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A presumed Chadema supporter pictured outside the Kisutu Resident Magistrate's Court in Dar es Salaam yesterday chanting to the effect that the opposition party's national Chairman, Freeman Mbowe, should be acquitted of the criminal charges he is facing at the court and set free. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Video link mars Mbowe hearing

By Guardian Reporters

SCORES of Chadema followers yesterday converged at the Kisutu Resident Magistrate's Court in Dar es Salaam for the hearing of the case against the party chairman, Freeman Mbowe, which was later postponed owing to network challenges.

However, many of them could not enter the court compound after the police blocked them, with some of the followers carrying placards.

The trial was conducted virtually before Principal Resident Magistrate Thomas Simba, while Mbowe and his co-accused followed the case whilst at Ukonga remand cells.

Party officials, including Secretary General John Mnyika and Joseph Mbilinyi 'Sugu', NCCR-Mageuzi chairman James Mbatia, four observers from the UN country office and the Swedish Embassy were able to enter to the video conferencing room for the hearing.

State attorneys Pius Hilla, Christopher Msigwa and Grace Mwanga represented the state while the accused were represented by Peter Kibatata, John Mallya and Fredrick

Kihwelo.

As he entered the court premises at 6:00 in the morning, advocate Kibatata was seen pushing a suitcase full of books and other legal documents.

State attorney Hilla claimed that all the accused were seen to be present and that the case only came up for mention and were requesting for change of the charges against the accused.

Advocate Kibatata had no objection for the accused to be read fresh charges, hence magistrate Simba informed the accused and asked them whether they were listening to the proceedings clearly.

In unison they said they were only hearing voices but not images of the court sitting at the courtroom.

Thereafter the magistrate informed them that the court was seeing the accused well and ordered the rectification of communications to enable the accused to see courtroom images.

The rectification took more than half an hour, but still the accused couldn't view the

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Food cash transfers: Canada avails 9bn/-

By Guardian Reporter

THE government of Canada has provided USD3.74 million (about 9bn/-) to support the government's social protection programme, directing the aid to the World Food Programme (WFP) to be utilized through cash transfers to the most vulnerable parts of the population.

Pamela O'Donnell (pictured), the Canadian High Commissioner to Tanzania, said that Canada recognizes the need for social protections to support the most vulnerable populations during times of crisis, on the basis of ac



WFP statement yesterday.

The coronavirus pandemic is exacerbating the living conditions of some of the most vulnerable social groups, including women and girls in urban areas, "who are already suffering from other socio-economic shocks," the envoy noted.

"This initiative expands social protection to reach more people in need, including the newly vulnerable, and puts money directly in their hands to meet basic requirements and build resilience for the future," she said, elaborating that Canada's contribution is a reflection of its commitment "to stand in solidarity and work together with national counterparts and development partners in responding to this unprecedented global crisis."

Globally, WFP has extensive

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Envoy: Get Covid-19 jab to avoid severe illness, death

By Songwa wa Songwa

THE American Ambassador to Tanzania, Dr Donald Wright, has appealed to all those eligible for Covid-19 vaccination to present themselves at the designated centres across the country and receive the jab to avoid severe illness and possible death.

Addressing a press conference at the US Embassy in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the envoy said latest data show that vaccinated people are less likely to experience severe effects of Covid-19 if infected.

"Vaccines are essential tools for



They are not supposed to receive this jab and those with allergies must consult first

advancing public health because of their proven safety and effectiveness. This is true of the previous vaccines and even the recently developed ones against Covid-19," he said.

"Science has no doubt about this. Currently in the US, more than 99 per cent of new deaths caused by Covid-19 involve unvaccinated people."

"The simple fact is these vaccines can save your life or that of your loved ones," he emphasised.

Dr Wright said that the biggest challenge facing Tanzania and indeed the world in the fight

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First quarter 2021 GDP up by 2.6trn/-

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

GROWTH of the national gross product (GDP) for the first quarter of 2021 rose to 38.0trn/- from 36.4trn/- in the first quarter of 2020, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said yesterday.

The value of quarterly GDP at constant prices increased to 33.2trn/- from 31.7trn/- in the corresponding quarter of the year 2020 which is equivalent to a growth of 4.9 percent.

Economic performance in the East Africa region during the quarter shows that Rwanda's economy recorded a 3.5 percent growth rate, dipping from 3.7 percent growth last year.

Tanzania's economy recorded a growth rate of 4.9 percent, significantly down from 5.9 percent in 2020, while Uganda recorded a growth rate of 6.2 percent, erasing the dismal

0.7 per cent quarterly growth rate same period last year.

Daniel Masolwa, Acting Director of Economic Statistics at the bureau, said that Kenya, Burundi and South Sudan have not yet released respective quarterly GDP reports for the period under review, telling a press conference here yesterday that Tanzania's annual economic growth is projected at 5.7 percent this year.

The largest share of GDP in the first quarter of 2021 was based in services, accounting for 40.1 percent, followed by production of crops and industries at 37.1 percent, while commercial activities contributed 22.7 percent.

During the same period, mining and quarrying recorded the highest growth of 10.2 percent, followed by information and communication at 9.1 per cent growth rate, transport and storage (9.0 per cent), water supply (9.0 per cent), professional scientific and technical services (7.8 per cent), administrative support services (7.4 per cent) and electricity (7.2 per cent).

"The first quarter saw GDP growth of 4.9 percent with all economic activities contributing to the observed overall growth," he stated, elaborating that construction contributed 14.9 percent,

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CRDB Bank Plc CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (2nd-R), Sanlam Insurance director general Julius Magabe (2nd-L), Strategis director general Dr Flora Minja (R), Alliance Life director general Byford Mutimusakwa (L) and CRDB corporate affairs director Tully Esther Mwambapa (C) display items to be used at the CRDB Bank International Marathon to be held on August 15. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Video link mars Mbowe hearing

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courtroom proceedings, whereupon attorney Hillary proposed that due to the communication glitch the accused should be brought to the court (today) for them to be read fresh charges.

The magistrate ordered that the accused be brought to the court physically and the court order for their removal from remand prison should be served immediately.

Mbowe was first taken to court July 26, joined with other accused, namely Halfan Hassan, Adam Kasekwa aka Adamo and Mohamed Lingwenya all of who were read charges economic sabotage charges in Criminal Case No. 63 of 2020.

The accused face six counts, where in the first count they are claimed to have conspired between May 1 and August 1 in 2020 at Aishi Hotel in Moshi municipality in Kilimanjaro Region as well as other areas of Dar es Salaam city, Morogoro and Arusha to commit terrorist crimes by blasting various unnamed petrol stations.

In the second count, during the same period and the same locations Mbowe is alleged to have provided financial assistance to Halfani, Adamu and Lingwenya delivering the money to facilitate making explosives.

The attorney claimed that he planned to blast various petrol stations and other public facilities "to destroy basic democratic, economic and political foundations and ruin the country's reputation."

In the third count, the accused Halfani, Adamu and Lingwenya are charged with receiving money from Mbowe.

In the fourth count, Adamu is alleged to have, on August 5 2020 at Rau area in Moshi, been found with a Luger Pistol S/n A 5340 without a permit.

In the fifth count, Adamu is also accused to have, during the same period, been found with explosives including three bullets without licence.

In the sixth count, Adamu is alleged to have, on August 19 2020, with intention to endanger the country's peace, been illegally found using uniforms and other items belonging to the TPDF and the National Service.

The Kisutu Resident Magistrate postponed hearing of the economic sabotage case that Mbowe and three others face due to network challenges.

The case which was set to be heard virtually (video conference) stalled due to poor connections between Kisutu and Ukonga Prison where the suspects are detained.

It was then scheduled to be heard today where

all the suspects will have to be physically present in court.

The case was brought up for mention before chief magistrate Simba, with the suspects connected by video conference but this failed as the accused were hearing but not viewing proceedings.

On the respondents' side, the case is led by state attorneys Pius Hilla, Christopher Msigwa and Grace Mwangala while the defendant side will be under advocates Peter Kibatata, John Mallya and Frederick Kihwelo.

"Your highness, we don't see anything. We only hear sounds but we don't see you," Mbowe was heard complaining as the magistrate inquired on the view on the other side.

While the technicians were working on the tech-based challenges, magistrate Simba advised that the case be postponed and both sides agreed.

Mbowe is charged with other three persons, namely Halfan Hassan, Adam Kusekwa and Mohammed Lingwenya.

In Mwanza, patrol vehicles with uniformed and armed police officers yesterday surrounded and camped outside Chadema offices.

The officers started camping at around 10am but without moving out of their vehicles.

Inside the office, there were some party members who gathered to conduct a prayer for their national leader (Mbowe).

The Chadema district chairman for Ilemela, Mbutusyo Mwakalaba told this paper that they had met to pray for their leader, the nation and security bodies for them to act fairly, conduct themselves justly and stop harassing innocent people.

On July 26 Mbowe was arraigned before the Kisutu court charged with economic sabotage, including acts of financing terrorism.

John Mrema, the party's director for Protocol, Communications and Foreign Affairs, said in a statement that the party leader was sent to court without having representation of lawyers from the party or from his family.

"We received information from family members who visited him in remand at the Oysterbay police station that Mbowe was sick, but the police force didn't send him to hospital," he had stated, but the police denied reports that the party chairman needed hospital attention.

Mbowe was earlier arrested in Mwanza, hours before the start of a conference to agitate for a new constitution, and the following day police headquarters spokesman David Misime said Mbowe was facing terrorism charges, citing an alleged plot to kill national leaders.



Finance and Planning deputy minister Hamad Yussuf Masauni (R) speaks at the 58th meeting of IMF/World Bank governors in the Burundi capital, Bujumbura, yesterday. Under deliberation was the need for international financial institutions to help African countries improve their communication and energy sectors for the good of their people. To his right is Bank of Tanzania governor Prof Florens Luoga. Photo courtesy of Finance ministry

Africa's ministers, central bank governors deliberate on continent's digitisation to boost economic growth

By Guardian Reporter, Bujumbura

AFRICA'S finance ministers and central bank governors are meeting in Bujumbura, Burundi to discuss the road ahead of the continent's digitalization to accelerate economic growth and facilitate development.

They are also expected to come up with resolutions to persuade the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) to finance Africa's digitalisation drive following challenges caused by the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Tanzania's delegation at the conference which was opened by Burundi President, Evariste Ndayishimiye is led by Deputy Minister for Finance and Planning, Eng Hamad Yussuf Masauni and Bank of Tanzania Governor, Prof Florens Luoga.

"We will discuss how to persuade the World Bank and IMF to support our digitalization drive as we thrive to enhance our online business and

construction of infrastructures for a digital economy. This will not only enable us to cope with technological changes but to reach a good number of citizens including those in the peripherals," said the deputy minister.

Themed: 'digitalization for inclusive recovery and sustainable growth' the meeting is part of preparations for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the World Bank and IMF scheduled to take place in October this year.

Eng Masauni added that at the climax of the meeting, the ministers and governors will come up with common deliberations on Africa's priorities which would facilitate improvement of infrastructures for economic digitalization which will in turn facilitate the continents' socio-economic activities.

According to him, educating African citizens on the use of technology would spur economic development and enable them to come up with innovations that

are likely to create millions of jobs and improve their welfare.

He highlighted the need for Africa countries to start generating electricity from low cost sources such as natural gas and water to facilitate connectivity to a large part of the population.

Power challenges have resulted in third-quarter of Africa's 1.3 billion people not using the internet, thus missing opportunities from various digital platforms especially during the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak.

Elaborating, the deputy minister said that the World Bank has through the Digital Tanzania Project (DTP) provided \$150 million which are going to increase access to high quality broadband internet services for government, businesses, and citizens, and improve the government's capacity to deliver digital public services.

The funds were provided through the International Development Association (IDA) 19 and IDA 20.



Former Prime Minister Cleopa Msuya (C), Chairman of Tanzania Breweries Limited Plc's board of directors, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday opening the company's virtual shareholders' meeting. He is with (from-L) incoming managing director Jose Moran and outgoing MD Philip Redman. Others are business development director Yannick Bomans, director of corporate affairs Messiah Mwangoka and company secretary Huruma Ntahena. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

First quarter GDP lifts up by 2.6trn/-

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transport and storage (14.6), agriculture (12.7), manufacturing (9.8) and mining and quarrying (8.8).

In sectoral performance, crop production slightly increased by 1.6 percent in the first quarter of 2021 from 3.8 percent of the corresponding quarter of 2020, he said, noting above average rainfall received in high production areas in the short rains season, resulting in the slight increase in growth.

Maize harvest increased by 2.2 percent from 2.734m tons in the first quarter of 2020 to 2.794m tons in the corresponding quarter of 2021, while beans and pulses increased by 6.9 percent, from 156,000 tons in the first quarter of 2020 to 167,000 tons in this first quarter.

Sorghum harvested increased by 16.2 percent, from 341,000 tons in the first quarter of 2020 to 396,000 tons in the

first quarter of 2021. Wheat increased by 1.4 percent, from 26,000 tons in 2020 to 27,000 tons this first quarter.

Paddy increased by 9.6 percent, from 424 thousand tons in 2020 to 465 thousand tons while livestock trading registered a growth rate of 5.0 percent, inching up from 4.9 percent recorded in 2020 Q1.

Growth was attributed to higher demand for livestock products, significant increase in per capita income, urbanization, taste and preference as well as increased awareness on food nutrition, the director underlined.

Forestry recorded a slight growth rate of 0.5 percent in the first quarter, erasing the 7.0 percent growth in Q1 of 2020, he said, insisting that government intervention to ensure sustainable harvest of forest products attributed to decimating the sector growth rate.

Fishing recorded a negative growth of

0.6 percent in the first quarter of 2021, sliding from 0.1 percent growth registered in Q1 2020 due to decrease in fish catches this quarter.

Mining and quarrying activities which include extraction of minerals occurring naturally as solids (coal and ores), liquids (petroleum) or gases (natural gas), recorded a growth rate of 10.2 percent in first quarter of 2021 compared to 15.4 percent in Q1 2020.

The annual growth rate of the global economy is projected at 6.0 percent in 2021 compared to a negative growth of 3.3 recorded last year, he said, noting that outturns in 2021 are higher-than expected growth for most regions in the post COVID-19 period. Moreover, countries that rely on tourism or commodity exports and those with limited policy space to respond to the COVID-19 economic impact also suffered, he added.

Envoy: Get Covid-19 jab to avoid severe illness, death

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against Covid-19 is not just the pandemic but widespread misinformation fuelling vaccine hesitancy.

"Despite the fact that scientific evidence is out there; it is true that a lot of people are still hesitant about Covid-19 vaccines or feel that they have not received enough information on which to make a decision," he said.

"I think this matter is understood. Medical decision is one of the most important decisions we can make in our lives and it is important to have as much information as possible before doing so," he declared.

The envoy was flanked by a team of medical experts working with various US agencies who responded to a number of frequently-asked questions about the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen jab as well as other approved Covid-19 vaccines.

Hammering the safety message, Dr

Emmanuel Tluway of USAID Tanzania said the world has come a long way in vaccine development, with the first one against smallpox having been developed in the 1790s.

"The world has over 200 years of vaccinology and this wealth of experience comes with safety above all," he asserted, speaking on the US-made Janssen jab which was recently rolled out after the government received over one million doses as a donation from the US government.

Dr Arkan Ibwe of the US Peace Corps outlined those who are not eligible for it, noting that it is those who are under the age of 18.

"They are not supposed to receive this jab and those with allergies must consult first," he explained.

"If you booked but woke up unwell on the appointment day, postpone until you get well," the medic added.

Food cash transfers: Canada avails 9bn/-

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experience in supporting governments to implement social protection programmes, including public works and resilience building interventions such as irrigation canals, fish ponds, charcoal dams, tree planting and improving roads for market access, aiming at enabling communities to better adapt to shocks and economic stresses.

In Tanzania, WFP supports the productive social safety net system under the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) to reach the most vulnerable households, where the cash is handed to male household heads.

With this contribution from Canada, WFP will be able to strengthen this support for the benefit of those living in the poorest urban areas of the country. Emphasis will be put on addressing gender related vulnerabilities, including those faced by female headed households.

For years TASAF was not aiding poor households in urban areas, under the impression that rural areas are often poorer, and paid less attention to particular problems of households without male bread winners, observers noted.

Sarah Gordon-Gibson, WFP Country Director and Representative said that the

agency is grateful for Canada's contribution to the World Food Programme in support of the national social protection programme.

Social safety nets are essential in ensuring food security and nutrition, changing the lives of the most vulnerable populations, it said, underlining that this is especially the case where it is women who have the main responsibility for household food security and nutrition.

Thus the aid will enable women to access more adequate and diversified food and other basic needs for their families, it affirmed, highlighting that this contribution reflects Canada's commitment to building the resilience of vulnerable people in the country.

In Tanzania, WFP is working to develop a better future for vulnerable families through combating malnutrition, supporting smallholder farmers, providing food assistance for refugees and capitalizing on innovative solutions for real impact.

WFP won the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize for its contributions to alleviate suffering around the world. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization, saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.



Ramadhani Bwaniki (R), winner of Vodacom Tanzania's 'Tusua Mapene' promotion, receives a prize dummy cheque for 179m/- from Kigoma district commissioner Esther Mahawe at an event held in Kigoma/Ujiji municipality yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Stop categorising people for Covid-19 vaccine, THRDC advises government

By Alimo Nkwong, HMC

THE Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) has advised the government to stop the categorization of people for the Johnson and Johnson vaccine and give a chance to every citizen above 18 willing to get the jabs.

THRDC National Coordinator Onesmo Olungurumwa made the plea in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday shortly after receiving the vaccine.

"The government should now ensure that all the citizens above 18 be accorded the opportunity to be vaccinated, caring less about the classification," he said.

He also stressed that the over 1 million doses of the single-shot Johnson and Johnson Covid-19 vaccine donated by the United States Of America as part of global efforts to fight the pandemic might not be sufficient for the meantime urging the government to look for resources so that more vaccines can be imported.

"Let them import more vaccine and permit other centers across the country to do the same without categorization and let that also be an opportunity for those willing to be inoculated to also get the vaccine," he emphasized.

Olungurumwa also called on his fellows with a human rights mandate to take seriously the issue of Covid-19 and to work towards protecting themselves against this deadly virus adding that the vaccine has never been a problem but on the contrary prevents us from catching diseases.

"In Africa, we have been receiving so many vaccinations in different times and these vaccines have never in any way harm anyone," he highlighted adding that the alternative is to protect oneself.

"Though Covid-19 vaccination cannot stop anyone completely from catching the disease it will fight against the disease when you are infected compared to if you are not vaccinated," he encouraged.

He also cautioned that it was important to take the vaccine because it is yet uncertain when the disease will be away from the surface of the earth while reminding that it is by choice to take it and whoever is concerned should make a wise decision.



Let them import more vaccine and permit other centers across the country to do the same without categorization and let that also be an opportunity for those willing to be inoculated to also get the vaccine

TBS saves 2.7bn/- through inspection of imported vehicles

By Guardian Reporter

THE government, through Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has rescued 2.7bn/- since it begun inspection of imported vehicles on April 3 this year, the money that would have been paid to foreign inspection agents.

This was revealed on Wednesday this week by the Industry and Trade minister Prof Kitila Mkumbo

in Dar es Salaam during his inspection visit of two inspection centres, inside the port and former UDA yard.

He said: "this is good, as between April and August this year TBS, on behalf of the government has collected 3.9bn/-.

He said out the sum the government would have received only 30 per cent while the rest (2.7bn/-) would have been pocketed by foreign inspection

agents."

He said through the current system, the government saved huge sums of money that would have remained outside the country.

He said the exercise was going on well, as TBS has been well mobilised to implement their duties appropriately.

"The report submitted to me shows that by August 3 this year TBS inspected 11,179 vehicles out of which

7,707 satisfied the set standards, while the rest were sent for rectification in garages owned by Tanzanians," he said.

He said the system has also seen the employment of many youth in the inspection work.

"I therefore call on Tanzanians to continue supporting this system, and appeal to vehicles importers and clearing agents to accept that the system is good, they should continue

to provide cooperation thereon," he added.

For his part, TBS Foreign Imports Manager, Saidi Mkwawa said the 3.9bn/- collected by the government was due to inspection being conducted locally.

He said in case inspected vehicles did not meet quality standards during the first inspection they are sent for rectification in workshops owned by Tanzanians.

KATIKA MAHAKAMA KUU YA TANZANIA MOSHI
 UTHIBITISHO NA USIMAMIAJI WA MIRATHI
 SHAURI NAMBARI 9 LA MWAKA 2021
 MAOMBI YA BARUA ZA USIMAMIAJI WA MIRATHI YA
 FRANK SAWAYA MAWALLA.....MAREHEMU
 DHIDI
 PRAYGOD FRANK MAWALLA.....WAOMBALI
 TAARIFA YA KAWAIDA
 (Kanuni ya 75)

Watu wote wanaodai kuwa na haki katika Mirathi ya marehemu alyejawo hapo juu wanafahamishwa kufika na kuangalia mashauri haya katika jalada kama wanaona nafasi kabla ya kutolewa kwa barua za usimamiji wa Mirathi kwa muombaji alyejomba hapo juu. Malingamizi yoyote kuhusu maombi haya yawe yameandikishwa mnamo au kabla ya tarehe 20 Mwezi wa SEPTEMBER, Mwaka 2021.
 Inewasilishwa Moshi leo tarehe 19 Mwezi wa JULAI, Mwaka 2021.

HAUKU MWAJALI
 MAHAKAMA KUU MOSHI



Home Affairs deputy minister Khamis Hamza Chilo (3rd-L, in black) and other officials head yesterday for the site at Nyarugusu camp in Kigoma Region from where refugees are routinely voluntarily repatriated to their home countries. Photo courtesy of Home Affairs ministry

Govt embarks on plan to merge refugees' camps

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has begun implementing its plan to merge refugees' camps and started with Nduta and Mtendeli camps whereby the latter is to be closed and all refugees therein moved to Nduta camp.

This was disclosed yesterday during the Deputy Home Affairs minister Khamis Hamza Chilo visit at Nduta, Mtendeli and Nyarugusu refugees' camps in Kigoma Region.

Reading his report on camps' operations before the deputy minister, Acting Coordinator for Refugees in Kigoma Zone, Kuyega Matenya said after finalising the exercise at Mtendeli camp, they will embark on the Nyarugusu camp.

"The exercise began on July 26 this year and by today (August 5) a total of 1,253 refugees vacated the camp and the exercise is going on, he said."

Regarding peace situation in Burundi, the deputy minister said peace has returned in that country and there have been frequent visits of government officials of Tanzania and Burundi to and fro both countries with the involvement of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees aimed at monitoring the peace situation.

