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COVID-19 third wave grips cities

By Henry Mwangonde

THE third wave of the Covid-19 pandemic is prevalent in major Tanzanian cities, President Samia Suluhu Hassan declared yesterday.

Addressing residents of Kibaigwa in Dodoma on her way to Morogoro, the president said health facilities in major cities were receiving more patients, reiterating the call for people to take precautions recommended by experts.

She said that there are patients in health facilities in Arusha, Mwanza, Dar es Salaam and Dodoma, among other large urban centres.

"The third wave is here and we have no need to hide it. We need to be very careful because the new variant is more lethal than the previous ones and it kills within a short time," she said. "We have to sensitize our people to take precautions recommended by experts," she urged.

The Head of State said the government will always work on addressing challenges such as those facing residents of Kibaigwa and Kongwa constituency at large, including land conflicts.

On others issues, the president said the government in collaboration with the MP for the area who is also Speaker of the National Assembly will solve power cuts at Kibaigwa by setting up a booster station in the area.

"We will continue setting aside funds to address challenges in this area and other regions to ensure that people are served diligently," pointing at resolving land conflicts foremost.

While at Msamvu in Morogoro Region, the president asked residents to be vigilant on security of their areas, underlining that businesses and other activities can only be conducted when there is peace.

Since the time she took office, the president has insisted on people taking precautions by wearing masks, sanitizing and observing social distance to control the spread of the pandemic.

Addressing members of the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) who hosted her in Dar es Salaam recently, the president said that health experts have briefed her that the disease is widespread and must be fought.

Without citing figures, she said there were indications that the third wave of the pandemic has attacked parts of the community, urging clerics to join government efforts in halting the pandemic by reminding their followers to take precautions. Clerics must mobilize prayers in churches and mosques for Almighty God to rescue the nation from the pandemic, she further appealed.

Meanwhile, President Samia yesterday held talks with Chief Executive Officer of Barrick Gold Corporation, Mark Bristow at the Chamwino State House where the CEO made assurances of more investments in the country.

The Directorate of Presidential Communications said in a statement that the



NMB Bank Plc acting Chief Internal Auditor Benedicto Baragomwa (2nd-R) presents a car ignition key to Abdallah Mohamed Abdallah, overall winner of 'Bonge la Mpango' promotion conducted by the bank. This was at a prize-giving ceremony held in Morogoro municipality on Tuesday. Left is NMB East Zone manager Dismas Prosper and (to his left) is senior retail sales manager Isaac Mgwasa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PM wants all tanzanite trade done at Mirerani

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Simanjiro

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday directed that no trade and transactions related to tanzanite should take place outside Mirerani mines in Simanjiro district, Manyara region.

This follows investments in facilities that allow traders to operate at the township and grow its economy and not in the city of Arusha which is dotted by dealers as is the case now.

He issued the order while addressing residents of Mirerani at the mining quarries entrance, responding to Simanjiro MP Christopher ole Sendeka, who lamented on the state of poverty gripping the people of the mining hills.

"This is the only place on earth where the valuable and extremely rare tanzanite gemstones are mined," the premier noted, underlining that the government can afford to set terms on how our minerals should be mined, handled or traded.

He had inaugurated the newly built Magufuli Tanzanite Center, a one-stop administration and trading complex located inside the blue stones mining quarries' enclosure in Mirerani township.

Built at the cost of 1.4 bn/-, the structure houses an Immigration Department office, a strong room for minerals, bank outlets, revenue offices, a police station and a gemstones evaluation labo

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Multitudes throng DITF at fair climax

By Guardian Reporter

MULTITUDES thronged the Julius Nyerere Grounds yesterday at the apex of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF), turning the expansive compound into a sea of people.

Being a public holiday, revelers used the opportunity to shop and access on the spot services offered by government departments and agencies.

Among pavilions that attracted many people were the National Identification Authority (NIDA) and the Registration, Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA).

Equally thronged pavilions include the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development where many went to apply for title deeds. [There was also the artistes' pavilion, telecom firms' pavilions, plus clothing manufacturers and distributors.

The Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade) said the exhibition will officially be closed next Tuesday, having featured seven countries and 76 foreign firms in this year's fair.

In addition, 302 local firms put up pavilions, namely companies,

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Visitors to the 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair line up to enter Mwalimu Nyerere grounds at the climax of the grand annual bazaar yesterday - with little evidence of public concern over Covid-19 infections. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msaia

CAG: MPs need more time for debating reports

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

CONTROLLER and Auditor General (CAG) Charles Kichere has appealed to the National Assembly to review its work schedule so that audit reports are tabled at the beginning of sittings and adequate time is allocated for them to be debated exhaustively.

He said the National Audit Office of Tanzania (NAOT) is set to start using an improved audit system that promises more detailed reports that if tabled only once towards the

end of a parliamentary sitting, will not get enough time for debate in the House.

At an event to mark 60 years of NAOT here yesterday, the CAG said that delaying to debate the reports in the House results in slow implementation of the recommendations.

"We request the legislature to consider tabling the CAG audit reports for debate early enough and not after one financial year," he said.

Starting with the five-year strategic plan, 2021/2022 to 2025/2026 there will be plen-

ty of change in how NAOT conduct audit services delivery and alter its relationship with ministerial departments and agencies, he stated.

NAOT has also developed a capacity building manual for training MPs to be administered through the various sector-based committees starting this month, he said, itemizing this as among changes on its 60th anniversary. This shift shall make NAOT a centre of excellence in the region and beyond.

National Assembly Speaker Job Ndagui

responded to the CAG's request, saying his office shall work on the matter and see how to go about it.

He admitted that it takes too long for NAOT reports to be debated, as they are usually submitted in March, towards the start of the parliamentary budget session, and then the reports are debated in the post-budget session in September.

Ndagui applauded NAOT for the good

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CAG: MPs need more time for debating reports

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work it is doing, underlining that NAOT and the legislature have a cordial relationship. "Through the audits NAOT helps the legislature to know what is happening in public offices, government departments and agencies, among others".

He promised to continue pushing for increased budget for the office in order to boost NAOT performance, saying it has brought the country respect through good participation in UN audits for six years now.

NAOT has conducted credible audits in the East Africa Community (EAC) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) activities, he further noted.

NAOT was set up in 1957 as the Audit Department, operating as part of the British Overseas Audit Services firm, based in London. It was headed by the Director of Audit as per the Audit Ordinance CAP 86 which governed audit activities.

It had one office in Dar es Salaam at Kivukoni Front Street, handed responsibility for auditing accounts of all government departments, with the first branch to be opened in Arusha. Its first assignment was to audit the Tanganyika Custodian of the Enemy Property Department, a UK specialised office based there.

This department oversaw abandoned properties left behind by fleeing German nationals after Imperial Germany surrendered to end World War I.

In 1959 it had four stations,

the others being Mwanza, Tanga and Arusha, and mid-1961 the Exchequer and Audit Ordinance of 1961 came into place, where the office was changed from the Audit Department to the Exchequer and Audit Department, under a new designation, the Controller and Auditor General (CAG).

The mandate of the CAG was enshrined under Article 73 of the Constitution of Tanganyika at independence, retained in the 1962 Republican Constitution where presidential powers as Head of State and the government merged offices of the Governor General and the Prime Minister set out in the independence constitution, with the power to appoint the CAG vested in the president.

On 9th July 1965, the Interim Constitution of Tanzania was enacted and came into force, enshrined in the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania of 1977 after the two political parties in the two sides of the union merged, the principal act in consolidating the union.

In 2001, following the growth of the country's economy and the need for further control of the use of public money, the Exchequer and Audit Ordinance, 1961 was repealed and replaced by the Public Finance Act, No. 6 of 2001 (revised 2004).

This law changed the name Exchequer and Audit Department to the present National Audit Office of Tanzania and provided considerable details on the audit function.



Retired Presidents Ali Hassan Mwinyi and Jakaya Kikwete together with former Prime Ministers John Malecela, Peter Pinda and other government officers in a group picture at the Standard Gauge Railway tunnel in Kilosa District, in Morogoro Region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent James Mwanamoyo

COVID-19 third wave grips cities

—talks also dwelt on progress made FROM PAGE 1

by Twiga Minerals Corporation, jointly owned by Barrick and the government.

Barrick Gold will continue working with the government towards investment in the minerals sector and was ready to invest in other areas as well, he stated at the meeting.

Barrick was implementing agreements with the government that ensure both sides benefit from investments in the country's mineral resources, he said, elaborating that many Tanzanians gain a living with the firm, including higher management levels, where three top officials (managing director, country manager and finance director) were locally recruited.

He affirmed that Barrick has improved environmental management at its North Mara mine like treating waste water from mine operations, asserting that Barrick has similarly increased participation by Tanzanians in providing various services at its mines, with nearly 70 per cent of their requirements being supplied by local firms.

For her part, President Samia as-

sured the investor that the government shall work together with the company in supervising implementation of accords reached ensure that minerals sector investments benefit both sides.

The president thanked Bristow for his readiness to work with the government to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic, the statement added.



Finance and Planning deputy minister Hamad Yussuf Masauni (R) exchanges greetings with (BoT) deputy governor Julian Banzi Raphael (C) during his visit at the bank in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is also deputy governor of BoT Dr Bernard Kibesse. Photo: Ministry of Finance

Multitudes throng DITF at fair climax

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individual entrepreneurs, public and private institutions, with this year's slogan being "Industrial Economy for Sustainable Trade," focusing on the contribution of the industrial sector in increasing job opportunities.

It also extols the production of food crops, minerals, fishing, livestock, forests to spur trade for economic growth, officials said.

The fairgrounds have special 'streets' officially prepared to provide opportunities to stakeholders in crop value chains, to adver-

tise their products so as to spur trade and investment.

Other activities taking place at the fair include online business meetings shorthanded as Business to Business (B2B).

The apex of DITF also known as Saba Saba Day takes place annually for the first two weeks of July at the Kilwa Road grounds inaugurated in 1962, a year after independence.

The grounds were placed under the Ministry of Trade and Co-operative Unions and the fair was known as the National Agricultural and Trade Fair (NATF) with the first trade fair held in 1963

Majaliwa wants more farmers to benefit from PASS Trust

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has asked the management of the Private Agricultural Sector Support (PASS Trust) to ensure that its services are spread throughout the country for purposes of benefiting agricultural entrepreneurs.

Speaking in Dodoma during the national launch of the grape cultivation campaign, Majaliwa said PASS Trust has played an important role as a catalyst towards accessing agricultural financing by farmers cultivating strategic crops in the country.

"I have moved all over the country, gone to Kigoma for the palm oil campaign, gone to Tanga for the sisal campaign and I met farmers

who had been supported by PASS Trust to access mechanization. You are doing a great job PASS Trust," Said the Prime Minister.

Majaliwa said there was need for the trust which provides credit guarantee to farmers of between 20-60%, to open branches across the country to enable many farmers access their services. Majaliwa asked PASS Trust to ensure that a strategic office is opened in Dodoma to serve farmers in the region as well as other neighbouring regions.

"This is now a strategic crop alongside other 8 crops and we need your support to boost its production" added the Prime Minister.

Speaking at the same function, PASS Trust acting Managing

Director Anna Shanalingigwa said PASS will work to ensure that its services are accessed by all agribusiness entrepreneurs in need.

"We have so far guaranteed grape farmers within Dodoma region with credit financing of up to 2 billion shillings with our partner banks. Another credit guarantee of 3.5 billion shillings targeting 400 grape farmers is in the pipeline" said Shanalingigwa.

Shanalingigwa said the Trust has since inception benefited a total of 1.7million beneficiaries through its credit guarantee scheme which has also created over 2.5million jobs and increased agricultural production.

"We are happy that we are helping entrepreneurs who would have otherwise not been able to

access fund to access funds to boost agricultural production. We are ready to support grape farming in this region and all other regions that are favourable to produce this crop" Added Ms. Shanalingigwa.

Speaking at the same platform, Agriculture assistant Minister Hussein Bashe said his office was in talks with PASS Trust to have the trust open mechanization hubs in all the regions in the country where farmers can acquire agricultural equipment through leasing for a particular period.

"We want farmers who cannot afford to buy and own equipment to be able to lease an equipment for a number of days and use them in their farms. This will make their work easy," Bashe said.

Bashe was responding to Shanalingigwa's statement that PASS Trust was also operating the PASS Leasing company that aims at providing loans for agricultural equipment without collateral.

"Through the PASS Leasing company which started its operations early this year, we have made it possible for farmers to acquire agricultural machinery without any collateral. We link farmers with suppliers of various equipment for ease of access" she said.

So far the Trust has offices in the country's six zones among them the Lake zone with an office in Mwanza covering Mwanza, Bukoba, Shinyanga and Simiyu regions Western Zone, with an office located

in Kigoma and covering Kigoma, Tabora, Katavi regions. Eastern Zone, office Located in Morogoro and covering Morogoro, Singida, Dar es salaam, Pwani and Zanzibar), Northern zone with an office located in Arusha and covering Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Manyara and Tanga. The southern highlands zone is covered by an office in Mbeya also covering Mbeya, Iringa and Songwe regions. The Southern zone office of Mtwara covers Mtwara, Lindi and Ruvuma. The Trust is headquartered in Dar es Salaam.

PASS Trust beneficiaries are drawn from the three sectors of agriculture, livestock and Fishing and targets entrepreneurs in the whole agricultural value chain.

PM wants all tanzanite trade done at Mirerani

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ratory, officials said

Prof Simon Msanjila, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Minerals, said the Mirerani Wall construction has helped to boost gemstones production and revenues from 4.2bn/- in 2017 to 5.84bn/- at present.

Once all of tanzanite transactions are held and closed in Mirerani, the area's economy will improve, given that Mirerani has only one dispensary and two primary schools.

The late president John Magufuli ordered the military to build a wall around its tanzanite mines in September 2017 to curb smuggling and tax evasion.

It was completed in April 2018 and by September state authorities announced that tanzanite revenues rose to 1.28bn/- from a lowly 166m/- registered in January 2015.

A parliamentary inquiry team said in September 2018 that it had uncovered massive smuggling of the blue-violet tanzanite gemstone, which appears to have continued despite the military wall being fitted with security cameras and checkpoints around all tanzanite mining concessions to check illegal mining and trading activities.

Govt determined to build strong private sector, Dr Nchemba says

By Guardian Reporter

FINANCE and Planning minister D Mwigulu Nchemba has said that the government is determined to build a strong private sector that will accelerate the country's economic growth.

Dr Nchemba made the remarks yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking to reporters recently after the 12th meeting of the Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC) under the President Samia Suluhu Hassan who is also the chairperson of the council.

The minister said within 90 days since President Samia get into the office, she successfully built great hopes for the private sector which is the engine of the country's development.

Soon after getting into office President Samia made clear her commitment to building a strong and resilient private sector that will make a significant contribution to the country's development, Dr Nchemba said citing areas that have been reformed as tax collection systems.

He further said the reforms were aimed at boosting the country's economy, increasing revenue as well as increasing cash flow for the people.

"The improvements that have been made will help increase tax collections and grow the business as the money will be in the hands of the people which will further stimulate production and thus boost the economy and employment for Tanzanians," he explained.

TNBC executive secretary, Dr Godwill Wanga said the conference was a great success for finding solutions that would benefit both the public and private sectors.

He said among the key issues discussed and addressed included ensuring that unproductive taxes are eliminated in order to expand the tax base, develop forest products industries, make improvements to regional and district councils as well as make the private sector available to banks, strengthening the public-private partnership (PPP) strategy.

Co-Chair of the TNBC Agriculture Committee, Jacqueline Maleko, said the attention of President Samia Suluhu Hassan on business development and investment issues will boost the country's development.

"As a private sector, we are encouraged by the attention of President Samia Suluhu



Finance and Planning minister Dr. Mwigulu Nchemba (L) shakes hands with Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC) executive secretary Dr. Godwill Wanga shortly after the 12th council meeting which was chaired by President Samia Suluhu Hassan recently in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Hassan who is ready to build the private sector for the benefit of the country. The time has come to partner with the public sector through our agencies such

as TNBC, the Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) and many others where we can take our challenges to the government," she said.

Avoid politics: Ndugai tells regional leaders

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

SPEAKER of the National Assembly Job Ndugai has challenged regional commissioners (RCs) and regional administrative secretaries (RAS) not to behave like politicians and instead perform their duties as government representatives.

He argued there are some other local government authority leaders who fail to strongly promote government development agenda and get snared in political wrangles.

Ndugai made the statement while officiating at the closure of a four-days leadership capacity building workshop for the RCs and RAS from all the regions in Tanzania mainland.

He noted while politicians, especially members of parliament work to please the electorates in order to be elected again, the local government leaders are purposely in the position to champion government agendas.

However, he called on them to maintain rule of law in their duties and not go beyond the

limit since national laws have the provision to tame them. "It is sad that some of you do not fully perform their duties as representatives of the president and get dragged into political squabbles" he said.

The speaker also warned them not to be drunk by power, saying that is one of the most dangerous things a leader can do, also calling on them to cooperate with other leaders in their areas of work.

He said the training organized by the President's Office,

Regional Administration and Local Government (TAMISEMI) and is undertaken by the Uongozi Institute will help some of the newly appointed leaders up their skills in leadership.

He called on the leaders to embrace good relationships with leaders from other state organs like judges and politicians, saying they all need cooperation from the government for them to perform their duties.

Earlier, Minister in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government

(TAMISEMI), Ummu Mwalimu praised the local authority leaders for the good work they do.

However, she challenged them to strongly oversee development projects and work hard to avoid misappropriation of funds while also working to increase revenues.

She said the training will help them provide improved services to the public. "There is need have keen leaders who can supervise government activities and resources at the local levels" said the deputy minister.

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45TH DAR ES SALAAM INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR PICTORIAL



Dangote Cement factory manager Abdallahi Baba, talks with journalists at his pavilion for the 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister William Lukuvi (R) listens as Barrick gold mine environment officer Sarah Cyprian (L) explains the firm's operations at the 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Industries and Trade deputy minister Dr. Exaud Kigahe (R) looks at items produced by Bulyanhulu entrepreneurs empowered by Barrick Gold mine at the 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Parents look at their children paint their faces. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



Health officers test body temperature on visitors at the 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology board chairman Prof. Makenya Maboko (R), director of knowledge management Dr. Philbert Luhunga (2nd L), listen to designers of auxiliary equipment for needy people at the COSTECH pavilion. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



National commercial directory operations and sales director Zahra Lupatu (R) explains the institution's work to visitors at the NCD pavilion yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



A nurse with KAM Musika hospital Happy Thomas (L) briefs visitors at the hospital's pavilion at the ongoing 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair at the Julius Nyerere Grounds along Kilwa Road yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Four Kilindoni ferry officials suspended over laxity

By Guardian Correspondent, Kibiti

DEPUTY Works and transport Minister Mwita Waitara has suspended four Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA) officials due to poor supervision of the Kilindoni ferry that is dependable by residents of Mafia and nearby areas for travelling.

Those suspended include Idd Saleh Sungura, Tryphon Emmanuel Kizee, Wemael Kiangi and Felician Mgeta, some of who have been accused of using foul language and embezzlement of government funds, while the ferry captain, Habib Mbarouk was given a stern warning for foul language to passengers travelling in the ferry.

Waitara issued the directives at the small port of Nyamisati in Kibiti District, Coast Region while re-

ceiving people's complaints over poor supervision of the ferry.

Meanwhile Waitara praised Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) Managing Director, Eric Hamisi for working on stakeholders' recommendations and government's directives on the improvement of the country's ports services.

The Deputy Minister visited small traders transporting their goods from the port to Mafia some of who gave their opinions on how to improve services at both Nyamisati and Mafia ports.

Among the issues mentioned by the traders and the government promising to address them include to see how to reduce the transport costs for their goods. Speaking on the issue, TPA boss Hamisi said already the issue was being addressed and a lasting solution thereon will be provided in no time.

Dr Mwinyi not happy with development expenditure in Zanzibar urban councils

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has said he is not pleased with the expenditure of funds by urban councils in the Unguja North Region.

Dr Mwinyi made the remarks at a meeting at Bumbwini Secondary School after ending his two-day official visit in Unguja North region to inspect development projects.

He said a lot of revenue collected by the councils are used by the councils themselves and not for development projects, and added that the practice has to stop.

He explained that revenue collected by Unguja North urban councils totalled 245bn/- whereas Unguja North 'A' collected 771m/- and used only 9.4m/- for development expenditure while the rest was spent as the ordinary expenditure, the situation that he is not

pleased of.

He said: "When the government has done away with decentralisation in the health, education, and agriculture sectors, you are remained with issues of cleanliness, building of markets and bus stations and assisting small entrepreneurs, how can you do that for only 9m/- while you collected more than 700m/ this year, steps has to be taken on this."

He said among the steps he will take is to fire council directors and appoint new ones to their places to save government's money, and added that there were still many sources of revenue but money gets lost into other people's pockets. He said even though Zanzibar is an island with many fishermen, but they are still conducting fishing business using poor fishing gear and lack reliable markets for their fish catches.

This situation, he said, is attrib-

uted by government's failure to empower fishermen by providing them with big modern fishing boats for deep sea fishing.

He instructed the Blue Economy Ministry to mobilise itself well and get to know the number of fishermen, their needs and how they can be provided with modern fishing vessels.

Meanwhile, while still in the region, Dr Mwinyi pledged to contribute 50m/- towards the building a big mosque for the Fissabilillah Tabligh Markaz community at Kidoti in the region and officiated in the laying of its cornerstone.

He said he will also mobilise other donors to assist towards the mosque's construction.

Unguja North Regional Commissioner Ayoub Mohamaed Mahamoud said the coming of Dr Mwinyi to lay the cornerstone for the mosque that can hold over 5,000 people shows his trust and good intention towards his people.

CTI asks govt to protect local industries against imported products

By Correspondent Joseph

Mwendapole

THE Tanzania Confederation of Industries (CTI) has asked the government to put in place laws and policies that protects local industries against imported products entering into the market.

The call was made yesterday by CTI Director, Leodgar Tenga when speaking to Members of the Parliamentary Committee on Industry, Trade and Environment during a meeting held at Bunge offices in Dar es Salaam.

According to Tenga, local industries do not fear competition from imported products, but they only require the government to make sure they are properly taxed to ensure a fair price.

