



COMMUNICATIONS



DORMANT UCSAF-BUILT ICT FACILITIES IN PEMBA PG 3

GOVERNANCE



LAAC URGES TIMELY DISBURSEMENT OF COUNCIL FUNDS PG 5

HEALTH



KIDNEY PATIENTS CANNOT MEET DIALYSIS COSTS PG 5



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Organ transplant framework ready

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government is putting final touches to the legal framework for organ donations so as to control the sale and trafficking of organs and enable local hospitals to conduct transplants in line with international standards.

Chief Medical Officer Prof Abel Makubi told The Guardian in an interview yesterday that the envisaged framework is in the hands of ministerial legal experts. Stakeholders will go through it before the bill is taken to the National Assembly, he said.

Currently, organ donations and transplants are not conducted under a specific

“The decision is a good step that merits applause. The guidelines will show the way towards amendments of the Public Health Law of 2009,” she stated.

law and appended regulations. Guidelines issued to health facilities with capacities to perform such procedures are used instead, he said.

Health facilities use the guidelines as a preliminary requirement, but once the framework is finalized it will erase doubts and legal silences in the medical sector, freeing health sector stakeholders from

doubts arising from current guidelines.

The need for a specific law and attached regulations is to make it easier to save the lives of those encountering organ failure, the chief medic intoned, identifying the ‘kidney swapping’ transplanta-

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Wall sees tanzanite revenues go higher

By Guardian Reporter

ANNUAL government revenues from tanzanite gemstones have risen from 238m/- in 2016 to 1.417bn/- last year, thanks to a perimeter wall erected around the mining fields of Mirerani in Simanjiro District, Manyara Region, in 2018.

Prof Simon Msanjila, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Minerals, made this observation in a briefing on a report on the Mirerani reserve area to members of the Energy and Minerals Committee of the National Assembly in the capital at midweek.

The fence has nearly stopped minerals smuggling denying the government much needed revenue, while security was enhanced for people conducting gemstone trading, he said, noting that administration was simplified and child labour prohibited in the mine pits.

“There are also remand cells, a minerals verification unit, bank agencies, round coverage CCTV cameras and a gemstone storage facility.

The One-Stop-Centre built inside the mining complex was operating, already named as the Magufuli Tanzanite Center, which involves the immigration Department, National Intelligence Services, Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), the police force, a conference hall and offices for other agencies.

There are also remand cells, a minerals verification unit, bank agencies, round coverage CCTV cameras and a gemstone storage facility.

Projects being implemented in the area include ring road construction inside the wall, two inspection rooms and rest rooms for minerals sector officials and stakeholders, along with a gemstone market centre, he stated.

The Katente Demonstration Centre for small miners in Geita Region had enabled the realization of 11,588.37 grams of gold from 39 small miners, he said, noting that the centre has enabled the collection of 104m/- in royalties and inspection fees for Bukombe and Geita districts, and obtained 72.5m/- for services to the small

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STAMICO refinery to buy gold ore from small scale miners

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

SMALL-scale and artisanal gold miners countrywide have a reason to smile as the new refinery set to start operations later this month will be purchasing gold ore from them.

The 8.9bn/- Mwanza Precious Metals Refinery Ltd is a joint venture of State Mining Corporation (STAMICO), Dubai-based Rozella Genera Trading LLC and ACME Consultant Engineers PTE Ltd. of Singapore. STAMICO has 25 per cent of the company's shares.

Briefing members of the Energy and Minerals Committee of the National Assembly on progress in the implementation of the project, the STAMICO Acting Managing Director Dr Venance Mwashe said the plant will heavily depend on small-scale and artisanal gold miners for raw materials as large mining companies have their own refineries.

“Raw materials for this gold processing plant will be sourced through formalization of an artisanal and small-scale mine support project plus big mining companies and foreign gold dealers through agents,” he said.

This targeted source of raw material will transform the country's mining sector, make the gold industry more vibrant and increase its contribution to national income as there will be no exportation of unprocessed gold, he stated.

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Minerals minister Doto Biteko (2nd-R) pictured in Dodoma city yesterday cutting the ribbon to launch a book on guidelines meant to improve the sampling of minerals and gemstones for testing in laboratories, chiefly as a value-addition measure. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Rare black rhino exits UK for new life in Tanzania

YORKSHIRE, England

AN eight-year-old endangered black rhino is leaving a conservancy in the UK for permanent life in Tanzania.

‘Christened’ Chanua, the rhino is moving from Flamingo land resort near Malton in North Yorkshire, England, to Udzungwa Forest Reserve.

Staff at the zoo said it had been an “emotional 24 hours” as they said goodbye to the critically endangered animal they have looked after for the past four years.

Chanua will travel to Kent, where she will be introduced to two other female rhinos, before being taken by air to Tanzania.

Her handlers have been preparing her for the moment for weeks, getting her used to her container by enticing her with food, and acclimatising to any



potential noise.

“She was as relaxed as any rhino can be in such circumstances,” said resort owner Gordon Gibb.

“That is really testament to the hard work of her animal trainers. She’s now on to the first stage of her journey back to her natural habitat.”

Chanua is the second black rhino to be released into the wild by the resort, with the first, Olmoti, travelling to Rwanda’s Akagera National Park last summer.

Gibb said such conservation schemes are a passion for the resort team under its mission statement. Recalling the moment he witnessed Olmoti released into the wild last year, he said: “It was a truly phenomenal moment.

“A lot of emotion comes to the surface, but that’s the endgame of what we

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STAMICO refinery to buy gold ore from small miners

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It will be the first gold refinery in the country and is expected to attain 99.9 per cent refinery level according to STAMICO experts, with the possibility that the product is purchased by monetary authorities for use as a reserve currency.

The refinery is expected to start operations end of this month, as one among major gold refineries in Africa, having the capacity to refine 480 kilogrammes of gold ore per day. The factory will in future attain a capacity to processing 960 kilos of gold ore, he elaborated.

Dr Mwashe said construction of the major gold refinery plant unlike the refineries in South Africa and Sudan came from the review of laws and regulations governing the sector, including the Mines and Minerals Act 2017, where the principle of Natural Wealth and Resources (Permanent Sovereignty) Act of 2017 is enshrined.

He said changes in the laws were meant to create a win-win situation between large miners and the government.

Apart from boosting government revenues through royalties and inspection charges, district councils will get money through service levies, while the refining project is expected to create direct and indirect jobs with 120 direct jobs on offer and scores of service supply openings.



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Dr Mwashe said the refinery will enable the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) to start buying gold in accordance with the laws, as locally refined gold will have a brand and be sold at specified centres.

STAMICO shares in the refinery will be growing by five percent every 15 years up to 51 percent shares at the end, he stated, noting that STAMICO shall acquire 2.5 percent of gross sales before profit as payment for its supervision role.

The project cost \$58m, covering investment, running costs and purchase of gold for the initial ten days after the refinery starts operating, he added.



Inspector General of Police Simon Sirro, current chairman of the East African Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday following the proceedings of a virtual meeting of the Directors of Criminal Investigations in the agency's member countries. The deliberations chiefly revolved around terrorism, gender-based violence and human rights. Photo: Tanzania Police

Organ transplant framework ready

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tion option for patients with a living donor.

The donor may be a blood relative or associate who wants to donate, but they may not match the recipient, in which case transplantation is still possible through paired kidney exchange, which connects pairs of compatible recipients and donors, the medic explained.

Once the legislation comes into effect, Tanzania will for the first time conduct kidney swapping transplants, where Prof Makubi says the primary objective of transplantation policies and programmes should be optimal medical care for the short and long

term to assure the health of organ donors and recipients. The Legal Human Rights Centre (LHRC) Executive Director Ana Henga, said that Public Health Act of 2009 is silent on the issue, "therefore it had to be amended to allow local liver transplantation consistent with international standards."

"The decision is a good step that merits applause. The guidelines will show the way towards amendments of the Public Health Law of 2009," she stated.

The practice of donation and transplantation requires oversight and accountability of health authorities in each country to ensure transpar-

ency and safety, she stated, noting further that from the provider's perspective the cost of dialysis is enormous for a relatively low income country like Tanzania where resources and technology are limited.

Tanzania has been outsourcing kidney transplantation services by referring donors and recipients abroad and the government subsequently introducing local transplantation services in two hospitals.

Strong international collaborators supported nephrology services and establishment of local nephrology training, with the burden of kidney diseases reported to

be higher in poorer countries compared to industrialized countries. Countries in sub-Saharan Africa have even higher rates of the problem, experts say.

Health systems in most sub-Saharan African countries have limited capacity of trained and skilled health care providers, lack diagnostic support, equipment and policies to provide nephrology services. Several initiatives have been implemented to support establishment of these services, stakeholders affirm. About 10 percent of the world's population meets with kidney failure in life, as one among the more pervasive non communicable

diseases ruining the lives of many people beyond a certain age. In the United Nations, the World Kidney Day Steering Committee declared 2021 the year of "Living Well with Kidney Disease," meant to raise awareness on effective symptom management and patient empowerment when the disease is at an early stage, officials noted.

Focusing on resources for drug and non-drug programmes to improve patient wellbeing, the committee appealed for the inclusion of life participation as a key area in the care of patients, a building block towards delivering the ultimate goal of living well with kidney disease.

Rare black rhino exits UK for new life in Tanzania

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do."

Chanua, who was born in Chester Zoo in 2012, is described as "playful but placid" by her handlers and animal trainers.

There are around 5,000 black rhinos left in the wild worldwide and only 187 in Tanzania, with poachers being one of the biggest threats to the species.

Rhinos are hunted and killed by poachers for their horn which is prized in parts of Asia, where it is thought to have medicinal properties.

Once she's arrived in Tanzania following her 12-hour flight, it will be around a month before Chanua is released. She will be released into a semi-captive environment, where her dried food and pellets will be replaced by a local, natural diet and she will be monitored by vets before being released into the wild.

Tanzanite revenues yearly surpass 1bn/-

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miners.

The acting Executive Secretary of Tanzania Commission for Mines Yahya Samamba, said in a presentation on the Geita main minerals market of vast increases in business activity in the market, since its establishment in March 2019, from an average of 160 kgs of gold per month to 450 kgs.

"Since the introduction of the market system the highest production capacity of gold production is 537.6 kgs in one month, in October 2019 and the lowest was 167.7 kgs in April 2019," he said.

Following the tabling of the report, member of the committee were expected to visit several projects implemented by the ministry and its institutions, officials noted.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has an audience with Communication and Information Technology minister Dr Faustine Ndugulile (2nd-L) at Zanzibar State House yesterday. Left is the ministry's permanent secretary, Dr Zainab Chaula. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Denmark suspends use of Astra Zeneca vaccine over blood clot fears

COPENHAGEN

Danish health authorities said yesterday they were temporarily suspending the use of AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine after some patients developed blood clots since receiving the jab.

The move comes "following reports of serious cases of blood clots among people vaccinated with AstraZeneca's Covid-19 vaccine", the Danish Health Authority said in a statement.

But it cautiously added that "it has not been determined, at the time being, that there is a link between the vaccine and the blood clots".

Austria announced on Monday that it had suspended the use of a batch of AstraZeneca vaccines after a 49-year-old nurse died of "severe blood coagulation problems" days after receiving an anti-Covid shot.

Four other European countries -- Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Luxembourg -- have also suspended the use of vaccines from this batch, which was sent to 17 European countries and con-

sisting of one million jabs.

Denmark has however suspended the use of all of its AstraZeneca supply.

On Wednesday, Europe's medicines watchdog EMA said a preliminary probe showed that the batch of AstraZeneca vaccines used in Austria was likely not to blame for the nurse's death.

As of March 9, 22 cases of blood clots had been reported among more than three million people vaccinated in the European Economic Area, the EMA said.

"It is important to point out that we have not terminated the use of the AstraZeneca vaccine, we are just pausing its use," Danish Health Authority director Soren Brostrom said in the statement.

Denmark said one person had died after receiving the vaccine. The EMA has launched an investigation into that death.

"There is broad documentation proving that the vaccine is both safe and efficient. But both we and the Dan-



ish Medicines Agency must act on information about possible serious side effects, both in Denmark and in other European countries," Brostrom said.

The suspension, which will be reviewed after two weeks, is expected to slow down Denmark's vaccination campaign.

Copenhagen now expects to have its entire adult population vaccinated by mid-August instead of early July, the health authority said.

Meanwhile, Kenya's Teachers Service Commission (TSC), in collabora-

tion with the Ministry of Health, has rolled out COVID-19 vaccination for teachers.

The vaccination, which will target all teachers aged 50 years and above in both public and private institutions, will kick off from Monday next week.

While launching vaccination at the TSC headquarters yesterday, the commission's Chief Executive Nancy Macharia revealed that so far, 41 teachers have succumbed to the virus since the first case was reported in the country in March last year. She called on

teachers to embrace the vaccination and turn out in large numbers for the jab.

Besides the teachers, Macharia revealed that three TSC secretariat staff have also died of the virus over the same period.

"We are grateful to the government for recognising teachers as frontline workers. With the vaccination, teachers will be able to attend to learners more confidently," said Macharia.

She said the commission will work swiftly to collect and provide the data of all teachers aged 50 years and above.

Currently, she said, there are 15,000 teachers aged 58 years and above.

There are 330,671 teachers in public schools and 158,000 teachers in private schools.

"We are requesting the government to also consider vaccinating all these teachers once more vaccines are available," she said.

Dr Macharia also called on the Ministry of Health to consider the 227,679

teachers who will be involved in the administration of the upcoming national exams for vaccination.

The chairman of the COVID-19 taskforce for vaccine deployment Willis Akhwale asked teachers to turn up for the jab in large numbers and assured them that the vaccine is safe.

"The launch of this vaccine is a clear demonstration that the government is committed to ensure learning continues," said Dr Akhwale.

He said the vaccine has undergone phase three clinical trials.

"A vaccine will not be registered if it is not safe," he said.

Dr Akhwale said the health ministry has established 575 vaccination posts across the counties where all frontline workers will access the vaccine.

He said the ministry has also established the Chanjo Kenya platform where teachers and anyone to be vaccinated can pre-register before going for the vaccination.



Ministers and other legislators as well as government officials pictured in the National Assembly in Dodoma yesterday following the tabling by Finance and Planning minister Dr Philip Mpango of the government's recommendations on the 2021/2022 national Budget. Photo: Parliament

Ndugulile makes familiarisation tour to UCSAF-built ICT facilities in Pemba

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

COMMUNICATIONS and Technology minister Dr Faustine Ndugulile has made familiarisation visit of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) facilities at Wete, Machomane, Micheweni and Chonza in Pemba that are among ten such facilities built by Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF) at a cost of 1.13bn/- in the Isles for provision of ICT services.

Dr Ndugulile said there are areas that are Union matters hence his visit was to inspect and understand various activities that are considered to be Union matters, and among them are the ten UCSAF built ICT facilities, four in Pemba and six in Unguja.

"We have seen the ICT facilities, they have computers that do not operate, hence I ask institutions to look into that, as there is no point for UCSAF to build a facility and install equipment but without Internet service while TTCL could have ensured the availability of Internet services," he said.

He stressed that communication institutions should look into the services that could be installed at the facilities to enable them provide appropriate services rather than leaving the task to the Zanzibar government.

For his part, Zanzibar's Works, Communications and Transport minister Amour Bakari said there would be an emergency plan to ensure the facilities start operating

within one week and later there would be a strategy for their sustainability.

He said they discussed with TTCL on payment procedures to ensure the Corporation install Internet services at the facilities.

Communications and Technology Permanent Secretary Dr Zainab Chaula said the ministry was a Union ministry and they came to the Isles for joint sittings of the two ministries to look into existing achievements and challenges that could be jointly solved.

For his part, Mkoani District Commissioner said he was pleased with the visit of the Union Communications and Technology minister Dr Faustine Ndugulile to inspect the ICT facilities.

"The visit has proved that we have a robust Union in areas of joint cooperation and to ensure all deficiencies are worked upon, and that is why the visit has mentioned the time frame the facilities will start operating," the DC said.



We have seen the ICT facilities, they have computers that do not operate, hence I ask institutions to look into that, as there is no point for UCSAF to build a facility

Sustainable UHC for Africa should be developed by Africans - appeal

By Guardian Reporter

THE fourth edition of the Africa Health Agenda International Conference (AHAIC 2021) ended yesterday with a message that sustainable Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Africa can only be developed by Africans.

A statement released by organisers said the conference was marked by calls from a diverse group of stakeholders for greater cross-border and multi-sectoral collaboration to achieve UHC in Africa.

The 3-day virtual conference under the theme 'Decade for Action: Driving Momentum to Achieve UHC in Africa', attracted 3,000 participants logging in from 98 countries across the African continent and beyond, including high profile guests and speakers such as Uhuru Kenyatta, Presi-

dent of Kenya and World Health Organization (WHO) Director General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, among others.

"Held against the backdrop of Covid-19 recovery efforts, AHAIC 2021 provided a platform for representatives from the health sector, political leadership, development organisations, private sector, academia and civil society to explore the continent's health challenges, identify opportunities and propose sustainable solutions for, and by, Africa," reads the statement.

"Conversations on the Covid-19 vaccine, health financing, health systems strengthening, technology and innovation, youth engagement and gender equity in health leadership took centre stage, with speakers repeatedly calling for a unified, pan-African approach built on stronger political will

and action to drive momentum towards achieving UHC in Africa by 2030."

Speaking when he officially opened the conference, President Kenyatta called for greater political will, collaboration and coordination among African nations to make UHC a reality, and highlighted the need for countries to focus on investment in primary health care, expand affordability and harness the innovativeness of youth to promote development and uptake of e-health solutions.

"Currently, about 600 million people across the African continent do not have access to health services. To address this, we must make increased investments in physical facilities, medical equipment, drugs, and trained personnel," said President Kenyatta.

On vaccine equity, availability, affordability and delivery, stake-

holders reiterated the need for Africa to urgently create its own capacity to manufacture and distribute the COVID-19 vaccine, in response to heightened nationalism that has threatened to deny

lower- and middle-income countries - many of them in Africa - access to the critical resource as developed countries race to stockpile the vaccine.

"In order to ensure vaccine equity, it is important that we build Africa's manufacturing capacity. We have seen it with the COVID-19 pandemic, from personal protective equipment (PPE) to vaccines, lack of equity in distribution is affecting many developing countries that don't have manufacturing capacity," Dr. Tedros.

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF TANZANIA AT DAR ES SALAAM CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 227/17 OF 2019 OSINGO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LTD. APPLICANT

VERSUS

1. MRS ZAINAB RIZIKI BAKILANA
2. ANNA MUGANDA BALLALI
3. OCTAVIO TIMOTHY BALLALI
4. RACHEL JUANA BALLALI
5. BERNARD BELANZAKO
6. ELIZABETH TIMOTHY BALLALI

RESPONDENTS

TO: OCTAVIO TIMOTHY BALLALI
RACHEL JUANA BALLALI
BERNARD BELANZAKO

TAKEN NOTICE, that the hearing of the above Civil Application will take place at Court of Appeal of Tanzania at Dar es salaam on the 17th day of March, 2021 at 09:45 a.m.

You are hereby ordered to appear on the day and time specified above. If no appearance is made on your behalf, by yourself your pleaders or by someone authorized by law to act for you in this Civil Application, it will be heard and decided ex parte (in your absence) Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this 5th day of March, 2021.

B. A. Mipogo
FOR REGISTRAR
COURT OF APPEAL

THE COMPANY ACT CAP 212 OF 2002
RELIANCE GROUP (T) LIMITED P.O BOX 16779- ARUSHA COMPANY NO. 106465

NOTICE OF RESOLUTION TO WIND UP VOLUNTARILY

NOTICE: I have given to the general public that by special resolution RELIANCE GROUP (T) LIMITED, dated 16th February, 2021.

TAKE NOTICE: That all the creditors are hereby requested to furnish to the chairman with full details of their claims against the Company at the Company address within 21 days from the date of this Notice.

Dated at Dar es Salaam on 10th March, 2021.

JOHN JULIUS MWAMPAMBA
Liquidator

THE COMPANY ACT CAP 212 OF 2002
A-Z CENTRE LIMITED P.O BOX 13242 ARUSHA COMPANY NO.95817

NOTICE OF RESOLUTION TO WIND UP VOLUNTARILY

NOTICE: I have given to the general public that by special resolution A-Z CENTRE LIMITED dated 20th December, 2020.

TAKE NOTICE: That all the creditors are hereby requested to furnish to the chairman with full details of their claims against the Company at the Company address within 21 days from the date of this Notice.

Dated at Dar es Salaam on 27th December, 2020.

JOHN JULIUS MWAMPAMBA
Liquidator

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DODOMA.

PUBLIC NOTICE
INVENTORY OF ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES

Dodoma, 10 March, 2021

The Tourism Act No. 29 of 2008, section 9 read together with the Tourism (Accommodations Facilities) Regulations, 2015 requires the Ministry to keep and maintain a register of classes of tourism facilities. In view of the foregoing, the ministry intends to carry out inventory of accommodation facilities in the country.

By this notice, the Ministry wishes to inform owners of accommodation facilities and the general public that, inventory of accommodation facilities for Dar es salaam, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Manyara, Mara, Mwanza, Geita, and Kagera regions will commence on **12th April, 2021**. Information on the commencement of this exercise for other regions in the country will be communicated in due course.

For further information, please visit our website www.maliasili.go.tz or our Head Quarters Office in Dodoma (UDOM) or Zonal Tourism Office located in Dar es Salaam (Mpingo House), Mwanza (PSSSF building); Iringa (NSSF building), and Arusha (TANAPA Headquarters).

Published by:
Government Communication Unit
Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism

Strict condition as Kenya lifts ban maize imports from Tanzania and Uganda

NAIROBI

KENYA has lifted the ban on imports of Ugandan and Tanzanian maize with strict conditions on exporters as the country seeks to curb shipping in of the cancer-causing aflatoxin on imported crop.

Kenya's Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday that all stakeholders dealing in maize imports would be required to be registered, the consignments coming in must be accompanied with certificate of conformity on aflatoxin levels and that traders have to issue details of their warehouses.

The certificate of conformity should indicate that the aflatoxin levels complies with the maximum required levels of 10 parts

per billion.

In a statement read by Agriculture Chief Administrative Secretary Lawrence Angolo, Kenya said the move is aimed at addressing the safety of consumers and that the country will not be compromise on that.

Mr Angolo said the details on warehouse would help in ensuring that the maize supplied to Kenya adhered to all standard procedure on food handling and that it was not dried on roads (tarmac).

"While we strive to give Kenya safe food by addressing the challenge in productions system, we equally expect our trading partners to trade safe maize as per the East African community standards," said Mr Angolo.

The ministry urged the re-

gional countries to fast track ratification of EAC- SGS standards on aflatoxin and submit the instruments of certification to the EAC.

Traders importing maize from Uganda to Kenya will be required to also have certificate of origin from the counties of produce before they get clearance at the border points.

Kenya last week banned maize imports from Uganda citing high levels of aflatoxin in the grain, setting stage for trade war between the two neighbouring states.

Millers this week faulted the government over a blanket ban on maize imports from Uganda and Tanzania arguing the move will have a serious implication on the price of flour.



T-MARC TANZANIA

Tanzania Marketing and Communications

Serving Communities, Improving Lives

POSITIONS OPENING

T-MARC Tanzania is a non-profit Tanzanian organization working to improve public health and promote social development. Our socially marketed products and behavior change communication initiatives address pertinent health issues in family planning and reproductive health, child survival, water and sanitation, nutrition and communicable/non-communicable infections like malaria, HIV/AIDS and cervical cancer.

T-MARC is seeking applications for the positions of Chief of Party (COP), MEL Director and Finance Director for an anticipated USAID Next Generation OVC Activity. This activity main purpose is to support the Government of Tanzania to increase access to and use of health/HIV, social, and protection services among OVC and youth in order to contribute to 95-95-95 goals: 95% of PLHIV know their HIV status; 95% of PLHIV are on treatment; and 95% of PLHIV on treatment are virally suppressed, by 2030. The OVC Next Generation Activity funding opportunity will support GoT and community systems and structures to improve the health, well-being, and protection of OVC and youth in high HIV burden communities within the North Eastern Lake Zones of Tanzania.

T-MARC invites the qualified applicants for the following below positions.

Position: Chief of Party
Reports to: Managing Director.
Location: Dar es Salaam

Broad Function: Working under T-MARC's Managing Director, COP will provide overall leadership and technical direction for the project, ensuring achievement of project deliverables and targets. The incumbent will be the primary liaison with the funder and manage project staff and implementing partners to ensure proper reporting, financial management, and compliance. The COP will be responsible with coordinating government and other stakeholders to ensure that activities complement ongoing initiatives and adhere to country and global standards.