"Tanzania has had a long history as recipient of refugees but it has reached a time for the refugees to go back voluntarily to their home country after peace has been restored there, hence those who are ready to do so, they should register themselves," he said.

A total of 220,332 refugees and other sanctuary

seekers are in the country's refugees camps and 49,234 of them are those who fled Burundi since 1972.

MEMORIAL

MAGDALENA E MWAKASEGE

Magdalena E Mwakasege. Time may pass and fade away but memories of you will always stay with us! You was loved when you was on earth, and you are still loved when you have gone! You brought joy, happiness and laughter to all who met you; you will be sorely missed by your mother (Elesia Mulenga), your sisters Daines, Joyce, and Naomi Mwakasege, your little brother John Mwakasege, and your children. Steward, Vitus, Happy, Vanessa, Vernon, Godfrey, Daines, and Destiny.

I Peter 1:3

TRADE MARK EAST AFRICA
 Growing Prosperity Through Trade

ADVERTISEMENT INVITATION FOR BIDS

TENDER TITLE: SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING, TRAINING AND AFTER- SALES SERVICES FOR MYCOTOXIN DECONTAMINATION EQUIPMENT FOR THE KENYA NATIONAL CEREALS AND PRODUCE BOARD (NCPB).

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20210078

TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is an organization funded by a range of development agencies to promote regional trade and economic integration in East Africa. TMEA supports several initiatives aimed at improving regional prosperity through reduced barriers to trade and improved business competitiveness. TMEA works closely with regional intergovernmental organisations, including the African Union (AU), East Africa Community (EAC), Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), national governments, the private sector and civil society organisations.

TMEA wishes to invite interested and qualified **reputable firms/consortiums** to supply, deliver, install, commission, train, and offer after-sales services for mycotoxin decontamination equipment for the Kenya National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB).

The Terms of Reference and the invitation for bids (IFB) document can be obtained at <https://www.trademarkea.com/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarkea.com. The closing date for submission of this tender is on or before **Monday, 30 August 2021 on or before 4.00 p.m. (Kenyan Time)**.

Interested and qualified reputable firms/consortiums **MUST** submit their bids through TMEA's Procurement mailbox using the email address, procurement@trademarkea.com. The maximum size of each email with attachments should not exceed **5 MB**.

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender 7 days or less prior to the submission deadline.

Shortly before Mbowe was due to appear in Dar court



Chadema Secretary General John Mnyika (R) exchanges greetings with NCCR-Mageuzi national Chairman James Mbatia outside the Kisumu Resident Magistrate's Court in Dar es Salaam yesterday. It was shortly before Chadema national Chairman Freeman Mbowe was due to appear in the court in connection with the criminal charges he is facing. Left is Anthony Komu of NCCR Mageuzi. All photos: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



Chadema legal counsel Peter Kibatala (2nd-L, foreground, in tie) has a word with journalists at court's grounds. To his right is Chadema secretary general John Mnyika and right is John Mallya, also a Chadema legal counsel.



Chadema supporters chant outside the court.



John Mnyika has a word with journalists at the court's grounds.



Riot police officers on patrol at the court's grounds lead away a presumed Chadema supporter.



Chadema supporters show the party's trademark victory sign.



Chadema supporters display placards bearing messages expressing support for their embattled national chairman, Freeman Mbowe.



Journalists record proceedings at the scene where a presumed Chadema supporter lay screaming to express his support for Freeman Mbowe.



Mbozi district commissioner Cosmas Ishenye (L) receives a TB screening machine donated by USAID and handed over by Dr Benedicta Masanja (R) yesterday. It is meant for use in Katavi, Kigoma, Rukwa and Songwe regions. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

Display 'concern' for elders at vaccination centres - government

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has urged the elderly in the country to grab the opportunity for vaccination against Covid-19 as they are in a risk group of being infected with the disease, and called upon community development officers and health workers to give priority to them at all vaccination centres.

Deputy Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Mwanaidi ali Khamis issued the call here yesterday when speaking to reporters.

She said elders are in a group prone to Covid-19 infection and the community should mobilise.

"We are stressing this because the elders are the nation's valuable assets needing protection against various disasters, hence the government calls on all elders to be vaccinated," she added.

She called on community development officers across the country to mobilise elders through various forums including elders'

councils to persuade the elders to receive vaccination against Covid-19 at allocated vaccination centres, and called upon them to give elders priority without much hindrance.

She also appealed to institutions including civil society organisations (CSOs) serving elders to conduct various programmes to mobilise elders to get vaccinated.

She added that so far the national vaccination exercise was going on well and registered her fear that the available vaccines could be spent up due to huge turnouts.



She said elders are in a group prone to Covid-19 infection and the community should mobilise.

Mbeya police arrest five over possession of pistol and bullets

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Police in Mbeya Region have detained five people for allegedly being found with a pistol with 11 bullets.

Mbeya Regional Police Commander, Ulrich Matei said the five were arrested on Wednesday at Mbeya city's Forest area.

He said after preliminary investigations, it was found out that the Browning pistol with S/N TZCAR 73390-053639 belonged to the Sikonge District Commissioner, John Palingo.

However, RPC Matei did not explain the circumstances that caused the firearm belonging to the DC to be in the hands of the suspects.

Matei named the five suspects as Isaka William (24), Farew Raphael (30), Malodi Joseph (24), Daniel Kamwela (24) and Shadrack Msemwa (35), all residents of Iyunga area in Mbeya City.

"In addition to the firearm, the suspects were also found with various goods including three silver chains, three TV sets, a mobile phone, a radio, and a bag with various items all of which are suspected to be stolen," he said.

The RPC said police investigations have also found out some of the goods belonged to one Beatrice Chande, a resident of Mbeya Forest area, which are claimed to have been stolen from her house whilst she was away on trip.

Meanwhile, RPC Matei said police have received intelligence information on people who were planning to conduct demonstration in Mbeya, and warned that they should not dare to do so.

He said so far the police have not issued any permit for the demonstration, and added that he has communicated with his OCDs who reported that no permits had been issued for demonstrations of any kind in their districts," RPC Matei added.

Njombe avocado farmers pleading for more investors

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

THE union of avocado growers through their Njombe Southern Highland Development Association (NSHDA) has vowed to expand the crop's production, calling investors to go and invest in the region.

Speaking to this paper, NSHDA Director Frank Msigwa said the plan aims to attract various investors needing to invest in the crop's cultivation that would be under NSHDA supervision.

He said the association assures them to get farms and all supervision till harvest, saying the crop was in high demand in the world market.

Msigwa said the decision was reached due to lack of knowledge among avocado farmers despite having the need to invest, hence NSHDA has decided to launch the system whereby it would supervise all farms, from their initial preparation stages to harvest, at low cost.

Some of the avocado farmers in Njombe Region including Godfrey Nyagawa praised NSHDA's plan to assist farmers who wish to cultivate the crop as it would assist in enhancing their families' incomes as well as that of Njombe Region.

Some youth who have engaged themselves in avocado cultivation called on their fellow youth to stop complaining over life hardships and instead they should grab economic opportunities in their areas including avocado cultivation.



DISPOSAL OF BANK USED MOTOR VEHICLES

| S.N | Tender Reference No. | Registration No. | Year of Manufacturer | Vehicle Type | Reserve Price | Location |
|-----|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0001 | T974 AMZ | 2006 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | HQ- Azikiwe DSM |
| 2 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0002 | T134 AUX | 2008 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | HQ- Azikiwe DSM |
| 3 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0003 | T968 AMZ | 2006 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Iringa |
| 4 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0004 | T972 AMZ | 2006 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Mbeya- Mbalizi |
| 5 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0005 | T963 ARQ | 2007 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Morogoro- Stiglers |
| 6 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0006 | T231 AUW | 2008 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | HQ- Azikiwe DSM |
| 7 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0007 | T993 BTX | 2011 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | HQ- Azikiwe DSM |
| 8 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0008 | T561 BDU | 2009 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Sikonge |
| 9 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0009 | T500 BDU | 2009 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Morogoro- Msamvu |
| 10 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0010 | T516 BRQ | 2011 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Biharamulo |
| 11 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0011 | T318 BTY | 2011 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Bariadi |
| 12 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0012 | T461 BGA | 2010 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Tarime |
| 13 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0013 | T601 BDU | 2009 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Misungwi |
| 14 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0014 | T525 BDU | 2009 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Marangu |
| 15 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0015 | T114 BFY | 2010 | Suzuki-Jimmy | TZS 0.00 | Mererani |
| 16 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0016 | T102 BFY | 2010 | Suzuki-Jimmy | TZS 0.00 | Rorya |
| 17 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0017 | T381 ARY | 2007 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | ARUSHA DICT |
| 18 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0018 | T398 ARY | 2007 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Arusha - Zonal Office |
| 19 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0019 | T432 BDX | 2010 | Ford Everest | TZS 0.00 | Dar es Salaam |
| 20 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0020 | T598 BEX | 2010 | Ford Everest | TZS 0.00 | Dar es Salaam |
| 21 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0021 | T659 BFZ | 2010 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | TZS 0.00 | Iringa Branch |
| 22 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0022 | T449 BAU | 2009 | Nissan Patrol | | Ada Estate |
| 23 | CRDB/MvD/2021/0023 | T387 ARY | 2007 | Toyota Land Cruiser Hardtop | | Ada Estate |

CONDITION OF SALE:

- All interested bidders are requested to view the Vehicles and verify the condition themselves. The Vehicles are being offered for sale on "as is, where is" basis.
- Viewing can only be done on weekdays during normal working hours (9.00 to 3.00 pm) from 05th August 2021 to 25th August 2021.
- The successful bidder must pay a deposit 100% not later than five working days after been awarded, failure to do so the award will be cancelled and given to the second bidder.
- The bidder will be liable of all taxes relating to this purchase.
- After payment confirmation by successfully bidder, the purchased Vehicle must be removed not later than five working days after payment. The Bank shall not be liable for any loss thereafter.
- A storage fee of **Tshs. 30,000 per day** will be charged for storage after the expiry of the five working days. If the purchased Vehicles are not collected within the next 10 working days, they shall be forfeited to the bank without refund of the amount paid.
- Duly completed bid document shall be submitted in a plain, sealed envelope, bearing the relevant tender reference number and Vehicle description, in the tender box located at CRDB Azikiwe HQ 1st floor- Procurement Office or send email to disposal@crdbabank.co.tz or an envelope to address given below, so as to reach on or before 25th August 2021, at 11.00 a.m.

Secretary,

Management Tender committee

CRDB Bank Plc

P.O. Box 268, Dar es Salaam

- Opening of the submitted bids (online and physical bids) will be done on 26th August 2021. To attend the opening session physically please visit at CRDB Bank located at Azikiwe street 1st floor. To attend the online opening session please share your contact details (Mobile number)@email address which the Bank will use to share the online link for joining the session.

Note: The opening date will be done 26.08.2021 at 11:00AM

Bank launches 'Jamii Account' for NGOs, charitable as well as religious institutions

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Commercial Bank (NBC) has officially launched a new banking product known as 'NBC Jamii Account' which is geared towards Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), charitable institutions, religious organizations and all other similar institutions.

Speaking during the launch of the product held in Dar es Salaam today, the Product Manager from the bank, Mwinzi Hamza said the product would help the institutions access banking services without any deductions.

"Through NBC 'Jamii' Account, NGOs and other charitable institutions will now be able to receive and manage project funds from donors without monthly deductions while being able to monitor all transactions."

"Also, in the case of religious institutions like churches and mosques through NBC 'Jamii' Account, receiving donations and tithes as well as other contributions will be more convenient, without forgetting handling project funds from donors and sponsors of these institutions," he explained.

He said trustees, believers and donors can deposit money directly into the bank's Jamii Account of the respective institution through a variety of easy and convenient ways like using the NBC 'Kiganjani' Service from the issuer account to the direct NBC Jamii account.

"They can also deposit money directly to the beneficiaries 'Jamii' account through NBC ATMs or use NBC agents available all over the country, and deposit the funds directly into the account of the

relevant NBC charitable institution. Another way is to use our branches as well as mobile phones," he said.

Commenting on some of the benefits of the account to the prospective account holders, bank's head of SMEs unit, Mussa Mwinidaho said among other things it makes it easier for account holders to track books of the respective institutions through a well-maintained record of non-deductible transactions.

"Further, through this account the holders will be able to make payments to many people at once through the NBC Business Internet Banking Service. They will also be able to receive information on incoming and outgoing financial transactions and be provided with a free cheque book," he added.



They can also deposit money directly to the beneficiaries 'Jamii' account through NBC ATMs or use NBC agents available all over the country, and deposit the funds directly into the account of the relevant NBC charitable institution



Morogoro Urban legislator Abdulaziz Abood is vaccinated against Covid-19 at Sabasaba health centre in Morogoro municipality yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ashton Balaigwa

JUMAZA refiles its case against Z'bar alcoholic drinks agency

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

THE case filed by the Zanzibar Council of Imams (JUMAZA) against the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board has been refiled after it was dismissed by High Court judge Rabia Hussein Muhammed allegedly on grounds that it was filed contrary to the laws.

In the case JUMAZA had sought to show that the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board violated Section 33(1) of the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act (No 9 of 2020) by decision to issue permits for the importation of alcoholic drinks to eight firms instead of three as provided for under the Act.

Another point for contention was that the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board failed to respect Section 28(k) of the same Act that had set a condition for bars to be more than 1,000 metres away from areas with basic social services including schools, health centres, mosques, churches, madrassas, markets or bus stations.

The case has been refiled before High Court judge Abdulhakim Amiri after having been dismissed on grounds that JUMAZA ought to have filed a lawsuit against the Attorney General as first respondent instead of only the liquor board and gave 60 days for that to happen.

In the new case State attorney Habiba Haji Ali said she was representing number one and two respondents - the Attorney General and the Liquor Board and called for time to prepare their written submission.

The advocate for respondents, Omari Shekha said they had no objection for the request.

For his part, Judge Abdulhakim gave two weeks for the respondents to file their written submissions, and the case was set for mention on August 19 this year.



The advocate for respondents, Omari Shekha said they had no objection for the request.

The Guardian Limited

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Ministers discuss implementation of economic development projects

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

FINANCE and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba and his counterpart in Zanzibar Jamal Kassim Ali have agreed to collectively work as a team to address challenges that affect the implementation of various development projects in order to stimulate economic growth.

The two ministers met in Dodoma yesterday to look and discuss various issues that were raised during the last Parliamentary budget session especially in the implementation of development projects.

Dr Nchemba said the meeting has been a success as they have reached agreement on several areas which include strengthening cooperation and engagement especially in seeking for funds to support implementation of priority projects highlighted in the government's budget.

"In implementing development projects, we will focus on facilitating implementation of new and on-

going projects. We have discussed a lot how to strengthen our economic growth," Dr Nchemba said.

The minister directed experts from both Tanzania mainland and



In implementing development projects, we will focus on facilitating implementation of new and on-going projects. We have discussed a lot how to strengthen our economic growth

Zanzibar to continue working on various areas that have challenges which include improvement of law on registration of motor vehicles.

"You should not only improve the motor vehicles registration Act but rather look at how to control the area of driving licences, it is not good for a person to have two licences while we are living in the same country, so go and look deep on this," he said.

Minister of State in the President's Office, Finance and Planning, Jamal Kassim Ali said the meeting showed an upright way to jointly address various development challenges in the two sides.

He said that they have discussed how to work together and facilitate stable availability of funds to finance implementation of various strategies in the Isles.

Jamal commended the ministry of finance leadership in mainland for organising the meeting and underscoring the need to conduct regular meetings at least two times per month for closer monitoring.



Residents of Tabata Baraccuda in Dar es Salaam pictured yesterday at the site of a road crash involving a car and a motorcycle, with the motorbike rider reported seriously injured. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole



JAPAN AND TANZANIA, HALF A CENTURY OF COLLABORATION FOR AGRICULTURE DEVELOPEMNT



Seed of almost 50 years of friendship between Tanzania and Japan was planted in Kilimanjaro region in 1974. In the year, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) started implementing a series of cooperation projects with the formulation of the "Kilimanjaro Region Integrated Development Plan". Thereafter, development projects such as the "Lower Moshi Irrigation Scheme" and the "Kilimanjaro Agricultural Development Center" (currently called as the Kilimanjaro Agricultural Training Center (KATC)) were implemented.



Kilimanjaro Agricultural Training Center (KATC)

JICA's cooperation activities in the sector have currently been rolled out to cover the whole country.

In the agriculture sector JICA is conducting two programs as follows:

- Program of Supporting Agricultural Sector Development Program and
- Program of Strengthening Rice Production

i) Program of Supporting Agricultural Sector Development Program

Through this program, JICA continues to extend the support through its activities to respond to the needs of strengthening and promoting value addition and market-oriented agriculture, which is one of the priorities in the Agricultural Sector Development Program (ASDP) Phase 2 (2016/2017-2025/2026). JICA, together with the Agricultural Sector Lead Ministries (ASLMs) including the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and President's Office Regional Administration and Local Governance (PO-RALG) are now implementing one ongoing project, called "the Project for Strengthening DADP Planning and Implementation capacity through Use of SHEP Approach" (TANSHEP) for promoting market-oriented agriculture. In 2020 we completed another project called "the Project for the Capacity Development on Data Collection, Analysis and Data-Based Reporting under ASDP" (ARDS Project). This project aimed at strengthening the government's Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system. The capacity building component of the project has now been integrated into the curriculum of the Training Institutes of the MoA where it is taught to future extension officers.

ARDS Project: Agricultural data on the ground is ready to use for evidence-based decision-making

Since 2008 a series of projects aimed at improving the availability of agricultural information through the Agriculture Routine Data System (ARDS) were implemented. Through the ARDS project, a standardized formatted flow of data from the ward level to the central government level through the districts and regions has been developed. The data are registered and accumulated into the web portal, which is a web-based application designed and developed for this specific purpose, and reports can easily be created from the data. ARDS eventually allows users to capture, process and share the agricultural data through that web-based application. Using this system, over 90% of agricultural information across the country has been updated every month since 2017. Considering that the submission rate of such data stood at 40% in 2015, it is a remarkable progress in two years. Now, ARDS Web Portal is in full operation across the country, and the data and reports generated from it are well utilized by the Government (e.g. in Agriculture Basic Data Booklet, downloadable at <https://www.kilimo.go.tz>).

"Anzia Sokoni, Malizia Shambani, Kwa Kipato Zaidi" The message of TANSHEP to transform agriculture from "Grow and Sell" to "Grow to Sell"

For 3 years since January 2019, JICA, in collaboration with the MoA and PO-LARG have been implementing the TANSHEP whose main objective is to change the mindsets of farmers on farming. Through this project, more farmers are now learning how to change their farming techniques from "Grow and Sell" towards "Grow to Sell".

TANSHEP has been promoting the new extension approach, Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion (SHEP), to a total of 56 farmers' groups in Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Tanga Regions. While traditionally farmers looked for the market after production ("Grow and Sell"), in the SHEP approach, they undertake market surveys before starting production, based on which they decide what to produce, how, and when according to the market needs (that is, "Grow to Sell"). TANSHEP has provided them with a series of technical training programs e.g. on market survey, match-making with stakeholders, action planning, and record keeping for monitoring & evaluation.

TANSHEP puts forward the slogan: "Anzia Sokoni, Malizia Shambani, Kwa Kipato Zaidi." One of the farmers one, Mr. Joel Jackson Ikeru, who was awarded the Annual Regional Best Farmer in Eastern Zone of Tanzania for 2020, urged fellow farmers that they should look at the market first before starting production, because in the market, they can know popular varieties, quality and volume traded, competitors and peak demand (high price) seasons. The same message was also given by the former Minister for Agriculture, Hon. Japhet Hasunga, in his speech at Nane Nane ceremony in 2020, in effect, disseminating the SHEP concept all over the country.

The SHEP approach is by no means monetary support but provides the opportunities for farmers to know information and people for their business. And this "knowing something" can lead to farmers' discovery, motivation, and development of strategy for their farming. For example, some farmers' groups in Karatu District, (Migungani, Tujitegeme and Migombani Farmers Group (FG)), Arusha, which had traditionally produced onions solely, discovered through the market survey that there was demand for watermelons in the local markets and its production cost was much less than that of onions and profitable. Now their crop production has been diversified to grow potential vegetables, depending on market needs and profitability. As for strategic marketing, TANSHEP designates FGs to run the profitability analysis before starting cultivation and keep contacting buyers to know on-going / expected prices until harvesting. Through this process, farmers get to think more strategically about their marketing. A good example is Mnadani FG in Lushoto District, Tanga, which originally planned to bring their sweet peppers to Dar es Salaam. The group after conducting a market survey, finally decided to sell their produce at their local market, as they have found out that the prices

were almost similar to those of Dar es Salaam. Selling their produce at the local markets helped to reduce transportation costs and gain more profits.

TANSHEP has gradually but steadily accumulated the evidence that SHEP approach can work for the improvement of farmers' lives. Umoja A FG in Lushoto DC, Tanga recorded in FY2019/20 around 30% increase of net income per crop / acre compared to that before starting TANSHEP (FY2018/19), despite hardship brought by COVID-19. Nguvu Kazi FG in Moshi DC, Kilimanjaro has also created a success story of tomato production for the peak demand season, from which members embarked on other new businesses (e.g. piggyery).

To create more achievements, steady efforts are being made by the counterparts. With TANSHEP, MoA has been mainstreaming the SHEP approach in the agricultural extension system, through the revisions of the national extension guidelines and the training curriculum of extension officers. It has also provided technical advice to the target FGs by involving Horticultural Research and Training Institute in Tengeru (HORTI-Tengeru). PO-RALG has made cost-sharing arrangement with the target Local Government Authority (LGA) for implementation, while mobilizing Regional Administrative Secretariats (RAS) for the field monitoring. Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission (TCDC) has contributed to strengthening FGs e.g. through training programs and study tours. Tanzania Horticulture Association (TAHA) offers TANSHEP its marketing expertise and network with buyers. In addition, several initiatives have been formed across the relevant institutions. For example, public-relations inter-ministerial team has been producing a variety of PR goods including poster calendars with Mr. Mbwana Ally Samatta, a famous football player, who called on farmers to know the goal (markets), before shooting (cultivating), the concept of SHEP. Another instance is the establishment of the SHEP certification system, which could provide a proof of the capacities of extension officers for guiding farmers in SHEP farming.