He warned that if some imported goods are not dealt with properly they are likely to kill local industries as they will be sold at cheaper prices. He said the collapse of local industries would have great impacts to the economy as well as youth employment.

Tenga noted that countries all over the world put in place laws and policies that protect their industries against foreign imported goods, hence the need for the Tanzanian government to do the same.

"This does not mean we don't want competition, we have to compete with our fellows from outside to be more innovative. We only want the government to control importation and circulation of counterfeit goods in the market," he said.

A Member of Parliament for Bihalamuro West constituency, Ezra John (CCM) urged government to protect local manufacturers because the collapse of the industries will cause unemployment problem in the country.

He said for many years local manufacturers have been complaining of multiple taxes, thus, it is high time for the government to reduce the chain of taxation to enable them to conduct their businesses smoothly.

Ezra added that there are many bad laws and policies that hamper growth of industries and business in the country. He noted that MPs as well as stakeholders stands a better chance to advocate for review of the laws.

"You may find that some of the policy and regulations were created to control one of the businessmen who default taxes, but such a policy or law is now embarrassing the whole business community," said Ezra

Vice Chairperson of the Committee, who is also the Buchosa MP, Erick Shigongo, said the 6th phase government is struggling to create friendly environment for both business and investment, hence the need for local manufacturers to support the move by paying taxes.

"The government is willing to protect local industries; CTI should make sure that its members pay taxes and abides by the country laws," he said.



Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Police, Parliament, Labour, Youth, Employment and People with disability Jenista Mhagama (C) looks at round bars produced by Lodhia Group of Companies in Mkuranga District, Coast Region yesterday. Left is the factory's director Saleh Pandit. Photo: Correspondent Adam Keneth



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I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

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Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage (%))	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.25%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
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Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.7%
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PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
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Qualified quality control department	15%
All welding done to OEM specifications	10%
All spares must be delivered with quality control data book with all material specs	15%
All machining done to OEM specifications	15%
All upgrading of castings done to OEM specifications	15%
All castings done to OEM specifications	15%
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Celebi Tanzania Aviation Services Ltd

PRESS RELEASE

Celebi is expanding its global network in Tanzania

Celebi Tanzania Aviation Services Ltd, which is a subsidiary company of Celebi Aviation has been awarded a concession for the "Provision of Ground Handling and Cargo Services" at Julius Nyerere International Airport in Tanzania and started its operation as of 1st March, 2021. As Celebi Aviation; we are dedicated to provide excellence in ground handling services along with our ancillary products. Celebi stepped into the aviation industry with the establishment of Celebi Ground Handling in 1958 as Turkey's first privately-owned Ground Handling Services Company. Today, Celebi stands out as one of the most successful Ground Handling providers of integrated services in India, Budapest, Frankfurt and Turkey, offering a full range of services with over 13,000 dedicated employees, at more than 40 stations.

Our dedicated headquarters and operational teams are ready to carry our global quality in Tanzania with the support of the local leadership. Our operational start up team as well as ground support Equipment (GSE) are ready on ground for our valuable customers.

As a company, we are strongly motivated to go past the Covid-19 pandemic and keep our aim and focus on our planned growth in developing markets. Celebi is confident that from our starting point in Dar es Salaam, we will continue to expand into other rapidly emerging aviation markets in Africa.

Celebi Tanzania Aviation Services Ltd – "Rising Together"

For more information, please contact the undersigned.

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Private Agricultural Sector Support (PASS Trust) acting managing director Anna Shanalingwa speaks during the grape farming stakeholders consultative forum that was organised by the Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa on Tuesday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

KOICA donates over 55m/- worth digital facility to CFR

By Anaëli Mbise

THE Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) has donated a new digital facility worth \$ 24,000 (over 55m/-) to the Mozambique-Tanzania Centre for Foreign Relations (CFR) in Dar es Salaam to enable the university community to access internet conveniently.

Speaking during a ceremony to launch the digital resource centre in the city, KOICA Country Director, Kyucheo Eo, said the agency donated the facility as part of its commitment to continue supporting Tanzanian students especially those who want to learn the Korean language and culture.

"We are pleased to assist CFR in establishing the digital resources centre to be used to teach students the Korean language and culture through online learning sessions," he said noting students can also access learning materials through the internet.

KOICA also offered laptop computers, computer tables, chairs and Remote Area Community Hotspot for Education and Learning (Rachel) technology, which will grant free access to online materials to a device with more than 100 websites that are education based and content modules that can be accessed in places with limited or no internet access.

Presenting on how Rachel technology works, expert from E3 empower Africa, Heriel Ayo, said that the server is portable, can be used for research purposes and E-learning platforms.

"The digital room is expected to assist the university community in deliverance of free educational resources found in Rachel," he said.

Coordinator of Korean Studies Centre from the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Dr Suphian Robert, said the investment will enhance students and academic staff at CFR to read updated information from the websites found in the Rachel device.

"In our university we use a digital library, online studies for example a Korean teacher can deliver his or her lecture from Korea through zoom conference, workshop rooms and also as a mini library facility," he added.

In her opening remarks, Deputy Director (academics, research and consultancy) from CFR, Dr Anita Lugimbana said that KOICA have had a very fruitful relationship with the centre since it has been engaging in several workshops including the event of inauguration of Korean digital resources centre that shows the growing partnership.

Health ministry partners SFCG in spreading Covid-19 education

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government through the ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children has agreed to cooperate with the Search for Common Ground (SFCG) on spreading public education on preventive measures against Covid-19.

SFCG is an international non-governmental organisation that works to end violent conflict and build healthy, safe, and just

societies.

It is one of the largest such organisations dedicated to peace building, with offices in over 30 countries and a media reach of roughly 40 million people.

Speaking here recently, the organisation's Area Manager, Swahili Coast-Tanzania, Hussein Faraji Sengu, noted that they have agreed with the government to see how best to provide public awareness on Covid-19 throughout the country.

He noted that his organisation

has been involved in public education on conflict resolutions at the lowest levels, through civil society organisations, government representatives, religious leaders and influential youths in the society.

"Considering the magnitude of the problem, SFCG through EU funding is implementing 'Baki Salama' project which aims at providing the public with right information on Covid-19 and how to protect themselves," he said.

Sengu added that the programme to be implemented in line with the government and health experts' directives is also aimed at creating more awareness on the problem.

He explained that they have been impressed by efforts laid down by the sixth phase government and have resolved to practically support the efforts against Covid-19, which might end to conflicts due to wrong information provided by a cross-section of people in the society.

The manager argued that while the government is committed to give the rightful measures about the diseases, there are some people who downplay this by convincing people not to abide by the government directives.

"It is unfortunate that there are people out there telling others not to take preventive measures, scaring them against Covid-19 vaccines approved by the government," he noted.

He argued that though such

cooperation with the government through the ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, many people will get the right information on the disease.

Sengu called on other stakeholders like CSOs, development partners and others to support the government efforts to prevent new infections and unnecessary conflicts.

SFCG has been working in Tanzania and Zanzibar since 2010 and in partnership with

local journalists, civil society leaders, and members of the government, it promotes gender equality, foster good governance, and encourage greater objectivity in the media.

Its programs promote sustainable business practices in the mining industry, open inter-faith dialogue, reduce violence against women, and encourage peaceful collaboration between the government and civil society.



Motorbike rider passes near the petty traders kiosks destroyed by fire along Tabora road in Dodoma on Tuesday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

TARI-Makutupora to release highly nutritious grapes varieties

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

TANZANIA Agriculture Research Institute (TARI), Makutupora centre is expected to release highly nutritious grapes varieties suitable for pregnant women, lactating mothers and children under five.

If released, the grapes are expected to help fight malnutrition in the country.

Speaking yesterday at Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) Agricultural research officer at Makutupora centre Felister Mpora said the new varieties are highly rich in zinc and iron.

The nutritious varieties are among the four major varieties which are to be released to diversify the use of grapes.

She named them as table variety which includes Black rose, and Regina (white variety). Another variety is Raisins which include Ruby seedless and Beauty seedless.

She said out of the four varieties, the ones with Zinc and Iron are Black rose and grapes with purple colour.

She said another purpose of the new grapes varieties which are to be released is for industrial use. "The table variety can be packed and exported. Grapes farmers should smile as they are expected to move into commercial farming."

"Traditionally, farmers were growing Makutupora red and Chenin grapes varieties for sale to

wine processors, now TARI Makutupora centre has made significant step, these four varieties are still in the process. Once released, they will be suitable for manufacturing industries," she said.

She explained that TARI has several technologies helpful to the grape farmers such as improved varieties, farm management technologies, technology related to good agronomic practices and processing technologies among many others.

"Dodoma climatic condition is very suitable for high standard grapes with unique aroma and sweetness. They can be grown twice for a single season," she said.

For his part, agricultural research officer Armachius Simeo said the grapes production in Tanzania has a large market value compared to other ordinary crops. "When you visit supermarket and malls in Tanzania you will find most of the wine are imported. This means that there is big market opportunity for wine manufacturers in Tanzania," he said.

"TARI Makutupora centre has come up with different technologies suitable to the farmers and investors that can enable them to increase production and productivity and capture local and international market especially in the East Africa and SADC regions,"

Private sector development, regional trade tops EAC priorities - Secretary General

By Guardian Reporter

SECRETARY General of the East African Community (EAC) Dr Peter Mathuki has said that private sector development and trade development are top of the EAC priorities for the 2021/2022 financial year.

Dr Mathuki said that under the treaty for the establishment of the EAC, the integration process is supposed to

be private sector-driven even though it belongs to the people.

He made the remarks during his meeting with the new East African Business Council (EABC) Executive Director, John Kalisa in Arusha on Tuesday.

He added that EABC therefore needs a strong voice in articulating private sector concerns in the integration.

The Secretary General dis-

closed to the EABC delegation that his engagement with the EAC Heads of State over the past two months had revealed that the region's leadership was for strong private sector engagement to take the community to the next level.

Dr Mathuki said that there was a new enthusiasm among Partner States for increasing intra-regional trade and pointed out the eagerness by

Tanzania and Burundi to join the EAC One Network Area, which is meant to harmonise mobile and data charges across the region.

"There is new set of expectations among the region's leadership on how to do business in East Africa. The private sector is key to fast-tracking the integration process," said the Secretary General.

Dr Mathuki said that the

EAC could not afford to work in isolation from the private sector, adding that a roadmap was required for cooperation between EAC and EABC as the umbrella body bringing together private sector associations in the region.

He urged the EABC leadership to generate strategies for engagement with EAC focusing on cooperation between the two organisations over the next five years.

"The interests of the private sector in the region have to do with the free movement of goods and people in the region. This means resolving the challenges at the Partner States' borders and the two main seaports of Dar es Salaam and Mombasa," said the SG.

Dr Mathuki noted that Covid-19 had now become a major non-tariff barrier to intra-regional trade and called

for a harmonised approach among Partner States to the pandemic in terms of testing, testing charges and acceptance of Covid-19 certificates across the region.

EABC Executive Director, Kalisa said job creation and poverty reduction were key priorities for the EAC region, adding that both tasks can only be undertaken with full participation of the private sector.



Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children deputy minister Mwanaidi Ali Khamis (L) looks at the entrepreneurs' exhibition for practical training conducted by Rungemba Community Development Institute in Iringa Region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Construction of Mwanza-Isaka section of SGR to offer 11,000 job opportunities'

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

OVER 11,000 people will be employed in the 341km Mwanza-Isaka standard-gauge railway (SGR) construction project.

Mwanza Regional Commissioner Eng Robert Gabriel told reporters here yesterday that said the campaign on the construction of the project has begun to ensure that education reaches Tanzanians and strengthen relations between the project and the people during implementation.

RC Gabriel said: "What is happening now is a step forward after President Samia Suluhu Hassan laid the foundation stone for the Fela Fela main station on June 14 including identifying landowners, compensating them, and relocating them."

He added that experience shows that urban areas have many major infrastructure challenges that needed to be resolved before the project kicks off.

The RC urged the people to take care of the environment and follow the land acquisition procedures while focusing on the proper and proper use of compensation funds to be paid and a special committee will be formed by the region to ensure that the ongoing campaign provides awareness to citizens to identify opportunities associated with the project. "A special education committee that will work around and tell the people that we are here, we will sit with them in their sessions will look at the way they can use to identify land owners, how the regulations say

this will be done between our railways, citizens and experts in all those places," said Eng Gabriel.

SGR Project Manager for the Mwanza-Isaka section, Eng Machibya Masanja, said the first-phase of the modern railway construction project is Dar es Salaam-Mwanza where it has a total of more than 1200 kilometers, which is divided into five pieces.

He said, the first is Dar es Salaam-Morogoro section of 300 km, the second phase is Morogoro-Matupolo Singida 422 km, the third section is Singida-Tabora 371 km, the fourth section is Tabora-Isaka km 162.

The fifth phase construction project is Mwanza-Isaka worth more than 3 trillion/-, 341 km long with 249 km main road and 92 km crossroads, with a total of 9 stations.



FEED THE FUTURE
The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW (SRF)

Background:

SERA BORA, meaning Better Policies in Swahili is a 5-year (Jan 1, 2020 to Dec 31, 2024) USAID-Tanzania funded project awarded to Michigan State University (MSU) and implemented under the auspices of the Agricultural Sector Policy and Institutional Reform Strengthening (ASPIRES) NGO in Tanzania. The goal of the project is to accelerate adoption of effective policies and programs that would promote broad-based economic growth, improve food security and nutrition, and contribute to poverty reduction.

Job Summary: ASPIRES seeks a qualified candidate to serve as Senior Research Fellow, and the head of the Policy Research Team in implementation of the SERA BORA project. The candidate will lead various research activities, publish research reports and journal papers, participate in various conferences and policy dialogues and advisory meetings. This position will directly report to SERA BORA's Policy Advisor and Chief of Party (CoP). Remunerations will be determined by demonstrated research experience, track record of publications and salary history of the candidate. ASPIRES encourages academic staff in Tanzanian Universities wishing to take research sabbatical leave to apply for the position.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities

- Conduct innovative research on agriculture policy, food security and nutrition, and food systems transformation using econometric modelling techniques
- Lead the production of high-quality research reports and/or publications in top, peer-reviewed journals and ASPIRES/MSU platforms (policy briefs etc.)
- Lead ASPIRES policy research team, and coordinate related research, capacity building, and communication activities
- Contribute to agricultural policy and impact evaluations
- Represent ASPIRES on various occasions, including at conferences and meetings
- Contribute to the the broader ASPIRES/SERA BORA project research agenda, write reports on program/project activities
- Develop new fundable research projects

Education and Experience

- PhD in Economics, Agricultural Economics or closely related fields
- Excellent econometric/statistical skills and excellent knowledge of STATA, SPSS and other statistical softwares
- Demonstrated knowledge of state-of-the-art techniques used in microeconomic analysis and panel data analysis
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience of working with large datasets like household surveys, agricultural surveys, and other socioeconomic datasets for innovative statistical and econometric analysis
- Demonstrated capacity to produce high-quality research for publication in top, peer-reviewed journals
- Strong team player, self-motivated and ability to work with people from different social and cultural backgrounds
- Excellent communication skills in written and spoken English
- Experience with donor-funded projects is desirable

Preferred Qualifications:

- Excellent publication track record in peer-reviewed journals
- 8+ years of post-PhD experience relevant to the job and demonstrated fundraising experience
- Major external recognition within peer professional networks due to publications and other leaderships activities
- Demonstrated leadership skills and strong experience in building and managing teams
- Familiarity with the literature and demonstrated knowledge of research in one or more of the following areas: agricultural development and policy, food security, nutrition, and food systems transformation
- Field experience in conducting large agricultural and market surveys, analysis of national surveys and census data
- and household data in developing countries
- Good interpersonal skills and ability to lead research teams
- Strong results orientation, demonstrated ability to balance multiple projects with a high level of accuracy and the ability to prioritize tasks and work independently
- Excellent working knowledge of word processing, database, statistics software and spreadsheet software

How to apply:

Interested candidates who meet the mentioned qualifications and experience should send an application letter, and CV with not less than 3 referees to aspirestanzania@gmail.com by July 30, 2021. Screening of applications will be ongoing as received until the position is filled.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



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ASPIRES Tanzania



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THURSDAY 8 JULY 2021

**Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

Mobilising for Covid-19 treatment supplies test of economic resilience

BUGANDO Referral Hospital, the principal health facility in the Lake Zone regions, is appealing for medical oxygen donations and rapid supplies of cylinders after recording an unprecedented increase in cases of Covid-19. Reports says that the hospital is seeking 500 oxygen cylinders on a daily basis to help the rising number of patients with breathing complications, on the basis of what transpired at a meeting of the regional taskforce on the matter, chaired by Regional Commissioner Robert Gabriel. It was told that currently there are 100 cylinders available on a daily basis while actual needs stand at 300 cylinders or so.

What the hospital authorities say shows that regional and national authorities weren't quite prepared for that kind of upsurge of the pandemic, which can't be predicted. It is therefore not surprising that the first point of call for the hospital is to seek donations from stakeholders and well-wishers, given the fact that at current infection rates the hospital will be relatively comfortable with supplies of up to 500 cylinders on standby daily. Everyone of us would express the hope that the demand for cylinders will not take an upward climb in the days ahead, but nothing about the pandemic can be predicted with ease, everywhere.

So the country's capacity to respond to higher treatment needs and especially oxygen is the first step, the second being the pace at which an inoculation rollout is possible, and at the moment this can only be from private quarters, if they have the right connections outside the country. Proper ministerial rollout is still far off, and even with private quarters it is hard to say what supply sources are indeed awash with vaccines, as failure to use them else-

where may also weigh on relocating their destination. Still no vaccine

that has been approved among the major countries has shown less than 60 percent effectiveness, at worst.

What is being discussed in some countries where first and even second inoculation has been conducted in the past few months is that with the delta variant of the Covid-19 pandemic - and some medical authorities say it is the one fast spreading in southern Africa - the level of vaccine effectiveness is 64 per cent. That figure was obtained in Israeli surveys, one among the best inoculated countries, meanwhile as earlier data from the United States indicated that new cases were more prevalent among those not yet taking the jab, as numerous opinions are expressed on whether the jab is safe, etc. The most valid reply to such questions is that the jab might not be totally safe (some blood clotting was seen) but not taking the jab is almost an assurance that one will catch the virus one of these days if infection rates rise still further.

As it is true in all emergencies, the necessary supplies become more expensive, in which case the central government needs to move towards special procurement of gas cylinders locally, by making available any credit facilities needed for rapid manufacturing.

Similarly the supply of medical oxygen, itself a different product in like manner as pen and ink, ought to obtain the same credit lines, and obtaining another chunk of global pandemic control facility would be appropriate. It wouldn't still relate to making up for revenue shortfalls in tourism or other sphere but targeted directly to rapidly improve cylinder and oxygen supplies.

Kudos to young Tanzanian who transforms beekeeping

HONEY is a sweet, viscous food substance made by honey bees and some related insects, such as stingless bees. Bees produce honey from the sugary secretions of plants (floral nectar) or from secretions of other insects (such as honeydew), by regurgitation, enzymatic activity, and water evaporation.

Honey bees store honey in wax structures called honeycombs, whereas stingless bees store honey in pots made of wax and resin.

The variety of honey produced by honey bees is the best-known, due to its worldwide commercial production and human consumption. Honey is collected from wild bee colonies, or from hives of domesticated bees, a practice known as beekeeping or apiculture (meliponiculture in the case of stingless bees).

Honey use and production have a long and varied history as an ancient activity. Honey is produced by bees collecting nectar and honeydew for use as sugars consumed to support metabolism of muscle activity during foraging or to be stored as a long-term food supply.

During foraging, bees access part of the nectar collected to support metabolic activity of flight muscles, with the majority of collected nectar destined for regurgitation, digestion, and storage as honey. In cold weather or when other food sources are scarce, adult and larval bees use stored honey as food.

By contriving for honey bee swarms to nest in human-made hives, people have been able to semi-domesticate the insects and harvest excess honey.

When Tanzanian businessman Joseph Kadendula, CEO and co-founder of Central Park Bees and its retail brand Swahili Honey, decided to set up an apiary, he had no knowledge of bees. What he did have was an innate passion for entrepreneurship

and was fascinated with farming; for the rest, he trained himself using Google and YouTube. "I've been an entrepreneur since 2005. I originally sold mobile phones that I would purchase in bulk, adding a margin for resale. This helped me to gather some capital that I used for farming, which was always my main interest," says Kadendula.

After obtaining his bachelor of commerce degree in international business at the University of Dordoma, he began farming in earnest with onions, tomatoes, capsicum and cucumber in an area outside the capital Dodoma.

It was the existence of too many middlemen that eventually led him to question the viability of this business venture. "There were so many people between the production of the crops and the client.

There was very little direct access for the farmer to the market and I felt like I had no control," he remembers. While on a trip to China to procure farming equipment in 2013, Kadendula saw the prominence of honey in this market. Back home in Tanzania, most local honey was sold on the side of the road as a way to earn a little extra income.

Kadendula wondered if honey could be commercialised and, without any honey production in place, bought his first processing machine. Next came the search for commercial beehives. Having no luck in Tanzania, Kadendula imported his first hives from neighbouring Kenya. In 2014, he started selling honey in the local market.

It wasn't long before Kadendula made better profits than he'd ever made with crop production. He approached his brother, Christopher Kadendula, and a friend, Charles Kazaula, and Central Park Bees was founded in 2015.