Preferred Qualifications and Experience

Master's Degree or higher in medicine, public health, health management, social science, or a related field, 10 years' experience in a senior role in designing, implementing, and managing large, complex health service delivery projects involving multiple partners in or for developing countries. At least five years of experience in OVC program implementation.

Position: Finance Director
Reports to: Chief of Party
Location: Dar es Salaam

Broad Function: Under Chief of Party, Finance Director is leading role in the project's strategic financial decision-making and a fiduciary responsibility to protect its assets and reputation. Incumbent is responsible of managing all aspects of financial risk (including fraud mitigation practices); developing and implementing financial systems and procedures at headquarters and in field offices.

Preferred Qualifications and Experience:

Master's Degree or higher in Business Administration, Finance, Accounting, or another relevant field. 10 years of experience working in international development, preferable USAID-funded projects. Knowledge of generally accepted accounting, budgeting and fiscal control theory and practices. Demonstrated experience and skills in developing and managing budgets with an annual value of over \$10 million. CPA or ACCA will be an added advantage. Experience with U.S. government rules and regulations and experience working in NGO environment desirable.

Position: Monitor, Evaluation and Learning Director
Reports to: Chief of Party
Location: Dar es Salaam

Broad Function: Working under the supervision of Chief of Party, the position works to ensure high-quality M&E practices are developed and managed to conform for an anticipated United States Government (USG) Next Generation OVC Activity. The MEL Director is responsible for effective project data management that includes collection, cleaning, archiving, analysing and reporting to project teams, T-MARC Head Office, and USAID. S/he will incorporate best practices of MEL in developing and overseeing data management processes and tools to ensure effective project management during implementation.

Preferred Qualifications and Experience:

Master's in research and evaluation methodologies and statistical analysis coursework and/or a post-graduate degree in Statistics, Biostatistics, Bioinformatics, Epidemiology, Public Health, with expertise and interest in research design and operational methods.

7- 8 years of experience related to monitoring, evaluating and reporting on programs related to OVC/HIV/AIDS in high-burden, resource-constrained settings. Familiarity with Tanzania's health management information system and other national M&E system Settings.

Managing Director
T-MARC Tanzania
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Email: recruitment@tmarc.or.tz

Deadline for submission is March 31 2021 Only short-listed applicants will be contacted T-MARC is proud to be an EEO/AA employer M/F/D/V



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFQ Title: Consultancy Opportunity

RFQ number: 2020-K02-03

Date of Solicitation: 11th March 2021

Closing Date: 18th March 2021

Submission Date and time: 18th March 2021, 11:00am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

Questions and Clarifications Due by 16th March 2021

Estimated Delivery/ Performance Date: 15th April 2021.

Pact Inc. is an international non-profit organization with its headquarters in Washington, DC. Pact serves communities challenged by poverty and marginalization because we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and government. Our goal is thriving, resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant.

USAID Kizazi Kipya is funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). This is a five-year project which aims to enable one million Tanzanian OVC, adolescents, and young people affected by HIV/AIDS to utilize age-appropriate HIV/AIDS-related and other services for improved care, health, nutrition, education, protection, livelihoods, and psycho-social well-being. Operational in 81 councils of the United Republic of Tanzania, USAID Kizazi Kipya collaborates with the Government of Tanzania and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to implement the economic strengthening (ES) interventions which include management of 9476 WORTH Yetu savings and lending groups with 167,109 members. The ES interventions aims to ensure that parents and caregivers have the financial resources to meet the needs of vulnerable children and adolescents by increasing OVC Households' capacity to cope with effects of the various risks they face and thereby improve their resiliency to future shocks. Pact Tanzania considers sustaining positive results of WORTH Yetu groups by facilitating establishment of microfinance institution in 4 pilot regions of Dar es Salaam, Pwani, Mwanza and Mbeya in which WORTH Yetu groups will be key shareholders.

Consultancy objective

Pact Tanzania considers sustaining positive results of WORTH Yetu groups by facilitating establishment of microfinance institution in 4 pilot regions of Dar es Salaam, Pwani, Mwanza and Mbeya in which WORTH Yetu groups will be key shareholders. The consultant focuses on conducting a feasibility study to determine the value proposition of a Microfinance institution from a representative sample of Worth Yetu groups in 4 pilot Regions and develop a business plan proposal with breakeven analysis for the microfinance in the 4 pilot regions (including compliance requirements, Back Office operational processes, Sales and Marketing strategy, and Human Resource set up). Also prepare an operational budget, financial models, and highly detailed cash flow projections using the existing Worth Yetu groups financial data and profiles for three years to assess the funding requirements and breakeven point analysis.

- Interested candidates should request for the full Terms of Reference through email to procurementTZ@pactworld.org before **16th March 2021**.

Eligibility

To be considered for this award, Vendors must be currently legally operating in Tanzania and the quotation must show:

- The ability to meet or exceed the Requirements/Technical Specifications outlined in the Terms of Reference (TOR).
- Ability to deliver the items/services within the time frame specified in the TOR.

Interested, eligible candidate should deliver their proposal to:

The Tender Committee

Pact Tanzania
74 Uporoto Street, Victoria
P. O. Box 6348, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Or email procurementTZ@pactworld.org

All proposals must be enclosed in a plain sealed envelope. The following information is required in your proposal. The deadline is 11am EAT **Thursday 18th March 2021**.

1	Quoted price in for each item or service specified in Tanzanian Shillings . This price should be inclusive of delivery, and taxes, if applicable
2	Validity period of offer (Offer should be valid for at least 45 days).
3	Credit Payment Term: Pact is preferable payment with 1-month credit, after delivery of goods.
4	Indicate of delivery duration in weeks to complete the task after PO issue.
5	Your quotation must be on official letter head with authorized signature and stamp.
6	Specifications of the required service as per the ToR is fully addressed.

Please note:

- Late or incomplete bids will not be accepted.
- The quote that complies with all the specifications/requirements and offers the lowest price, as well as all other evaluation criteria indicated in the TOR, shall be selected.
- Pact may cancel solicitation and not award.
- Pact may reject any or all responses received.
- Issuance of request for quotes does not constitute a contract commitment by Pact.
- Pact reserves the right to disqualify any offer based on offeror failure to follow the solicitation instructions.
- Pact reserves the right to waive minor proposal deficiencies that can be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition.
- Pact will be contacting all offerors to confirm contact person, address and that the proposal was submitted for this solicitation.

TRA appeals to Mbeya traders, vehicle dealers importers to follow laid-down procedures

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has called upon traders and vehicle importers in Mbeya Region to follow procedures and ensure payment of excise duty through customs offices.

Robert Nyoni, a TRA senior customs officer in Mbeya Region, gave the advice when handing over a vehicle to the police force. The donated vehicle worth 17m/- was seized by TRA.

Nyoni threatened to seize all the commodities including vehicles which will be imported through porous routes. He said the government was determined to ensure increased revenue collections, hence the need for importers to abide to the laws.

He said the seized vehicles are given to public institutions which have submitted their request list to the authority.

"The law allows us to seize vehicles which have been illegally imported or failure by importers to pay registration fees. The cars are given to public institutions," he added.

Handing over the vehicle to Regional Police Commander, Ulrich Mate, Mbeya

Urban legislator, Dr Tulia Ackson said the vehicle will facilitate transport services, thus increasing the force's efficiency in executing their duties which includes protecting people and their properties.

Dr Tulia, who is the Deputy National Assembly Speaker asserted the need to also improve police accommodations, calling upon stakeholders to continue supporting the government's efforts. She said so far the government in collaboration with stakeholders has constructed six houses.

"We will soon complete construction of four other houses for the police officers," she said.



The law allows us to seize vehicles which have been illegally imported or failure by importers to pay registration fees.



Martha Mmasi (2nd-R), winner of the first draw of NMB Bank Plc's 'Bonge la Mpango' promotion shows the plate number and registration card of her prize – a Lifan Cargo tricycle. This was shortly after Donatus Richard (2nd-L), the bank's zone manager for the Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar zone, presented it to her in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on are NMB branch managers Restus Assenga (L) for Julius Nyerere International Airport and Demetrius Kagesha for Gongo la Mboto. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

LAAC chairperson calls upon Finance ministry to give district, municipal councils funding promptly

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE chairperson of the Local Government Accounts Committee (LAAC) Grace Tendega has called on the Ministry of Finance and Planning to take funds to district and municipal councils earlier for timely implementation of projects.

She either asked the district councils to faithfully use the taxpayers' money by injecting it into projects in their respective areas.

Tendega issued the advice yesterday during a press conference at parliament buildings during a training offered by the office of the Controller and Auditor General (CAG).

She pointed out that some projects are stuck because of delays

in disbursement of funds from the treasury.

Other factors according to her were delays in issuance of certificates for contractors as well as delays in analysis of the projects.

The aim of the training was to empower the MPs who are members of the committee to help them conduct their duties properly when they visit local government authorities.

She named some of the core functions of the committee as advising the government on various projects which are being implemented in local government as well as advice on delayed projects.

She added that other projects include, inspecting projects as well as identifying if the implementation

had value for money.

Tendega said the training will help them with the expertise on how to inspect projects as well as advice on how best to use project funds. She said there are some district council workers who have been taking time to implement projects hence make money intended for projects return to the treasury.

Deputy chairman for LAAC Selemu Zedi said after the training, the committee will go to regions of Dar es Salaam, Coast and Tanga to tour some projects as part of practical.

He said the training offers an in-depth know-how on performing their parliamentary duties and how to report their findings back to the parliament.

'75 pct of kidney patients cannot afford dialysis cost at Mbeya Referral Hospital'

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

SEVENTY-FIVE per cent of kidney patients who need to undergo dialysis at Mbeya Zone Referral Hospital cannot pay for the high cost being charged.

This was revealed early this week by the Hospital's kidney specialist, Dr Octavian Kasanga to the Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Dr Dorothy Gwajima during her inspection visit at the hospital's kidney ward.

Dr Kasanga said out of every four people with kidney ailment, three have no financial ability to meet treatment cost and when such a situation arises, some of them conduct fundraising while others get

exemption from payment.

"The government has put up conducive environment in treating kidney patients and that is why we receive patients from different parts of the Southern Highlands Regions, as our services are good with adequate equipment and experienced experts in kidney treatment," he said.

Mbeya Zone Referral Hospital Director Dr Godlove Mwanji said despite the high treatment cost, the service has been closer to the people. He said the introduction of kidney dialysis at the hospital has helped many people in the Southern Highlands Zone to access it in time especially those who are required to undergo dialysis at least three times per week.

He said in the past the service was being provided at Dar es Salaam's Muhimbili Hospital and patients had to undergo great expenses to travel, while others could not meet treatment cost. Kidney's specialist from Dodoma's Benjamin Mkapa Hospital Dr Linda Ezekiel said in one year one kidney patient was required to pay more than 40m/-.

Speaking on the government plan to reduce kidney treatment cost, Dr Gwajima, the Health minister said they have increased specialized medical services at all zonal referral hospitals that provide dialysis services.

She said the government aims to empower all regional referral hospitals to provide kidney treatment including dialysis by 2025.



African Trade Insurance Agency
Agence pour l'Assurance du Commerce en Afrique

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ATI provides political and credit risk insurance to companies, investors and lenders doing business in Africa. For over a decade, ATI has maintained an A rating for Financial Strength and Counterparty Credit by Standard & Poor's, and in 2019 obtained a second A3/Stable rating from Moody's. ATI's membership includes African Member States as well as a number of corporate and institutional shareholders. Besides its head office in Nairobi, ATI currently has offices in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

Working at ATI offers unique career opportunities. Candidates are invited to apply for the following open positions: **Senior Compliance Officer, Claims Officer, Credit Analyst and Operations Analyst (Underwriting system).**

Role Descriptions
The role descriptions and fuller details of the duties are posted on ATI's website www.ati-aca.org

Qualifications, Experience and other Attributes
The successful candidates must have suitable qualifications, experience and attributes as indicated under the respective job descriptions on ATI's website. All the roles require excellent communications skills in written and spoken English. Knowledge of French and an ability to work in a multi-cultural environment, will be an added advantage.

How to Apply:

- Please submit an **Application Letter, Personal History Form (this may be downloaded from the ATI website), CV, plus details of your current remuneration package along with details of three referees to recruitment@ati-aca.org**
- For a detailed job description of each role, please visit ATI's website <http://www.ati-aca.org/about-us/current-opportunities/career-opportunities/>
- The closing date for application is **20th April 2021 at Midnight Nairobi, Kenya time**
- ATI will only contact those applicants who are being actively considered for an interview

ATI offers a competitive salary and benefits package and a collegial working environment commensurate with other multilaterals. ATI reserves the right to not make an appointment to the above vacancies, or to make an appointment at a slightly higher or lower grade, or to make an appointment with a modified job description.

SAO HILL AGRICULTURE LIMITED

The companies Act, 2002 (Section 334)

MEMBER'S VOLUNTARY WINDING – UP

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the general public that **SAO HILL AGRICULTURE LIMITED** a company with registration number **86473** duly convened a meeting on 15th December, 2020 and passed a special resolution in accordance to section 333 (1) (b) of the Companies Act, 2002 that the company be wound up voluntarily.

All parties concerned and who have claims are hereby notified to submit their claims in a closed envelop within 30 days to **GODFREY BASIL MRAMBA of Basil & Alred, Ace Building, Haile Selassie Road, P.O. Box 78661, Dar es salaam, Tanzania**, who is appointed Liquidator of the Company.

Any claims lodged after 30 days from this publication will not be considered for admission.

GODFREY BASIL MRAMBA
Liquidator
For **SAO HILL AGRICULTURE LIMITED**

TANGA FORESTS LIMITED

The companies Act, 2002 (Section 334)

MEMBER'S VOLUNTARY WINDING – UP

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the general public that **TANGA FORESTS LIMITED** a company with registration number **54988** duly convened a meeting on 15th December, 2020 and passed a special resolution in accordance to section 333 (1) (b) of the Companies Act, 2002 that the company be wound up voluntarily.

All parties concerned and who have claims are hereby notified to submit their claims in a closed envelop within 30 days to **GODFREY BASIL MRAMBA of Basil & Alred, Ace Building, Haile Selassie Road, P.O. Box 78661, Dar es salaam, Tanzania**, who is appointed Liquidator of the Company.

Any claims lodged after 30 days from this publication will not be considered for admission.

GODFREY BASIL MRAMBA
Liquidator
For **TANGA FORESTS LIMITED**



Mbeya regional commissioner Albert Chalamila (C) has a word with residents of a village in Iyela ward in connection with the recent killing of Court of Appeal Judge Bethuel Mila's watchman. To his right is Mbeya Regional Police Commander Ulrich Matei. Photo: Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga

Govt to establish accredited labs for quality assessment

By Getrude Mbogo

THE government is planning to establish accredited laboratories that can do assessment of quality which is recognized globally so as to support more producers meet requirements and thus export their products smoothly.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Industries and Trade, Prof Riziki Shemdoe said this in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday when opening the two-day "National Stakeholders Meeting on Non-tariff Measures".

He said that lack of the assessment centres in the country has been forcing producers to resort to foreign auditors for certification such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and Global GAP before exporting their produce, something which cost them vastly.

In his speech read on his behalf by the deputy rector of the College of Business Education (CBE), Dr Emmanuel Munisi, the PS said by establishing the centres, producers and traders will no longer have to travel abroad to seek for the accreditations.

Prof Shemdoe said, a recent survey

conducted by the ministry and the International Trade Centre (ITC) has revealed that lack of accredited labs in the country is making business expensive for traders.

"Having accredited labs in the country will make it easier, faster and cheaper for exporters, so the government is working on it," he asserted.

He said the survey aimed to identify key regulatory obstacles to trade, which Tanzanian exporters and importers face.

He said the International Trade Centre (ITC) in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry and Trade is implementing the Market Access Upgrade Programme (MARKUP), a regional initiative aiming at improving market access to European Union (EU) and the East African region for five East Africa Community (EAC) partner countries - Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda on specific agro-industrial crop and horticultural sectors.

"With the private sector being the engine of economic growth, the government has continued to address various barriers to improve business climate, we have so far removed a total of 170 levies which were cited as cumbersome to trade

development," Prof Shemdoe said.

Ashish Shah, ITC director -division of country programmes said the survey found that among the key requirements that exporters face hurdles include obtaining the necessary export permits, licences and certifications required by national authorities.

"The main complaints refer to duplications in the documents, many administrative windows for issuing each one of the requirements, and delays related to these regulations," he said.

He said other major procedural hurdles exporters face include numerous administrative windows involved, documentation difficulties (for example for testing and certifications) and lack of information on trade related regulations and procedures. Shah said ITC is well committed to supporting Tanzania in business development.

Safari Fungo, MARKUP project coordinator said due to highlighted challenges in the survey, reducing the amount of export requirements and organizations involved in cross border trade is a priority.

"Dealing with several agencies even requiring similar regulations can be tougher for micro and small

Youth from poor households in Mbeya Region benefit from food processing, batik training

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

NINETEEN youth from poor households in Mbeya Region have benefited from a one-month essential training course on food and vegetable processing as well as batik making so as to enable them produce quality goods to transform their income.

Provided by the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO), the training was funded by the Tanzania Education Authority (TEA) in collaboration with the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF). Henriko Mdede, SIDO regional manager said

the training benefited the youth from involved beneficiaries from Mbeya and Kyela District councils.

"All the 19 youth have graduated from the training course, having deep understanding and skills to initiate income generating projects to improve their income and fight poverty," he said.

He said, apart from food processing and batik making training, the youth were also capacitated with techniques which will help them get market for the goods which they are producing.

Closing the training, Mbeya Region-

Commissioner Albert Chalamila urged the youth to go and make good use of the skills by initiating innovative projects so as to improve their income at family level as well contribute to the country's economic development.

"Invest in producing quality products, make sure that everything which you produce has unique qualities which also meet national and international standards, this will enable you to penetrate easily in the market, creativity is key here," Chalamila told the graduates.



THE SALVATION ARMY
TANZANIA TERRITORY

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Salvation Army has been operating in Tanzania for over 80 years. At present, there are more than 150 Salvation Army locations in Tanzania. Each location aims to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to the community. Through Church programmes, schools, institutions and extensive community development work, The Salvation Army aims 'to bring people to a living faith in Jesus Christ through preaching the gospel, teaching and modelling holy living, and meeting physical need without discrimination.'

Candidates should understand, respect and sympathise with the Mission and Values of The Salvation Army.

POST	PROJECT MANAGER AND FIELDS COORDINATORS
Context	Do you feel you can offer experience and dedication to further The Salvation Army's mission of helping everyone? Do you feel you can support The Salvation Army's no discrimination policy? Do you think you can further our mission of helping the most marginalised in society? Do you want to be part of a team that has already answered 'Yes!' to these questions? If the answer to all 4 of these questions is yes, then we would love to work with you in implementing Sustainable agriculture and Livestock project in Mara region. 1 post for project Manager 3 posts for Project coordinators (Bukine, Tarime and Serengeti)

Specification	Required
1 Post: Project Manager	Bachelor degree in Community development, project management or related field. Master degree will be an added advantage to applicant.
Qualifications, Skills and experience	Minimum of 5 years of progressively responsible work experience in managing and implementing multi-faceted donor-funded development projects. Knowledge on VSLA model is added advantage Solid experience in project management, especially funded projects: Able to strategically inspire and energise project teams; Background in/understanding of agriculture/Livestock, preferably Food Security and Nutrition; Experience in conducting Monitoring and Evaluation; Demonstrated experience in managing multiple stakeholders Excellent social and networking skills, ability to engage with the private sector, civil society and governments; Excellent communication (written and oral), reporting and presentation skills; Fluency in English is required; Willingness to travel to all project locations and to work in a fragile environment Endorse the Christian identity of The Salvation Army Computer skills (excel, word etc) Degree or diploma in community development or any related field. Substantial knowledge regarding the program management on field level. Enough knowledge on agriculture/Livestock field, knowledge on VSLA is added advantage.
3 fields coordinators	Substantial knowledge of standard logistics procedures and practices required Good understanding of financial and HR procedures required Excellent communication and representative skills (written, oral, cross-cultural) Ability to multitask and deal with stressful situations. Ability to adapt within the working environment. Ability to work in a team setting. Second language skills highly recommended and for some missions required. Experience in working with donor funded project. Computer skills.
Mentality/Situation/ Sex	Sympathetic to The Salvation Army and its aims Between 25-45 years of age No previous criminal convictions or child abuse incidents, sex exploitation and abuse.

APPLICATION: Please send within 7 days after publication, your cover letter, passport size photo and CV with copies of professional certificates and contact details of 3 referees to The Salvation Army HQ, To Chief Secretary Daniel Kiama (Lt.-Colonel), PO Box 1273, DSM, attention to Captain.Stivina Sinana or email tnz.leadership2@gmail.com

Visit construction sites before submitting tenders, minister calls on road contractors

By Guardian Reporter

CONTRACTORS engaged in road infrastructure projects have been challenged to visit construction sites before submitting tenders to be able to offer actual bid prices for each of the projects.

The Minister for Works and Transport, Dr Leonard Chamuriho, made the statement in Dodoma when presenting a report on the various construction projects under his docket as well as the budget estimated for the 2020/2021 financial year.

The projects include the ones which will be inspected by the Parliamentary Infrastructure Committee in its scheduled tour expected in the coming days. The committee will inspect the ongoing construction of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), improvements of ports, Institute of Construction Technology in Morogoro, Magomeni residential buildings project, new Selander bridge construction across the Indian Ocean and the bus rapid transit (BRT) in Dar es Salaam.

The minister asserted that there has been a tendency by construction companies not visiting the sites to know the available opportunities and challenges before submitting proposals, hence failure to provide the actual bid prices. He said the habit results in delaying most of the development project over reasons of lack of raw materials.

"May I urge you to stop repeating the bid price for different projects because each of the projects differs in size and costs," Dr Chamuriho noted.

He added that foreign construction companies have been directed to collaborate with local contractors in major projects so as to build their capacities. He said the government would in future prefer local contractors in all the construction projects including airports, roads and bridges.

SAO HILL AGRICULTURE LIMITED	
REG: 86473	
EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRA - ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SAO HILL AGRICULTURE LIMITED HELD AT ITS REGISTERED OFFICE	
ON 15 DECEMBER 2020 AT 2:00 P.M.	
MEMBERS PRESENT WERE:	
1. GODLISTEN MINJA	DIRECTOR/ CHAIRMAN
2. CHARLES SCOTT	DIRECTOR
3. DANIEL HULLS	DIRECTOR
4. PETER MACSPORRAN	DIRECTOR
5. ANNETTE KIRETHI	COMPANY SECRETARY
THE CHAIRMAN REPORTED that according to the Company activities, the Shareholders of SAO HILL AGRICULTURE LTD (hereinafter called "the Company") is desirous of voluntarily winding up the Company.	
SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS:	
IT WAS RESOLVED.	
1. That, the Company be voluntarily liquidated and dissolved as decided by members;	
2. That, Godfrey Basil Mramba be and is hereby appointed as a liquidator for the purpose of winding up the affairs and distributing the assets of the Company;	
3. That, the remuneration payable by the Company to shall be negotiated and agreed based on the man-hour spent on this assignment;	
4. That M/S Basil & Alred be and is hereby appointed auditor for the purpose of auditing the Liquidator's account of the winding up of the affairs of the Company;	
5. That the remuneration payable by the Company to M/S Basil & Alred as auditor shall be negotiated and agreed based on the man-hour spent on this assignment.	
The above is a certified True Copy of The Resolution of the Board of Directors	
CHAIRMAN	COMPANY SECRETARY

TANGA FORESTS LIMITED	
REG: 54988	
EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRA - ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF TANGA FORESTS LIMITED HELD AT ITS REGISTERED OFFICE	
ON 15 DECEMBER 2020 AT 2:00 P. BOARD OF RESOLUTION	
MEMBERS PRESENT WERE:	
1. GODLISTEN MINJA	DIRECTOR/ CHAIRMAN
2. LILIAN KITOSY	DIRECTOR/MEMBER
3. ANNETTE KIRETHI	COMPANY SECRETARY
THE CHAIRMAN REPORTED that according to the Company activities, the Shareholders of TANGA FORESTS LIMITED (hereinafter called "the Company") is desirous of voluntarily winding up the Company.	
SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS:	
IT WAS RESOLVED.	
1. That the Company be voluntarily liquidated and dissolved as decided by members.	
2. That Godfrey Basil Mramba be and is hereby appointed as a liquidator for the purpose of winding up the affairs and distributing the assets of the Company;	
3. That the remuneration payable by the Company to shall be negotiated and agreed based on the man-hour spent on this assignment;	
4. That M/S Basil & Alred be and is hereby appointed auditor for the purpose of auditing the Liquidator's account of the winding up of the affairs of the Company;	
5. That the remuneration payable by the Company to M/S Basil & Alred as auditor shall be negotiated and agreed based on the man-hour spent on this assignment.	
The above is a certified True Copy of The Resolution of the Board of Directors	
CHAIRMAN	COMPANY SECRETARY



Harrison Mashauri (R) of KCB Tanzania's Zanzibar branch pictured earlier this week showing journalists some of the items worth 5m/- the bank earlier this week presented to Aisha Mohammed (C), one of the beneficiaries of its 'Zijajiri' employment programme, in support of her business. With them is another official with the bank, Evance Charles. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Use modern lab to test heavy metals, TMDA urges medical devices dealers

By Correspondent Devota Mwachang'a

MEDICINES and medical device manufacturers have been urged to use the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA)'s modern laboratory for the testing of heavy metals from their products to ensure safety before distributing to the market.