Of course, there are challenges arising during implementation e.g. effects of COVID-19, presence of fake seeds and agriculture inputs, and insufficiency of fund availabilities at field level. But the presence of these challenges does not prevent the SHEP concept from flourishing and spreading over the country. Mr. Ipepe ITAKURA, the Chief Advisor of the JICA expert team for TANSHEP argues, "TANSHEP can pave the way to create the a code of the conduct among our farmers, as far as we can enjoy our simple, clear and strong slogan, Anzia Sokoni, Malizia Shambani, Kwa Kipato Zaidi."



Harvesting watermelons by Migungani FG in Karatu DC, Arusha



Market Survey by farmers



TANSHEP Calendar collaborate with Mr. Mbwana Ally Samatta

ii) Program of Strengthening Rice Production

Under this program, JICA has assisted in disseminating rice farming technologies through various projects, i.e. the Project for Supporting Rice Industry Development in Tanzania (TANRICE2), the Project for Capacity Development for the Promotion of Irrigation Scheme Development Under the District Agricultural Development Plans (TANCAID2), the Small Scale Irrigation Development Project (SSIDP), etc.

TANRICE: Rice production increase and yield improvement achieved

For almost half a century from 1974, JICA and the MoA in Tanzania have been working together in the field of rice industry development. Through a series of technical cooperation projects, various training programs on rice farming in irrigated as well as in rain-fed conditions were conducted for extension officers and farmers throughout the country. In these training programs, farmers also learned irrigation scheme management, gender, marketing, and agricultural machinery management.

A total of 5,235 farmers were trained in 44 irrigation schemes through the technical cooperation project called TANRICE1 (2007-2012). Subsequently, in TANRICE2 (2012-2019), these technologies and skills resulted in about 40% increase of rice production under the irrigated condition, 50% increase under rain-fed lowland condition, and 140% increase under rain-fed upland conditions. A total of 36,553 farmers and extension officers were trained through TANRICE2.



Paddy fields at Lower Moshi Irrigation Scheme

The program also contributed to the implementation of Tanzania's National Rice Development Strategy (NRDS) which aimed at doubling rice production in Tanzania from approximately 0.89 million tons in 2008 to approximately 1.96 million tons by 2018 under the initiative of the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD). The goal of NRDS phase 2 launched in 2019 is to sustain national self-sufficiency in rice production, contribute to the regional self-sufficiency, and become the market leader in the region.

The cumulative irrigated area increased by 1.7 times from 264,388 ha (2005/2006) to 461,211 ha (2014/2015), according to the "National Irrigation Development Master Plan 2018" compiled by the joint survey of the National Irrigation Commission (NIRC) and JICA in 2018. Our cooperation through the Program of Strengthening Rice Production has contributed to the increase of rice yield and irrigation development.

SSIDP & TANCAID2: Comprehensive Guidelines for Irrigation Scheme Development (CGL) as the ground of irrigation development

JICA and NIRC have been promoting participatory irrigation scheme development in line with the CGL. In SSIDP, approximately 32 million USD have been provided for the construction and rehabilitation of small-scale irrigation facilities including head works and canals of up to 109 irrigation schemes in the whole country.

Through these measures, an increase of around 20,000 ha of irrigated area is expected to be achieved. In addition to infrastructure improvement, a total of 9,921 people including irrigation engineers and technicians of NIRC and district offices, and members of irrigators' organizations (IO) received training on proper project management and operation & maintenance (O&M) of the facilities as some of the activities of TANCAID2.



Construction of overhead irrigation facility.

In addition to the key cooperation areas depicted above, construction works for the Project for Development of Malindi Fish Landing and Marketing Facilities in Zanzibar commenced in 2019.

Reforming Malindi Fish Landing and Marketing Facilities in Zanzibar

Through JICA's support, a Japanese contractor started rehabilitating the old erosion-prone Malindi Fish Landing and Marketing Facilities to contribute to the provision of safer and more hygienic working condition for the users, thus promoting stable supply of quality fish to the people of Zanzibar. The facilities are expected to accommodate fishing vessels, create jobs for people in the sector, and increase the earnings of stakeholders in fisheries value-chains, thereby bringing out the potential of blue economy in Zanzibar and boosting it.



Architect's impression of the Malindi Fish Landing and Marketing facilities

JICA understands that the investment by the private sector is another indispensable driving force for the country's development. Several private Japanese companies have, in that regard, come to Tanzania with JICA's support.

Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Partnership Survey for Beekeeping Business in Tanzania

Nisshin Honey Co., Ltd. was established in 1961. Since then, it has been running its business of honey production and sales in Japan. Nisshin Honey is ranked second in the share of the beekeeping industry in Japan. The company has an efficient beekeeping model utilizing modern beekeeping technology, knowledge and experience to export honey and pollinate monoculture crop. The expected scenario of their business in Tanzania is to establish a joint venture with a local company to produce competitive honey products by introducing its beekeeping technology.

As an entry point, the company is conducting a survey on information collection and doing analysis for better understanding of current status in beekeeping industry in Tanzania to consider the future business plan.



Harvesting honey in the field

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The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757154767
General line: 0745700710
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Mobile: 0782253676
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com

Lake Nyasa shipping disputes call for new diplomatic efforts

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa faced some challenges during some of his recent regional tours, in Mbeya Region in particular, expecting solutions to problems bedevilling operations of the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) at Kyela port and various other stations along Lake Nyasa.

He urged administrative heads both at TPA and in the region, as well as specifically in Kyela District, to consult their counterparts in neighbouring Malawi in a quest for a resolutions of regulatory disputes hampering trade flows there.

His visits were most opportune in that they set in focus challenges in how trade flows are conducted across the border.

A key input towards the premier's instructions is the way three TPA vessels plying the lake to ports on the other side have been barred from ferrying passengers and cargo from ports located on the Malawian side.

The ships include MV Mbeya II, said to have been grounded and beached on sand amid stormy weather on the lake nearly three months ago. It was stranded near Matema Port as it headed for Mbamba Bay from Kiwira port in Ruvuma Region - and officials are still seeking answers as to how that situation arose.

The premier apparently discerned areas where the issues can be sorted out rather quickly, and he called on port and regional officials to convene meetings to resolve existing disputes before the end of this month.

Operating idle ships while officials receive salaries is bad business, and it appears there are some doors which have not been tried yet.

Not only must the ships operate on both sides of the lake for optimal productivity but they are also expected to transport coal and iron from the Liganga and Mchuchuma mines - either as industrial raw materials or as fuel to users on either

side of the lakeshores.

It appears at a certain level that TPA can, and therefore ought to, convene a business convention bringing together port operators from both sides of the lake to discuss existing challenges.

That may not be altogether easy as it isn't expected that bottlenecks including blocking ships from using ports actually stems from port managers' initiatives across the width of the lake.

But even before figuring out how to deal with that issue, some traders in the region and neighbouring areas don't wish to use the ships plying Lake Nyasa ports to transport their commodities and industrial raw materials, and are instead opting for alternative transportation.

It is on record that MV Njombe and MV Ruvuma have been docked at Kiwira port for months for lack of cargo after some traders in the Southern Highlands regions resorted to other transportation services.

The port officials ought to have admitted that the problem is structural and massive and that their charges are far too high for comfort.

Traders can't unite about port or ship services without sufficient cause. It is reported that they use lorries to ferry goods and, once in Malawi (or Zambia), they know what to do. It is thus a situation one is unlikely to resolve within the confines of one port meeting.

The two sets of issues have different potential solutions, as the blocking of Malawi ports is a policy issue for taking up with higher authorities in that country.

Traders' boycotts of ships are, meanwhile, upon TPA to handle possibly by scaling down pricing in fares - even through the leasing of ships to private operators who will pay appropriate taxes.

Whichever direction the wind blows, though, it is crucial that agreement be reached as soon as practical on a lasting way out of the challenges in question.



FAO provides cash, livestock, agriculture packages in the war against desert locusts



By Special Correspondent

THE desert locust invasion in Somalia has significantly affected the country's food security, with successive generations of swarms destroying vital crops and pastures.

Compounding the situation were floods, cyclones, droughts and the emerging socio-economic impact of coronavirus disease 2019.

To provide immediate relief as well as sustained access to nutritious food sources for vulnerable households to help them recover from these shocks and withstand future crises, the Somalia office of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, under its "Desert locust crisis - Somalia Action Plan", is implementing a project entitled "Protecting lives and livelihoods impacted by Desert Locusts in rural Somalia".

Funded by the Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), the project combines short-term cash transfers with livelihood inputs.

Beneficiary pastoral and agricultural households receive unconditional cash and a range of relevant inputs to restore productivity. The cash contribution helped vulnerable households meet their most immediate needs, while the inputs allows them to get back

into production and continue to feed their families.

In pastoral communities, the project primarily targets women, youth, the elderly and other people who stay behind during migration and other shocks (when men and boys move with most of a family's herd for pasture, water or trade).

Often, those who remain behind are left with a few lactating goats as their main source of food. FAO has commonly been providing each household with unconditional cash transfers for six months to cover immediate household food needs.

This goes alongside two animal supplementary feed blocks, one milk container and the deworming of the remaining lactating goats. Similarly, vulnerable agricultural households usually receive seeds, tools, fertilisers, three irrigation cycles and three months' cash payment.

People living with disabilities and the elderly are often particularly vulnerable to disasters primarily owing to their reduced coping mechanisms in a crisis.

"We have no major income as a family, and I am a disabled man who cannot provide for his family," said Abdullahi Ali Abdirahman, a 56-year-old disabled man who was among the cash plus livestock beneficiaries in Galdogob district.

"I would usually receive 50 US dollars from a well-wisher, but it far from sufficient since I have many

children in school and no income," he said.

At his home in Bur-salah village, Abdullahi sat with his children, for whom he feels education is crucial. According to him, the FAO project meant that he could pay their school and madrasa (Islamic lessons) fees, and keep them fed during the desert locust crisis and other recent crises.

"The six-month payment FAO gave us has had a huge impact on my family. The payment made it easy for me to pay their fees and even buy basic needs like food and medicines," Abdullahi explained.

The ECHO-funded project has been enabling rural farmers and pastoralists to support themselves during the desert locust invasion and other increasingly frequent shocks like floods, cyclones and droughts.

This has enable both pastoralists and farmers to use the cash while waiting for their animal feed supplements and crop seeds to yield eagerly expected results.

Deeqa Diriye, a 75-year-old pastoralist from Bul-Salah in Galdogob, was one of the oldest beneficiaries of the ECHO-funded project. She relies on her small herd of goats for income and milk.

The desert locust invasion rendered their rangelands bare, leaving the goats weak and sick from ailments.

"I rely on my livestock and so does my family. The cash payment

that FAO gave us allowed us to have a proper sustenance during the drought," said Diriye.

He added: "The supplements we were given also improved our animals' strength, enabling us to use their product like milk, which, as an old person, I heavily rely on."

The ECHO-funded project implemented in Awudwaq, Galdogob and Galkayo districts supported a total of 2,408 needy households like those of Abdullahi and Diriye.

"These interventions were implemented with the recognition that some pastoral households were coming to the end of their own abilities to cope with droughts and floods, and now an invasion of swarms of locusts," according to Khalid Saeed, the FAO Livestock Coordinator in Somalia.

Desert locust invasions could be disastrous for vulnerable communities in Somalia, with the elderly and those living with disabilities likely to be disproportionately affected.

FAO's emergency and resilience project provided people like Abdullahi and Diriye with the necessary means to get through crises themselves and emerge stronger than before.

Having it in place has thus made a massive difference to the very survival of the beneficiaries, all of whom must be dying to see it implemented further.

Even with high turnout for the jab, Covid-19 threat quite high

AS reality takes the upper hand as to the massive danger of the spread of the coronavirus, there is a big turnout for the vaccine - but so far just a small portion of the population can be vaccinated.

Waiting lists across the country have been fairly long following the launch of the national vaccination drive last week.

As the drive rests on the consignment of Johnson & Johnson vaccines the government received from the United States, many will not be able to be vaccinated right away.

A substantial chunk of the over one million doses was spent on frontline and at-risk groups such as healthcare providers, the elderly and people with underlying health conditions. This was mainly an aspect of the doubt-erasing initial part of the campaign, which is by and large settled.

There was even a problem of assisting people in filling the consent forms, especially those who can barely read or write, as the vaccination operation was being launched.

The more notable or high-drive zones were apparently the commercial capital (Dar es Salaam), the national capital (Dodoma), the Lake Victoria zone with its bustling population and the tourism circuit of the three northern regions.

We may need a few weeks to know

for sure how effectively the targeted groups were reached, which in the circumstances is still the lesser of two vexing issues.

The first is the pace of the wave of infections, quite often tied up with little time for being treated although many survive when their bodies are resistant enough.

The mere fact that the total number of vaccine doses that the government went about distributing is just over one million suggests how much of the population can actually be reached. But if concern is narrowed to frontline health staff and the elderly, while the sick ones are old too, it shall work.

No one can say that the anti-vaccine group is now fully converted, but their numbers will presumably be thinning out. Listening to various notable preachers and religious authorities generally, there is no dispute as to the necessity of being vaccinated.

Still, in that a certain school of thought had even opposed the wearing of masks, it must be accepted that in society everything is possible.

When one believes oneself to be in good health, while also trusting that one can withstand an infection and thus opts not to take the jab, infecting others is irrelevant.

To this clearly selfish position one might add a line or two about faith - also merely about personal security. Yet, it is vital that community security take precedence.

China keeping its promise of making COVID-19 vaccines global public good

By Qu Song

CHINA had offered over 700 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines and concentrates for the world as of July 29, according to the latest data released by China's Joint Prevention and Control Mechanism of the State Council. The figure is more than that of all other nations combined.

China has always called for closer international cooperation on vaccines to ensure their accessibility and affordability in developing countries and to make them a global public good.

Despite its own huge population and tight vaccine supply, China has actively responded to other countries' requests for vaccine cooperation, which has injected confidence and strength into the global fight against the pandemic.

The Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization recently announced that it has signed advance purchase agreements with Chinese vaccine manufacturers Sinopharm and Sinovac, whose COVID-19 vaccine products have been included in the WHO's Emergency Use Listing after strict reviews by WHO's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization. It means that the doses produced by the two companies will join the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) program to make greater contribution to pandemic control in developing countries.

As Chinese vaccines are being administered to a growing number of people around the world, their safety and efficacy are backed by more and more data.

Many developing countries obtained their first batches of vaccines from China, and that's why Chinese vaccines are hailed as a "timely rain."

Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, President of Equatorial Guinea, said the Chinese vaccines have brought hope for the country's fight against the epidemic.

President Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe compared the vaccines donated by China to a light at the end



A foreigner is vaccinated in Jinhua, east China's Zhejiang province, June 6, 2021. File photo

of a dark tunnel.

The nearly 2 million Cambodians probably couldn't have been vaccinated were it not for China's assistance and the doses purchases from Cambodia Hun Sen when addressing the opening ceremony of the 26th International Conference on the Future of Asia.

Gaston Browne, Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, said China has always been leading the world when it comes to helping and supporting developing countries. China's generous aid has become even more precious as certain countries are hoarding vaccines, he added.

Apart from vaccine donation and export, China is also cooperating with developing countries, including the UAE, Egypt, Indonesia, Turkey, and Brazil, for joint research and production of COVID-19 vaccines.

It supports relevant enterprises to conduct phase III clinical trials with partners from the above countries, so as to contribute to global anti-pandemic efforts by expanding local vaccine production capacity. So far, production capacity in these nations has expanded to 200 million doses.

This February, Brazilian biologic research center Butantan Institute carried out a mass vaccination trial in Serrana, São Paulo. After most resi-

dents received two shots of Sinovac vaccines, the number of symptomatic cases in local community dropped 80 percent, and hospitalizations by 86 percent.

More importantly, deaths plunged by 95 percent. Besides, infections among the residents under 18 and other groups ineligible for the vaccine also declined.

To build the strongest immunity barrier, protect the health of foreigners in China, and ensure their work, life and studies in the country, China has included the eligible age group among foreigners in the country into the scope of inoculation with domestic vaccines. So far, more than 600,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered to over 350,000 foreigners in the country.

The efforts of the Chinese government and medical staff to advance the vaccination drive are melting the hearts of many foreigners. Recently, a courier in Shanghai shared on a short video platform a special order he received.

According to him, a German guy surnamed Frank living in Shanghai bought drinks for health workers at a community health center in Shanghai, just to express his gratitude for their vaccination efforts.

People's Daily



CONTRACTORS REGISTRATION BOARD

Contractors Training Course

Morogoro, August 11 - 13, 2021
Construction Pre- Contract Practices
Cate Hotel - Morogoro

The Contractors Registration Board wishes to inform all Contractors that a special training course on **Construction Pre- Contract Practices (Module SC 120/ MC 220)** will take place in **Morogoro** at the **Cate Hotel** starting at **8:30 on Wednesday 11th to Friday 13th August 2021**

The course is highly interactive and practice-oriented and will cover project procurement systems; the role of the contractor; bidding strategies; risk management; tendering procedures; construction cost estimating; construction methods and preparation of method statements; modern planning tools; resources forecasting and negotiations. Training on the use of **Tanzania National Electronic Procurement System (TANEPS)** will also be covered.

The course is targeted at Managing Directors (MDs) and Directors of Contracting firms registered with CRB, Architects, Engineers, Quantity Surveyors, Technicians and other Technical personnel from Institutions dealing with Construction.

The fees for the course is **TZS 50,000/=** per participant for Registered Contractors and **TZS 100,000/=** for non contractors.

The Fees cover training materials, breakfast and lunch for three days. Fees are to be paid to CRDB, NBC, and NMB in the name of **CONTRACTORS REGISTRATION BOARD** using control numbers **995740040146** for Contractors and **995740040158** for non Contractors.

For further inquiries, please contact:

Contractors Registration Board, Pamba Road, Tetex House, 3rd Floor, P. O. Box 13374, DSM
Tel No: 2131169/ 2137962-3, Fax No: 2137964, E-mail: crbhq@crbtz.org; Web-site: www.crb.go.tz

or
Contractors Registration Board, East Zone Office, Keko Mwangi-Nyerere Road, Mpingo House, 5th Floor, P. O. Box 33621, DSM
Tel/ Fax No: +255222771877/2701747, E-mail: crbez@crbtz.org

or
Contractors Registration Board, Lake Zone Office, TANROADS Compound, P. O. Box 2815, MWANZA
Tel/ Fax No: 028-2502212, Tel No: 028-2500218, E-mail: crblz@crbtz.org

or
Contractors Registration Board, Southern Zone Office, NHIF Tower, 3rd Floor, P. O. Box 1690, MBEYA
Tel No: 025-2502480, Fax No: 025-2502580, E-mail: crbsz@crbtz.org

or
Contractors Registration Board, Northern Zone Office, Mafao House, 11th Floor, P. O. Box 16795, ARUSHA
Tel/ Fax No: 027-254710, E-mail: crbnz@crbtz.org

or
Contractors Registration Board, Central Zone Office, CRB Building, Mezzanine Floor, P. O. Box 2618, DODOMA
Tel/ Fax No: +255262966040-1, E-mail: crbcz@crbtz.org

REGISTRAR



TOLGASES LIMITED

EXTRACT STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED ON 31 DECEMBER 2020

EXTRACT OF THE STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

| | 2020 TZS '000 | 2019 TZS '000 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Revenue | 19,816,325 | 17,252,567 |
| Cost of sales | (11,372,996) | (9,503,163) |
| Gross profit | 8,443,329 | 7,749,404 |
| Other income | 77,593 | 125,407 |
| Operating expenses | (3,797,948) | (3,735,887) |
| Trade receivables impairment release | 30,997 | 77,904 |
| Operating profit | 4,753,971 | 4,216,828 |
| Finance costs | (916,032) | (1,130,167) |
| Profit before tax | 3,837,939 | 3,086,661 |
| Income tax expense | (1,493,808) | (832,690) |
| Profit for the year | 2,344,131 | 2,253,971 |
| Other comprehensive income | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income | 2,344,131 | 2,253,971 |
| Earnings per shares (TZS) | | |
| - Basic | 0.04076 | 0.0392 |
| - Diluted | 0.04076 | 0.0392 |

EXTRACT OF STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

| | 2020 TZS '000 | Restated 2019 TZS '000 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Non-current Assets | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 25,391,918 | 20,601,936 |
| Right-of-use assets | 325,331 | 49,876 |
| Intangible asset | 370,875 | 153,576 |
| | 26,088,124 | 20,805,388 |
| Current assets | | |
| Inventories | 4,548,373 | 5,296,263 |
| Trade and other receivables | 5,818,230 | 4,524,264 |
| Cash and bank balances | 604,357 | 374,537 |
| | 10,970,960 | 10,195,064 |
| Asset held for sale | 2,674,275 | 2,658,558 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 39,733,359 | 33,659,010 |
| EQUITY AND LIABILITIES | | |
| Equity | | |
| Share capital | 5,750,596 | 5,756,030 |
| Share premium | 6,762,049 | 6,756,615 |
| Retained Earnings | 10,462,810 | 9,117,558 |
| | 22,975,455 | 21,630,203 |
| Non-current liabilities | | |
| Long term borrowings | 3,806,949 | 3,747,465 |
| Lease liabilities | 45,486 | 39,751 |
| Deferred tax liability | 2,257,024 | 1,722,551 |
| | 6,109,459 | 5,509,767 |
| Current liabilities | | |
| Trade and other payables | 1,869,927 | 1,109,951 |
| Lease liabilities | 189 | 6,016 |
| Tax payable | 867,563 | 521,700 |
| Bank overdraft | 3,014,454 | 3,176,570 |
| Cylinder deposits | 459,052 | 658,281 |
| Current portion of loans | 4,437,260 | 1,046,522 |
| | 10,648,445 | 6,519,040 |
| TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES | 39,733,359 | 33,659,010 |

SAPS needs more than bigger numbers of public order police to protect S. Africa from violent unrest

By David Bruce

THE chaotic unrest in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng last month, in which over 300 people died, resulted from a conspiracy to destabilise South Africa. Although precipitated by the jailing of former president Jacob Zuma on 7 July, the plot must have been hatched well before this.

Had South Africa's intelligence system provided an adequate warning, the attacks and looting might never have become a major public order policing problem. With effective intelligence, the police could have swiftly de-escalated the situation, arresting key planners and instigators before the insurrection took hold.

Public order police and other police resources might also have been deployed, in advance, to areas where they were likely to be needed. Protective barriers could have been placed around possible targets. Community leaders, religious organisations, ward councillors and others might have been mobilised to discourage violence and looting.

Of all the deficits in South Africa's security system that the unrest exposed, fixing intelligence should undoubtedly be the government's high-

est priority. But intelligence cannot always predict public disorder. The authorities need a contingency plan should intelligence prove inadequate and widespread public violence breaks out again.

Calls for more public order police inevitably follow the kinds of crises that gripped South Africa last month. But that may be neither possible nor desirable given the country's current crime context and the government's budgetary constraints.

