send the youth who benefit from the 10 per cent of the councils' loans to vulnerable groups to the Institute to learn on how to grow the animals' fodder.

For his part, TALIRI Uyole Centre Director Dr Edwin Chang'a said they have decided to embark on animals' fodder research to address the issue of fodder scarcity affecting herders especially during dry seasons.

He said there are other types of fodder they have been growing and harvesting known as "Hey" which is packed in packages and eaten like bread.

The head of Fodder Department

at TALIRI-Uyole, Peter Nchimbi said the institute conduct research on both natural and modern fodder, the skill of some of which has been brought from foreign.

Head of Animals' Fodder Department at TALIRI-Uyole said the centre conducts research on both natural and modern growing of fodder, the skills of some of which has been imported from foreign.

Mbeya region is among regions that with rampant herder-farmers-forest reserves conflicts and if proper education is provided such conflicts could be eradicated.



Liwale MP in Lindi Region Zuberi Kuchauka gets Jonsson & Jonsson COVID -19 vaccination in Dodoma on Monday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

NBTS in Lake zone appeals for blood donation to save lives

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

TANZANIA National Blood Transfusion Service (NBTS) in Lake Zone has appealed to the community and various institutions to continue donating blood to save the lives of Tanzanians needing blood.

Speaking here yesterday, NBTS Lake zone manager Dr Irangi Ngergeza said they expect to collect 2,630 units of blood during the four-day blood donation campaign.

He said World Health

Organisations (WHO) guidelines require that out of every 1,000 people, at least 10 should donate blood voluntarily.

He further said in regard to NBTS in the Lake Zone, they have reached 7 people per 1,000 who donated blood voluntarily.

He further explained that it has been hard to get blood groups with RhD (negative) as compared to other groups, as the group is never above two per cent.

He said in the event the blood in

that group is needed, they look for people who once donated the blood in order to save the lives of those in need.

However, he said as for now they aim to collect three per cent of the annual collection target and that the Lake zone centre aims to collect 20,000 units in a year.

Dr Ngergeza added that groups that donate more blood include college and secondary schools' students and religious organisations, but in case of scarcity they involve the

whole community.

He added that still the community has little understanding on the issue of donating blood and called on all the people to donate blood to help others in need, and said that the exercise should be sustainable.

He also said that blood donation should follow laid down procedures as frequent donating blood will be hazardous to the health of the donor, and added blood donated id provided freely to those in need.

'TB burden persistent despite interventions'

By Correspondent James Kandoya

WITH 135,000 people suffering from Tuberculosis, Tanzania is ranked among the 30 countries with high burden of the disease in the world.

Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Dr Dorothy Gwajima, said on Monday, saying that out of the number, a total of 85,597 people which is equivalent to 63 per cent were detected and treated.

She said that in Dodoma city when launching mobile clinics services all worth 6.2bn/- to improve TB and leprosy cases detection.

These were four mobile clinics (vehicles), 160 motorbikes, 50 GeneXpert machines and 179 Electrocardiography machines.

"The aim of launching this strategy is to improve and accelerate TB cases detection in unreachable places," she said.

She said a total of 26,800 died in the same period of time from TB saying that concerted efforts are needed to reach and detect 49,403 missing cases.

"Concerted efforts are needed to reach 49,403 missing cases in the community who remain victims of spreading the disease in the community," she said.

The minister said the government has unveiled a number of strategies to eradicate the disease including mobile clinics.

"We have launched outreach/mobile services so that more people suffering from tuberculosis can be reached for TB cases detection treatment," she said.

According to her, the mobile clinics indicate the government readiness to attain global development goals noting that four vehicles had been installed with modern digital x-ray and GeneXpert technology to detect people in unreachable places.

"This is a modern technology will bring positive effect by notifying

more patients in the community where services to diagnose TB and leprosy were not available," she said.

Dr Gwajima said the mobile clinics and other equipment will be distributed to Bugando Medical Centre (lake zone), Dodoma Referral Hospital (Central Zone) Mbeya Referral Hospital (Southern Highlands Zone) and TB clinical laboratory in Dar es salaam (Eastern Zone).

She said the motorbike will be distributed to the coordinators to implement their duties including diagnosis and distribution of medicines.

For his part, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr Aifelo Sicalwe said the country is experiencing people suffering from chronic TB.

According to CMO, there are 1600 people suffering from chronic diseases across the country, noting that the government detects 423 people with TB every year and all services are now available at regional hospitals.

Dr Sicalwe said the number of GeneXpert machines are 315 therefore the services will be available at Referral, District hospitals and health centres.



We have launched outreach/mobile services so that more people suffering from tuberculosis can be reached for TB cases detection treatment



Neurological disorders tourist from France Julien Vedani (C) accompanied by his colleagues to climb Mt Kilimanjaro through Kilimanjaro Captain Adventures recently. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

Frenchman scales 'Kili' on wheelchair

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

FRENCH national Julien Vedani (34) is another proof that disability is not inability after successfully making it to the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro that towers 5,895 meters above the sea level.

Narrating his story in an exclusive interview with The Guardian yesterday, Vedani who was accompanied by French mountaineer Vanessa Morales said that it was in 2019 when he decided to make the expedition and started planning for it.

He began with body exercises and other acclimatization works until he recently fulfilled his dream by scaling the mountain to its highest point - Uhuru Peak on Wheelchair through Lemosho route to raise awareness on the needs and abilities of people with physical disabilities.

"I planned with my friend Vanessa Morales who is a professional mountaineer to climb Mount Kilimanjaro just two years ago to prove to the world that disability is not inability. I did it under the guidance of a professional mountain guide, Martin Msuya from the Moshi based tourism company - Kilimanjaro Captain Adventures to fulfill my dream in our 12-day expedition due to my neurological disorders through Lemosho route," Vadani explained.

On his way to Uhuru peak, Vadani explained that he climbed the mountain using his wheelchair and he did not fulfill his dreams to reach the highest peak of Mount Kilimanjaro, instead he managed to reach Moir Camp (4,161 meters above the sea level) after falling into high altitude mountain sickness.

"I will come next year to fulfill my dreams of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro and reach the highest top of the mountain - Uhuru Peak (5,895 m ASL)," he explained.

For his part, Martine Msuya alias 'Mkemia' who is the chief mountain guide in the special expedition explained that, he has enough experience to carry clients on a wheelchair to the top of Mt

Kilimanjaro and he believes that next year Vedani will fulfill his dreams of reaching the highest peak of the "Roof of Africa", Uhuru peak (5,895m ASL).

Neurological disorders can cause acute spinal cord injury, Alzheimer's disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Ataxia, Bell's Palsy, brain tumors, Cerebral Aneurysm, and epilepsy and seizures among many others.

Meanwhile, the French professional mountaineer, Vanessa Morales had a dream of breaking World Record of fast Mount Kilimanjaro climb.

"During Julien's special Mount Kilimanjaro expedition, I managed to climb the mountain through Umbwe route using only 15 hours, and next year I will make it official to break the World's Record of the fast Kilimanjaro climbs," she explained.

In 2010 Spanish mountain runner Killian Jornet, just 22 years of age, got to Uhuru Peak in 5 hours 23 minutes and 50 seconds. To put this into perspective, most of the treks take approximately five or six days to reach the summit.

The current fastest combined ascent and descent time record is held by the Swiss-Ecuadorian Karl Egloff, who completed a run up via the Umbwe Route and descent via Mweka in just 6 hours, 56 minutes and 24 seconds in August 2014, beating Jornet's combined time of 7 hours 14 minutes.

The record for fastest "unaided" ascent (meaning that the climber carried all his own equipment, food, water etc) is retained by Tanzanian local Simon Mtui, who climbed from Umbwe Gate to the summit and back in 9 hours 19 minutes back in 2006.

On 27 July, 2015 Anne-Marie Flammersfeld, a 37-year-old German currently living in St. Moritz, Switzerland, set a new record for the fastest ascent and descent by a woman on Kilimanjaro, climbing to the summit via the Umbwe Route in a time of 8h32min. She then turned round and made it back to Mweka gate for a total time on the mountain of 12h58min.

NCDs transferred to Prime Minister's Office

By Guardian Reporter

NON-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) will now be monitored under the Prime Minister's Office instead of the Health ministry only as it has been the case.

The decision has been reached after it was found out that NCDs are supposed to be dealt with by several ministries including Health, Agriculture, Industry, Trade, Works, Infrastructures, Sports and Culture.

The chairman of the Parliamentary HIV/Aids, TB, narcotics and NCDs Committee, Fatma Hassan Toufiq

said here yesterday that members of parliament discussed on the diseases in depth and decided it was a crosscutting issue.

"Hence its management cannot be under the Health ministry alone. This issue should be dealt with by other ministries as well," she said and added, "this issue will now be under the Prime Minister's office and we urge the government to form a special directorate to deal with it."

She said the decision was reached after the House speaker Job Ndugai nodded to the proposal to

incorporate NCDs as a health issue to be dealt with by her committee that has also been dealing with HIV/Aids, TB and narcotics drugs.

She explained the step is important because MPs will have the opportunity to advise the government on the budget allocation to confront NCDs.

"From now on, the committee will be procedurally monitoring all plans regarding NCDs put forward by parliament. I will say this is a big step in the war against NCDs especially taking into consideration the fact that the issue will be discussed in

annual parliamentary report," she said.

For his part, the chairman of the Parliamentary Community Services Development, Stanislaus Nyongo said NCDs has been given a special push in parliament due to efforts in educating the public from Tanzania Non Communicable Disease Alliance (TANCDAA).

"I thank TANCDAA for being our big stakeholders in educating the community and that has given the push in regard to the step that has been reached to confront NCDs under the PM office," he added.

Covid-19: Over half young Africans lost jobs, discontinued studies, survey shows

By Special Correspondent

NEW Research across 15 African countries and 4,500 youths has revealed devastating impact of Covid-19, vaccine apathy and fake news.

As the virally-transmissible 'Delta variant' of Covid-19 surges across the African continent, findings from the Ichikowitz Family Foundation's 2021 African Youth Survey have revealed that over a half of the continent's young people found themselves unemployed or had to pause or stop their education in the wake of the pandemic.

According to the African Youth Survey, the most comprehensive survey of African youths, nearly four out of 10 youths (37%) polled across the continent had to stop or pause their schooling, nearly two in 10 (19%) became unemployed as a

socioeconomic ramification of the pandemic and 18% were forced to move back home.

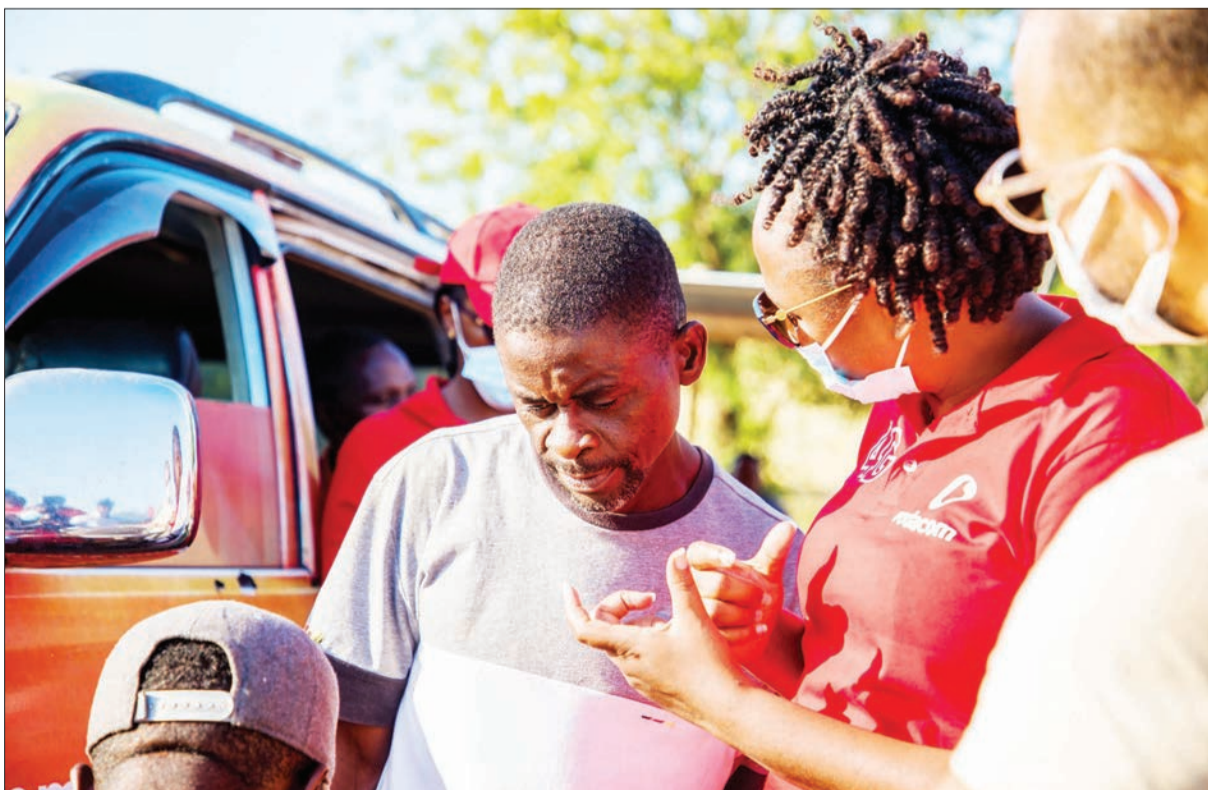
One in 10 (10%) surveyed reported they had to care for family members, 8% had their pay docked, while 7% suggested that they were forced to enter the informal economy or take on an additional job to pay their bills.

The economic impact of Covid-19 has been worsened by the state of 'vaccine apathy' presently plaguing the continent. The survey reports that nearly four in 10 (39%) young African men and women polled would probably not or definitely not take the vaccine, if given the opportunity.


This is reflected in the level of confidence, with 37% of youths not confident that their countries will have access to a safe and effective vaccine.

While they are split on what the focus should be for their countries, a plurality (39%) believe that reopening their economy should be considered the highest priority for governments; 29% believe preventing the spread of Covid-19 should be prioritized and 28% maintain that the priority should be vaccine distribution.


Fake news and misinformation about Covid-19 is rife. Over half (58%) polled believe the death toll thus far reported by news outlets has been exaggerated to further political agendas. Nearly six in ten (56%) believe Covid-19 was developed in a laboratory and intentionally spread by the Chinese government. Almost four in ten (37%) believe that young people are immune to the disease and 34% contend that 5G technology has been contributing to the spread of Covid-19.



Vodacom Tanzania Executive Head of Department for Dar es Salaam and Coast zone explaining to a Dar es Salaam resident on the services offered by the company during an ongoing campaign 'Kimbiza na 4G ya Ukweli' yesterday. The campaign aims at informing the public about the speed and reliability of its network. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT
TANZANIA SHIPPING AGENCIES CORPORATION
TASAC



MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE
MSN 0407
Amendment 2/2021

CLEARANCE OF VESSELS FOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL VOYAGES AND REPORTING TO SIGNAL STATIONS WHEN ENTERING OR LEAVING PORTS

This notice is hereby issued to all ship owners, small craft owners, pleasure vessel owners, fishing vessel owners, Masters, officers and other concerned parties

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1. It is the responsibility of vessel owners to ensure that vessels are operated in a safe manner as required by Section 296 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2003.
- 1.2. Measures to ensure that vessels are operated in a safe manner include among others, obtaining port clearance on departure to local or international vessel voyage, and reporting on arrival from local or international voyage.

2.0 Guidance

- 2.1 All vessels on local or international voyages are required to obtain clearance before going to sea or lake from a designated or recognized Port or Local Landing Site officers. The Vessel Port Clearance (Departure) Form is the basic document to be duly filled in and signed jointly by the Master or Skipper of the vessel and the Responsible Port Officer or Landing Site Official. A copy of the Port Clearance Form shall remain with the responsible Port Officer or Landing Site Official and the Master or Skipper shall retain another copy on board. A Landing Site Official may use a register to record the necessary information contained in the Vessel Port Clearance (Departure) Form in lieu of this form.
- 2.2 Before entering or leaving the port area or landing site, the Master or Skipper of any vessel must communicate to the appropriate signal station and report the vessel's arrival or departure, giving the relevant information of the vessels.
- 2.3 Vessel Port Clearance (Departure) Forms may be obtained from the Tanzania Port Authority (TPA) or TASAC offices.

3.0 For inquiries please contact:

Director General,
Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC),
8th Floor PPF Tower, Ohio Street/ Garden Avenue,
P. O. Box 989,
DAR ES SALAAM. TANZANIA

Tel: +255 22 2127314
 Fax: +255 22 2127313
 Email: dg@tasac.go.tz, info@tasac.go.tz, website: www.tasac.go.tz

2164/0307



the Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania

For Wildlife Research, Education & Conservation

Tel: +255 22 277 5236, e-mail: jgi-tanzania@janegoodall.or.tz

Request for Applications (RFA) For Pastoralism Livelihoods Consultancy to provide strategic expertise in reduction of the impacts of livestock on critical chimpanzee habitats in Western Tanzania

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) with funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) seeks to subcontract a **Pastoralism Livelihoods Consultant** to provide technical and professional expertise in the development of a Strategy and Action Plan to address biodiversity threats from cattle movements through Forests managed under the Landscape Conservation in Western Tanzania project (LCWT).

About Us:

Founded in 1977, the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) is an international non-governmental organization that continues Dr. Jane Goodall's pioneering work on chimpanzee ecology and behavior. Its mission is to promote wildlife conservation, in particular chimpanzee sustainability, through research, education, and community conservation. In Western Tanzania, JGI Tanzania has been supporting a community-led, integrated conservation and development effort known as TACARE in Western Tanzania, since 1994. Through the years, multiple donors have worked with JGI Tanzania to advance conservation and sustainable development in this region.