Heavy metals are natural components of the Earth's crust that cannot be destroyed or degraded in any way. They are generally defined as metals with relatively high densities and toxic or poisonous at low concentrations.

Acting Head of TMDA's Lab in Lake Zone Bugusu Nyamweru made the call when briefing journalists who visited the lake zone laboratory in Mwanza recently.

Nyamweru said: "The importers of medical devices should follow the procedures by taking samples for tests so as to be free from heavy metals such as mercury (Hg), cadmium (Cd), arsenic (As), chromium (Cr), thallium (Tl), and lead (Pb) to ensure the safety of the user's health."

He said the objective of the lab is to expand the scope of sample testing to various stakeholders and researchers in the lake zone and countrywide, adding that the lab is open for all to bring their samples

for testing.

Jovinary Rwezahura, analyst from the TMDA's laboratory said the heavy metals are dangerous and become toxic when they are not metabolised by the body and accumulate in the soft tissues.

Rwezahura said to a small extent the heavy metals enter the bodies through food, drinking water, and air. "Human can get metallic elements in the body through eating food substances, drinking water, using cosmetics. Some elements like Copper, Selenium, and Zinc are essential to maintain the metabolism of the human body but they can lead to poisoning," Rwezahura added.

He cited the symptoms of a person having heavy metals in the body including diarrhoea, nausea, abdominal pain, vomiting, shortness of breath, tingling in your hands and feet, skin irritation, ulceration, kidney and liver damage. "Despite the fact that the human body doesn't need nutrients of the heavy metals at all due to the effects including damage to nervous systems which lead to the person's memory loss, there is a tolerable level that when entered in the body, the effects can't be seen or identified," he said.

He explained that the analysis

starts by digesting the hard sampling whereas the small amount of the relevant sample is measured by a special laboratory scale and then sent to a machine called Microwave Digester for the digestion exercise process, the sample becomes liquid ready for testing.

According to him, after completion of the investigation process, the report is sent to the Chief of Investigation in order to prepare a certificate of inquiry.

He said that experts identify the level of heavy metals in the human body by using modern machines in the laboratory which is called Microwave Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrophotometer (MP - AES).

Rwezahura said the MP-AES weighs many samples of minerals at once whereas the analyst can test more than one type of minerals, this character differentiates this machine from other machines with the same function.

Gaudensia Simwanza, TMDA's communications, and public education manager said all results that will be obtained after testing the amount of heavy metal on the medical device like a needle, water, and cosmetics will be checked to comply with International Standard Organization (ISO), World Health Organisation (WHO) standards.

Volunteers out to rid Tanzania of leprosy

By Guardian Reporter, Muheza

IN Kwa Bada village in north-eastern Tanzania, community health volunteer Sylvia Petro is hunting an ancient, endemic disease and shining a light on the devastating stigma that surrounds it.

Leprosy has long plagued humanity yet has been treatable for decades by multidrug therapy. Described in the literature of ancient civilizations, sufferers are often shunned by fearful families and communities.

Leprosy can cause permanent damage to the skin, nerves, limbs and eyes if left untreated. Yet when symptoms appear, patients often lock themselves away in shame, making it hard to treat and cure.

Sylvia understands all this, as she has been treated for leprosy herself.

"The promise of a cure helps some patients accept their situation but, in many cases, they still try and hide their worsening condition, even from their own families and in their own homes," Sylvia says.

"Family members of patients that seek treatment often cannot accept that a relative has leprosy."

Despite the challenge, Sylvia is trusted and well known in the over 500-household strong community. She goes from door to door, patiently encouraging people to seek treatment.

"I want to make sure everyone in my district understands how Leprosy is spread. I want every single case in Muheza to be registered for treatment," she says.

Thanks to the World Health Organisation (WHO)-supported multidrug therapy led by Tanzania's National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Programme, the country brought the number of Leprosy cases down from nearly 35 000 in 1983 to under 1600 in 2019. The national prevalence has dropped to 0.3 cases per 10,000 people.

The National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Programme also ensures timely case-finding and treatment, contact-tracing and household contact screening. Areas

reporting high infections and disabilities are given priority.

"We are at an encouraging stage in our effort to eliminate leprosy. We are working to integrate leprosy control in general health care services and apply cost-effective methods to improve community awareness and acceptance, and to combat stigma and discrimination against persons and families affected by leprosy," says Dr Deus Vedastus Kamara, the National Leprosy and Tuberculosis Programme Coordinator.

Fuelled by stigma and a lack of understanding in communities, the disease remains stubbornly endemic in Muheza and nine other districts.

"I thought the spots would just go away," says Belinda Sekioni, who is now on multidrug therapy. "I thought maybe a plant's juices had reacted with my skin, or that I stayed in the sun too long on the farm."

"I'm thankful to the health workers who counselled me. The most important thing I learned was that leprosy is not spread down through families. This corrected my misunderstanding."

Sylvia Petro is one of 90 community health volunteers trained by National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Programme and WHO with support from the Nippon Foundation of the Sasakawa Health Foundation to end the disease in Tanzania in line with a declaration towards a leprosy-free world reached in Bangkok in 2013 by the Health Ministers from all high-burden countries.

National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Programme is also strengthening monitoring and evaluation to collect better data to target responses, improve coordination and boost knowledge and awareness of the disease and available treatments.

Since the project began in 2017, new cases in Muheza have halved to just 15 in 2020. Building on this success, Tanzania has now set up a 2021-2025 strategic plan to eliminate leprosy.

ZBS all out to protect human health agenda

By Guardian Reporter

THE Zanzibar Bureau of Standards (ZBS) has urged Isles residents that each of the locally produced products including vegetables and fruits meet the required standards.

According to Bakari the bureau has been ensuring quality of food and other products manufactured in the Isles with intentions of protecting consumers. He said the capacity building training will increase the officers' competence in food inspection thus assuring the nation of consuming quality products.

He called upon the experts to take advantage of the skills and knowledge imparted on them to ensure provision of quality services.

"We target at improving the quality of products produced by Zanzibaris, we have the best laboratories for testing of food and other products," the ZBS boss noted.

He commended the government for providing them with modern laboratory equipment insisting to increase efficiency to protect the health of last consumers.

Vicky Macha from a non-governmental

organization—"Trias" said the organization in collaboration with Tanzania Horticultural Association is implementing a project to improve value chain in the horticulture sector in Zanzibar.

She said under the project they are targeting to reach over 10,100 small scale farmers and entrepreneurs. The horticulture project which is funded by the by European Development Funds (EDF/EU) is implemented for four years in Unguja, Zanzibar.

"We also aim at creating jobs for young women entrepreneurs engaging in agriculture," said Macha adding the project focuses on improving the cultivation of four crops namely, hot pepper, water melon, tomatoes and banana.

TAHA Coordinator for food safety and standards Naimana Daniel said the training was meant to ensure all the produced horticultural products meet the set standards.

"We are targeting to protect the health of last consumers especially in the horticulture sector," said Daniel.

Enabel
Belgian development agency

JOB TITLE: PROJECT MANAGER - BEEKEEPING VALUE CHAIN SUPPORT

The Belgian development agency, Enabel, mobilises its resources and its expertise to eliminate poverty in the world. Enabel contributes to the efforts of the international community and works towards a society that provides present and future generations with sufficient resources to build a sustainable and fair world.

Its staff members in Brussels and overseas embody the commitment of the Belgian State and other development partners to international solidarity.

Enabel currently supports more than 200 cooperation projects and programmes in 18 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. In the future, Enabel's efforts will focus on 14 partner countries as a result of a decision made by the Minister of Development Cooperation.

In view of the further development of its activities Enabel is currently looking for a (m/f):

Project Manager Beekeeping Value Chain Support, Dar Es Salaam Tanzania

Background

Enabel is operating in Tanzania as a public limited company under public law with a social purpose in accordance with article 7 (iii) of the General Agreement between The United Republic of Tanzania and The Kingdom of Belgium on Development Co-operation signed on 16th of October 2002, and the introduction Letter from the Embassy of Kingdom of Belgium N° 2018/023 signed on 25th January 2018 on the transformation from BTC into Enabel.

The values of respect, integrity, responsibility and accountability are fully subscribed by all Enabel staff, while respecting a strict neutrality and impartiality.

For the launching of our new project on beekeeping, with funds of the European Union, and operated in partnership with the International Trade Centre (ITC) based in Geneva, we are searching for an Project Manager for the regions of Tabora, Kigoma, Katavi, Singida, Shinyanga and Pemba Island.

Contract will be signed as soon as final approval on EU financing is obtained.

The intervention zones for the Action are the Regions of Tabora, Kigoma, Katavi, Singida, Shinyanga and Pemba Island.

The duration of the Action is 4 years with an inception phase of 6 months.

Selection will be finalized in close collaboration with ITC and representatives of The Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism and The Ministry of Industries and Trade.

Intervention

The intervention is taking place under the 11th EDF National Indicative Programme for Tanzania (2014-2020) in which Sustainable Agriculture is a focal sector with the specific objective to "enhance management of natural resources, including forests, and ecosystem services for sustainable agriculture development and climate change adaptation". The European Union Action Document for Beekeeping Value Chain Support (TZ/FED/040-900) contributes to that objective and also to the Planet and Prosperity pillars.

The overall objective of the Action is enhancing the beekeeping industry for inclusive growth, poverty reduction and food security in Tanzania.

The specific objective is to ensure that high quality honey is produced in an environmentally sustainable manner leads to increased market penetration.

The programme will focus on 3 main outputs:

- EO 1: Institutional capacity and enabling environment for beekeeping value chain actors is strengthened, while enhancing women's empowerment (Enabel-Led).
- EO 2: Capacities of beekeeping value chain actors improved and management of bee reserves and apiaries enhanced. (Enabel-Led).
- EO 3: Market links and Trade of bee products strengthened (ITC-Led).

Job description

Under the hierarchical authority of the Representant Resident of Enabel in Tanzania, and in close collaboration with the ICT co-coordinator, the Intervention Manager manages the intervention in order to realize the specific objective of the intervention by covering all management domains.

Your tasks and duties will involve:

- You lead the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) set up by Enabel while ensuring the coordination of the implementation with the associated partners;
- You are responsible for the leadership and strategic direction, including meeting quality standards in beekeeping delivery, encouraging beneficiary participation, liaising with other stakeholders;
- You ensure that all management domains of the intervention are covered (content/scope, planning, budget, quality, etc.) You will plan, develop, monitor and evaluate the assigned Beekeeping Project. This involves assessing the needs for upgrading the beekeeping value chain, designing projects, effectively managing and reporting on the projects in line with the objectives, timeframe and budget;
- You coordinate the activities and ensure their execution, in compliance with set arrangements and procedures in order to achieve the intervention objectives;
- As Expert you provide all necessary technical inputs that contribute to the implementation of the intervention, and ensure that external expertise is mobilized on time when and where needed;
- You lead the change process and contribute to partner entity capacity development in order to contribute to the improvement of their organization, processes and systems and of their staff's competences;
- As Knowledge manager you coordinate the learning process of how an intervention contributes to the development of a (sub)sector in order to ensure that the knowledge and/or results generated through this process are disseminated;
- You lead the team of the project, putting in place an appropriate organization in terms of roles and responsibilities at the intervention's level, as well as training beekeeping project staff.

Specific Results Areas

For each region a regional approach will be developed for upgrading the regional value chains by improving the enabling environment and institutional capacity while looking for complementarity and synergy with private sector initiatives and ongoing programs in the different regions;

- Capacity building of all value chain actors and empowerment of beekeepers in the VC;
- Strengthening the capacity for improved provision of and access to adequate financial services and products for the different value chain actors;
- Provision of adequate non-financial services to the different value chain actors;
- Upgrading of capacities and facilities of national and regional institutes related to research, innovation, training and quality assurance;
- Knowledge management and communication within the value chain;
- Increasing quality honey production capacity;
- Improvement of supply chain for efficient aggregation of quality honey products;
- Sustainable management of beereserves and beekeeping areas in protected areas and Village Forest Reserves;
- Improvement of the performance and of processing and packaging industries;
- Link of value chain development to market access and trade of beeproducts;
- Gender/youth: proactively developing activities that could lead to increased gender participation and gender equality as well as youth employment in the beekeeping activities

Your profile

Required qualifications

- Tanzanian nationality;
- Master's degree in Agricultural Economics/Natural Resource Management or related field;

Required experience

- Minimum 5 years of relevant experience in project management of international development programmes in field of Sustainable Forest Management or Natural Resources Management;
- Proven relevant experiences in agricultural value chain development interventions with also the components of access to value chain financing and the market;
- Proven experience in working with and coordinating public and private sector stakeholders to develop partnerships and related multi-stakeholders processes;
- Minimum one relevant professional experience outside your country of origin;
- An experience as team manager;
- Experience in several projects is an asset.

Required skills and knowledge

- In-depth knowledge of project management methodologies;
- Demonstrated strong interpersonal skills and the ability to develop collaborative relation and partnerships, especially in a project with multiples implementation partners;
- Thorough knowledge in the field of beekeeping;
- Monitoring and evaluation competences;
- You are fluent in Kiswahili. Considering the international environment in which you work, good working knowledge of English is required.

Applicants are also required to commit to the vision, mission and values of Enabel (<https://www.enabel.be/content/enabel-vision-mission-values>).

Selection will involve testing, as well as interviews

We offer you

- A position with real responsibilities, in a multicultural work environment
- A competitive salary taking into account your experience, Possibilities to learn and grow in the function

You will join an organization that has signed a charter on integrity and equity

Enabel is committed to equal opportunities and diversity in its workforce. Recruitment is solely on the basis of capacity.

Application

Qualified candidates are invited to submit their application before 26th March 2021.; Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

If you are interested in the position, please apply before 26th March 2021 via <https://jobs.enabel.be> We thank you in advance for your interest in our company

The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

FRIDAY 12 MARCH 2021

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

WBank drought resilience initiative most appreciated

DROUGHTS are the most deadly and costly natural disasters in southern Africa. They affect most people and cause the most deaths in the region. Research shows that the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) countries are vulnerable to droughts and other extreme natural and human-induced hazards. These hazards and risks affect development and remain a concern for socio-economic and sustainable development.

A drought is an event of prolonged shortages in the water supply, whether atmospheric, surface water or ground water. A drought can last for months or years, or may be declared after as few as 15 days. It can have a substantial impact on the ecosystem and agriculture of the affected region and harm to the local economy. Annual dry seasons in the tropics significantly increase the chances of a drought developing and subsequent bush fires. Periods of heat can significantly worsen drought conditions by hastening evaporation of water vapour.

Drought is a recurring feature of the climate in most parts of the world. Drought affect food production and human society, so they are considered a disaster, of natural, supernatural or human cause (which itself could be supernatural causes). The World Bank, with support from the Cooperation in International Waters in Africa (CIWA) together launched the Southern African Drought Resilience Initiative (SADRI) last week.

SADRI is an initiative that aims to provide tools that countries could use to better implement and coordinate drought resilience strategies within and across borders and sectors. The initiative aims to foster integrated drought risk management across the ener-

gy-water-food environment and help lay foundations for greater resilience in southern African countries to the multi-sectoral influence of drought.

Speaking at the launch, World Bank Senior Water Resources Management Specialist Anna Cestari said SADC economies are very vulnerable to climate change and drought. Cestari said these economies are mostly highly dependent on natural resources and droughts cause ecosystems degradation and food insecurity.

Research shows that the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) countries are vulnerable to droughts and other extreme natural and human-induced hazards

SADRI's main objectives are to generate tools and dialogue for enhancing partnerships and capacity across SADC member states and to inform future national and regional investments in drought related activities. This project targets the 16 SADC member states and will be implemented from September 2020 to October 2022.

We need to collectively engage in how partners can jointly realise a vision for drought resilience in the region, as supported by the SADRI mission. Research shows that urban droughts produce an imbalance of the water supply and water demand. This situation is exacerbated in water scarce cities. Droughts also cause food insecurity and famines, killing humans and decimating livestock.

It is proven that drought can lead to displacement and expansion of crop land, increasing competition with host communities and ecosystems. An increase in water demand and a decline in water reservoir levels impacts hydropower production and the economy.

Grassroots links essential for boosting Kiswahili in SADC

FURTHER effort has been registered by the Tanzania government in its capacity as host of the ministerial meeting of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) to seek the formalization of using Kiswahili in official SADC activities. This is a second step meant to formally approve the language as part of official means of communication, submitted by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Brig Gen. Wilbert Ibuge. There is a chance that the countries will make an effort but definitely there is plenty of work to be done before Kiswahili can compete as official language.

Since Kiswahili had already been accepted as an official language but not yet formalised, there are significant chances of making this step, so long as the costing level for SADC is not high as a result. This aspect has not been elaborated as to whether impediments of this sort exist, for instance if it means raising the language to the same level as foreign languages used in SADC, namely English, French and Portuguese. Nor was it clear if the earlier admission of Kiswahili included a programme of action in the sense of steps to be taken towards actual formalization, and whether any ground level preliminaries arise.

At times there are procedures in representational bodies where a member suggesting a move, or some kind of legislation, needs to be seconded by another member so that the proposal can be earnestly taken. It means that Tanzania may still have some work to do at the diplomatic level to obtain formal

assent of another country, for instance, requesting or accepting to use documents translated from the official languages as part of its proper communication channels or official archives. If it is merely for retrieval purposes in that language, the scale of formalization would be limited to translating key documents, etc.

When the permanent secretary says that we in Tanzania have recommended Kiswahili to be used as a working language from the ministerial level to the SADC heads of state and government meetings to enable the language to formally become one among official languages in SADC operations, we in Tanzania can grasp the wisdom of that. Yet for this to become a SADC consensus it will have to attract at least one or two countries, as this will also provide a basis for warranting the use of SADC funds for the Kiswahili inclusion programme. Otherwise Tanzania may have to sponsor Kiswahili inclusion activities.

It is for instance true that SADC has been using colonial languages for a long time and from the wisdom of SADC Heads of State and Government, they decided to use Kiswahili at the ministerial level and Heads of State meetings. This is what the permanent secretary remarked, but it can't be said that this sentiment has sufficient currency in the southern African zone as a whole, where its relationship with the Arab Slave Trade hasn't been forgotten in the region, and to build a consensus this can't be ignored.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

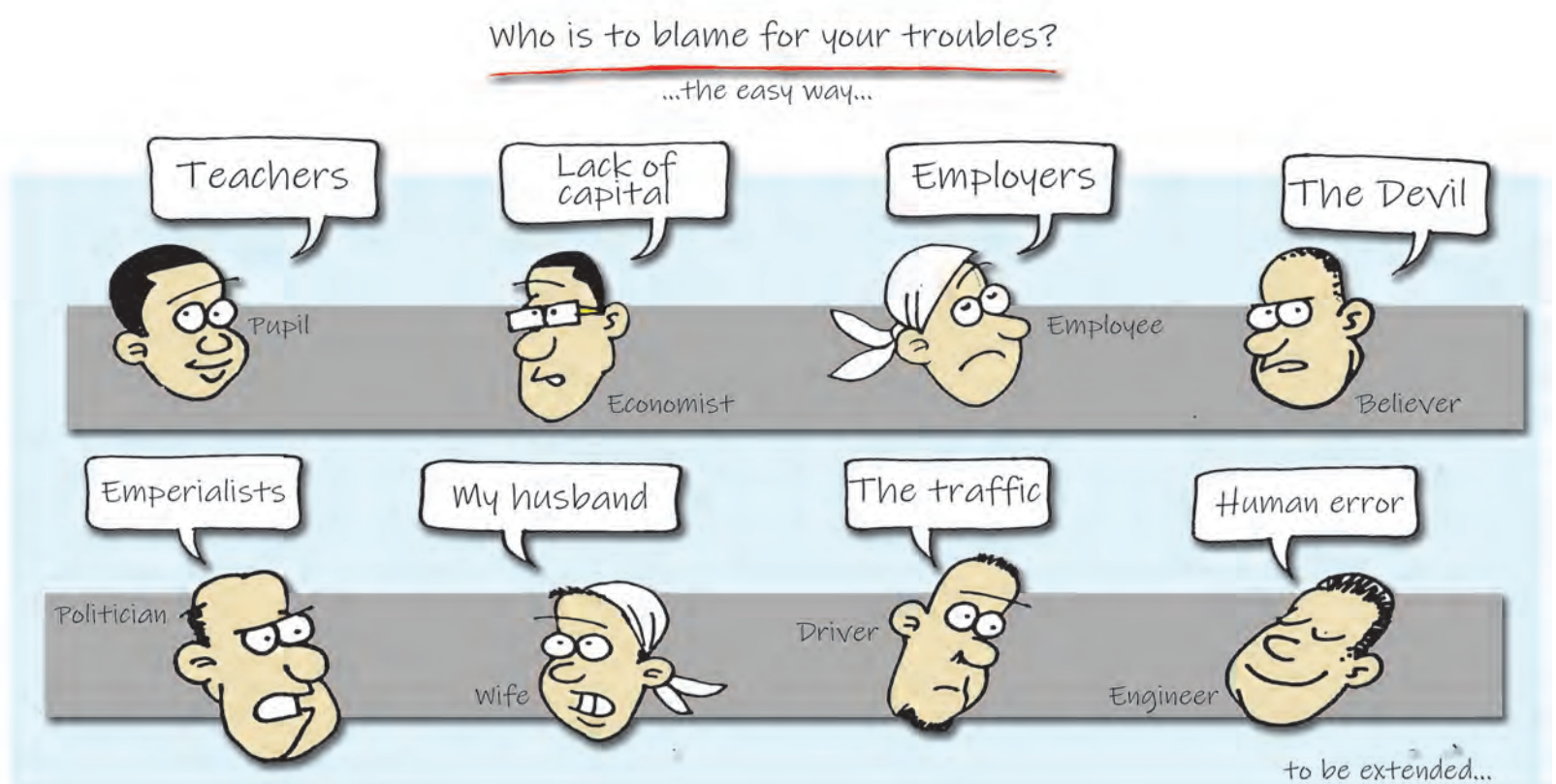
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Social media outrage is not enough to protect our children

By Divya Naidoo

We are a society filled with violent crimes such as murder and rape. These are the long-term consequences of adults who teach children violence from a young age through their own violent, abusive and irresponsible behaviour.

In the first five years of life, a child's experiences and relationships stimulate their development, creating millions of connections in their brains. It has been scientifically proven that during this period a child's brain develops faster than at any other stage of their life. This is the time when foundations are laid for learning healthy, life-long behaviour.

During these first five years, these young inquiring children spend most of their time with parents and caregivers. This can become a wonderful time for every mother or father as they watch their "mini-me" learn from them, and the groundwork is laid for them as they become their own person. But what happens when parents and caregivers become the source for creating troubled childhood, embedded with wrongful lessons and a reckless lifestyle?

Recently a video of an adult (possibly the mother) giving her toddler an alcoholic drink and a smoke of hookah, went viral on social media. Understandably, and thankfully, there was a public outcry. And although as human beings, we do make mistakes, and there are times when some of us - for a brief moment - lose hope in humanity, it is reassuring to see that there are still certain unwavering boundaries that we simply cannot cross.

We need to do more.
How far are we willing to



go as a society? Decisive action is needed now, more than ever. The question we need to each ask ourselves is: what are we going to do? Is it enough to post our wrath and fury on social media, or are we ready to do more?

When a great white shark washes up on a beach, a few good people automatically step in to help save its life. They know it will be difficult and risky, but they are driven by their innate human desire to do good.

They value life and understand the role that sharks play in the ecosystem, such as keeping the food chain in check, keeping the ocean's carbon cycle in motion and promoting the economy through tourism. This ultimately affects our lives as humans. So whether the action is based on the need to save a life or to prevent future consequences, we act.

So, why is it so difficult for some to see how important children are to human existence? What happens when we facilitate a childhood embedded with wrongful lessons and a reckless lifestyle?

Let's look at alcohol as just one example. We know that alcohol is a depressant that slows the brain. But, did

you know that alcohol, especially at an early age, places a risk on a child's brain development, leading to memory and learning difficulties, affecting their performance in school? In addition, alcohol may be poisonous to nerve cells and increases the risk of alcohol-related problems later in life.