The government has not provided figures on how many public order police and other law enforcement personnel were deployed during the unrest. Whatever the facts, the violence outstripped the police's capacity to respond, leading to the 12 July deployment of soldiers to supplement police resources.

In the aftermath of the 2012 Marikana massacre in which 44 people died – most at the hands of police – the South African Police Service (SAPS) laid out ambitious proposals to expand and equip public order policing units. These envisaged that by 2018, operational and support personnel would more than double from 4,721 to 9,522, and the number of units would increase from 28 to 54.

Public order numbers have



Chaos on July 13, 2021 in Daveyton, South Africa. Violence and looting started in KwaZulu-Natal with Jacob Zuma's supporters calling for his immediate release before spreading to some parts of the country. File photo

indeed grown, albeit modestly. According to Police Minister Bheki Cele, in March 2021 the number stood at 6,324, a rise of 34% from 2014. And the number of units has expanded to 49. Despite these increases, police were still overwhelmed when responding to the recent unrest.

For those who believe that South Africa should invest in more public order police, this is a most inconvenient time to

do so. Faced with severe fiscal constraints, the government is cutting the budgets of many departments, including the SAPS.

Since March 2014 when SAPS employed 194,852 people, personnel numbers have declined by 7%. They are set to drop by a further 10% from the current 181,344 to 162,945 in 2023/24. Of these, roughly 130,000 will be police officers, with the balance being

administrative or other support personnel.

Given the country's longstanding high violent crime rates, public and political pressure is focused on policing crime, not public violence. Data analysed by the Institute for Security Studies shows that SAPS performance has been steadily deteriorating, including when it comes to serious offences such as murder and armed

robbery.

Last year the SAPS indicated that it still planned to increase public order police numbers to 7,903, including administrative staff. But considering the budget cuts announced this year, it is now in doubt that funds will be allocated to hiring more personnel and paying for the additional vehicles and equipment they will require.

Ideally, SAPS should have the capacity to perform its public order role effectively, including protecting the right to peaceful protest and responding to violence and crime associated with gatherings. But South Africa cannot reasonably maintain a substantial public order policing capacity on the assumption that police will have to deal with insurrection.

Rather than increasing public order police personnel and units, the government should focus on three issues. First, reports indicate that personnel and resources weren't used effectively to quell the July violence. The panel of experts after Marikana called for better use of public order police resources, including an improved command model for large and complex operations. It also said operational commanders need specialised training. Better policing

tactics would also help, considering the limited effectiveness of firing rubber bullets at looters.

Second, the SAPS should develop a better auxiliary public order policing model. Currently, the public order training provided to recruits is likely to be of little benefit during unrest situations. The SAPS should instead maintain a reserve capacity for providing support to public order units.

Third, in the event of large-scale public violence, it should be assumed that the military will be mobilised. The implications of this must be fully understood and addressed. For example, section 20(11) of the Defence Act requires that sections of the SANDF be trained and equipped for this purpose. The military is subordinate to the police in domestic operations, and so effective lines of communication and tactical coordination must be established.

The capacity to deploy the military for domestic purposes can be abused by governments with a repressive orientation. But as last month's events showed, it may sometimes be necessary to protect South Africa's integrity as a democratic country.

DM

Olympian-turned-volunteer keeps traffic running in Lagos

Lagos

BASSEY Etim Ironbar is a rare example of an Olympian that transformed from an athlete to a volunteer who does menial jobs like sweeping the streets and clearing debris from open sewers.

Ironbar, a Nigerian weightlifter, was competing in the men's Super Heavyweight event at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles when a leg injury ended his career.

"It happened suddenly when I was doing the clean and jerk," he told IPS. Ironbar, whose family name coincidentally sounds like a weightlifter's nickname, was a bronze medalist at the 1982 Commonwealth Games in Brisbane, Australia.

He was at the peak of his career when he competed at the Olympics. In the Ajah-Badore suburbs of Lagos, Nigeria's commercial capital, Ironbar is living a life different from the one he lived as a top athlete. After spending the bulk of his income to treat his injury, Ironbar has retired to a life of doing voluntary menial jobs on Lagos roads.

The muscular former weightlifter is a regular sight with a shovel and other

working tools in hand filling potholes. Potholes are quite common in Lagos, and they get bigger with time as authorities delay fixing them. Potholes are partially responsible for the chaotic traffic in Lagos, a city where tailbacks could sometimes stretch for about 10 Kilometres. Ironbar fills the potholes in the Ajah-Badore area to ease traffic congestion in the area.

"When the road is bad, if there are potholes, I will fill them," he said. There are, of course, lots of potholes to fill, and he often set up early for the job.

"I wake up as early as 3.30 a.m. and by 4.00 a.m. I am already on the roads fixing them," he said. He must start early because as early as 4.30 a.m., the roads are already congested as people rush to work to beat the Lagos traffic. "Those leaving home around 5.30 a.m., or 6.00 a.m. will be late for work, that is why if there is a pothole, I have to quickly go there and make sure that there is a free flow of traffic so people can pass on time and get to their work early," he said.

With very few public waste bins, Lagos streets are often littered with trash that ends up in roadside open sewers and blocking them. Water



Nigerian Olympian, Bassey Etim Ironbar, is now working to keep Lagos streets clear of potholes. Credit: Sam Olukoya / IPS

from the blocked sewers, especially during the rainy season, often spill onto the roads, causing traffic congestion.

Ironbar is always there to clear debris from the blocked sewers so water can flow freely. He also sweeps the streets regularly to prevent trash from ending up in the open sewers. A man of many voluntary jobs, Ironbar also controls the traffic when the roads are congested.

Many people found it strange when he first appeared on the streets doing

menial jobs like clearing the open sewers.

"They were saying he is a mad man, but soon they realized that I am okay when they wake up in the mornings and find that I have fixed the potholes overnight," he said.

He started gaining recognition as potholes were disappearing overnight.

"When people wake up in the morning, they will say, but there was a big pothole here yesterday, and they will be wondering what happened to it," he said, adding that "peo-

ple will be looking for the pothole and soon they started knowing who was filling the potholes."

Ironman said he is passionate about ensuring the smooth traffic flow in Lagos because road users waste too much time in bad traffic. At the same time, commuters must pay higher transport fares as commercial bus drivers, and commercial motorcyclists often increase their charges when there is gridlock.

He says by easing traffic

flow, he is preventing wrong-way-driving, especially by commercial bus drivers and commercial motorcyclists who often leave their congested lanes to drive against the direction of traffic if the opposite lane is relatively freer. This sometimes leads to a serious accident.

"On many occasions, pedestrians sustain serious injuries or are even killed while crossing the road without knowing that a vehicle or motorcycle is approaching on top speed from the wrong direction."

Those who appreciate Ironbar's services sometimes reward him with money. His voluntary work has earned him the nickname Number one.

"They call me number one because they rate me the number one voluntary worker. They are happy about the way I control traffic, the way I fix the potholes and the fact that I clear the gutters and even clean the streets."

"He is making a lot of difference here, helping to keep the roads less congested," said Kola Adeola, a taxi driver.

But Ironman has been attacked many times by people who want to force him off the roads.

"They came for me, they beat me up, I was in pains,

they want me to leave the road," he said, adding that he is not surprised about the attacks because some people benefit from the bad traffic he is working to ease.

"When there is bad traffic, people like bus drivers and street hawkers make a lot of money," he said, adding that there are also criminals who rob motorists caught up in bad traffic, especially at night. "Some people want me off the road because it is like I am stepping on their toes."

Ironbar says there is nothing extraordinary about his transformation from an Olympian to a community volunteer.

"As a volunteer, I am exhibiting patriotism just as I did as an Olympian when I represented my country," he said as he looked back with nostalgia to his days as a top athlete who competed at the Olympics.

"Being an Olympian is privileged because the Olympics is the highest in the sporting calendar, and you are competing against the best of the best in the world."

He believes sportsmen and women should give something back to their communities as he is doing to make an impact.

IPS

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

LSF, TAWLA and UMC launch a project for female landowners to easily attain CCRO

By Guardian Reporter

THE Legal Services Facility (LSF) and Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA) have partnered with Ubungu Municipal Council (UMC), to launch a notable project that will make it easier for female landowners in the district to acquire Certificate of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCRO) to help them secure economic independence.

The project also aimed to provide women education on various land rights issues. The project titled 'Hati yangu Maisha Yangu' has been specifically designed to address challenges faced by vulnerable women who own land, primarily the prohibitive costs facing them when they want to obtain certificates of titles.

It also aims at raising awareness to community members in project areas on land rights related issues, land /security of tenure system, inheritance, and ownership of land to mitigate challenges affecting women.

Speaking at the launch of the project, LSF Chief Executive Officer, Lulu Ng'wanakilala said: "We're very pleased to design this project and to provide grants to TAWLA to implement it with the aim of improving the lives of vulnerable women to reduce poverty. LSF recognizes that women face many challenges including gender based violence, unequal opportunities in economic matters, leadership but also they also have a lot of responsibilities in raising and ensuring the well-being of their families."

Ng'wanakilala added: "LSF believes that through this program vulnerable women from project areas will be able to acquire title deeds for the plot of land that they own and use it to raise capital and promote their economic activities for the benefit of their families and the nation at large."

The project is envisaged to reach up to 2000 women raising awareness on land rights related issues and more than 300 women will get their title deed at a very affordable cost. "During the process of regularization, LSF will cover 80% of the total cost of obtaining title deeds and the remaining 20% will be covered by project beneficiaries. This is a unique opportunity for vulnerable women living in Ubungu municipality to benefit from this opportunity," she added.

Ubungu Municipal Council director Beatrice Dominic expressed her sincere gratitude to TAWLA who are the implementers of the program as well as LSF for the financial support.

She commended the organization for identifying the challenges facing vulnerable women in the project areas and deciding to bring the program to the Ubungu municipality. Beatrice said: "The government through the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Development has continued to implement various programs including the National Plan to Control and Prevent Unplanned Housing (2012-2021) in urban and municipal areas. Dar es Salaam region is one of them."

Ubungu municipality has continued to improve implementation of lands housing planning and regularization programs as well as co-operating and working together with the land development and planning authorities, private sector, and development partners in implementing various land programs.

"It is our hope that this program will help to empower vulnerable women in Mbezi, Msigani, Kwembe, Goba and Kibamba wards to have their plots sur-



Ubungu Municipal Council director Beatrice Dominic (R) presents a certificate of approval for the implementation of 'Hati yangu maisha yangu' project in Ubungu municipality to Legal Services Facility CEO, Lulu Ng'wanakilala during the launch of the project aimed at enabling female land owners to acquire Certificate of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCRO) to help them secure economic independence. The project is funded by LSF and run by the Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

veyed by contributing only 20 per cent of the total costs. We also hope that through awareness rising to the community women will understand their rights and how to use land for economic improvement. It is an undisputed fact that these misconceptions/ideologies have had an impact on most women and led to gender inequality in land tenure," said the executive director

She urged women to show up in large numbers so that they can be sensitized on their rights to land ownership and economic opportunities as well as to be assessed in their areas where the barrier was the cost of surveying.

TAWLA Executive Director, Tike Mwambipile said: "We acknowledge the on-going land regulari-

zation process in Tanzania. We will work closely with the office of the District Executive Director in Ubungu District to enable women and special groups who own plots of land to be surveyed and issued with title deeds."

According to Mwambipile, they will also ensure increased awareness of women's land related issues including education on how to use land for economic improvement, sensitizing local government leaders at ward and street levels, religious leaders, and paralegals on their role in protecting women's rights and empowering women obtaining title deeds.

"We thank the government for granting us permission and cooperating with us in the implementation of this program. It is my hope that this program will

contribute in reducing poverty for women especially in the wards where the program is implemented and will also enhance women's land tenure security and reduce the vulnerability associated with living on undeveloped land in urban and peri-urban areas through land regularization process," she added.

This program has been launched in Ubungu district as part of the pilot, but the aim is to implement it nationwide.

To benefit from this project, vulnerable women from Mbezi, Goba, Kwembe, Kibamba and Msigani wards will be required to participate when the whole exercise begins, this exercise will target low-income women who own land but are unable to get title deeds due to the cost of obtaining a title deed.

Newly built secondary schools in Geita enrol first intakes of Form Five students

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

NEWLY built secondary schools—Bugando and Kamena in Geita District Council, Geita Region have started enrolling the first intake of Form Five students for the 2021/2022 academic year.

Acting Education Officer, Academic for Geita District Council, Navaya Alphonse

said: "Admission of the students is a big achievement and students have already started to attend classes opportunely."

"We believe that Kamena and Bugando are examples of what a good school should be, both having an environment that is conducive to learning and we are confident we will rank high and compete academically with other leading

schools in the country.

"Although we are two semesters into the academic year, out of the 249 students across both campuses we have yet to receive any parents requesting to transfer their child out of either school. This is testimony to the dedicated teaching and support staff at both Kamena and Bugando"

Both schools are well-positioned to attract students who are interested in arts and the sciences and there is optimism that Bugando and Kamena secondary schools will produce future graduates that will go on and produce outstanding careers across different industries.

Both school campuses were built at a combined budget of 287.5m/- and were supported by GGML jointly with the Geita

District Council under the Corporate Social Responsibility plan of 2018.

Since the amendment of the Mining Act in 2017, GGML has executed a number of strategic projects in Geita Region through initiatives that aim to improve the livelihoods of the host community.

In 2020, Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) and the Geita

Town and District Councils signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) worth TZS 9.2 billion in relation to GGML's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Plan.

The implementation of the CSR plan is intended to benefit Geita communities in the areas of environment, infrastructure, health, education, and small and medium enterprises

(SMEs).

In February this year, GGML emerged as the overall best-performing Company in the Mining Sector of Tanzania for the financial year 2019/2020 after scooping accolades in Corporate Social Responsibility, Environment and Safety, Government Revenue Collection (Taxes), and Local Business Content.

Chameleon species thought to be extinct has been found

By Liz Kimbrough

THE Chapman's pygmy chameleon, about the length of a golf tee, was first described in 1992 and not seen again in the wild by scientists until 2016.

An estimated 80 per cent of the rainforests of Malawi Hills, where the chameleons live, have been destroyed over the past 40 years, mostly for agriculture.

The chameleon is listed as critically endangered and the remaining populations are isolated, leaving them at risk of losing genetic diversity.

The researchers are calling for more surveys and monitoring of the chameleon populations as well as conservation action to safeguard what remains of the chameleon's habitat.

One of the world's smallest and rarest chameleon species has been rediscovered in Malawi, living on the edge of extinction in just a few, scant patches of rainforest.

"They are little, gentle creatures," Krystal Tolley, a professor from the South African National Biodiversity Institute and the University of the Witwatersrand and member of the expedition, said in a press release. "Other chameleon species can be hysterical, hissing and biting, but pygmy chameleons are gentle and just beautiful."

The tiny Chapman's pygmy chameleon (*Rhampholeon chapmanorum*) grows to about 5.5 centimeters (2.2 inches), no longer than a golf tee. The species was first described in 1992 and was not seen again by scientists until 2016, when researchers from the South African National Biodiversity Institute and the Museums of Malawi searched for the cryptic chameleons in their rainforest habitat. Their findings have now been published in the journal *Oryx*.

An estimated 80% of the rainforests of Malawi Hills, in southern Malawi where the chameleons live, have been destroyed over the past 40 years, mostly for agriculture. An area roughly the size of 100 football fields is all that remains.

Under the threat of an ever-vanishing habitat, researchers feared that the chameleon may already be extinct, so they turned to crowd funding to raise the money needed to survey the area for any surviving chameleons. Chameleon supporters rallied for the cause and the team raised enough funds to search for chameleons in the Malawi Hills.

The researchers surveyed two of five remaining forest patches and found 17 adult chameleons. There are likely more, the paper states, but one of the forest patches is a sacred ancestral burial ground where the researchers were not permitted to leave the narrow footpath. The team also revisited an area in Mikundi, about 75 kilometers away, where captive-



NBC Bank senior official Mtenya Cheya addresses to prospective pensioners from public and private organizations during a seminar organized recently by the Public Service Social Security Fund and sponsored by various stakeholders including the bank. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

bred chameleons were released in 1998. There, they found 21 adult chameleons, and 11 juveniles and hatchlings living in the forest.

"The first one we found was in the transition zone on the forest edge, where there are some trees but mostly maize and cassava plants. When we found it we got goosebumps and just started jumping around," Tolley said. "We didn't know if we would get any more, but once we got into the forest there were plenty, although I don't know how long that will last."

Chapman's pygmy chameleons spend most of their time on the forest floor, so unlike many of their tree-dwelling kin, they lack a pre-

hensile tail. They mostly keep to the ground, amongst the leaf litter, or sleep low in bushes, where their leaf-like appearance comes in handy as camouflage.

"They are mostly brown but they can change to quite beautiful blues and greens with little dots all over them and that's probably a way of communicating with each other," Tolley said. "They also vibrate and we could feel it when we held them. We don't really know why but it's also probably some form of communication. The fact they do it while held in our hands could mean it's a way to try and scare predators."

A 2014 assessment of the world's

chameleons found that 36% of the world's chameleons are threatened with extinction. The Chapman's pygmy chameleon was listed among the rarest. It is now listed as critically endangered on the IUCN Red List.

The remaining populations of pygmy chameleons are not able to travel the long and exposed distance between forest fragments to mate, leaving them at risk of becoming genetically isolated.

Genetic testing of the rediscovered chameleons revealed that while it hasn't happened yet, this constriction in the gene flow between the isolated populations will likely reduce their genetic diversity

over time. "The forest loss requires immediate attention before this species reaches a point from which it cannot return," Tolley said. "Urgent conservation action is needed, including halting of forest destruction and recovery of habitat to promote connectivity."

The researchers are calling for more surveys and monitoring of the chameleon populations as well as conservation action.

They suggest including what is left of the forest into the Matandwe Forest Reserve, so it can be safeguarded, both for the future of the chameleon and for all of the diversity the forest supports.

Millions of milestone calls for solidarity, scientific approaches to war on Covid-19

BEIJING
GLOBAL COVID-19 cases exceeded 200 million on Thursday, with the death toll surpassing 4.25 million, marking another heartrending milestone in the global pandemic fight that has lasted for more than a year and a half.

During the prolonged war, the coronavirus had shown signs of retreat several times, but managed to stage a comeback each time, with daily cases and deaths rebounding.

A key reason for the resurgences is the virus' cunning ability to evolve. However, some countries' irresponsible approaches to handling the pandemic at home and abroad, the astoundingly-unbalanced vaccine rollout worldwide and people's lowered vigilance amid aspirations for a normal life have played crucial roles in splitting humans' line of defense.

At this critical moment when one in every 39 people on the planet has been infected by the lethal pathogen, calls for global solidarity, vaccine equity and science-based approaches require a rapid response.

GRIM FIGURES

The global caseload reached 200,053,793 with a total of 4,254,824 deaths worldwide as of 0030 GMT on Thursday, according to the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University.

With 35,323,182 cases and 614,793 deaths, the United States has suffered the most

from the pandemic, accounting for nearly 18 percent of the global caseload. Though the country's new daily cases in June temporarily dropped to its lowest level in more than a year, its daily new infections jumped to more than 102,000 on Wednesday.

In India, a total of 31,769,132 cases have been recorded, second only to the United States. India's death toll stands at 425,757. Brazil has registered 20,026,533 cases with the world's second largest number of deaths of 559,607.

Countries with more than 5 million cases also include Russia, France, Britain and Turkey, according to the CSSE.

Currently, many parts of the world are mired in severe resurgences of infections mainly fuelled by the more contagious variants of COVID-19, including the Delta variant, which the World Health Organization (WHO) said has spread to more than 130 countries.

Canada is at the start of the Delta-driven fourth wave of COVID-19, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer Theresa Tam said on Friday.

"The updated longer-range forecast shows how the epidemic trajectory may evolve through early September. It suggests that we are at the start of the Delta-driven fourth wave, but that the trajectory will depend on ongoing increases in fully vaccinated coverage, and the timing, pace and extent of reopening," Tam said at a press conference in Ottawa.

Across Europe, the Delta variant has become the most dominant strain, and it will be

the globally dominant strain over the coming months, the WHO Regional Office in Europe and the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control said in a joint statement on July 23.

"We are seeing a significant rise in cases associated with the spread of the highly transmissible Delta variant," Hans Kluge, regional director of WHO Europe, said in the statement.

Simultaneously, in some Asian and African countries, a fourth wave of infections aggravated by the Delta variant is around the corner or has already arrived, while Latin America is also trying to slow down the spread of the variant.

"This pandemic is nowhere near finished. Hard-won gains are in jeopardy or being lost, and health systems in many countries are being overwhelmed," WHO spokesperson Tarik Jasarevic said.

"The Delta variant is causing devastation and more variants -- with the potential to be even more dangerous -- will emerge if we do not control the virus," Jasarevic warned.

IRRESPONSIBLE APPROACHES

The United States' irresponsible ways of handling the pandemic both at home and abroad have turned the world's most developed country into a major source of infections and one of the weakest links in the global fight against the deadly pathogen.

Some U.S. politicians' ignorance of science has given free rein to an anti-science sentiment across the country,



People visit an exhibition themed on COVID-19 pandemic in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, March 11, 2021. File photo

which is epitomized by a lasting debate on mask-wearing and a sweeping doubt about vaccines.

Though the United States is hoarding enough COVID-19 vaccines for the U.S. public, it has one of the highest rates of vaccine hesitance or refusal, The New York Times recently reported. The reasons why Americans refuse to get inoculated include "a belief that the virus is not that bad, the hope that rural lifestyles make catching COVID-19 less likely and general distrust of government experts," according to a recent

report by CNN.

To conceal the government's incompetence and shift the blame, the United States has been scapegoating others from the early stage of the pandemic, and has recently been sparing no effort to politicize the origin-tracing work, which have gravely undermined global cooperation against the virus and encountered strong opposition from the international community.

As some Americans are hesitant about or squarely against getting COVID-19 vaccines, the vaccines are not yet available in many African countries that are well-prepared for their rollout. WHO data showed that less than 2 percent of all doses administered globally have been in Africa, while just 1.5 percent of the continent's population are fully vaccinated, in stark contrast to the surplus in the United States.

"While hundreds of millions of people are still waiting for their first dose, some rich countries are moving towards booster doses," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a media briefing on Wednesday.

So far, more than 4 billion vaccine doses have been administered globally. More than 80 percent of them have gone to high- and upper-middle income countries, even though they account for less than half of the world population, Tedros said.

In the latest update to its World Economic Outlook released last month, the International Monetary Fund downgraded the growth prospects for emerging market and developing economies amid new outbreaks and shortages of vaccines.