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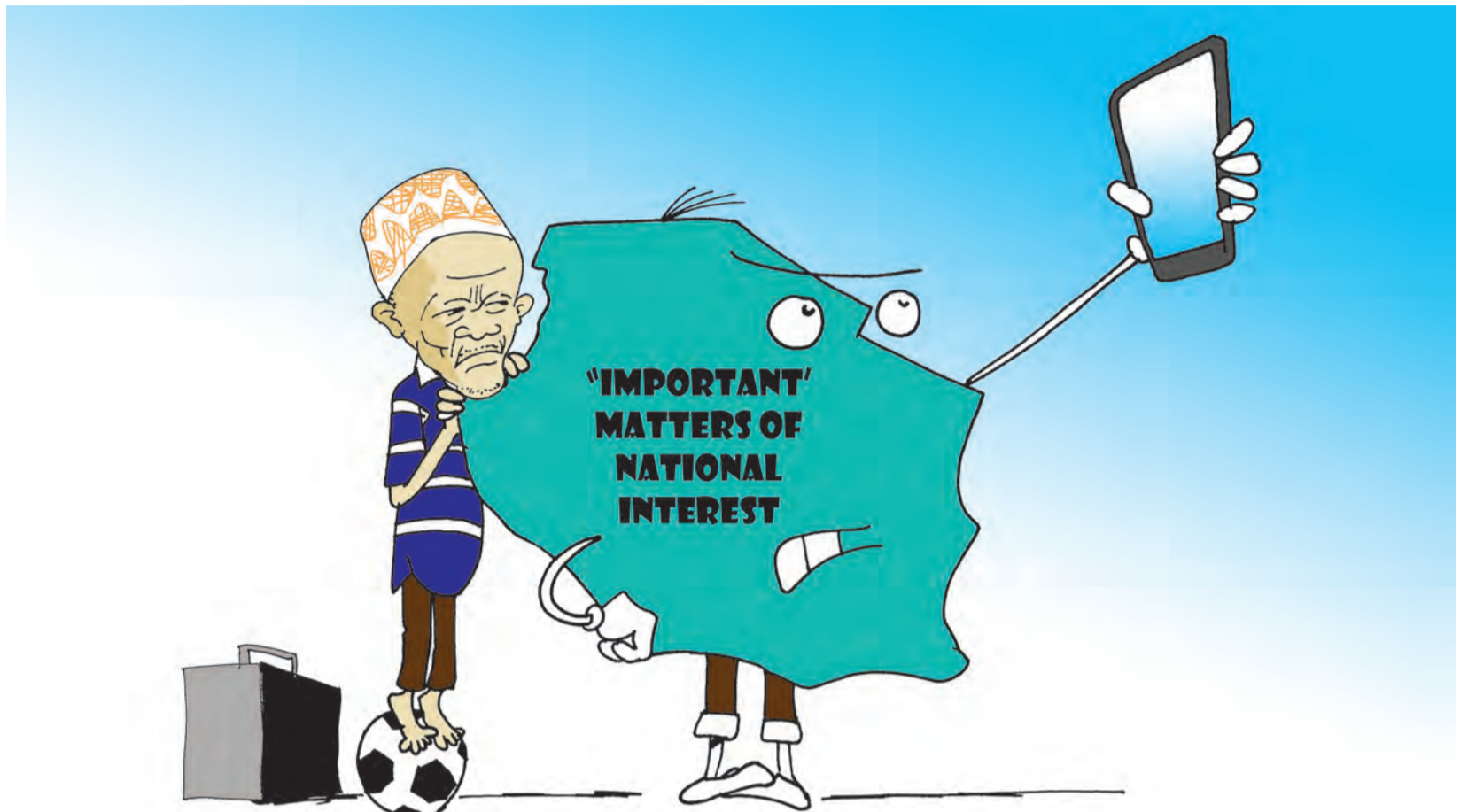
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The generation of 1976 has failed the youth of today: It must give up as gatekeepers

By **Rebone Tau**

South Africans need to stop celebrating the generation of 1976 - it has brought us nothing but pain. It is deployed in strategic government positions and is not showing empathy at all. It was able to confront a brutal system in 1976, but today it is not fighting the corruption delaying progress in our country.

This year marks 45 years since the Soweto Uprising, today known as June 16 or Youth Day. There is nothing to celebrate because the youth unemployment rate is above 70% and we don't have quality free education.

Those of the generation of 1976 who are in leadership positions in politics and government today have failed the youth of this country. There is nothing to celebrate about the generation of 1976 because some of them went into exile and came back to destroy our country. It is clear that they are not patriotic at all.

The generation of 1976 has become our oppressor today. We have been facing load shedding since 2007 and we have areas that don't have water or electricity, so what did this generation fight for?

Today the country is facing many challenges and the generation of 1976 is in a position of power to change the lives of South Africans, but it is failing

dismally in this regard. South Africans need to stop celebrating the generation of 1976 - it has brought us nothing but pain in this country. It is deployed in strategic government positions and is not showing empathy at all.

The economy is growing at a very slow pace, which means poverty continues to be on the rise in this country. There is so much corruption in this country - both in government and the private sector - and we are not hearing the voice of the generation of 1976 or seeing it fighting corruption. It was able to confront a brutal system in 1976 and today it is not fighting the corruption that is delaying progress in the country.

Enough is enough - we can't be celebrating mediocrity. Young people don't eat ideas of the past; they want opportunities to build a better life for themselves and their families. In fact, the generation of 1976 benefited from the revolutionary character of previous generations that had belief and trust in young people.

Today the same generation of 1976 is not able to hand the baton to the younger generations because it is holding on to power. Have they become dictators who don't want to let go of power and allow young

people who have the capacity to take this country forward?

They need to tell us - when they went into exile to take up arms and do military training, what was it for if we see a lot of people living in poverty today and the lack of service we are facing as a country? Some went to study abroad when they left the country after 1976 as they were given opportunities, but today they can't even fight for South Africans who are poor to get free quality education. They were nowhere to be seen or heard during the #FeesMustFall Campaign. They have become so comfortable with everything that is happening in the country and there is nothing revolutionary about them anymore.

Speeches don't put food on the table and that is what the generation of 1976 needs to understand. We are tired of speeches and slogans. Young people want to see this country developing and have equal opportunities with everyone. We have so many graduates who are at home, but the government talks of the issue of skills shortage in the country while failing to explain what this skills shortage actually means.

The irony about the generation of 1976 is that the majority of those

who survived went into government and opposed everything they fought for in 1976. Some of them became corrupt and that is why today they are failing to speak out against corruption.

Our basic education system has been changed so many times with no concrete results at the end of the day. We need to rethink the education system and the generation of 1976 is failing us dismally in this regard, as it is the gatekeeper of the younger generations.

Last, I would like to quote Che Guevara: "Youth should learn to think and act as a mass. It is criminal to think as individuals!"

The generation of 1976 is actually thinking as individuals and thinking it is the only generation that produced revolutionaries. It has failed to work closely with the younger generations. We can't erase the role it played, but now it is not taking us anywhere as a nation. History has no blank pages and we will have to reflect on what it is that the 1976 generation has done since 1994.

It really needs to account and stop being gatekeepers wanting to control young people. It needs to share its experiences and hand over the baton if indeed it loves our country.

South Africa's electoral reform: We sure don't need another political party

By **Terry Bell**

THE time has come for radical change that is in line with all the international human rights treaties and national legislations promising equal rights for all. Probably the best of these on a national basis is the South African Bill of Rights, which is, effectively, a political programme that would have the support of an overwhelming majority of the population.

First published in the Daily Maverick 168 weekly newspaper.

The last thing SA needs in any effort to clamber out of the deep social and economic mire the country is in is another political party, leader or set of revised economic policies. It needs truly radical transformation at a political and social level and the key lies with our electoral system.

It's simple: we do not have a democratic political dispensation. Placing a cross on a ballot paper every five years to hand over political control to a party bureaucracy is democratic only in that voters willingly forgo the potential power they, collectively, have.

The interests of politicians - many of whom move seamlessly from political office to the boardrooms of big business - lie not with the voters, but

with party bureaucracies. These bureaucracies, in turn, rely for much of their funding on the financial elites whose fundamental interests are diametrically opposed to those of the majority of the population. And those who pay the piper tend always to call the tune.

This is a global reality in professed "democracies" at a time of ongoing economic crisis. It has seen elite minorities accumulate massively more wealth while rapid technological advance, powered by artificial intelligence, threatens to make much of humanity redundant, perhaps the future subjects of begging-bowl income grants.

Clearly, the time has come for radical change that is in line with all the international human rights treaties and national legislations promising equal rights for all. Probably the best of these on a national basis is the South African Bill of Rights, which is, effectively, a political programme that would have the support of an overwhelming majority of the population.

Systems of direct democracy have existed in the past, usually on a village level, in Africa and elsewhere, so the possibility exists. In South Africa we also have a recent history - at the height of anti-apartheid resist-

ance - of grassroots organisation in several townships and among early trade unions.

As the Reverend Frank Chikane and groups such as the Community Action Networks (CANs) have pointed out, people at grassroots level need now to start, democratically, to take control of their destinies.

This implies that representatives, wholly accountable to, and recallable by, the community should be elected to carry out specific functions; that any remuneration and benefits should be decided by the community.

This is real democracy in action and should be the goal aimed at by every person laying claim to be a democrat.

The only questions that arise, are: Is this possible and, if so, how can it be achieved?

Units large and small of what could be a coalition of citizens already exist, in the form of religious communities, stokvels, CANs, trade unions and other groups that meet regularly. Two factors are missing: coordination and communication.

Communication is the essence and it is pointed out that millions of people can hardly be gathered together regularly to discuss and make decisions; that the partial democracy we

now see globally - in one form or another - is the only answer. It is not.

Courtesy of the very technology that has made increasing millions of men and women redundant as workers, rather than freeing them from drudgery, it is perfectly feasible for every citizen to be kept informed, to discuss all issues and to decide and vote on appropriate actions. As we are constantly reminded, we live in a world village.

Because we are constrained electorally, at national level, by the present list system, with constituencies arbitrarily defined by political parties after the event, it will be necessary to adapt to this until change can be introduced.

This would mean a "citizens' coalition" putting up candidates for office who are broadly acceptable to voters in different regions or provinces and who are prepared to sign "constituency agreements" and agree to be wholly accountable to, and recallable by, their constituents.

The proportion of votes for such a citizens' coalition in various regions should determine the boundaries of "constituencies" and who should represent them. Because every individual has a unique ID number, there can be little chance of duplicate membership or voting.

CPC's governance experience beneficial to Africa, say African experts, officials

NAIROBI

THE Communist Party of China (CPC)'s experience in governing China is valuable and worth learning for African countries in terms of maintaining stability, poverty alleviation, people-centered development and COVID-19 prevention, African leaders and experts have said.

They made the remarks as the CPC celebrates its centenary, saying that the CPC has led the Chinese people from one victory to another since its founding in July 1921.

STABILITY, DEVELOPMENT

For Africa, the most valuable experience from the CPC is "that long-term stability of political parties is absolutely necessary for sustainable development," said Peter Kagwanja, CEO of the Africa Policy Institute (API), a Nairobi-based pan-African think tank.

The CPC has united China's 56 ethnic groups and guaranteed government safety and stability, which has laid the foundation for China to become the second-largest economy in the world, said Kagwanja.

"As a result of the trinity of political stability, anti-corruption and green development, China has lifted nearly 800 million people out of poverty since its reform and opening up in 1978, a milestone hailed by the World Bank as one of the great stories in human history," said Kagwanja.

"By first eradicating (absolute) poverty in China and then moving forward to help other countries, the CPC has played a great role in eliminating one of the greatest diseases in the world, and it should be commended for such," said Donald Rushambwa, a researcher at Harare-based China-Africa Economic and Culture Exchange Research Center, who was once a foreign student at a university in China's eastern Zhejiang Province.

PEOPLE-CENTERED PHILOSOPHY

Rushambwa said that the CPC's people-centered approach has



A national flag-raising ceremony is held at Tian'anmen Square during a ceremony marking the centenary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) in Beijing, capital of China, July 1, 2021. (Xinhua)

played a huge role in China's remarkable development, bringing prosperity to all sections of society.

Ernest Moloji, chief sub-editor of Botswana Guardian, said that "Keeping the party intact, managing inter-party democracy and maintaining cadre discipline as well as addressing pressing developmental issues and charting national policies that speak to the needs of the masses has been the CPC's trump card."

Moloji said the Botswana Democratic Party should learn from that as a party that has ruled the country for over 50 years.

Abdullah Juma Sadala, a senior official of Tanzania's ruling party Chama Cha Mapinduzi, said in a

recent interview with Xinhua that "by maintaining close ties with the Chinese people, the CPC has achieved great success in economic and social development."

Decades ago, the CPC led the Chinese people to overthrow imperialist oppression and achieve national liberation, and now, under the leadership of the party, China has scored a complete victory in its fight against absolute poverty, which has greatly improved the people's living standard, said Sadala.

Deeming the CPC as "a party of the people, and more importantly, a party for the people," Sadala said that "when a party is close to the people, the people will respond positively to the party."

COVID-19 PREVENTION

Humphrey Moshi, director of the Center for Chinese Studies at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, said that "there has always been close communication between the leadership and the people."

"These top-down and bottom-up communications have facilitated swift execution of decisions because the people and the leaders sing the same chorus," said Moshi.

"The unprecedented success in fighting COVID-19 in China was informed by this effective structure of communication, coordination, and execution," said Moshi.

Despite the huge domestic demand and limited supply, China

has done its best to supply more than 480 million doses of vaccines to the international community, making it the largest supplier of vaccines in the world, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Wang Wenbin said at a regular press conference on Friday.

So far, China has provided vaccine assistance to nearly 100 countries from five continents. The WHO has added Sinopharm and Sinovac vaccines to the Emergency Use Listing. More than 30 foreign leaders have taken the lead in receiving jabs of Chinese vaccines.

Equatorial Guinean President Teodoro Obiang said Chinese vaccines have brought a ray of hope to his country's struggling fight

against the epidemic. Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa said the vaccines donated by China were like the light at the end of the tunnel.

CHINA-AFRICA RELATIONS

"In international affairs, China advocates seeking common ground while shelving differences with other nations, and contributes to maintaining world peace and global environmental governance through global cooperation," said Sadala, adding that China and Tanzania maintain close economic and trade cooperation as well as party-to-party exchanges.

Zambian President Edgar Lungu said that China has been providing assistance to Zambia within frameworks such as the Belt and Road Initiative and the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, which has consolidated their relations featuring mutual benefit.

"China's success story anchored by vision, hard work and perseverance must provide serious lessons especially for the African continent," said Lungu.

Joaquim Chissano, former president of Mozambique, who witnessed the frequent friendly exchanges between his party Frelimo and the CPC, told Xinhua in an interview that China's success is "encouraging."

Speaking about China's vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, Chissano refuted claims that there are impositions and that China wants to seek hegemony or leadership in global order.

"China is offering more open cooperation, which is a good vision," he said, adding that countries must identify their own needs and benefit from multilateral cooperation without sabotaging their own interests to achieve win-win outcomes.

"Africa must not be detached from the world of science, technology and innovation led by China," said former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo.

Xinhua

Why we need to build economies – not walls – to stop migration

SAN SALVADOR

IF you speak to farmers in El Salvador, many will tell you about the time they were driven to head north across Central America towards the US. The routes to the border are many, but the origins are so often the same: desperation and hope that better employment opportunities can be found elsewhere.

The faces you see of those arriving, in what could be the highest influx to the United States in 15 years, represent the reality in rural El Salvador, where so many people escaping poverty find only a dead-end.

Years of reliance on imported food has held back the development of the country's agricultural sector, on which so many rural families rely. This has created a vicious cycle that suppresses the domestic market, limits job creation and forces rural workers to look to cities and other countries, particularly rural youth, who are reluctant to work in agriculture because they see limited returns.

For my family, producing on the land has been a way of life for generations, and I am familiar with the challenges that farmers face.

I also know that Salvadoran farmers need not face a binary choice of stay and struggle, or risk everything by moving elsewhere. Instead of carrying a bag of belongings to the border, harvesting a sack of vegetables can represent the way not only out of poverty, but into a position of security and even prosperity, and I have seen how this can work.

Agriculture can offer rural families a pathway to upward mobility and, as we believe at Acceso, a social agribusiness I lead in El Salvador, this is best achieved when the food value chain is "reverse engineered" from market demands backwards, prioritizing farmers' interests.

By investing in small farmers to help improve their production to meet the demands of large local buyers, and developing solutions to aggregate their produce, we have shown how to create new and more secure incomes and livelihoods that offer rural communities a better alternative right here in El Salvador.

Dionel, a young farmer I work with in the highlands of Chalatenango, considered emigrating to the US seven years ago, but changed his mind when he found he was able to sell his produce consistently, and no longer had to rely on unpredictable informal markets.

For him, Acceso's model created the market structure that provided income security and allowed his family to be empowered financially. For Dionel and others, this kind of investment in rural areas is vital because, as he says, "that is where the communities with the least job opportunities are found."

Strategic investments into creating sustainable and profitable jobs can go a long way. Efraín, a 57-year-old



Women in El Salvador are participating in an educational programme supported by the World Health Organization that teaches safe hygiene practices and food safety. The WHO works in collaboration with El Salvador's government and other United Nations partner organizations like the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), UNICEF, UNWomen, and the World Food Program (WFP). The program aims to address foodborne illnesses and poor nutrition by educating local women who then pass on their knowledge to other women in the community. (File photo)

farmer, knows this all too well. He has been to the US twice, but returned when he heard about improvements in the agriculture sector back home.

Now, he is part of our Acceso farmer network as well, benefiting from training on good agricultural practices and guaranteed market opportunities. The results speak for themselves: farmers have realized crop yield increases of more than 60 percent in just one year, while farmers' incomes were more than 250 percent higher in 2020 compared to 2017.

It is not just yields that are increasing, but varieties

too. Having started off planting chilli peppers, Efraín is now growing many more crops introduced by Acceso, which then aggregates the produce to sell to supermarkets and restaurant chains.

Increasing the number of crops has required more farm workers on his field, so not only has Efraín benefitted from diversifying his farm, others in his community have also been given the chance of

a livelihood. Efraín's goal is to see his business continue to grow, creating more opportunities for jobs, incomes and economic growth – and reasons to stay – for Salvadorans.

High quality, locally-grown produce is stocking the local supermarkets, something that wasn't possible just six years ago when low volumes of produce were sourced locally by Acceso's custom-

ers like Subway, Super Selectos, and others. Now, with more market structures in place, imports have decreased; for example, for Super Selectos from as much as 90 percent to less than 50 percent.

This has been made possible in part by Acceso's work with farmers to improve access to quality seeds and affordable credit, which in turn has led to reliability and variety of produce.

New processing facilities have also meant that farmers' produce can be handled, stored and packaged according to the standards required by major supermarkets and restaurant franchises.

Improving resilience throughout food value chains has proven to be critical. When the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns hit, certain market sectors, including restaurants and hospitality, slowed down.

Yet the continued reliance on supermarkets and stores for essential food meant farmers like Juan Carlos, who has worked with Acceso for seven years, could continue to benefit despite shifts in the market.

This stability means that he has continued to earn a living throughout the pandemic, and Juan Carlos no longer considers migration. For him, "staying in the country is the best option."

The El Salvador I know is full of hard workers who want to prosper in their home country and see their children grow up and succeed. Ask many of the farmers I work with, who tried to migrate, and they will tell you that border crossings are often the last resort. Given the opportunity, they choose to remain or return to their homeland.

This logic can be applied to countries around the world. Instead of building walls, we should be building connections between farmers and markets for more secure jobs, economies, and prospects for rural families.

IPS

Developing country solidarity needed to overcome pandemic

KUALA LUMPUR and SYDNEY

As rich countries have delayed contagion containment, including mass vaccination, in developing countries, much weaker fiscal efforts in the South have worsened the growing world pandemic apart.

Lessons from first wave

Despite limited fiscal resources and modest external support, government efforts also need to address unsustainability, inequality and other problems due to extant economic, social and environmental arrangements.

Early relief and recovery measures assumed that the pandemic would be short-lived and reversible. Hence, such measures were rarely sustained, let alone expanded in developing countries despite the growing need for them.

Appropriate social protection measures are needed for the longer term beyond those deemed temporarily necessary. The adverse effects of livelihood disruptions should be mitigated with income maintenance for employees and the self-employed whose livelihoods have been severely jeopardised.

Governments must try to maintain family incomes, enabling them to spend to survive, thus keeping the economy ticking and businesses afloat. With effective contagion containment, such programmes enable earlier resumption of economic activities, i.e., recovery.

Sustaining businesses, nurturing economies

A few, mainly developed countries have tried to minimise business destruction, worker layoffs and welfare losses. Developing country governments must also help revive and sustain economies and livelihoods to prevent pandemic recessions from becoming protracted depressions.

Few businesses and sectors can survive without adapting. Business survival options could include re-deployment, infrastructure and facility repurposing, and staff re-training. Other options include additional credit to businesses, tax payment deferrals and even social protection.

Many businesses, especially those with less reserves, need help avoiding liquidation and paying employees. Governments may need to consider adapting American bankruptcy law to enable businesses to continue operating to work themselves out of temporary pandemic predicaments.

As early as April 2020, the pandemic had hit many businesses in over 130 countries, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises. Two of three were hard hit globally as well as in Africa, with a fifth expecting to close within a quarter!

Of course, more lending and tax breaks mainly benefit the better-off, rather than those in greatest need, most vulnerable or adversely affected.



Although policymakers typically insist on targeting and means-testing for the poor, they rarely demand the same for businesses. But some 'easy' targeting is desirable to identify needy, but salvageable businesses.

One size cannot fit all

Business disruption has broader implications, threatening national economies. If relations necessary for viable economic transactions - such as trust among entrepreneurs, workers and customers - are disrupted, they will need to be rebuilt, typically requiring much time and expense.

Such 'transactions costs' incurred in building trust, seeking and keeping clients and customers, obtaining credit, recruiting workers and sustaining other longer-term relations are typically ignored. Hence, conventional economics is considered a poor guide to understanding the economy and designing policy.

Keynesian economists typically saw governments as the 'employer-of-last-resort' in response to economic downturns. But governments can also help by becoming 'payers-of-last-resort', enabling businesses to remain solvent, e.g., on condition of keeping, instead of firing involuntarily idle workers.

Conditions for access to policy support should be strict enough to deter abuse, but not participation. Strict verification and correction can wait, even until after the worse is over.

Disbursed state grants or subsidies, later found excessive, can be converted low interest loans. Governments can recover these later, rather than treat beneficiaries

as fraudulent criminals.

Economies are certainly not homogeneous, monolithic or unchanging. And COVID-19 slowdowns are unlike previous recessions. As these are invariably uneven in impact, various sectors, industries and businesses are affected differently.