Many would argue that a few sips of alcohol would do no harm, but research is still unclear on how much is needed to cause damage. Do we really want to use our children as guinea pigs to confirm this? Therefore, the safest choice is not to give children alcohol.

In The Ballad of the Running Man, Shelley Smith wrote: "Life is like a game of chess, in which there are an infinite number of complex moves possible. The choice is open, but the move contains within itself all future moves. One is free to choose, but what follows is the result of one's choice. From the consequences of one's actions there is never any escape."

What are the consequences of our actions? We see this in our society every day with young people and adults seeking instant gratification, with no

thought of the implications. We are a society filled with violent crimes such as murder and rape. These are the long-term consequences of adults who teach children violence from a young age through their own violent, abusive and irresponsible behaviour.

This calls for decisive and urgent action. Studies have shown that babies are born ready to learn, and their brains develop through use.

Stimulating and caring surroundings, with diverse activities, give children a variety of opportunities to play, develop and learn. We need to ensure that the activities we expose children to embed good values, so that children develop and learn and grow into healthy, responsible adults.

Are we going to be like those good people who got into the water, or are we going to stand by and watch? Our history reminds us of what we can do to overcome seemingly insurmountable challenges - and we shall overcome... What is your next move?

May God continue to bless our homeland Ghana!

By Special Correspondent

"GOD bless my homeland Ghana, And make our nation great and strong. Bold to defend forever, the cause of freedom and of right. Fill our hearts with true humility. Make us cherish fearless honesty. And help us to resist oppressor's rule with all our will and might for evermore."

"I promise on my honour to be faithful and loyal to Ghana my motherland. I pledge myself to the service of Ghana, with all my strength and with all my heart. I promise to hold in high esteem our heritage won for us through the blood and toil of

our Fathers and I pledge myself in all things to uphold and defend the good name of Ghana. So help me God."

Indeed, our greatest achievement after 64 years of Independence is that we continue to hold fast in spite of our diversity, while other nations have been torn apart.

Today, we reference the National Anthem and the National Pledge in our editorial to underscore the fact that the renditions are of great value to all of us as a nation, as Ghana turned 64 years, at the week end.

On March 6, 1957, The Gold Coast became independent from British

colonial rule, and assumed a new name Ghana.

The official commencement of colonialism in the country was the signing of the Bond of 1884 between the British colonial administration and the Fante chiefs.

And what a day to mark our 64th anniversary, last Saturday!! Though the usual colourful parade and mastery display by school children and the military, were absent due to the restrictions imposed to stop the spread of the COVID-19 global pandemic, a very significant event took place on the blind side of many people.

The Black Satellite took the boredom away, made Ghana proud and gave us something to cheer about, in the midst of the pandemic.

Indeed, they pledged themselves to the service of Ghana, with all their strength and with all their hearts, and with mixed fortunes emphatically defeated Uganda 2-0 in the finals of the Confederation of Africa U20 Cup of Nations, played in the Olympic Stadium in Nouakchott, capital of Mauritania.

This is the fourth time the national under-20 football team has won the prestigious continental trophy, after victories in 1993, 1999, and 2009.

WOMEN'S DAY INTERVIEW

Women Fund Tanzania -Trust, Tanzania Gender Networking Programme don't overlap in activities

AS part of commemorating International Women's Day, Correspondent DANIEL ELIEWAHA interviewed the Executive Director of the Women Fund Tanzania -Trust (WFT-T), MARY RUSIMBI, on various issues related to the fund and women's organisations. Excerpts:

QUESTION: Can you explain when Women Fund Tanzania -Trust (WFT-T) was founded and what motivated you and your colleagues to initiate this first feminist and activist Fund in Tanzania?

ANSWERS: I am one of the Founders of Women Fund Tanzania which was registered as an NGO in 2008, but transferred to a Trust in 2019 under the new name of Women Fund Tanzania -Trust (WFT-T). This organization which became operational in 2011 was founded to contribute towards accessing increased funding and resources for reaching more women rights initiatives and groups in communities and also to strengthen their capacities and opportunities for visibility of their work and contributions to the society.

Furthermore, the Fund is engaged in broader right based societal efforts towards changing women and girls lives and we do this through grant making, capacity strengthening and collective action promotion for enhanced and transformative outcomes.

QUESTION: Before joining WFT-T you were the Executive Director of the Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP). What would you say are the main differences between the two organizations, as it appears apart from grants provision, WFT-T and TGNP are doing similar activities?

ANSWER: Yes, before I became active in WFT-T, was indeed executive director at TGNP. Both these are women's rights organizations which promote women and girls' rights to work, although their implementation mandates are different.

For example, while TGNP is an activist women's rights organization which functions as an NGO engaging in the field, WFT-T is a grant making fund and not actually an implementing agent on the ground. I should however say that, I believe in the agenda of both organizations and actually enjoyed and learnt a lot while I was at TGNP, an experience that continues to add to my values at WFT-T.

Also, being an active actor of the women's movement,



we continue to work together with TGNP as both organizations contribute immensely towards a broader goal of transforming marginalization of women and girls in different contexts and levels.

QUESTION: We are aware that WFT-T has funded many women coalitions, foundations, organizations and groups that provide legal aid services to women, media advocacy, leadership programmes and so on. We can mention TGNP, TANGO, TAWLA, (Women in Development Efforts -WAIKI), TAMWA, WeLead, Msichana Initiative, WILDAF, Door of Hope or Ulingo. How do you evaluate or measure the success and even failures of these programmes, advocacies?

ANSWER: The first key result of our funding is the fact that we have been able to direct our funding as well as technical support for key women's rights organizations and community groups with wider coverage of issues in the country. These include gender-based violence (with focus on anti-sexual corruption issues); promoting women leadership in various sectors with a focus for young women leadership and those leading NGOs within the women's movement sector.

We have also funded women economic rights groups - with a focus for those based at local levels and indeed several others which include practical skills such as resources mobilization, organizing and institutional building.

The second major field results are those emerging from various campaigns we have funded which include "Say No to sexual corruption: It kills and humiliates you," where a range of interventions were undertaken towards raising deeper understanding and awareness of sexual corruption as a gender equality issue much as it is an economic sabotage one.

Our aspiration is to see to it that more and more women, girls and even community members break the silence in the violation of their rights, and actually gain confidence in reporting them to PCCB (the Anti-Corruption Bureau) and other relevant authorities such as the police.

"Women and Political Leadership and Participation" is another campaign supported through the Coalition of Women Leadership and Constitution and which has enabled several actors from the various sectors of the women rights movement to come together learning, re-strategizing and organizing to engage for enhancing the gender interpretation as per laid down laws.

There is a push in preparing for Women's Election Manifesto which will enable individual women and girls to connect their issues for the attention of established political parties as well as the National Election Commission (NEC) and the Zanzibar Election Commission (ZEC).

QUESTION: Have these campaigns registered any outputs?

ANSWER: Oh YES. Through these campaigns, we have enabled national level women rights organizations and those based at local levels to work more closely and learn from each other while adopting more effective collective strategies and actions in their implementation processes, a scenario that WFT-T feels has huge potential for a deeper and sustainable outcome. The working together has also provided more potential for them to work with other actors such as PCCB. Many of the PCCB's campaigns have been highly successful; they have immensely helped for instance to bring to book individuals in authority involved in "sexortion" which in Kiswahili is "rushwa ya ngono."

QUESTION: What is your assessment of the Coalition on Women and constitution referred to as "Mtandao wa Wanawake na Katiba"? Do you think it has achieved its objectives and goals?

ANSWER: Between year 2012 and 2015, several women rights organizations, groups, women leaders in the Parliament, Councils, women politicians in general and others working in public institutions and NGOs came together and formed the Coalition on Women and Constitution in Tanzania recognized in Kiswahili as "Mtandao wa Wanawake na Katiba Tanzania." It was a platform of determined women who were keen to see to it that different key issues that concerned women were packaged and submitted to the national commission which was collecting views to be included in the new constitution, which was then being prepared by the commission, on behalf of the government.

The Coalition was supported by more than 60 organizations such as Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA), Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP), Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA), Shirikisho la Vyama vya Walemavu (SHIVYAMATA), Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA), Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF), Tanzania Women Miners Association (TAWOMA) just to mention a few.

WFT-T decided to provide grants to this Coalition. It was first funded platform of such a large women rights organization. The Coalition finally came up with a "Draft Constitution Document" composed of 12 critical and progressive issues that could be forwarded to the Commission, and eventually to the Government, for consideration and implementation.

Uvinza District allocates 2,000 acres of land to military institutions for oil palm cultivation

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu, Kigoma

UVINZA District in Kigoma region has given a total of new 2,000 acres of land to the government military institutions in the region for cultivation of oil palm crop.

The military institutions are Bulobora National Service and the Prison service. Each received a share of 1,000 acres of potential land to cultivate the improved commercial seedlings of oil Palm, Tenera variety.

Handing over the land to the military institutions on Tuesday, Uvinza District Commissioner Mwanamvua Mrindoko issued one month-ultimatum to the Institutions to complete all legal processes and preparations of the land for this year's agricultural season.

"I have issued one month-ultimatum for the three government institutions, that is Uvinza District executive director who is responsible for legal processes of the land, Bulobora JKT, and the Prison service to make a step forward because this year's agricultural season is not far," she said.

We want to see things moving faster in terms of land preparations so that by next year's agricultural season, the areas should be green with commercial seedlings of oil Palm," she added.

She said the three institutions had massive commercial seedlings of oil Palm available, the seedlings only waited for land acquisition process and then cultivation of the land.

She directed Uvinza District council through land department officials that the already formed special committee should continue identifying potential lands and large farms in every village and wards. Statistics and information should be included in the data base for the oil palm production and agricultural development in the district.

She called on investors in and outside the region to go and invest in production and supply of the seeds and seedlings respectively saying the current farmers' demand is high.

"I would like to invite all investors in and outside Kigoma region. Investing in this perennial commercial oil Palm pays and it can exist for more than 30-years," she stressed.

She said the district has also set aside block farming for smallholder farmers who wish to grow the oil palm crop.

Director General of Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo said allocation of the land to the National Service and the Prison service is yet another opportunity for both TARI and the military institutions to work together and achieve the government directives of President John Pombe Magufuli.

He said his research institute would continue collaborating with Uvinza district and the government's military institutions to supply the improved seedlings



Uvinza District Commissioner Mwanamvua Mrindoko (centre) lead soldiers from 821KJ Bulobora and Uvinza district officials to make initial survey of the land shortly before handing over the land to them. To her left is Bulobora Commander Major Victor Faustin and to her right is the director general of Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

of Tenera variety to implement the government agenda of edible oils requirement.

"We have already supplied a total of 70,000 seeds to Bulobora National Service which can produce 50 seedlings which are enough to cultivate 1,000 acres of the improved seedlings. We are also working very closely with Kwitanga prison service and Uvinza district council through TARI-Kihinga in Kigoma we shall keep on providing expertise in this area," he said.

He commended the military institutions for speeding up the government agenda. "I am happy to see the government's directives are being implemented. If there shall be more seeds needed, let us know so that we can act immediately," he said.

Receiving the allocated land, 821 KJ Bulobora Commander Major Victor Faustin said the land follows a request from Major General Charles Mbugu who had requested Uvinza district to provide the land for development of agriculture and production of improved seedlings and oil palm.

"We have received the land and with collaboration with TARI,

Uvinza district council officials from land department, we have conducted initial surveys, looked at coordinates, and we have started conducting legal process of land acquisition procedures," he said.

For his part, Kigoma Regional Prisons Officer (RPO) Assistant Commissioner of Prisons (ACP) Khatibu Semzono and the district prisons Officer (DPO) Senior Superintendent of Prisons Amina Kavirondo promised to work around the clock to heed the government directives saying within one month, they will make sure the project takes off.

"We are going to clear the land, then use it to conduct modern agriculture of oil palm and other short time crops like Sun flower, beans and groundnuts and then construct the district Prison for Uvinza and build civil servants houses," they said.

They commended support being given by TARI in research, and production of seeds saying the research institute has simplified work for take off.

TARI-Kihinga Centre Director and National Coordinator for oil palm research in Tanzania, Dr. Filson Mbezi Kagimbo, said the motive of TARI Kihinga is to produce more TENERA seeds which is the only improved oil palm variety so as to raise its production percent in Tanzania.

He said to boost oil palm production in Tanzania for increasing palm oil availability, among others, three most important interventions are being fulfilled: The first intervention is the production of improved commercial oil palm variety (Tenera) and supply to farmers. The second intervention is to deploy all the potential area for palm oil production in Tanzania by planting Tenera variety. The third intervention is to replant the old oil palm trees existing in Tanzania with Tenera variety.

In Tanzania, palm oil is the most consumed oil due to its widespread availability and, at a relative lower price. In 2016, Tanzania edible oil consumption was estimated to be 570,000 MT, 64 percent of it being palm oil, 30 percent sunflower oil and 2 percent cottonseed oil. In the same year, Tanzania edible oil production was estimated to be 210,000 MT, 83 percent of it being sunflower oil, 5 percent cotton seed oil and 2 percent palm oil. This indicates that about 99.3 percent of palm oil consumed in Tanzania is imported from other palm oil producing countries. Tanzania spends about 432 billion shillings per year to import edible oil from foreign countries. Such expenditure stands as one of the stumbling block for the economic growth of the country.

Since President John Magufuli took power, he has reformed the mandates of Military Institutions particularly the National Service and the Tanzania Prison Service from depending on handouts to food self sufficient while constantly contributing to the food security and the national economy.

Revisiting some facts – and myths – about the Ibrahim Prize

By Salim Ahmed Salim

IN every country and every continent, the quality and contribution of leadership in government is critical. It is presidents and prime ministers who have the responsibility of assessing the risks, choosing the correct priorities for their country and focusing national efforts to ensure they are delivered.

Get these decisions right and a country and its people can move forward no matter what obstacles are in their way. Get it wrong and, despite commitment and hard work, progress will stall or go into reverse.

But the importance and contribution of executive leadership are, in many ways, far greater in Africa. The continent's problems are, after all, so much more severe and complex. Even a global challenge such as climate change is already having a more damaging impact on Africa than on other regions.

The continent's leaders have to meet these problems with far fewer resources than those in wealthier countries have at their disposal. They also lack the institutional support on which their counterparts elsewhere can rely.

The absence of mature well-functioning institutions or a strong democratic culture makes leadership much harder and the achievements of those which rise above the challenges are remarkable.

This was the background against which the Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in Leadership in Africa was established in 2007. By highlighting exceptional leadership, our aim was to provide role models for the qualities needed at all levels of African societies.

The award itself was also intended to provide the means for those honoured to continue their contribution to their continent once they had left national political office. Retired leaders outside of Europe and North America rarely have the generous pensions or well-paid directorships that give them the freedom to subsidise public duties.

Having funded the Prize through his foundation, Mo (Dr Mohamed "Mo" Ibrahim) left the decision of whether, and to whom, the Prize should be awarded each year to an independent committee on which he does not sit and which he does not attempt to influence.

The committee, which I now have the honour to chair, meets regularly during the year as we did again last week to consider potential candidates for the 2015 award.

It was, in fact, our tenth conclusive meeting - which is a good time to take stock of what's been achieved in the last decade. What's clear is that the Prize has been successful in focusing attention and stimulating debate on the importance of leadership in Africa. It has also provided the platform, as was hoped, for outstanding individuals to continue their invaluable



work in public life.

President Pedro de Verona Rodrigues Pires (of Cape Verde), the 2011 Laureate, has used the Prize to set up an Institute for Leadership to give young leaders the capability to drive development in his country and across Africa. The 2008 Laureate President Festus Mogae (of Botswana) has brought high-profile African figures including the 2007 Laureate President Joaquim Alberto Chissano (of Mozambique) and the 2014 Laureate President Hifikepune Lucas Pohamba together in Champions for an HIV-Free Generation to press for effective solutions to the disease.

Both Presidents Chissano and Mogae have also been active in mediating conflicts and disputes, notably in Madagascar, northern Uganda and South Sudan. All are involved in promoting strong governance in Africa.

But any reflection on the last decade also reveals confusion over how the committee comes to its decision and the criteria we use. An indication of this is how on those occasions when the committee decides not to award the prize, as happened last week, our decision is seized on as indictment of the poor standards of leadership on the continent. This is a misunderstanding of the scope and purpose of the Ibrahim Prize.

From the very beginning, the bar set for

the Prize has been extremely high. It recognises not good leaders - of which Africa has many - but truly exceptional figures who, by their nature, are rare. So it is not surprising that there have been years when the Prize is not awarded.

When we make our decision, the committee draws heavily on the first-hand experience of the unique challenges of political leadership of our members, in Africa and beyond. This allows us to assess excellence in leadership against the diversity of national challenges.

In some case, this might be - as in the example of President Chissano, the first Ibrahim laureate - the role played in healing the divisions of a country torn apart by civil war. In other cases, as was the position with President Mogae, the second laureate, it is keeping a country's progress on track in the face of unprecedented challenges.

What connects all the laureates is the transformative impact their leadership had on their countries and on their people. We expect candidates, through their leadership, to have left a very strong legacy with their countries, including their democratic culture, in a far better state than when they took office. It goes far, far beyond requiring leaders to step down willingly at the end of their constitutional term.

There have also been complaints that, by

limiting the Prize to such a narrow group of solely political leaders, the contribution of those in civil society or business, for example, is being dismissed or denigrated. This again is simply not true.

All Board and Prize Committee members are aware that the success of a country and society depends on the efforts of many people and many leaders. But we also believe that without leadership at the top in government, these efforts will not reap the rewards they deserve.

This is why the Ibrahim Prize focuses on political leadership. And it is, of course, always open to others to recognise the contribution of others in national life.

As Mo has said, he never intended this Prize to have a monopoly of celebrating good leadership. The greater the focus there is on leadership in all sectors and at every level, the faster we will see progress in Africa.

More information on the Prize - but not part of Dr Salim's piece: It recognises and celebrates African executive leaders who, under

challenging circumstances, have developed their countries and strengthened democracy and human rights for the shared benefit of their people, paving the way for sustainable and equitable prosperity.

It highlights exceptional role models for the continent, ensuring that Africa continues to benefit from the experience and wisdom of these exceptional leaders once they have left national office, by enabling them to pursue other public roles on the continent.

It is an award and a standard for excellence in leadership in Africa but, in that it is not a 'first prize', there is not necessarily a laureate every year.

Candidates for the Prize are all former African executive Heads of State or Government who have left their office during the last three calendar years, having been democratically elected and served their constitutionally mandated term while demonstrating exceptional leadership.

The Prize amount is US \$5 million over ten years alongside US \$200,000 annually for life thereafter.]

Dr Salim Ahmed Salim began his political career in international diplomacy, serving his country - Tanzania - in numerous ambassadorial posts, including as Permanent Representative to the UN from 1970. In 1976 he served as President of the United Nations Security Council and in 1979 as President of the Thirty-Fourth Session of the UN General Assembly. He returned home to hold several senior ministerial positions, serving as Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister between 1984 and 1989. The Guardian was offered national exclusivity in respect of the publication of this piece - and published it as a commentary on the Wednesday of June 22, 2016. We are running it again on special request.

Are you self-employed in Equatorial Guinea? Read this...

By Pablo Mitogo and Ana Vizcarro Dyombe

IN the African environment with economies facing growth challenges, the self-employed assume an indispensable role in the functioning of the market economy. This is primarily because they constitute the first stage in the creation of a crowded and competitive market.

The self-employed are faced with such serious and exclusive challenges that, given their fragile condition, they require a special treatment regime that subsidises their operations.

According to the law of Equatorial Guinea, a self-employed worker is any natural person who performs economic activities on his or her account.

Compared to working for someone else, being self-employed has many advantages such as self-management, flexibility, dedicating oneself entirely to one's passion and, above all, being one's own boss.

Accordingly, one must take into account that this also entails obligations of an administrative and fiscal nature, one being the need to register as self-employed.

In recent years, there has been a tendency by the government of Equatorial Guinea to promote the development of economic activities of small entrepreneurs, which is why self-employment is now more common in Malabo - the capital - and Bata.

To register as a self-employed person, you require a Tax Identification Number (NIF), a business certificate and a business registration certificate. To obtain the aforementioned, you are obliged to inquire at the VUE business single window. It is compulsory to present your identity document and indicate the location of the business operations.

A second obligation relates to the kind of taxes one has to pay and knowing one's advantages. Personal income tax is levied on net income obtained in the country.

The procedure is to complete a form, within the first ten days of each month, declaring the gross income of the previous month. This must be submitted to the national tax agency.

The tax rate ranges from a minimum rate of 0 per cent to a maximum of 35 per cent, depending on the income. If the annual income obtained is less than 1,800 USD, it will be exempt.

Generally, if the self-employed carry out the activity through a commercial company, they will be liable for corporation tax instead of personal income tax.

Then there is value added tax (VAT). In Equatorial Guinea it is levied on the consumption of goods and services at the rate of 15 per cent.

All self-employed are supposed to be aware that, as providers of goods and services, they act as mere intermediaries between the tax administration and the



final consumer.

The VAT return is submitted within the first 15 days of each month. If no transaction has been carried out, a negative return must be submitted.

What are the challenges and how to overcome the obstacle of being autonomous? The actions of the self-employed are subject to risks and instability. In addition to tax obligations, there are certain common difficulties faced on a day-to-day basis. The question is how to handle them.

First, there are liquidity problems. In many cases, these are due to late payment of consumers and/or clients. It forces the self-employed to seek advances of financial amounts to meet the fiscal obligations.

Taxes are to be paid, irrespective of the actual payment one has received. This puts at serious risk both one's assets and the very survival of one's business.

As a solution, there are several strategies that a freelancer can adopt, including keeping track of income and expenses so that a forecast can be made considering the fixed and variable costs incurred.

Likewise, it is convenient to be aware of the payments that are due in order to take possible irregularities and delays into account. Adjusting expenses, favourable agreements for the business that allows flexibility and to pay in instalments also help in seeking a solution.

As an alternative, the self-employed can resort to credit. EG banks such as BANGE offer credit facilities especially focused on the self-employed.

ECOBANK GE offers credit facilities in support of female entrepreneurs. Additionally, other entities offer credit for small entrepreneurs after meeting certain requirements.

There are also problems with deductions. Many freelancers

do not have an office and resort to working from home. This can pose a problem when presenting expenses to deduct.

Despite having the appearance of professional expenses with the right to be deductible, it can be complex before the tax administration to effectively achieve such deductions due to the difficulty of separating.

To overcome these glitches, it is important to be able to justify and have a financial record of your activity. A financial record always requires an invoice for all expenses related to it.

It is imperative to ensure that the invoices are generated correctly and to always apply the corresponding VAT or personal income tax.

As a general rule of thumb, an expense can only be deducted if it directly relates to the specific activity. Therefore, it is preferable not to present any expense that cannot be fully justified, as this will lead to a penalty.

Yet another factor to consider is management snags. The self-employed have profuse responsibilities. These tasks include developing their business, attending to administrative errands and managerial tasks - among them accounting and taxation.

It is essential that the self-employed accurately capture the income and expenses of their activities in accounting books. The books must be kept for a period of five years to avoid penalties from the national tax agency.

The self-employed are of immense value and importance in the evolution of the local economy, and it is crucial to come to their aid as deal with the strain involved in complying with tax obligations and the competitive difficulties they routinely face.

A Centurion Law Group dispatch filed from Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.

Warming climate slows tropical birds' population growth rates

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

THE mountain forests of Tanzania are more than 9,300 miles away from Salt Lake City, Utah. But, as in eastern Africa, the wild places of Utah depend on a diversity of birds to spread seeds, eat pests and clean up carrion. Birds keep ecosystems healthy. So if birds in Tanzania are in trouble in a warming climate, as found in a recent study by University of Utah researchers, people in Utah as well as in the African tropics should pay attention.

In a new study published in *Global Change Biology*, doctoral student Monte Neate-Clegg and colleagues tracked the demographics of 21 bird species over 30 years of observations from a mountain forest in Tanzania. For at least six of the species, their population declined over 30 years could be most attributable to rising temperatures—an effect of a warming world. Smaller birds, as well as those that live at the lower part of their elevation range, were at higher risk for slowed population growth.

"If climate change continues to cause population declines in tropical birds, these species could go extinct," Neate-Clegg says. "And what is happening to birds is almost certainly happening to other organisms."

Three decades in Tanzania

This story starts with William Newmark, a conservation biologist at the Natural History Museum of Utah. In 1987, he began collecting data on birds in the East and West Usambara Mountains in northeastern Tanzania. To track the birds, he and his colleagues set up mist nets, nearly invisible nets that safely and temporarily trap birds so that researchers can gently place an identification band (or record a band number if a bird already has one) and release it again.