Project Background:

On November 5, 2018, the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) launched the Landscape Conservation in Western Tanzania (LCWT) project funded through a cooperative agreement with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The project is designed to address the primary threats to natural forest cover and the chimpanzee population in the Gombe Masito Ugalla (GMU) landscape. It aims to protect chimpanzee populations and their habitat in western Tanzania while improving household income from the sustainable use of natural resources and the establishment of microenterprises and private sector partnerships that reinforce conservation behaviors.

The LCWT project scope covers an area of 1,733,283 ha, which is categorized into management zones that include protected areas (Gombe National Park, Tongwe East, the newly established Tongwe West and Masito Local Authority Forest Reserves, and national forest reserves and village forests. The area includes 104 targeted villages in the landscape covering Kigoma, Uvinza, Mpanda and Tanganyika districts. Tanganyika and Mpanda districts host Mishamo and Katumba refugee settlements respectively – both of which are transitioning from refugee settlements into formal Tanzanian villages.

Objectives of the Consultancy:

The consultant will work with project staff, district, and regional technical experts to build a better understanding of the dynamics of Livestock as a threat to forest ecosystems in general and to chimpanzees specifically (either directly or indirectly through habitat loss) in the LCWT landscape. Based on that assessment and experiences from other conservation projects the consultant will collaboratively develop a strategy and action plan to guide the project in implementing an effective Livestock strategy that reduces threats to chimpanzee habitat in a sustainable fashion.

- Conduct a thorough socio cultural and economic assessment of agro-pastoralists/pastoralists utilizing protected forests in the LCWT landscape.
 - Review existing relevant literature and LCWT sponsored surveys conducted to date (2018 and 2021).
 - Document strategies being used by agro-pastoralists/pastoralists in the landscape to utilize these forests to support livestock herds. Including information on how they evade control (law enforcement) and why they refuse to change behaviors.
 - Visit pastoralists inside forests to conduct detailed assessment to discern and map the real owners of the livestock and if possible, to reach them to get their views and perspectives. Include traditional leaders in the assessment.
 - Build an understanding of agro-pastoralist/pastoralist's perspectives on efforts to regulate their practices to be compatible with the sustainable use of natural resources and the protection of chimpanzee habitat. Identify what they think can and should be done.
- Work with JGI experts to assess the relative impacts of Agro-Pastoralist / Pastoralist activities on chimps and chimp habitat in protected forests; Are livestock incursions a bigger threat than subsistence agriculture in riverine forests (a key chimp habitat)?
- Work with LCWT and District and Regional support (NRM and Livestock) staff to devise a strategy and action plan for reducing impacts of livestock incursions into protected forests and chimp habitat in the LCWT landscape. Identify potential livelihood improvement options that could reduce livestock impacts.
- Provide ongoing periodic support to LCWT in the implementation of the strategy and action plan.

Consultancy Deliverables:

The consultant will produce:

- A work plan detailing methodologies to be used and activities to be carried out to accomplish the objectives.
- Report combining a socio-cultural and economic assessment of pastoralist behaviors with an assessment of the relative impacts of Pastoralists on chimps and their habitat, in the LCWT Landscape.
- Collaboratively developed strategy and action plan for reducing impacts from Livestock in the LCWT landscape.
- Other deliverables to be specified by LCWT in support of implementation of the strategy and action plan.

Level of Effort:

The consultant is expected to complete deliverables 1 to 3 within 60 calendar days.

Application Instructions:

Qualified applicants should submit their applications to the following e-mail address:

jgi-tanzania@janegoodall.or.tz. The applications should include covering letter, CV, and detailed technical and financial proposal (not more than 5 pages) describing how the Consultant would implement objectives 1-3 above. Applicants should clearly describe the approaches they will use to get the needed information; the Consultant's approach should follow the basic ethical guidelines that protect the rights of pastoralists but get at the answers needed. The use of field enumerators to collect qualitative data is an acceptable expense.

Please note that only the shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

Govt spends 1.5bn/- for hospital construction at Tunduma town

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE government has in the 2021/2022 financial year disbursed 1.5bn/- for construction of a hospital at Tunduma town in Songwe Region.

The project includes construction of a laboratory building, x-ray room, emergency department, administration block, operation room and other structures to be used for providing eye clinic services.

Deputy Minister of State in the President's Office responsible for Regional Administration and Local

Government (PO-RALG) Dr Festo Dugange told the National Assembly yesterday that the government continues to implement projects for improvement of the health sector which includes construction of hospitals and health centers.

He was responding to a question by Special Seats legislator, Juliana Shonza who wanted to know when the government will launch the newly constructed hospital buildings in Tunduma town.

Dr Dugange noted that the government has also disbursed 14.8bn/- for construction of four

hospitals in Tunduma town, Songwe, Momba and Ileje districts. He said upon completion, the district hospital in Tunduma town will cost 9.5bn/-. He said the Tunduma hospital project is implemented in two phases whereas the first phase includes construction of Out Patient Department (OPD) at a cost of 4bn/- and a one-storey building, which has been constructed since the past financial year.

He said some of the hospital's buildings have already started to be sued for provision of maternal and child health (MCH) care.



The outgoing Court Chief Executive Mathias Kabunduguru (R) hands over documents to his successor Prof Elisante Ole Gabriel. The event was held at the Court of Appeal in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Wilbebeests' population in Serengeti ecosystem has not dwindled - ministry

By Guardian Reporter

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism has elaborated on reports that herds of wildebeests in the Serengeti ecosystem have been dwindling, saying the claims are false.

The Serengeti ecosystem is made up of Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) and Maswa, Ikorongo, Grumeti and Loliondo Forest reserves.

The ministry's report now says that the number of wildebeests in the Serengeti ecosystem had greatly dwindled beginning 1890 to around 1960 due to deaths caused by rinderpest.

In 1960 there were 190,000 wildebeests in the ecosystem, the

number that rapidly increased after the disease was tamed through vaccination of the livestock that had been the cause of the rinderpest infections to the wildebeests and by 1977 there was about 1.4 million wildebeests in the ecosystem.

However, a huge drought that transpired in 1993 led to deaths of large number of wildlife and reduced the number of wildebeests down to 917,000.

The report further said that due to better grazing in the following years, the number of wildebeests increased and reached 1.3 million by 1998 and remained within that average until 2015.

The increase was contributed by the eradication of rinderpest globally by 2011, becoming the first among animal diseases to be fully

eradicated in the world.

"On average, the 1977-2015 census showed that wildebeests population reached its fullest extent due to the volumes of grazing provided during dry seasons within the Serengeti ecosystem.

Research on wildebeests done by Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) shows that wildebeests population is still at its apex - between 1.2 to 1.5 million animals," said the report.

Hence, the Natural Resources and Tourism Ministry's report says that what is being discussed in the media including the social media that the wildebeests' population in the Serengeti ecosystem has dwindled by 73 per cent is inaccurate and aim to mislead the public.

By Guardian Correspondent, Lindi

TRADERS and small entrepreneurs in Lindi Region have been sensitised on certification of their products as well as the registration of shops selling food and cosmetics from the training provided by Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) officials from August 31 to September 6 this year.

Addressing reporters here on the achievements recorded in three districts of Lindi Region, TBS Food Control Officer Barnabas Jacob said their visit was a big success as they reached set targets.

"This include pledges from traders in Liwale, Nachingwea and Lindi districts to come up for certification of their products as well as registration of their shops selling food and cosmetics in accordance with the laws," he said.

He said in these districts, they made inspections on shops selling food and cosmetics, visited small entrepreneurs producing various

Lindi traders sensitised on TBS certification of goods

types of goods and urged them to have their products certified to add more value.

He added that in Lindi District 18 entrepreneurs pledged to start the process to have their products certified. They have also provided education to TRA and TTCL officials in Lindi district on the effects of using and consuming sub-standard products, especially some type of cosmetics that have been banned in the country due to their toxic contents.

In regard to Nachingwea district, education was provided to TANESCO, TRA, TCB, TTCL and NIDA officials.

Jacob explained that the education provided will enable the officials to be good ambassadors in their own families and the community in

general.

Similarly, in Nachingwea District TBS officials visited and inspected a factory whose goods have been certified by the Bureau to see whether the products continue to maintain the given certified standards.

"Basically we have provided adequate education to manufacturers of various goods to enable them register their buildings as well as mobilizing entrepreneurs to come forward to receive their certification via SIDO," he added.

He said in all the districts they inspected and registered shops selling food and cosmetics to enable the owners thereof conduct business in adherence to the legal requirements aimed at protecting the health of consumers.

LHRC calls for review of the Criminal Procedure Act 1985

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

THE Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) has urged the government to review the Criminal Procedure Act 1985, so as to allow bail for suspects of various offenses with the exclusion of murder and treason.

The Act includes provisions that automatically refuse bail to people charged with certain offenses.

Speaking to human rights activists here recently at a two-day seminar, LHRC director of advocacy and reforms, Fulgence Massawe said a study conducted in six countries of Tanzania, Kenya, Malawi, Zambia, Uganda, and Zanzibar have revealed the weakness of the criminal procedure code in Tanzania after 1985, as there is an increase of acts of terrorism, cybercrime offenses are

non-bailable. He noted that there has been misuse of the 'unbailable offenses' provisions to keep people in prison for many years.

He said the government has to review and allow temporary release of an accused person awaiting trial, regardless of the increasing number of laws prohibiting it because non-bailable offenses might be an abuse to fulfill ulterior motives.

Gloria Mafole, Policy Analyst from the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT) called for the reduction of the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP)'s power particularly in issuing certificates of objection to bail.

She said DPP is a human, so granting too much power can also be easy to misuse by denying bail to some suspects due to conflict of interest, so it is better for the government to interfere with the court's decision so as to make it

active and trustworthy.

Mafole suggested that in order to fast-track completion of hearings, the use of CCTV cameras which will be approved in court is vital rather than using a manually investigative system which takes time and sometimes produces fake evidence.

Earlier last year the high court found that mandatory prohibition of bail was unconstitutional.

The court's decision restored discretion to the judiciary and meant that the question of whether to grant bail, whatever the alleged offense, would have been a decision of the individual judge to make but the high court finding was overturned by the Court of Appeal. Five judges of the Appeal court said mandatory barring of bail did not amount to an ouster clause and that the constitution was not infringed by making certain offenses 'non-bailable'.



Zanzibar minister for Education and Vocational Training Simai Mohammed Said (with mask) gives directive on how to assist oil and gas students to enter in labour markets shortly after launching alternative energy laboratory at Karume College yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Rahma Suleiman

Stakeholders laud Huawei's ICT competition

By Guardian Reporter

INDUSTRY leaders from academia and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) have praised Huawei's ICT Competition as a step in the right direction and a prerequisite for equipping the youth to be professionals and globally competitive.

An academician and the dean of the faculty of Computing, Information Systems and Mathematics at the Institute of Finance Management (IFM), Dr Faraja Igira has described the Huawei ICT Competition in which students from her institute are expected to participate as a 'well structured professional competition that prepares students adequately for the competitive job market.'

"The way the competition is designed and conducted is very practical and students will be engaged in a lot of hands-on training, something most students at the

faculty have given positive feedback on," she said.

Dr Igira went on to mention how the Huawei ICT Competition creates an easy pathway for students to enter the job market. According to her, the programme is becoming the most popular ICT programme in the country due to word-of-mouth recommendations from students and graduates who currently have opportunities working at various leading companies in the ICT industry in the country as a result of their participation in the competition.

Speaking during the Huawei ICT Competition 2021 Roadshow at the Institute of Finance Management, Dr Igira was pleased at how the programme will engage students especially during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic when the situation has changed.

"The fact that the competition is done online has made things easier for the participants in this time

where crowded physical gatherings are not recommended," she said.

On the other hand, Dr Dossa, Head of the Department of Computer Science and Mathematics pinpointed that the competition will enable students to learn about new technologies and have a chance to showcase their skills which will help them in grabbing career opportunities.

Huawei ICT Competition is among the best world's ICT Competition that involves higher learning students around the globe. In Tanzania, Huawei ICT Competition was introduced in 2018 and since then more than 5000 students have benefited from the programme. This year, the competition is already open and students are highly encouraged to participate.

It is expected that more than 2500 students from over 20 higher learning institutions in the country will participate in this year's Huawei ICT Competition.

Experts wary of climate change disasters

VICTORIA FALLS, Zimbabwe

CLIMATE experts have urged Africa Union member states to invest in scientific research on weather conditions in order to address recurrent global warming related catastrophes.

Such catastrophes include cyclones and heat waves that threaten food insecurity.

Climate experts attended a closed door workshop in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, to find institutional linkages for South-South partnerships and capacity building.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) facilitated the workshop.

The aim of the workshop was to seek ways of coming up with objective climate forecasts for agriculture and food security in Eastern and Southern Africa.

Munesu Munodawafa, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Environment in Zimbabwe said

the intensity and frequency of disruptions in natural and socio-economic systems caused by climate change requires African led and demand driven research in the areas of mitigation, adaptation, resilience building as well as capitalizing on emerging opportunities.

He said Africa should now be pro-active in dealing with climate change issues. "Appropriate finance for research, dissemination and use of results in adaptation planning has not been adequately provided to the climate science community," Munodawafa said.

"This should change if we are to tackle the envisaged impacts of climate change on the agriculture and food security sector. Climate related decisions, adaptation actions and resilience building across all socio-economic sectors as envisioned by the Paris Agreement should be based on the best available science which can only be obtained if adequate funding is available," he

added.

Munodawafa said as the world prepares for the 26th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention Climate Change (COP26) to be held in Glasgow, Scotland in October and November, the need for climate finance that is directed towards research and systematic observation in Africa should be prioritised.

The Paris Agreement on Climate Change calls for strengthening scientific knowledge on climate including research, systematic observation of climate system and early warning systems in a manner that informs climate services and supports decision making.

The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) also recommends the establishment of objective seasonal forecasting approaches in regional climate outlook through adoption of suitable practices and capacity development efforts.

Tanzania Centre for Democracy
"Smooth and Peaceful approach to Politics and Elections"

JOB ADVERT CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TANZANIA CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY

Position Title: Chief Executive Officer
Reports to: TCD Summit via TCD Chairperson
Country: United Republic of Tanzania (Both Mainland and Zanzibar)

About Tanzania Centre for Democracy

Tanzania Centre for Democracy is a non-partisan, non-religious and non for profit political parties' membership organization founded by five political parties with representative from the parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania namely Chama Cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo CHADEMA, Chama cha Mapinduzi CCM, Chama Cha Wananchi -CUF, Tanzania Labour Party (TLP) and United Democratic party (UDP).

TCD serves as the forum for dialogue, among political parties on issues of national importance including Democracy, Rule of Law aimed at promoting, strengthening and sustaining multiparty democracy in Tanzania. The member political parties therefore, cooperate with view of enhancing and deepening multiparty democracy by working together through dialogues, mutual consultations and implementing agenda for democratic National development.

TCD has entered into partnership with Legal and Human Rights Centre to undertake the project Titled Strengthening Tanzania Centre for Democracy in delivering its mandate in working through an inclusive democratic and political system in Tanzania. For this purpose, Legal and Human Rights Centre on behalf of Tanzania Centre for Democracy is recruiting TCD Chief Executive Officer.

TCD is an equal employer and does not discriminate or engage in activities that discriminate against any person employed or seeking employment based on race, colour, religion, sex, ethnicity, age, marital status, disability, or any other status or characteristic protected under applicable law.

TCD Chief Executive Officer Job Description.

A. Background Information	
Job Title:	Current Grade:
Chief Executive Officer	N/A
Department:	Duty Station:
N/A	Headquarters
Reports to:	
The Summit	
Direct Reports:	Indirect Reports:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance Officer Programme Officer 	N/A
Purpose of the job	
Steer TCD towards achievement of its strategic objectives in line with its mission, vision and core values.	
B. Responsibilities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide overall conceptual and strategic leadership of the TCD. Direct and manage the organisation of professional and support staff. Coordinate the establishment of TCD strategies and policies for effective delivery of the organisation's mandate. Supervise the implementation of TCD work plan to ensure that all planned activities are carried out to achieve organisational goals and objectives. Conduct official correspondence for the organisation and sign off legal documents as and when need arises. Oversee the monitoring of organisational budgets to ensure that the organization operates within budget guidelines. Source actively for funding from diverse partners and donors through partnerships and networks to achieve TCD strategic objectives. Supervise programs in liaison with the Programs Directors to ensure that the programs meet the targets and deliverables outlined in the Strategic Plan, donor agreements and satisfies other program commitments. Develop a respectful and professional working relationship with key sub-grantees and other partners to ensure smooth flow of program activities and goodwill. Act as focal point of contact with donors and develop a respectful and professional relationship with them to ensure smooth flow of program activities and goodwill. Act a TCD representative in national and international forums as required to provide necessary input on core issues in the industry and develop networks. Act as an interface between the board and staff to inform staff on Board directives and advise the Board accordingly on organisational operations. Oversee the recruitment and selection of TCD employees. Report monthly/quarterly/annually to the Board on various matters of the organization and to follow up on the implementation of directives given. Conduct performance reviews with the staff as per the Performance Management guidelines and in a timely manner each year. Perform any other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors. 	
C. Qualification, Knowledge and Skills	
1. Academic Qualifications:	
Master's degree in Law (LLM), Political Science, Public Administration, Economics, or any other related field from a recognized institution.	
2. Experience:	
A minimum of 12 years of progressively responsible experience in the related field, including 5 years in the senior management position.	
3. Technical Competencies:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge and understanding of national, regional and international human rights laws and charters Demonstrated experience in stakeholder management that include donors and government institutions. Demonstrated experience in delivering strategies for donor funded institutions similar to TCD Evidence in leading the development and implementation of budgets to actualise organisational objectives Evidence of leading research and publication in recognized peer reviewed journals Proven experience in managing staff Strong proficiency in written and spoken English and Fluent in Kiswahili Display of highest standard of ethical conduct Strong understanding of the international development context and experience in the international development sector. 	
4. Behavioural Competencies:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to anticipate changes to inform policy development and implementation Ability to proactively take actions and make strategic decisions Ability to communicate with external bodies clearly and concisely Ability to build opportunities for value added relationships Ability to apply a high level of influential strategy Ability to drive change at a strategic and operational level Experience working with cross cultural teams Ability to maintain direction despite risk of conflict Ability to encourage a friendly working environment which allows career development 	

Placing army patrol to escort truckers is a bilateral matter

KEY stakeholders in intra-regional trade are seeking to find ways to sort out security issues in crossing the border or perhaps a series of border points especially between Uganda and South Sudan. The East African Business Council (EABC) has suggested that member states of the regional trading bloc move to create units of armed forces to escort cargo trucks venturing into the troubled EAC member state, which is a reasonable proposition but hard to take up. There is so far no joint defence accord among the partner states, and not even a joint law enforcement mechanism, but police links exist with Interpol, SADC, etc.