URGENT CALLS

In the face of the sobering alarm sounded by the 200-million mark, experts and officials have warned against a disastrous future for humankind and urged closer global cooperation in seeking a turning point in the world's pandemic fight. The 200-million mark "means that the world is plunging into the darkest hour of human history and there is a need to support each other," said Muhammad Asif Noor, director of the Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies in Islamabad, calling on all countries to "act together and act fast beyond our egos."

Noting "no country can stay safe until all countries are safe," said Natee Taweesrifuengfong, president of the Thailand-based Siam Think Tank. "All countries should enhance political mutual trust, resort to constructive dialogue and communication, push for concerted efforts against the pandemic and fight against it in a scientific manner."

Meanwhile, Stephen Winchester, consultant virologist at Britain's Berkshire and Surrey Pathology Services, stressed the particular need for closer global cooperation in vaccine development and distribution.

"Working together, having that shared understanding, you know, that it's a global disease," Winchester said. "We will need to work together not just on the vaccine development, but on their deployment as well and getting access for everyone across the globe."

Warning against the politicization of the pandemic, especially the origin-tracing work, experts across the world have refuted baseless accusations and advocated a cooperative and scientific manner in deal-

ing with the virus.

"Accusations and conspiracy theories will solve nothing. Instead, constructive collaborative interactions on an international basis will be needed," said Jonathan Stoye, an expert at the Francis Crick Institute in London.

The U.S. accusation of China on the origin of the COVID-19 pandemic is "totally inappropriate," Buthaina Shabaan, Syria's presidential political advisor, said, adding the United States is unable to mislead anyone by such accusations because "the world knows what the origin of these accusations is." The Syrian official thanked China for providing vaccines and medical equipment to the Syrian people, stressing China sets an example in keeping the pandemic under control.

Shabaan's remarks were echoed by Taweesrifuengfong, who appreciated China's role in boosting global efforts against the pandemic.

"It shared the whole genome sequence of the virus with the world... providing a solid basis for global scientists to develop medicines and diagnostics. It also shared its experience and provided as much support as it can to countries in need, including offering vaccines and dispatching medical teams," said Taweesrifuengfong.

"China has made a great contribution to the global battle against COVID-19," said the expert.

On strengthening global cooperation, "we have an example of China, how the pandemic was controlled and how the country has not only fought well the virus but also extended support... to the countries in need," said Noor, the expert in Islamabad.

Xinhua



A health worker takes a swab sample from a woman for COVID-19 test in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, June 14, 2021. File photo

RATIBAYA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

| MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME | TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME | WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME | THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME | FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME | SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME | SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME |
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| 05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAJIKI 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO) | 05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAJIKI 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO) | 05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAJIKI 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO) | 05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAJIKI 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO) | 05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAJIKI 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO) | 05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM COMMERCIALS 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM NEWSPAPERS REVIEW 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA 07:30 AM WATOTO SHOW 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:15 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11:00 AM MTA WA MAGOMA 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS CHAGUO LAKO 15:00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS NANI ZAIDI 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS MAMBO YA PWANI 18:00 HRS AFRICAN PANORAMA 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:03 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22:15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 22:15 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS RAFIKI II 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO) | |

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

SONGWE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO ALLOW PLANES TO TOUCH DOWN, TAKE-OFF AT NIGHT

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

ALL plane sizes will soon be able to touch down and take off during the night before the end of this year when final construction works are due to be finished at Songwe International Airport.

The airport which currently only allows planes to land and take off during day time due to absence of lights on the taxiing way and other navigation tools, is in the final stages of putting in place the facilities according to Deputy Minister at Ministry of Communications, Works and Transport, Mwita Waitara.

Waitara said last week that the over 20bn/- airport in the Southern Highlands has been undergoing construction for many years but that his ministry wants to see the contractor finish all final touches before the end of the year.

"Right now we have already installed a modern radar system which is located 20 kilometres away from Songwe Airport to improve communication surveillance and safety of aircraft," Waitara said adding that the airport will have advanced communication equipment to allow smooth landing and take-off of all types of planes from around the globe.

"This airport will also be equipped world class cargo and passenger handling equip-



An aerial view of Songwe International Airport.

ment with all features of safety and security in place to ensure that people and their property are safe from natural and man-made disaster such as terror attacks," he added.

Waitara pointed out that currently, the contractor is proceeding well with the fixing of airport lighting system on the

taxiing and take-off ways with runways also undergoing final touches before allowing both international and domestic planes to start landing after dusk.

"We as government want to see this airport operating for 24 hours because it's an international airport that will allow international flights touching down

here," the Deputy Minister stated while adding that the government is committed to continue investment in modern infrastructure to allow smooth movement of cargo and people across the country.

According to Tanzania Airports Authority, Songwe Airport which was opened in December 2012 to take over functions of

the Old Mbeya Airport which had served the Southern Highlands since colonial, is among 59 airports managed, maintained and operated by TAA.

The Airport is in the Group II Airports and its license was valid till 31st August 2020. It handles both domestic and international flights.

DCB Bank's investment in digital platforms paying off

By Francis Kajubi

DCB Commercial Bank Plc has succeeded in digitizing all its financial services which has led to attracting over 200,000 new customers in recent days.

The bank's Business Director, Zacharia Kapama said in Dar es Salaam mid this week that the banking services are now offered through digital platforms thanks to investment digital channels. "We have reduced charges by over 50 percent through these digital channels and our customers can make payments of bills for utilities and fees through the government's electronic payment gateway anywhere in the country," Kapama said. He said the Dar es Salaam based bank which has only eight physical branches nationwide needs digital platforms to ensure that it serves the majority of the public from any

location. According to him, the bank is currently running a campaign under the theme 'Fully digitised' known as 'Mwendokidigitali' in Kiswahili with the purpose of attracting new young customers across the country.

Kapama further noted that customers can also make transactions to public entities such as Tanzania Ports Authority, Tanzania Revenue Authority, Muhimbili National Hospital and other regulatory authorities.

"More than 50,000 businesses are now making their payments through our selcom mastercard QR system. Unlimited transactions are happening through our DCB e-banking system and the bank's thousands of Visa card holders are also transacting from different parts of the globe," he asserted. DCB Bank's Head of Personal Banking, Fortunata Benedict backed her boss saying the bank wants to



DCB Commercial Bank Plc's headquarters in Dar es Salaam.

reach more customers across the country by providing them with cost-effective and innovative services through digital tools.

'Our 'Mwendokidigitali' slogan is an ongoing campaign that targets at alerting the general public to use DCB financial services digitally.

We hope that with this slogan, we are going to attract new customers and keep the old ones," Benedict said.

Adjaye Associates reveals design for Africa Institute campus in UAE

ABU DHABI

ADJAYE Associates has revealed the design for The Africa Institute campus to be built in downtown Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates. The 31,882m² campus will be dedicated to the advanced study, research, and documentation of Africa and the African Diaspora in the Arab world.

"I am deeply humbled for the opportunity to design The Africa Institute in Sharjah, a project which introduces an entirely new type of thinking and mission into the global academic arena," said David Adjaye, founder and principal at Adjaye Associates. "I envision the new campus as a springboard for the concretisation of the incredible history of Africa, the African Diaspora, and the Arab world," Adjaye added.

Adjaye's design creates an enclosed campus comprising five volumes, reaching four to seven storeys in each. These volumes are connected by a series of open-air interior courtyards and punctuated by large overhangs which produce shade and relief from solar heat. Clad in red-pigmented concrete, the structures will be made of low-carbon concrete, enhancing the desert typology which requires a sensitive and contextual response.

For the architecture of the building, Adjaye is inspired by the Gulf, Timbuktu, and Hausa architecture where trabeated solid masonry façades often shelter an internal courtyard and the ground floor is defined by the court which negotiates the transition between the city and The Africa Institute.

The open-air courtyards are designed on the first and ground floors which are punctuated by water features and native planters, while these courtyards also improve air circulation and provide natural



An illustration of the Africa Institute campus in the United Arab Emirates.

cooling.

The campus will include spaces offering differing character and scale for classes and seminars as well as a research library and climatized archive facility, flexible auditorium and performance space, a restaurant and café, and a bookstore.

Entryways on each of its four façades will welcome the public and connect the architecture with surrounding institutions and public walkways. The Africa Institute is also commissioning artists to create site-specific installations

throughout the public spaces of its new building, which will be announced at a later date.

"The Africa Institute is uniquely positioned to illuminate African and Gulf ties and to expand understanding of African and African Diaspora studies as a global enterprise," said The Africa Institute director Salah M. Hassan.

"Our mission is to generate and infuse fresh thinking into an existing body of scholarship that largely conceives of the Gulf and Africa as separate entities. In doing so, the institute will shed light on important

yet overlooked historical linkages that shaped the past and influence present events, including forced and voluntary migratory patterns, market-based economic fluctuations, and local and global political changes."

"We selected David Adjaye to create the first purpose-built home for this vital institution because of his experience in designing buildings that foster learning, collaboration, and community building," said The Africa Institute president Hoor Al Qasimi. "We started working together in 2017 so that the vision for The Africa Institute and the building that supports its critical mission would be developed hand-in-hand."

"David's ability to create such a beautiful sequence of diverse spaces and welcoming sense of place will make The Africa Institute a nexus for knowledge-building and learning that will serve people in the region and our partners across Africa and around the world for generations to come," added Al Qasimi. The campus is scheduled for completion in 2023.

Motswere building in Gaborone receives Botswana's first Green Star rating

GABORONE

THE new Motswere building in Botswana - the first addition to Prime Plaza II in Gaborone's CBD, has been awarded a five-star Green Star Africa - Office Design v1.1 rating by the Green Building Council South Africa (GBCSA).

The Prime Plaza development, owned by PrimeTime Property Holdings, consists of four existing commercial buildings (Prime Plaza D), each named after a species of local indigenous tree. Motswere is the first of four commercial buildings which will make up Prime Plaza II, which will be developed in phases. The building's name derives from the Leadwood Combretum trees that still inhabit this piece of land.

PrimeTime invests in a diversified portfolio of office, retail and industrial properties throughout Botswana and Zambia. Motswere is the first of Primetime's large property portfolio to achieve third party green certification. "In a competitive market, PrimeTime's ability to offer a Green Star-rated building to an increasingly environmentally and ethically aware tenant base is a great advantage," notes Joe Simpson of PrimeTime.

The 2,780m² Motswere building, designed by Paul Munnik Architects, consists of three levels of A-grade office space and supporting facilities, and two basement parking levels, set among more open-air parking and waterwise landscaped gardens. The five-star Green Star rating signifies national excellence and requires a standard of innovative green design that goes beyond the basics of green building practices.

Motswere features high levels of energy and water efficiency, as well as state-of-the-art mechanical ventilation and building management systems. Kagiso Sebetso, in-house green building consultant at Time Projects (PrimeTime's development and asset management arm), adds: "Botswana is a very hot country, for most of the year. Having a building so well oriented with south and north facing glazing that is provided with optimum shading is quite an achievement when one considers the related reduction in energy consumption."

OMAN REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER LURES DAR PROPERTY INVESTORS

By Francis Kajubi

OMAN based property developer Muriya is in Dar es Salaam showcasing its newly completed 500 residential units at Jebel Sifa in Muscat, the sultanate's capital.

Jebel Sifa which is 50 kilometres away from Muscat, has luxury residential units going for as cheap as US\$133,000. Addressing journalists mid this week, Muriya's Real Estate Manager, Ghizlane El Gouchi said Oman's largest and most diversified developer has invested some US\$750m, wants Tanzanians to be part of investors who will earn windfall profits by renting their houses to expatriates and tourists.

"Muriya is a major developer with property throughout Oman which is of different prices to meet everyone's budgets," El Gouchi said. She said they have decided to bring their road-show to Tanzania because of the potential that the country's has in real estate investors.

"After Zanzibar's successful road-show last week, our team is confident that Dar es Salaam will attract many visitors interested in Muriya's vast portfolio of property investment opportunities in Oman," El Gouchi added saying the next stop for the team is Nairobi, Kenya.

"Our project's construction works of new units are ongoing and already 730 units have been sold out since when they were put on the market



Muriya's flagship residential units at Jebel Sifa in Muscat.

three years ago," she added while urging Tanzanians to seize the opportunity and own property in part of the world's most vibrant property markets.

Muriya's Property Consultant, Lubna Al Riyami said that the Jebel Sifah houses freehold residences, which are available to own

or rent, an 84-berth marina and a wide range of dining and leisure facilities, as well as the 9-hole PGA Harradine signature golf course.

"Jebel Sifah, Muscat's lowest density destination, offers a one-of-a-kind investment opportunity of owning a home in an estab-

lished community. An array of attractive freehold residential opportunities is available, with residences overlooking the golf course," Al Riyami said adding that the 13.6 million square metres area is a flagship destination of Muriya called Hawana Salalah.

"This area is home to Oman's first aqua

park, a 170-berth marina, freehold residences, retail venues, restaurants and cafes," she said adding that Hawana Salalah's freehold residential properties make the ideal second homes and investment opportunities.

Telco's graduates program is giving youth skills to compete in the labour market

By Property Watch Reporter

CURRENTLY, due to competition created by the mismatch between available jobs and the number of graduates entering the job market, students are increasingly facing pressure to improve their academic credentials and to add valuable skills that make them more competitive and thus, more employable. The quest for targeted academic and professional skills is further geared towards responding to trends, as the labour market is constantly changing.

According to REPOA's recent research, Tanzania's 41 universities (including colleges) usually churn out between 800,000 and one million graduates per year. Most of these graduates expect to be assimilated in the local labour market but REPOA's report noted that on average, the country's labour market creates only about 250,000 jobs a year.

One of the reasons for this challenging situation is that most graduates lack or have limited necessary and complimentary 'soft' skills to enable them find employment in the formal sector. These



Youths who graduated from Tigo's Graduate Programme pose for a souvenir photo at the end of the year long initiative in Dar es Salaam recently. Photo courtesy of Tigo.

skills include analytical, investigative, entrepreneurial, supervisory, time management and basic computer knowledge but also being an effective team player.

It's against this background that Tigo Tanzania Limited came up with Tigo Graduate Development Program; an initiative whereby the telecom recruits fresh university graduates across the country and beyond with a view to training, incubating and exposing them to real-life work situa-

tions in preparations to meet labour market challenges.

Tigo Managing Director, Simon Karikari said that through the program, fresh graduates are incorporated into the company for one-year during which they are able to 'learn all the ropes' about the telecom business as well as focus skill development on market needs.

"The program seeks to sharpen the graduates' professional skills through our

in-house mentorship and coaching which enables them to gain experience and exposure that are prerequisite in preparing them for future employment and leadership positions in the corporate world," Karikari said.

The program is widely published in both mainstream and social media to ensure that potential recruits see and apply annually. Speaking on the graduates' recruitment, Karikari said it's a vigorous process

which starts with assessing applications from qualified Tanzanian graduates interested in the program. The shortlisted candidates go through various interview panels under the leadership of senior managers at the telco after which the best are selected to join the program.

"The whole process of orienting the fresh graduates is to ensure that they understand the nitty-gritty and attributes concerning new skill-sets that the company intends them to perfect," he said adding that after the expiry of their contract, "Tigo will try to absorb them within the business depending on what the organizational needs are at the time."

At the end of the program, besides getting certificate of completion, the graduates will, most importantly, have acquired real hands-on skills and experiences from one of the top telecommunications companies in the country. This should offer them more attractive future employment prospects.

Suffice to say, Tigo's noble undertaking has come at a most appropriate time, giving impetus to the government by providing measurable learning outcomes which enable graduates to acquire relevant skills required by the job market.

Granted, the program started in 2020 and already boasts 31 graduates who have undergone the training, further underscoring Tigo's commitment to increase employment in the service sector which, in 2019, stood at 28.44 percent, trailing the agricultural sector, which led the pack at 65.09 percent while the telecommunications sector took up the rear with 6.47 percent.

IZA proposes new zinc refinery in SA to meet local demand

JOHANNESBURG

ACCORDING to Simon Norton from the Africa Desk of the International Zinc Association, South Africa needs a zinc refinery to assist with the vast quantities of galvanised steel likely to be taken up by the government's ambitious infrastructure development plans. "If we intend to rebuild our water and wastewater plants as well as the national rail network, then we need to refine our own zinc locally for galvanised steel," argues Norton.

"The fact that there is no zinc refinery in South Africa when in 2003 we consumed 145,000 metric tons of refined zinc, not to mention that all our zinc concentrate goes to other countries to be refined and then sold back to us, is patently ludicrous," highlights Norton. The local uptake of refined zinc has plummeted from 86,000t in 2015 to 47,000t last year.

While South Africa has 20% of the world's zinc deposits, it no longer refines any zinc following Exxaro closing the Zincor refinery in Springs at the end of 2011. Up to then, South Africa produced 110,000t/y of refined zinc valued at R4.3bn. From 2014 to 2019, it instead



A zinc refinery in Queensland, Australia.

imported R15bn worth of refined zinc. In 2020 alone, South Africa imported 47,000 tons of refined zinc, excluding zinc rod and bar, etc.

The IZA Africa Desk has developed an action plan

for the proposed new zinc refinery to assist in offsetting costly import costs, pointing out that the Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone is the ideal site. "This location is best because it is on the Sishen-Saldanha Bay

rail link and has a port, with good infrastructure support from the Western Cape," explains Norton.

Such a 'mini' zinc refinery could produce about 40,000t of refined zinc a year, which can be ramped up to 60,000t a year if need be. The refinery is anticipated to be based on an efficient, low-cost zinc refining process, which is expected to enter research phase this year. The new process is capable of running on minimal external power input, with a target of 50% less power usage than any currently known method of zinc refining.

The proposal prepared by the IZA Africa Desk investigates the feasibility of a small-scale (± 40 ktpa) zinc refinery designed to meet local demand by using locally-produced ores and concentrates specifically from Vedanta's Gamsberg and/or Orion Prieska operations.

Italian investor picked for planned Vihiga granite factory

NAIROBI

AN Italian investor has been identified to fund the establishment of the proposed multimillion Vihiga granite factory in Vihiga county.

The factory to be put up in Emuhaya sub-county is among the key projects to be launched by President Uhuru Kenyatta when he visits the region in the coming days. President Kenyatta is expected to unveil the investor during the much anticipated development tour of Western Kenya, Governor Wilber Otichilo said Wednesday.

The Vihiga governor said the investor was picked following an international expression of interest floated by the Ministry of Petroleum and Mining late last year. The ambitious project is aimed at turning the available huge stones into economic value, boosting development and creating jobs.

Dr Otichilo, who was among the governors who met President Kenyatta in Mombasa to plan the tour, said the Head of State will also launch construction

work of the stone processor. The factory will be built at Buyangu in Emuhaya along the busy Kisumu-Busia highway on a 10-acre land parcel that was handed over to the national government by Dr Otichilo's administration last year.

Dr Otichilo said the potential of his county to host the factory was established by experts after it was found that 30 percent of Vihiga's land is covered by stones. The governor said stones are also available in the neighbouring Siaya and Bungoma counties, making Vihiga ideal and central for granite processing.

The county boss said time is ripe for the residents to reap from the stones on their farms. "The land where the factory will be established has been inspected by experts from the Ministry of Petroleum and Mining and approved for the construction of a granite factory," said Dr Otichilo.

"We have the potential to host the factory as raw materials are available. The president will launch construction of the factory during his tour." "Thirty percent of our land is stony. It is time to start the work. The investor will be here to do the job," he added.

TECHNOLOGY

GLOBAL BOOM IN HOUSE PRICES MAKES LIFE TOUGHER FOR CENTRAL BANKERS

NEW YORK

SURGING house prices around the world are emerging as a key test for central banks' ability to rein in their crisis support.

Withdrawing stimulus support measures too slowly risks inflating property prices further and worsening financial stability concerns in the long term. However, pulling back too hard could unsettle markets and send property prices lower, threatening the economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

With memories of the global financial crisis that was triggered by a housing bust still fresh in the minds of policymakers, how to keep a grip on soaring home prices is a dilemma at the forefront of deliberations as some central banks discuss slowing asset purchases and even raising interest rates amid recovering growth.

US Federal Reserve officials who favour tapering their bond-buying programme have cited rising house prices as one reason to do so. In particular, they are looking hard at the Fed's purchases of mortgage-backed securities, which some worry are stoking housing demand in an already hot market.

In the coming week, central bankers in New Zealand, South Korea and Canada meet to set policy, with rising home prices in each mounting pressure on them to do something to keep homes affordable for regular workers.

New Zealand policymakers are battling the hottest property market in the world, according to the Bloomberg Economics global bubble ranking. The country's central bank, which meets on Wednesday, has been given another tool to tackle the issue, and its projections for the official cash rate show it starting to rise in the second half of 2022.

Facing criticism for its role in stoking housing prices, Canada's central bank has been among the first from advanced economies to shift to a less expansionary policy, with another round of tapering expected at a policy decision meeting, also on Wednesday.

The Bank of Korea last month issued a warning that property is "significantly overpriced" and the burden of household debt is growing. However, a worsening virus outbreak may be a more pressing concern at Thursday's policy meeting in Seoul.

In its biggest strategic rethink since the creation of the euro, the European Central Bank this month raised its inflation target and in a nod to growing housing pressure, officials will start to consider owner-occupied housing costs in their



President Erdogan's summer house on the Aegean coast is valued at \$74 million.

supplementary measures of inflation.

The Bank of England last month expressed its discomfort with the UK housing market. Norges Bank is another authority that has signalled that it is worried about the effect of ultra-low rates on the housing market and the risk of a build-up of financial imbalances.

The Bank for International Settlements used its annual report released last month to issue a warning that house prices had risen more steeply during the pandemic than fundamentals would suggest, increasing the sector's vulnerability if borrowing costs rise.

While the unwinding of pandemic-era support is expected to be gradual for most central banks, how to do so without hurting mortgage holders will be a key challenge, said Kazuo Momma, who used to be in charge of monetary policy at the Bank of Japan.

More on the housing market "Monetary policy is a blunt tool," said Mr Momma, who now works as an economist at Mizuho Research Institute. "If it is used for some specific purposes like restraining housing market activities, that could lead to other problems like over-killing the economic recovery."

But not acting carries other risks. Analysis by Bloomberg Economics shows that housing markets are already exhibiting 2008-style bubble warnings, stoking warnings of financial imbalances and deepening inequality.

New Zealand, Canada and Sweden rank as the world's frothiest housing markets, based on the key indicators used in the Bloomberg Economics dashboard focused on member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The UK and the US are also near the top of

the risk rankings.