"Understory tropical birds are also a particularly good group of organisms to assess the impact of climate change on biodiversity because they can be individually banded and thus carefully monitored over time," says Newmark. "Furthermore many tropical understory birds are poor dispersers, and thus they do not have the option to move elsewhere when their environment changes and consequently are excellent indicators of environmental change."

In 2017, Neate-Clegg joined the project, and in 2019 traveled to Tan-



zania for 10 weeks of fieldwork. "It rained a lot which made things pretty miserable, and the length of isolation was a mental challenge, but good practice for a pandemic!" he says. But the local field team, led by Victor Mkongewa, was fantastic, he says. "They ran a tight ship and made me feel very welcome. Being in the jungle is always a magical experience and I enjoyed exploring the forests and mountains. Having hornbills as an alarm clock never got old!"

Thirty years of bird observations generate a vast and powerful dataset, one that is rare in the tropics. Bird banding is a powerful tool in itself because demographic information for bird species can be derived from the rate at which previously banded birds are re-encountered.

"This dataset was a great opportunity to test for long-term climate signals," Neate-Clegg says. And the location featured high biodiversity and high levels of species that were found in that area and nowhere else. "Historically the forests have been fragmented, and now climate change threatens these species as well," he says. "So it's

a really important ecosystem to study, especially given how little research takes place in Africa compared to other tropical locales."

Bird demographics

The researchers examined the resulting data in a few different ways. First, they looked at how the demographics, or population characteristics, of 21 bird species changed over the study period. Specifically, they looked at population growth, including through reproduction, and survival rates.

To explore possible factors behind the trends, the researchers compared demographic trends with precipitation and temperature trends, finding that for more than half of the species studied, the rising temperature was correlated with decreasing population growth rates. After more statistical analysis, they found that temperature explained demographic trends better than just the passage of time for six of the 21 species, or a little more than a quarter.

Neate-Clegg was surprised that precipitation

wasn't more of a factor relative to temperature. "Rainfall has been linked to demographic rates in tropical birds in Panama," he says. "More rain means healthier plants, and more insects such as caterpillars, so we expect rain to help bird demographic rates. "On the other hand," says Newmark, "the dry season in the Usambara Mountains is shorter and less pronounced than in Panama and thus there is a less seasonal change in food supply for birds in the Usambara Mountains than in Panama."

Other characteristics emerged as important factors. Birds with smaller bodies exhibited lower population growth, as did birds who lived below the midpoint of their optimal elevation range.

What it means for the rest of the world

The declines in population growth, Neate-Clegg says, are more likely to be due to less reproduction than to bird mortality. "To survive and reproduce birds need to find food and avoid predators and parasites," he says. "If changes in temperature affect any of these processes it could affect the birds." Climate effects on insect abundance, predator activity or fruit timing, he says, could negatively affect birds.

Climate change is a complex global phenomenon, with the potential for winners and losers in various corners of the animal kingdom, Neate-Clegg says.

"Birds trapped in montane forest blocks such as in the Usambara mountains will likely be losers because they live in isolated habitats and so don't really have the option of escaping the temperature increases," he says. "I think montane birds throughout the tropics, and even in temperate places such as the Rockies, will be feeling the pressure of increasing temperatures."

Interconnector between Angola, Malawi and Tanzania makes notable progress

By Special Correspondent

A PROJECT, which will connect Angola, Malawi and Tanzania to the Southern African Power Pool, is seeing notable progress, according to the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

Among the priority energy interconnector projects, the Zambia-Tanzania interconnector is divided into several components, with construction on both sides and the two transmission lines designed to converge near the Nakonde Border by 2022.

Another project, that connecting Angola and Namibia is at feasibility study stage and will likely be commissioned by 2022. The

two governments have signalled their commitment by signing an inter-governmental memorandum of understanding (IGMOU).

According to a release from SADC, in 2020 "the Mozambique-Malawi interconnector attained financial closure and is at construction stage. The project is expected to be commissioned in 2022".

Pre-feasibility studies are being undertaken for the Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) interconnector.

The Secretariat is advocating for the development of the western transmission corridor along Angola, Botswana, Namibia, and central transmission corri-

dor along Botswana, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Plans are also underway to develop eastern corridors along South Africa, Mozambique, Malawi and Tanzania of the SAPP network in order to relieve congestion from the existing central corridor.

The SADC secretariat, in collaboration with SAPP and with support from the World Bank, is developing a study on the establishment of a Regional Transmission Infrastructure Financing Facility (RTIFF). This project will unlock and leverage development of the power transmission interconnector projects, back-

bone transmission lines as well as those linked to the new power plants.

The next step is to sign the host country agreement, which will enable SACREEE to operate as a legal regional organisation based in Windhoek, Namibia.

A shift to cost reflective tariffs

To enhance investments in power projects in the region, SADC said ministers responsible for energy approved the market and investment framework for SADC Power Projects as an instrument to guide investors who want to venture into power generation and transmission projects.

Already, a majority of SADC member

states have either introduced or reviewed their lifeline tariffs and are in the process of developing pro-poor tariff subsidy mechanisms.

The bloc noted that member states continued to offer government guarantees for power projects and implementing the tariff adjustments to enable the power utilities to be able to fully recover costs of electricity supply.

Namibia, Eswatini and Mauritius have migrated to cost-reflective tariffs while Angola, Lesotho, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe have lifeline tariff structures that allow for a minimum level of service.

Experts call for African and American synergy in tackling climate change

By Anthony Akaeze

AMERICAN'S aren't the only ones watching the Biden administration with hope for realistic confrontation of climate change. Africans are among the global community now hoping the United States will step up to help save the planet.

The science of climate change in Africa is undeniable, according to Herman Cohen, a former US assistant secretary of state for African affairs and former US ambassador to Gambia and Senegal.

In a Nov. 17, 2020, article published by the Council on Foreign Relations, Cohen said the new administration in Washington has a chance to leave a positive mark in Africa.

Climate change in Africa is "already destroying crops, causing floods and droughts, and subjecting impoverished people to severe heat waves. ... spreading hunger and desperation while helping violent extremists gain a foothold," he wrote.

This matters because Africa relies heavily on agriculture for revenue and sustenance, he explained. "Climate change is afflicting both food production and fresh-

water availability in Africa, which already struggles to provide these basic necessities. Fortunately, Africa has nearly 60% of the world's arable land, and with support, it could feed people on both the continent and around the world."

To that end, he suggested the Biden administration should vigorously focus on supporting food production and agricultural modernization and consider building capacity for desalination to protect Africans from the effects of worsening water shortages.

Happy Khambule of Greenpeace Africa wants the Biden administration to assist the continent in renewable energy.

Biden, he said, "may encourage African countries to begin phasing out fossil fuels or leaping over them and support just transition plans to renewable energy in the world's fastest-growing continent. This is key to avoid climate chaos and expand economic opportunities in the continent and at the same time ... encourage African countries to end oil, gas and coal extraction and beneficiation."

Even though African nations bear some of the least responsibility for the global

acceleration of climate change, some already have ambitious plans to tackle the climate crisis. One way the Biden administration could help, Khambule said, is to "show a sign of support to African nations ... by indicating U.S. support for their initiatives and leadership."

The Pan African Climate Justice Alliance, a civil society group focused on addressing climate change and environmental issues on the African continent, praised Biden's electoral victory and commitment to rejoin the Paris Agreement, which Donald Trump revoked as part of a denial of the seriousness of global climate change.

"In leaving the Paris Agreement, former President Trump terminated \$3 billion to the Green Climate Fund," the Alliance explained. "We urge the U.S. to make significant contributions to all major funds set up to pay for climate action around the world, particularly the Adaptation Fund, and work through its bilateral institutions such as USAID to invest in local-led adaptation projects that directly improve the lives of some of the most vulnerable groups in Africa."



Global heating pushes tropical regions towards limits of human livability

By Oliver Milman

THE climate crisis is pushing the planet's tropical regions towards the limits of human livability, with rising heat and humidity threatening to plunge much of the world's population into potentially lethal conditions, new research has found.

Should governments fail to curb global heating to 1.5C above the pre-industrial era, areas in the tropical band that stretches either side of the equator risk changing into a new environment that will hit "the limit of human adaptation", the study warns.

Humans' ability to regulate their body heat is dependent upon the temperature and humidity of the surrounding air. We have a core body temperature that stays rela-

tively stable at 37C (98.6F), while our skin is cooler to allow heat to flow away from the inner body. But should the wet-bulb temperature - a measure of air temperature and humidity - pass 35C, high skin temperature means the body is unable to cool itself, with potentially deadly consequences.

"If it is too humid our bodies can't cool off by evaporating sweat - this is why humidity is important when we consider livability in a hot place," said Yi Zhang, a Princeton University researcher who led the new study, published in *Nature Geoscience*. "High body core temperatures are dangerous or even lethal."

The research team looked at various historical data and simulations to determine how wet-bulb temperature extremes will change

as the planet continues to heat up, discovering that these extremes in the tropics increase at around the same rate as the tropical mean temperature.

This means that the world's temperature increase will need to be limited to 1.5C to avoid risking areas of the tropics exceeding 35C in wet-bulb temperature, which is so-called because it is measured by a thermometer that has its bulb wrapped in a wet cloth, helping mimic the ability of humans to cool their skin by evaporating sweat.

Dangerous conditions in the tropics will unfold even before the 1.5C threshold, however, with the paper warning that 1C of extreme wet-bulb temperature increase "could have adverse health impact equivalent to that of several

degrees of temperature increase". The world has already warmed by around 1.1C on average due to human activity and although governments vowed in the Paris climate agreement to hold temperatures to 1.5C, scientists have warned this limit could be breached within a decade.

This has potentially dire implications for a huge swathe of humanity. Around 40% of the world's population currently lives in tropical countries, with this proportion set to expand to half of the global population by 2050 due to the large proportion of young people in region. The Princeton research was centered on latitudes found between 20 degrees north, a line that cuts through Mexico, Libya and India, to 20 degrees south,

which goes through Brazil, Madagascar and the northern reaches of Australia.

Mojtaba Sadegh, an expert in climate risks at Boise State University, said the study does "a great job" of analyzing how rising temperatures "can render portions of the tropics uninhabitable in the absence of considerable infrastructure investments."

"If this limit is breached, infrastructure like cool-air shelters are absolutely necessary for human survival," said Sadegh, who was not involved in the research. "Given that much of the impacted area consists of low-income countries, providing the required infrastructure will be challenging."

"Theoretically no human can

tolerate a wet bulb temperature of above 35C, no matter how much water they have to drink," he added. The study is just the latest scientific warning over severe dangers posed by heat. Extreme heatwaves could push parts of the Middle East beyond human endurance, scientists have found, with rising temperatures also posing enormous risks for parts of China and India.

The global number of potentially fatal humidity and heat events doubled between 1979 and 2017, research has determined, with the coming decades set to see as many as 3 billion people pushed beyond the historical range of temperature that humans have survived and prospered in over the past 6,000 years.

In Zimbabwe, journalists are on priority list of Covid-19 vaccine



By Lungelo Ndhlovu

OVER 2,000 journalists in Zimbabwe are included on the Covid-19 vaccination priority list alongside 60,000 frontline health workers who are to be vaccinated before the larger public.

The country received a donation of 200,000 doses of the Sinopharm vaccine from China in mid-February. Dr Edwin Sibanda, the director of Bulawayo's Health Services Department, confirmed in an interview in the city during the vaccine launch in the city that journalists are frontline workers who have relayed crucial information about Covid-19 to the entire population and were exposed to the virus as they went about collecting news.

"The important thing about journalists being part of the vaccination campaign is, first and foremost, that they carry the message to a lot of people," said Dr Sibanda, adding: "A lot of people rely on the information from journalists. They take it as authentic and they believe it."

In Zimbabwe, the first recorded death from Covid-19 was that of a journalist, which alerted many people to the realities of the coronavirus. According to Press Emblem Campaign, a Geneva-based organisation, more than 600 journalists died of Covid-19 in 59 countries over ten months in 2020.

Dr Sibanda indicated that it was therefore fitting that the Zimbabwean government saw it vital for journalists across the country to be

prioritised. He said that, once vaccinated, journalists could perform their duties of informing and educating the public about the vaccines while they were protected.

"There are a lot of other people who are not journalists but are spreading a lot of misinformation and probably disinformation," said the director, adding: "This is where we really need journalists well informed on health issues, in particular the vaccination drive and educating people about vaccines."

Abigail Tembo, the health news editor at the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation, was among the first to be vaccinated at the vaccination launch.

"We as journalists are exposed every day from the whole news chain - the reporter, cameraperson, editor, producer and presenter are all on the line of fire as far as the virus is concerned," she said.

"We interact with a lot of people on a daily basis, yet we do not have the privilege of asking for a Covid-19 certificate or doing temperature checks as we conduct interviews or do vox pop on the street," she added.

According to Zimbabwe's Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services ministry, 2,497 journalists were targeted in the vaccination programme.

Rumbidzayi Zinyuke, a senior reporter with The Manica Post, also volunteered to get the Sinopharm vaccine in the capital Harare. She noted that some journalists were a bit hesitant to come forward to get the Covid-19 vaccine.

"I'm sure in the near future we will see more journalists coming forward because journalists are at the forefront, more exposed than other people," Zinyuke said, adding: "We just have to embrace it and then move forward."

The reporter said that it was important for journalists to get the Covid-19 vaccine at the initial stage, and that it might even change their reporting.

She elaborated: "If one has gone through what they are writing about and what they are talking about, they'll have a deeper understanding. They can actually write what they have been through."

Ngaba Matshazi, the regional campaigns coordinator for the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA)-Zimbabwe, said that his organisation campaigned for

the inclusion of Zimbabwean journalists to be put on the list of frontline workers.

"We campaigned for journalists to be put on the essential services list. It goes without saying that they should be vaccinated alongside those in essential services," he noted.

Every country defines its own guidelines for vaccine eligibility, and it's unclear just how many countries will consider journalists on their priority lists.

However, MISA is not the only organisation asking governments to include journalists as essential workers. International Federation of Journalists' affiliates in Brazil, Peru and Uruguay are all advocating that journalists be considered for vaccine priority.

Matshazi stands convinced that accurate information is critical for fighting a pandemic. He notes that, in order to provide the most accurate, up-to-date information for the public, journalists need to be out in the field, "which puts them at risk".

"They have to follow the news," he said, adding: "For example, when the vaccine arrived last week, they were at the airport at 2 or 3 a.m. And when the vaccine is administered at clinics and hospitals - areas that are high-risk by nature - you will find journalists there."

A dispatch by International Journalists' Network (IJNet), a project of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists. Lungelo Ndhlovu is a multiple-award-winning international journalist based in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. He specialises in news writing, photography and video production, covering major news, features and local events for various media organisations. He also researches and writes about news stories on digital platforms and visual journalism.

We interact with a lot of people on a daily basis, yet we do not have the privilege of asking for a Covid-19 certificate or doing temperature checks as we conduct

RADIO ONE PROGRAMME SCHEDULE



FRIDAY

TIME	PROGRAMME
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
7:10 AM	MATANGAZO
07.15 AM	TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI
07.25 AM	UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI
07.40 AM	KUMEPAMBAZUKA II
08.00 AM	HABARI NYEPESI
08.10 AM	KUMEPAMBAZUKA III
09.00 AM	HABARI ZA BIAHARA
09.10 AM	MATANGAZO
09.20 AM	BRAND TALK
10.00 AM	NEWS BRIEF
10.03 AM	DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS
10.10 AM	HIZI NAZO
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
20.10 HRS	UCHUNGUZI KAMILI
21.00 HRS	NEWS BRIEF
21.05HRS	KIPIMA JOTO
23.00 HRS	WEEKEND SHOW

FAHARI YA MSIKILIZAJI // THE LISTENERS PRIDE



FRIDAY	
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
23:00-01:00HRS	DALA DALA(marudio)
01:00-05:00HRS	LETE RAHA(marudio)

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 169 00--

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

3 LETTERS: CCM, USE, ANT
 4 LETTERS: SIPE, LAOS, ISLE, PROA, ACME, AVOW, (7 WORDS)
 5 LETTERS: FLOAT, SCORE, EMEND, MINES, WINDS (5 WORDS)
 6 LETTERS: NUANCE, FRANCE, CAREEN, ADDICT TSE TSE (5 WORDS)
 7 LETTERS: SALVAGE
 8 LETTERS: UGANDANS
 10 LETTERS: SALVATIONS

CLUES: Across

- made dirty or imperfect by being displayed in a shop
- among
- avoiding work, lazy
- ulema
- people descended from a common ancestor
- live in a complex social colony
- a person who have access to the World of good and evil spirits
- extending below
- a student's fraternity
- assumed artificially
- not certain
- an Internet service consisting of thousands of newsgroups

Down:

- can be seen in the sky at night
- an obituary
- a stoat
- a cylindrical metal container
- an elected officer in a county, responsible for keeping peace
- a son of a king or Queen
- a daughter of one's brother
- afflict in mind
- Feed Force Unit in Tanzania

WORD-FIT SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

By Magezi: 0755429240 telixmagezi@gmail.com

BREWER'S 'KILIMO VIWANDA' SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME UPLIFTING LIVES OF FARMERS FROM POOR COMMUNITIES

By Property Watch Reporter

THE country is endowed with enormous natural resources, which are critical in economic growth. Arable land being one of them is vital the growth as data shows the country has over 44 million hectares. Moreover, the agricultural sector substantially contributes to Tanzania's foreign exchange earnings, with more earnings from cash crop exports but also provides many endless opportunities through internal and external markets.

In addition, agriculture remains the largest sector that provide livelihoods and employment for many of the country's poorest households based in rural areas. The sector is still dependent on rainfall, limited use of quality seeds, inadequate fertilizers, unreliable markets and few agricultural experts.

It is under this context that Serengeti Breweries Limited deliberately introduced 'Kilimo-Viwanda' scholarship program to compliment government's effort to improve the agricultural sector, critical to the realization of the ambitious 2021/22 to 2025/26 National

Development Plan.

SBL's viable involvement in agriculture is linked to its network of over 400 farmers in eight regions across the country. Through the farmers, SBL gets commodities such as maize, sorghum and barley for use as raw materials in beer production. In return, the company provides the farmers with free seeds, field technical services and links them to financial institutions to access credit.

The 'Kilimo-Viwanda' program started in 2019 and has since strengthened the agriculture value chain by enhancing that youth with agri-business backgrounds in areas where SBL's network of farmers reside, get knowledge and expertise to help transform them from subsistence to commercial farming.

This scholarship program targets children from underprivileged families whose families cannot afford to pay their college fees. Through the scholarship, they have an opportunity to become self-reliant and successful entrepreneurs through knowledge and skills acquired at the colleges.

Currently in its second year, the program has helped 70 students study



Serengeti Breweries Limited managing director Mark Ocitti (R) addresses Bagamoyo-based Kaole Wazazi College of Agriculture students when they visited the company's Dar es Salaam brewery last week. Left is the college's vice principal, Maximilian Sarakikya.

agricultural-related courses in at technical agro-training colleges. Just recently, SBL announced an additional 15 beneficiaries of the scholarship based at Kaole Wazazi Agricultural College in Bagamoyo.

Speaking at the event, SBL's Managing Director, Mark Ocitti affirmed the brewer's commitment to support the resilient agrarian revolution set by the government. Ocitti said, "The program compliments government's effort to strengthen the existing pool of agricultural experts, needed by the country to

support transformation of the agriculture - a sector on which the majority of Tanzanians depend on for livelihoods."

Like other programs, 'Kilimo-Viwanda' helps reduce unemployment amongst youths by equipping them with skills and knowledge which transforms their mindsets to practice agri-business through modern farming.

Farmers across the country are often at ease when acquiring management skills like land preparation, planting, weed, pest and disease control. Such activities will also be available to young farmers

who are trained at the four colleges working with SBL.

The four colleges also include; Saint Maria Goretti College of Agriculture, Igabiro College of Agriculture and Kilacha Agricultural College. Speaking at the unveiling of the 15 new students at Kaole college, Vice Principal, Maximilian Sarakikya applauded SBL's valuable contribution to the community through training of the students to expand their expertise in the field of agri-business. Sarakikya requested other stakeholders to emulate SBL's example and join the

cause as it helps fight against poverty.

The good news is that with a growing market, SBL is optimistic to increase its beer production hence fueling more demand for raw materials supplied by farmers and will reach 85 percent by 2025. "It gives impetus for local farmers in seeking more agri-business knowledge to increase their supply of raw materials," said the SBL Managing Director. Currently, SBL sources 17,000 metric tons of grains locally, equivalent to 70 percent of its annual total raw materials requirement.

Camtel devises strategy to overtake its competitors

YAOUNDE

STATE owned telecommunications company Cameroon Telecommunications (Camtel) has announced a plan to emerge as the national and sub-regional leader in broadband services and digital transformation.

Although Camtel enjoys just 3 percent share of Cameroon's telecommunications market - overtaken by rivals MTN Cameroon, Orange Cameroon and Viettel (Nexttel), its management is determined to gain lost ground.

Following a review of its performance in 2020, management is focusing on customer centricity and change management as its core strategy.

In addition to the roll out of a plan to boost its fibre optic backbone and the deployment of the WTTX project based on affordable, ultra-broadband Wi-Fi to households, Camtel has also entered into partnerships with telcos in neighbouring Chad, specifically SOS Télécoms and SOTEL. Camtel's management believes the company is on track, adding that last year it successfully commissioned a Tier 3 datacentre and secured three concession agreements to operate fixed and mobile electronic communication networks.

In addition to mobile CT-Phone based on CDMA technology and landline connections, Camtel will soon launch its mobile network called Blue.

The company has also worked on increasing its subscriber base and revenue, bettering overall customer satisfaction, and recovering outstanding debts from public and private institutions.

Claude Bouli, Director of Management Control, Norms and Quality at Camtel, said the company implemented a quality management system and obtained an ISO 9001:2015 certification on its wholesale business segment to placate operators and ISPs (Camtel manages the country's lone optic fibre backbone).

Other internal structural changes were made. "This has led to an improvement of about 4% in customer satisfaction and more efficient processes as compared to 2019. The challenge now is to finalise the implementation of such systems for both mobile and fixed-line networks," said Bouli.

Get soft loans from agro-bank, PM urges tea growers

By Property Watch Correspondent, Njombe

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday urged tea growers here to secure loans from the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) to increase their disposable income, boost efficiency and make work less laborious.

A stunned by the diligence and drive of farmers intending their farms, a vividly happy premier beseeched the growers to secure loans from TADB in order to lessen the toil, produce quality and increase earnings.

He told a consultative meeting of tea stakeholders in the southern highlands regions going on here, that the reason for forming TADB was to solve many of the problems upsetting the farming community and called on farmers to get loans from TADB and other banks to solve their problems.

"Our strategy in government is to ensure all farm inputs are available to the farmers and avail good dependable infrastructure so that farming can be done with ease. This the reason why banks



are ready to give loans to individual farmers or their cooperatives in order to buy things like tractors to make farming less strenuous," Majaliwa told the delegates.

Responding to premier's comments, TADB Southern Highlands Agricultural Officer Ashura Akimu

told the meeting that because the government will build roads in tea growing areas, the TADB will loan farmers tractors so that their tea leaves to reach the nearest factory inside six hours to beat marketing deadline. She also said the bank will loan cooperatives, big and medium

farmers tea processing equipment to increase efficiency and lessen post-harvest losses.

Akimu told stakeholders that farmers in block farms will be supported by the bank to irrigate their farms by giving them equipment, drilling bore holes and establishing dams that will

store rain water. The bank will also give them loans to buy fertilizers, pesticides and wrappers. "We have learnt that some farmers are growing tea without applying fertilizers. We plan to end this practice that is undermining farmers' efforts and efficiency," she pledged.

State to seek identity and income of used car buyers

NAIROBI
 SECOND hand car dealers will be required to reveal the identity of buyers and their sources of income in the latest drive to combat money laundering and flow of illicit money.

The Financial Reporting Centre (FRC) says it is looking at a legal or a policy framework that will compel car dealers to report all transactions above Sh1 million and smaller

payments that are deemed suspicious.

The move, if approved by the Cabinet and Parliament, will see second-hand motor vehicle dealers designated as non-financial reporting institutions, alongside entities and professionals such as casinos, accountants and real estate agents.

FRC director general Saitoti ole Maika said findings of a risk assessment study, conducted

by a high-powered anti-money laundering task force, showed that second-hand car ventures cut deals worth millions of shillings in cash without questioning the buyers' sources of income.

The anti-money laundering watchdog reckons the suspicious cash transactions in car sales, a majority of which are valued at more than Sh1 million, usually take the form of walk-in buys or deposits, with

the balance being cleared in instalments.