The regional private sector body has advised the EAC Secretariat to convene the Sectoral Council on Interstate Security to consider deploying a regional joint armed patrol for escorting and protecting truck drivers, to end the truck border crossing impasse. The situation came after a strike by Ugandan drivers delivering goods to South Sudan, following the killing of a number of truck drivers traversing into the country in the past few weeks. The situation there is relatively lawless, despite that it is part of the East African bloc; it was admitted in the hope that this affiliation will boost its morale to clean up its politics.

The EABC has condemned the harassment and killing of truckers as a routine part of how militias extort businesses and civilians, thus calling for a joint regional armed patrol as a quick solution to guarantee peace and security for truck drivers, business people and their properties. Recalling that earlier in April, the EABC praised South Sudanese authorities and their Ugandan counterparts for moving to escort truck drivers, it is now urging Interstate Security ministers to adopt

a regional monitoring mechanism so that the measure becomes institutionalised, not dependent on laborious interstate meetings. That would surely be helpful, but it is not easy to see how it operates, especially the scale of response in case of attack, etc.

The EABC wasn't just thinking of the physical accompanying of trucks or rather their drivers into the volatile state but also carry out a management function, of analysing and monitoring progress, point at emerging flashpoints on trade and security on the main border point, as so far incidents are reported on a the major connecting northern Uganda with the South Sudan capital of Juba. The EABC emphasised that peace and security are prerequisites to social and economic development in the region, as such insecurity increases the cost of transporting goods, risks people's lives, obstructs border-crossing on trade and negatively impacts the competitiveness of the EAC bloc. It can scarcely be improved upon, this diagnosis.

It is the rampant insecurity along the Nimule/Elegu border route to Juba that is stalling movement by what is now said to be more than 1,000 trucks, stranded at the Elegu border post. This immobility similarly risks intensifying the spread of Covid-19 among the border communities as well as the truckers who now have to subsist at least partially in that environment, for longer periods than expected. Tests for Covid-19 apart, and even spasmodic inoculation as the rollout is yet to be manifestly taken up by the younger sections of the population, there is no guarantee that either part of the two sides is safe. The local residents fear the truck drivers and the latter similarly worry how safe it is to engage more closely there.

Literacy in Africa is in our own hands

LITERACY is popularly understood as an ability to read and write in at least one method of writing, an understanding reflected by mainstream dictionaries. In this view, illiteracy would be considered to be the inability to read and write.

Some researchers suggest that the history of interest in the concept of "literacy" can be divided into two periods. Firstly is the period before 1950, when literacy was understood solely as alphabetical literacy (word and letter recognition). Secondly is the period after 1950, when literacy slowly began to be considered as a wider concept and process.

This widening of the traditional concept of literacy took place as consensus emerged among researchers in composition studies, education research, and anthropological linguistics that it makes little sense to speak of reading or writing outside of some specific context—a position James Paul Gee describes as "simply incoherent." For example, even extremely early stages of acquiring mastery over symbol-shapes take place in particular social contexts (even if that context is simply "school"), and after print acquisition, any instance of reading and writing will always be enacted for a particular purpose and occasion and with particular readers and writers in mind. Reading and writing, therefore, are never separable from social and cultural elements.

International Literacy Day is an international observance, celebrated each year on 8 September, that was declared by UNESCO on 26 October 1966 at the 14th session of UNESCO's General Conference. It was celebrated for the first time in 1967. Its aim is to highlight the importance of

literacy to individuals, communities and societies. Celebrations take place in several countries.

Some 775 million lack minimum literacy skills; one in five adults are still not literate and two-thirds of them are women; [3] 60.7 million children are out-of-school and many more attend irregularly or drop out. [4][5]

According to UNESCO's "Global Monitoring Report on Education for All (2006)", South Asia has the lowest regional adult literacy rate (58.6 pc), followed by sub-Saharan Africa (59.7 pc). Countries with the lowest literacy rates in the world are Burkina Faso (12.8 pc), Niger (14.4 pc) and Mali (19 pc). The report shows a clear connection between illiteracy and countries in severe poverty, and between illiteracy and prejudice against women.

Celebrations of International Literacy Day have included specific themes, in line with Education For All goals and other United Nations programs such as the United Nations Literacy Decade. The celebration's theme for 2007 and 2008 was "Literacy and Health", with prizes awarded to organisations at the forefront of health education. This was also the thematic emphasis of the 2007-2008 biennium of the United Nations Literacy Decade. In particular, International Literacy Day 2008 had a strong emphasis on Literacy and Epidemics with a focus on communicable diseases such as HIV, tuberculosis and malaria, some of the world's forefront public health concerns. For 2009-2010 the emphasis was placed on "Literacy and Empowerment", with special consideration to gender equality and the empowerment of women. The theme of the 2011-2012 celebrations is "Literacy and Peace".

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By Special Correspondent

Security Council should respect sovereignty!

Just as a human right is the most vital issue of individuals, the sovereignty of a nation also comes before anything. Priority for sovereignty prevails over anything. Safeguarding the sovereignty of a nation enables the protection of all other vital issues that human beings worry more about. Without the sovereignty of a nation, it is difficult to talk about respecting the safety and dignity of human beings. This is also the very reason human beings live for.

The United Nations is the highest authority of the global community in charge of many shared issues including safeguarding human rights throughout the world. As an international institution, it is established by member states whose sovereignties are recognized and guaranteed by international law. Therefore, this organ of the international organization should be committed enough to respond to the burning desires of the member states, i.e., safeguarding their sovereignty.

By Jemimah Njuki and Elizabeth Nsimadala

IN a few weeks, the United Nations will host the first international Food Systems Summit. The goal is to create a global movement committed to solving the many dietary, economic and environmental problems linked to the way food is produced, sold and consumed today.

Africa, a continent with high rates of poverty and malnutrition that are strongly connected to poorly performing farms—and home to vast tracts of uncultivated but farmable land—will be a stress test for the summit's aspirations.

Both of us grew up in farming households in Kenya and Uganda and have devoted our professional careers to exploring the wide assortment of challenges and opportunities connected to food production in Africa. We have a deep understanding of the fact that being a farmer in Africa today can be either a blessing or a burden.

Overall, it feels like today there is a perverse logic in which we are being told that African farmers must be penalized for problems originating largely in wealthy countries. So no commercial seeds, even if our farmers want them. No fertilizers, even if they are desperately needed and can be responsibly used—African farmers currently apply less than 20 kilos per hectare, compared to a global average of 136 kilos.

Most Africans—including up to 90% of people living in rural communities—still rely on small-scale or "smallholder" crop and livestock production to generate the income they need to support their families.

Their farms—if productive and with good access to markets—can be the blessing that pays for school fees,

However, the United Nations Security Council has recently been observed being engaged in acts that contravene the sovereignty of the member states rather than securing it.

For instance, in one of its previous sessions, the council tabled the issue of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) for discussion. The construction of the dam is a mere internal affair of Ethiopia and is not a security matter at all as Dr. Engineer Sileshi Bekele, the Minister of Water Irrigation and Energy to the council. The council has no mandate to discuss the issue of the dam. But with the request of the lower riparian countries, especially Egypt, the council moved to make it an agenda so as to put pressure against Ethiopia in its own way. The move was thwarted through the unreserved efforts of Ethiopia and its friends all over the world.

The council has scheduled another meeting for today in connection with the issue in Tigray. The government is currently undertaking an operation

to subdue the terrorist TPLF from its barbaric and inhumane activities in Tigray, Amhara and Afar states. The government moved to take the action upon the legitimate request of the entire Ethiopian people at home and abroad to discharge its responsibility of securing the lives of people in its territory. It is also a sovereign right as well as a constitutional obligation of the government. Failing to do so will cause the government to be liable, first to its own people and then to all international laws that put the responsibility on it to safeguard the security and human rights of the people. This is what all other member states of the UN as well as the permanent and temporary members of the Security Council do in their sovereign territory. But with the request of some of the members, the council is going to sit for the eighth time now on the issue of Ethiopia and specifically on the crisis in Tigray.

It is good to remember that Ethiopia has been not a mere

member, but also a founding member of the League of Nations, the succeeding United Nations, the Organization of African Unity as well as the African Union. In all these institutions, it has participated actively in different capacities in ensuring peace and security as well as promoting fraternity among states. The governments that led the country at different times are well aware of the boundaries of the council's mandate and know how to act accordingly. The incumbent is also taking all the actions in accordance with relevant domestic and international provisions that were in use since the establishment of the UN.

Therefore, the council must make sure that the issue of ensuring the security of the nation is a mere domestic affair and would rather focus on actions that can stop those countries that would attempt to intervene in the domestic affairs of the country to discharge their vested interest.

Africa's farmers deserve choices

health care and also food to round out their family's nutritional needs. Farming is especially important for providing economic opportunities for African women.

But farming is often a burden for many Africans because they lack what they need to succeed—so their farms don't provide sufficient incomes or even enough food. This burden grows heavier every day as the stresses of climate change and, more recently, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic add new obstacles.

Too many African farmers will head to their fields tomorrow with the same set of limited options they have been saddled with for decades—such as seeds for crop varieties that have become susceptible to a proliferation of plant pests and diseases, meager amounts of inputs and technical support to help them restore dangerously depleted soils, and no mechanization to work their lands or process their crops.

Increasingly, Africa's agriculture burdens are outnumbering its agriculture blessings.

From our extensive work with African farmers, it's clear that the Food Systems Summit's admirable vision will not be achieved on our continent as long as our farmers lack the basic choices available to farmers elsewhere in the world. The same can be said for efforts to recover from the pandemic and adapt to climate change.

But here's where the situation becomes especially complicated.

Many organizations are advocating for single solutions, restricting the options available for African farmers to choose from, when they should be

doing just the opposite. And while we recognize that it is important to protect African farmers and African ecosystems from exploitation, we also must recognize the sovereignty of African farmers and their agency to choose what works best for their farms and their families and for protecting the ecosystems that they depend on.

For example, today, many African farmers save seeds from maize, beans or other crops cultivated in one season for planting in the next. They also may trade seeds with one another through informal markets. But too many of these varieties do not translate into good harvests. They have become susceptible to crop pests and diseases or changing climate conditions. According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the amount of maize and other cereal crops harvested per acre or hectare in Africa is less than half the global average.

Therefore, there has been a growing effort by a number of African countries to work with their farmers to develop new, improved varieties that—while they are not a cure-all—can better respond to farmer needs and preferences. Yet some still view even commercial seeds—especially if they must be purchased fresh every year—with deep suspicion.

The answer is to help farmers understand the trade-offs and let them choose. But why vilify those who seek to offer the choice?

Overall, it feels like today there is a perverse logic in which we are being told that African farmers must be penalized for problems originating largely in wealthy countries. So

no commercial seeds, even if our farmers want them. No fertilizers, even if they are desperately needed and can be responsibly used—African farmers currently apply less than 20 kilos per hectare, compared to a global average of 136 kilos. And no mechanization, even though many African farmers still plough with their cows and hand hoes. We believe the Food Systems Summit could provide a forum for a reset that seeks to find common ground for the increasingly fractious debate over food production in Africa.

First, we can start with an agreement that we all want the same thing: environmentally sustainable, economically successful farms that deliver better opportunities for rural farming families across the continent and affordable, nutritious diets for all Africans. And we can agree that it's incredibly important to develop public sector policies that encourage responsible use of agricultural inputs and safeguard farmers from potentially exploitive practices.

But the worst thing we can do right now for African farmers and Africa's vulnerable food systems and ecosystems is to greatly narrow the menu of solutions available. Instead, let's look for consensus instead of conflict and consider that there can be many paths to achieving our shared goals.

Dr. Jemimah Njuki is director of Africa at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and an Aspen New Voices Fellow

Elizabeth Nsimadala is president of the Pan Africa farmers Organization (PAFO) and of the Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF).

Mental health needs of children in South Africa are sorely neglected, say experts

By **Tiyese Jeranji**

Cornelia Vermeulen is a registered nurse and a mother of twin daughters living with autism. They will soon turn 16. Vermeulen says she knows first-hand what it is like to look for mental health services for children. Having struggled in “mainstream” schools, her children are now at a private school, where she says they get more attention.

She also runs Cornelia's Care for Children, an organisation that helps other parents navigate their mental health journey with their children.

For Vermeulen, a big challenge is that schools and clinics are not well equipped to deal with children living with autism, ADHD or any other mental health disorder.

“There is a big problem at schools,” she says. “Some of the teachers are not well-educated to deal with these children. There is a big need to help these children at school. Because there is no help, [many] of them end up dropping out of school. You sit with a child who is old but they can't even read and write. This can be solved if the teachers understood mental health challenges for children.

“Also, there is a huge need for special needs classes at schools; someone that will focus on these children and understand them and help them, because if they don't get help, they just fall through the cracks and are lost in the system. That is a huge loss, not only for them but for the economy as well. They could have contributed something if they received the help and care they needed.”

South African Democratic Teachers' Union spokesperson Nomusa Cembu says there is no special mental health training at schools. Cembu says teachers were calling for that long before Covid-19 but it is not happening. She says given the magnitude of the need, proper training of nurses for basic mental health services at primary healthcare level will be very helpful.

“Teachers have been asking for psychosocial services at schools and we have been talking to the department of education to liaise with the Department of Social Development but there is little to no services at all.

“Though the departments say they have programmes, schools are not seeing that. Training of healthcare workers at primary healthcare will be beneficial. Also, now with Covid, there is so much trauma and anxiety for both learners and teachers. Mental health training for teachers and basic training at primary health facilities will be a huge ammunition,” she says.

“The need for mental health services is dire. For now, if teachers do notice any mental health problems, they refer to the next level which will be your primary health facility.”

The departments of health, education, and social development had not responded to questions from *Spotlight* by the time of publication.

The numbers

A study that focused on high-income countries found that one in four to five young people in the general population suffers at least one mental disorder in any given year. Furthermore, the majority of adult mental disorders develop during childhood or adolescence when they could potentially still be prevented or identified and treated early.

“We do not have very good data on the various conditions that are experienced by young children, but issues like depression, anxiety disorder, ADHD, autism, and eating disorders are some of the prevalent mental health conditions in children and adolescents,” says Bharti Patel, national executive director of the South African Federation for Mental Health, speaking specifically about the situation in South Africa.

She says studies have found that due to the high rate of HIV, violence, substance abuse, and unemployment, our children and adolescents are more vulnerable to mental health conditions.

Patel says that, according to the World Health Organization, about 10% to 20% of young children, including adolescents (globally) experience



some type of mental health condition.

Professor Petrus de Vries, the Sue Struengmann Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and director of the Centre for Autism Research in Africa, says children and adolescents present with a huge range of mental health disorders.

“There have not been any systematic studies in South Africa, but the rate is about 20% (one in every five children probably have a diagnosable and treatable mental health disorder). Mental health disorders are the number one health condition in those under 18, and 50 to 75% of adult mental health disorders have their onset in childhood or adolescence,” he says.

How mental health conditions present

De Vries says mental health problems can present in many different ways in children and adolescents and this can sometimes make it hard for parents, caregivers and peers to identify these problems early.

“One of the key markers is a change in the typical behaviour, activities, or interest of the child or young person. For example, a child may present as more withdrawn than usual, or less interested in schoolwork, saying everything is ‘boring.’

“Sometimes we see actual changes in school performance or in unwillingness to go to school. Sometimes children start to sleep more or less than usual, eat more or less than usual, or seem just to lose interest in the kinds of activities they would normally have enjoyed,” he says.

“Parents and caregivers usually become concerned when their children become more secretive or become confused in their thoughts. As you can see, these are all non-specific markers that may indicate an emerging mental health disorder.”

De Vries adds that there are sometimes more obvious worrying signs, such as when young people start to talk about death or dying or try to harm themselves.

What mental health services are available for children?

Patel says primary healthcare facilities provide basic health services to all, including young children and adolescents.

“The healthcare clinics in all districts are meant to provide mental health services as well

as physical health services. Schools are also supposed to have support teams accessible where teachers can reach out for assistance with screening of children and adolescents for mental health conditions. Many NGOs are also accessible to communities where parents and young children can access information and counselling,” she says.

De Vries echoes this and adds that schools are great settings to support the mental health needs of children.

“It is even included in the integrated school health programme. In reality, teachers and school staff are keen and willing, but have little training, little knowledge, and little support,” he says.

In a study, nursing coordinator Stella Mokitimi and her co-authors explained that the national Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH) policy framework of 2003 set out a three-tier model for CAMH services.

According to the study, depending on the complexity of the problem, the first point of contact for patients should be at Level 1 (informal and formal primary health services) and then move to Level 2 (mental health specialist teams) or Level 3 (child and adolescent mental health specialist teams). Patients will move between these levels based on the complexity of the problem, the type of assessment, and/or the type of intervention needed.

According to the Mental Health Policy Framework and Strategic Action Plan 2013-2020, the model of care for mental health issues is the same as described in the CAMH; however, for the framework, it starts with self-care, informal community care, then primary healthcare and then follows the tiers up from there.