Hence, no single policy can possibly be suitable for all countries, at all times. Much has to be learnt quickly 'by doing', i.e., from experience, including those of others. Lessons may be both positive and negative, and rapid learning is crucial for improving policy design and implementation.

Who can we count on?

Without both effective contagion containment and mass vaccination, it will be impossible to control the pandemic. And with little external support, containment, relief and recovery measures in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) will be all the more difficult.

Thus, the worst is yet to come in the global South, which must now brace itself for the dire consequences of delayed pandemic suppression and limited fiscal efforts. Meanwhile, the North seems unmoved by the International Monetary Fund's warning of a dangerous new economic divergence globally.

The 870 million vaccines that the world's seven richest large nations (G7) pledged to poor countries last month will immunise half that number, from late 2021. This is only eight percent of the 11 billion doses needed, noted former UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

But despite ungenerous rich Western countries, the Fund has called for US\$50bn to accelerate vaccination worldwide. It expects this to end the pandemic, enhance global output by US\$9 trillion, and yield a trillion in additional tax revenue.

LMICs need to urgently respond to fast spreading pandemic surges. They also need to do so effectively, feasibly and equitably, expecting little help from the North. Domestic borrowing - enabled by central banks, sound policy design and South-South cooperation - will be crucial to success in these circumstances.

IPS

CPC always maintains close ties with the people - Chief of South African Communist Party

By Gong Ming

THE Communist Party of China (CPC) always maintains close ties with the people, empathizes and works with them, and lays stress on safeguarding the fundamental interests of the Chinese people and earnestly addressing issues that concern the people the most, according to Cde Dr. Blade Nzimande, General Secretary of the South African Communist Party (SACP) and Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of the Republic of South Africa.

It is with the genuine support and recognition from the Chinese people that the CPC has been able to unite and lead them in developing the Chinese economy and realizing massive social development advances, Nzimande (pictured) said in a recent interview with People's Daily.

This year marks the centenaries of both the CPC and the SACP, Nzimande said, noting that the two political parties "should forge ahead with the cause of socialism with great determination, resolve and courage."

In the next 100 years, scientific socialism should achieve greater advances, and it's expected that the CPC will lead the Chinese people to create a better life and contribute greatly to world peace and justice, said the SACP chief.

Nzimande visited China as the General Secretary of the SACP in 1998, not long after the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and South Africa. In the following two decades or so, he has led delegations to China more than ten times.

According to Nzimande, every time he visits China he has new discoveries and new thinking about the country, and all the hundreds SACP cadres visiting China with him have been full of praise for China's rapid economic development and the improvement in the quality of the Chinese people's lives.

In east China's Anhui province, Nzimande visited farmers' market, factory, school, residential area, as well as stadium. Marveling at the results of China's reform and opening-up, he said various parties in South

Africa should learn from the experience of the CPC and combine it with the actual conditions of South Africa to promote better development of the country.

Nzimande has been impressed by the achievements of northwest China's Qinghai province in promoting featured agriculture, increasing the income of farmers, effectively using natural resources, and protecting ecological environment.

As the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of South Africa, he pays special attention to the development of China's higher education and scientific and technological innovation, and hopes to intensify cooperation between South Africa and China in a bid to facilitate the social and economic development of South Africa.

"In the decades that followed the establishment of the People's Republic of China, the CPC led the development of Chinese society from the bottom rungs in the world economy to the world's second largest national economy, surpassing many economies," Nzimande said.

"In terms of world trade, China is the top trading partner of many countries in almost all the global regions," he added.



Nzimande pays close attention to China's development. According to him, China has, by formulating and implementing its five-year plans, realized impressive achievements in poverty eradication, human development, economic development, and social transformation.

As China is increasingly recognized as a responsible major country by the international community, "there is a rising number of people who mention China when developing policy and other opportunities are discussed," Nzimande pointed out.

Nzimande appreciates Chinese President Xi Jinping's book "Xi Jinping: The Governance of China". He thinks the book contains profound thoughts and rich contents, and that many ideas in the

book are worth learning from for the SACP. The SACP chief believes Xi's idea of ensuring that the Party exercises effective self-supervision and practices strict self-governance is very important for strengthening Party building. As a member of the tripartite alliance led by South Africa's African National Congress (ANC), the SACP can draw on more of the practices of the CPC regarding strategies and plans for the development of party officials.

China and South Africa have established a sound partnership in training party officials. From July 2020 to March 2021, the National School of Government (NSG) of South Africa and the China-Africa Institute jointly held four online training seminars. Nearly 200 trainees from governments at all levels in South Africa took part in the

seminars and said they would learn from China's experience in state governance, economic development, poverty reduction and so on.

The SACP and the CPC have long-standing ties, and a history of exchanges and co-operation, which we have deepened over the past years, Nzimande said, noting that after the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the two sides quickly moved to online interactions.

The International Department of the CPC Central Committee has organized a series of video webinar between the SACP and the CPC, during which more than 20 senior officials of the SACP had discussions with Chinese experts and scholars on topics including the prevention and control of the pandemic, poverty alleviation, and Africa-China friendship.

The Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) is a bridge for cooperation and exchanges between Africa and China, said Nzimande, who has attended the forum twice. He considers it crucial for improving African people's well-being and promoting the sustainable development of Africa, and helpful in bringing South Africa and China closer in economy, trade, science and technology, culture, and education.

In this age of economic globalization when countries in the world are interconnected and interdependent, China's ideas of jointly building the Belt and Road and a community with a shared future for mankind aim at promoting common development of the whole of humanity and conform to the shared aspiration of people in various countries for development, he said.

"We attach great importance to the commitment made by President Xi to make the COVID-19 vaccine developed by China a global public good," Nzimande said.

The SACP highly praised the assistance China has provided for South Africa in fighting the COVID-19, and is willing to enhance exchanges and cooperation with the CPC to overcome the pandemic and jointly push forward with the relations between South Africa and China, according to Nzimande.

Noting that China has unfolded its 14th Five-Year Plan and embarked on a new journey toward fully building a modern socialist country and is now marching toward the second centenary goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects, Nzimande believes that under the leadership of the CPC, the country will continue advancing in giant strides and consolidating its development achievements, and that the Chinese people will create brighter glory.

People's Daily

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

WFP warns displaced Mozambicans risk facing food crisis, calls for help

MAPUTO

THE United Nations World Food programme is warning that hundreds of displaced people in Mozambique risk facing an imminent food crisis.

A violent campaign launched by Islamic extremists in the oil-rich Cabo Delgado province has led to a rapidly escalating humanitarian crisis.

Women and children are particularly reeling under pressure. Viase Nassir was forced to flee her village in Quissanga District after an attack by insurgents in September 2020.

After a harrowing escape, the 41-year-old now lives at Metuge camp, with her injured husband, three surviving children and four grandchildren.

"They started shooting and attacking the village. At that moment, this baby was sleeping in the house. I went inside the house to take the baby, and they came in... When I picked up the baby, they shouted, 'Hey stop, we will kill you! Stop we will kill you!' I begged, I said no, please don't kill us", Nassir recalled.

Many of those who fled the insurgency in Palma to neighboring districts are being hosted by the local communities. However, the extra mouths to feed are putting pressure on families and host communities.

"I would like my children to grow up and study, to help me and help each other because I am without alternatives. In our land, we produced and sold food to support our children's school costs and here that no longer happens, we just stay. These are my children and they have no other family members, so they just depend on me. I feel even more sorry at other times for knowing that these children had a family and help, but today they no longer have help", Nassir said.

On Tuesday, the WFP said it might suspend food assistance completely, unless it raises \$121 million to help thousands of people, as families are totally reliant on humanitarian support.

"This was a tourism area, fishing, good economy, people had a good way of life but guess what? Insurgents, terrorists come in rip families apart, burning their homes, killing people, raping women, just exploiting a good



way of life and so the World Food Programme is now in here trying to bring hope to people...715,000 people that we are now supporting", said WFP Executive Director, David Beasley.

Children are worst affected by the

rising rates of malnutrition in Mozambique. Almost 21% of displaced children under 5 years old, and 18% of children of host families, are underweight. That's according to a recent survey by UNICEF and WFP.

Also, the rates of chronic malnu-

trition, which has lifelong ramifications, are at an alarming 50% of displaced children and 41% of children from host communities, the survey revealed.

The UN says the displacement has left at least 730,000 people in

Cabo Delgado with no access to their lands and no means of earning a living. It added that 363,000 are expected to be deemed by the UN as "highly food insecure" come the lean season beginning in October.

Kenya in rush to vaccinate 4m children as measles cases surge

By Peter Muiruri

KENYA has restarted its vaccination programme in an effort to tackle the re-emergence of measles, which has surged in the country during the Covid restrictions.

A 10-day campaign against highly contagious measles and rubella has begun to target 4 million children aged nine months to five years in 22 of Kenya's 47 counties where outbreaks are highest.

Measles is the "third most common cause of deaths

among children from vaccine-preventable diseases", the health ministry said. In 2020, only 85% of children in the east African country had received the first dose of the vaccine and less than 50% had had the second.

The exercise will involve 16,000 health workers at 5,061 vaccination centres.

An assessment conducted in Kenya with the support of the World Health Organization showed a big rise in the number of unvaccinated children. "The unprecedented increase

in the number of unvaccinated children, accumulation of susceptible children to more than 2.1 million and the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has aided outbreaks," the ministry said.

According to the WHO, it takes at least 95% of the combined MCV1 and MCV2 vaccine coverage to prevent outbreaks. Across sub-Saharan Africa, however, the level of first doses being administered has stagnated at 69% since 2013. "Only seven countries in the region achieved 95% measles-containing vaccine coverage in

2019," the WHO said.

Kenya's 4 million children are among 16.6 million in Africa who missed supplemental vaccination against measles between January 2020 and April 2021, according to the WHO.

In April, the WHO reported of major outbreaks of measles in eight African countries that affected "tens of thousands" as efforts to contain Covid took centre stage.

"Children under five years can die from measles complications and if the virus circula-

tion is not stopped, their risk of exposure increases daily. We know that vaccination is by far the best way to keep these children safe," said Maniza Zaman, Unicef representative in Kenya.

The WHO also reported that the "quality of measles surveillance in Africa fell to the lowest level in seven years in 2020, with just 11 countries meeting their target".

Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO regional director for Africa, said: "Recent outbreaks of measles, but also yellow fe-

ver, cholera and meningitis, all point to worrying gaps in immunisation coverage and surveillance in Africa. As we fight Covid-19, we cannot leave anyone dangerously exposed to preventable diseases. I urge all countries to double down on essential health services, including life-saving vaccination campaigns."

According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the number of global measles cases more than quadrupled to the highest in 23 years, from 132,490 in 2016 to

869,770 in 2019. Mortality rates almost doubled, with 207,500 reported deaths.

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Warning bells over rising cases of obesity

By Guardian Correspondent

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

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

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

Apart from the ever rising death toll from the NCDs, individual patients incur medical and non-medical costs totaling 1,211.78 US dollars annually, on average, as well as indirect costs such as loss of income, according to the report.

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

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

The research by the policy think tank found that five percent of Tanzania's adult population had excessive weight in 2008, but this rose to 8.4 percent in 2016 whereas deaths from NCDs accounted for a

third of all deaths. Obesity was reported to be higher among females (12.7 percent) than men (4.1 percent) and it affects the age group 45-54 years most.

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

The study led by Professor Fortunata Songora Makene, ESRF's Head of Strategic Research and Publications Department, found that 97 percent of the government's total health service budget was spent on caring for NCD patients and only three percent went to management of the diseases.

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

Obese people are in turn vulnerable to developing non-communicable ailments, such as cardiovascular complications, diabetes and various cancers.

To discourage the consumption of SSBs, in addition to calling for multi sectoral measures to promote healthy eating and physical activity, the study report recommends an increase on the excise tax charged, equivalent to 20 percent of the current price of sugar-sweetened soft drinks and juices, as a policy intervention measure.



"The SSB tax already exists. The proposed reform is that of increasing the tax rather than introducing a new tax," says the report.

The study found that middle-aged adults consumed high intake of sugary drinks, concluding that imposition of tax would help lower the intake, thereby reducing obesity prevalence by 6.6 percent overall.

The researchers recommend consultation with SSB manufacturers, consumers and other stakeholders on the proposal to ensure inclusive implementation.

The report gives evidence that the fiscal policy intervention has proved effective in many countries, including South Africa, India, Brazil, Denmark, France, United Kingdom and Bulgaria.

This is the first such study in Eastern Africa and second only to one carried out in South Africa on the continent.

Raising the excise tax on sugar-sweetened drinks by 20 percent of the price would not only complement other measures to reduce obesity but will also boost government revenues by an additional 452bn/- annually.

SADC and UNICEF strategies to expand education, skills development and employment opportunities for youth

By Guardian Reporter

THE Southern African Development Community (SADC) Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Tax has said that member states are committed to promoting youth empowerment through on-going regional programmes as they play an active role in the implementation of regional policies and activities through their established structures.

Dr Tax was speaking during a courtesy call by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) senior advisor for partnerships and resource mobilisation under the Generation Unlimited (GenU) movement, Nadi Albino.

The courtesy call saw the two discussing collaborative initiatives to empower young people to become productive and engaged members of society in the SADC Region.

Under the overall coordination of UNICEF, GenU is a global multi-sector partnership to meet the urgent need for expanded education, training and employment opportunities for young people aged 10 to 24 years.

Dr Tax stated that the region's established programmes on skills development, employment and youth empowerment, which promote realisation of the demographic dividend, were closely aligned to GenU objectives.

She welcomed the appointment of His Excellency Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana, as a GenU champion within the SADC region and expressed confidence that this positive development would unlock new empowerment opportunities for young people in Botswana, and the Region at large.

She underscored the need to ensure synergy and complementarity among key actors, notably the youth themselves, in addressing the many challenges they faced and ensuring their full contribution to the socio-economic development agenda.

Meanwhile, Albino informed the Executive Secretary that by virtue of its existence, GenU was mandated by UNICEF to bring together the private sector, governments, multilateral organisations, civil society, and young people through mutual and cordial engagements in finding lasting solutions to challenges faced by millions of young people.

She outlined the work conducted by GenU under different workstreams to modernise education and training and foster job preparation through apprenticeship, mentorship and entrepreneurship; to increase work and livelihood opportunities available to youth; and to engage youth as change makers.

Albino mentioned that the private sector and young people were key players in these initiatives, expressing optimism that partnership with SADC would go a long way in creating an enabling environment for the GenU initiative.

The parties acknowledged and underscored that young people in the SADC region and the rest of the world represented enormous opportunities to transform economic and social outcomes, thus it was critical to invest in young people with a view to enhance productivity and standards of living at regional, continental and global levels.

The parties committed to establish cooperation modalities to implement responsive interventions to address challenges facing youth in the Region.

Why the West lost in Afghanistan – and how Afghans can claim victory in the aftermath

By Greg Mills

AS Nato troops prepare to leave Afghanistan by 11 September in the face of a Taliban surge, a question remains unanswered: Why did the international intervenors fail in their mission to bring stability to Afghanistan?

Five reasons stand out:

The West's best wasn't good enough.

The lives of 3,500 international troops plus an estimated 200,000 Afghans has not been sufficient to turn the tide against a highly motivated Taliban.

This should not obscure the failure to accept from the outset that this was a strategic undertaking involving more than the toppling of the Taliban as the host of Al-Qaeda, leading to the failure to resource the mission accordingly.

The usual excuse given is that the US got distracted by Iraq. To an extent this is true, but this does not explain why Afghanistan did not stabilise even when greater resources were available.

The West's political leadership has simply lacked the strategy and patience necessary to execute a longer war.

There was no plan.

The West's plan evolved by iteration, subject to changes in personalities – of ambassadors, commanders and politicians. It was striking for the eclipse of strategy by the operational art of the military as it morphed from regime change to nation-building, constantly reverse-engineered from facts on the ground.

By doing so, the West became just another localised warlord, albeit a large and powerful – if temporary – one, to be managed, fought with, allied to, and even cooperated with, both for resources and in the realisation that it would eventually leave.

Whatever the military failures, those of politicians, diplomats and aid agencies were spectacular by their relative invisibility. The last 20 years has been about the failure of politics, internationally and regionally, and internally by the Afghans.

In particular, there has been little energy put into making regional peace until very late in the day, or peace for that matter with the Taliban in Afghanistan itself.

Solutions were driven by fear and a misguided search for institutional relevance.

Not only did the West overestimate the value of its agency, but the bureaucratic powerhouse of Nato exacerbated this dynamic, supercharging the detachment, jargon and militarisation in its self-interest.

The chosen metrics suited the mission until that mission no longer suited the politics of Nato and of its only real enabler, the US.

Geography trumped goodwill.

Not only did the Taliban prove to be a formidable and resourceful foe, but it has also received assistance from outside. Most of the neighbourhood has had reason to resent and ultimately reject the Western presence. Pakistan's perception of the West's role was, from the outset, shaped by what Islamabad saw as its betrayal after the Soviet retreat in 1989, leaving it with a civil war on its borders and more than three million Afghan refugees within them.

Thereafter the US retreated, only to return as an ally after 9/11. Afghanistan increasingly became a casualty of greater strategic interests, including the complex relationship between the West with Pakistan, complicated by the Pakistani-Indian relationship, and, overall, Islamic sentiments towards a West-



In many far-reaching respects, Afghanistan is a different country from that in 2001. For one, while the Taliban unplugged it from the world, today there are nearly 27 million cell users among the population of 35 million. (Richard Harper)

ern presence.

Iran and the Stans – Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan – initially wanted an end to instability and to maintain their own spheres of interest in Afghanistan; this changed as the West became mired in the struggle and the direction of US-Iran and US-Russia relations continued to sour. The strategic sophistication of the current Taliban offensive, which appears designed to pressure Kabul by closing off access to its northern trading “ports” into the Stans and forcing dependence on its southern routes via Pakistan, perfectly illustrates the pattern and extent of regional influences.

A failure of development assistance. With a few exceptions, the metrics of aid became about the volumes of expenditure rather than effect, fuelling vast corruption. Since the vast majority of jobs in developing countries are in the private sector, there is a need to work out exactly what this sector needs to succeed.

Afghanistan showed that aid programmes are by and large antithetical to economic development since they are mostly led by those who apparently do not either understand or like business.

The traditional route of an entrepreneur with a good idea borrowing money and starting a business was lost in the focus on easy money, where entrepreneurial talents were diverted from creating new enterprises to cynically tapping the more than \$100-billion in soft donor money

that flowed to Afghanistan.

Between 2001 and 2019, two million men and women served from abroad in Afghanistan, and more than \$2 trillion was expended, an extraordinary, once-in-a-generation commitment of resources to a poor country. It also represents a staggering opportunity cost.

This does not mean that all is lost. The struggle of the last 20 years has not failed. It is, instead, incomplete.

Rather than reverting to tired stereotypes about the war returning to an old Northern Alliance versus Taliban struggle, or the hopeful idea that the Islamists have somehow reformed in the last 20 years to a more moderate variant, this should be called for what it is: a war between a modernising republic and a reactionary Taliban. Much has changed in the last 20 years, not least the embedding of modernity and government within communities.

The failure of this modernising project, as President Ashraf Ghani notes, “would confine the next six generations of Afghans to their fate”.

The West should not kid itself. If the Taliban took over, their method of governance in Afghanistan is unlikely to be much prettier than 20 years ago, nor their international links more benign.

It is, moreover, not 1996, when the Taliban was welcomed by many as a stabilising force freeing the country from the violent and costly anarchy of the feuding mujahideen warlords, whatever its authoritarianism.

Afghanistan will now have to find its own way, some of which may be uncomfortable to Western norms and sensitivities, from arming militias to cutting deals with tribal elders.

Lots of powerful people have invested a lot of money in Afghanistan. Even if they might have externalised some, a collapse would cost them a great deal.

And it will require implementing a different regional vision – more win-win than the current zero-sum – in which there are potentially rich rewards.

Towr Kham gate, at the foot of the Khyber Pass in Pakistan, is evidence of the benefits of closer collaboration, with queues of hundreds of jingly trucks and people patiently waiting their turn to cross. Conversation at the lunch table in Jalalabad turns, immediately, to cricket, and the relative strengths of regional teams and leagues.

There are myriad commercial and thus political opportunities in closer regional integration, from the cheaper data flows and improved banking services that would flow from shared fibre-optic belts to hydro-power complexes, akin to what Ghani describes as an Asian Roundabout.

Iran also needs a stable Afghanistan, not least given its need for partners amidst US sanctions. With the current insurgency, a search for new directions might seem pie in the sky. Yet the West should back those wanting to modernise in

the sober realisation that it lacked the imagination, diplomacy and staying power to do the job. Its best was simply not good enough. Three Western actions could stiffen an Afghan-led strategy, and achieve the things Nato was unable to get done:

First, to provide the cash to pay soldiers (and pay off others). There is other assistance, including intelligence sharing and weapons maintenance, that would also be useful. The Afghan National Army is the “backbone” of the Afghan state, as Ahmad Massoud, son of the late Northern Alliance leader, has put it, and “its biggest achievement”.

Second, to back a diplomatic solution that helps the modernisers come out on top, including helping – and stopping to assist – regional spoilers while encouraging Afghan unity against the Taliban.

And third, while weaning Afghanistan off the aid fountain, and recognising its corrupting effect, to not cut it off completely in key areas, particularly regional infrastructure connectivity.

Before peace is possible, war is going to be necessary, since without it, the Taliban has no incentive to stop fighting. And if the Taliban takes over, all the gains in institutions along with human and especially women's rights will be eliminated.

Having the West in Afghanistan did not deliver a victory. The question is now: Can its departure allow for one?

DM



America's deal with the Taliban was essentially to withdraw by 11 September 2021 in exchange for not being targeted before then, little different to the manner in which the US withdrew from South Vietnam in 1972.

RADIO One **RATIBA YA VIPINDI** **JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One **Radio One**



MARKET TRENDS
CRDB Bank's SimBanking application has over 30 thousand subscribers

- page 14

Thursday 8 July 2021

NMB gives clients 500m/- in prizes including a 169m/- Toyota Fortuner

By The Banker Reporter

IN a campaign to mobilise deposits which started in February this year, NMB Bank Plc has awarded its customers some half a billion shillings in cash and material prizes.