"We are talking from experience (in regard to rampant cash transactions amongst car dealers). We are not building theories. The risk assessment included people from that sector being part and parcel of that exercise. And so, we were able to interact with motor vehicle dealers," Maika said. "Our intention is to mine data on people buying cars

from the dealers."

Car dealers will be obligated to disclose the names, addresses, date of birth, ID number and occupation of buyers as well as date of transaction and amount involved, among others.

Imported second-hand vehicles account for 90 percent of Kenyan car purchases - 109,751 in 2019 - and gobble up precious foreign exchange estimated at about Sh70 billion a year.

The FRC reckons that drug dealers and fraudsters have an appetite for buying cars, land and houses, often in cash.

Owners of illicit cash have been fingered for buying second hand cars with the aim of selling and cleaning their dirty money.

"For them (car dealers), there is a big challenge because it is an industry that's not regulated. Other than the NTSA issuing permit prescribing them as

second-hand dealers, it is more or less unregulated. That is a challenge in itself," Maika said.

The Proceeds of Crime and Anti-Money Laundering Act (Procamlu) requires financial institutions and professionals to report any suspicious or unusual transaction to the FRC the agency established in April 2012 to identify and combat money laundering and financing of terrorism.

CHINA AND RUSSIA AGREE ON A PLAN TO BUILD INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION ON THE MOON

THE space agencies of China and Russia signed a memorandum of understanding yesterday to build a research station on the Moon.

The agreement was reached between Zhang Kejian, head of the China National Space Administration (CNSA), and Dmitry Rogozin, general director of Roscosmos at a virtual ceremony.

The plan is to build an "International Lunar Research Station (ILRS)" to carry out experiments and exploration. The project is open to participation by "all interested countries and international partners".

CNSA commented in a press release: "China and Russia will use their accumulated experience in space science, research and development and use of space equipment and space technology to jointly develop a road map for the construction of an international lunar scientific research station."

The SpaceNews website comments that the

base would probably be constructed at the south pole, an area that contains ice, making it the most attractive area for human habitation. The plan is to staff the laboratory with robots and autonomous machines at first, but these may be joined by humans at a later date.

Bledwyn Bowen, a lecturer in international relations at the University of Leicester, told SpaceNews that the agreement fitted "the larger trend, which is Russia moving into a closer orbit with China".

Chen Lan, an analyst who specialises in China's space programme, told the AFP news agency that the project was a "big deal". He said: "This will be the largest international space cooperation project for China, so it's significant."

China and Russia have previously signed agreements for cooperation on the Chang'e-7 and Luna 27 missions and a joint data centre for lunar and deep space exploration.

The European Space Agency has also been



A rendering of a possible lunar village by US architect Skidmore, Owings and Merrill and architecture visualisation studio Slashcube.

involved in discussions on lunar exploration, and recently signed a memorandum of understanding with NASA on the Gateway project.

Karl Bergquist, ESA's international relations administrator, told SpaceNews last year: "At ESA we are following the Chinese lunar

exploration plans very closely in order to see where our respective programmatic interest could meet, primarily the Chang'e-6, 7 and 8 missions

but also the ILRS initiative."

Russia is preparing to launch its Luna 25, Luna 26 and Luna 27 lunar lander missions across the 2020s.

Temporary towers hold 7,000kN for the new Dubai road project

DUBAI

IN ITS first vertical application, RMD Kwikform's Tubeshor system has been used as temporary works to support a bridge extension on a major road project in Dubai.

The \$1.37bn Shindagha Corridor project involves building a 13km-long road network along Dubai's coastline to accommodate growing traffic. Work is split into five phases.

In Phase 2D, covering the extension of Shindagha Bridge, RMD Kwikform was contracted by China State Engineering Company to engineer two 16-metre-high, free standing shoring towers able to support the proof loading of a fully loaded 120-metre bridge launching gantry and to withstand wind speeds of 160km/h.

The structures would support the precast segment launching gantry during its load testing operation. This involved testing of the launching girder for an increased operational load of 25%.

The client-given vertical load on each tower was approximately 7000kN and 240kN lateral in both directions, excluding wind and dynamic effects.

In addition, due to site limitations, RMD Kwikform engineers were required to create a solution without racking supports at the base.

Having considered the magnitude of the imposed loads and site's footprint restrictions, a Tubeshor vertical assembly was proposed for the job. Because this was the first vertical application of RMD Kwikform's hybrid hydraulic tubular shoring system, a special connector which enabled the tubes to be connected to horizontal members had to be designed.

A strutted shoring system intended for use on larger and more complicated projects, Tubeshor was capable of providing the essential support needed during the critical load testing operation, with RMD Kwikform creating a bespoke solution using five-metre-lengths of Tubeshor 610 props to meet the demands of the customer brief.

Skanska toasts completion of Nashville's Broadway

NAIROBI

Kenya Airways will be forced to inspect afresh the engines of its 10 Boeing 737 New Generation aircraft after the US aviation regulator warned that they could stall mid-air after being grounded for months.

The Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) said the Boeing 737NG aircraft that have been idle since the outbreak of Covid-19 could form corrosion on the air check valves, an anomaly that can lead to stalling of the two engines when the airplane is flying.

Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) director-general Gilbert Kibe said they had received communication from the FAA, adding that the agency will ensure local carriers such as Kenya Airways are in compliance. Kenya Airways has 10 Boeing 737NG – mainly used for mid-range flights such as the Africa routes – in its fleet of 42.

"We have received communication and Kenya Airways too has the alert. We shall monitor the task," said Mr Kibe in an interview with the Business Daily. The FAA said should the airlines must replace the engine valves ahead of flying if they are corroded.

In a statement last week, Boeing Company, the manufacturer of the planes, said it had advised



operators to inspect the aircraft that had been grounded for long or used infrequently in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic. Boeing reckons that the valves can be more susceptible to cor-

rosion. Kenya Airways said it was addressing the issue before taking to the skies in a move that will assure passengers of their safety once international flights resume this Saturday.

"KQ has a process and has put measures in place to ensure all its affected aircraft have the recommendation accomplished before they get back to the skies," said the airline in

an e-mail response to the Business Daily.

Kenya Airways normally uses these type of aircraft on Africa routes with higher passenger numbers because of its high capacity

compared to the Embraer 190. The Boeing 737-800 has a flying range of 5,665 kilometres.

KQ grounded its international flights on April 6 after Kenya closed its airspace to passenger planes in order to curb the spread of Covid-19. The carrier has, however, been operating its fleet of Boeing 787 that it had converted into cargo flight for long-haul services, especially to Europe and Asia.

This is the second time that Boeing has issued an airworthiness directive on this type of aircraft since late last year. Last September the FAA wrote to Kenya Airways directing it to inspect its fleet of Boeing 737 New Generation aircraft for potential cracks.

The carrier will resume passenger services on international routes this Saturday with 27 destinations having been earmarked. This is half of the routes that the airline was servicing before the Covid-19 pandemic. KQ reported a Sh12.9 billion loss for the financial year ended December 2019, up from Sh7.7 billion in 2018, with losses attributed to increased cost of operations. The airline estimates it lost Sh10 billion in the six months to June this year. The airline, which resumed domestic flights two weeks ago, is now banking on the resumption of the international flights to generate more income and be in a position to meet its financial obligation.

Strabag and West End Connectors in pole position for a \$3.5bn Toronto rail projects

SYDNEY

AUSTRIAN contractor Strabag and the Aecon-led West End Connectors consortium have been named "first negotiations proponents" to design, build and finance tunnels for two mass transit projects in Toronto by Infrastructure Ontario (IO) and transit operator Metrolinx.

The two schemes are the Scarborough Subway Extension and the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension projects, which are expected to have a total combined value of about US\$3.5bn.

Metrolinx and IO will now work with each team to finalise their request for proposals with the aim of reaching

financial close in the spring and breaking ground some time next year.

IO commented on its website: "Of the shortlisted teams invited to submit bids, those chosen were the highest ranked after the proposals were evaluated. Criteria included design and construction methodology,



approach to managing the project and the collaborative behaviours of key individuals of the proponent teams."

If all goes according to plan, Strabag will undertake the Scarborough Subway Extension project. This is a 7.8km extension of the Toronto

Transit Commission's Bloor-Danforth Line 2. As well as tunnelling, the scope includes the supply of a tunnel boring machine.

The Strabag team includes UK consulting engineer Arup and Toronto engineer Brian Isherwood & Associates.

West End Connectors would build the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension, which will add 9.2km to Toronto's Line 5 and connect Mount Dennis Station to Renforth Drive.

The team is made up of Canadian contractor Aecon (40%), Spain's Dragados (40%)

and Italy's Ghella (20%).

Joshua Engel-Yan, programme sponsor for the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension, said in a Metrolinx blog: "Once it's built, the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension will not only provide the local community with access to rapid transit, but it will also close a key transit gap for the region, allowing people to travel easily from the east end of Toronto into Mississauga."

IO and Metrolinx plan to issue separate contracts for the remainder of the two projects, which will include the construction of stations, fitting out of the tunnels and installing and commissioning the systems to put trains into service.

CONSTRUCTION

BANBURY

ELECTRIC van and bus maker Arrival is wrestling with the global pandemic like other UK firms, but not because of a lack of business.

Arrival is fielding four to five times the number of queries from potential customers compared with a year ago as soaring e-commerce during the pandemic and changing emissions regulations have fueled demand, said president Avinash Rugoobur.

"Worldwide, the mindset has shifted and people understand the future is electric," said Rugoobur. "So now it's a question of how do we get there?"

At Arrival's R&D centre in Banbury, northwest of London, executives from a major British retail group patiently waited to tour the startup's test van, due to start production in 2022.

A spike in interest in Arrival followed Britain's call in November for a ban on new fossil-fuel vehicles by 2030, and was further helped by new U.S. President Joe Biden's stated interest in electrification.

Tightening CO2 emissions targets in Europe and China have combined with improving battery technology to provide greater range at lower costs, giving commercial electric vehicles (EVs) their moment in the sun after years of waiting.

"People talk about a tipping point for commercial EVs, but I

NOW COMMERCIAL ELECTRONIC VEHICLES IN RISING DEMAND



A man stands next to a fully-electric test van, due to go into production in 2022, built by electric van and bus maker Arrival Ltd.

think we're already there," said Luke Wake, vice president of maintenance and engineering at United Parcel Service Inc, which has ordered up to 10,000 vans from Arrival and owns a stake in the startup.

Feverish investor interest in finding the next Tesla Inc and bringing them to market via special-purpose acquisition companies (SPACs) has included commercial EV startups like Canoo Inc and Arrival, which will go public later this month via a merger with CIIG Merger Corp.

Also, the coronavirus pandemic has boosted the

need for vans to deliver goods to consumers at home.

Startups like Rivian, Volta Trucks and traditional manufacturers Daimler AG, Ford Motor Co and General Motors Co have models out or in the works. Rivian will begin making vans for Amazon.com Inc later this year.

As batteries are still expensive, commercial EVs have a higher sticker price than diesel or petrol equivalents - a hard sell for many cost-conscious companies.

But thanks to lightweight materials and tailoring battery packs to customers' range needs,

Arrival's Rugoobur said that is about to change - at some ranges its vans will cost less than a diesel equivalent.

"If Arrival can manufacture those vehicles at the equivalent price of a diesel van, the total cost of ownership is so heavily in their favour it becomes a competitive advantage," said David Wyatt, an analyst at research firm IDTechEx.

Fleet operators also face increasing scrutiny over sustainability from retail customers, who feel the same pressure from consumers, said Volta Trucks Chief Executive Rob Fowler.

"If you look at logistics operators, they're in the middle and under pressure from all sides," he said.

Stockholm-based Volta Trucks, which also operates in the UK, is developing a 16-tonne electric truck, due for production in 2022, for urban freight distribution routes. Batteries are heavy, so the Volta Zero's body is made of a light hemp-based composite and its shorter inner-city routes require fewer battery cells.

Volta Trucks has an order book of \$260 million and its biggest public order to date is for 1,000 trucks from French refrigerated

truck firm Petit Forestier. Higher upfront costs, challenges associated with charging multiple vehicles simultaneously and a paucity of available models mean there are still relatively few commercial EVs in service.

But Simon Webber, a portfolio manager at Schroders, which has about \$650 billion in assets under management, said more EVs coming to market and falling battery costs will change that.

"It's going to happen fast," Webber said. "Because the average life of those vehicles is lower, they turn over faster than passenger vehicles, they will electrify faster."

Leading energy consultancy Wood Mackenzie said the commercial EV market will mushroom from a low base today to global sales of 3 million units by 2025 and 9 million by 2030, led by buses and light trucks.

Based on conversations with manufacturers, "we see commercial electric vehicles coming in a big, big way," said Tom Jensen, CEO of battery maker FREYR, which is going public via a merger with a SPAC, Alussa Energy Acquisition Corp.

EV makers say while commercial EVs have a higher sticker price, over their lifetime their

"total cost of ownership" is lower as electricity is cheaper than diesel and electric motors require less frequent repairs due to having fewer moving parts.

The UK arm of package delivery firm DPD, a unit of France's La Poste, was an early adopter and its 732 EVs account for nearly 10% of its fleet - most of them e-NV200 vans from Nissan Motor Co Ltd or eTGE vans from Volkswagen AG unit MAN.

In 2020, the pandemic drove DPD's volumes to a daily record of 2 million packages during the holiday peak season and the company will buy 500 more electric trucks in 2021.

Olly Craughan, DPD UK's head of corporate social responsibility, said a diesel Mercedes-Benz Sprinter unit costs around 25,000 pounds (\$34,572), but an electric version costs up to 45,000 pounds.

"It's still more expensive, but the gap is closing," said Craughan. "If you can run them longer than diesel vehicles that's where you're going to make more of a return."

DPD will test a Volta Zero later this year and has talked regularly with Arrival, Craughan said.

By 2025, battery prices are expected to fall enough to give EVs price-parity with fossil-fuel vehicles.

But Arrival's Rugoobur said some of the startup's production models will already beat diesels on price - aided by a tough, light thermoplastic composite body that offsets heavy batteries - and includes basic self-driving features to cut down on costly accidents at package depots.

"If we can get that price point down to an acceptable level where you can scale it, it allows us to make bigger commitments like the one with Arrival," UPS's Wake said.

British Petroleum bets on energy trading to fund its strategy shift after a bumper year

LONDON

BRITISH Petroleum's trading arm made nearly \$4 billion in 2020, according to a copy of an internal BP presentation seen by Reuters, almost equalling the record trading profit in 2019 despite the collapse in oil demand caused by the pandemic.

Trading revenue for majors such as BP and rival Royal Dutch/Shell shielded them from the full impact of the worst recession to hit the modern energy industry, helping finance their shift towards a new business model in a lower carbon economy.

Even with near record trading earnings, BP posted a \$20.3 billion loss with writedowns in 2020 and a \$5.7 billion loss without writedowns, plunging into the red for the first time in a decade.

BP, which does not publicly disclose the revenue from its trading arm, would not confirm the content of the presentation seen by Reuters and declined to comment for this article.

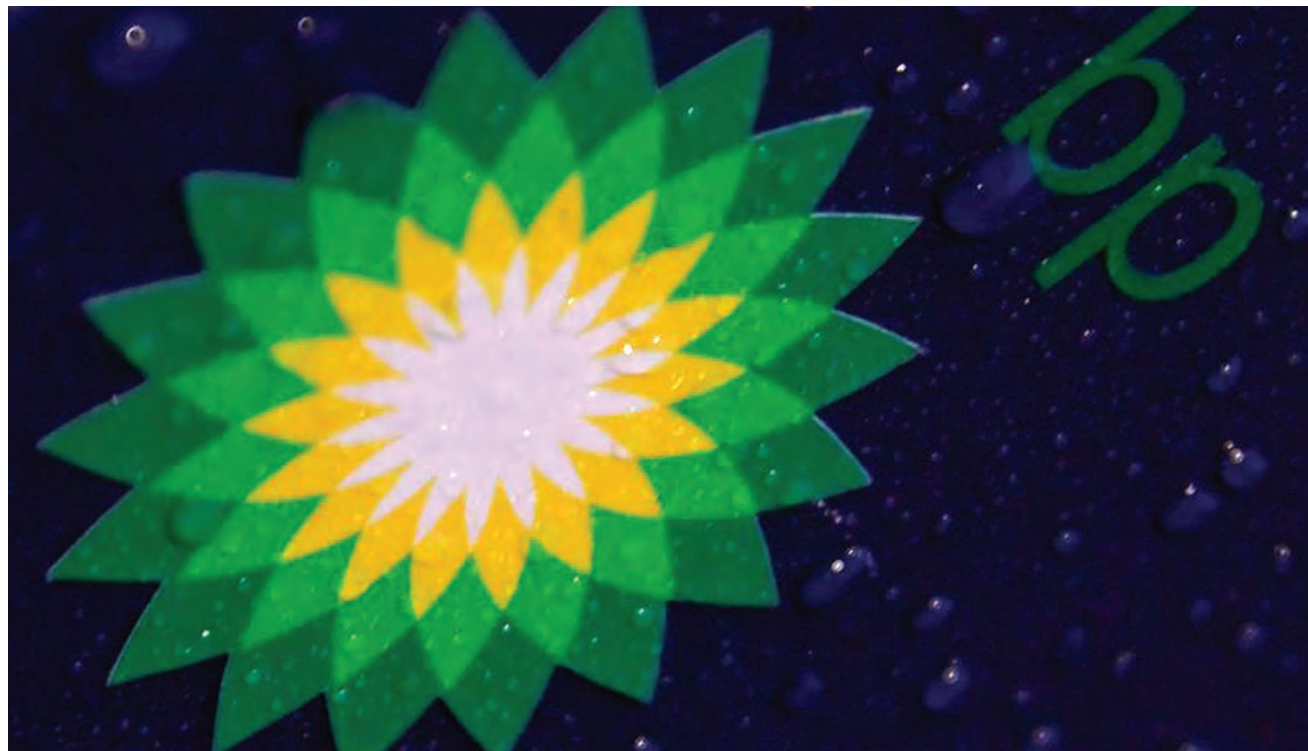
BP and Shell are banking on cash flow from trading to support them through their transition and to generate profit as they focus on renewable and power markets and become less dependent on fossil fuels.

BP has formally promised to cut oil and gas output, while Shell says its oil production has peaked. Both say they are expanding trading and they still make billions of dollars a year moving oil and gas around the world.

BP plans to expand power and renewables trading but many of those markets are highly regulated and unlikely to deliver the same profit margins as oil and gas.

One of the biggest trading plays in 2020 was to store oil during the downturn, buying it at low prices and selling it later when prices recovered.

It was a relatively simple game with minimal risk because the oil futures market allowed traders with access to



Detail is seen on a British Petroleum electric vehicle charge point in London.

large storage to lock in future profits through hedging.

BP made around \$1.7 billion on this strategy alone in the second quarter of 2020, according to the presentation.

It made lower but steady earnings in the first and third quarter, while it generated only about \$250 million in the fourth quarter of 2020 after betting on weak gas prices that soared instead, according to the presentation. BP's 2020 result showed the big impact oil and gas trading can have on performance.

BP Chief Financial Officer Murray Auchincloss told analysts in August on a second quarter results call that there had been an "exceptionally strong contribution from oil trading".

Last year, was one of the most volatile for oil, which is generally good for trading. Volatility is likely to become a more prominent feature of what is an uneven transition to renewable energy

worldwide.

Trading is likely to provide a financial buffer before investments in renewables start to pay off.

"We think the power of integration from our trading organisation is awfully good," Auchincloss said in August, adding BP could secure returns on investment in "double digits" with integrated trading of oil, power, natural gas and solar energy.

Oil majors typically do not disclose any figures for their trading divisions' performances and figures emerge once every few years through internal reports.

Without contributions from trading last year, BP's results would have looked bleaker.

BP had a replacement cost net loss of \$18.1 billion in 2020, down from a \$3.5 billion profit in 2019, because of massive writedown due to low oil prices.

Without the writedowns, underlying replacement cost loss before tax was \$5.7 billion, of which BP's production division generated a \$5 billion loss and refining a \$3.1 billion profit.

In the BP structure, oil trading belongs to the refining division while gas trading sits under production.

The internal presentation seen by Reuters combined results of oil and gas trading under one umbrella as integrated supply and trading (IST).

Last year, IST made close to \$4 billion in replacement cost operating profit (RCOP), a near record amount compared to slightly over \$4 billion in 2019, according to a presentation seen by Reuters.

RCOP excludes tax and changes in value of inventories and is the closest metric to the underlying replacement cost pre-tax result. BP declined to provide company-wide RCOP metrics.

Budget airlines seek European Union sustainable fuel quotas for all flights

BRUSSELS

RYANAIR, Easyjet and other low-cost airlines have written to the European Union asking that its plan to force carriers to use a certain share of sustainable fuels apply to all flights, not just short-haul ones.

The European Commission is drawing up targets for airlines to use a minimum share of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF), to curb the sector's planet-warming CO2 emissions. In December Brussels shelved a draft 5% target for 2030 for being too low.

A group of budget airlines, which do not compete in long-haul markets, and environmental groups wrote to the Commission on Wednesday, asking that any SAF quotas apply not only to flights inside Europe, but also long-haul trips to and from the continent.

"Excluding long-haul flights from the SAFs mandate would mean the very area of our sector that most needs to decarbonise would not be covered at all by this legislation," said the letter to the EU's climate and transport policy chiefs, seen by Reuters.

Its signatories included Easyjet, Ryanair, Wizz Air, Jet2 and the non-governmental organisation Transport & Environment.

They cited data from air traffic management group Eurocontrol, which said the 6% of flights from European airports that crossed more than 4,000km accounted for half of the total CO2 emissions from flights leaving Europe.

"There is no logic in excluding long-haul flights from SAF usage obligations as this is their only possible way to decarbonise," Ryanair CEO Michael O'Leary said in a statement.

T&E executive director William Todts said long-haul flights currently "escape regulation of their pollution despite causing the bulk of emissions".

The signatories said SAFs are the only near-term option to curb long-haul flights' emissions - while for short-haul, SAFs are a temporary solution, before technologies such as hydrogen-fuelled aircraft become available in the 2030s. Airbus plans to put a carbon-free plane into service by 2035.

The move may be opposed by traditional carriers, if it imposes costs on them not faced by foreign rivals. Air France KLM and Lufthansa could not immediately be reached for comment.

WORLD

Biden's \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 bill wins final approval in House

WASHINGTON

THE U.S. House of Representatives gave final approval on Wednesday to one of the largest economic stimulus measures in American history, a sweeping \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill that gives President Joe Biden his first major victory in office.

The measure provides \$400 billion for \$1,400 direct payments to most Americans, \$350 billion in aid to state and local governments, an expansion of the child tax credit and increased funding for vaccine distribution. Forecasters expect it to supercharge the U.S. economic recovery.

"Help is here," Biden wrote in a tweet after the vote. The White House said he plans to sign the bill on Friday.

Approval by a 220-211 vote in the Democratic-controlled chamber came with zero Republican support after weeks of partisan debate and wrangling in Congress. Democrats described the legislation as a critical response to a pandemic that has killed more than 528,000 people and thrown millions out of work.

"This is a historic day. It is the beginning of the end of the great COVID depression," Democratic Representative Jan Schakowsky said.

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said in a statement that passage of the legislation was a pivotal day for the U.S. economy and would speed its recovery.

But Republicans said the measure was too costly and was packed with wasteful progressive priorities. They said the worst

phase of the largest public health crisis in a century has largely passed and the economy is headed toward a rebound.

"It's the wrong plan at the wrong time for so many wrong reasons," Republican Representative Jason Smith said.

Nevertheless, before final passage, Democrats predicted that Republicans would tout the benefits of the bill to constituents, despite their lock-step opposition in the House and Senate.

Indeed, Republican Senator Roger Wicker wrote on Twitter: "This funding will ensure small businesses can survive the pandemic by helping to adapt their operations and keep their employees on the payroll."

Democrats were eager to get the final bill to Biden's desk for his signature before current enhanced federal unemployment benefits expire on Sunday.

POPULAR SUPPORT

Although many Republicans supported coronavirus relief under former President Donald Trump's administration, no Republican lawmaker voted for the bill in the House or Senate.

But the bill is popular with the public. A Reuters/Ipsos national opinion poll, conducted March 8-9, showed that 70% of Americans support the plan, including majorities of Democrats and Republicans. Among Republicans, five out of 10 say they support the plan, while nine out of 10 Democrats supported it.

The legislation could have high stakes



President Joe Biden

for both parties. If it succeeds in giving the economy a major boost, the plan could improve Democrats' political fortunes as they attempt to hold their slim majorities in Congress in the 2022 midterm elections.

Only one House Democrat, Jared Golden of Maine, voted against the package, saying its high borrowing costs endangered the recovery.