But, as often is the case, having a healthcare policy in place and implementing that policy are two different things.

Patel says while the national mental health policy framework provides for the needs of children and adolescents, the policy does not provide for resource allocation.

“This has resulted in poor implementation of the policy at a provincial level,” she says.

“In provinces, there are no formalised mental health policy and action plans. In urban areas, there are still more clinics and hospitals available compared to rural communities. The country is failing to provide mental healthcare to young children

and adolescents as there is no routinely gathered information from schools, clinics, or hospitals.

“Also, there are no provincial statistics collected to guide a systematic approach to mental healthcare for young children. Research has also shown that a lack of intersectoral collaboration has resulted in children falling through the gaps.

“The departments of health, social development and education all work in silos and this affects early identification and treatment of young children and adolescents with mental health conditions.”

Most recent policy has lapsed

Patel points out that the Mental Health Policy Framework and Strategic Action Plan 2013-2020 has lapsed and is in urgent need of a review.

The framework acknowledges that most mental disorders have their origins in childhood and adolescence. About 50% of mental disorders begin before the age of 14 years and the framework states that if diagnosed early they can be treated.

At the time the framework was published in 2013, the Eastern Cape had five mental health hospitals (the most of all provinces). KwaZulu-Natal had four mental hospitals while Gauteng, Western Cape and Limpopo all had three. Gauteng had 10 child and adolescent outpatients' clinics, Free State had one, and Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal had four each. But North West, Northern Cape, Eastern Cape, Mpumalanga, and the Free State had no child or adolescent outpatient clinics at the time - although things could obviously have changed in the meantime.

Access to specialist services

Apart from limited facilities, De Vries notes that there are only a handful of specialist services for children and adolescents with mental health disorders in South Africa.

“They are at tertiary level (in teaching hospitals) and are difficult to access because they are so limited. In one of our studies in the Western Cape, we estimated that probably no more than about 10% of children who needed mental health treatment actually accessed it.

“South Africa has only about 50 child and adolescent psychiatrists, and most [of them] work in the private sector (accessible only to a small

proportion of families). The mental health of children and adolescents are therefore very poorly identified and treated in South Africa.”

He adds that for more than two decades experts have been saying that urgent action is needed.

Explaining the challenges of access to mental healthcare, De Vries says people in local communities often go to their local health clinic (which may or may not be able to help them with basics).

“Then they need to go to district mental health teams (where people have little knowledge and training in the mental health of children and adolescents).

“Only the lucky few progress to teaching hospitals where there are experts in child and adolescent mental health. For the last 20 years, experts have been recommending that we should have community child and adolescent mental health teams where families can connect to expertise in their own districts, connected to schools and social services and others who might be able to help,” he says.

“I think we are at a point where we need the voices of families and young people to say this is not acceptable and something should be done.

“However, virtually nothing has changed. If anything, [there are now fewer] resources and pressures or needs [are] higher. We are completely unable to meet the mental health needs of children. A lucky few receive good quality services, mostly in big cities.”

Covid-19 and children's mental health

The Children's Institute at UCT in collaboration with the Children's Hospital Trust and the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation developed a series of advocacy briefs focusing, among others, on the impact of Covid-19 and the mental health of children. The briefs were released in August.

The advocacy brief on Mental Health and Wellness observed that there have been few studies on the mental health of children and adolescents during the pandemic.

“Much of the data we have comes from studies on the general population and these data show a rise in anxiety, with impacts rated as moderate to severe. In a long-term follow-up study of children and young people in England in 2020, more than 25% reported sleep

disruptions, while almost 20% of children with a probable mental health problem stated that they were fearful of leaving the house because of Covid-19.

“Based on experience of other humanitarian crises and epidemics such as HIV, it is likely that there will be long-term and enduring mental health impacts on children, such as sleep problems, separation anxiety and aggressiveness,” stated the advocacy brief.

De Vries says he has not seen numbers from South Africa of mental health disorders during Covid-19, but there has probably been an increase.

“In European countries and elsewhere this seems to be the case. We have no reason to believe South Africa will be any [different],” he says.

Patel says: “Social isolation, ongoing lockdown regulations resulting in limited movement, closure of schools, halting of extracurricular activities, breaking down established routine, and also limited access to support systems have exposed the mental health vulnerabilities of young children and adolescents.”

She adds that parents and adults now working from home have created a home environment often filled with stress and anxiety as parents juggle work and family commitments.

“Parental support is extremely important to children and adolescents. Parents need to spend more time with children and adolescents explaining the pandemic and what is happening around us as we lose loved ones, teachers and friends.

“We also need to be mindful of the needs of children to remain in contact with friends via social media and allow them space and freedom to interact with peers.”

She notes that not all families have access to data, so alternate means of relaxation need to be found, like playing board games and getting children involved in preparing meals and spending fun time together.

But, reminds De Vries, “even in pre-Covid times the mental health of children and adolescents was a highly neglected area. Covid has just exacerbated all of it and in clinical settings, we are now dealing with very high levels of distressed young people and with very high rates of mental health disorders.”

The ARC Model: Proactive disaster risk financing for more resilient Africa

DOMINICA

The world faces multiple crises: climate change, extreme weather events, food security and biodiversity. For African nations, these issues are compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic and epidemic outbreaks that include Rift Valley Fever and Malaria. With 35 African Union Member States as signatories to its establishment Treaty, the African Risk Capacity (ARC) Group - comprising of ARC Agency and ARC Limited - works with Governments to help improve their capacities to better plan, prepare, and respond to extreme weather disasters and natural disasters.

By building smart partnerships and promoting an anticipatory financing approach, ARC enables countries to strengthen their disaster risk management systems and access rapid and predictable financing when disaster strikes to protect the food security and livelihoods of their vulnerable populations.

Since 2014, the Group, through its commercial affiliate, ARC Limited, has provided USD \$720 million in risk coverage against drought and made over USD \$65 million in payouts to enable an early response to these extreme weather events thereby protecting 65 million people in participating Member States. Being demand-driven in its products offering, the Group has recently diversified its offerings to include Tropical Cyclone and is currently finalizing the development of a Floods product. This is in addition to its ongoing work in Outbreaks and Epidemics targeting four pathogens including Ebola, Marburg, Meningitis and Lassa Fever. The development of a Flood Risk Model is in an advanced stage in collaboration with the International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) to ensure that it is offered as a world-class tool for building Member State resilience.

As the United Nations gears up for the September 23 Food Systems Summit - a crucial event that seeks to secure action to transform food production, packaging and distribution, as well as provide solutions to the climate, biodiversity and hunger crises, tackling the threat of drought will be a cornerstone of the discussions.

In this regard, ARC is ahead of the curve. Using its cutting-edge tool, the Africa RiskView, the Group provides season monitoring, and early warning services to decision-makers on the likely impacts of natural hazards profiled for their countries. This software also estimates the impact of a disaster, estimating the number of people affected, and the associated response costs. It is, therefore, an important tool in enabling the ARC mandate of helping governments proactively manage disaster events and tackle food insecurity.

"The model ensures that governments, using data sets and information, are able to anticipate the probability of a drought or a tropical cyclone event,



therefore enabling early-action to protect lives and livelihoods of communities at risk", ARC Group Director-General and United Nations Assistant Secretary-General Ibrahim Cheikh Diong told IPS.

He also added that "we are also looking at extreme weather conditions and exploring the possibility of raising money from capital markets in order to avail additional financing for adaptation or mitigation as well".

The ARC Group Director-General is scheduled to speak on food systems transformation during the United Nations General Assembly. He hopes to steer the discussion away from a singular focus on food reserves and urge the world to explore options to provide additional financial resources to African countries to help them directly address food security and sustainable livelihoods.

"If we look at African countries, many are heavily dependent on rain-fed agriculture - I'd say almost 80 per-

cent. Some farmers tend to be quite exposed to the lack of rain, or too much rain in some cases, and this creates additional risk among smallholder farmers."

"In addition to having some solid irrigation systems to ensure more controlled agriculture, it is equally important to consider parametric insurance, as an innovative risk transfer mechanism to help Africa to be more resilient."

By participating in ARC risk pools, Member States have access to rapid liquidity in the immediate aftermath of a severe insured disaster. This is critical in not only enabling response but in complementing food reserves.

The ARC business model is multi-dimensional, providing technical assistance through early warning and contingency planning tools, as well as risk transfer services. Such an approach relies heavily on innovative science and research and development, enabling a tailored offering to meet the needs of member states and

the climate realities of each.

"It's not just about the product that we offer from a research and development perspective. It is also about making sure that once the offer is clearly defined, we are able to provide the necessary capacity building to our Member States, so they are empowered with the skills and knowledge required to deal with natural disasters," Diong said.

"Given the fiscal constraints faced by many African governments, one of our key initiatives has been the mobilisation of resources to provide premium support to countries in need of financial assistance. Accessing this funding allows countries to increase their coverage and be able to reach more people in the event of a disaster."

As the risk insurer prepares to launch its Outbreaks and Epidemics product to the market, it is excited to be able to provide African countries with disease outbreaks early warning systems and response. The continent contin-

ues to suffer from outbreaks such as the Ebola Virus, Meningitis and Malaria.

ARC is also supporting efforts towards the first COVID-19 vaccine manufactured in Africa.

"As an institution, we are not involved in the manufacturing of vaccines, but we are in advanced discussion with an institution in Senegal called the Institut Pasteur de Dakar, which is trying to manufacture vaccines, not only for Senegal but for Africa as a whole," said Diong. "We are partnering with them by making sure that we can provide the necessary capacity building as they produce a vaccine which will go a long way in protecting the vulnerable communities in our Member States."

Acutely aware that women are disproportionately impacted by climate change and disasters, Diong confirms that the Group's activities are grounded on gender equality. As such, ARC has dedicated resources and training staff in gender mainstreaming and

ensuring that the ARC programme always considers the gender perspective. Recently, the Group, together with the African Union, launched a Gender Disaster Risk Management platform that focuses on sustained advocacy and the importance of research & development, training, policy dialogue, resource mobilisation and knowledge management to advance gender in Disaster Risk Management in Africa.

Lastly, "I think the message I want to convey is that Africa is not lagging behind. Disasters do not discriminate. It is important to anticipate disasters as this allows each nation to come up with necessary measures and mechanisms to deal with disasters before they occur," Diong told IPS. "As an organisation, together with partners, we are on a journey to ensure that we can make Africa more resilient, be able to adapt to the impacts of climate change and mitigate the damages caused."

AGENCIES

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UJUJUYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Africa grapples with surging food import bill

By Special Correspondent

THE President of Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) Agnes Kalibata has called on bold actions to help the continent become self-reliant in food.

Kalibata made the disclosure during the African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) where she made the case for prioritising moving smallholder farmers from subsistence agriculture to profitable agribusiness.

At the forum, a Deal Room—a matchmaking event seeking to mobilise \$5 billion in agribusiness financing, was launched.

Africa remains a net food importer with the food import bill outstripping export revenues.

The African Development Bank (AfDB) estimated that in 2017, Africa spent \$64.5 billion on importing foods, and that the food import bill was projected to increase to over \$110 billion by 2025. This, according to the Bank, is unsustainable,

irresponsible, and unaffordable.

Africa's exports of food and agriculture products are somewhere between \$35 billion and \$40 billion a year, and some \$8 billion a year flows through intra-regional trade in these products, according to McKinsey & Company - a US-based management consulting firm.

"We cannot develop this continent on the back of seven out of 10 people living as producers of food (farmers) who are facing high poverty," Kalibata observed.

Specifically, she added, small and medium enterprises needed help in order to make them profitable. "Every 10 years we triple the amount of food we import,"

While the food system is a very important business in the world, it remains a challenging venture for Africa, which boasts of 1.3 billion people.

The best way to tackle the issue, Kalibata said is to create an environment where investors in the sector can thrive.

Diane Karusisi, the



Imported food products in Africa's supermarkets

Chief Executive of Bank of Kigali, there is still a huge gap between the realised farm yield and the potential yield, making it difficult to efficiently bank millions of smallholders. "I believe digital [agriculture] is the future especially in an African setup where

we are dealing with millions of smallholder African farmers, who all have a phone," she said. Elizabeth Nsimadala,

President Pan-African Farmers' Organisation (PAFO), said "the production side of the [food] value chain is longer and riskier,

and this risk is not distributed in the rest of the value chain and this is where we need to see a rebalancing of power."

WFP expands emergency response as up to 7 million people face hunger crisis in Ethiopia

By Special Correspondent

THE United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has announced an unprecedented funding gap of \$US426 million across its operation in Ethiopia and appealed for funds to meet the needs of up to 12 million people this year.

This month WFP started delivering emergency relief food assistance to communities in regions bordering on war-torn Tigray. In coordination with Ethiopia's Federal and Regional Government authorities, WFP plans to immediately reach 530,000 people in Afar and 250,000 people in Amhara, but will scale up as needs increase and if funding is received.

Meanwhile in Tigray, food security continues to worsen as WFP and its partners struggle to scale up and meet the urgent food needs of 5.2 million people across the region. Food stocks held by WFP and partners had been almost entirely depleted until yesterday, when the first convoy for over two weeks entered the region. The WFP-led convoy of over 100 trucks carried 3,500 metric tons of food and other life-saving cargo - including fuel and health and shelter items. "WFP welcomes the



A World Food Programme worker supports a distribution of food in northern Ethiopia, where conflict is worsening the humanitarian situation.

collaboration from federal and local authorities in Afar to ensure our convoy finally made it safely into Tigray," said Michael Dunford WFP's Regional Director for Eastern Africa. "But much more is needed and this momentum must be sustained otherwise we cannot hope to deliver enough food to save millions from falling deeper into hunger."

WFP teams on the ground can now start delivering the next round of food distribu-

tions in Tigray. WFP will reach up to 3 million people in the region, an increase of 900,000 since it took over operations in two north-western Zone districts - Shire town and Tahtay Koraro - from its non-governmental food partners.

"Time is running out for millions across Northern Ethiopia and if we don't get additional funding right away, we will be forced to cut rations or, even worse, halt distributions to some 4 million people we're

trying to reach in Afar, Amhara and Tigray in the coming months," added Dunford.

Aside from the escalating fighting in the north of the country, food security for millions across the whole of Ethiopia is under threat due to an unprecedented funding gap for WFP operations in the country. Across Ethiopia, over 13.6 million people are estimated to be food insecure due to the prolonged combined effects of drought, flooding, desert locust

invasions, market disruptions and high food prices, and the COVID-19 pandemic - all exacerbated by the recent conflict spreading across northern parts of the country.

WFP is desperate for an additional US\$426 million to expand its emergency food assistance response over the next six months as well as provide long-term food security solutions for people as they enter the yearly 'hunger season in the region.

Unease as laxity rises, no direct intervention

By Correspondent Ani Jozeni

A SENSE of malaise appears to be creeping into the Tanzanian political psyche on the basis of the character of participation in international media opinion outlets, as well as documentaries on social media.

One reason for the malaise is apparent slackening of work in road building in many areas in the city of Dar es Salaam, with those engaged in the work complaining that the companies are yet to be paid by the responsible authorities.

What however is disturbing and comes back to the way the public has been used or tailored to expect results during the fifth phase presidency, there are scarcely any complaints about the district and regional authorities but criticism focuses on the change in leadership, despite that they don't address the issue directly save when talking in social groups.

One such instance was a recent call in discussion featuring a panel of experts in media, activism and academics brought together by the German radio station DW's Swahili language program, where the debate contended authoritarian systems and democratic structures.

The change in Zambia where opposition leader Hakainde Hichilema was elected and outgoing president Edgar Lungu acknowledged the result did not change the local atmosphere, as few callers expressed optimism that anything will change there.

The reason is that it is the third time opposition parties have taken office and each time the corruption and laxity in execution of public works and governance in general has remained in place.

Another area in which a certain amount of dissent is being expressed is frequent travel to neighbouring countries, where a breadth of the public is steeped into disenchantment with opening to other countries, wishing that the president would rather focus on listening to people's complaints on roadsides or actual visits, instead of directing them to the responsible officials.

A number of political analysts find this situation to be normal, in that upper classes in society and especially the more activist groups are sensitive to freedom, and are enthusiastic about the change in political content and administrative style since the inauguration of the sixth phase presidency.

The lower levels of the population on the other hand are less sensitive to these venues of democratic expression, and more attuned to results and intervention to put in their places those who trample upon their rights in a routine manner.

One such result of paling away of direct intervention is occasional resorting to sweeping vendors off the streets, destroying or taking away cooking pots and utensils, confiscating whatever they find when raiding such petty trade areas, behavior that was prohibited during the fifth phase.

The situation is such that there was a measure of excitement during call in program with DW on the event of overthrow of the Guinean government of elderly politician Alpha Conde, who is now 83 years old.

Self-reliance theme crops up as unifying philosophy, preaching

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

FIFTH phase development philosophy appears to be taking firm root among the country's intelligentsia, especially among academics and even preachers in a number of city FM stations, it can be affirmed.

This outlook is part of underlying themes of discussion on the present course of policy action, and seems to concur with a number of fifth phase strategies that are at variance with much of what is being done now, for instance preferring an inward look-

ing economy in relation to industries and locally made goods.

One such discussant, holding a talk show at a prominent Protestant radio station went over predictions of future, underlying that the Belt and Road strategy is directed at Chinese domination of the global economy and insisted that it is gradually the case in most African countries.

The solution to this situation is to look inward and lay conditions of trading with China as with other countries, he said, suggesting also that even in the current

inoculation drive against Covid-19, it is vital that local scientists take up the challenge and develop a local version of the vaccines.

Another area of emphasis which does not directly arise from the fifth phase but has been in the vogue for around three decades is to let professionals do their job without being interfered by routine political statements which create uncertainty in what the relevant bodies do in research, production or business expansion.