NMB's acting Chief Internal Auditor, Benedicto Baragomwa said earlier this week after presenting a posh Toyota Fortuner SUV to Morogoro resident, Abdallah Mohammed that a record 120 people have won cash prizes ranging between 100,000/- and 10/- through weekly and monthly draws.

"In February, we launched the special campaign purposefully for giving back part of the profit, made in 2020, to our customers and also to inculcate a saving culture among Tanzanians," Baragomwa said noting that some of the luck winners also drove home LIFAN rickshaw for cargo transportation and Tata Ace light duty pickups.

He further said that the country's most profitable bank is committed towards improving and changing lives of the majority of Tanzanians. "We give back to the community in a number of ways including through such promotions," he added.

In remarks made earlier, NMB's Uluguru Branch Manager, Lilian Abraham commended Abdallah who for having



The winner of 'Bonge la Mpango' promotion's grand prize of a Toyota Fortuner worth over 169m/-, Abdallah Mohammed and his wife Khadija Hussein in a jovial mood soon after receiving the posh car from NMB Bank Plc's acting chief internal auditor, Benedicto Baragomwa at a ceremony held in Morogoro Municipality earlier this week. Photo courtesy of NMB.

won the posh car saying his victory is a result of adopting the saving culture. "I am proud of him because he is a mere villager but most importantly for being a customer from my branch,"

said an excited Abraham whose branch also hosted the inaugural 'Bonge la Mpango' campaign for Coastal Zone.

An excited Abdallah was all smiles after receiving the four

wheel drive SUV saying his dream was almost realised. The 50-year old resident of Kinole village in Chalinze township who is a trader-cum-transporter, said the 169m/- posh car will help

ease his transport challenges.

"Now I am 100 percent sure that I won the car despite being informed over the phone mid last month, my business future is bright," the father of five said while sampling the comfort of his sport utility vehicle at the foot of Uluguru Mountains in Morogoro Municipality.

Patting his spouse on her shoulder as he ignited the zero-kilometre SUV, Abdallah said his grabbing of the deposits mobilisation campaign top prize, was a sign of better days ahead while pledging to continue banking with NMB Bank.

"I always equated my chances of winning this car like building castles in the air. Despite being a royal customer of NMB, I am a mere villager and small trader and this bank has over four million customers, including wealthy entrepreneurs," he added saying the prize was a gift from God. He said the competition's grand prize will be used as a form and source of capital to grow his business with plans to become part of NMB's over 9,000 agents in the country.

Bank branches will be dead in five years

ACCRA

Sixty-five percent of global banking executives believe branch-based banking will be "dead" within five years, according to a new report.

The research, based on a recent survey of 305 senior global banking executives, highlights how Covid-19 branch closures, new technologies and increased competition from fintechs, super-app platforms and tech giants have accelerated digital transformation and triggered a shift in banking priorities and business models.

New technologies such as cloud, artificial intelligence (AI), and application processing interfaces (APIs) were identified by 65% of the bankers surveyed as the trend that will have the biggest impact on the sector over the next four years, ahead of regulation and changing customer demands.

Moreover, 81% think unlocking value from AI will be the differentiator between winning and losing banks. Banks are focusing their technology investment on cybersecurity, AI and cloud computing as they accelerate digital transformation projects.

The report finds that 81% of bankers believe banks will seek to differentiate on customer experience rather than products. With this, many established banks are turning to strategic partnerships and investments in technology to become trusted banking partners and the purveyors of consumer-friendly banking experiences.

The pandemic has been a catalyst for collaboration and experimentation. The report states that nearly half (47%) of bank executives expect their businesses to evolve into ecosystems in the next two years, whereby banks offer third-party products and services, together with their own, to customers and other financial organizations.

"The big shift for us was our belief that we could change fast if we really wanted to. We would have never done the partnerships we are doing now," says Aalishaan Zaidi, global head of digital banking at Standard Chartered.

The report also shows how the pandemic has emphasised the societal role of financial services. Findings show that bankers view microfinance for entrepreneurs (34%) and accounts for the unbanked (33%) as the most promising inclusion-related business opportunities.

"Open banking and increased competition from big tech and new entrants are causing banks to rethink their business models. Many now aspire to develop digital ecosystems that bring more human, differentiated experiences to their customers using the power of cloud, SaaS and AI. This report shows that bankers now understand that technology will be an enabler for these new business models and is critical to their competitive differentiation," says Kanika Hope, chief strategy officer, Temenos.

Citigroup steps up hiring across Africa with bond crown in sight

NEW YORK

Citigroup could add close to 100 new employees to its businesses across the African continent as it surges past rivals to reclaim the top spot in arranging debt sales in the region.

The New York-based bank has already started filling roles to add muscle to its local operations in anticipation that the headcount in sub-Saharan Africa will swell by about 10% from nearly 900.

It's also introduced a new corporate finance and structuring unit to help attract business from international development institutions as the global economy rebounds, according to Citigroup's sub-Saharan Africa head Akin Dawodu.

"We are looking to build some capacity in our coverage teams and in our corporate banking and markets businesses as well," Dawodu said from Lagos, where he's based. "We see clients still looking to go out into the markets and raise money."

Citigroup is on the prowl for talent across the \$1.7 trillion economy of sub-Saharan Africa, a region of about a billion people, after rolling out flexible work policies as a tool it believes will offer a competitive



Citi Group comparison with peers puts it at the peak of the bar chart,

edge in recruiting and retaining top staff.

US rival Goldman Sachs Group Inc. is similarly hiring to grow its reach in the region through its South Africa unit while some of the continent's largest lenders, including Standard Bank Group Ltd., continue to plow resources into expansion of their operations.

When Citigroup first established a presence in South Africa about

a century ago, the firm's focus was on ushering foreign investors into the region. The US bank has since expanded its footprint to about 12 other sub-Saharan African nations and is increasingly aiding the continent's investors in accessing international markets. It's also emerged as the largest arranger of debt sales in sub-Saharan Africa this year for the first time since 2018, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

Citigroup had dropped outside the top five in the past two years, supplanted by local competitors such as Johannesburg-based Standard Bank Group Ltd. and others including Standard Chartered Plc and JPMorgan Chase & Co.

After the pandemic-era lull, bond issuance across sub-Saharan Africa's capital markets has kicked off the year on a better footing. Volumes raised this year are already

on track to match levels last seen in 2018, with over \$16 billion sold thus far, according to data compiled by Citigroup.

As appealing pricing draws in foreign investors, borrowers see scope to better manage their maturity profiles and ease coming refinancing pressures. The governments of Ghana, Senegal, Benin and Kenya have all waded into the debt market this year. The lender is also seeing an uptick in investors seeking sustainable projects to back and growing interest in supply-chain financing, he said.

Activity is returning to African markets even as the continent lags the efforts of more developed economies to inoculate their populations and guard against the spread of new Covid-19 variants. Despite the threat of more virus waves, the region has shown resilience in managing the pandemic, Dawodu said. "We are optimistic that we know more about the virus and its impact and how to react to it now that we did 15 to 18 months ago," he said. "Quickening the pace of the vaccination is critical to the outlook for SSA, and that's something we are hoping to see."

Global firms poke holes in Kenya's fiscal deficit target

NAIROBI

Global economists have projected Kenya's budget deficit will be wider than the 7.5 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) estimated in the Treasury's budget for this financial year, saying the targets of economic growth and tax receipts are unlikely to be met.

A consensus outlook from 11 of the world's leading banks, consultancies and think tanks has forecast fiscal deficit to narrow to

an average of 7.9 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) this fiscal year from an estimated 8.7 percent in the previous one.

The projection is contained in July's consensus forecast report for sub-Saharan Africa compiled by Barcelona-based FocusEconomics. The Treasury sees the budget deficit - filled through borrowing - narrowing steadily to 3.6 percent in the next three years based on expenditure cuts and revenue growth.

"The government's ambitious multi-year fiscal consolidation plan will prove difficult, given a track record of ineffective fiscal policy implementation," Jee-A van der Linde, economist at Oxford Economics, was quoted in the FocusEconomics's outlook report on Kenya. "It will take time to bring the fiscal deficit to more sustainable levels."

Fitch Ratings has projected the highest fiscal deficit for Kenya at 9.0 percent, followed by Economist

Intelligence Unit (8.8 percent), Goldman Sachs (8.4 percent), HSBC (8.2 percent) and JPMorgan (8.0 percent).

Moody's Analytics has forecast the lowest budget hole at 6.8 percent of GDP followed by Fitch Solutions (6.9 percent), Citigroup Global Markets (7.7 percent), BNP Paribas (7.8 percent), Oxford Economics (7.9 percent) and Euromonitor International (7.9 percent). Kenya's fiscal deficit averaged 7.6 percent between June 2013 and June 2020

against a target of 4.0 percent, an analysis by the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) shows.

This (3.6 percent average deviation in seven years) captures the inability of realistically forecasting future revenues and fiscal deficits and implies that the decisions in the overall budget are not being guided by reality but rather by the need to indicate a favourable fiscal position," the PBO wrote in its latest budget outlook report.

CRDB Bank's SimBanking application has over 30 thousand subscribers

By The Banker Reporter

AS consumers in the local market adhere to the coronavirus outbreak's prevention protocols, CRDB Bank Plc's SimBanking Application has so far attracted over 30,000 subscribers, a record for the banking industry in the country.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam mid this week after handing over a Toyota IST to a winner of SimBanking promotion, CRDB's Head of Retail Banking, Stephen Adili said the winner, Kelvin Ngao from Dar es Salaam is one of such subscribers.

He said the SimBanking platform has been very popular in the market such that for the month of June alone it registered growth of over 20 percent. Adili said Ngao emerged the overall winner because he conducted the most transactions in terms of value. "The promotion was aimed at mobilizing our clients use digital banking outlets for their transactions because they are safe and secure but also convenient," Adili said.

He pointed out that another 500 subscribers of the application have won a total of 15m/- in cash prizes ranging between 30 and 100,000/- each adding that the promotion which started in April this year, was also aimed at protecting customers from the Covid-19 outbreak.

"We encourage our clients to continue transacting on SimBanking to get exciting prizes and offers of bank-



CRDB Bank Plc's head of consumer banking, Stephen Adili hands over a plate number of a Toyota IST to SimBanking campaign dubbed, 'Mzigo promosheni' Kevin Ngao (R) during a ceremony held at the ongoing 45th DITF being held at Mwalimu Nyerere Grounds mid this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

ing services and products from CRDB," the Head of Retail Banking stated.

Seconding his boss, CRDB's Commercial Manager for Eastern Zone, George Yater urged subscribers to continue using SimBanking platform in their transactions because a lot more prizes are on offer till

August when the promotion ends. "Our customers should also visit our social media platforms where exciting prizes are also on offer till August this year," he noted.

Speaking after receiving his award, Ngao urged his peers to transact through the CRDB platform saying its secure and ef-

ficient. "Currently, all my transactions are done through SimBanking. I pay bills, send money, pay for my insurance and taxes through this platform," he said saying the Toyota IST reward is simply an addition benefit to him because he gains much more by transacting digitally.

IMF says Rwanda's economy will grow by 5.1pc in 2021

KIGALI

The International Monetary Fund has confirmed that Rwanda's economy is projected to grow by 5.1 per cent in 2021 following a contraction of 3.4 per cent in 2020.

This was after the Executive Board of the Fund (IMF) completed their Fourth Review under the Policy Coordination Instrument (PCI) for Rwanda. The IMF observed that despite the second wave of infections that prompted a three-week lockdown in Kigali in early 2021, real GDP is projected to rebound by 5.1 percent in 2021.

This is buoyed by scaled-up government spending to accommodate additional spending needs due to the more protracted nature of the pandemic and the need to minimize scarring. It will however require more time, up to 2023, for growth to return to its pre-pandemic.

"The authorities' policy response has remained well-designed and targeted. It aims at swiftly procuring and securing financing for vaccines, increasing fiscal support for households and businesses, and providing sufficient liquidity to the banking system given the protracted nature of the pandemic and the need to minimize any lasting socio-economic impact."

"To accommodate additional spending needs, the authorities have appropriately relaxed the fiscal program targets, while enhancing their efforts to contain fiscal risks to safeguard debt sustainability and adopting a gradual fiscal consolidation as soon as the crisis abates," the IMF observed.

Among the key underlying risks observed include uncertainties surrounding the availability and timely delivery of vaccines. Containing financial sector vulnerabilities, the IMF noted, will be key to safeguarding financial stability as well as intensified monitoring of credit risk, prudent restructuring, and timely recognition of problem loans.

"The central bank should continue keeping monetary policy data driven and monitoring price developments amid the uncertain outlook. The authorities should keep the momentum with structural reforms for an inclusive recovery, especially to limit the impact of the pandemic on women and children, and to make progress on the Sustainable Development Goals," the financier noted.

The economy grew by 3.5 per cent in the first quarter of 2021 buoyed by manufacturing and industry sectors. Among the sectors that exhibited growth in the first quarter include industrial activities and agriculture sector.

NEWSINDEPTH

Egypt's e-commerce business MaxAB raises \$40m in new funding round

CAIRO

Egypt's MaxAB, an e-commerce business that connects food and grocery retailers to suppliers, said it raised \$40 million in an early-stage funding round led by Netherlands-based venture capitalist RMBV to drive its regional expansion.

The company's Series-A round also raised funds from seven other investors including the International Finance Corporation, Flourish Ventures, Crystal Stream Capital, Rise Capital and Endeavour Catalyst, MaxAB said in a statement on Monday. Existing investors Beco Capital and 4DX Ventures also participated in the round, bringing the company's total investment to date to more than \$45m.

"Being backed by a diverse group of renowned and experienced investors will enable us to rapidly scale our operations across the Middle East and North Africa region and developing markets," Belal El-Megharbel, co-founder and chief executive of MaxAB, said. "This additional capital will allow us to continue to give retailers the economies of scale our platform offers while serving many more new customers."

Established in 2018, MaxAB serves local independent stores across Egypt, North Africa's largest economy. The online B2B platform offers traditional retailers the convenience of dealing with one supplier, clear pricing, on-demand delivery and value-added services, it said. On the other hand, suppliers benefit from data-driven technologies to streamline the supply chain.

MaxAB will use the funds to grow across the Mena region, following plans for expansion to every key city in Egypt by the end of 2021. "We are looking at a number of markets with dynamics similar to Egypt, where minimal adjustments to MaxAB's existing operating model would be required to best serve retailers, as well as more mature markets with the infrastructure in place to support rapid scalability," the company said.

It also plans to scale recently launched business lines such as embedded finance and a broadening of its supply chains. To drive this expansion, MaxAB will grow its workforce as part of efforts to position Egypt as one of the main tech hubs in the region, it said.

Lead investor RMBV, which manages several institutional private equity funds focused on North Africa with more than \$400m of invested capital, focuses on three main consumer sectors of education, health care, FMCG and the digital economy, according to its website.

"The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the unique



A MaxAB delivery vehicle on duty.

structure of Egypt's economy, with hundreds of thousands of shopkeepers and small businesses becoming the lifeline of our country at the time of crisis," Ahmed Badreldin, managing partner at RMBV, said. MaxAB entrepreneurs have "created a transformative business with impressive growth that is a catalyst for financial inclusion and job creation."

MaxAB serves more than 55,000 retailers, fulfilled more than one million orders and created more than 1,600 direct jobs in the past three years, according to the statement. The business has grown more than

fivefold year-on-year, fuelled by its ability to fulfil deliveries within 24 hours of orders being placed, Mr El-Megharbel said.

The company is leading a push towards embedded finance - banking-like services offered by non-banks - as part of its offerings. Ameya Upadhyay, venture partner at Flourish Ventures, said. Flourish Ventures, a \$500m FinTech-focused venture firm, is backed by eBay founder Pierre Omidyar.

"MaxAB is set to play a central role in retailers' financial lives - it directly boosts retailers' profits by reducing the hassle and the cost of buying inventory and, with em-

bedded FinTech products in its core offering, customers can easily buy more goods and pay for them seamlessly," he said.

Egypt's start-up scene is thriving. Start-ups in North Africa's largest economy received a record \$190m in funding last year, accounting for more than one fifth of every venture capital deal in the broader Mena region, according to data platform Magnitt. MaxAB, which in Arabic means gains or returns, raised \$6.2m during its seed round of investment in September 2019, according to its LinkedIn page.

Forex reserves up Sh218bn on Eurobond, WB receipts

NAIROBI

Kenya's official forex reserves have hit a year high on the receipt of Eurobond, and International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank loans, offering a boost to the shilling. The forex reserves held at the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) rose by Sh218.06 billion (\$2.02 billion) in the last two weeks to close last Friday at Sh1.024 trillion (\$9.49 billion).

The CBK said in its weekly bulletin that the reserves represent 5.81 months of import cover. The data shows the jump, from Sh806.8 billion (\$7.47 billion) two weeks ago, has sent the total reserves to a level last seen in mid-July last year (Sh1.04 trillion or \$9.67 billion).

The increased forex reserves indicate the receipt of Sh107.94 billion (\$1 billion) Eurobond proceeds, Sh80.96 billion (\$750 million) World Bank loan and Sh43.94 billion

(\$407 million) from the IMF. The Treasury normally sells the hard currency proceeds of external loans to the CBK in exchange for shillings, which can then be deployed to the intended budgetary programmes locally. Kenya last month issued a 12-year Eurobond, the fourth sovereign debt to be floated by the country since 2014.

The IMF released Sh43.86 billion (\$407 million), which is the second tranche of the

lender's \$2.4 billion (Sh258.65 billion) facility to Nairobi. Kenya got the first disbursement amounting to \$314 million (Sh33.84 billion) in April.

The World Bank also last month approved a \$750 million loan to Kenya aimed at supporting policy reforms for strengthening transparency and accountability in public procurement and investment spending. The higher foreign reserves are now expected

to support the shilling by giving the market confidence that the CBK has enough firepower to deploy in case of exchange rate volatility.

The shilling has remained relatively stable to the dollar, remaining below 108 units to the dollar since April 25 when it averaged 108.02. It opened yesterday at 107.94. The country also gets foreign currency inflows from export and tourism and Diaspora remittances.

Digital marketing, data mining and artificial intelligence - AI

By Alley Mtatya

LAST year I had a webinar with a South African digital marketing firm-it was about Harvard and dropping out, well not really let me start from the beginning.

Let me start with 'Facebook,' back in 2006/7 we were all rampant about connecting with old friends. Then 'Facebook' was the thing while Mark Zuckerberg was still at Harvard. It helped us connect with family, old friends, old school colleagues and old workmates we hadn't seen in person for years.

Fast-forward, 15 years later - a massive explosion of digital media technology firms (tech-firms) that have sprung from Facebook's uprising. However, if you've been following tech news lately, you'll know consumer privacy is getting a lot of play. Apple's adding pop-ups to applications downloaded in iOS, transparently alerting you to the type of data the company wants to collect from you.

Well if you're not too careful when using these platforms, such as accepting terms and conditions during App updates or downloads you will become a target for sales adverts while also losing your privacy. It also goes as far as surfing websites eventually cookies will track you and what sites you visit - all in the name of studying what it is that you do, where, when, how, why etc.

I spend a lofty amount of hours during my day pushing adverts to the Tanzanian market. Here in Tanzania we have not produced that level of marketing technology yet but we are the end consumers. We are likely to be zoned out from acquiring such tech but we are bystanders for sales research.

Data mining at the door

During the webinar - I learnt that a Harvard dropout from UK started his digital media and marketing company back home. He saw an opportunity to take marketing to the next level while

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saving digital marketing costs but at the same time place the right advert to the right client at the right time. Seems farfetched! Well, if you look back to the Cambridge Analytica scandal - the dots connect.

In many ways, I feel very fortunate. You see, I'm an inquisitor and pretty comfortable with a keyboard and screen and a lot of my work is already digital and in a way remote. And this has been the perfect creative outlet for me. Deep into the conversation - a team of data scientists can change the algorithm and perfect it to make sure the right ad reaches the right client based on your internet and social media usage. This is data mining. Frequently learning about your habits or usage on the 'net.'

Companies such as Microsoft and Google have already launched artificial intelligence (AI) based software that study your internet usage (behaviour) through machine learning, robotics and conversational (AI). By now any Tanzanian individual can speak to his/her phone just by simply asking your phone questions or seeking directions to a place (e.g. just ask Siri or Google's Assistant/Maps or Alexa for help) you will be contributing to the behavioral study.

Data mining has the ability to segment. Extracting various and raw data from large complex databases into actionable information, simply by commanding an algorithm you can segment data into clustered segments to identify various customer groups. One can simply identify their loyal customers, their fans, their potential customers or retainable customers. Let us market

Now how can I reach you?

Let us create a character, say Saidi from Temeke (Just graduated and runs a small phone accessories sales shop at Mwenge). Saidi has one phone; a Samsung running on Android and loves to shop online specifically Google search. How can I reach Saidi with an ad?

Saidi is always on Facebook and Instagram. A data scientist (specifically our Harvard dropout is sitting somewhere across the world) creates an algorithm based on research data extracted, Android tracks his daily commute and sends him a monthly report. This daily commute is followed by location feedback to help other people know about the places he visits. While he is on Instagram and Google search looking for the latest phone accessories (the cookies are tracking this).

Say I have a local wholesale supplier (say his based in Kariakoo) of phone accessories that needs to sell his large orders to local businesses. Now that I have Saidi's age, his hangout spots, his shop location, his shopping habits and what he loves to watch on Instagram, I go onto the software and push ads, I show him what is right for him while also placing special offers or the best sales proposition one cannot refuse.

The algorithm is wide at first but the data scientist will revise the algorithm (this will minimize the cost per lead on the second take). If I missed him the first time, on the second try the advert will catch his phone and will lead him to the aggregate supplier.

AI applies almost everywhere (on Android: Google maps, Google search, all social media platforms

(Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp), Google Assistant etc.). Well, I've been doing so much research and reading on artificial intelligence that the whole concept of predictions-which is what AI is all about-is pretty much front and center in my brain these days.

Sentiments take over privacy

In 2018, Google brought to the market the Duplex conversational (AI), which is able to book reservations at hair salons and restaurants. It has its natural pauses, like umms and ahhs, sounds strangely like us, I know right! Well the same interactions with the conversational AI are not perfect -a human must take over, it gets better with time. As the applications (AI) evolve, it will bring us closer to the type of human/AI encounters that we saw in movies decades back.