As many economies still grapple with the virus or slow loan growth, central bankers may look for alternatives to interest-rate hikes such as changes to loan-to-value limits or risk weighting of mortgages - so-called macro-prudential policy.

Yet, such measures are not guaranteed to succeed because other dynamics such as inadequate supply or government tax policies are important variables for housing, too. And while cheap money is gushing from central banks, such measures are not expected to struggle to rein in prices.

"The best approach would be to stop the further expansion of central bank balance sheets," said Gunther Schnabl of Leipzig University, who is an expert on international monetary systems. "As a second step, interest rates could be increased in a very slow and diligent manner over a long time period."

Another possibility is that house prices reach a natural plateau. Prices of UK homes, for example, fell for the first time in five months in June, a sign that the property market may have lost momentum as a tax incentive was due to come to an end.

However, there is no sign of that in the US where demand for homes remains strong despite record-high prices. Pending home sales increased across all US regions in May, with areas in the north-east and west posting the largest gains.

While navigating the housing boom will not be easy for central banks, it may not be too late to ward off the next crisis. Owner-occupier demand versus speculative buying remains a strong driver of growth. Banks are not

showing signs of the kind of loose lending that preceded the global financial crisis, according to James Pomeroy, a global economist at HSBC.

"If house prices are rising due to a shift in supply versus demand, which the pandemic has created due to more remote working and people wanting more space, it may not trigger a crisis in the same way as previous housing booms," he said. "The problems may arise further down the line, with younger people priced out of the property ladder even more."

As they tiptoe away from their crisis settings, monetary authorities in economies with heavily indebted households will need to be especially careful, according to Alicia Garcia Herrero, chief economist for Asia Pacific at Natixis, who used to work for the ECB and International Monetary Fund.

"Real estate prices, as with other asset prices, will continue to balloon as long as global liquidity remains so ample," she said. "But the implications are much more severe than other asset prices as they affect households much more widely."

There's consensus on new \$3.9bn Terminal 6 at JFK

NEW YORK

BELEAGUERED New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo yesterday announced that a new deal had been reached with a private consortium to build a \$3.9bn Terminal 6 at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) after Covid scuppered an earlier deal.

Cuomo is facing calls to resign, including from President Joe Biden, a fellow Democrat, after an independent investigation appointed by the New York Attorney General concluded yesterday that he sexually harassed multiple women including former and current state employees.

The deal is between JFK's owner, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and consortium JFK Millennium Partners (JMP) comprising JetBlue Airways, the operator of Terminal 5 and JFK's largest carrier; Vantage Airport Group, an investor, developer and manager of airport projects; American Triple I (ATI), a minority- and women-owned developer and manager of infrastructure assets; and RXR Realty, a New York-based real estate developer.

Under the original deal, the project was supposed to break ground in 2020, but was abandoned after Covid-19 caused air traffic levels to plunge by as much as 98%. Passenger volumes are still

25-30% down on pre-pandemic levels, the governor's office said.

Subject to approval by its board this week, the Port Authority will sign a lease agreement with JMP for the construction of the 1.2-million-square-foot new terminal, with JMP providing most of the finance. The Port Authority will spend a previously allocated \$130m on enabling infrastructure for the project.

The new T6 will be built on the sites of the old T6, demolished in 2011, and the ageing Terminal 7, which will be torn down after British Airways moves to Terminal 8. The new terminal will connect to Terminal 5 and have 10 gates. Construction is scheduled to start in mid-2022 and to open in 2025. Some 4,000 direct jobs will be created by the project, according to the governor's office.

The new deal with JMP includes a 10-year emergency extension of the master lease for JFK Airport granted by the City of New York; the lease had been set to expire in 2050. "At the height of the pandemic, when JFK Airport was seeing an unthinkable two percent of its pre-Covid record-breaking passenger volumes, we never lost sight of finding a path forward for this world-class terminal under Gov. Cuomo's leadership," Port Authority Executive Director Rick Cotton said.

China through with work on \$1.7bn project to transform Pakistan's dysfunctional grid

KARACHI

A \$1.7bn electricity transmission line on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which was begun in December 2018, was inaugurated in a ceremony held in Islamabad and Beijing at the end of last month.

The 660kV Matiari-Lahore high-voltage direct current line will provide Pakistan's national grid with a new backbone and improve chronic problems with the country's energy transmission and distribution grids.

The 878km line was financed and built by the State Grid Corporation of China, which will operate it for the next 25 years. More than 1,300 Chinese and 6,500 Pakistani workers were employed on the scheme.

Hammad Azhar, Pakistan's energy minister, said the project would bring stability to the country's power system. Speaking at the online ceremony, he said the project would "enhance transmission capability and bring relief to consumers." Electricity generation in Pakistan has increased dramatically in recent years, thanks to the large-scale construction of mainly coal-fired plants funded by China.

As a result the country has an installed capacity of around 37GW and peak demand of only 25GW, although this is growing at a rate of about 5% a year. However the grid is able to handle only 22GW of power, resulting in chronic blackouts and load shedding, particularly in the summer when demand is highest.

However, problems occur in winter as well. In January of this year, the entire country suffered a blackout after a fault at a power station in southeast Sindh province caused the grid to lose its 50Hz frequency, which caused power stations throughout the country to close down.

This makes the reinforcement of the grid, arguably, the single most important infrastructure scheme for the country's socio-economic development. Zhang Jianhua, head of China's National Energy Administration, told those present at the ceremony that the Matiari-Lahore line was the first large-scale transmission project of the CPEC, and would provide "solid assurance" for power transmission in the south and power supply in the north.

Speaking about the economic corridor in general, Azhar added: "The CPEC is of utmost importance for Pakistan. It will enable the country to enhance industrial production, upgrade energy and communication infrastructure and improve connectivity within the region." Of Pakistan's 207 million people, roughly 58 million lacked access to grid electricity in 2018, including 46% of the rural population.



However, problems occur in winter as well. In January of this year, the entire country suffered a blackout after a fault at a power station in southeast Sindh province caused the grid to lose its 50Hz frequency, which caused power stations throughout the country

Keppel JV with Topchain aims at China office project

BEIJING

A unit of Singapore's Keppel Corporation has formed a joint venture with Shanghai-based developer Topchain to manage investment properties, mainly offices and business parks, with asset enhancement potential in China.

The indirect wholly-owned subsidiary, Keppel Yong Da Property Management (Shanghai) Co Ltd, and Shanghai Topchain Link Century Industrial Development Co Ltd will subscribe for respective equity stakes of 49 percent and 51 percent in the amounts of RMB 4.9 million (\$760,000) and RMB 5.1 million, Keppel said Wednesday in a press release.

The still-unnamed JV will provide services such as design, planning submission and construction management during the asset enhancement stage, as well as leasing and property management during the operations stage, starting with assets owned by Keppel Land China and Topchain in Shanghai and later extending to properties owned by third parties.

"This strategic partnership with Topchain is in line with Keppel's Vision 2030 and Keppel Land's strategy, where we seek to pursue a more asset-light business model and deliver smart and innovative urban space solutions which are highly complementary to our



Keppel's Kube project in Shanghai's Zhangjiang Hi-Tech Park.

core real estate business," said Ben Lee, chief operating officer of Keppel Land and president of Keppel Land China.

One of the seed projects under the JV will be the provision of asset management services at The Kube, a commercial property of Keppel Land China in Shanghai's Zhangjiang Hi-Tech Park. Keppel previously worked with Topchain on the refit of Guangzhou's Westmin Plaza commercial complex, which is generating higher rental income after the completion of asset enhancement initiatives last year, Lee said.

In September 2019, Keppel Land China acquired a 30 percent stake in Westmin Plaza for HK\$14.4 million (\$18.2 million now), as Topchain continued to

hold the remaining 70 percent interest. At that time, the property in Liwan district had 42,533 square metres (457,821 square feet) of gross floor area across three storeys of retail space and 14 storeys of office space.

The new JV is meant to help Keppel Land China seize further opportunities in the mainland's sizeable urban renewal market and offer platforms for the application of Keppel Land's smart building solutions.

Topchain chairman Du Jing, a former executive vice president at developer China Vanke, said his group and Keppel share many similarities in terms of corporate development strategies and their views on development trends in the asset management industry.

"Subsequent to our successful partnership with Keppel Land on the Westmin Plaza in Guangzhou, we are very happy to deepen collaboration with Keppel Land through this joint platform to manage investment properties, and hope that we can complement each other's strengths, and achieve mutually beneficial and win-win cooperation," Du said.

The newly-announced partnership follows last month's launch of Golden Union Assets, an urban renewal platform targeting RMB 50 billion in assets under management in the next three years. US private equity major Warburg Pincus set up the business with Shanghai-based Golden Union Group, a redevelopment specialist focused on mainland China's

WORLD

South Sudan's Machar says 'Peace spoilers' backed his removal as party leader

JUBA

South Sudan's first Vice President Riek Machar has accused rival military leaders who announced he had been deposed as party and armed forces leader of trying to block the country's peace process.

The military wing of his SPLM/A-IO movement said on Wednesday it had removed Machar, who helped push his partner, President Salva Kiir, to a peace deal in 2018 and the subsequent formation of a unity government, for undermining reforms.

But in a rejoinder issued late on the same day, Machar said those who had issued the statement were no longer members of the

movement's military command council.

"The declaration was engineered and facilitated by peace spoilers," Machar said in a statement issued after a meeting of his party's Political Bureau.

The main aim of the move was to stop the forces from being integrated into the national command, one of the outstanding key objectives of the peace deal, he said.

South Sudan gained independence from Sudan in 2011 but descended into fighting two years later when forces loyal to Kiir and Machar clashed in the capital.

That sparked the massacre of hundreds of civilians in Juba from Machar's Nuer



South Sudan's First Vice President Riek Machar

ethnic group and brutal ethnic violence and revenge killings.

The bloodshed spiralled into a civil war that killed 400,000 people and triggered Africa's biggest refugee crisis since the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

With the army still divided and some militia groups refusing to sign the peace deal, the latest

split in Machar's movement could undermine stability, political analysts said.

In the announcement deposing Machar, his opponents said the party's chief of staff, First Lieutenant General Simon Gatwech Dual, was nominated to serve as interim party leader.

Agencies

Washington, Beijing need to 'head off clash'

BEIJING

IT is vital for Washington and Beijing to engage each other to avoid conflict, as splitting allegiances would be "very hard" for countries that wish to preserve ties with both powers, Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said on Tuesday.

"No good outcome can arise from a conflict. It's vital for the US and China to strive to engage each other to head off a clash, which would be disastrous for both sides and the world," Lee said at the 2021 Aspen Security Forum via video link.

Government leaders and former officials discussed issues ranging from Afghanistan, the rise of China, cryptocurrencies and the Biden administration's trade agenda at the two-day annual event.

US-China bilateral relations have "unfortunately" become more difficult over the past few years, but many countries still hope that the deterioration in the relationship can be stopped, because "many US



American flags are displayed together with Chinese flags

friends and allies wish to preserve their extensive ties with both powers," Lee said.

The worsening of relations was not a burning issue that will explode tomorrow, but a progressive one with "very serious consequences". Lee said that there is "possible misunderstanding" on both sides.

For example, some people in China believe that the United States is in "terminal decline" while some in the US are treating a competitor as an adversary.

"I don't know whether Americans realize what a formidable adversary they would be taking on if they decide that

China is an enemy," Lee said.

"China's not going to disappear. This is not the Soviet Union. It is not the Potemkin village front. This is a country with enormous dynamism, energy, talent and determination to take its place in the world again," he said.

There are many issues, disputes and grievances on both sides, but the reality is neither side can put the other one down, he added.

Lee recalled that US President Joe Biden has said there will be "extreme competition", not necessarily a conflict, with China.

He said that the US wants

that competition to be fair, but that there is a "very fine line" between competition and treating a competitor as an opponent or an adversary.

"Within the US, there's a strong bipartisan consensus that the old model is broken, and you need to take a more robust approach, and one which will to some considerable extent lead at the very least to bifurcation of technology, of access to talent, even of capital markets," Lee said.

Though there has been pushback against globalization in recent years due to geopolitics and insecurity, particularly from the pandemic, the economic logic of globalization is "more than ever" valid, he said.

With safeguards and safety nets, the world could still reap most of the benefits of globalization, but it should be wary of another situation, "where you have bifurcation and then countries have to choose", which is not a stable situation, he said.

"But here, when all of the countries in Asia and many of

the countries in Europe have China as their biggest trading partner and America as a very major friend, and sometimes ally, to have to have a bifurcation means they've got to split down the middle of many societies, which I think is going to be very hard," Lee said.

At the same time, the world needs new areas of cooperation, for example, on digital and green economies, data flows and climate change.

"If we are at loggerheads on globalization, fundamentally, I think all those issues are going to become even more intractable than they already are, and that would not just be a pity, it could well be a disaster for the world," Lee said.

Take the digital economy as example, Lee said. It is "not really practical" to take all of the electronics supply chain and put it in the US.

"I think there'll be many more hard choices you're going to make if you... take the bifurcation to its extreme limits; it doesn't make sense," Lee said.

Xinhua

Trump asks US Justice Dept to keep his tax returns secret

WASHINGTON

FORMER President Donald Trump on Wednesday challenged in court last week's US Justice Department order to turn his tax returns over to a House of Representatives committee, part of his long campaign to keep details of his wealth secret.

In a filing in federal court in the District of Columbia, Trump's lawyers said the House Ways and Means Committee lacks a legitimate basis for seeking his federal tax returns, and that the Justice Department erred when it backed the committee's request.

The department, revers-

ing course from the stance it took when Trump was in office, on Friday told the Internal Revenue Service to provide the Republican businessman-turned-politician's tax records to congressional investigators - a move he has long fought.

Trump was the first president in 40 years to not release his tax returns, as well as other documents, as he aimed to keep secret the details of his wealth and activities of his family company, the Trump Organization.

The Democratic-led Ways and Means Committee has said it wants the tax data to determine whether the IRS is properly auditing presidential tax returns in general and to as-



sess whether new legislation is needed.

Trump's lawyers called that a "pretextual" rationalization. "The requests are tailored to, and in practical operation will affect, only President Trump," they said in Wednesday's court filing. "The requests single out President Trump because he is a Republican and a political op-

ponent."

Trump's arguments will likely be rejected by the judge, said James Repetti, a tax law professor at Boston College Law School.

The House Ways and Means panel has invoked a provision of US law that lets it obtain tax returns from the IRS to further a "legislative purpose."

The Justice Department's order "does a very good job of explaining" why that standard has been met, Repetti said.

Critics accused Trump of using the Justice Department to advance his personal and political interests during his four years in office, and the department has moved to reassert

its independence since Democratic President Joe Biden took office.

After another legal fight, the Manhattan district attorney's office in February separately obtained Trump tax and financial records in a criminal investigation centering on his company, though the material was not publicly disclosed. The US Supreme Court ruled against Trump in that case.

The Trump Organization and its longtime chief financial officer early this month were charged in what a New York prosecutor called a "sweeping and audacious" tax fraud. Trump himself was not charged in that case.

Agencies

Brazil hopes to curb Delta variant spread by using Russian Sputnik V

RIO DE JANEIRO

A CONSORTIUM of Brazil's northeastern states, which have previously agreed with the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) on the purchase of the Sputnik V jab, expects that the drug will help contain the spread of the Delta COVID-19 variant, Governor of Piaui Wellington Dias, who also heads this association, told TASS on Thursday.

"I do not understand the reasons for the ever-increasing complications of expanding the [list of approved] vaccines and [programs of] immunization.

We should allow the import and use of the Sputnik V jab, which is, according to studies, highly effective in containing the Delta variant," Dias stated.

"We are still recording a large number of [COVID-19] deaths, so we need to speed up the vaccination. However, more vaccines are required," the Brazilian politician noted.

Dias recalled that in the state of Rio de Janeiro, every fourth positive COVID-19 test was accounted for by the Delta variant, while in the country's capital, this figure was almost twice as high (45%).

"Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro are the centers connecting the whole of Brazil. It is necessary to contain this strain and avoid its spread [across the country]," the governor explained.

In early June 2021, the Brazilian Health Regulatory Agency (Anvisa) authorized the import and limited use of Sputnik V for up to 1% of the population of the states, where the drug would be supplied.

According to the agency, this is sufficient to organize immunization at the initial stage with further reports on the campaign's progress and results. Based on the subsequent data, Anvisa will decide on further deliveries.

In mid-July, Brazilian Health Minister Marcelo Queiroga announced his readiness to assist state authorities in conducting local studies on Sputnik V's effectiveness as required by Anvisa.

At the same time, the ministry considers it a higher priority "to receive already purchased doses [of other vaccines]", however, they do not rule out the possibility of using the Russian jab after its registration by Anvisa.

Brazil launched its COVID-19 vaccination on January 18, 2021. Currently, the country uses drugs from AstraZeneca, Sinovac Biotech, Pfizer and Janssen. More than 42 mln Brazilians are fully inoculated, while almost 103 mln people have received the first vaccine dose.

The country confirmed its first coronavirus case on February 26, 2020. Brazil ranks third in the world after the US and India in terms of COVID-19 cases (over 20

COVID-19 likely cause of sharp drop in New Zealand marriages

WELLINGTON

THE number of marriages, civil unions, and divorces fell sharply in 2020, New Zealand's statistics department Stats NZ said yesterday.

"Last year, 16,779 New Zealand residents celebrated a marriage or civil union," population estimates and projections manager Hamish Slack said in a statement.

"Marriages and civil unions have decreased over the last couple of years, down from 19,071 in 2019 and 20,949 in 2018, but with a sharper drop in 2020 than in previous years, likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic," Slack said.

There was a noticeable drop in marriages coinciding with COVID-19 alert level 4 when people are required to stay at home or move within 2 km from home to prevent community transmission of the virus, he said.

During the second quarter (April-June 2020) there were only 1,278 marriages and civil unions, compared with 3,957 in 2019.

However, during the other three quarters there were slightly more marriages per quarter in 2020 compared with 2019, he added.

The rate of marriages per 1,000 people eligible to marry has dropped to its lowest rate of 8.3 in 2020. This is likely the result of the drop in number of marriages and the continuing population increase, Slack said.

The peak marriage rate was in 1971 with 45.5 couples tying the knot per 1,000 eligible people, and it has been trending downwards since, Slack said.

Married couples in New Zealand are required to be separated for at least two years prior to applying for a divorce, which means the effect of COVID-19 on divorces cannot be determined yet, Slack said.

After a rise in the number of couples granted a divorce in 2019, which was 8,388 divorces, compared with 7,455 in 2018, the number dropped to 7,707 in 2020.

This continues the general downward trend in divorces since the peak in 1982, statistics showed. In 2020 the divorce rate was 7.6 per 1,000 married couples, compared with an average of 8.4 over the previous five years, Stats NZ said.

Xinhua

Japan expands curbs as Tokyo virus cases top 5,000 for 1st time

TOKYO / SINGAPORE

JAPAN decided yesterday to expand its COVID-19 emergency curbs to cover more than 70 percent of the population, as a record surge in cases strained hospitals in the Olympics host city Tokyo and other parts of the country.

Japan had avoided the explosive outbreaks seen elsewhere. But infections are rising fast as new cases hit record highs in Tokyo, overshadowing the July 23-Aug 8 Olympics and fuelling

doubts over Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga's pandemic response.

Suga announced the new steps - which are mostly voluntary, unlike strict lockdowns overseas - as new daily cases in Tokyo hit a record 5,042. Nationwide new cases topped 15,000 for the first time, while medical advisors to the capital said the Tokyo figure could double in two weeks, NHK public TV reported.

"The situation on the ground (at hospitals) is ex-

tremely severe," Economy Minister Yasutoshi Nishimura told a panel of experts before Suga's formal announcement. He said serious cases had doubled in the past two weeks.

Australia

About two-thirds of Australia's population is in lockdown as the Delta variant spreads across the nation, with authorities in Melbourne enforcing stay-at-home orders for the sixth time since the pandemic began.

Melbourne and the rest of Victoria state will enter a seven-day lockdown from 8 pm local time on Thursday after eight new infections were detected in the past day, Premier Daniel Andrews told reporters. Sydney, meanwhile, has issued stay-at-home orders until at least August 28.

"There are no alternatives," said Andrews, who last year presided over one of the world's longest and strictest lockdowns in Melbourne, which only emerged from its most recent round on July

28. "If you wait, it will spread. And once it spreads, you can never even hope to run alongside it, let alone get out in front of it and bring it back down to zero."

The lockdowns show the limits of Australia's so-called "Covid-zero" strategy, which has relied on closed international borders and rigorous testing to eliminate community transmission of the virus. Its economy, particularly the domestic tourism and retail sectors, is increasingly being hit by the outbreaks.

The move by Melbourne authorities comes on the same day that New South Wales state reported 262 new infections - a record number since the highly contagious variant leaked into Sydney's community in mid-June. Five more people died, and four of them weren't vaccinated, Premier Gladys Berejiklian told reporters in the city, which has been in lockdown for almost six weeks.

The outbreak's spread to other regions of New South Wales saw Berejiklian on

Thursday announce that the Hunter Valley region - including Newcastle, a city of around 500,000 people - will be placed into a one-week lockdown.

India

The Indian government has asked state authorities to impose restrictions ahead of festivals across the country, warning that overcrowding could lead to "super spreader" events and a new surge in infections.

Agencies

UN report likely to deliver stark warnings on global warming

LONDON

EIGHT years after its last update on climate science, the United Nations is set to publish a report Monday that will likely deliver even starker warnings about how quickly the planet is warming - and how damaging the impacts might get.

Since the last report by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 2013, both greenhouse gas emissions and the average global temperature have only continued to climb.

The new report will forecast how much more emissions can be pumped into the atmosphere before the average global temperature rises more than 1.5 degrees Celsius. That revised carbon budget may serve as a guide to governments as they map out their own emissions-cutting plans before a major UN climate conference in November.

Scientists say the world must halve global emissions by 2030 and cut them to net-zero by 2050 in order to prevent global warming above 1.5C, which could trigger catastrophic impacts across the globe.

But climate change already is fuelling deadly and disastrous weather across the globe. Nearly all of the world's glaciers are melting faster. Hurricanes are stronger. Just this year, unprecedented rains unleashed floods across parts of Europe, while wildfires are tearing across Siberia, the US West and the Mediterranean.

"The report will cover not only the fact that we are smashing record after record in terms of climate change impacts, but show that the world today is in uncharted territory in terms of sea level rise and

ice cover," said Kelly Levin, chief of science, data and systems change at the Bezos Earth Fund philanthropy. Overall, the report "will underscore the urgency for governments to ramp up climate action," she said.

And while the 2013 report said it was "extremely likely" that human industry was causing climate change - which suggests scientists were at least 95 percent confident in that statement - this year's report will likely use even stronger language.