The preaching that has been heard in a number talk shows and open assemblies has

a range of sources, including expectations raised by the fifth phase presidency and how it contrasts with the open door philosophy of the sixth phase.

It appears that the open door philosophy scares a range of observers for instance with the likely domination of foreign goods over locally manufactured goods, and chances that many local industries will not be able to compete with foreign goods.

Economic analysts all the same point out that what people wish for is less to obtain a market for local goods but to get cheap and

quality commodities from wherever they are manufactured, while increased investments in the country create jobs and expand consumption capacity, in which case local goods get the market they need.

Some critics however feel that US-China trade disputes shall affect poorer or lower middle income countries like Tanzania, and are trying to figure what we can do about it, where the self-reliance solution comes up foremost, especially as it was cultivated by the fifth phase presidency under the late Dr John Pombe Magufuli.



Thursday 9 September 2021

Bank chief touts TCB Women Business Forum as vehicle for empowerment

By The Banker Reporter

A new platform seeking to empower women financially has been launched by Tanzania Commercial Bank which CEO, Sabasaba Moshingi has described as a vehicle that will change women's economic prowess in the country.

Speaking during the launch in Dodoma mid this week, Moshingi said TCB Women Business Forum is a networking forum for advancing women's interests in the country's banking industry which has long been dominated by men.

"The platform will mostly support business women by sensitising them on the bank's tailor made products and services to help them solve their entrepreneurship challenges," he said adding that women will also exchange ideas with experts.

During the inaugural TCB Women Business Forum, deliberations mostly dwelt on the role that the group can play to spur sustainable growth of the national economy. "Similar events will be conducted in six regions of Tanzania, namely; Dodoma, Arusha, Mwanza, Morogoro, Mbeya and Dar es Salaam as well as Zanzibar where women will connect, share knowledge and ideas on entrepreneurial issues," Moshingi added.

According to him, the rationale behind



Tanzania Commercial Bank CEO, Sabasaba Moshingi speaks at a past event.

the platform is to recognise and appreciate the transformative power of women and their role in economic development. Revealing that the next forum will be held in Zanzibar tentatively next week, the TCB chief executive said currently women com-

prise 50 percent of the bank's customers.

"Already TCB has unique services for women such as the Tabasamu Account, a special service window at all branches, and a life insurance product for groups whose members are

mostly women," he noted.

Moshingi said TCB is obliged to drive and support the national women economic empowerment agenda after its acquisition of Tanzania Women's Bank. He further stated that the merging with TWB, Twiga Bancorp and TIB Corporate has greatly boosted TCB's fortunes in the market.

With a clear empowerment strategy and a wide range of banking solutions, Moshingi pointed out that TCB is well positioned to serve even less privileged women groups because the bank has the requisite financial muscle to meet such demand.

"We have also extended more than 120bn/- loans to women borrowers and managed to mobilise deposits worth 11.9bn/- through more than 300,000 accounts of savings groups whose members constitute 85 percent women," the TCB CEO told the gathering which included Dodoma Regional Commissioner, Anthony Mtaka.

In the bank's 2020 results, deposit and net assets were valued at 888bn/- and about 1.04trn/- respectively whereas pre-tax profit

rose from less than a billion in 2007 to 21bn/- during the period. The loan portfolio surged from 36bn/- to 618bn/- during the period.

Themed: "The Role of Women in the Growth and Development of the National Economy" the forum attracted about 300 participants mostly women entrepreneurs. It was also attended by lawmakers, public and private sector officials, the civil society, female students, women with special needs and other stakeholders.

Addressing the forum, RC Mtaka said the initiative was not only a noble idea but also top notch creativity for enabling women-owned and women-led businesses to prosper. He challenged TCB to accord them the opportunity to unleash their entrepreneurial potential to realise their goals.

"In that regard, banking and other financial institutions are a pivotal aspect in shaping the government's agenda and Tanzania Commercial Bank has shown the way with today's inauguration of this platform," the Dodoma RC noted.

Global sukuk issuance to reach \$200bn this year, Moody's says

DUBAI

Global sukuk issuances in 2021 are likely to remain below the record levels achieved in 2020, as higher oil prices and continued economic recovery reduce financing needs of sovereigns in the Gulf region, Moody's Investors Service has said.

Gross short and long-term sukuk issuances in 2021 are expected to reach between \$190 billion and \$200bn, the ratings agency said in a report on Tuesday. Volumes will however be below the \$205bn recorded in 2020, it added.

Economies of oil-rich Gulf states have bounced back strongly from the twin shocks of an oil price slump and the pandemic. Rapid mass vaccination campaigns and monetary and fiscal measures by governments and central banks in the region have supported the economic rebound.

"[The overall] sukuk issuance will be flat or slightly lower this year," said Ashraf Madani, a vice president and Analyst at Moody's. "We expect issuance of between \$90bn and \$100bn in the second half of the year, bolstered by continued economic recovery, improved liquidity in debt markets and strong investor demand."

"However, sovereign issuance from GCC countries will be lower than in the same period last year." Sukuk issuance in the GCC fell 19 per cent in the first half to \$35.3bn, owing to a "significant drop in sovereign issuance."

Saudi Arabia remained the largest issuer in the GCC, accounting for around 62 per cent or \$22bn of the total volume - down from \$24.5bn in the first half of 2020. Oil prices this year have also risen to above \$70 per barrel, which has helped the sovereigns boost revenues and cut their budget deficit.

Demand for crude has been steady as the pandemic-linked movement restrictions ease and economic activity picks up. The International Monetary Fund expects the world economy to expand 6 per cent in 2021 after last year plunging into its worst recession since the 1930s.

Moody's expects sovereign issuances in Malaysia and Indonesia, where funding needs remain high, to drive sukuk issues in the remainder of the year. "We also anticipate increased issuance from corporates and banks," Moody's said.

"A steady stream of new issuers have joined the sukuk market in recent years and we expect this trend to continue." Moody's expects green sukuk issuance to also accelerate this year as governments promote sustainable policy agendas, prompting new issuers to consider it as an alternative financing tool.

Listed banks' tax bill increases 58pc after removal of cushions

NAIROBI

The tax bill of listed Kenyan banks and their subsidiaries in the region rose by 58 percent in the first-half of the year, analysis showed, lifted by higher profits and removal of a special relief on corporate tax.

According to an analysis done by the Business Daily based on commercial banks' half year disclosures, tax paid by the 10 lenders in the period cumulatively stood at Sh30.27 billion from Sh19.14 billion paid in the same period in 2020.

The jump is as a result of removal of the tax cuts meant to cushion Kenyans and businesses in the country from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic that wrecked economies globally. The government cut corporate taxes from 30 percent to 25 percent in April last year among other measures but were reversed in January this year.

A report released Thursday by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) on behalf of

the Kenya Bankers Association (KBA) shows that commercial banks in Kenya accounted for 24.1 percent of the total tax paid by corporates.

"The contribution indicates the industry has remained resilient, navigated the challenges occasioned by the Covid-19 pandemic, and continued supporting the economy," said Habil Olaka, KBA's chief executive.

The reduction in contribution was solely a result of reduced profitability by the sector in the pandemic year. Cumulatively, earnings before tax for the whole year dropped by 29 percent to Sh112.8 billion according to Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) data. Despite the high contribution to total corporate taxes, last year's 24 percent was a decline from 29.7 percent contributed by the sector in 2019.

From the half year analysis, KCB, the country's biggest bank by market size (14.05 percent) booked the highest value of current tax in the period at Sh8.5 billion accounting

for 28 percent of the total value followed by Equity whose tax bill was recorded at Sh6.4 billion.

Co-operative Bank which boasts a 9.56 percent market size in the country, had its current tax booked at Sh3.15 billion closely followed by Absa at Sh3.01 billion which had a market size of 6.23 percent at the end of last year, according to the Annual Banking Supervisions report.

The 10 listed Kenyan lenders combined reported a 73 percent jump in net earnings in the six-month period, growing from Sh38.3 billion to Sh66.15 billion, with Housing Finance being the only loss making lender in the period.

Total current tax paid by the sector from Kenya operations last year dropped 31 percent to Sh42.36 billion from Sh55.4 billion in 2019. Corporate tax and PAYE are the largest contributors of the total tax contribution in the banking sector, standing at 42.5 percent and 16.5 percent respectively.



Habil Olaka, KBA's chief executive.

e-Naira promises 'economic new dawn' if done right says blockchain expert

LAGOS

Shadrack Kubyane, co-founder of Coronet Blockchain believes Nigeria's plan to unveil the country's Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), e-Naira, will offer up significant economic opportunities - if managed effectively.

By 'effectively' Kubyane means flawlessly executed with the buy-in of citizens. He said: "The driving force is: the people must be involved, the people must co-create the future they jointly want, and therefore a consultative approach, well beyond an approved implementation partner for the apex bank, is a must. If done right: a new dawn will emerge out of this."

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) recently announced a partnership with Barbados-based Fintech company Bitt Inc (credited for the launch of

the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank CBDC pilot in April 2021) regarding a proposed CBDC pilot known as Project Giant.

According to CBN Governor, Godwin Emefiele, several benefits would result, including "increased cross-border trade, accelerated financial inclusion, cheaper and faster remittance inflows, easier targeted social interventions, as well as improvements in monetary policy effectiveness, payment systems efficiency, and tax collection." Kubyane maintains that the government's strategy will take into consideration Nigeria's socio-economic reality.

"However, as the country shifts into an implementation mode, with the CBN being the custodian-elect by default of this innovation, a mindfulness on how to phase this implementation - a balancing act in preserving the interests of the two Nigerian territories

namely Nigerians within the country's borders and Nigerians in the Diaspora - requires a selfless approach on the part of the apex bank."

He continued: "The same applies to all the other ECOWAS currencies that are hoping for a digitisation lifeline, or currencies elsewhere. A deep dive into addressing the macro and micro blind spots across the framework, particularly the societal forces that weakened the currency, must now more than ever take centre stage, whilst gears are shifting towards the e-currency format."

The outbreak of COVID-19 has resulted in greater interest by central banks in implementing CBDCs. In its 2021 Annual Report, The Bank for International Settlement (BIS) stated that about 85% of central banks globally are already considering issuing their own CBDCs.



Mwanga Hakika Bank's head of business unit, Project Massawe addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam this week when he announced the bank's upcoming annual general meeting due to be held on September 18, 2021 in Mwanza district of Kilimanjaro region. Accompanying him is company secretary, Marry Kissanga. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

TRA pays 300 billion plus in VAT refunds to private sector

By Geoffrey Tusiime, TUDARCO

AT last Tanzania Revenue Authority has started paying value added tax refunds owed to the private sector after a lengthy period of not doing so which attracted complaints from the latter.

Speaking to The Guardian in Dar es Salaam this week, TRA Director for Tax Payer Services and Education, Richard Kayombo said during the current fiscal year which began in July, the tax body has already paid 104 bn/- in VAT refunds.

Kayombo said the payments will continue throughout the remaining months after verification of the pending claims which is going on currently to check against cheaters. "Will continue to settle the claims on a case by case basis, this exercise is rolling. As you know, we receive new submissions every month," he added.

Kayombo urged Speaking to The Guardian yesterday, TRA Director for Tax Payer Services and Education, Richard Kayombo confirmed that during this financial year that began in July 2021, the tax body had paid a total of 104 bn/- adding that verification process for the pending claims is still on-going to verify



TRA director for tax payer education, Richard Kayombo.

the authenticity of the claims before payment. "We have already paid 104 bn/- in arrears this financial year and we will continue to settle the claims but we cannot settle all of it at once. As you know, we receive new submissions every month," he added.

Kayombo urged VAT refund claimants to continue completing the necessary procedures and reduce inaccuracies to allow quick verification and processing of the claims.

In a study carried out in 2018, Confederation

of Tanzania Industries noted that manufacturers were facing serious cash-flow challenges because of huge outstanding VAT refunds delayed by the TRA. Commenting on the latest developments, CTI Director of Advocacy, Akida Mnyenyelwa confirmed that the tax authority has started paying the refunds to its members after a long period of non-payment.

Mnyenyelwa however called on TRA to fast track the exercise so that manufacturers can use the refunds to boost production. "We are grateful that the government has heard our outcry and started paying these VAT refunds arrears which were long overdue. It is our hope that TRA will continue paying the outstanding arrears to enable CTI members boost their liquidity positions," he added.

The CTI Advocacy Director, commended the government's new tax reforms that include the waiving of 15 percent import duty charged on industrial sugar effective from 1 July, 2021. In its half year results for this year, Shanta Mining Plc acknowledged receiving 9.8bn/- in TRA refunds. The London Stock Exchange listed company however noted that it was still working with the government to clear the outstanding balance.

Diamond rebound rolls on as De Beers reports another bumper sale

LONDON

The diamond industry's resurgence showed no sign of slowing down with De Beers reporting its biggest gem sale since February as consumers continued to buy jewelry.

Anglo American Plc's De Beers said it sold \$515 million of rough diamond at its seventh sale of 2021, the biggest total for this time of year since 2016. The company is currently on track for its best year since 2018.

While initially being hit hard by the pandemic, diamonds have since proved one of the more resilient industries. Stuck-at-home consumers have kept buying stones with competing luxuries such as travel not an option due to coronavirus restrictions. That demand has continued as the global economy started opening up, with strong sales in the key markets of the US and China. Signet Jewelers Ltd. last week raised its full-year revenue target after a surge in sales, though it did caution that it expects a shift away from jewelry spending as the economic recovery continues.

De Beers, which has been aggressively raising the price of rough diamonds throughout much of the year, mostly held prices steady at the last sale. Some buyers have started to raise concerns that the price increases from De Beers and rival Alrosa PJSC have gone too far, especially as polished prices need to climb higher to justify the rates that rough stones are fetching.

NEWSINDEPTH

MEF expects exchange rate to reach 68 meticaï per US dollar this year

MAPUTO

The Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) foresees the metical-US dollar average exchange rate worsening in 2021.

In its 2022 Tax Risks Report (RRF), published at the end of last August, the MEF starts by revealing that the metical depreciated in 2020 to an average of 66.6 meticaï per US dollar, against an initial forecast of 60.0 meticaï.

"For 2021, the projections changed with the impact of Covid-19, with pressure on the foreign exchange market being expected, which could raise the exchange rate to 68.0 Ml/USD," the document reads, under the section on "Foreign Currency Risk."

However, in relation to the initial forecast (in the 2021 State Budget), the MEF report shows that there was a negative variation in the increase in the exchange rate. Initially, the MEF had predicted that the average annual exchange rate would reach 69.0 meticaï per US dollar.

Fitch Solutions, an international financial ratings institution, also revised downwards the forecast of metical's depreciation against the dollar in 2021. If initially the forecast for the end of this year was



Mozambican meticaï bills.

74 meticaï per US dollar, in August, the institution reduced it to 71 meticaï per US dollar, due to the improvement in the prices of mineral coal and aluminium, two of the main export products in the country.

As for prices, the MEF forecasts for 2021 a certain stability in the level of inflation,

standing at 5.0%, equivalent to a reduction of 0.5pp compared to last year. The source points to a probability of materialisation of the risk of deceleration, of a reduction in the general price level of 42.9%.

"However, given the new wave of Covid-19, the medium-term prospects could lead to

an increase in price levels, due to the fall in production activity. The acceleration will also be justified by the need for budgetary and/or public spending reinforcements, to face the effects of Covid-19, as well as to continue actions to support vulnerable families," the MEF report reads.

Africa's third-best performing currency may have more to run

KAMPALA

Uganda's shilling, Africa's third-best performing currency this year, gained for a fourth straight day on Tuesday, buoyed by dollar inflows from coffee exporters and foreign investors chasing yield.

"We are seeing more dollar receipts, especially from coffee," said Benoni Okwenje, general manager for financial markets at Kampala-based Centenary Bank Ltd. "We have seen an increase in portfolio investments, which are being attracted to emerging markets. We continue to receive a lot of dollar inflows to non-governmental organizations."

The East African nation's currency gained 0.1% to 3 529.50 against the dollar by 1 p.m. in the capital, Kampala, increasing year-to-date gains to almost 4%, the most on the continent this year after Zambia's kwacha and Mozambique's metical, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

Uganda is Africa's biggest coffee exporter and shipments climbed to a record in June on better yield from new trees, favorable weather and improved prices, according to the Uganda Coffee Development Authority. Exports in the first 10 months of the season that started Oct. 1 rose 20% year-on-year.

PayPal to buy Japanese unicorn Paidy in \$2.7bn deal

TOKYO

PayPal said it will acquire the Japanese upstart Paidy Inc. for 300 billion yen (\$2.7 billion) as it seeks to deepen a push into buy-now-pay-later products.

The acquisition will be "minimally dilutive" to adjusted earnings per share in 2022, PayPal said Tuesday in a statement. The deal, which is expected to close in the fourth quarter, will be paid for principally with cash, PayPal said.

Japan is home to the world's third-largest market for online shopping but it is also one of the few developed markets where paper currency is still king. Nearly three-quarters of all purchases in the country are still paid for in cash, PayPal said.

Paidy, then, is unusual among the world's buy-now-pay-later providers because it allows Japanese consumers to purchase items online and pay them off each month in person at local con-

venience stores. The firm, founded in 2010, has 4.3 million active accounts.

"There is no better home for Paidy to continue to grow and innovate than PayPal, which has been removing friction from online shopping for more than 20 years," said Russell Cummer, founder and executive chairman of Paidy. PayPal said Cummer and Riku Sugie, president and chief executive officer of Paidy, will continue to lead the business. Paidy will also maintain its brand and operate its existing businesses.

Buy-now-pay-later (BNPL) options allow users to split purchases into smaller payments without charging any interest, and instead make most of their money by collecting a small amount from merchants each time a consumer uses the product. Their usage is surging worldwide amid the pandemic-fueled e-commerce boom.