Sentiments and emotions are lacking because AI is all about data, signals and predictions, it does not understand what it creates nor does it have feelings.

What does this mean for marketing?

It's not coming. It is already here. Many Tanzanian's use it but are unaware of its capabilities. We are already working with it and we'll soon see an influx of data scientists working in Ad agencies and corporate companies within marketing and IT departments within Tanzania. The same applications will also appear in our customer support centers and humans would take on a more strategic role - pondering, well I hope so!

How will it affect a company's relationship with their customer's? How will it change the way you communicate with them? And what are the ethics, privacy and data protection and exploitation issues involved? Well, your customer does not really need to visit you. "Inventory Management Systems"! We'll leave those questions for a topic on another day.

Financial inclusion in Africa requires more doing, less talking

By Andy Jury, JOHANNESBURG

There's no shortage of articles espousing the virtues of fintech's potential to financially include hundreds of millions of people who are outside the mainstream. Despite this, one could argue that change is not happening fast enough. Change requires momentum and momentum can only be achieved when more companies commit to taking tangible steps to include more people.

This is not to imply that financial inclusion is an illusion. On the contrary, technology has provided the greatest hope yet of changing the lives of millions across our beautiful continent. Technology is a powerful tool that supports financial inclusion. We should ask: how, through technology's application, can we assist in making small, yet still meaningful, changes in people's lives? In other words, rather than start with the end in mind, take the time to understand the contexts and needs of customers and address those incrementally.

This is where real change starts: it is about giving people the tools to put them in control of their own destiny and benefit from and leverage off the positive trending behaviours that they've built up over time. This is the promise of fintech for the financially excluded - it is empowering. Its use can remove small impediments in a journey that allows people to benefit from momentum and do things for themselves.

We need to empower people to help themselves. This is not idealistic, but rather a sound philosophy, and certainly, from Mukuru's perspective, it influences business decisions in how we build a customer base that has access to a broader suite of financial services making use of our tools as links in a broader value chain.

The traditional money transfer environment has been beset by barrier-to-entry obstacles. Essentially, people are treated like transactions. The process is documentation intensive and tedious, with slow-moving parts. Because this world is not digitally tracked, every time a customer approaches a vendor like this, the entire process starts from scratch. In a continent with huge numbers of migrants and millions without formal bank accounts, it's supremely inefficient and the relationship borders on one that is extractive as opposed to productive.

Perhaps one of the misconceptions around making financial services more accessible is confusing the easing of barriers to entry with lowering checks and balances and being carefree with risk. This could not be further from the truth - fintech, when applied properly, lowers the access hurdles. In other words, it lowers the barriers to access with a risk-based approach.

Put simply, technology allows more people to get their "foot in the door." They then demonstrate their risk profile, and as they require more from the service, the requirements from them increase. The behaviour forms the data that is used to get the user to the next level of financial sophistication - information they may not have had previously as there was no digital record of their behaviour, for example. This is how the virtuous cycle of financial inclusion can work.

Far too many commentators, and even companies, start with the end goal of a fancy app on a smartphone. We'd advocate a different approach: start where your intended customers find themselves; take time to understand their needs, their wants and their context. Without understanding these elements it's impossible to design something that is able to materially change their lives - even if this change happens slowly and is incremental.

Make no mistake, Africa has made great strides in foundational levels of access to financial services, but there is a long way to go. With a methodical, momentum enhancing mindset of inclusive growth, companies can go a long way towards radically shifting the environment over the next five years.

Of course, the environment could do with some broader market conditions shifting in favour of financial inclusion. The cost of mobile data is excruciatingly expensive compared to developed markets. If one considers that consumers access financially inclusive technology using such data bundles, it follows that reducing data costs would enable increased use/access to digitally enabled financial technology platforms. Companies should build data-friendly technology through the right channels and consider zero rating where possible. Other challenges include access to devices and administrative and legal barriers.

Education - this is both foundational education as well as financial literacy - cannot be over-emphasised and it is likely to be one of the most powerful tools to end the cycle of financial exclusion.



Andy Jury is CEO of Mukuru.

Bancassurance: A lucrative means of improving financial stability

By Sweetbert Laswai

AN American financial expert once said, "If there is anyone dependent on your income - parents, children, relatives - you need life insurance." This may sound insignificant at some point since many individuals are less prone to invest in a life insurance policy but on second thought, having such a policy at your reach will save you and your loved ones from financial instability.

When an individual is required to avert risk, an insurance policy would be the best option to go for. Having an insurance policy defends you from the risk of losing your savings or falling into a debt crisis because of borrowing money from lenders, relatives, and friends. Even in death or total disability of the policyholder, his or her family becomes beneficiaries of the insurance coverage. This ensures financial stability to the family or heirs of the policy during the departure of a loved one.

Several banking firms have been offering bancassurance services such as home insurance and vehicle and asset insurance policies to safeguard their customers in case of damage or unprecedented emergencies. For example, if a person has paid a premium for a home insurance policy from a commercial bank like Stanbic Bank, there is assurance that the cost of damage repair or rebuilding will be covered by the insurer.

According to FinScope Tanzania data, many people face challenges of cash flow management, coping with risks, and fulfilling aspirations for asset building and productive investment. The survey's rate of financial services usage indicator shows that 73 percent of individuals are active users of banking services in 30 days, while 58 percent only access banking services in 90 days. Hence insurance companies offering

services through banks' distribution channels are likely to thrive, and customers are likely to engage in buying bancassurance products. This is because banks have a larger retention capacity for their customers over a particular time.

Most importantly, commercial banks today have invested in offering insurance products for their customers through bancassurance. Bancassurance does not entail banks being insurers; however the term implies the practice of banks offering their distribution channels for the use by the partnering insurance company. The partnership results in revenue and channel diversification for both parties, quality customer access, increase in volume and profit, as well as improved brand equity.

Seeking financial security against uncertainties through making considerable savings and opening more than one bank account is a good option. However, the cost degree alone of an emergency may sometimes surpass the amount of savings one has. Or worse still is that some risks take a longer time to deal with.

Finscope report 2017 reported that 56 percent of Tanzania tends to cut down expenses when they are about to run out of money. Whereas notably, 13 percent of the population use savings for their survival throughout the financial crisis alone. But in regards to these numbers, what chances does an individual stand in case fire breaks out, destroying the whole house or his car in total and the cost of repair is unbearable? Would borrowing money save the day? Would this person have the capacity to repay the money he borrowed?

These circumstances are the sole reasons why having a bancassurance policy at your reach is important in times of crisis. An insurance policy is also good particularly to



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include in a person's retirement plan. This makes a promising environment for safe financial stability for an individual and his/her family.

The nature of the bancassurance business model is much more safer for customers than it may be with other distribution channels. Since all services are available under one roof increasing convenience and claims processing time, hence no room for scams. Additionally, with bancassurance, an individual can get more knowledge about the insurance products being offered and access to credit loans for them to be insured. Bancassurance is a worthwhile investment.

BANKING & FINANCE

WORLD

Zambian ex-President Kaunda's burial begins despite court challenge

LUSAKA

THE burial of Zambia's founding president, Kenneth Kaunda, started yesterday despite a court challenge by one of his sons against his burial site.

Kaunda ruled Zambia from 1964, when the southern African nation won its independence from Britain, until his defeat in an election in 1991. He died on June 17 in a military hospital in Lusaka.

Kaunda's son Kaweche on Tuesday challenged in court the government's plan to bury his father's remains at a presidential burial site, saying it was against the African statesman's wish.

He said the government wanted to bury his

father at Embassy Park against his wishes, and then exhume and re-bury him at his preferred place.

Kaweche Kaunda said his father's last wish was to be buried at his residence next to his wife, Betty, who died more than 10 years ago.

Government solicitor-general Abraham Mwansa said late on Tuesday the state had not been served with any court order against the planned burial at the presidential burial site.

"We are all law-abiding citizens and if there was any order stopping the procession, we could have abided by that particular order," Mwansa said.

Kaweche Kaunda's lawyer, John Sangwa, said a high court judge was to make a ruling on the application by later yesterday but had not is-



sued any restraining order against the burial.

African leaders and diplomats on Friday joined Zambia in mourning its liberation hero Kaunda, who died aged 97 after a bout of pneumonia.

Although Zambia's copper-based economy did badly under his rule, Kaunda will be remembered more as a staunch African nationalist who stood up to white minority-ruled South Africa.

Agencies

Egypt bids adieu to Suez Canal saga with payoff and a party

BY BLOOMBERG

FOR a nation that provides safe passage for so many ships through its waters, Egypt is reserving rather special treatment for the Ever Given.

The 400-meter-long container ship will be seen off on Wednesday in a ceremony attended by dignitaries, diplomats and company officials from around the world. In fact, the last time the Suez Canal Authority, which is hosting the event, promised this much fanfare was in 2015, when an US\$8 billion expansion project was completed within a year. The ship is slated to sail into the Mediterranean and then to Rotterdam.

This time though, the event will be as much about closure as celebration. Because it was the Ever Given, the giant Japanese-owned vessel carrying some US\$1 billion worth of cargo, that last March lost control as it traveled north through the canal, crashing

into the banks and blocking the waterway like a giant cork for nearly a week. It was an incident that roiled global markets and transfixed the world.

The ceremony will be marked by the signing of a settlement deal between the canal authority and vessel owners Shoei Kisen Kaisha Ltd, capping what turned into a public relations crisis for the overseers of the waterway and, by extension, Egypt itself.

Freeing the ship just six days after the incident last March may have won the authority some kudos, as well as providing relief for the estimated US\$10 billion worth of marine traffic that built up each day as a result.

What happened next, in terms of determining blame and compensation, carried an equally high premium for Egypt, both domestically and abroad.

"We have preserved our full rights regarding the costs of the rescue operation and the



This photo taken on March 29, 2021, shows a tugboat pulling the Panama-flagged MV 'Ever Given' container ship after it was fully dislodged from the banks of the Suez Canal. (PHOTO / AFP)

damages caused to the navigation course," Osama Rabie, the authority chief, said on Egyptian TV on June 23. "We also preserved the close relationship with the largest clients of the authority and the economic and political relations with Japan."

With the eyes of the world upon them, canal employees, along with outside help, worked around the clock to free the Ever Given. Often risking their lives, workers ensured that there was minimal damage to the ship, its 17,600

containers and the canal itself. In the end, the heavens offered a helping hand when unusually high tides allowed teams to refloat the vessel.

Just as tricky as freeing the ship, though, was the process of disentangling the arguments about blame and compensation.

Egypt had dodged a bullet by freeing the Ever Given so quickly and clearing the backlog of over 400 ships delayed by the incident. It now had to walk the line between recouping losses, both physical

and perceived, and ensuring that it didn't appear to give up its rights before a global audience or, at the same time, alienate its clients.

For the ship's owners and insurers, it boiled down to a more basic calculus: What could or should they pay?

As the issue moved to the Egyptian courts, which ordered the Ever Given seized pending a resolution, the stakes grew on both sides. Egypt wanted more than US\$900 million. The counter-offer was around US\$150 million.

Neither side has commented on the size of the settlement or provided other details. Rabie, in another television interview, said it was near the US\$550 million mark - the new figure that had been presented in revised court documents. He declined to be more specific, however, citing confidentiality agreements relating to the money issue.

Agencies

Russia: Afghan situation can swiftly worsen, pledges help

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said yesterday that the situation in Afghanistan had a tendency to swiftly deteriorate and said Moscow was ready to defend its regional allies if necessary.

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday told Emomali Rakhmon, the president of Tajikistan, that Moscow would help the impoverished former Soviet republic contend with the fallout from NATO's exit from neighbouring Afghanistan if needed.

Rakhmon has ordered the mobilization of 20,000 military reservists to bolster his country's border with Afghanistan after more than 1,000 Afghan security personnel fled across the frontier in response to Taliban militant advances. read more

Lavrov, speaking yesterday during a visit to Laos, said Russia was ready to use its military base in Tajikistan, one of its biggest abroad, to ensure the security of its allies in the region, part of the former Soviet Union and an area where Moscow tries to retain influence.

"We are closely watching what is happening in Afghanistan where the situation has a tendency to swiftly deteriorate including against the backdrop of the hasty exit of American and other NATO troops," said Lavrov.

"They were unable to achieve visible results when it comes to stabilising the situation during the decades they spent there," he said.

Lavrov added that military obligations that Russia had undertaken in the framework of the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO), a post-Soviet



Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov

security bloc it leads and whose other members include Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, remained in full force.

CSTO representatives had visited the Tajik-Afghan border,

most of which Russian officials say is reportedly under Taliban control from the Afghan side, in order to assess the situation and report back, Lavrov said.

"We will do everything we

can, including using the capabilities of the Russian military base on Tajikistan's border with Afghanistan, to prevent any aggressive impulses towards our allies," Lavrov said. Agencies

UN: Two-thirds of S. Sudan kids in desperate need of support

UNITED NATIONS

A RECORD 4.5 million children, or two out of three, in South Sudan are in desperate need of humanitarian support, said the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) on Tuesday, ahead of the 10th anniversary of the country's independence.

Hopes that independence from Sudan would bring a new dawn for the country's children have faded.

Bouts of violence and conflict, recurring floods, droughts and other extreme weather events fuelled by climate change, and a deepening economic crisis have led to extremely high food insecurity, and one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, said UNICEF in a press release.

The recent peace agreement, which has only partially been implemented, has so far failed to bring about any remedy to the challenges facing the country's children and young people, it said.

"The hope and optimism that children and families in South Sudan felt at the birth of their country in 2011 have slowly turned to desperation and hopelessness," said UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore. "The childhood of many 10-year-old children in South Sudan today has been beset by violence, crises and rights abuses."

Overall, 8.3 million people in South Sudan need humanitarian support, a much higher number than the levels seen during the 2013-2018 civil war, which ranged from 6.1 million to 7.5 million people, said UNICEF.

South Sudan's child mortality rate is among the highest in the world, with 1 in 10 children not expected to reach their fifth birthday. High levels of food insecurity are of particular concern.

Some 1.4 million children are expected to suffer from acute malnutrition this year, the highest figure since 2013. More than 300,000 children, the highest number ever in the country, are expected to suffer from the worst form of malnutrition and are at risk of dying if treatment is not provided, it warned.

The lack of funding is impeding UNICEF's work in South Sudan. UNICEF's appeal for 180 million U.S. dollars to assist the most vulnerable children this year is only one-third funded.

The wider humanitarian response plan for South Sudan remains similarly underfunded. The crisis will worsen with the approach of the lean season. Lives will be lost without urgent action, warned the fund. Agencies

Kremlin vows appropriate measures in case of border violations in Black Sea

MOSCOW

MOSCOW will take all necessary measures if its state border in the Black Sea is violated, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters yesterday, commenting on a remark of British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab that UK Royal Navy ships would continue entering Ukrainian territorial waters.

"Both at the level of the Russian president and other levels it has been stated many times that Russia would take appropriate measures in the event of violations of the state border at sea.

So, in this case, every time when Russia's state border is violated, the necessary measures will be taken," Peskov (pictured) vowed. "The border guards will take steps stipulated by all instructions in the event of state border violations and certainly, all diplomatic tools will be also used," he assured.

Touching on if it is possible to avoid such incidents, Peskov said: "Certainly, it is. They simply should not violate Russia's state border, nor should they do this in an absolutely provocative way," he stressed.

Earlier, British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab, commenting on the HMS Defender's actions near Crimea, said the vessel was taking the shortest and the most direct route, which was internationally recognized.

According to him, the UK "had every right to conduct innocent passage through Ukrainian territorial waters according to international law.

That's what we'll continue to do," Raab said, speaking before the House of Commons. Raab underscored that he fully supported the Defender crew's actions.

On June 23, the Russian Defense Ministry reported the UK Destroyer's intrusion in the Russian territorial waters in Crimea.

Russian military and border control fired warning shot ahead of the ship, forcing it to leave Russia's territorial waters. The Russian Defense Ministry called the destroyer's actions a blatant violation of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. Agencies



NEW DELHI

Eric Adams poised to be New York's next mayor

BROOKLYN Borough President Eric Adams won the Democratic nomination for New York mayor on Tuesday, positioning the former police captain who stressed enhancing public safety to become the next leader of America's largest city.

Updated vote tallies posted online on Tuesday evening based on the city's new ranked-choice voting system showed Adams with what appeared to be an insurmountable lead over his nearest rivals, two weeks after Election Day.

With fewer than 8,000 absentee ballots left to

count, Adams was ahead of the city's former sanitation chief, Kathryn Garcia, by 1 percentage point, or 8,426 votes. The Associated Press called the race for Adams soon after the results were released.

Maya Wiley, a civil rights lawyer and former MSNBC analyst, was in third place, without an obvious path to victory.

The field of more than a dozen Democratic candidates was historically diverse. If elected, Adams would be the city's second Black mayor.

Either Garcia or Wiley, who is Black, would have been the first woman to hold the office.

The new results came one week after the city's Board of Elections - which has faced accusations of mismanagement for years - botched its initial tabulation of ranked-choice ballots, posting and then removing erroneous totals after mistakenly including test ballots.

In a statement, Adams acknowledged some votes remained to be counted before looking ahead to November's election, when he will be



heavily favored over Republican nominee Curtis Sliwa, founder of the Guardian Angels civilian patrol, who has

vowed to run on a "law-and-order" platform.

Registered Democratic voters outnumber Republicans in the city by more than a 6-to-1 margin.

"Now we must focus on winning in November so that we can deliver on the promise of this great city for those who are struggling, who are underserved, and who are committed to a safe, fair, affordable future for all New Yorkers," Adams said.

Garcia did not comment on the results, and her campaign said she would hold a news

conference on Wednesday at 10 am (1400 GMT). Wiley issued a statement criticizing the elections board but stopping short of conceding the race, noting that the figures are "initial and uncertified."

"We will have more to say about the next steps shortly," Wiley said.

Challenges loom

The next mayor will oversee a still-nascent recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and will also confront several deep challenges, including a spike in shootings,

persistent wealth inequality, a troubled public-school system and a lack of affordable housing.

The election offered an early look at how national Democrats may approach the fraught issue of policing in next year's congressional elections.

Adams, 60, centered his campaign on improving public safety. Decrying the "defund the police" movement that has gained traction among some liberals, the moderate Adams sought to strike a balance between addressing rising crime rates and eliminating racial bias from the department. Agencies

Xi urges world political parties to shoulder responsibility for pursuit of people's wellbeing, progress of mankind

BEIJING

CHINESE leader Xi Jinping on Tuesday urged political parties in the world to shoulder their responsibility for the pursuit of people's wellbeing and progress of mankind.

Xi, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and Chinese president, called on political parties to strengthen cooperation to tackle global challenges including the COVID-19 pandemic, inequality, terrorism, and climate change.

Addressing the CPC and World Political Parties Summit via video link in Beijing, Xi took swipes at practices of seeking technology blockade and decoupling, politicizing the pandemic, "political manipulation for the purpose of sabotaging the development of other countries," and practices of "seeking hegemony by way of group politics."

The cloud summit, which gathered leaders of more than 500 political parties and organizations from over 160 countries, was convened as human society has "once again found itself at a historical crossroads" that leads to either hostile confrontation or mutual

respect, seclusiveness and decoupling or openness and cooperation, zero-sum game or win-win results.

"The choice is in our hands and the responsibility falls on our shoulders," Xi told party leaders.

RESPONSIBILITY OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Political parties, as an important force behind human progress, need to set the right course forward and shoulder their historical responsibility to ensure the people's wellbeing and pursue the progress of mankind, Xi said.

Xi called on political parties to shoulder the responsibility to steer the course by shaping the shared future for mankind, and to build consensus by upholding and promoting the common values of humanity.

"With a strong sense of responsibility for the future of all mankind, we need to champion the common values of humanity, foster broad-minded tolerance toward the understanding of values by different civilizations, and respect the explorations of different peoples," he said.

Political parties need to shoulder the responsibility to promote develop-



ment by bringing greater benefits to all peoples in a fairer manner, Xi said.

Noting that all countries and nations are equally entitled to development opportunities and rights, Xi said political parties should face squarely up to major problems such as wealth gap and development divide, with particular attention and care given to underdeveloped countries and regions and impoverished people.

He urged political parties to jointly oppose the practice of seeking technology blockade and divide as well as decoupling.

Calling for more cooperation in ad-

dressing global risks and challenges, Xi said in the face of the pandemic, political parties should work together to close the "immunization gap," and must oppose the practice of politicizing the pandemic or attaching a geographical label to the virus.

Xi also called on political parties to shoulder the responsibility to improve governance by enhancing the capacity to ensure people's wellbeing.

"The judgement on whether a country is democratic or not should be made by their people, not by a handful of others," he said.

CPC CONTRIBUTIONS TO WORLD

It is the unswerving goal of the CPC to run China's house well, ensure a happy life for more than 1.4 billion Chinese people, and promote peace and development of all mankind, Xi said.

Xi said the CPC will unite and lead the Chinese people in pressing ahead with the Chinese-style modernization to make new contributions to humanity's search for ways to modernize.

There doesn't exist a fixed model for the path to modernization, and the path that suits a country will serve it well, he said.

"Cutting one's feet to fit the shoes will lead nowhere," he added.

The CPC will unite and lead the Chinese people in taking comprehensive steps to deepen reform and opening up to make new contributions to shared development and prosperity of all countries of the world, Xi noted.

Xi said the CPC will shoulder its responsibility as a major political party in a major country to make new contributions to improving the wellbeing of mankind.

Since the 18th CPC National Congress, all the 98.99 million rural residents living below the current poverty line in China have been lifted out of poverty, enabling the country to meet the poverty reduction target set out in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 10 years ahead of schedule. The CPC is willing to contribute more Chinese solutions and Chinese strength to the poverty reduction process worldwide, Xi said.

The country will spare no effort to support international cooperation against COVID-19 and to enhance the accessibility and affordability of vaccines in developing countries, and will contribute more to the global fight against climate change, he added.

Two-thirds of South Sudanese children in desperate need of support- UNICEF

UNITED NATIONS

A RECORD 4.5 million children, or two out of three, in South Sudan are in desperate need of humanitarian support, said the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) on Tuesday, ahead of the 10th anniversary of the country's independence.