The version passed by the Senate in an marathon weekend session removed a \$15-per-hour federal minimum wage increase by 2025; tightened the eligibility for \$1,400 direct payments, capping them at those earning below \$80,000, cut the unemployment insurance payment to \$300 per week from the House's \$400 and targeted some of the state and local government aid to smaller communities.

States that voted for Trump in the November election are due to get a larger amount of education and child-care aid per resident than those that backed Biden, according to estimates from two congressional committees.

Residents of Republican-leaning states, which tend to have lower household incomes, also are likely to get larger stimulus checks and tax breaks as well, according to an independent research group.

The massive spending push is seen as a major driver, coupled with a quickening pace of COVID-19 vaccinations and a slowing infection rate, in a brightening outlook for the economy.

Morgan Stanley this week pegged 2021 economic output growth at 8.1%. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development on Tuesday predicted U.S. growth would top 6% this year, up from an estimate of around 3% three months ago.

With the COVID-19 aid bill now completed, attention turns to Biden's next round of major legislation, including massive infrastructure investments, immigration reforms and climate change initiatives.

While conservatives bridled at the \$1.9 trillion cost of the COVID-19 bill, it could be possible to get Republican buy-in on immigration and climate change legislation in the Senate, said Paul Sracic, a political science professor at Youngstown State University.

But getting enough Republican support for Democratic initiatives to propel them to passage will be a challenge and "anything that gets 60 votes in the Senate is likely to be a problem with progressive Democrats in the House," Sracic added.

Agencies

An imperative step for long-term stability in Hong Kong

BEIJING

CHINA'S top legislature adopted on Thursday a decision to improve the electoral system of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), marking a landmark step to ensure that the Chinese metropolis is administered by patriots.

Creating a more suitable electoral system for Hong Kong is an urgent matter, essential for safeguarding the long-term stability and prosperity of this major international financial hub.

Since Hong Kong returned to China more than two decades ago, the implementation of "one country, two systems" has been a monumental suc-

cess. The city has enjoyed a high degree of administrative, legislative and economic autonomy.

Yet over the past years, the anti-China, destabilizing forces and radical localists in Hong Kong have manipulated the electoral system to enter the governance structure of the HKSAR, pushed for their secessionist agenda, repeatedly challenged the central government's authority. Those moves have crossed the bottom line of "one country, two systems."

Reckless foreign intervention in Hong Kong is another major reason warranting electoral change. Hostile forces overseas have intensified their efforts to stoke "color revo-



Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngo

lutions" in the Chinese city, seeking to turn it into an outpost to contain China's development.

The result? A more socially unstable Hong Kong, with its international status as a key global investment destination and financial center hit hard.

In some sense, Beijing had no choice. No central govern-

ment would tolerate such chaos or ignore outside disruptors running amok on its soil. The turbulence in Hong Kong is why Beijing enacted the national security law in HKSAR last year, and made the principle of "patriots administering Hong Kong" a prerequisite in electing the city's future administrators and members of local legislatures.

Hong Kong is part of China. No one cares more about the future of the metropolis and welfare of its residents than Beijing. Whenever Hong Kong faced a formidable challenge, such as the 1997 Asian financial crisis or the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it was Beijing that offered what Hong Kong needed the most.

It makes little sense to discuss

economic progress or personal freedoms without social stability. Ensuring that Hong Kong retains its high-level of autonomy must be based on respecting China's sovereign jurisdiction over the city.

In the future, Beijing will continue to stick to a comprehensive and accurate implementation of "one country, two systems" in order to safeguard the city's tranquility and economic vitality in the long run.

With Beijing's backing, Hong Kong can continue to shine as one of the world's major financial and free trade ports and the global community can continue enjoying the development opportunities offered by a safer and more vigorous Hong Kong. **Xinhua**

Denmark suspends AstraZeneca vaccine after blood clot reports

COPENHAGEN

DENMARK has temporarily suspended AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine shots after reports of cases of blood clots forming, including one in Denmark, Danish authorities said yesterday.

They did not say how many reports of blood clots there had been. They said six other

European countries had halted the use of a vaccine batch from AstraZeneca.

"Both we and the Danish Medicines Agency have to respond to reports of possible serious side-effects, both from Denmark and other European countries," the director of the Danish Health Authority, Soren Brostrom, said in a statement.



The vaccine would be suspended for 14 days, the health agency said. It did not give de-

tails of the Danish blood clot patient. The Danish Medicines Agen-

cy said it had launched an investigation into the vaccine together with corresponding agencies in other EU-countries as well as EMA.

The agency said it had pushed back the final date for when it expects all Danes to have been fully vaccinated by four weeks to Aug 15 as a result of the vaccine suspension. **Agencies**

Ten years on, Japan mourns victims of earthquake and Fukushima disaster

IWAKI

WITH a moment of silence, prayers and anti-nuclear protests, Japan yesterday mourned about 20,000 victims of the massive earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan 10 years ago, destroying towns and triggering nuclear meltdowns in Fukushima.

Huge waves triggered by the 9.0-magnitude quake - one of the strongest on record - crashed into the northeastern coast, crippling the Fukushima Dai-ichi power plant and forcing more than 160,000 residents to flee as radiation spewed into the air.

The world's worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl and the tremor have left survivors struggling to overcome the grief of losing families and towns to the waves in a few frightening hours on the afternoon of March 11, 2011.

About 50 kilometres (31 miles) south from the plant, in the gritty coastal city of Iwaki, which has since become a hub for labourers working on nuclear decommissioning, restaurant owner Atsushi Niizuma prayed to his mother killed by the waves.

"I want to tell my mother that my children, who were all close to her, are doing well. I came here to thank her that our family is living safely," said Niizuma, 47.

Before setting off for work, he quietly paid his respects at a stone monument at a seaside shrine with carvings of his mother's name, Mitsuko, and 65 others who died in the disaster.

On the day of the earthquake, Mitsuko was looking after his children. The children rushed into a car but Mitsuko was swept away by the waves as she returned to the house to grab her belongings. It took a month to recover her body, Niizuma said.

The Akiba shrine has become a symbol of resilience for the survivors, as it was barely damaged by the tsunami while houses nearby were swept away or burned down.

About two dozen residents gathered with Niizuma to decorate it with paper cranes, flowers and yellow handkerchiefs with messages of hope sent by students from across the country.

"It was sleeting 10 years ago, and it was cold. The coldness always brought me back to the memory of what happened on the day," said Hiroko Ishikawa, 62.

"But with my back soaking up the sun today, we are feeling more relaxed. It's as if the sun is telling us that 'It's okay, why don't you go talk with everyone who came back to visit their hometown?'"

REMEMBERING THE DEAD

At 2:46 p.m., exact moment the earthquake struck a decade ago, Emperor Naruhito and his wife led a moment of silence to honour the dead in a commemorative ceremony in Tokyo. Silent prayers were held across the country.

Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga told the memorial ceremony that the loss of life was still impossible to contemplate. "It is unbearable when I think of the feelings of all those who lost their loved ones and friends," said Suga, dressed in a black suit.

At the ceremony attended by emperor and prime minister, the attendees wore masks and kept their distance, and did not sing along with the national anthem to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

"I would like to express condolences from the bottom of my heart to everybody who suffered from the effects of the disaster," Suga added, reaffirming support for those affected by the disaster.

The government has spent about \$300 billion (32.1 trillion yen) to rebuild the region, but areas around the Fukushima plant remain off-limits, worries about radiation levels linger and many who left have settled elsewhere. Decommissioning of the crippled plant will take decades and billions of dollars.

Some 40,000 people are still displaced by the disaster. Japan is again debating the role of nuclear power in its energy mix as the resource-poor country aims to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2050 to fight global warming. But an NHK public TV survey showed 85% of the public worries about nuclear accidents.

The work to decommission the wrecked Fukushima Dai-ichi plant, deal with contaminated water and solid waste, and make the area safe is immense.

About 5,000 workers pass through gates into the crippled plant each day to pull apart the plant, which still has about 880 tonnes of melted fuel debris in its reactors. **Agencies**

Morocco, Kenya approve Russian coronavirus vaccine for use - RDIF

MOSCOW

MOROCCO and Kenya have approved Russia's Sputnik V vaccine for use against the new coronavirus, Russia's RDIF sovereign wealth fund said on Wednesday.

The fund, which is promoting the vaccine globally, said that 48 countries had now approved Sputnik V for use.

WINNING the fight against poverty, China has made absolute poverty, which has haunted the Chinese nation for thousands of years, a thing in the past. As the world's largest developing country, China's remarkable success is inspiring the world to achieve a better future regarding poverty reduction.

Poverty reduction has always been a tricky problem that bothers global development and governance. It is considered a basic human right in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It is also a primary task of the 17 goals in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The World Bank estimates that there are still 700 million people

China a major promoter of global poverty reduction

in the world living in extreme poverty, while the COVID-19 pandemic has brought further challenges to the cause of poverty reduction.

To realize the mankind's common ideal of poverty elimination, the world needs extra sincerity, guidance, determination and practical efforts.

China has always been a positive advocate and promoter of poverty alleviation. Its contribution to the cause of global poverty alleviation is reflected in how its own poverty achievements have boosted the world's confidence, how its poverty reduction experiences have inspired other countries, how it has conducted cooperation on poverty reduction

with the rest of the world, and how it is committed to promoting win-win cooperation and common development for all countries to share development results.

China's characteristic poverty eradication theories receive global attention and have a profound impact. In recent years, many foreign personages visited China to observe and learn from the country's poverty alleviation experiences, and they all believe that China's experiences is worth being learning from by other developing countries.

In December 2018, the 73rd UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to eradicate poverty in rural areas, which incorporated the Chinese

theories and practices of "targeted poverty alleviation" and "win-win cooperation."

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said targeted poverty reduction strategies are the only way to reach those farthest behind and achieve the ambitious targets set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

China is actively conducting international cooperation on poverty reduction, fulfilling its international obligations and offering as much assistance as it can for developing countries.

It not only works with international organizations including the UN to help other developing countries reduce

poverty, but also is advancing cooperation programs under frameworks of the East Asia Cooperation Initiative on Poverty Reduction and the China-Africa poverty reduction plan.

On the banks of the Mekong River, villages have been connected to safe and clean water supply thanks to Chinese experts, who also built wide and flat asphalt roads and new houses there for local communities. In African countries of Madagascar, Nigeria and Mozambique, China's hybrid rice is also helping local farmers realize their dreams of harvests and income growth. Chinese experts of Juncao, a technology that enables the cultivation of fungi on grass, have spread the seeds of fortune

to over 100 countries and regions in the past two decades, finding solutions to human existence and development through the magic of technology.

China always believes that true development is development for all, and development opportunities shall be made equal, and development results shared.

The country is joining hands with global countries to build the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and promoting the alignment between the BRI and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It has also established of Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank to help relevant countries develop and proposed ten cooperation plans and eight major initiatives with Africa. **People's Daily**

Israeli broadcaster: Netanyahu cancels planned UAE visit

JERUSALEM

A planned visit by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to the United Arab Emirates yesterday was cancelled, Israel's public radio Kan said, citing a source involved in the planning.

Neither Israel nor the UAE has formally confirmed that such a visit - the first by the prime minister to the Gulf power - was to have taken place, nor that it was being reviewed. Israeli media reported the planned visit on Wednesday, saying Netanyahu would meet Abu Dhabi's Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nahyan. Commentators deemed it as a chance for Netanyahu to flourish his diplomatic credentials ahead of Israel's March 23 election.

Earlier yesterday, Israeli media said the planned visit could be held up or cancelled by questions over the air route to the Gulf state and an illness suffered by Netanyahu's wife.

Agencies

Russia becomes net exporter of food for first time in post-Soviet history

MOSCOW

RUSSIA exported 79 million tons of food products last year, worth \$30.7 billion, the AgroExport center under the country's Ministry of Agriculture said in its latest report.

According to the agency, Russian food exports saw a 20-percent surge compared to the previous year, beating the record set in 2018, when the country exported 78.5 million tons of produce worth \$25.8 billion.

The nation also exported more grain, meat, fish, vegetables, dairy and other products than it imported, becoming a net seller of agricultural produce for the first time since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Grains traditionally made up more than half of Russia's agricultural export in terms of weight, accounting for about 33 percent of foreign food sales. In 2020, the country recorded its second-strongest grain harvest in history. Turkey became a major consumer of Russian grains, having bought nine million tons for \$1.9 billion.

The biggest rise was seen in meat exports, which reportedly rose 49 percent over the year to a total value of nearly \$900 million, boosted by strong and growing demand from China.

Beijing remained the top importer of Russian food products, accounting for 13 percent of overall sales.

Turkey became the second-biggest buyer with 10 percent, while the share of Kazakhstan's imports totaled seven percent. In total, Russia exported food products to 150 countries across the globe.

Russia's agricultural sector has been booming since 2014, when the country banned some food imports from the European Union in response to sanctions over the Crimean reunification, and had to develop domestic alternatives to European dairy products, fruits, vegetables, cheeses and meat.

Under the strategy put forward by the country's government, agricultural imports are set to increase by another 50 percent over the next three years. Russia's Agriculture Ministry expects food exports to amount to at least \$26 billion in 2021.

However, recent measures undertaken by the Russian government may hold back the dramatic growth. The Kremlin has recently introduced an export limit and a tax hike on exports of grains in an effort to keep excess supplies at home to prevent domestic food prices from rising.

US states, White House, at odds over lifting COVID-19 restrictions

WASHINGTON

SOME U.S. states governors are at odds with the White House, opening up their economies and lifting mask mandates to the chagrin of U.S. President Joe Biden, who has blasted those states for such actions.

A number of states are loosening their COVID-19 restrictions on businesses including restaurants because of drops in the number of cases and deaths.

The governors of Mississippi and Texas recently announced they would permit businesses to open up at full capacity and lift mandates requiring masks. Washington, D.C. just ended its ban on indoor eating.

Chicago and the areas around are now allowing indoor dining for the first time in about five months. The state of California has recently lifted what has been blasted as draconian stay-at-home orders.

The state of Michigan has also announced that bars and restaurants can allow customers to dine and drink indoors for the first time in over two months, although Governor Gretchen Whitmer said there will be a 10-p.m.-curfew and a 25-percent capacity limit. But Biden has expressed opposition to states dropping mask mandates.

"We are on the cusp of being able to fundamentally change the nature of this disease because of the way in which we're able to get vaccines in people's arms," Biden has said recently.

The coronavirus death toll in the United States has hit over 528,000, although newly confirmed cases have decreased in recent weeks.

At the same time, new variants originally detected in South Africa and Britain are causing manufacturers to work on updating their vaccines to address the variants.

On Monday, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued its first set of recommendations on activities that people who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 can safely resume.

The guidelines greenlight unmasked indoor gatherings among fully vaccinated individuals, but advise that everyone avoid larger indoor gatherings and mask up in public and high-risk settings regardless of vaccination status.

Xinhua

China's top political advisory body wraps up annual session

BEIJING

CHINA'S top political advisory body concluded its annual session on Wednesday afternoon, calling for concerted and unremitting efforts toward realizing the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation.

Xi Jinping and other Chinese leaders -- Li Keqiang, Li Zhanshu, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji, Han Zheng and Wang Qishan -- attended the closing meeting of the fourth session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) in Beijing.

Wang Yang, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the National Committee of the CPPCC, presided over the meeting.

A resolution on a work report of the Standing Committee of the CPPCC National Committee, a resolution on a report on how the proposals from political advisors have been handled since the previous annual session, a report on the examination of new proposals, and a political resolution on the fourth session of 13th CPPCC National Committee were approved at the meeting.

The political advisors unanimously agreed to support the National People's Congress -- the national legislature -- in making a decision on improving the electoral system of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Addressing the meeting, Wang Yang said the session had focused on the blueprint for the country's social and economic development over the next five to 15 years.

This year marks the centenary of the CPC and the first year for the country to implement its new five-



The closing meeting of the fourth session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) is held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, on Wednesday. Xi Jinping, Li Keqiang, Li Zhanshu, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji, Han Zheng and Wang Qishan attended the closing meeting. Wang Yang presided over the closing meeting and delivered a speech. (Xinhua)

year development plan and begin its new journey toward fully building a modern socialist country, he said.

Wang called on the CPPCC to pool wisdom and strength of Chinese people at home and abroad to make contributions to securing a good start for fully building a modern socialist country.

The CPPCC must take upholding and

strengthening Party leadership as the fundamental political principle and major political responsibility, he said, urging the CPPCC to better play its role as a platform for consultative democracy.

Wang also called for continuous efforts to advance the cause of the CPPCC and the development of the CPPCC as a specialist consultative body, so as to cel-

brate, with outstanding achievements, the centenary of the CPC.

Before the closing meeting, Wang presided over a meeting of the Standing Committee of the 13th CPPCC National Committee. *Xinhua*

Third of African women hurt by partners, study finds

BY OTIATO OPALI

A THIRD of women in sub-Saharan Africa suffer violence at the hands of their male partners, a United Nations study indicates.

The report's release on Tuesday, coming a day after International Women's Day, sheds more light on the pressures that have long faced women and which are being exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic.

At the release of the report, World Health Organization Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus condemned all forms of violence against women.

"Violence against women is endemic in every country and culture, causing harm to millions of women and their families, and has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic," Tedros said.

"But unlike COVID-19, violence against women cannot be stopped with a vaccine. We can only fight it with deep-rooted and sustained efforts by governments, communities and individuals in order to change harmful attitudes, improve access to opportunities and services for women and girls, and foster healthy and mutually respectful relationships."



Algerian women call for protecting women rights on the occasion of the International Women's Day in Algiers, Algeria, on Monday. (XINHUA)

The study noted that forms of violence against women range from slapping, pushing and kicking to choking and threats with a weapon. Acts of sexual violence include women being coerced into sex.

The study found that women in the

Democratic Republic of Congo suffered the most in Africa. Some 47 percent of women and girls between 15 and 49 years reported being subjected to violence, and 36 percent said it had occurred over the past 12 months. In Equatorial Guinea, the study revealed the corresponding figures were 46 percent

and 29 percent.

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, the UN Women's executive director, said the violence was at its worst for those aged 15 to 24.

"That was the situation before the pandemic stay-at-home orders," Mlambo-Ngcuka said. "We know that the multiple impacts of COVID-19 have triggered a shadow pandemic of increased reported violence of all kinds against women and girls. Every government should be taking strong, proactive steps to address this, and involving women in doing so."

The WHO said the trends revealed in the study do not reflect the impact of the pandemic.

The WHO warns that the pandemic has further increased women's exposure to violence, as a result of measures such as lockdowns and disruptions to vital support services.

Tedros said many countries have seen increased reporting of partner violence to helplines, police and health workers during lockdowns.

However, the full impact of the pandemic on violence against women and girls will become clearer with more surveys, the WHO said.

Stable employment demonstrates China's confidence, strength

CHINA ensured the overall stability of employment and secured better-than-expected results in stabilizing the job market in 2020, which is particularly precious, given that the COVID-19 pandemic hit the global economy hard last year.

The country created 11.86 million jobs in urban areas last year, exceeding its annual target of adding 9 million new urban jobs, according to recent data released by the country's Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security.

In December 2020, China's surveyed urban unemployment rate dropped to 5.2 percent, lower than its expected control target, official data said.

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19, China's economy declined in the first quarter of last year. At the end of February 2020, the number of rural migrant workers fell by 54 million year on year, and the country's surveyed urban unemployment rate rose to 6.2 percent in the same month.

In addition, the country saw a total of 8.74 million students graduate from college last year, which added to the country's pressure in ensuring employment amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Faced with grim job outlook, China basically curbed the spread of the virus in about one month after the outbreak and taken the lead in resuming work and production.

By March 2020, an average of over 95 percent of industrial enterprises above designated size in the country (except for its Hubei province which was severely hit by the epidemic) had resumed work, and an average of 80 percent of employees in enterprises had got back to their work.

As China continued to advance the resumption of work, production, and market, the country saw a gradual recovery in newly added jobs and a continuous



Automobile majors in Shandong Technician College of Water Conservancy, east China's Shandong province, working as interns in Shandong Tangjun Ouling Automobile Manufacture Co., Ltd. Joining hands with companies in relevant industries, the college cultivates professionals and technical talents according to market demand. (File photo)

growth in employment in urban areas.

In last June, China's surveyed urban unemployment rate fell to 5.7 percent, with the year-on-year increase narrowing down to 0.6 percentage points.

China's employment has withstood the test of the pandemic, which mirrors the country's remarkable achievements in balancing epidemic prevention and control with economic and social development, as well as China's unique institutional advantages and people-centered development philosophy.

Recently, the fact that China's GDP witnessed a V-shaped recovery on a quarterly basis in 2020 has drawn wide attention on social media platforms.

In fact, the country's employment sta-

bility has reflected the strong resilience of the Chinese economy.

Last year, China's courier sector handled over 80 billion parcels, a growth rate of over 30 percent, creating jobs for more than 200,000 people. Meanwhile, the country's foreign trade volume hit a record high.

In 2020, China's economy grew against the trend, with economic structure being optimized continuously, the quality of economic development improving gradually, demand for labor rising constantly, and employment rebounding and growing steadily.

At the same time, the country's stable employment has ensured sufficient labor supply for economic recovery and

injected strong impetus into continuous economic recovery.

Employment is the cornerstone of people's wellbeing. Stabilizing employment has played a prominent part in the country's efforts to contain the epidemic and boost economy, and received unprecedentedly strong policy support from the Chinese government.

From February to December last year, China cut old-age, unemployment, and work injury insurance premiums worth 1.54 trillion yuan (\$240 billion) for enterprises and individuals.

In 2020, the country distributed a total of 104.2 billion yuan of unemployment insurance premium refunds to 6.08 million enterprises, and allocated 100 billion yuan of employment subsidies as well as special awards and subsidies to stabilize employment.

By rolling out various measures to create jobs and ensure employment, China has eased fluctuations in its labor market as much as possible, and enabled its employment to survive the pandemic sound and safe.

China has not only maintained the stability of its job market, but optimized the employment structure, enriched the possibilities of employment, and diversified people's choices of occupations.

New occupations such as digital operations engineer, online education provider, food stylist, travel experienter and health manager continue to emerge and become increasingly popular among job hunters.

China is seeing increasing new areas and ways of employment, thriving new forms of business, and emerging new occupations, which have expanded employment channels, and added new potential and resilience into the job market.

People's Daily

TFF appeals to soccer stakeholders to back youth, grassroots programs

BY CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MCHEKADONA

THERE is a need for football administrators in Tanzania to invest more in youth and grassroots football if the sport is to develop locally.

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF)'s Competitions Director, Salum Madadi, issued the comments at the opening of a seven-day Afrisoccer youth coaching course which is organized in collaboration with German-based institution ITK.

The course, which has attracted 25 grassroots and youth football coaches, is taking place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

It is part of the coming Tanzania Football Summit (TFS) slated for next week at the University of Dar es Salaam.

Madadi said youth and grassroots football must be of priority, insisting all countries which are doing well in the sport invest a lot in the foundation and development stages of football.

He said without well organized youth football the country should forget about producing players who can compete well at the international level.

Madadi said failure to invest in youth football will see the country struggle at both youth and adult football.

He disclosed: "Let me thank the organizers of this course, it has come at a good time when

we are encouraging all stakeholders to invest in youth football."

He said: "Youth football is the only way for us to see our players compete at top leagues in the world without problems."

"We have all witnessed how players who come from unorganized youth football perform at adult age."

"They may be good at either young age or in the domestic leagues, but when they become adults and take part in competitive games, they fail to stand the heat, many of them retire at their prime age," he said.

German course facilitator, Martin Hammer from ITK University, said the course will help to equip the coaches with necessary training methods suitable for youth football.

He said youth football is about football and tactical development and he called upon people to appreciate the role coaches play in developing players at a young age.

"Youth coaches are key factors in unlocking the potential of Tanzania youths, the coaches must be given all the support for them to discharge their duties well," he said.

The opening of the course was attended by Afrisoccer Chairman, Simon Patrick, and officials from Tembeke District Commissioner's office.

Didier Gomes opens up on Simba's professionals

BY CORRESPONDENT NASSIR NCHIMBI

SIMBA SC head coach, Didier Gomes Da Rosa, has admitted that the squad's two signings, roped in during the mini transfer window, Nigerian forward Junior Lokosa and Zimbabwean central defender Peter Muduhwa are good but they face a tough test to break into the starting team.

So far neither of them have played any competitive match for Simba, despite being touted as good acquisition.

The two players were given condition that they have to put more effort especially in training so that they can land a place in the squad that takes part in this season's CAF Champions League.

The two players' working permits allow them to only take part in the tournament.

Lokosa and Muduhwa are not eligible to play for Simba in domestic competitions due to being signed only for CAF Champions League.