"Obviously, it is going to be stronger than what we had in the past because of the growing warming of the planet," said Corinne Le Quere, a climate scientist at the University of East Anglia who has contributed to previous IPCC assessments.

"That's going to be one of the main points. It will be discussed very, very carefully, and scrutinized," Le Quere told reporters.

What is the IPCC?

Since its establishment in 1988, the IPCC has released five so-called Assessment Reports updating the established science on climate change, its impacts, future risks and ways to tackle the problems.

But the IPCC itself is not made up of scientists. The panel includes government representatives from 195 countries who commission assessments from experts and academics across the world.

In drafting those assessments, scientists consider thousands of individual studies published since the last IPCC report. To finalize their latest assessments for the upcoming report, scientists have been meeting virtually with policymakers since July 26, scrutinizing the details



A regional train sits in the flood waters at the local station in Kordel, Germany, Thursday July 15, 2021 after it was flooded by the high waters of the Kyll river. AP

and language used in the draft.

Governments can suggest changes to the text, but those must be agreed by consensus. The scientists then must ensure the changes are consistent with the scientific evidence.

Monday's report is actually just part of what will go into the final Sixth Assessment Report, or AR6, when it is released in 2022.

The AR6 synthesis report will also include two other major chapters coming out next year - one on

climate change impacts on communities, societies and economies and how they might adapt to cope, and another on ways of curbing emissions and reining in climate change. And it will include findings from three special reports published since 2013, on the 1.5C threshold, on the world's oceans and frozen regions, and on land use and degradation.

But Monday's chapter is one of the most highly anticipated, particularly after being delayed for

months because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Unlike the previous assessments, the chapter will use five possible emissions trajectories the world could follow rather than the previous four scenarios.

"Emissions scenarios are not intended to say: 'This is the future: pick one,'" said Ko Barrett, vice chair of the IPCC. "Policies are being implemented all the time, and the science is changing all the time, so it is just not fair to say we are on a certain trajectory."

Investors urge East Africa to liberalise air transport services to boost trade

NAIROBI

THE East African Business Council (EABC), a regional trade lobby, on Wednesday urged the East African Community (EAC) partner states to liberalize the air transport services to spur intra-regional trade.

The EABC is the regional apex body of the private sector in the EAC member states of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda and South Sudan.

John Bosco Kalisa, CEO of EABC said that the domestic air transport sector remains protected, reducing accessibility and increasing air transport cost at the expense of potential users.

"Liberalization of air services in the region is set to increase traffic volumes, improve connectivity and lower air transport fares. This will in turn increase trade and tourism, inward investment and productivity growth," Kalisa said in a statement.

According to findings from the latest policy paper by EABC, Costs and Benefits of 'Open Skies' in the EAC region, air-transport liberalization is set to lower flight costs by nine percent and result in a 41 percent increase in flight frequencies.

The policy paper recommends for the EAC partner states to provide subsidies for the aviation industry in the form of direct financial support, loan guarantees, corporate bonds and tax reliefs.

Xinhua

Gross turnover of China's national carbon market close to 300 million yuan in first half month

CHINA'S national carbon emission trading market, which commenced trading on July 16, saw its total trading volume reach nearly six million tons and total turnover approach 300 million yuan (\$46.44 million) as of July 30.

The national carbon market officially started trading at 9:30 a.m. on July 16. After 10 minutes, the cumulative volume of transactions exceeded 20 million yuan. During the four-hour carbon emission trading on that day, a total of 4.1 million tons of transactions were completed, with the carbon price closing at 51.23 yuan per ton on the very first day, up 6.73 percent from the opening price of 48 yuan.

Since carbon emission trading was kicked off, the national market has witnessed active transactions, steadily rising transaction price, and stable operation.

In the first industrial cycle of the national carbon market, more than 2,000 key carbon dioxide emitters in the power generation industry are included in the first batch of trading, covering approximately 4.5 billion tons of carbon dioxide emissions per year.

Before the national carbon market was launched, relevant pilot projects had been carried out in a number of provinces around the country for 10 years, promoting green transformation of many enterprises.

"Back then, our company bought about 250,000 tons of carbon dioxide emission quotas at around 60 yuan a ton," said Zhou Shuliang, deputy general manager of Guangzhou Hengyun Enterprises Holdings Ltd., a key emitter of green-



Photo taken on June 25, 2021 shows an employee of a biomass power generation company based in Zhangye, northwest China's Gansu province, operating grab bucket crane to move waste into receiving hopper.

house gases based in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong province, referring to the first time when his company tried carbon emission trading in 2014.

Guangdong was one of the first batch of provinces in China that piloted carbon emission trading. As a major power generation enterprise in Guangdong, Guangzhou Hengyun Enterprises Holdings Ltd. was included in the province's carbon emission management system in 2014, and bought carbon emissions quotas worth about 15 million yuan that year as its actual amount of carbon emissions surpassed its quota.

With the in-depth implementation of the pilot project, Guangzhou Hengyun Enterprises Holdings Ltd. has realized that reducing carbon emissions does not just bring pressure, but also economic benefits as a result of carbon asset management and the application of technologies related to carbon emission reduction.

The company therefore established a work group for energy conservation and car-

bon reduction, upgraded and retrofitted generator sets, and vigorously carried out low-carbon and clean energy projects including natural gas power generation projects.

A sequence of transformations and upgrades have enabled the company to realize the change from buying carbon emission quotas to profiting from selling carbon assets. Last year, the company gained more than 30 million yuan from selling its carbon assets.

Like Guangzhou Hengyun Enterprises Holdings Ltd., many other enterprises that have made efforts to control greenhouse gas emissions have benefited from carbon market.

"More and more companies have realized that only by taking the initiative to reduce carbon emissions can they get a leg up in the wave of green and low-carbon transformation," said Meng Meng, general manager of China Emissions Exchange (Guangzhou), the largest local carbon market in China.

Carbon market piloted in Guangdong has seen active transactions, and ranked first

in the country in terms of the cumulative volume of carbon emission quota transactions, which had exceeded four billion yuan by June this year, according to Meng.

"More importantly, carbon markets have practically promoted and yielded good results in reducing carbon emissions. By implementing mechanisms for controlling the total amount of carbon emissions, assigning quotas for carbon emissions, and honoring agreements, Guangdong's carbon markets have realized an overall reduction in carbon emissions in absolute terms," Meng said.

In 2019, Guangdong reduced 11.4 percent of carbon emissions, or 43.74 million tons from a year ago, according to Meng, who pointed out that practice in both foreign countries and domestic pilot areas has proven that carbon market is a policy instrument that can realize the reduction of carbon emissions with the lowest cost and highest efficiency.

The product in carbon markets is the trading of GHG emission permits. Companies that have been included in carbon emissions cap and trade systems like Guangzhou Hengyun Enterprises Holdings Ltd. are assigned quotas for carbon emissions. They need to buy carbon emission quotas from carbon market when they emit more greenhouse gases than they are allowed to, and can sell surplus emission allowances on the market when they successfully bring their actual amount of carbon emissions below their quotas.

People's Daily

Russia invites about 300 foreign observers to monitor parliamentary election - senator

MOSCOW

RUSSIA has invited about 300 foreign observers to monitor the upcoming election to the State Duma (the lower house of parliament), Deputy Speaker of the Russian Federation Council (the upper house of parliament) Konstantin Kosachev told the Rossiya-24 TV channel on Thursday.

"Given the complicated coronavirus situation, we provided about 300 foreign observers with the opportunity to monitor our election. It's quite a lot, in fact."

For reference, some 30 observers went to monitor the US elections, while we are inviting ten times more," the Russian senator pointed out.

Kosachev stressed that Russia was open to international observer missions, based on national legislation.

According to him, invitations to monitor the election were sent to all of Russia's

partners, including the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE ODIHR) and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

"They were invited to visit our country on the same terms as others. These terms are transparent, and all other observers invited to our election accepted them," Kosachev noted.

He also emphasized that only 35 out of 57 OSCE member states recognized international election monitoring, and Russia, whose national legislation included the relevant regulations, was one of them.

"The other 22 countries don't regulate international election monitoring through their laws," Kosachev said, pointing to the United States, Germany, and France.

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the ODIHR and said in a statement on

Wednesday that it "will not be able to send observers for the upcoming elections to the Duma due to limitations imposed by Russian Federation authorities on the election observation."

"The ability to independently determine the number of observers necessary for us to observe effectively and credibly is essential to all international observation," the statement quoted ODIHR Director Matteo Mecacci as saying.

The State Duma elections are scheduled for the Unified Election Day, September 19, 2021.

Voting will last three days, from September 17 to 19. In addition, nine Russian constituent entities will hold direct elections of regional heads, and 39 regions will elect regional assemblies. In three more regions, top officials will be elected by legislative assemblies.

Agencies

WHO awards Botswana activist for anti-tobacco advocacy

GABORONE

BOTSWANA'S renowned anti-tobacco activist Alice Mbongwe has received special recognition from World Health Organization (WHO) for her advocacy on tobacco control.

Mbongwe is an employee of University of Botswana (UB) and also director of the Anti-Tobacco Network (ATN). Josephine Namboze, WHO executive director for Botswana on Tuesday

said Mbongwe is one of six African awardees this year, nominated for supporting tobacco control efforts and monitoring industry activities.

"This award was established by the office of the WHO Director General years ago to appreciate notable contributions to tobacco control by non-state actors," said Namboze, citing that the award is one of the several strategies being used to appreciate individuals and

non-state actors promoting health protection on tobacco.

The award was presented to Mbongwe on a day to celebrate "World No Tobacco Day" as several stakeholders in the country, including Ministry of Health and Wellness, medical practitioners and the Anti-Tobacco Network joined forces to endorse the country's Tobacco Control Bill to be presented and passed in parliament soon.

THE United Kingdom said Wednesday that fully-vaccinated travelers returning to England from France will no longer have to quarantine, scrapping an extra rule imposed on its closest neighbor last month, as it also opened up to seven more countries.

The UK also eased rules for arrivals from India, Bahrain, and travel hubs the United Arab Emirates and Qatar. Those countries will move from the UK's highest-risk "red" list to its medium-risk "amber" list, meaning arrivals will no longer need to quarantine in a government-approved hotel.

Six other European nations, including Germany, were added to the lowest-risk "green" list, meaning all

Virus: UK eases quarantine rules, opening up travel with France

visitors can avoid quarantine whether or not they are fully vaccinated. All changes will come into effect from 4 am on Aug 8.

Spain and all its islands - key summer holiday destinations for British tourists - will remain on the amber list, but travelers are advised to get take a lab-processed PCR test before departing to the UK.

In another development, the UK will offer all 16- and 17-year-olds their first dose

of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, its vaccine advisers said on the same day, a move that will give more children protection against the disease before schools return in September.

Health Secretary Sajid Javid said he accepted the advice by Britain's Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, and expected the program to begin by the end of August.

The JCVI maintained previous advice that children

aged 12 to 15 with specific underlying health conditions should also get vaccines but left the door open to further adjustments in the future.

The UK on Wednesday reported 29,312 new cases and another 119 deaths, bringing the tally to 5,952,756 and the toll to 130,000.

Global tally

Global COVID-19 cases surpassed 200 million on Wednesday, according to data compiled by Johns

Hopkins University, as the more-infectious Delta variant threatens areas with low vaccination rates and strains healthcare systems.

The global tally stood at 200,014,602 while the global toll hit 4,252,873 as of 3:21 pm local time (19:21 GMT), according to the data.

The global surge in cases is highlighting the widening gap in inoculation rates between wealthy and poor nations. Cases are rising in about one-third of the

world's countries, many of which have not even given half their population a first dose.

The World Health Organization (WHO) on Wednesday called for a moratorium on COVID-19 vaccine boosters until at least 10 percent of the population in every country was vaccinated.

The Delta variant is upending all assumptions about the virus and roiling economies, with disease experts scrambling to find

whether the latest version of coronavirus is making people, especially unvaccinated individuals, sicker than before.

At least 2.6 percent of the world's population has been infected since the pandemic started, with the true figure likely higher due to limited testing in many places. If the number of infected people were a country, it would be eighth most populous in the world, behind Nigeria, according to a Reuters analysis.

The countries reporting the most cases on a seven-day average - the United States, Brazil, Indonesia, India and Iran - represent about 38 percent of all global cases reported each day.

Agencies

SPORT



Geita Gold FC

Geita Gold FC now sets 2bn/- budget for Premier League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

IT has been a nearly six-year journey made by Geita Gold FC from the First Division (FDL) to the Premier League, which concluded on May 15, this year with the team winning promotion to the top-level football in Tanzania.

The long-term thirst for the side to play in the Premier League was quenched in 2016 after the promotion, but suddenly the team faced a relegation penalty for being convicted of match-fixing and was replaced by Mbao FC of Mwanza.

The dream has finally come true this season after the Geita outfit had finished as the FDL's Group B winners by collecting 37 points and go on to win the FDL top honour by beating the Group A winners, Mbeya Kwanza, 1-0 in the final played at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Geita Gold FC secretary-general, Revinus Ntare, issued details on various issues in preparation for their first Premier League season.

Budget

According to Ntare, they have allocated 2bn/- for running the team for the next season, with the money coming from various donors who continue to hold talks with them, and another portion will come from Geita Town Council who are the team owners.

"Our budget for the whole season we have planned to be Sh2 billion, we are already in talks with various donors who have promised us good things and if we sign contracts you will see them," Ntare stated.

"This is a council-owned team and as we are aware that Geita Town Council collects a lot of revenue from mining activities, so our next portion will be from there."

Stadium

Due to Nyankumbu Stadium not meeting the criteria for organizing Premier League games, reports emerged that the team may use either Kambarage Stadium in Shinyanga or CCM Kirumba Stadium in Mwanza.

However, the team has begun to improve the Nyankumbu Stadium to meet the criteria before the season.

Similarly, the team has started the construction of a new state-of-the-art stadium in the Magogo area to give soccer fans in the region opportunity to watch their club at the region's venue.

"We are renovating Nyankumbu Stadium, I believe inspectors from Tanzania Football Federation will come and give us direction. The improvements are about building fences and changing rooms, we want to play league at home for the fans to have fun," he noted.

He disclosed that construction of the new stadium is underway and the contractor is at work, with the latter promising it will be completed within four months and will be ready for use in December.

"The contractor signed the contract on July 5, this year, and its construction is in two phases."

"The first phase will cost 2.4bn/- including the main stage, changing rooms, wall, and playground with artificial grass," he disclosed.

"The second phase will involve stands and construction will take place next year, but the contractor is continuing with the architecture as this phase will focus more on podiums."

Technical bench

Geita Gold FC believes the club's head coach Fred Felix 'Minziro' is fit and will help the squad excel in Premier League, so they have no plans to part ways with him at the moment.

The side will slightly change the technical bench by adding people including an assistant coach who has not been found by the technical director.

"We are still with 'Minziro', we need him, we will continue to have him although there will be improvements on the technical bench and we will find an assistant coach who is yet to be hired, we are working on the issue," he stated.

Registration

The secretary-general noted they have started extending contracts for two central defenders, Chilo Mkama and Joseph Luchagula.

The club has as well sought to keep 11 players forming the team, which took part in the FDL, and rope in new footballers totaling 14 from Premier League teams.

Ntare pointed out they have already seen many Premier League players who will strengthen their squad.

The Geita Gold FC leader revealed they have further tabled loan moves, seeking to rope in a goalkeeper and central defender from Yanga and one defender from Simba.

"Registration plans are underway, we have already seen many youngsters from the Premier League clubs and we are working on the technical bench proposals, intending to create a 25-man squad."

"We will also register U-20 squad and form our team's U-18 outfit."

Jerseys

As is customary in sports, Geita Gold FC has planned to use blue, white, and gold jerseys in the Premier League.

The club's leadership disclosed that plans and negotiations for finding manufacture for the kits are underway.

According to Ntare, the club has begun talks with three sports equipment manufacturers, including Makita, and an agreement will be made.

Fans, planning

To gain support and strength from the fans, the club has begun implementing a strategy, aiming at setting up branches in all parts of Geita Town Council.

Ntare pointed out they have started by opening branches in Nyarugusu and Bukori while preparing to start issuing membership cards to fans of the team.

He disclosed: "The structure of the club is focused on operating as a company so that we can later stand on our own and not rely on anybody because we belong to the institution."

"We are in the process of completing the process of opening branches, issuing cards to members, and becoming a company, when things are ready a guide will be issued."

The Geita outfit stated it does not want to make up numbers.

The team for that matter is eager to finish in the top four in its first season and secure a ticket to the CAF tournaments.

The outfit noted such success will be achieved should there be good registration of players and adequate preparation.

SPORTS

Has Simba SC found Luis Miquisoinne's replacement?

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

LUIS Jose Miquisoinne will be the most expensive player ever to be traded in Mainland Tanzania Premier League history, if his outfit, Simba SC, sells him to Egypt's Al Ahly for \$1 million in this transfer window in Africa.

These amount to 2bn/- that leave a lot of questions behind and divide a large group of Simba fans that agree with this midfielder's departure for this big-money move.

There is as well a small group of supporters who believe there is no need for Simba to sell him.

Conservatives will tell a person Simba does not need to sell their best players as they are now close to winning the CAF Champions League.

They believe the outfit should remain with prominent footballers so that they can take the crown and then earn plenty of cash.

The fact is that once again Simba has been welcomed into either the world of Arab money or a strong side with financial power.

Simba was treated the same way by DR Congo's TP Mazembe when the latter sought to rope in Mbwana Samatta.

The club as well received the same treatment from Tunisia's Etoile Du Sahel when the North African squad wanted to rope in the former's player Emmanuel Okwi.

This time around, Al Ahly's goal is to get rid of the 'go back and return' distraction.

They have gone straight to the point where they do not need to be flattered by Simba.

We have never seen a Tanzanian league player being bought for such a huge sum of cash. Why should we argue?

What Al Ahly is doing is convincing Simba that always a big fish will eat a small fish.

At one point, Simba's investor, Mohamed Dewji, was quoted as claiming that the side had no plans to sell its first choice footballers because the team was looking for a CAF Champions League top honour.

The fact is that after Simba pushed themselves into the quarterfinals of the premier continental tournament at club level once again, it was clear that it would be turned into a market for its players.

It might not only be Miquisoinne's transfer. Some of the teams may return for Simba's other prominent footballers, including Clatous Chama and Joash Onyango.

The same happened to England's



Luis Miquisoinne. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

Leicester City FC after winning the English Premier League title in 2016.

The giant teams roped in Leicester City FC's N'Golo Kante, Riyad Mahrez, Danny Drinkwater, and others.

Recently when Netherlands' Ajax performed well in the UEFA Champions League, big teams started buying the outfit's players including Matthias De Ligt, Frenkie de Jong, and others.

It also happened when Monaco did well in the European Championships in recent years.

The top clubs roped in Monaco's prominent players Kylian Mbappe, Bernardo Silva, Benjamin Mendy, Tiemoué Bakayoko, and others.

In this matter, Simba should consider how much they spent buying Miquisoinne from UD Songo.

They will find out that they spent less money and will make more money by selling him to Al Ahly.

At the end of the day, how sure is Simba Miquisoinne's value will in-

crease if they will extend his contract?

Is Simba sure it will go on to either take the continental tournament's title or make more money if they keep Miquisoinne?

It is a gamble that one cannot play. They have to cash in now.

Al Ahly must have spoken to Miquisoinne's agent and assured him a large sum of money for the signing fee that will go into the player's account.

But they will also have promised his client a good salary.

Will Simba be able to extend Mozambican's contract and pay him a big salary which could be likened to the amount Al Ahly has set for the midfielder?

The answer would be no. I do not think the Mainland Premier League champions are willing to pay Miquisoinne as much as \$20,000 a month.

The fact is that here Al Ahly has reminded Simba of their place in Miquisoinne's move.

The Egypt club started with the offer that is on the table but secondly, the side has reminded Simba how strategically they are building to continue winning the CAF Champions League.

The Egyptian football big guns have proved they were capable of winning the showpiece's title but still also buying quality footballers who made clubs that were facing the former in the tournament's championship race.

They have done so in recent years by taking Moroccan international defender, Badr Benoun, from Raja Casablanca and leaving Raja's fans furious. That is Al Ahly.

But looking at Al Ahly's price tag on Miquisoinne, I think it reminds Simba to set up a good system of roping in other competent players elsewhere.

How is Simba prepared if Miquisoinne leaves? This is the key issue.

The good thing is they will have money in hand and they will be able to go somewhere and recruit a player.

They can fetch at least US dollars 300,000 and go looking for a replacement.

The problem is where will they go? Have they seen a footballer who can be a real alternative to the Mozambican winger?

Tanzania's football clubs have a serious problem when it comes to finding alternatives.

It is not surprising to see at one point Emmanuel Okwi make his way back to Simba more than two times because they could not find someone they thought would be his replacement.

It was the same story until they signed Miquisoinne.

Even now I am not directly sure that if a team comes to sign Chama, will Simba already know where they are going to find his replacement? This is the biggest problem in our football.

Signing foreign players at a young age is another issue that the Msimbazi Street outfit has been reminded of in this matter.

The fact is that Miquisoinne's age has attracted Al Ahly to snatch the star. He is 25 years old.

We are often accustomed to seeing our clubs bring in old foreign players whose value has diminished.

These players are often out of contract elsewhere. We are always waiting for free players.

Five key areas Simba SC official Kamwaga needs to polish up

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

LAST week Simba SC announced Ezekiel Kamwaga as an Acting Head of Information and Communication Department at the outfit for two months before officially announcing the vacancy for the post.

Kamwaga previously served at the club in his current position and he at some point served as the squad's Acting Secretary-General who oversaw all club activities that took place daily.

While working in those positions in the past and now it is completely different as there are many changes including the operation of the Simba Sports Club which is currently in use.

The Guardian issues details on five tasks that Kamwaga is going to face at Simba according to the roles of his position as he has to work on.

Pressure

The official earlier was under pressure at a time he was the team's secretary-general in 2014.

The post is different from what he is going to face this time in his current duties.

In this phase, Kamwaga will first face pressure from his employer, Barbara Gonzalez, who is one of Simba's leaders who want to stick to their views, apart from managing and valuing punctuality.

He will be under pressure to impress the club's followers, who believe their outfit should never lose a game.

If Simba fares horribly in a certain issue, Kamwaga is the right person that should comment on the issue.

Kamwaga needs to be calm and influential to cope with that pressure.

Journalists

Simba's previous Information Officer, Haji Manara, apart from the great influence he had and the great efforts he was making in promoting Simba's brand, had occasionally come into friction with some journalists.