Hopes that independence from Sudan would bring a new dawn for the country's children have faded. Bouts of violence and conflict, recurring floods, droughts and other extreme weather events fuelled by climate change, and a deepening economic crisis have led to extremely high food insecurity, and one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, said UNICEF in a press release.

The recent peace agreement, which has only partially been implemented, has so far failed to bring about any remedy to the challenges facing the country's children and young people, it said.

"The hope and optimism that children and families in South Sudan felt at the birth of their country in 2011 have slowly turned to desperation and hopelessness," said UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore. "The childhood of many 10-year-old children in South Sudan today has been beset by violence, crises and rights abuses."

Overall, 8.3 million people in South Sudan need humanitarian support, a much higher number than the levels seen during the 2013-2018 civil war, which ranged from 6.1 million to 7.5 million people, said UNICEF.

Xinhua

Global Fund grants Kenya 441m USD to fight HIV, TB and malaria

NAIROBI

THE Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria on Tuesday announced a grant of 48 billion Kenyan shillings (about 441 million U.S. dollar) to boost Kenya's fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

Rashid Aman, chief administrative secretary in the Ministry of Health, said the funds will also be used to

strengthen the country's health systems at all levels.

"We hope to achieve comprehensive prevention, treatment and care for people infected with HIV, TB, leprosy and lung disease as well as reduce malaria incidence and deaths by at least 75 percent of the 2016 levels by 2023," Aman said in Nairobi during a virtual signing ceremony of the new Global Fund grant.

The Global Fund has provided 25

grants to Kenya since 2002 amounting to about 926.3 million dollars, adding that robust financing is key to conquering infectious diseases in the country.

Aman said the support has complemented Kenya's investments in improving health outcomes and saving lives and in reduction of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria caseload. He said the investments by the Global Fund and other partners

have resulted in a steady decrease of HIV prevalence from a high of 11 percent in 1998 to the current level of 4.9 percent, while over 75 percent of the 1.49 million people living with the virus in Kenya are on essential drugs to prolong their lives.

Aman said that the treatment success rate among TB patients has improved from 81 percent in 2018 to 85 percent in 2021. He said that during the just ended grant period, over 7.5

million doses of antimalarial drugs, seven million rapid test kits, and 16 million long-lasting mosquito nets have been procured and distributed countrywide courtesy of the Global Fund.

The Kenya malaria indicator surveys show an overall reduction in the disease burden and prevalence from 8.2 percent in 2015 to 5.6 percent in 2020.

Chinese astronauts step out of spacecraft on robotic arm

AFTER conducting extra-vehicular activities (EVAs) for about seven hours and completing all the scheduled tasks, Chinese astronauts Liu Boming and Tang Hongbo returned safely to the Tianhe core module of China's space station at 2:57 p.m. on July 4, according to the China Manned Space Engineering Office (CMSEO).

Crew members of the Shenzhou-12 spaceship worked in close coordination during the extra-vehicular operations, said CMSEO, declaring the first EVAs of Chinese astronauts during the construction of China's space station, which were also the first EVAs of Chinese astronauts after the Shenzhou-7 manned spaceflight mission in 2008, a complete success.

Through close coordination between space and the ground, as well as between the Shenzhou-12 crew members inside and outside the spacecraft, all the preset tasks of the EVAs, including equipment installation and panoramic camera lifting, were successfully completed.

The EVAs verified for the first time the performance and function of China's new-generation extra-vehicular mobility units, the coordination between the astronauts and the robotic arm, as well as the reliability and safety of related EVA supporting equipment, laying an important foundation for subse-



Screen image taken at Beijing Aerospace Control Center on July 4, 2021, shows Chinese astronaut Nie Haisheng working inside the core module Tianhe of China's space station to help the other two astronauts with their extra-vehicular activities (EVAs). (Xinhua)

quent EVAs for the space station construction.

Developed by the China Academy of Space Technology (CAST), the robotic arm of the space station core module represents the most complicated and largest smart space mechanical system with the highest control precision among existing aerospace products of its kind.

It is designed mainly for eight major tasks in the in-orbit construction of the space station, such as transposition, EVAs of astronauts, extravehicular freight handling, extravehicular status check, and extravehicular maintenance of large equipment.

The robotic arm of the core module is 10.2 meters long

when fully extended, and its maximum loading capacity is 25 tons.

It is also China's first robotic arm that can function in orbit in the long term. With three shoulder joints, one elbow joint, and three wrist joints, the robotic arm has seven degrees of freedom of movement just like the human arm. The rotation of each joint enables it to grab things and conduct operations at any angles and positions around it, thus providing a strong guarantee for the smooth completion of astronauts' EVAs.

The robotic arm represents one of the new fields in the development of China's aerospace industry. Thanks to the efforts of its R&D team, China

has become the third country in the world that has mastered and put into practice core technologies related to large-scale space robotic arm.

All the key components of the country's space robotic arm are developed domestically. Besides, the country has formed multiple national standards for the space robotics industry.

Since entering the Tianhe core module on June 17, the three astronauts onboard the Shenzhou-12 spaceship have carried out work as planned and are in good condition. They will perform EVAs for another time during the subsequent orbital flight.

People's Daily

Germany renews vaccine plea as EU struggles to contain Delta



A woman receives a Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at the vaccination center of CHEMPARK operator CURRENTA in Leverkusen, western Germany, on June 22, 2021. (AFP)

GENEVA

GERMANY'S health minister stepped up his plea for as many people as possible to get a COVID-19 shot amid signs the country's vaccination drive is losing steam.

Jens Spahn made the call on Wednesday as the number of coronavirus cases in Germany ticked up after more than two months of steady decline, according to official data.

The Robert Koch Institute (RKI) for infectious diseases reported 985 new infections to bring the total to 3.73 million, a rise of 177 cases compared to the daily increase a week ago.

The death toll rose by 48 in the past day to a total of 91,110 - down from a daily rise of 56 a week ago.

Spahn dampened hopes on Wednesday for the lift-

ing of all remaining coronavirus restrictions, saying that would depend on the pace of vaccination.

While a vaccination rate of 90 percent will soon be reached among the over-60s, it will take a big advertising drive to reach a rate of 85 percent among the younger population, Spahn said.

"Maybe we could have a 'vaccination weekend' for Germany to really reach everybody, and then we will achieve a high rate," he said on DLF radio.

In France, authorities have been raising the alarm about the faster-spreading Delta variant for the past two weeks, with Health Minister Olivier Veran warning that a fourth wave could hit France as soon as end of July. The alarm jolted people into getting vaccinated, after the rate

dropped in recent weeks, and the government is also mulling mandatory shots for healthcare workers.

Italy's COVID-19 Emergency Czar, Francesco Paolo Figliuolo, said Tuesday that the country needs to step up efforts to encourage people in their 50s, particularly teachers, to get vaccinated.

Portugal has also been trying to accelerate its inoculation campaign after reporting rising COVID-19 cases during June.

In Austria, the Vienna city council is offering walk-in vaccinations this week and targeting younger people with inoculations at live music events.

The number of first vaccine doses administered each week across the nation has fallen to less than half the peak pace in May.

Agencies

China will stick to its path, make sure destiny of its development and progress remains firmly in its own hands

"THE Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Chinese people will keep moving confidently forward in broad strides along the path that we have chosen for ourselves, and we will make sure the destiny of China's development and progress remains firmly in our own hands," said Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee.

Xi made the remarks at a ceremony marking the centenary of the CPC on July 1, showing the world China's determination to stick to its path of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

"We must follow our own path - this is the bedrock that underpins all the theories and practices of our Party. More than that, it is the historical conclusion our Party has drawn from its struggles over the past century," Xi pointed out.

What kind of path a country chooses depends on whether this path can truly solve the historical issues troubling the country. Socialism with Chinese characteristics is a fundamental

achievement of the CPC and the Chinese people forged through innumerable hardships and great sacrifices, and it is the right path for China to achieve national rejuvenation.

Foreign friendly personages believe that China has, under the leadership of the CPC, created a miracle of rapid economic development and long-term social stability rarely seen in the world, which fully demonstrates that socialism with

Chinese characteristics is the road to success.

By upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics, the CPC and the Chinese people have pioneered a new and uniquely Chinese path to modernization, and enabled China to catch up with the times and even begin to lead the times.

Shaking off sufferings and securing glorious achievements in the past century, the Chinese people have

become more aware of the great significance of the hard-won socialism with Chinese characteristics for China.

By upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics, the CPC and the Chinese people have created a new model for human advancement and expanded the routes of developing countries to modernization.

A country's development path determines its destiny;

and finding a development path that suits their own national conditions has been an important long-term task for developing countries. The success of China's development path has brought new hope to many developing countries.

Martin Albrow, British sociologist and fellow of the British Academy of Social Sciences, noted that the success of the CPC lies not only in leading China

to making extraordinary achievements, but in providing a new governance model for the world.

The CPC has led the Chinese people in firmly following a development path that suits China's national conditions, and secured tremendous achievements in uplifting the livelihood of the Chinese people and rejuvenating the Chinese nation, said Abiy Ahmed Ali, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, adding that the successful experience of the CPC is worth learning from by other countries.

People's Daily



A section of Mbeya City FC fans cheers their outfit in one of the side's past Premier League ties, which took place at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya.

MREFA seeks VPL survival for Ihefu SC, Mbeya City FC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

MBEYA Regional Football Association (MREFA)'s leadership, in collaboration with football stakeholders in the region, has planned to ensure that the region's sides remain in the Mainland Premier League for the next season.

The region's two outfits, Ihefu SC and Mbeya City FC, are in bad position in this season's Premier League standings, with the season approaching the end, so they will have to win the remaining games to save themselves from relegation to next season's First Division League.

The MREFA leadership has said it will, in partnership with football stakeholders in the region, fight to achieve the goal of helping those teams remain for next season.

The effort will give the region opportunity to increase the number of its teams in the top flight to three.

Mbeya Kwanza FC is the region's latest squad, which has been promoted to the 2021/22 Premier League.

In this season's Vodacom Premier League standings, Mbeya City FC is

ranked 13th with 36 points, while Ihefu SC is 15th with 35 points.

Since head coach Mathias Lule joined Mbeya City FC, he has managed to turn things around at the club.

The gaffer managed to move them from relegation place to mid-table place.

Mbeya City FC has won three of their last five games, losing to Premier League leaders, Simba SC, and Mtibwa Sugar.

Mbeya City FC is given a big chance to once again battle it out in the top flight, given the schedule shows they have the remaining games against modest opponents Gwambina FC and Biashara United.

Ihefu SC, which is participating in the Premier League for the first time this season, has experienced a difficult test ahead of their top flight survival with two tough games left against Yanga and Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC.

Ihefu SC has won two games in their last five, settling for draw in two and losing five in their last five games.

Yanga stands to be hard placed in epic Federation Cup final

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

WITH three weeks separating the return match between the city arch-rivals, Yanga and Simba SC, in the Vodacom Premier League and the Federation Cup final, mental constructs of what is more likely to happen are taking root in media talk shops, and clearly they will have no definite answers any more than anyone actually fingered what would happen.

Some pundits or betting experts sort of fingered what comes, as less than 10 minutes before the goal was scored, someone said Yanga will score in the first half (as part of betting probabilities) but did not say that Simba will not have ability to equalize, etc.

It was fine betting but it is hard to see if he expects to repeat it.

When one asks professional betting pundits how they arrive at their match projections, the usual answer is that one looks at results and game patterns in the last three to four matches, and comes up with the most probable outcome.

That may have worked purely on the basis of projecting results, but it would have been a different matter if one was comparing team strength when the two sides last met towards the end of last year and recently.

For the betting to have worked in precisely the same way it was vital that structural strength for instance in player ability comparisons be put aside, and only the motivation



Simba SC forward, John Bocco (L), challenges Yanga centre back, Bakari Mwamnyeto, when the teams locked horns in the last weekend's Vodacom Premier League tie, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam. Simba lost 1-0 to Yanga. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

remain in place.

Still, it is not logical that this is how it shall work this time as well, as differences in motivation work better when the stakes are high and one side has reason to be excessively confident, and this situation mentally works against them.

They rely on a show of skills and what is actually gentle push but they will believe they were playing as usual, whereas one's capacity can't be reached unless the team is on 'full adrenalin,' in other words 'firing on all cylinders.'

At times there are peculiar advantages for a team and cancelling of such advantages later, for instance Simba being put to a biting night game in South Africa, and then returning the favour with a rather hot afternoon game for Kaizer Chiefs, returning the compliment.

Helpful as it is, the comparison can't altogether work for the return encounter between the city rivals, as neither side has a peculiar advantage playing at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium or in Kigoma, thus the comparisons remain with team strength and motivation.

In the latest encounter, team strength was radically in favour of Simba, especially with Bernard Morrison having been a Yanga player earlier, and 'Carlinhos' leaving the side a couple of months earlier or thereabouts.

Before the last encounter Yanga had the disadvantage of frequently changing coaches, running verbal battles with Simba, TFF or anyone else, but it held the fort.

Even in the latest encounter the community bigwigs known to be fervent supporters of the Jangwani Street outfit had

prepared the club for eventual defeat, perhaps heavily, by the Goliath-like Simba side, fresh from walloping Al Ahly on foreign turf and reversing the table against Kaizer Chiefs but with a 'sub-Mufurira' scoreline.

The phrase means it was a remarkable score by any standards but not enough to actually turn the table and qualify as in the late 1970s instance, a rare feat if any was ever registered in that manner.

Winning over Simba means the disorganization cloud was dispelled for a while.

Chances that Yanga would win, on the basis of structural strength as noticed in the Premier League run, where as Speaker, Job Ndugai, was saying, it was altogether possible that the 3-0 result when any side meets the Msimbazi Street side hard hitters could virtually be predicted.

Lions Cricket Club lifts 2021 Kazim Nasser League's Division B silverware

By Guardian Reporter

LIONS Cricket Club showcased their batting skills to clinch this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division B silverware following the side's 40-run win over Annadil Burhani in the final held in the city last weekend.

Key players lived up to expectations as Lions Cricket Club went on to post 150 runs, losing five wickets in 20 overs after they had batted first.

Openers, Mohamed Salim and Gulraiz Haideri, had their club getting off to an impressive start, as Salim posted 28 runs which consisted of six fours, Haideri notched runs 29, cracking seven fours.

Abdulsamad Ahmed, who turned out to be the batsman with most runs, helped the side pile runs after posting 34 runs, clearing the boundary on four occasions.

There was also significant contribution at the crease put to show by youthful all-rounder, Abubakar Selemani, as the youngster ended with 21 runs which included two boundaries. Rijali Fentu, who has also been chipping in handsomely, had a brief spell, he nevertheless, ended with 10 runs clearing the boundary once.

Ali Sumar and Mubin Hassan posted not out displays, with the former notching 12 runs not out, the latter posted eight runs not out.



Lions Cricket Club's players pictured with Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) Chairman, Premji Pindoria (standing 4th L), after the cricketers had emerged as this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division B Champions, notching a 40-run win over Annadil Burhani in the final last weekend. PHOTO: DAR ES SALAAM CRICKET

Annadil Burhani's Mustafa Lukmanji was the bowler with most wickets, given he ended with three wickets in three overs.

Murtaza Shk Kaderbhai also did all he could to prevent Lions Cricket Club from posting a challenging target, as he ended with two wickets in four overs.

In response, Annadil Burhani put spirited displays, aiming at mounting successful chase, their efforts waned with the squad recording 110 runs all out in 18.2 overs.

They had a wobbly start to the chase, given opening batsmen, Quresh Karimjee and Mufaddal Seifuddin, were dismissed early on.

Khuzeima Janoovala,

slotted in at number, saw to it the side made its quest for taking control of the innings known after posting 23 runs which included three fours.

Skipper Lukmanji had the team seeking to keep alive hopes of getting down to successful chase after notching 26 runs, which included three fours.

Lukmanji's contribution came in handy, as the squad had faced another blow in the form of key performer Kaderbhai's early exit.

There were two-digit figures notched by middle order batsmen, Firoz Hatim Dahodwala and Adnan Zariwala, as the two cricketers sought to keep on pushing for suc-

cessful chase.

Zariwala ended with 10 runs, with his stint ending after he was dismissed by Rijali Fentu.

Dahodwala notched 21 runs in his stint which had the performer hitting a six.

The rest of Annadil Burhani's batting unit could not live up to expectations, with none of them ending with two-digit figure.

Youthful cricketers, Selemani and Fentu, saw to it that solidly defends its score with scintillating bowling showing.

Selemani took three wickets, as was the case for Fentu.

Selemani was in the end voted as the final's man of the match and got a prize for his im-

pressive all-round showing.

Lions Cricket Club's success has, for that matter, seen the club enjoy back-to-back triumph.

The outfit's cricketers emerged as the tournament's 2020 season's winners, posting a win over Patel Brotherhood outfit in the final.

Abbas Adamjee of Annadil Burhani was presented with this season's DC Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division B's best player prize.

The GP Pak Stars' Sheraz Khan lifted the showpiece's best batsman prize.

Kaderbhai (Annadil Burhani) received the showdown's best bowler prize.

AT now optimistic athletes will perform well in Tokyo Olympics

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) says it is optimistic domestic athletes will perform well in this year's Tokyo Olympics, which is slated for later this month.

Tanzania will be represented by three athletes, Felix Simbu, Gabriel Geay and Failuna Matanga.

The AT vice-chairman John Bayo said the three are doing well at training, a situation which is giving him confidence that they will do well in Japan.

The athletes are camping at Arusha College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism (Olmotonyi) under head coach Thomas John and other coaches.

There were plans to send the athletes to Nagai, Japan to camp for 30 days, but anonymous sources at TOC said the plans were shelved due to Coronavirus.

The athletes and officials will for that matter depart for Japan on July 29, with Henry Tandau serving as the delegation leader.

John is the athletes' head coach while Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) Chairman, Gulam Rashid, and the committee's Secretary General Filbert Bayi are set to jet off to Japan to attend some functions.

"The athletes are doing well in training, they are motivated and working hard and on top of that they have a good attitude, and I am confident that we can do well at the Tokyo Olympics," he said.

In a related development, the Tanzania Open Boxing Federation (OBFT) noted it has put much of its efforts on the Serbia World Boxing Championships, which will be held later this year, and next year's

Commonwealth Games.

The OBFT secretary general, Lukelo Wililo, said that as of now, they are in the dark on whether local boxers will compete in the Tokyo Olympics.

Two local boxers, Alex Isendi and Michael Changarawe, due to their rankings, were favoured to represent the country in the Tokyo Olympics.

The federation, though, has not received any official communication from Boxing Task Force (BTF) which is the organ formed by International Olympics Committee (IOC) to conduct qualifying events.

According to rankings, the two stand a chance of qualifying for the global showpiece as they are ranked.

Isendi is sitting 48th in Light Welterweight category's rating, while Changarawe is sitting 21st in Light Heavyweight category.

Wililo noted that in absence of BTF official communication, OBFT considers that the two are not qualified for the Tokyo Olympics.

"Up to date we have not yet been officially communicated by the Olympic Boxing Task Force (BTF) on the status of our boxers' participation in the coming Tokyo Olympics, so for now all our efforts are on preparing for the coming World Boxing Championship, which will be held in Belgrade, Serbia later this year and next year's Commonwealth Games," he said.

The BTF suspended all Tokyo Olympics boxing qualifying events and 53 quota places that would have been available at the Olympic Qualifiers will now be assigned based on rankings instead, with the best-ranked boxer per region, per weight category receiving a Tokyo 2020 Olympics berth.

Mancini delights in defying expectations as Italy reach final

LONDON

HAVING taken over Italy at their lowest ebb, Roberto Mancini revelled in defying expectations after the Azzurri made it through to the final of Euro 2020 with a dramatic penalty shoot-out win over Spain on Tuesday.

Italy's transformation under Mancini in the last three years has been extraordinary, from a team that failed to qualify for the 2018 World Cup to one that has gone on a national record of 33 games unbeaten including their Wembley semi-final.

They were made to fight all the way against Spain, taking the lead through Federico Chiesa's brilliant goal but being pegged back as Alvaro Morata's equaliser made it 1-1 and forced extra time before the Azzurri prevailed 4-2 on penalties.

However, they merit their place in Sunday's final against England or Denmark having been the outstanding side thus far at this European Championship.

After putting seven goals without reply past Turkey, Switzerland and Wales in the group stage they ground out an extra-time win over Austria, then beat Belgium in the quarter-finals despite losing star left-back Leonardo Spinazzola to a torn Achilles tendon.

Now they are closing on a second European Championship title.

"When you play in a World Cup or a European Championship it is intense, and there always comes a game where you have to dig in and suffer to win," said Mancini. "It can't all be smooth as our progress had been up to now."

"We knew this was the one that was going to be really tough and that is why I think the players and everyone who has worked with us over the last three years deserves a lot of credit because it has not been easy by any means."

"Almost nobody believed we could do it and yet we are in the final, so we are pleased for Italians everywhere."

Italians took to the streets across the country to celebrate while 11,000 of their fans -- all UK-based as restrictions prevented supporters abroad from travelling -- were inside Wembley to see Jorginho score the decisive kick in the shoot-out.

- The complete side -

Italy were in a mess after losing to Sweden in a 2018 World Cup qualifying play-off and Mancini had to pick up the pieces from that.

He has rebuilt them, and at this Euro they have been almost the complete side: from the veteran centre-back pairing of Giorgio Chiellini and Leonardo Bonucci to brilliant attacking full-backs, a gifted midfield trio of Marco Verratti, Jorginho and Nicolò Barella, and a livewire front line.

"The players wanted to play a brand of football that people enjoyed and thus far they have managed to do exactly that," added Mancini.

Whether it is England or Denmark on Sunday, Italy should fancy their chances on current form and their record at getting to major tournament finals is enough to strike fear into any opponent.

Euro 2020 will see them make their 10th appearance in a final, with six at the World Cup and three at previous European Championships. But while they have lifted the World Cup four times, their only continental triumph to date came as hosts of the four-team event in 1968.

AFP

Spain coach: Pedri was like Iniesta in loss to Italy

LONDON

LUIS Enrique praised the performance of Pedri in Spain's semifinal loss to Italy at the European Championship, even comparing the 18-year-old to Barcelona great Andres Iniesta.