The Paidy deal comes after Jack Dorsey's Square Inc. agreed last month to buy Australian

BNPL firm Afterpay Ltd. for \$29 billion. Sweden's Klarna Bank AB raised funds in June at a valuation of \$45.6 billion, with SoftBank Group Corp. leading the funding round. PayPal itself began offering a BNPL service last year and customers have since used it to make \$3.5 billion in purchases.

Paidy's backers include Soros Capital Management, Visa Inc. and Japanese trading house Itochu Corp. The startup raised \$120 million in its most recent funding round in March, which research firm CB Insights said took its valuation to \$1.2 billion.

Cummer, a Canadian, set up the firm after working as a credit trader at Goldman Sachs Group Inc. in Tokyo. Paidy began offering BNPL services in 2014. It can be used on Amazon.com Inc.'s Japanese site, and launched a tie-up with Apple Inc. in June for customers making purchases from Apple in Japan.



Russell Cummer, founder and executive chairman of Paidy.

Financial institutions have a crucial role to play in financial literacy campaign

By Omari Mtiga,

THE local banking sector is changing rapidly with visible transformation brought about by digitization, fintech, increasing regulatory reforms such as financial consumer protection regulations and foreign exchange directives that were issued by Bank of Tanzania in 2020 hence triggering fierce competition in the market.

These developments have made banks to become innovative while offering new and old financial products and services to meet dynamic customers' demands. This diversity of financial products and services has increased the need for financial literacy among customers.

I would like to pose a challenge to the 'The Guardian' reader. Imagine that the interest rate on your savings account is one percent a year and inflation is two percent a year, after one year, would the money in the account buy more than it does today, exactly the same or less than today? Simple question right! However, it's likely that most of us will not get the correct answer. This test solidifies the fact that there is a lot to learn about financials.

Financial education provides



Godwin Semunyu is a Stanbic Bank Head of Personal and Business Banking

customers with the knowledge and skills needed to make sound decisions in order to create and secure financial wealth. Banks can also benefit from financial education in several ways. For example, at a time when there is high competition in retail banking, tailored client-centric financial education programs can open new roads into untapped populations, like, rural farmers, small-scale businesses, and informal saving groups and associations.

It goes without saying that banks and other financial institutions play a crucial role in promoting financial literacy. According to Bank of Tanzania, as of September 2020, the country had a total of 49 banks, with numerous branches spread across making them best placed to roll out financial education campaigns.

Stanbic Bank Tanzania is trailblazing the banking sector in this

regard. In 2020, the bank initiated a free zoom financial education webinar under the theme, 'A journey towards financial wealth,' aimed at equipping society with skills needed to generate and expand their income.

There is no better way to demonstrate commitment than through understanding the customer and working together to create programs geared towards life-long learning, partnership, and financial growth. The impact of financial literacy is far-reaching and can support individuals and companies to grow thereby having a positive impact on Tanzania's economy.

In fact, according to the National Financial Education Framework (N-FEF) 2016-2020, financial education has the potential to contribute towards the broader

goals of the Financial Inclusion Framework by improving the levels of financial capability of the population.

Financial Sector Deepening Tanzania (FSDT) highlights that almost six in 10 adults (56 percent in Tanzania) are financially included, which makes access to financial education an effective tool in promoting financial inclusion.

But the big question is, what more can the banking sector do to improve financial literacy? Stanbic Bank Tanzania believes that the solution is to increase awareness and develop financial education programs, tailored for different demographic groups, developing public skills in terms of financial capacity, and promote cooperation among financial institutions in providing financial education.

In 2021, Stanbic Bank is deepening its work on financial education, particularly in the area of creating wealth. It will examine in more detail the important role of financial education in increasing consumer awareness and understanding of financial issues, including how they can best benefit from the products and services provided by banks and other financial institutions.

Global consumers slow to adopt 5G-enabled devices

LONDON

The global adoption of fifth-generation wireless network connectivity, or 5G, has yet to catch on at scale, with only 26 per cent of consumers owning 5G-enabled smartphones, a survey by internet-based market research company YouGov shows.

About 52 per cent of the survey's respondents do not have a 5G-enabled smartphone and 18 per cent are unsure if their smartphone is 5G enabled, YouGov said in the report. The survey polled more than 18,800 people in 17 countries, including the UAE, Australia, China, the US, Denmark, France, the UK, Indonesia, Mexico and Sweden. "While 5G may be the future of connectivity, it has yet to catch on at scale ... with massive variation in adoption and attitudes across global markets," the report said.

"The coronavirus has slowed the 5G roll-out ... new smartphone sales fell globally in 2020 ... slower handset innovation has led to longer smartphone life cycles, with many people opting to keep their devices longer before upgrading." A 5G network has an internet speed of up to 1.2 gigabits per second, which will gradually evolve to 10Gbps - more than 100 times faster than 4G.

December 2018 marked the dawn of the 5G era, when South Korean mobile operators launched the next-generation network to consumers. Less than three years later, 61 nations, or 30 per cent of the world's countries, now have access to commercial 5G services, YouGov said.

In May 2019, Etisalat - the UAE's biggest telecoms operator - became the first service provider in the region to announce the availability of a 5G network, supporting smartphones for commercial use. It was soon followed by the UAE's second-biggest operator du, Saudi Telecom Company and Bahrain's Batelco.

China, the world's most populous nation, and the UAE, the Arab world's second-largest economy, lead the way with 55 per cent and 48 per cent of people owning 5G-enabled devices, respectively. More than 30 per cent of respondents in Hong Kong and Indonesia currently own a 5G device.

However, Europe and North America lag behind in their take-up of 5G-enabled devices, with adoption rates below 25 per cent. At 26 per cent, US respondents are less than half as likely as Chinese respondents to have a 5G device.

"In wealthy and developed countries like the US, Britain and France, respondents remain less convinced 5G will change how people connect to the internet and less likely to pay more for 5G connections," the report said. Globally, 23 per cent of respondents do not know if 5G will change how people connect to the internet, YouGov found.

Asian countries were also more likely to have concerns about 5G's effects. About 53 per cent of Indians, 41 per cent of Chinese and 39 per cent of Indonesians said they were worried about 5G networks. Younger consumers between the ages of 18 and 24, known as Generation Z, are the most likely to be early adopters of 5G. About 63 per cent of this group believe that 5G will change how people connect to the internet, YouGov said.



A 5G enabled smartphone has an internet speed of up to 1.2Gbps, which will gradually evolve to 10Gbps

BANKING & FINANCE

Treasury on the spot over accountants' fees

NAIROBI

The Treasury has come under the spotlight for entertaining proposals by accountants to set minimum fees they can charge for advisory services, setting businesses up for a possible escalation of compliance costs and undermining competition rules.

The Treasury Monday began receiving views on the proposed regulations, which include setting the minimum fees charged by accountants in an attempt to curb price undercutting and boost professionalism.

The Competition Authority of Kenya (CAK) has previously shot down the proposed minimum fees for accountants, saying it would limit competition—raising questions on the Treasury's renewed dalliance with the accountants over the matter.

The Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya (ICPAK) had in 2015 requested to be exempted from competition rules - a move that would allow it to set minimum professional fees for accounting services.

The CAK rejected the request in a November 2016 decision, arguing that the benefits of minimum fees were outweighed by the potential harm they would cause in the marketplace.

"Introduction of fee guidelines will decrease competition, increase costs, reduce innovation and efficiencies and limit choices to customers and is, in fact, likely to raise the cost of accountancy services beyond the reach of some consumers," the CAK said.

Fresh public consultations on the proposed regulations began yesterday, with non-practising members of the accountants' lobby ICPAK presenting their views amid concern that setting minimum prices could limit options of affordable services to the public.

Practising members of ICPAK and regulators such as the Central Bank of Kenya, the Capital Markets Authority, the Retirement Benefits Authority, the Insurance Regulatory Authority, and the Commission for University Education are set to give their views this week.

The proposed fee schedule shows an individual will pay an accountant a minimum of Sh2,000 to seek the services of application for Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) PIN, obtaining a tax compliance certificate (TCC), filing of return of income with salary, other sources/share of profit and taking instruction as a tax agent.

A business partnership will pay Sh7,500 for the same services while a local firm will pay Sh10,000. Filing of return of income with



Treasury Cabinet Secretary, Ukur Yatani.

preparation of bank summary, capital accounts, and balance sheet will cost an individual Sh5,000 and a medium-sized company Sh10,000. Any other tax consultancy will see an individual part with Sh10,000 and a medium-sized company Sh50,000.

"Taxation services, include tax advisory services and related work for organisations and individuals provided to assist clients to comply with tax laws, with respect to tax administration procedures," say the guidelines. It will cost one Sh100,000 to get consultancy from an accountant in a tax dispute where the value is below Sh500,000.

Filing a tax appeal will see an individual part with Sh1,000 to get the services of an accountant and Sh20,000 for a small business. Proponents of the proposed regulations say setting minimum charges would arrest price undercutting and promote ethics.

"Overall, the net impact of the proposed regulatory rule is positive on practice of the accountancy profession in Kenya and beyond including qualifications for the profession," said Treasury Cabinet Secretary Ukur Yatani. Under the new schedule, fees paid to accountants will be pegged on hourly rates and generally represent multiple parameters for compensation, including the skills and scope of work being done.

"An accountant in practice shall before the commencement of any assignment, agree with the client on the fee scale to be applied and fees payable in accordance with the Schedule," say the draft guidelines. "An accountant in practice shall not agree or accept any remuneration less than as provided by this Order and any such action shall amount to misconduct as defined in the Accountants Act."

A small-medium enterprise with revenue of less than Sh5 million shall be charged Sh50,000 per hour for audit and assurance services while a medium-sized company with revenue of below Sh100 million but above Sh5 million will have to part with a minimum of Sh200,000 for a similar task. Large firms with revenue of above Sh100 million will pay a minimum of Sh1 million for audit and assurance.

Institute members will be paid Sh500 per hour while audit partners responsible for signing off the audit report and who take overall responsibility for the audit work performed and the opinion will take home Sh4,500 an hour. Small firms will part with a minimum of Sh100,000 to be advised on business partnerships. Under the draft guidelines, the minimum scale fees will be calculated on the basis of the time taken to undertake the assignment or engagement period.

Accountants and their clients currently negotiate and agree on fees without any price guides. The minimum fees come at a time when new laws and business realities have entrenched the use of external and internal auditors, setting the stage for an earnings bonanza for accountants whose typical monthly compensation is way above the national average.

Standard Chartered sets up digital-only bank in Singapore

SINGAPORE

Standard Chartered has signed a deal with Singapore's biggest trade union group to form a digital bank, the British lender's second virtual business in the region.

The London-based bank said on Monday it had agreed a joint venture with BetaPlus, a company controlled by the social enterprise division of the National Trades Union Congress, known as NTUC Enterprise. Bloomberg reported in August 2020 that the pair were in talks.

Standard Chartered said it would invest 144 million Singapore dollar (S\$107m) and own 60 per cent of

the business, while BetaPlus would put in 96m Singaporean dollars for the remainder. They have given the venture the temporary name of SC Bank Solutions.

Singapore is one of Standard Chartered's most important markets and the base for thousands of its staff. The bank also enjoys close connections to the Singaporean government, which is the company's largest shareholder through the Temasek Holdings sovereign wealth fund.

The bank has introduced digital-only platforms around the world for the past two years. Last year, in Hong Kong, it launched Mox, a four-way joint venture with partners

including Trip.com Group, China's largest online travel agency.

Like Mox, the Singaporean digital bank will be separately licensed and effectively compete against Standard Chartered itself, with an expectation that the business will help the bank reach a pool of customers it would otherwise miss. Standard Chartered says it has signed up about 3.5 per cent of Hong Kong's population to Mox.

In Africa, Standard Chartered has adopted a low-cost approach, setting up online-only banks in several countries. It started with Cote d'Ivoire and expanded to markets including Kenya, Nigeria and Uganda.

Russian, Indian top security brass agree to coordinate approaches to work on Afghanistan

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev and National Security Advisor for the Indian Prime Minister Ajit Doval have agreed to coordinate the two countries' approaches to efforts related to Afghanistan, the Russian Security Council said in a statement following consultations between Patrushev and Doval in New Delhi.

"The parties discussed the prospects for Russian-Indian cooperation in creating conditions for the launch of a peace process based on intra-Afghan dialogue. Besides, they agreed to coordinate approaches to efforts related to Afghanistan on multilateral platforms," the statement reads.

The consultations also involved a number of Russian and Indian government officials. The parties considered ways to boost security cooperation with a focus on the fight

against terrorism, illegal migration and drug trafficking, as well as cooperation between intelligence agencies and defense ministries.

After the United States announced plans to withdraw troops from Afghanistan, the Taliban (outlawed in Russia) embarked on a large-scale operation to seize control of the country. On August 15, Taliban fighters swept into Kabul without encountering any resistance and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani stepped down and fled the country.

On Tuesday, Spokesman for the Taliban movement (outlawed in Russia) Zabihullah Mujahid announced a new Afghan government consisting only of Taliban members, the majority of whom are ethnic Pashtuns.

Mohammad Hassan Akhund, who heads the Taliban's leadership body Rehbari Shura, will head the cabinet. Meanwhile, the Taliban have pointed out that the current government is an interim one.

Agencies

'Endless wars' US launched on terror cost much more than 9/11 attacks - Nye

WASHINGTON

WHILE the 9/11 attacks killed several thousand Americans, the "endless wars" that the U.S. launched as part of the global war on terror "cost much more," renowned Harvard University professor Joseph S. Nye has said.

"The damage done by Al-Qaeda pales compared to the damage we did to ourselves," Nye, dean emeritus of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, told Xinhua in an email interview.

By some estimates, nearly 15,000 American military members and contractors were killed and the economic cost of the wars that followed 9/11 was more than 6 trillion U.S. dollars, Nye said.

"Add to this the number of foreign civilians killed and refugees created and the costs were enormous." "The opportunity costs were also large. When President Barack Obama tried to pivot to Asia -- the fastest growing part of the world economy -- the legacy of the global war on terror kept the U.S. mired in the Middle East," said Nye.

"The problems of terrorism remain" though some say that despite these costs, the United States prevailed in the global war on terror with Bin Laden and many of his top lieutenants killed, and there has not been another major terrorist attack on the U.S. homeland with the scale of 9/11, he noted.

"Looking forward, when the next terrorist attacks come, will presidents be able to channel public demand for revenge by precise targeting, explaining the trap that terrorists set for us, and focusing on creating resilience in American responses," said Nye.

"Twenty years after 9/11, these are the lessons we should be learning and the plans we should be making," he said. As a counterfactual history of the past 20 years, imagine what the world

would be like if U.S. President George W. Bush had avoided the tempting rallying cry of a global war on terror and responded to 9/11 by carefully selected military strikes combined with good intelligence and diplomacy, said Nye.

Or, if he had gone into Afghanistan, imagine that he had got out after six months, even if that had involved negotiating with the Taliban, he said. "What 9/11 illustrates is that terrorism is about psychology, not damage," said Nye.

The professor said he believes that "future historians will regard Sept. 11, 2001 as important as Pearl Harbor was on Dec. 7, 1941."

The surprise Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor killed some 2,400 American military personnel and destroyed or damaged 19 naval craft including eight battleships.

"In both cases, however, the main effect was on public psychology," said Nye. "The 9/11 terrorist attacks were a horrific shock to our psyches. Images of victims jumping from towers are indelible, and intrusive security measures disrupted our lives," he said.

For years, President Franklin D. Roosevelt had tried to alert Americans to the Axis threat but failed to overcome isolationism, and all that changed with Pearl Harbour, according to the professor.

In the 2000 presidential election, George W. Bush advocated a humble foreign policy and warned against the temptations of nation-building, but after the shock of 9/11, he declared a "Global War on Terror" and invaded both Afghanistan and Iraq, Nye said.

"Given the proclivities of top members of his administration, some say a clash with (then Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein was predictable in any case, but probably not in same manner and level of cost," said Nye.

Xinhua



Security high in Paris as 2015 jihadist attacks trial begins

PARIS

A TRIAL of unprecedented scale starts under high security on Wednesday to judge 20 men suspected of involvement in a jihadist rampage across Paris on Nov 13, 2015, the deadliest attack in peacetime France.

Some 130 people were killed and hundreds wounded when gunmen with suicide vests targeted six bars and restaurants, the Bataclan concert hall and a sports stadium, leaving deep scars on the nation's psyche.

"That night plunged us all into horror and ugliness," Jean-Pierre Albertini, whose 39-year old son, Stephane, was killed in the Bataclan concert hall told Reuters.

With police on high alert, streets will be cut off to cars and pedestrians around the Palais de Justice courthouse on an island in central Paris, with the surrounding banks of the Seine also off-limits.

Those authorised to attend the trial will have to go through multiple checkpoints before being allowed in a specially-built courtroom and other rooms where the hearings will be broadcast.

The trial will last nine months, with about 1,800 plaintiffs and more than 300 lawyers taking part in what Justice Minister Eric Dupond-Moretti has de-



French soldiers enforcing the Vigipirate plan, France's national security alert system patrols in front of The Eiffel Tower in Paris which is illuminated with the colors of the French national flag in tribute to the victims of the November 13 Paris terror attacks in which some 129 people were killed. AFP

scribed as an unprecedented judicial marathon. The verdict is expected late May.

Most of the accused, including Salah Abdeslam, the 31-year old French-Moroccan who is believed to be the only surviving member of the group suspected of carried out the attacks, face life imprisonment if convicted.

The other suspects, six of whom will be tried in absentia, are accused of help-

ing to provide guns and cars or playing a role in organising the attacks. "What I care about in the trial is the testimony of other survivors ... (to) hear how they have been coping over the past six years," said 48-year-old Jerome Barthelemy. "As for the accused, I don't even expect them to speak."

A survivor of the attack on

the Bataclan, Barthelemy said he was doing well now but had suffered from depression and anxiety.