Among his most memorable incidents in recent days, Manara referred to a group



Simba SC's Acting Head of Information and Communication Department, Ezekiel Kamwaga.

of football pundits as 'garbage', given, according to the official, the latter were not professional.

He was caught up in the mix with radio journalist, Prisca Kishamba, at a press conference that was telecast live, a situation that led to media outlets criticizing Manara. The outspoken leader had also been in dispute with radio personality, Shaffih Dauda, which prompted elders to step in and resolve the misunderstanding.

The other friction involved Manara's father, Sunday Manara, given he had to come in and solve his child's difference with another prominent radio journalist Maulid Kitenge.

Kamwaga's entry into the position first requires him to have to cooperate with all journalists, work with them, and build a good reputation.

It should not be heard Kamwaga is working with a section of reporters and shun others.

Such a tendency will not be the right thing for the leader to do, given he will, as a result, create hatred.

Efficiency

Kamwaga was in the past appointed as Simba's Acting Secretary-General, as he was efficient in executing his daily activities.

Kamwaga was, in the newspaper he was writing for, coming up with columns that portrayed his great ability to think and writing constructive articles.

The biggest challenge will be in speaking. If Kamwaga gets a chance to hold a press conference, most soccer lovers would expect the official will have an influence similar to that of Manara.

Kamwaga has been standing for efficiency, not hyping the fans.

Eclipsing Manara

The indisputable fact is that Simba has to some extent benefited from the influence that Manara had during the

entire period he worked for the squad.

Performing better than Manara is expected to turn into a challenging feat Kamwaga had to achieve during the two months.

The ability to win Simba fans' hearts is one of the aspects Simba and Manara were successful.

The official had what it takes to get Simba's fans to attend the outfit's games in big numbers when the side took part in various competitions.

In one of his feats, the official had managed to persuade Simba's fans to keep on rooting for their club, much as the squad conceded a 4-0 loss to Kaizer Chiefs of South Africa in this season's CAF Champions League's quarterfinals.

The avid Simba fans applauded the squad, much as it could not progress to the tournament's last four.

A quip from Yanga fans

Facing Yanga fans' criticism is another hurdle that Kamwaga will be facing in his duties.

Yanga supporters are not always easy to accept Simba's achievements.

Fans of Yanga and Simba are always on the lookout for provocation, whether in social media or venues.

Kamwaga should be aware of this tendency and he should not be angry with them, as it is part of the age-old rivalry which exists between the two sides.

Transfer window talking points: Best move so far? Shock move? What's next?

ESPN

THE transfer window has been open since the start of July and ends on Aug. 31, with Europe's top clubs already busy spending money to enhance their squads. Man United splashed more than €120m on Jadon Sancho and Raphael Varane, Arsenal handed over £50m to sign Brighton defender Ben White, Liverpool picked up Leipzig defender Ibrahima Konate for €41.5m, while Man City and Chelsea could break the bank for a statement signing.

In Europe, Real Madrid and Barcelona have been hit hard by financial issues, as have Inter Milan, but PSG have led the way both with the €70m signing of Inter full-back Achraf Hakimi and the free transfers of world-class stars Gianluigi Donnarumma, Sergio Ramos and Georginio Wijnaldum.

But what do our writers think of the window so far?

Move you're most impressed with this summer?

Julien Laurens: There are a few candidates, as always. Varane's €41m move to Manchester United is a great coup, Liverpool did well to get Konate early and relatively cheap, while David Alaba is a world-class player and a great free transfer signing for Real Madrid from Bayern, at the age of 29.

I like what Leicester and Brighton have done by bringing in FC Salzburg's talented pair Patson Daka and Enock Mwepu respectively, while Tottenham fans should be really excited about former Sevilla winger Bryan Gil. I'm also a big fan of Donyell Malen's move to Borussia Dortmund from PSV for around €30m, while Emiliano Buendia's €33m move to Aston Villa is great and Boulaye Dia's incredible story continues as he heads from Reims to Villarreal for around €12m.

Rodrigo De Paul is the archetypal Diego Simeone/ Atletico Madrid player and is great value at around €35m, much like Donnarumma, Ramos and Wijnaldum are for PSG as free agents. But for me the winner is this category is Hakimi to PSG.

Clubs don't often look at a specific position and manage to sign the best player in the world with little challenge from their rivals. Hakimi is 22 years old, and no other right-back in the world had a better season than him at Inter Milan last year. It could cost PSG up to €70m, but he is easily worth it.

Tor-Kristian Karlsen: Alaba to Real Madrid is clearly a superb signing that is destined to work out. The Spanish giants picked up one of the top players in Europe on a free transfer, even though securing his signature has obviously represented a substantial investment in wages. Madrid have got a top, experienced professional who'll add some stability to a club close to turmoil. One signing may not be enough with Ramos and Varane departing, but Alaba's ability to play practically anywhere on the pitch slightly mitigates the lack of other established arrivals.

From left field, I'm quite excited to see how ex-Lille midfielder Boubakary Soumare gets on at Leicester City after his €20m move, just as I find Roman Yaremchuk's transfer from Gent to Benfica particularly intriguing after a strong showing for Ukraine at Euro 2020.

Rob Dawson: Varane to Manchester United could be huge. It's a deal so good that even Ole Gunnar Solskjær and Ed Woodward are still a little surprised they got it over the line.

United conceded too many goals last season and they have tried to solve the problem with one of the best central defenders in the world who, at 28, should be at the peak of his career. On top of that, they've got him for a base fee of €41m, because his contract at Real Madrid was to expire in 2022.

Transfers are never a sure thing, but this is about as close as it gets. If Varane gets anywhere close to the form he showed in Spain, United will be a much better team this season.

Mark Ogden: I'm still waiting for the deal that blows me away this summer. I'm sorry, but none of the transfers completed so far strike me as being particularly out of the ordinary or so smart that they deserve acclaim for being done. Let me explain my feeling of being underwhelmed.

United have signed Sancho and Varane, but Sancho's €85m move from Dortmund has been two years in the making and should have been done a year ago, so the time it has taken means you can't be too impressed by it. As for Varane, as great as he has been, I think a club of United's stature should be unearthing the next Varane rather than a guy who has spent 10 years at the top with Real Madrid. Smart recruitment is about finding the next big thing, rather than paying big money for someone who has already done it.

Arsenal have rightly addressed their central defensive

issue by signing Brighton's White, but £50m is a huge fee and a sign of the premium paid by Premier League clubs for English players. Leicester are a club who always make good signings, so perhaps their deals for Soumare or Daka will prove to be this season's version of Wesley Fofana. But overall, considering how football's struggling with the financial impact of the pandemic, there has been a striking lack of imaginative and clever signings, so far.

Move you're most surprised by?

Ogden: Manchester City's £100m move for Jack Grealish is the culmination of Pep Guardiola's long-held ambition to work with the Aston Villa midfielder, but when you look at the options the City manager already has, it's difficult to understand how Grealish will make a major difference to the team. City already possess an abundance of attacking players and creative midfielders whom Grealish will be competing with, including Raheem Sterling, Bernardo Silva, Riyad Mahrez and Phil Foden. You can even throw Kevin De Bruyne into that conversation considering the Belgian international's ability to play an advanced role.

Guardiola will argue that you can never have too many match winners, and City are certainly stacked with those, but is Grealish any better than the players already at the Etihad? He can create, score goals and, as statistically one of the most-fouled players in the Premier League, will always win free kicks in dangerous areas, but you could say the same for all of City's attacking midfielders.

Laurens: Omar Richards moving to Bayern Munich. The 23-year-old left-back had an average season (no goals, no assists) with Reading in the Championship, and now he's preparing for life with the Bundesliga champions. At least he was a free agent so Bayern didn't have to pay anything for him, but they will have to hope he turns out more like Alphonso Davies than Bouna Sarr.

What about Andros Townsend to Everton on a free transfer? Why did they do that? He turned 30 last month, and he had just five assists and one goal in 25 Premier League starts at Crystal Palace last season. Everton fans deserve better; I know the team needs wide players, but come on... The club has money, Marcel Brands is a good director of football with a great network and I am just amazed they went for someone like him. Though I hope he proves me wrong and has a great season!

Karlsen: Barcelona signing high-profile free transfers, but facing a race against time to register them (as well as Lionel Messi's new contract) has proved quite a debacle. With just a week-and-a-half to go until the opening LaLiga fixture against Real Sociedad, the club are scrambling to juggle the costs of their squad to fit into the league's salary cap regulations, given their €1.2 billion debt.

One imagines that Sergio Aguero, Memphis Depay and Messi will eventually turn out for Barcelona this season, but it means moving on unwanted players in a market in which nobody really wants to take on high earners. Even if club president Joan Laporta and his new administration find a way out, it is hardly ideal preparation for the new season to carry such issues well into August. Hopefully for Barcelona, the potential windfall from the €2.7 billion CVC investment in LaLiga (€250m for the club, though only 15% can be used on the salary cap) should put the registration issues to bed. Even so, having to rush through high-profile signings at the 11th hour is not a good look for one of the biggest clubs in the world.

Dawson: Donnarumma letting his AC Milan contract expire to join Paris Saint-Germain was surprising, but mainly because the France club already have a very good goalkeeper in Keylor Navas. You can argue that it's a safe long-term investment because Navas is 34 and Donnarumma is 22, but Navas would have every right to feel a little disappointed, particularly after something similar happened at Real Madrid when the Spanish giants signed Thibaut Courtois in 2018... and that was after Navas helped Real Madrid win the Champions League three times.

Chelsea letting defender Fikayo Tomori join Milan for just £25m will also raise a few eyebrows. He's a young player who has already played for England, and it feels like Milan have got a very good deal after he spent last season on loan at San Siro. It's not often in modern football that a deal goes through and you feel that the player has been undervalued.

Which big move are you waiting to see completed?

Dawson: There are still three big transfers that seem possible – Harry Kane to Manchester City, Paul Pogba to PSG and Kylian Mbappe to Real Madrid. It's highly unlikely that all three will happen this summer, but to have three of the most recognisable players in the world being linked with moves at the same time could make for an exciting end to the window.

The futures of Pogba and Mbappe are up in the air because of their contract situations – both have deals expir-



David Alaba



Ben White

ing in 2022 – but Kane is a different case because he's made it clear he wants to move. If Man City get their man for around £130m and Tottenham are left with a big sum to reinvest in the squad, it could make for a frantic few weeks.

Karlsen: I'd quite like to see an end to the Grealish saga, one way or the other. As much as he's a great player that I enjoy watching, I feel he's more of a "nice to have" than a "must have" for Man City. If he joins them, fine, he'll probably end up a very useful squad player – if he stays at Villa, then that's fine too; he'll keep on making a difference there.

Kane is clearly more of a game-changing move for City and, without knowing the ins and outs of their finances, it feels more productive for them to go to greater lengths to secure the England captain if they can't get both.

Laurens: Who doesn't love a good transfer saga? With tension, media leaks, transfer requests, sulking players, disgruntled fans, angry owners, frustrated agents, no-shows for training and all the rest? This summer, Kane's future is well and truly under the microscope as he failed to turn up for training and looks ready to force a move to Man City; Dortmund look set to keep Erling Haaland for another year, so Romelu Lukaku's rumoured return to Chelsea from Inter Milan for over €100m could be interesting.

However, I am excited about the possibility of Pogba to PSG. The Parisians have to make space and move on fringe players like Pablo Sarabia, Thilo Kehrer and Ander Herrera, but surely United would not turn down a fair offer with just one year left on the Frenchman's contract. Leonardo, the PSG sporting director, and agent Mino Raiola have already discussed the potential transfer and Pogba is keen for the move to happen. If he joins his hometown club alongside his friend Kylian Mbappe, Neymar & Co, then PSG would surely end their wait for Champions League glory.

Ogden: Antoine Griezmann's future at Barcelona is shrouded in uncertainty, with reports the France international is available for transfer just two years after his €120m move from Atletico Madrid. Griezmann's huge €35m-a-year wages are the problem for Barcelona, who desperately need to make financial savings to reduce their debt and meet the new LaLiga salary cap, but they are also a major stumbling block for any club wanting to sign him.

Sources told ESPN that Barca had been keen to strike a deal with Atletico to send him back to the Wanda Metropolitan, with midfielder Saul going the other way, but that failed to materialise. Now, with a month to go before the window shuts, clubs across Europe's major leagues know that Griezmann is on the market and there will be a queue of top teams looking for a bargain as Barca get more and more desperate.

Despite being 30 years old and a big earner, he remains a top player even though his two years at Camp Nou have been disappointing. But if he is prepared to take a drop in wages, Griezmann could land himself a move to a top club before Aug. 31.

Ogden: The simple explanation is that the game is in the midst of a financial crisis, one that was already beginning to develop before the hammer blow of the COVID-19 pandemic. If anything, the pandemic has merely exacerbated the problem of clubs having to balance the books following years of over-spending on transfer fees and wages.

Everyone within the game knows that only a handful of clubs (Chelsea, Man United, Man City and Paris Saint-Germain) have money to spend, but that reality has yet to translate to transfer fees and wages. Football has its head stuck in the sand in many ways and it will take time for clubs, players and agents to

accept that a financial correction is happening before their eyes.

Beyond the finances, another issue has been a full summer with several major tournaments – Euro 2020, Copa America, CONCACAF Gold Cup, Olympic Games – meaning that moves have been delayed by players being on international duty and then taking holidays. But the usual mad rush will still happen in the final week of the window. Some things never change.

Dawson: Indeed, no-one has got any money apart from a handful of Premier League teams. Just look at how some of the traditional heavyweights have gone about their business in this window. Real Madrid signed Alaba on a free; Barcelona signed Aguero, Eric Garcia and Depay all on a free; Paris Saint-Germain spent €70m on Hakimi, but they've also brought in free transfers in Donnarumma, Ramos and Wijnaldum.

European football has been living on tight financial margins for years and the COVID-19 pandemic has burst the bubble. Transfer windows are always harder in summers with major tournaments, and things are likely to pick up as the deadline gets closer, but there won't be nearly as many huge deals as there have been in past years.

Laurens: We anticipated that this window would be very different than usual and it is proving to be the case, although perhaps in more ways than we thought. Clubs have less money and are more careful. There's little margin for error and clubs are looking at just one or two positions to strengthen with one or two targets for each. If teams don't get their targets, they're showing less ambition to go for other players, which may explain why Chelsea and Man City haven't signed anyone yet. Man United moved for their main two targets and that could be it now.

Also, many clubs have been paying more attention to free agents, players with just one year left on contracts, or those with low release clauses or loans. That said, the "quiet" is largely among the top clubs. The next tier of teams – like RB Leipzig, Leicester, Crystal Palace, Aston Villa, AC Milan, Nice, Monaco and Marseille – have been active and intelligent when it comes to the business they've done and how they've done it.

Karlsen: European football has been hit hard, and the transfer market was already showing signs of slowing down a few years ago, but then came a stagnation – or in the case of some European leagues, a freefall – in TV/media income, before the pandemic delivered the knockout blow.

While ambition still persists, there's an excess of players on the market being flagged as available by their clubs to trim their wage budgets, but very few takers. Those lucky clubs who are able to play an active role in the transfer market are generally restricted to being exceptionally targeted in their approach, mainly picking out names that are certain to immediately strengthen the team.

Then there's the big spenders like Man United, City and PSG who seem determined to pounce while many of their rivals are stuck. Whether the transfer market will bounce back to its previous highs is anyone's guess, but before that happens wage expenditures will have to come down significantly. Right now, just staying afloat is the No. 1 priority for many.

It remains to be seen if the incoming capital originating from the LaLiga investment by CVC will impact the European transfer market or simply alleviate the short-term financial pressure on Spanish clubs.



Gianluigi Donnarumma

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SO YOU ARE RETIRING THE BAND TO PURSUE A SOLO CAREER?

SPORT

Transfer window talking points: Best move so far? Shock move? What's next?



The CRDB Bank Plc Managing Director, Abdumajid Nsekela, speaks to journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on preparations for this year's CRDB Marathon due to be held mid this month. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CRDB

Over 700 foreign athletes line up for 2021 CRDB Marathon

By Guardian Reporter

A record 700 foreign athletes have registered to participate in this year's CRDB Marathon which is due to be held in 10 days.

The bank's Managing Director, Abdumajid Nsekela, said in Dar es Salaam yesterday that about 5,000 athletes are expected to take part in this year's event which is aimed at raising funds for charitable causes.

Nsekela said the registered foreign athletes and their local counterparts have been convinced by the objective of the marathon and the race's international recognition by World Athletics and other institutions.

"Our marathon has been included on the website of the international marathon institution, AMIS, where many foreign athletes have seen and registered to take part in it," Nsekela said.

Nsekela stated that most athletes are also attracted by the event's objective of investing the proceeds in charitable causes.

He pointed out that money, which will be raised by the event, will go towards financing heart surgery for children coming from poor backgrounds, construction of a communications station at Ocean Road Cancer Institute, and conservation of the environment by planting trees through the bank's 'Pendeza-sha Tanzania' initiative.

The CRDB chief further noted that preparations for the August 15 event are proceeding well and he invited all local stakeholders to register ahead of the deadline to gain international experience from foreign athletes.

"I take this opportunity to thank Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa, for accepting our invitation to come and participate as guest of honour. He has since informed me that he is undergoing regular exercises in preparation for the event," he added.

During the press conference, the CRDB chief further noted that the marathon will also feature prominent leaders including former President, Jakaya Kikwete, Deputy House Speaker, Tulia Ackson.

Other dignitaries lined up for the event include Dar es Salaam lawmakers and Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner, Amos Makala.

"I urge Tanzanians who have not registered to do so as soon as possible to beat the deadline," he advised.

Speaking at the same event, Sanlam Company's CEO, Julius Magabe, whose firm has sponsored the marathon, said his company is proud to be associated with CRDB Marathon because of its noble causes.

"I thank CRDB Bank for organizing this marathon which brings together all Tanzanians to contribute towards addressing challenges facing our community," Magabe said.

Magabe pointed out that Sanlam Company, a health and life assurance company, also supports the idea of exercising to keep fit.

“

I take this opportunity to thank Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa, for accepting our invitation to come and participate as guest of honour.

TPLB: Next season's Premier League set to have no fixture postponement

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

THE Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) has said that next season there will be no postponement of matches involving the league's teams participating in continental tournaments after making improvements in various league regulations.

It is not uncommon for teams participating in continental tournaments to have a lot of delayed fixtures.

Simba, for instance, had eight matches in hand, a situation which, to a section of football stakeholders, meant the league's organizers were unfairly favouring the club.

Commenting on the matter, TPLB Chief Executive Officer Almasi Kasongo said that for the body to ensure that next season's showpiece takes place smoothly, they have discussed with the Premier League clubs' representatives and decided to find means for doing away with delayed fixtures.

"After finding the right ways for getting rid of the loopholes we have unanimously agreed that the league should be brought to a halt when our teams take part in continental fixtures and resume when the clubs complete their continental fixtures, this aims at boosting competition," he said.

He said the agreement came after a meeting, which discussed the league regulations' reforms, concerning last season's league's challenges. Simba, Yanga, Azam FC, and Biashara United will represent the country in continental competitions.

The CAF Champions League will have, among others, Tanzania's Simba and Yanga, whilst Azam FC and Biashara United will feature in CAF Confederation Cup.

In another development, Kasongo said the Premier League is expected to officially start on September 29, this year.

The TPLB leader noted they will soon provide a full schedule for the teams to start preparations.

Before the start of the league, there will be a Community Shield match between Simba and Yanga at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam from 5 pm.

Stakeholders of the top-flight clubs that were present at the meeting included Yanga Chairman Mshindo Msolla who praised the TPLB's involvement in supervising the top flight.

The Yanga leader pointed out he is optimistic the next season's top-flight will be better.

He said his outfit is well-organized, noting a two-year investment that a domestic company has put in the side will start paying off in the top flight.

Simba Chairman Murtaza Mangungu said the discussion of the league rules was serious, but they have finally reached an agreement.

Azam FC youngster Paschal heads to Turkey for trials



Paschal Msindo

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AZAM FC's youthful defender, Paschal Msindo, has jetted off to Turkey for a one-month trial in the Turkish Premier League club Antalyaspor.

The move will allow Msindo, who is as well a Tanzania U-20 national team's player, to inch closer to fulfilling his dream of playing professional football in Europe.

If the promising defender performs well, he will be signed by the club.

The Turkish outfit, nicknamed 'Scorpions', plays its home matches at the Antalya Stadium.

The outfit won the First League twice in 1982 and 1986 and finished as runners-up in the Turkish Cup in 2000 and 2021.

Msindo, who has been promoted to Azam FC's senior team from the outfit's youth set-up, has played competitive matches for Azam FC, showcasing good performance which has earned him the trial.

The young defender is contracted to

Azam FC until 2024, with a chance to be sold if his trial ends up as a success. Despite being young, Msindo is one of the players who represented Tanzania in the African Nations Cup finals this year in Cameroon for the first time since 2009.

He is also one of the players who formed Tanzania's national U-23 team that battled it out in this year's CECAFA U-23 Cup held in Ethiopia.

The showdown, which climaxed last weekend, saw the Tanzania U-23 team emerge as the tournament's champions after defeating Burundi 6-5 on penalty kicks.

On April 16, Msindo turned out for Azam FC in this season's top-flight tie against JKT Tanzania at the Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma.

The fullback, for that matter, set the record for the youngest player to ever play in the Premier League this season.

The left-back, who is aged 17, was born on August 17, 2003, and was allowed to play due to his team

missing experienced fullback Bruce Kangwa.

The Zimbabwean left fullback was serving a three-match ban after he was shown a yellow card in three consecutive fixtures.

So far Msindo has played in more than seven international tournaments with national youth teams.

The competitions include the 2019 FERWAFU Cup held in Rwanda, the Africa U-20 Championship twice, the UEFA Assist U-17 tournament held in Turkey, the CECAFA U-17 tournament, and the CECAFA U-20 tournament.

This means Msindo will miss the remaining CECAFA Kagame Cup games played in Dar es Salaam.

The fullback turned out for Azam FC in the showdown's opener against Uganda's KCCA FC, which took place last weekend.

Azam FC posted a 2-0 victory over KCCA FC, with Msindo executing an assist which led to the hosts' second goal.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



EATV FRIDAY

TONIGHT @ 9:00

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Mid Week Movie (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Wakilisha (r)
16:00 Ujenzi (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Skonga
19:30 EATV SAA I
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Friday Night Live
23:00 Kurasa (r)

Friday Night Live The Weekend begins here! Listen to upbeat mixed music by the hottest DJs, Gossip, showbiz updates and exclusive interviews with celebrities from home and abroad. Don't you dare miss this.

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06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 Friday Night Live

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