Spain were knocked out of Euro 2020 on Tuesday 4-2 in a penalty shootout following a compelling 1-1 draw. But manager Luis Enrique pointed out the promising play of Pedri, as well as that of Dani Olmo, on a night that ended in a defeat.

"For me Dani Olmo today played an incredible game, something out of the ordinary," Luis Enrique said. "But what Pedri has done in this tournament, at 18, no one has done, not even Andres Iniesta did that, it's incredible, unique."

Iniesta, who also played for Barcelona, scored the winning goal for Spain in the 2010 World Cup final. He also was part of the 2008 and 2012 squads that won the Euro title.

Olmo, who plays at RB Leipzig, was arguably Spain's best player against the Italians at Wembley Stadium in London. However, his night finished in disappointment when he and Alvaro Morata both missed from the spot in the shootout.

Morata had come off the bench to score the equaliser in the 80th minute after Federico Chiesa had put Italy ahead on the hour mark following a brilliant counter-attack.

Spain were able to control nearly 70% of possession, but as has been the case during the tournament, they were not sharp in attack and were forced to play their third consecutive extra time.

"I give my team a nine out of 10," Luis Enrique said. "In sport you have to learn to win and lose. You learn more from losing. We have to congratulate our rival. When you lose, you have to stand up and try again."

(Agencies)

Morata defines Spain's Euro 2020 as Italy reach final

By James Olley, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

IN the end, Italy reverted to type, and so did Alvaro Morata. Neither happened by design -- far from it, in fact. But Roberto Mancini can plan for Sunday's Euro 2020 final after the Azzurri held Spain 1-1 in 20 minutes before winning the resulting penalty shootout 4-2 at Wembley.

The general consensus before these finals was that Morata's form would largely define how far Spain could go. And this semifinal encapsulated the existential conundrum at the heart of Luis Enrique's approach: Morata was left out of the starting lineup to facilitate greater control in midfield, yet he came off the bench to produce the moment of magic that drew them level in the 80th minute, only to then fluff his spot kick, giving Jorginho the chance to roll in a penalty that sent the wall of blue behind Unai Simon's goal into a frenzy and Spain out of the tournament.

You had to feel for Morata, booed by the Spanish in Seville during the group stage, striking brilliantly against Croatia in the last 16. Few players endure roller-coaster tournaments like him.

Somewhere in the middle of all this, the 28-year-old became Spain's all-time leading goal scorer at the Eu-



Italy were the Azzurri of old in grinding out a penalty shootout win over Spain in the Euro 2020 semifinals. (Agencies)

ros, his sixth goal taking him beyond Fernando Torres. It was a superb moment combining pace and penetration to equalise with 10 minutes remaining, cancelling out Federico Chiesa's wonderful effort on the hour mark. Yet that mental fragility that has so often undermined Morata's career reared itself again in the shootout, denying Spain the victory their overall performance deserved.

Morata was left out of the starting lineup as Luis Enrique was mindful of his long history with Italy's dogged centre-back duo Giorgio Chiellini and Leonardo Bonucci. Morata first encountered the pair as a 22-year-old at Juventus on loan from Real Madrid. As teammates, Chiellini and Bonucci sought to toughen him up. As opponents, they still know his weak spots.

Spain have faced Italy in the knockout stages of the last four Euros, and in 2016, Morata led the line, but Chiellini was

the one who scored as Italy progressed to the quarterfinals. Morata has enjoyed the better of other meetings since, with both Madrid and Spain, but concerns Chiellini and Bonucci could bully Luis Enrique's No. 7 might well have led him to play without a centre-forward. That also had the notable benefit of helping nullify Italy's midfield trio, key to the shift Mancini has engendered to a possession-based approach more synonymous with Spain.

And as it turns out, Spain are better than Italy at being Spain. They dictated much of this game, Pedri defying his teenage years to mix creativity with composure, Dani Olmo going closest with two efforts from inside the box, the first blocked, the second saved smartly by Gianluigi Donnarumma.

Mikel Oyarzabal skied a first-time shot from the edge of the box at the end of another fine move, and gradually the flip side of Luis Enrique's

approach became clear: Spain were lacking someone to translate their superiority to the scoreline.

Much has been made of Italy's more progressive style under Mancini -- and the 32-game unbeaten run that's come with it. But without left-back Leonardo Spinazzola (in the running for Player of the Tournament before an Achilles injury against Belgium ended his finals in the previous round), they lacked the ability to retain the ball or beat Spain's press, relying instead on counterattacks that were still breathtaking when everything clicked.

Precisely that happened when Donnarumma rolled the ball forward to start a breakaway 15 minutes into the second period. Marco Verratti received the ball on the left and slipped a pass forward for

Ciro Immobile, who was only denied a run on goal by Aymeric Laporte's last-ditch slide tackle. How-

ever, the loose ball fell to Chiesa, who curled a sumptuous shot past Simon.

The ball had yet to come to rest in Simon's net before Luis Enrique was signalling to his substitutes, immediately introducing Morata for Ferran Torres. Mancini replaced Immobile with Domenico Berardi, a winger on for a striker, which only further ceded the initiative to Spain as they tried to find parity. Italy were perhaps looking to repeat the final phase of their win over Belgium in the previous round; holding a 2-1 lead for the entirety of the second half, Mancini's side slowed the game down to the extent the ball was only in play for nine of the final 20 minutes. The problem was here, they couldn't get it off Spain to heave it into the stands. And Morata had a point to prove.

Spain worked their opponents over in search of an opening, and Morata provided the spark: Driving forward in a

central position, Morata played a one-two with Olmo and slotted a cool left-foot finish past Donnarumma.

Extra time was a sterile affair, a betrayal of the entertaining 90 minutes that preceded it, as Italy stood firm, growing back into it even by threatening a winner themselves, before a shootout in which substitute Manuel Locatelli and Olmo failed to convert the opening two penalties. Morata was the only one to follow suit, quickly leaving the pitch to pats on the back from players and staff as the rest of the squad, joined by Luis Enrique, saluted the Spanish contingent of a 60,000-strong crowd that braved a typically inclement English summer's evening.

Italy are just one step away from winning their first Euros since 1968, reaching this point with a stoic and resilient performance more in keeping with their past. It wasn't quite catenaccio, but they defended with a back five at times, pushed back by Spain's superior technical quality: Luis Enrique's side had 70% possession and registered 16 shots. Italy, averaging 20 before Tuesday, managed only seven.

Yet they extend a remarkable record of 10 victories from 12 semifinals at the Euros and World Cup. For Italy, reverting to type isn't necessarily a bad thing.

Italy won't face anything like Spain in the Euro 2020 final

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

THAT'S the thing about tournament football. You can deserve to be in the final for what you've shown throughout the tournament. And you can not deserve to be in the final based on being dominated by your opponent in the semifinal.

Yes, both things can be true.

"We've never played a team this good, who made us suffer so much," defender Leonardo Bonucci said after Italy's 4-2 penalty shootout win. "They dominated us; they're an exceptional team, with a superb manager."

It's not so much that Italy were outplayed by Spain for long stretches in Tuesday night's semifinal at Wembley -- they were -- it's the fact that we saw so little of what made them the standout team of Euro 2020 thus far. And that has to give Italy food for thought ahead of the final.

The challenge for Italy boss Roberto Mancini is figuring out how much of it is down to Spain being exceptional and how much is down to Italy's weaknesses. Spain were a nightmare matchup for the Azzurri -- one they're unlikely to face again.

The most striking difference came in the middle of the park. Spain passed circles around this Italy team, which to that point had dominated both possession and tempo against most opponents. The aggressive up-tempo press didn't

work much, either. When it did yield turnovers in the final third, there wasn't enough end product, possibly because it's hard to be sharp when you've been chasing the ball for the previous five minutes. So when they did create chances -- witness Nicolò Barella needing an age to get a fruitless shot off with Unai Simon off his line or Emerson clipping the crossbar -- it was often with a foggy mind.

Mancini himself acknowledged this after the game: "Spain are an exceptional team. We tried to match them in midfield, but they are the masters of the possession game."

Luis Enrique's decision not to start with a traditional center-forward such as Alvaro Morata -- opting instead for a fluid, fleet-footed trio (Dani Olmo, Ferran Torres and Mikel Oyarzabal) that loved nothing more than to take on opponents one-on-one -- confounded the Azzurri for much of the game. When they did take the lead, it was against the run of play. And it was evident that if they were going to hang on, they'd have to dial back the clock and play the sort of football past Italy sides built their reputation on, but which Mancini had rejected since taking over.

It meant sitting deep, absorbing pressure, playing defend-and-counter, clogging the passing lanes and frustrating the opposition, turning Spain's possession into sterile possession. Others had done it to good effect against

Spain -- Sweden and Poland in the group stages, for example -- and they had the craggy, battle-hardened warriors at the back to do it. Bonucci and Giorgio Chiellini are more than comfortable in these situations: They downright relish them, as evidenced by Chiellini's toothy grin and jocular horseplay with Jordi Alba.

The problem was, that was it. Those two love the trench warfare, the tight spaces, the gutsy deep stand. Nobody else does.

And, in fact, they don't even like it that much, not with these teammates around them anyway.

"After we scored, they drove us back, way back," Bonucci said post-match. "They created two excellent chances because we were simply too deep. Part of it is our fault, maybe; part of it is they were just that good."

Mancini built this team to defend higher up the pitch. The midfielders are creators or

box-to-box guys; they're not destroyers. It's not in this team's DNA to play this way any more than it is in BTS's nature to play Scandinavian death metal or Lil Nas X to record Christian country music. And without the constant outlet of the injured Leonardo Spinazzola bombing down the flank, they didn't even have the customary Plan B to bail them out. Italy need the ball -- either at the feet of Jorginho and Marco Verratti or off a turnover high up the pitch -- to be effective. Spain denied them both, and they became the off-brand version of past Italy sides.

But like we said above, there's good news: Italy won't be playing Spain again. Matchups do matter. And whether Italy take on England or Denmark on Sunday, they'll be facing a side who don't hog the ball. Declan Rice and Calvin Phillips aren't Sergio Busquets and Koke. Neither, for the avoidance of doubt, are Thomas Delaney and

Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg.

That's the message Mancini will be taking on board and sharing with his players. You won't be put through this again. Whatever happens in the final, it won't be like this.

Equally, there's something to be said for being able to gut it out until the penalty kicks. Whether it was Gianluigi Donnarumma's saves, Bonucci's leadership or Chiellini's clearances, it's not something they've had to do until this stage, except perhaps for the final minutes against Belgium.

And there's a lot to be said about winning the nervous system meat grinder otherwise known as a penalty shootout. Donnarumma revealed that he and Italy's goalkeeping coaches had spent a lot of time studying Spain's spot kick takers. Where they look, how they approach their run-up, what their habits are -- anything to gain an edge. Though as Donnarumma himself conceded, in the end

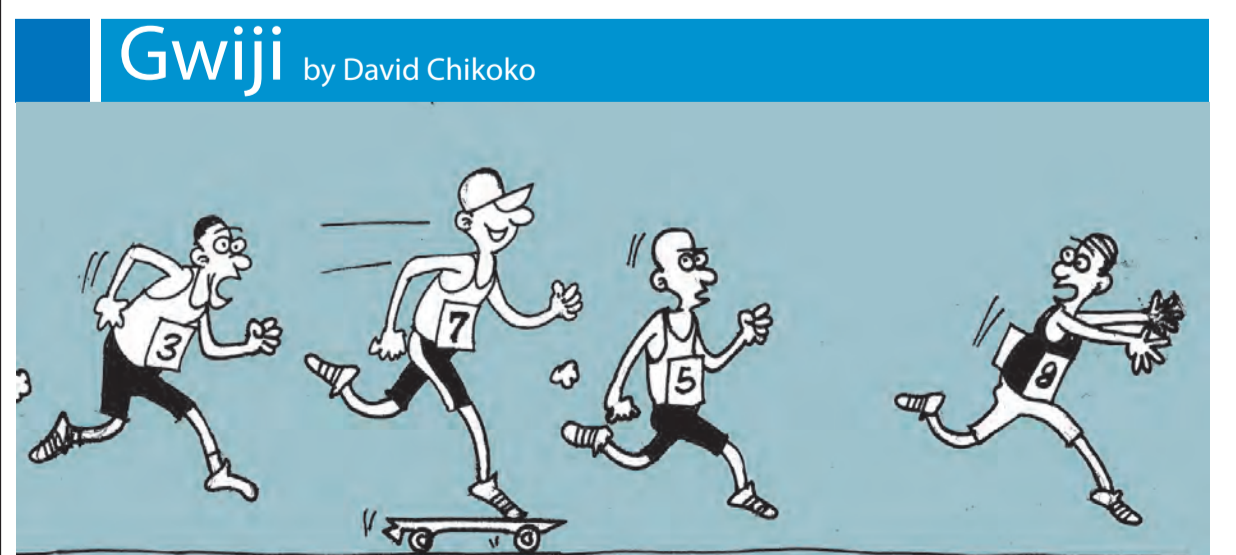
you have to marry the study with your instinct if you want to save a penalty.

Not everybody is as ice cool as Jorginho, who after bagging the winning penalty said: "How did I do it? I just told myself to breathe. Once, twice, three times, shut out the world. And then you act and do what you practiced."

Shootout wins and deep, grit-and-gravel defending build the confidence you need if the original game plan doesn't work, like it did against Spain. Because, to paraphrase Mike Tyson, everybody has a plan until they get punched in the mouth.

Italy took the punches. And didn't go down. Which is why you'll see them again on Sunday. Certainly stronger than you saw them against Spain, possibly stronger than you've seen them thus far.

"We made it to the last day of the tournament, and that's massive," Mancini concluded. "But we're not done ..."



SPORT

Morata defines Spain's Euro 2020 as Italy reach final

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England welcome Pakistan

CARDIFF

WELL, that escalated quickly. It's only been a matter of days since the soggy denouement to England's third and final ODI against Sri Lanka - a match that had begun amid rumours of a few fresh faces in the ranks, but had continued with a solitary change to the line-up and another win-toss-and-bowl display, as Eoin Morgan targeted a full hand of World Cup Super League points before the heavens opened to rain on his run-chase.

Changes are afoot now, all right. Eighteen of them to be precise, following the scrambling scenes on Tuesday morning, as seven positive Covid cases in the England camp led to the self-isolation of the other close contacts therein.

You thought it was extraordinary when Gareth Southgate reeled off three substitutions with England 4-0 up against Ukraine on Saturday? Chris Silverwood just phoned and wants you to hold his beer.

And so, all bets are off for the coming contest - which was always expected to be a stiffer challenge than Sri Lanka were ever able to pose, though these new circumstances are rather taking the Mickey (as Mickey Arthur himself has acknowledged).

Pakistan are currently third on the Super League table, having played half as many games as England, and though they didn't play ODIs on last year's bio-secure tour, they emerged with a share of the T20I series with a thrilling defence of 191 in the decider at Old Trafford.

The lack of jeopardy was palpable throughout the Sri Lanka leg, particularly for England's fans, returning to the stands, but sometimes you really do have to be careful what you wish for.

Nevertheless, what an opportunity these coming games present for England's hastily-assembled stand-ins.

There are players in this emergency party who may well find themselves playing their first and only international matches in the coming days - men such as Gloucestershire's David Payne, who admitted he couldn't stop smiling after getting the call from Silverwood while on red-ball duty in Cheltenham, and Middlesex's John Simpson, one of the most accomplished wicketkeepers in the country, and now the only specialist on parade.

But there are players too for whom this is a massive opportunity to restate credentials that, for one reason or another, have been marginalised in the intervening seasons (step forward James Vince and Ben Duckett) or simply to fast-track their own standings as ones to watch for the future - Surrey's Will Jacks being a particularly prime example.

Others, such as Somerset's Lewis Gregory, have found it hard to gain traction in their limited opportunities to date.

His eight T20Is have so far offered little opportunity to show off his range as a No.7, fifth-change bowler.

A 50-over outing gives far more scope for meaningful contributions across the board.

And then there's the skipper.

Ben Stokes was meant to be easing back to match fitness at Durham after breaking his finger at the IPL and saving his energies for an intense second half of the year - starting with the five Tests against India (not to mention his vital status as a drawcard for the Hundred), then morphing into the World T20 and the Ashes over Christmas and New Year.

Now he's answered the call as if it's the final day at Headingley or Cape Town all over again - 'help us Ben Kenobi, you're our only hope'.

A penny for Pakistan's thoughts amid all this chaos. They've been holed up in their Derby Travelodge, a familiar base-camp following last year's Test preparations, no doubt plotting their strategies for tackling the new-ball threat of Sam Curran, Chris Woakes and David Willey, and undermining the Bairstow-Roy-Root axis at the top of England's World Cup-winning batting order.

Instead they will now be cobbling together some hasty plans for the likes of Phil Salt and Brydon Carse.

The county streams may help them in that regard, but despite England's undignified departure, it's unlikely that their outgoing management forgot to leave their own scouting reports pinned to the dressing-room fridge.

AGENCIES

TOC now scraps universality ticket for Olympic Games



Marathoner, Felix Simbu, is one of Tanzania's three athletes heading for Olympics in Japan.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) has said there will be no local athletes at the coming Tokyo Olympics on a universality ticket.

Gulam Rashid, TOC president, issued the statement at a forum the committee organized to mark Olympic Day in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

He said unlike in the past, when the country would send its athletes to Olympic Games on universality tickets, this time around only qualified athletes will travel to Japan for the Olympics.

The TOC official said it is the duty of the committee to ask the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for universality quota, but this year local sports associations asked the committee not to request for the places.

He said the national sports associations assured TOC that they will compete at To-

kyo Olympics on qualifying ticket, not wild card (universality).

"This year, only three athletes will represent the country at the coming Tokyo Olympics."

"We did not write to the IOC requesting a wild card as the national sports associations were against it, they insisted that it is better for domestic sportsmen and women to compete at the Olympics on qualifying tickets instead of banking on wild card," he said.

He said the move to deny the Games' participants the wild card also follows the Association of Africa National Olympic Committees

(ANOCA) meeting, which was held in Malawi, where members agreed that the best and respectable way for the continent's athletes to compete at the Olympics is through qualification, not otherwise.

Tanzania's athletes to represent the country at the Tokyo Olympics are Felix Simbu, Gabriel Gay and Faulina Matanga, who are currently camping at Arusha College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism (Olmotonyi) under head coach, Thomas John, and other coaches.

There were plans to send the athletes to Nagai, Japan to camp for 30 days, but anonymous sources at TOC

said the plans were shelved due to Coronavirus outbreak and instead, the country's athletes and officials will depart for Japan on July 29.

Henry Tandau will be the leader of delegation, Thomas John is head coach, while Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) Chairman, Gulam Rashid, and the committee's Secretary General, Filbert Bayi, are travelling to Japan to attend some functions.

Meanwhile, Gulam disclosed that the country's delegation to the Tokyo Olympics will not travel to either Rwanda or Qatar for Coronavirus vaccination as directed by the IOC.

The IOC directed that athletes travelling to Japan for the Olympics should willingly (voluntarily) be vaccinated in either Rwanda or Qatar.

"We will travel straight to Japan for the Games, the Coronavirus vaccination directed by IOC in Rwanda and Qatar is not mandatory, it is voluntary."

"We will be tested three days before departure and, while in Japan, follow all the laid procedures which include regular testing and other things, it will be a tough job for our doctor as he will be required to test us time and again," he said.

Dar to open sports museum

By Correspondent Joseph

Mchekadona

THE National Museum of Tanzania (NMT) plans to have a sports museum in the country with a view to preserving and celebrating local sports heritage.

Joyce Mkinga, the NMT Principal Public Relations Officer, disclosed the development at the Olympic Day Forum which was held in Dar es Salaam.

Joyce pointed out the sports museum is one of the ways of preserving and celebrating the country's sports heritage.

The official, who represented NMT Director General, Noel Lwoga, in the forum, said having a sports museum is accomplished under their strategic objectives plan for 2021/22-2025/26 which is aimed at promoting and strengthening stakeholders' involvement in museum development.

She said sports exhibition at National Museum of Tanzania is not a new phenomenon as the institution had such exhibition several years ago.

Joyce disclosed that the NMT wishes to reconstitute it and in fu-

ture have an entire sports museum in the country.

The NMT official disclosed that they have already started formal communication with stakeholders including Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, and football clubs such as Yanga and Simba SC.

Joyce noted: "The NMT is a cultural and educational institution charged with duties of collecting, researching, preserving and disseminating information of cultural and natural heritage of the public through exhibition, publications and educational programs."

She stated: "The NMT is tasked with preserving natural and cultural heritage of our country including different kinds of sports."

She said NMT is honoured to work together with Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) in promoting history of sports in the country through exhibition.

She disclosed the institution hopes that the TOC forum will make a strong foundation towards seeing to it the institutions work smoothly.

In his presentation, titled 'Preserving and Celebrating Our Sports Heritage', Director of Na-

tional Museum, Achilles Bufumu, said in the country's sports policies are national heritage.

He noted that sports play an important role to people, specifically in the country.

He divided his presentation into three categories, Before Colonialism, During Colonialism and Struggle/Movement for independence.

Bufumu, who also represented Lwoga, said before colonialism sports were used to bring good feelings, help people have a voice and also serve as a source of expression.

He said during colonialism, sports were used for recreation and socialism, a situation which led to the introduction of foreign sports such as football, basketball, volleyball, tennis and other foreign sporting activities.

Bufumu went on to say that during the time of struggle for independence, sports were used to reclaim people's identities, reclaiming African humanity from all colonial shackles of oppression.

He stated: "During the time of struggle and movement of independence, sports played a big role in the country and many Southern African countries,



National Museum of Tanzania (NMT) Director General, Noel Lwoga.

Young Africans SC (Yanga), and Wananchi Sports Club of Zanzibar were used to demand for independence."

"People should remember Tanzania in 1976 denied and boycotted international sports events, including Olympics, as it was the year Massacre took place in Soweto, South Africa," he said.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

EVERYBODY TELLS ME YOU ARE FAKE, BUT I BELIEVE IN YOU...



P.S. IF YOU REALLY ARE A FAKE DON'T TELL ME. I DON'T WANT TO KNOW