Responsibility for the killings was claimed by Islamic State, which had urged its followers to attack France over its involvement in the fight against the group in Iraq and Syria.

Xinhua

CIFTIS a platform for China to share development opportunities with rest of world

THE 2021 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) kicked off in Beijing on September 2. Joined by over 12,000 enterprises from 153 countries and regions, the grand fair showcases the new progress and breakthroughs in services trade and shares the new technologies and benefits of human progress.

"We will work with all other parties to uphold openness, cooperation, mutual benefit and win-win, share opportunities in the growth of services trade, and promote world economic recovery and growth," said Chinese President Xi Jinping in a message delivered via video link at the Global Trade in Services Summit of the 2021 CIFTIS.

He said trade in services is a key component of international trade and an important area of economic and trade cooperation between countries, stressing China will open up at a higher level, create more possibilities for cooperation, further improve rules for the services sector, and continue to support the innovation-driven development of small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). His remarks sparked broad attention and response from the international society.

A review of human history shows that the world economy thrives in openness and withers in seclusion. The services sector is unique as it is asset-light but heavy in soft factors of production. As such, it requires, more than other sectors, an open, transparent, inclusive and non-discriminatory environment for businesses to grow. It calls for the concerted efforts of all countries to reduce border and behind-the-border barriers constraining the flow of production factors and promote cross-border connectivity.

CIFTIS is a comprehensive and



An employee of a Chinese enterprise introduces low-carbon housing projects to representatives from Argentina at the venue of the 2021 China International Fair for Trade in Services, Sept. 3, 2021.

state-level exhibition and trading platform dedicated to trade in services with a global reach. Themed "Towards Digital Future and Service Driven Development," this year's event aims to establish a wide platform for cooperation and seek the development of trade in services, and will be made into a special and productive one. It will create market opportunities and development dividends for all parties relevant, and inject more confidence and power into the global economic recovery.

Great times call for grand architecture, and grand architecture calls for great vision. To meet the actual needs for growing trade in services, China welcomes relevant parties to share its opportunities, and hopes to tackle the problems facing world economy, global trade and investment together with them.

In his speech, President Xi announced a series of new measures for China to open up at a higher level, create more possibilities for cooperation, further improve rules for the services sector, and

continue to support the innovation-driven development of SMEs.

China will implement across the country a negative list for cross-border services trade and explore the development of national demonstration zones for the innovative development of trade in services. It will scale up support for the growth of the services sector in Belt and Road partner countries and share China's technological achievements with the rest of the world. It will support Beijing and other localities in piloting the alignment of domestic rules with the ones in high-standard international free trade agreements and in building demonstration zones of digital trade. It will deepen the reform of the New Third Board (National Equities Exchange and Quotations) and set up a Beijing Stock Exchange as the primary platform serving innovation-oriented SMEs.

These practical measures fully demonstrate China's vision and responsibility in promoting the development of trade in services and sharing all benefit from a growing

trade in services with people in different countries. They also indicate China's resolution and confidence in following its fundamental policy of opening-up and always supporting the economic globalization.

Practices have proved, and will continue to prove that the opening-up and cooperation in the service sector is gradually becoming an important force driving development, and China's continuous development and opening-up will inject strong impetus into global recovery and growth.

Openness is essential for development and progress. It also holds the key to post-COVID economic recovery. We must promote trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, uphold the multilateral trading regime, discard discriminatory and exclusionary standards, rules and systems, take down barriers to trade, investment and technological exchanges, and enhance supply, industrial, data and human resources chains, so as to build an open world economy.

People's Daily

IAEA says Iran 'stonewalling' as nuclear talks hang in balance

VIENNA

THE UN atomic watchdog on Tuesday criticized Iran for stonewalling an investigation into past activities and jeopardizing important monitoring work, possibly complicating efforts to resume talks on the Iran nuclear deal.

The International Atomic Energy Agency said in two reports to member states reviewed by Reuters that there had been no progress on two central issues: explaining uranium traces found at several old, undeclared sites and getting urgent access to some

monitoring equipment so that the agency can continue to keep track of parts of Iran's nuclear program.

While the investigation into the uranium traces has been going on for more than a year, diplomats say the IAEA urgently needs access to the equipment to swap out memory cards so there are no gaps in its observation of activities like the production of parts for centrifuges, machines that enrich uranium.

Without such monitoring and so-called continuity of knowledge, Iran could produce and hide unknown quan-

tities of this equipment that can be used to make weapons or reactor fuel.

"The Agency's confidence that it can maintain continuity of knowledge is declining over time and has now significantly further declined," one of the two reports said, adding that while the agency needs to access the equipment every three months, it had not had access since May 25.

"This confidence will continue to decline unless the situation is immediately rectified by Iran."

A senior diplomat said the agency's confidence that the

equipment is still working properly declines rapidly after three months, and while the memory cards should keep working for slightly longer, inspectors will need access soon.

Former US president Donald Trump pulled Washington out of the 2015 deal, under which Iran agreed to restrictions on its nuclear activities in return for the lifting of sanctions. Tehran responded to the US withdrawal and reimposition of sanctions by violating many of those restrictions.

Indirect talks between the United States and Iran on both

countries returning to compliance have stopped while Iran's hardline President Ebrahim Raisi has taken office. France and Germany have called on Iran to return soon and Raisi has said Tehran is prepared to but not under Western "pressure".

'Without further delay'

Tuesday's criticism by the IAEA means the United States and its European allies must now decide whether to push for a resolution at next week's meeting of the 35-nation IAEA Board of Governors pressuring Iran to yield.

A resolution could also make resuming talks on the deal harder, since Tehran usually bristles at such moves.

"The Director-General is increasingly concerned that even after some two years the safeguards issues outlined above in relation to the four locations in Iran not declared to the Agency remain unresolved," the second of the reports said.

It said Iran must resolve outstanding issues relating to the sites, which include questions about a fourth location the IAEA has not inspected, "without further delay".

The report suggested an apparent attack in June on a workshop producing centrifuge components at the TESA Karaj complex was worse than Iran has admitted.

Iran has called it attempted sabotage by Israel, saying there was minor damage to the building but none to equipment.

The first IAEA report said that of four IAEA surveillance cameras installed at the workshop, one was destroyed and another severely damaged. Iran said it removed them before showing them to IAEA inspectors last Saturday.



Swimmers compete in a past event, which took place in Dar es Salaam.

Nine clubs to compete in National Open Swimming Championships

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu

NINE clubs are expected to compete in the National Open Swimming Championships scheduled to take place at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club's swimming pool from September 25-26.

The clubs are Dar es Salaam Swim Club, Taliss, Champions Rise, Mwanza Swim Club, and Arusha Swim Club.

Morogoro International School's squad, alias 'Piranhas', Bluefins, and FK Blue Marlins will also participate in the showpiece according to Tanzania Swimming Association (TSA) organizing committee chairperson, Hadija Shebe.

Hadija said the swimmers must be those whose clubs have paid annual membership fees and registered by TSA.

Hadija clarified also that those swimmers, who attained qualifying times in TSA-organised competitions from January this year to last month, are allowed to compete in the championships.

Samsa Logistics Limited, Sapphire Court Hotel limited, Selcom Paytech Ltd, Pepsi, Azam, Gymkhana Club, Tarmal Industries Ltd, Tanpack, and Flames Restaurant have sponsored the championships.

"We thank sponsors who have been so far supported us, but still look for sponsors to support the competition that will be part of gauging skills of the swimmers ahead of international competitions," Hadija revealed.

She said swimmers who do not have qualifying times are not allowed to compete in the event.

She said qualified swimmers are allowed to compete in up to eight individual events and two relay events and the deadline for confirming participation is September 18.

The age groups for the event are from nine to 10, 11-12, 13-14, and 15 and over. A swimmer, who will finish in the first position of the event, will be awarded 20 points while a second-placed swimmer and a swimmer that will come third will be awarded 16 points and 14 points.

The fourth-placed swimmer will garner 12 points while swimmers that will finish fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, and 10th in individual events will be awarded 10, eight, six, four, two, and one point respectively.

She said the swimmers will compete in five different swimming style categories, namely Freestyle, Butterfly, Breaststroke, Backstroke, and Individual Medley.

Zanzibar amputee football gets boost

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE International Committee Of Red Cross (ICRC) has donated assorted sports items to the newly formed Zanzibar Amputee Football Association (ZAFF).

Subhash Sinha, the ICRC representative, said on top of the provision of the equipment, the committee will also conduct a seminar on how to organize and manage amputee football.

Sinha said ICRC will also train coaches and referees of amputee football in Isles.

Tanzania Paralympic Committee (TPC) Secretary-General, Ramadhan Namkoveka, hailed the ICRC for the equipment which he described as having been presented at the right time.

Namkoveka said TPC and ICRC are in a partnership that is aimed at seeing sports bringing together people with disabilities improve.

He said through the partnership, TPC has necessitated the formation of the Zanzibar Amputee Football Association.

Namkoveka added: "We are happy that ICRC has donated assorted sports equipment to the newly formed

Zanzibar Amputee Football Federation (ZAFF) TPC we are in partnership with ICRC."

"Through the partnership, we want to see many women with disabilities are involved in sporting activities," he said.

He asked Zanzibar's Minister for Sports to help ZAFF so that many women in the Isles are involved in sports.

The sports equipment donated by ICRC includes nine crutches, jerseys, and other items.

Zanzibar's Minister for Sports Tabia Maulid who was the ceremony's guest of honour said the Isles' sports policy of 2018 advocates for sports inclusion.

The minister said the policy highlights that every person has a right to be involved in sporting activities.

"We value the importance of sports to any person, we aim to see that every person is involved in sporting activities as sports plays important role in health and they are also a source of income," Tabia disclosed.

Hassan Haji, ZAFF president, and amputee football player, Salmin Amir, expressed regards to TPC and ICRC for provision of the equipment, stating the facilities will develop the sport in the Isles.

Tanzania's filmmakers should arrange huge budget for film advertisement

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

IF people say Tanzania's film industry is very strong, they will be exaggerating the view because the industry has not achieved success.

Besides consuming content from the USA, India, and Nigeria, Tanzania has its emerging film industry, informally known as 'Swahiliwood'.

These Swahili films are referred to as 'Bongo Movies', as they are produced with low budgets, short schedules, on camcorders, and mass released in DVD format.

Media for Development International Tanzania (MFDI-TZ) promotes development through socially conscious programming in Tanzania and Africa at large.

The institution employs locals, it produces film, video, television, serials, and music.

But also if people talk about the negative sides of the country's films and dramas, they will be oppressing people that produced the content because, on the so-called bad side, people have acted weirdly.

Many 'Bongo Movies' and dramas are being watched these days and people will rarely hear praises until the films are either nominated for major international awards or enter big concerts.

But when domestic movie producers' works become more meaningful, they do not promote their works, they do not pay attention to the works, they do not grow up with them and most importantly fail to advertise the content.

The Tanzanian film industry has lots of potentials as the country has a beautiful landscape for filming, plenty of creative people, and good, talented actors and actresses.

Filmmakers in the country do not consider advertising their works at all, while other countries members of the film industry have film advertising policies that say the film advertising budgets should be at least half the budget for making films.

That is, for example, if one is making a film for 50m/- then he or she should make sure he or she has at least a budget to advertise the film, which is worth at least 25m/-.

And that is at least, some filmmakers are going up to 100 percent of the advertising budget.

That is, the film production budget is 50m/- and the same amount goes to film advertising as well.

That is just an example of investment in film production in the country's local context because it is in the early stages of promoting its film industry.

Producers do not have to use a policy of at least 50 percent.

There is a growing demand for local content through cable network TV and online platforms in the movie industry.

This means that if an individual can either develop or produce a good movie here, and be able to capture the attention of the market in East Africa which is more than 100 million people, it is a very huge business.

For example, since last week (Thursday), prominent actor, Vincent Kigo-



Renowned actress, Riyama Ally, is one of the popular members of Tanzania's film industry.

si, has been announcing his new drama which he plans to release soon.

He was posting via his Instagram account and what he was writing was that the drama is the best content people have ever seen.

But the downside was that his words did not match the pictures he was showing people on his account.

The pictures he posted show very unusual things, and even some of his fans were, in the comments section, wondering why the pictures he is posting do not substantiate his claims.

Such things do not require a half-budget, people just decide to go accomplish film produc-

tion do things professionally.

He would look for a special person to give him the responsibility of photographing him behind the scenes, and then use these pictures to advertise.

If members of the country's film industry cannot make progress, they can even draw knowledge from their counterparts in local new genre music 'Bongo Flava', who are showcasing maturity in advertising their works.

People see how the 'Bongo Flava' artists create great covers for their songs, display great talent in their works, and more.

Domestic actress, La-

mata Leah, is working hard, she has managed to do well in her drama, dubbed 'Jua Kali', which is way better than other shows in Tanzania.

She might either have had a bigger budget for the drama or maybe it is just an extension, but all in all, she has worked hard to achieve the feat.

She was focusing on seeing to it her drama was promoted in big posters, she has had a lot of events for advertising her drama, which includes having people in various areas watching the episodes together.

Leah further had a lot of talent to encourage viewing of her work and the approach has made a difference for her, it is in this case all about self-promotion.

The Tanzanian film industry is making efforts to improve production with high-tech cameras, better production facilities, and developing filmmaking skills.

The Tanzanian government believes the film industry has the potential to create employment opportunities while simultaneously boosting Tanzania's brand and the Swahili language.

The film industry can be used to see it the country makes headway economically.

Recently, there was a bill that seeks to see local and foreign film companies share their raw footage with the government and allow the government to use the videos to promote the country.

NBC Bank sponsors Arusha marathon

By Correspondent Jumanne Juma

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has reinstated its commitment as a corporate entity that values its customers by plowing back part of its profits to finance various community development projects in Tanzania.

The move is in tandem with the bank's policy of ensuring a portion of its profits is channeled back to the community to support three key priority areas of health, education, and community welfare.

The reiteration was made during the just ended marathon in Arusha that was organized by an institution, Same Qualities, which focuses on offering free reconstructive surgery for children with congenital malformation of the orofacial cleft.

The race, which aimed at consolidating mass awareness on orofacial cleft, started and ended at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium, and attracted a varied attendance, featuring NBC Bank as the main sponsors, Arusha Regional Athletics Association, traffic police, and Smile Train.

On top of fielding staff in the race from its northern branches



National Bank of Commerce (NBC)'s Meru Branch Manager, Florence Ng'wavi (4th R), holds hands with Athletics Tanzania (AT) leader, John Bayo (2nd L), when the former presented the latter with a 22.5m/- dummy cheque as the bank's financial backing for a race, which took place in Arusha recently. The race was overseen by the Same Qualities institution, which is led by Peter Mabula (2nd R). The cash will cater for expenses for 30 children in various regions in Tanzania, who will go for congenital malformation of orofacial cleft surgery. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

of Meru, Moshi, Arusha, Karatu, and Babati, the bank also granted a total of 22,500,000/- which shall be used to finance operation on some 30 children to restore their natural appearance and capacity to smile.

The operating services will be held at special clinics organized by Same Qualities in Tabora, Moshi, and Shinyanga by the end of this year.

Speaking after completion of the 10km track event, the bank's Branch Manager Meru, Florence Ng'wavi, said the tradition of NBC channeling back a portion of its profit is part of the

bank's long-term operation pillars.

According to Florence, the trend has been well-established during the 50 years of the institution's operation in Tanzania, adding that the bank was dedicated to maintaining the culture into the future.

"Our aim in giving this support seeks to restore the natural capacity to smile for the children together with their families, and compliment Tanzanian government's efforts to deliver various community services to our fellow citizens in need," Florence revealed.

The coordinator of the medical clinics and head of Same Qualities, Peter Mabula, thanked the NBC management for the grant and requested the bank to continue co-operating with his entity in organizing and financing similar health clinics earmarked for the future.

Mabula further praised NBC for the proactive move that the banking institution took by approaching Same Qualities with the suggestion to open an account, dubbed 'NBC Jamii Account', which has proved to be an effective tool for raising

funds expeditiously to sponsor the health initiative.

Elaborating on 'NBC Jamii Account', the Meru Branch's Sales Manager, Belinda Chelese, said the account is special for non-governmental organizations, including community and faith-based entities that operate non-profit projects targeted as helping the community.

Belinda also said the account has less stringent pre-requisites for opening and bears no charges, and called on various institutions to open the account.

How being released impacts a young player's mental health

By Rob Dawson, ESPN Correspondent

FOR footballers up and down the U.K., the start of a new season is filled with hope. But for some, the big kick-off is just another reminder that their own dream is over.

There are usually more than 10,000 boys in football's youth development system at any one time, and between 3,000 and 4,000 associated with Premier League clubs. Of those who join academies at the earliest possible opportunity aged 9, less than 1% go on to make a living out of the game.

Many are released having known nothing else but football, and the summer months are spent desperately seeking another avenue back in or facing up to the realisation that they are not destined to be the next Lionel Messi or Cristiano Ronaldo.

A year ago, Demetri Mitchell went through this when his lengthy association with Manchester United, whom he joined at the age of 10, came to an end. He was expecting the news, but it didn't do much to soften the blow.

"Coming towards the end of my contract at Man United, I knew that my time was up," Mitchell tells ESPN. "I knew it was coming, but when you get the news, it still hits you hard. I didn't think it was going to be [hard] because I already knew that my time was up, but when I was told, it was tough."

"My lowest point was not knowing if I would play again. I was probably overthinking and being a bit dramatic, but in my head I was thinking, 'Am I going to play again, am I going to be all right, what am I going to do if I can't play?'"

"That period was a very mentally challenging time for me. I tried not to show it as much as possible, but the people around me who are close to me could pick up on it and luckily I had that support."

Mitchell, 24, is one of the lucky ones. After joining Sunderland to regain fitness following an 18-month battle with injury, he accepted a trial at League One side Blackpool. His performances in friendlies against Everton and Blackburn earned him a contract and 12 months later, he was walking out at Wembley and helping his new team to a 2-1 win over Lincoln City in the playoff final to earn a shot at the Championship this season.

Some of the players he grew up with have not been so fortunate.

"When you're coming up through the [age groups] you see dozens of players being let go and not making it," he says. "I'm still close to lots of former teammates, and they've told me how hard it can be. You hear stories in the news of things happening. It's a challenging time; it's not easy."

"When you're under-18s and you're being told if you're getting a contract, that's the toughest. If you're a pro at a top club you're in a position where you can go on to find other clubs, but leaving as a scholar, it can be tough to find somewhere else."

The desire to become a professional footballer can become all-consuming. For some, it's about realising a lifelong dream; others see the wealth on offer at top clubs as a way to help their entire family escape an underprivileged background.

Raheem Sterling, now at Manchester City, has admitted he felt pressure to succeed because his talent was a "ticket out" of St. Raphael's Estate in Neasden, north-west London. At just 13 years old he would take three buses to training with Queens Park Rangers, often accompanied by his sister while his mother was at work, leaving the house at 3 p.m. every day and not returning until after 11 at night.

The way academies are run has changed drastically in the past 10 years. Now, there is a greater focus on education to help players transition to lives away from football if they are released, and there's more being done to look after the players' mental as well as physical well-being -- but there occasionally still are tragic stories.

In October 2020, 18-year-old Jeremy Wisten, a talented defender, died by suicide in the aftermath of his release from Manchester City's academy. Wisten, who was in the City academy for three years from 2016 to 2019, struggled with a knee injury in his final year with the club.

Wisten's father said in a statement shortly after his death: "During the last year at Manchester City, he was injured and spent a long time without playing. He did recover, but then had not played enough football the year prior to be considered for the next level. Of course it was very frustrating for him. He went for trials elsewhere, but because he hadn't played much football, it proved very difficult."

"He enjoyed his time at Manchester City very much. ... We are very grateful for the opportunity they gave our son."

An inquest into his death began in late 2020. City, like a number of Premier League clubs, have processes in place to support youngsters once they leave the club. At Manchester United, those involve the use of player-care teams as well as clinical psychologists available throughout their stay at Old Trafford and beyond.

"I'm not sure the solution for a young person's mental health is to stick a plaster on once it's all gone wrong," Nick Cox, head of United's academy, tells ESPN. "We have to have good exit strategies if a young player is going to be leaving us, and we have to have experts around if a young player is having a tough time."

Mane scores as African giants now make mark in World Cup qualifying

JOHANNESBURG

LIVERPOOL star Sadio Mane was among the goals for Senegal who, along with Nigeria and Tunisia, took significant steps on Tuesday toward qualifying for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

All three nations are seeded first in mini-leagues and have a maximum six points after two rounds having started with home victories over the lowest-ranked sides before winning away to the second seeds.

Another of the 10 four-team groups is led by lowly Tanzania, who scored off a penalty awarded after just five seconds when defeating Madagascar.

Reigning African Footballer of the Year Mane shrugged off being yellow-carded in Congo Brazzaville to complete a 3-1 victory by converting an 87th-minute penalty.

Boulaye Dia gave Senegal a lead cancelled by a Silvere Ganvoula penalty in first-half added time before Watford forward Ismaila Sarr nudged the



Midfielders Luis Miquissone (L) of Mozambique and John Banda (R) of Malawi contest possession during a World Cup qualifier in Soweto on Tuesday (AFP)

visitors ahead again and Mane put the result beyond doubt.

Seeking a second straight World Cup appearance, Senegal have six points in Group H, Namibia four, Congo one and Togo are pointless.

Ahmed Musa made his 100th appearance for Nigeria, who overcame the handicap of lacking seven players because of British coronavirus travel restrictions to de-

feat Cape Verde 2-1 in Mindelo.

Among the absentees was Leicester City star Kelechi Iheanacho, whose two goals got the Super Eagles off to a winning start in Group C four days ago against Liberia.

Victor Osimhen equalised on 29 minutes for Nigeria after Dylan Tavares put the hosts ahead and the Group C clash was settled by a

Kenny Rocha own-goal 14 minutes from time.

Nigeria, six-time qualifiers for the World Cup, have six points, Liberia three and Cape Verde and the Central African Republic one each.

Early and late goals sealed a 2-0 triumph for Tunisia over Zambia in Ndola, giving the north Africans an early three-point advantage in Group B.

- Algeria held -

Former Premier League forward Wahbi Khazri converted a ninth-penalty and substitute Anis Ben Slimane pounced on a loose ball to net from close range two minutes into stoppage time.

Tunisia have six points, and Equatorial Guinea share second place with Zambia after an Ivan Salvador penalty earned a 1-0 win over Mauritania in Malabo.

Libya also have maximum points, winning 1-0 in Angola through a Omar al Khoja goal to build a two-point lead over Egypt in Group F.

Algeria stretched an unbeaten run to 29 matches after drawing 1-1 with Burkina Faso, who levelled through Abdoul Tapsoba on 64 minutes after Sofiane Feghouli had put the African champions ahead.

Each side has four points in Group A with Algeria occupying first place on goal difference in a section completed by Niger and Djibouti.

The match was staged in Moroccan city Marrakech because no

stadium in Burkina Faso meets international standards.

Tanzania captain Erasto Nyoni converted what is believed to be one of the quickest penalties ever awarded as the Group J outsiders went top of the standings, ahead of Benin on goals scored.

There are no official records of the fastest penalties awarded in international football.

After Tanzania surrendered a two-goal lead by half-time, they won 3-2 thanks to a Feisal Salum goal seven minutes into the second half in Dar es Salaam.

Tanzania and Benin have four points each, the Democratic Republic of Congo two and shock 2019 Africa Cup of Nations quarter-finalists Madagascar are pointless.

The 10 group winners after six matchdays are completed in November progress to two-leg play-offs next March, which will decide the five nations to represent Africa at the 2022 World Cup.

AFP

Koeman: Barcelona can achieve 'big things' in LaLiga

BARCELONA

BARCELONA coach Ronald Koeman has said the club can achieve "big things" this season despite a cost-cutting summer that saw Lionel Messi and Antoine Griezmann depart.

Koeman said it was a blow to lose Messi but stressed the team can improve in other areas without him, calling on new signing Memphis Depay, who scored a hat trick for the Netherlands on Tuesday, to mark a new era at Camp Nou.

The Dutchman, speaking to the Catalan newspapers Diario Sport and Mundo Deportivo, also confirmed talks have taken place over a contract extension, with his deal expiring in 2022.

"There are always things to improve but I'll tell you one thing: if we have everyone available, we can do big things," Koeman said of Barca's chances this season following the closing of the transfer window.

"We have a great team. We still have to be realistic, it will be difficult, but I am optimistic and ambitious."

In addition to Memphis, Barca also added Sergio Aguero, Eric Garcia and Luuk de Jong to the squad this summer without any outlay in terms of transfer fees.

Koeman said De Jong adds a "different profile" in attack but it is Memphis, who arrived on a free from Lyon, who is generating the most excitement at Camp Nou.

The Netherlands international has scored twice in his first three games for Barca, who have seven points from nine in LaLiga and, despite afterwards labelling his performance "sloppy," netted three in his country's 6-1 win over Turkey this week.

"Memphis can mark



Memphis Depay

an era at Barca," Koeman said. "He has something that is essential to be a success here: personality and character. There's something different about him and he's really motivated by the challenge of being here."

President Joan Laporta revealed earlier this week that Memphis No. 9 shirts are now the biggest sellers at the club following Messi's departure to Paris Saint-Germain in August.

Given time to assimilate the loss of the six-time World Player of the Year, Koeman is now focusing on the areas where Barca are a better side without him than what they lose by his absence.

"It was a huge blow," the coach said. "We had planned for the season with him. We lose so much and it took a few days to get things in order, but we must turn the page and build the team."

"Losing Messi doesn't oblige us to play different tactically but there are things without the ball where the team can improve. We won't have the individual quality of Leo, but in pressing and structuring the team, the

team is better now."

With Messi, Barca's wage bill was 110% of the club's revenue, but following his exit, in addition to many more this summer, that is now down to 80%, closer to the 70% demanded by LaLiga's spending limits, although gross debt still stands at €1.35 billion.

Koeman, who was appointed Barca boss in 2020, also revealed the club met with his agent two weeks ago and proposed a one-year contract extension, although further talks have not yet taken pace.

"Of course I want to renew," he added.

"I would love to be Barca coach for many years, despite the complications that exist at the club at the moment. But thanks to our decisions, Barca have young players with huge futures and I hope that, in the next three, four, five years, I can continue being their manager."

Meanwhile, Memphis Depay was critical of his own performance in Netherlands' 6-1 World Cup qualifying victory over Turkey in Amsterdam on Tuesday despite the forward claiming a hat trick.

The 27-year-old's first

international hat trick took him alongside Johan Cruyff on 33 goals but the Barcelona striker was not satisfied with his overall play.

"We were often sloppy, especially me," he said, adding that he had lost possession the first three times he had the ball.

"But if we start like we did, we make it easy on ourselves. After going two-up, we expanded our game and then you can afford those sloppy moments. But we should actually try and keep a high level, and I'm talking about myself here again.

"Everyone might think

I'm just jubilant now after the hat trick. I'm happy, yes, but I expect more from myself."

Davy Klaassen scored in the opening minute with Memphis adding two more in the first half, including a penalty, before Turkey had defender Caglar Soyuncu sent off.

Memphis, who Barca boss Ronald Koeman said could "mark a new era" at the club, scored his third in the 54th minute and the Dutch then added two more goals for a victory that moved them top of Group G with four matches left to play.

He was pleased, however, with moving up to eighth on the all-time men's Dutch scorers list, alongside Cruyff and Abe Lenstra, and 11th overall.

"Those are two legendary players, you cannot compare anyone else to them," Memphis added after winning his 71st cap.

"But for me it's great that I'm in the top 10. The top three, that's what I'm going for now."

Vivianne Miedema is the all-time Dutch top goal scorer with 83, while Robin van Persie is the men's leading marksman on 50.

ESPN

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Mane scores as African giants now make mark in World Cup qualifying

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EATV THURSDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Bongo Hits
13:00 Msozi Kilaani (r)
13:30 Kili Za Wana
14:00 Ujenzi (r)
14:30 DK10 Za Maangamizi
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Waganga Ulimbo (r)
16:00 Ubongo Kids (r)
16:30 #SHHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:30 EATV SAA I
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Salamana

TONIGHT @ 9:00

Salamana

'Salamana' is our new show in which Salama has a chat with interesting people from different spheres of influence in our society. You will be entertained, educated and amazed.

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eastafrika RADIO

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

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Yanga set to miss three foreign players in CAF Champions League fixtures



Yanga players participate in training in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for 2021/22 Mainland Premier League, and CAF Champions League. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By correspondents Joseph Mchekadona & Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA has received unsatisfactory reports towards their 2021/22 CAF Champions League's preliminary round clashes against Rivers United of Nigeria.

According to the reports, the Tanzanian side will not field its three foreign footballers in the 180 minutes of the two CAF Champions League matches.

The players are Ugandan midfielder Khalid Aucho, and DR Congo players, defender Djuma Shaban, and striker Fiston Mayele.

Yanga will host Rivers United in the round's first leg match, which will be played in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

Yanga's spokesperson, Haji Manara, yesterday confirmed the reports, saying they will

miss the players in the duel against Rivers United due to lack of International Transfer Certificates (ITCs).

Manara moreover made it clear that they have not yet received directives on the number of fans his club should permit to turn up for the clash because they have not yet received a response from CAF through the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF).

The ban was due to Egyptian club El Makkasa delaying Aucho's ITC as was the case with Djuma's AS Vita Club and Mayele's AS Maniema Union, although Yanga also had the documents they had to submit on time.

Yanga, through the club's director-

ate of competitions, requested the transfer in time but the Egyptian outfit had initially refused to release Aucho, asking the midfielder to extend his contract.

The move meant the side was disappointed by the midfielder's decision to sign for Yanga.

A similar mistake was made again in DR Congo as AS Maniema Union and AS Vita Club did not send in a timely confirmation of the transfers.

The Guardian is also aware that the existence of various debts of former players led to Yanga's failure to complete the transfer on time and FIFA sought confirmation on the settle-

ment of the debts.

FIFA did so under the new club licensing law which, if an outfit finds it difficult to abide by, such an outfit will find it difficult to complete the registration of players, a step that Yanga fulfilled and avoided a ban at the last minute.

Yanga, according to Manara, will go into the Sunday game with a slogan, known as 'The return of champions', as they confront Rivers United on the pitch.

According to Rivers United Media Officer, Charles Mayuku, the team will host Yanga in the reverse fixture on September 19, 2021, in Port Harcourt.

Meanwhile, Yanga Information Officer, Hassan Bumbuli, said the club is upbeat that it will record positive results on Sunday.

"The preparations for the game are going on very well and I'm confident that we will do well on Sunday, I'm saying this as players' spirits and also morale in the camp is high," he said.

Bumbuli also said Rivers United arrived in the country yesterday night.

CAF has appointed Hassan Mohamed Hagi of Somalia as the match official for the CAF Champions League preliminary round's first leg game between the two teams.

He will be assisted by compatriots Suleiman Bashir Abdi (first assistant Referee), and Ali Mohamad Mahad (second assistant Referee).

Ahmed Hassan Hussein will serve as the fourth official, Lewis Blaze Madeleine from Seychelles is the match Commissioner.

Winners of the two legs will proceed to the next round of this season's CAF Champions League.

Simba Queens now confront Lady Doves FC in 2021 CAF Women's Champions League Qualifiers' third-place playoff

By Somoe Ng'itu, Nairobi

TANZANIA's women's football club, Simba Queens, is set to face Uganda's Lady Doves FC in the third-place playoff of CAF Women's Champions League (CECAFA Zonal Qualifiers) at Kasarani Stadium in Nairobi today.

The showdown, which is also termed as CECAFA Women Club Championship, has been bankrolled by President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

The two outfits, which were put in Group A of the tournament's round robin stage, will face each other for the second time in the competition. In the first encounter, they were locked to a 0-0 draw.

Ethiopian outfit, Commercial Bank of Ethiopia FC, the tournament favourites, will confront Vihiga Queens of Kenya in the final.

Winners will sail through to the TotalEnergies CAF Women's Champions League that is scheduled for November in Egypt.

Simba Queens' head coach, Hababuu Ali, stated his club needs to win its remaining clash, given they did not live up to their expectations.

Ali disclosed they are aware the clash will hardly be easy, because they are facing Lady Doves FC for the second time, with the latter seeking consolation.

Ali was adamant it will hardly be easy for his players but he has prepared them to concentrate on the tie.

The tactician revealed: "It is a fixture which brings together sides which know each other, but each side needs to do away with weaknesses it showcased in the previous game, we do not want to repeat mistakes, I believe we will perform well and take the third spot."

Fatuma Issa, Simba Queens' defender, revealed they were disappointed by their previous game's results, in which they conceded a 2-1 loss to Vihiga Queens, but they believe it was God's plan.

She stated: "It was bad luck, we worked hard but we could not win, we need the third spot, I believe all players, who will be allowed to take the pitch in the clash, will put scintillating displays."

The footballer said: "We apologize to Tanzanians and all of our outfit's fans for not coming back with silverware."

The winners will walk away with medals, a trophy, and a cash prize of US\$30,000, the runners-up will take medals and a cash prize of US\$20,000 and the third-placed side walks away with bronze medals and US\$10,000.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has supported the competition with a financial boost of US\$100,000.

Biashara United arrives in Djibouti for CAF Confederation Cup fixture

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's Biashara United FC arrived in Djibouti yesterday ahead of the club's CAF Confederation Cup preliminary round's first leg fixture against FC Dikhil scheduled for tomorrow.

The team left Dar es Salaam in the early hours of yesterday, the two teams will face each other at El had Hassan Gouled Stadium.

Biashara United FC Secretary-General, Frank Wabere, said although they will miss some of their players, the team is ready for the encounter.

"We are ready for the encounter, yes the absence of some of our players will affect us, but the players who are with the team are ready, we have 20 players on the trip, they are all ready," he said.

He said the team will miss the service of, among others, its captain Abdulmajid Mangalo for the side's failure to get CAF clearance, whereas others do not have traveling documents.

The Mara-based side's head coach, Patrick Odhiambo, said in an interview that they are ready for the battle.

He said although many soccer lovers in Tanzania believe his side will not progress to another round, he has confidence in his charges.

The Kenyan coach said he and his assistants have told the players the importance of winning the game, saying the match against FC Dikhil is not for Biashara United only, they are playing for the country.

"We have been preparing for this game for 14 days, we were in Mwanza, and our last preparations took place at Lugalo venue and Uhuru Stadium in Dar es



Biashara United's players participate in training in Mara recently to shape up for the Premier League and CAF Confederation Cup fixtures. PHOTO: COURTESY OF BIASHARA UNITED

Salaam, I'm confident we will do well," Odhiambo revealed.

"I have tried to remove the fear factor among my players, I have trained them on mental toughness, creativity, and smartness when facing an opponent," he said. Odhiambo, recently, made it clear that they must do well in the 2021/22

CAF Confederation Cup as they have the task of flying the Tanzanian flag.

The team is expected to use Dar es Salaam's Benjamin Mkapa Stadium for the showpiece after Mwanza's CCM Kirumba Stadium was rejected by the Confederation of African Football (CAF).

The team had already

set up camp in Mwanza for two weeks, but they have been told their preliminary round's second leg tie against FC Dikhil of Djibouti will be played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

CAF claimed the Mwanza's CCM Kirumba has failed to meet the required criteria.

Biashara United FC's

Manager and Coordinator said they had to change everything as they were in Mwanza, training at CCM Kirumba Stadium for more than 10 days.

The official said the players were used to the environment so they were compelled to relocate to a Dar es Salaam camp to resume preparations.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