Technically, Lokosa is still physically fit and Muduhwa is failing to play due to Paschal Wawa and Joash Onyango already getting along well in terms of combination.

The Simba tactician said: "Lokosa failed to play competitive matches for a long time because the league he was previously playing in was suspended because of the corona, so until the time he got here he was not physically fit."

"I need more time to keep the fitness high for Lokosa and restore his physical fitness and after that I will give him a chance to play, that's why he has not been seen in competitive matches so far," he said.

On Wednesday, Simba found it hard again to post victory over Prisons, when the two sides locked horns in a Premier League clash which was played in Dar es Salaam, with the latter forcing 1-1 draw with the former.

The tactician opted to shoulder the blame after the clash.

Simba failed to pick maximum points and narrow their gap with rivals Yanga at the top flight's top.

The French coach noted there must be no excuses as he accepted to take full responsibility for the results.

"We are responsible and I am the coach of the team so I take responsibility for this bad draw. We could have won easily but we did not make things clear," the coach said as per the club's online TV.

He stated: "But I know it will help us to react and to recover for the rhythm that we had played with Al Ahly."

"I am sure together we will react and we will be more aggressive in future. Of course, we can say we have played a lot of matches in one month but that is not a reason for us to post the draw with this team," he said.

"Like I said we are very disappointed especially after dominating the game towards the end and failed to make something out of it."

Although Da Rosa said they should not find excuses for failing to dismantle Tanzania Prisons, he defended his players from individual blame.

"We missed many things, we missed the penalty, and so many opportunities to score so we can accept but we cannot be satisfied. We are disappointed and we are a top team and that is the reason I will not find excuses because we must be ready to play in three or four days," he said.



Simba's defender Peter Muduhwa.

He added: "I have always said that I will not blame my players when we lose a goal. Even when we work on set pieces, penalty and corners during training we are not efficient offensively."

"Defensively we are better now, especially during corner kicks. We had a lot of opportunities and it is not only the penalty that we lost. But I have trust in my players that we will recover mentally before the Al Merreikh fixture," he disclosed.

After the midweek clash, Simba are set to shift focus to this season's CAF Champions League games as they are set to face Al Merreikh, AS Vita Club and Al Ahly respectively in March and early April.

Morrison had missed out two earlier fixtures before being left out of the travelling squad to Sudan without any public explanation from Simba media which led to wild suggestions that led to a social media beef between two prominent Tanzanian media personalities.



Lions Cricket Club's players pictured after participating in a recent Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML)'s clash, which took place in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: COURTESY OF LIONS CRICKET CLUB

Dar cricket clubs set for 2021 Kazim Nasser Memorial tourney

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

DAR ES SALAAM'S Annadil Burhani cricket oval will tomorrow be a place to go for cricket followers in the region, as the venue will play host to the opening day of this season's Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division A.

Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) organizes the annual tournament under the auspices of Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) with a view to boosting the game's promotion in the country.

With so much at stake, DC's Chairman Azim Thakur said, there will be eight clubs contesting for silverware in groups A and B of the tournament.

Group A has, among others, the tournament's previous season winners, Aces Cricket Club, Pak Stars, Strikers and Upanga SC.

This looks to be a group of uncertainty as anything is possible for any of the squads, given they are deemed as prominent cricket outfits in Twenty20 competitions domestically.

Group B is made up of Aga Khan SC A, Caravans A, Gymkhana A, and Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Centre (SKLPSC).

This group is equally decent, with Aga Khan SC A and Caravans A being tipped to go through to knockout stage.

It is though said in game of cricket, surprises normally happen on the pitch and all statistics can be changed.

"For that matter we cannot really be extremely sure of what will be the results of the Division A event.

The event will be played in the most strategically situated ground, Annadil Burhani, at Upanga, starting this weekend.

The SKLPSC are set to take on Caravans A tomorrow, with the

match being slated to start at 3pm.

Similarly, Aces B will be playing K&P Constructions team in a Division B fixture at Leaders Club's venue.

Thakur said: "We will also be having some matches at University of Dar es Salaam venue so if one is a cricket lover, we urge him or her to come and relish the game of cricket across the city and see the best of the cricketers in the division put their virtuosity to show."

On Sunday Division A will see Gymkhana A, confront Aga Khan SC A, who have been bolstered by the arrival of senior cricketers Abhik Patwa and Vishal Patel.

The skilful performers were, before joining Aga Khan SC A, key all-rounders for Gymkhana A.

Gymkhana A will, for that matter, mostly be banking on the side's up-and-coming cricketers to get good results.

With Patwa and Patel playing for Aga Khan SC A, the Gymkhana A's young players are expected to capitalize on their knowledge of the two performers' weaknesses to notch victory over their opponents.

"We moreover have a game in the afternoon pitting a new-look Pak Stars against Upanga SC, which has made a comeback after having been out of action for three years," the DC official stated.

He noted: "Upanga SC, a team with one of the best history of cricket domestically, producing some extraordinary talent for the team."

"We expect a good game of cricket, given Pak Stars have as well roped in some of gifted, young indigenous players, therefore we expect the best games."

With the new management having assumed power at TCA after having been elected in 2020, already getting down to work, the

DC has also got new management this year, with Thakur from Aces Cricket Club being elected the new DC Chairman.

Annadil Burhani Club's Taher Jeevaji is the DC's secretary, and Yagnesh Patel assuming the treasurer role.

They may seem new officials at the regional cricket governing body but they are well known leaders in their respective outfits.

With the new committee coming in their basic idea was to keep the DC leagues and any other sponsored tournament as active as ever.

Thakur disclosed in the coming showpiece, the DC, therefore, has started with seeing to it there is a prize for the best player of the match in the Division A matches, courtesy Harab Motors Company.

The Harab Motors Company is a leading car importer in Tanzania and it brings in quality cars from overseas.

The entity has, DC revealed, promised to support cricket in Tanzania this year.

They are also sponsoring some individual cricketers in the country, so they are becoming a prominent name, when it comes to cricket promotion at the domestic level.

They also sponsor some other cricketing events like the recently conducted TCA T20 Super League.

In this season's tournament, they are going to sponsor the best player of the match in each of the Division A event's fixtures.

He added: "This is the first ever time the DC leagues will be having cash prizes for the events' winners and losers."

"Simultaneously we have such other sponsors like Funcity, Swepac and Shamsu Pharmacy, who are going to be the media

partners for Division A event."

"Swepac will be the man of the match's token sponsors in the competition's Division B and Division C."

"It will be the first time in the history of cricket in the country that there will be man of the match set to receive cash prize right up to the final."

Individual honours will be handed over to the tournament's best batsman, best bowler and the final's best player.

Along with the cash prize and trophies, the tournament will be covered by professional photographer Nikhil Pujara, with his work being co-sponsored by Swepac and Shamsu Pharmacy.

Thakur thanked the TCA for doing a great job in the previous season, he added he is as well extremely thankful for the DC's outgoing leadership that has set the structures so well that it has hardly been difficult for the body's new management to operate.

He thanked the previous management's officials who are still helping in guiding and mentoring the DC's new leaders to be successful.

According to the DC boss, he along with his team assures cricket fans there will be good cricket leagues this season, as far as the DC tournaments are concerned.

He also appreciated the partners and sponsors for helping the DC management to get the required support in an effort to make the tournament look more active and glamorous.

Thakur disclosed he believes that with cash prizes being handed over to the participating squads in Division A, the decision has become a motivational factor for local up-and-coming cricketers to put stellar showing and gain recognition.

Morrison can still turn it around at Simba SC

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL MWEBE

LAST week there was wild speculation surrounding Bernard Morrison's future at Simba when the fit-again Ghanaian attacking midfielder was excluded from the travelling squad to face Al Merreikh of Sudan in their third match of this season's CAF Champions League's Group A.

The decision left many fans and other football stakeholders speculating what could be the problem.

Various online publications reported the Ghanaian star has fallen out with head coach Didier Gomes Da Rosa. The reports added that the duo were not on talking terms.

Morrison had missed out two earlier fixtures before being left out of the travelling squad to Sudan without any public explanation from Simba media which led to wild suggestions that led to a social media beef between two prominent Tanzanian media personalities.

Chao Gomes had come out to

clarify he does not have any personal issues with the midfielder who signed for the Msimbazi giants from age-old rivals Yanga at the beginning of the season.

The french tactician explained his position on the matter, insisting he does not have any problem with the player and stated he is part of his plans to help the team achieve their targets for the season.

Speaking to the media after arriving from Sudan on Sunday, Gomes said: "There is no conflict between me and Morrison, believe me, I am frank, he is very frank. I can say even we have a good relationship and we talk together, I explained to him my decision but it is a family matter, you know."

Gomes insisted: "A squad is a family and we need to keep some things confidential because we need to respect our team is very important. So like I said before, I don't have any conflict with him and it is the same for him so everything is good and I am very sure he will help us to achieve our

targets."

However when Gomes was pressed for a reason why he dropped the midfielder from the squad that travelled for the match against Al Merreikh in Khartoum he was vague and circumspect, calling it 'family matter'.

He disclosed: "It is because of family matters, I don't want to talk about it, but everything is good and please don't worry about it, all is well."

Whilst Simba have dismissed it as largely speculation, there is probably something to this given what Gomes said in January.

Despite Morrison scoring a brace and creating one goal against Sudan's Al Hilal in an international friendly, Gomes warned him that he will need to work very hard to be able to start matches.

Gomes introduced Morrison on the 62nd minute against Al Hilal of Sudan, and the winger announced his return in fashion as he scored two goals in quick succession, one on the 87th minute and the other on the 90th minute to seal the game for Simba as they ran out 4-1

winners.

Following the game, Da Rosa praised the Ghanaian's performance but he admitted that Morrison needed to work on his physical fitness to earn more time on the pitch.

"Morrison had a good performance during 25-30 minutes. He needs to play a lot, he has very good talent, everybody knows that. He needs to play because he must improve his physical fitness. It is very important. If he wants to play, start and complete matches he needs to work a lot physically."

Morrison's big sign on fee transfer controversial switch from age-old rivals raised expectations though he has struggled for consistency this season with just four goals and similar assists more than half way in a season.

Gomes could decide to give Morrison a proper run in the team, and if he takes those chances, plays well, cements a regular place in the side until the end of the season, it is a different story altogether once again.

Messi sees ousted Barca have 'great future' - Koeman

PARIS

RONALD Koeman says Barcelona showed Lionel Messi the club have a bright future despite being knocked out of the Champions League by Paris Saint-Germain on Wednesday.

Messi, 33, was on target as Barca drew 1-1 in Paris, exiting the competition at the last 16 stage for the first time since 2007 following a 5-2 aggregate defeat.

It could prove to be Messi's last European game in Barca colours if he decides not to renew his contract when it expires in June, but Koeman believes recent improvements could convince him to stay.

"Leo's seen for a while that the team is improving with the changes we've made," the Barca coach said after exiting the Champions League.

"We have youngsters with quality and big futures coming into the team, so it's not a question of having doubts about what this team is capable of.

"But only he can decide his future. No one can help him. He can see this side has a great future, so that's not an argument for him to [leave]."

Messi wanted to leave last August following the 8-2 defeat to Bayern Munich in the UCL. He said there was "no project" at the club and criticised the board and president in charge at the time.

Both Manchester City and PSG are interested in signing him if he does leave Barca this summer, sources have previously told ESPN.

However, with Joan Laporta replacing Josep Maria Bartomeu as the club's president this week and Barca showing signs of improvement since the turn of the year, there's renewed hope he could stay.

Koeman's faith in young players, such as Pedri and Ilia Moriba, has changed the mood around the club and Barca are unbeaten in 16 games in the league and have progressed to the final of the Copa del Rey, although they were comfortably knocked

out of the Champions League by PSG in the end.

Following a 4-1 defeat at Camp Nou in the first leg, hopes of producing an unlikely comeback were further complicated when Kylian Mbappe gave PSG the lead from the penalty spot on Wednesday.

Messi drew Barca level on the night but missed a penalty on the stroke of half-time. Ousmane Dembele had earlier missed two good chances and Sergino Dest hit the bar as Koeman's side went out fighting.

"We're eliminated, which is what counts in this sport, but we also have good sensations because we had chances to make it more complicated for PSG," Koeman added.

"We didn't get the reward our first half deserved. We dominated PSG and created a lot of chances. But we didn't take them. After going into the break at 1-1, it becomes more difficult.

"The first leg result was excessive. PSG were very clinical. That's been the big difference. We created more than them here than they did in Barcelona, but they scored more.

"But I can't fault the team. They put in a huge effort. We also lacked a little bit of luck and their goalkeeper [Keylor Navas] was the man of the match."

Striker Antoine Griezmann called on Barca to use the performance as a stepping stone to win the Copa del Rey and La Liga, where they currently sit second in the table, six points behind leaders Atletico Madrid.

"We're pissed because we wanted to go through, but the performance gives us confidence," Griezmann said. "We played really well and had four really clear chances, plus the penalty, but we just could not take them.

"We wanted to put in a great performance, to give our all, but it wasn't to be. We still have La Liga and the Copa; that's the objective now."

(Agencies)

Liverpool, Klopp need Istanbul magic in Champions League



Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp, centre, celebrates with players after beating RB Leipzig in the Champions League. (Agencies)

BY MARK OGDEN, SENIOR WRITER, ESPN FC

LIVERPOOL might need to re-create the so-called "Miracle of Istanbul" if they are to qualify for next season's Champions League, but as bad as Jurgen Klopp's team has been in the Premier League in recent weeks, the flame of European glory continues to flicker this season after a 4-0 aggregate victory over RB Leipzig secured a place in the quarterfinals.

Second-half goals from Mohamed Salah and Sadio Mane, four minutes apart, in Budapest's Ferenc Puskas Arena were enough to win Liverpool's "home" leg of this round-of-16 tie, which has seen all 180 minutes played in the Hungarian capital due to COVID-19 travel restrictions forcing the two games to be staged outside of England and Germany.

Despite a dismal run of domestic form that has led to Liverpool dropping to eighth in the Premier League, seven points adrift of the Champions League spots on the back of six successive league defeats at Anfield, Europe has once again been a sanctuary for the six-time Champions League winners.

But it now needs to offer Liverpool more than a welcome distraction from the embarrassing defence of their Premier League title. Realistically, winning the Champions League again is their

best hope of playing in the competition again next season.

Back in 2005, Rafael Benitez's Liverpool finished fifth, outside the Champions League qualification positions, but famously went on to win the European Cup against AC Milan in Istanbul -- winning on penalties after trailing 3-0 at half-time -- to claim a place in the following season's tournament.

Although that Liverpool team possessed outstanding players such as Steven Gerrard, Xabi Alonso and Jamie Carragher, it was certainly not one of the greatest teams in the club's illustrious history. But it overcame the odds, and Juventus and Chelsea in the quarters and semis, to achieve one of the most memorable victories in Champions League history.

That this season's final is also in Istanbul, a year after the pandemic forced it to be moved for the Turkish city, will undoubtedly have many Liverpoolians believing that the omens are on their side. Liverpool also eliminated a German club -- Bayer Leverkusen -- at the round-of-16 stage in 2005, so maybe the stars are beginning to align again.

But if we take away the romance and search for comparisons between now and 2005, is it legitimate to believe this Liverpool team can go all the way and win the Champions League for a seventh time this season?

Having reached the final in 2018 and 2019, winning it in 2019, Klopp's team certainly knows how to navigate the knockout stages. Klopp also took Liverpool to the 2016 Europa League final, so this group of players has pedigree in European competition.

But the injuries that have derailed the defence of their Premier League title threaten to also compromise their Champions League bid.

Injuries have ravaged Klopp's squad and the loss of Virgil van Dijk to a season-ending knee injury has been the most damaging. Jordan Henderson's recent addition to the casualty list following groin surgery that will keep the midfielder and captain out until mid-April has been another huge blow.

Defensively, Liverpool have become a soft touch in the Premier League, but against Leipzig, they kept clean sheets in both legs.

Whether they can manage that against one of Europe's more fearsome attacking sides remains to be seen, though.

Ozan Kabak and Nat Phillips kept Leipzig quiet in Budapest, but both players lack the experience and quality to do the same against Bayern Munich, Paris Saint-Germain or Manchester City.

In midfield, at least, the return of Fabinho made Liverpool stronger against Leipzig. The Brazilian has been out-

standing as a makeshift centre-half this season, but his energy and tenacity have been missed in midfield. If Klopp is able to keep Fabinho in his best position, then Liverpool might just be able to keep the best teams at bay.

If they can do that, Salah and Mane have shown they can score against any opposition in Europe, so Liverpool can still cling to the hope that they can go all the way in the competition.

If they get a favourable tie in next week's quarterfinal draw, a route to Istanbul could open up, but the absence of fans inside Anfield will deny Liverpool one of their biggest assets on a European night.

And there is also the question mark over whether Klopp's depleted squad can stubbornly defend a lead, or keep it tight enough for 180 minutes, to overcome a stronger side. Benitez expertly marshalled his team to do just that, but there is the suspicion that Klopp's team is simply not built to contain and frustrate.

But despite all of their shortcomings and problems, Liverpool are still standing in the Champions League. They are into the last eight and can focus solely on getting to Istanbul because it is now the only way to save their season.

Liverpool might lack the depth to go all the way, but that didn't stop them in 2005. Maybe Istanbul is calling after all.

Billion-euro nightmare as German football counts cost of year behind closed doors

BERLIN

AFTER a year of games behind closed doors, Bundesliga clubs are contemplating losses of a "billion euros" as players and coaches wonder when Germany's football grounds will be full again in the wake of the Covid-19 crisis.

"They feel like training games at times," Freiburg striker Nils Petersen has said of matches behind closed doors.

Borussia Moenchengladbach's 2-1 win over Cologne on March 11, 2020, was the first ever Bundesliga game played without spectators.

Two days later, all Bundesliga matches stopped as Germany went into lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

After a two-and-a-half month hiatus, the league resumed in May with the last nine rounds of matches void of fans so the 2019/20 season could be finished.

Since then, the stadiums in Germany's top flight have largely remained empty.

A few thousand supporters were allowed into 33 games in certain grounds for matches at the start of this season, but Germany's second wave of coronavirus put paid to that.

Bundesliga matches have been played behind closed doors since November when Germany went into a second lockdown, which is still in place.

- 'Just the beginning' -



Bayern Munich have not played in front of fans at the Allianz Arena for more than a year. (Agencies)

The 36 clubs in Germany's top two leagues are counting the financial cost of lost matchday revenue with their combined turnover plummeting by 300 million euros (\$358 million) in 2019/20 compared to the previous season.

"And this is just the beginning," warned Christian Seifert, the CEO of the German Football League (DFL),

on Tuesday.

With no end to the current lockdown in sight, Germany's top clubs are forecast to lose a billion euros this season compared to figures before the crisis.

"It's no longer the same job as it was before the pandemic," said Werder's coach Florian Kohfeldt.

"I can't get used to it and I don't

want to get used to it," he said of games without fans - dubbed 'Geisterspiele' (ghost games) in German.

"What makes you so enjoy doing your job is totally missing: the emotions in the stadium.

"It's like going to work in a normal job without these extraordinary moments."

Rising stars who made their Bundesliga debuts in the last 12 months, like Dortmund striker Youssouf Moukoko, 16, and Schalke forward Matthew Hoppe, 19, have never experienced the atmosphere of playing in a packed stadium.

"Our sport has become colder. More objective," said Union Berlin goalkeeper Andreas Luthe.

- 'Privileged position' -

However, German football enjoys the privileged position of being able

to continue when the lockdown has forced many business to close.

"You couldn't imagine what this pandemic would do to many people and companies," Augsburg coach Heiko Herrlich told magazine Kicker.

"We are in a privileged position in football because we are allowed to practice our profession. Many others cannot do that."

Champions Bayern Munich have not played in front of fans at the Allianz Arena since March 8, 2020.

The lack of noise from supporters means every word can be heard on the pitch - and from the opposing bench.

"That's not always nice," says Bayern coach Hansi Flick, who admits sometimes finding it "a very big challenge" not to react to heckling from the opposition's bench.

There has also been an impact on

the pitch.

Without home fans cheering their team on, the host club has won only a third of Bundesliga matches over the last year, according to a study by magazine Kicker.

In the preceding 12 months up to March 2020, just under half of matches were won by the home team.

"Our work has changed", said Kohfeldt.

"Whether you play away or at home, it has neutralised itself to a certain extent."

However, the lack of passionate fans also seems to have calmed players' tempers.

Half as many red cards were dished out over the last year compared to the same period in the preceding 12 months.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Liverpool, Klopp need Istanbul magic in Champions League

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Athletes set to start preps for Olympics' qualifying tourneys

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) leaders have stated a camp for athletes preparing for qualification for Tokyo Olympics will start after the National Sports Council (NSC) and Tanzania Olympics Committee (TOC) had endorsed the coach the association presented to them.

John Bayo, AT vice-president, stated in an interview yesterday they proposed names for two coaches and they are waiting for NSC and TOC to endorse a coach who will train distance race runners, as well as track and field runners.

Bayo said the names were submitted to the two institutions last week.

He said once the coaches have been endorsed by the two institutions, 25 athletes will enter camp.

He noted the marathoners will camp at West Kilimanjaro while track and field athletes will be at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha.

Bayo mentioned the proposed coaches as Francis John, Anthony Mwingereza, Robert John and Thomas Tlanka.

"All is set for our athletes to enter camp, we are just waiting for our main stakeholders, NSC and TOC, to endorse the names of the coaches," he said.

The Tokyo Olympics are scheduled to run

from July 23-August 8, with the Paralympics due to follow from 24 August-September 5. Currently only two athletes Alponce Simbu and Failuna Matanga have qualified for the Games.

He said the initial AT's plan was to have an early camp so that athletes can earn qualification for the Tokyo Olympics as the aim is to have many athletes on qualifying tickets at the Games.

The AT official, however, conceded that with the second phase of COVID-19 hitting hard around the world, many qualifying events have been either cancelled or postponed.

He, however, expressed optimism that there will be some qualifying competitions soon.

"Of course many qualifying events have been suspended and others cancelled, but we are optimistic that soon there will be some events which will be used as qualifying tournaments for the Tokyo Olympics," he noted.

"All we want to do is to keep our athletes ready for qualifying tournaments," he said.

Some of the sports disciplines, which will have the country's athletes battling it out in the Tokyo Olympics, are athletics, judo, boxing, swimming and beach volleyball.



Athletics Tanzania (AT)'s vice-president, John Bayo.

Poulsen: Qualification for 2021 AFCON tournament still Taifa Stars' main target



Taifa Stars' head coach Kim Poulsen

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AHEAD of his first four games in charge of Tanzania's senior national football squad, Taifa Stars, head coach Kim Poulsen has insisted they have a clear vision to qualify for the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON)

in Cameroon, he believes it can happen.

Taifa Stars have back-to-back international friendly matches against Kenya on March 15 and March 18 in Nairobi.

They moreover have the 2021 Afri-

ca Cup of Nations' qualifier ties pitting them against Equatorial Guinea away in Malabo on March 25 and Libya at home in Dar es Salaam on March 29.

In November, Taifa Stars squandered home advantage after rallying from a goal down to share a point

with Tunisia 'Carthage Eagles'-a result which left their hopes cliff-hanging with just two matches left.

Poulsen who started his first residential training with Taifa Stars' players believes AFCON finals' qualification is not over.

He disclosed: "So far it has been a real pleasure to start the camp. We started the training on Tuesday with around 23 players. It is a good number, it is a good balance in the squad."

He noted: "We have two missions. The first is a short term mission, it is just for now. That is the most important, that is to prepare for the two last games for the AFCON. We know our positions, we have to come from behind."

"We have two games, one is away against Equatorial Guinea and the last one here at home against Libya. We are really playing to get something out of the games because we have a very clear vision to qualify for the AFCON".

Taifa Stars are third in Group J for the race to the Cameroon tournament with four points from as many matches and need maximum points in the remaining games to seal their place in the finals.

Group leaders Tunisia have already sealed their place in AFCON tournament after collecting 10 points from the four games they have played.

Equatorial Guinea are placed second with six points while Libya sit bottom of the table with three points.

Taifa Stars will need to avoid defeat in Malabo and hope they beat Libya in the final games while hoping Equatorial Guinea slip against Tunisia.

Gomes calls on Simba to step up performance after Prisons draw

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

FOLLOWING a one-all draw with Prisons in the ongoing Vodacom Premier League, Simba SC head coach Didier Gomes da Rosa has called on his side to be more aggressive in their next game.

Midfielder Salum Kimenya put Prisons ahead on the 56th minute through a well taken free kick and despite being under constant attacking pressure they were within a minute of sealing a league double over the defending champions before Luis Miquissone's diving header levelled the scoreboard in the added on time.

Gomes expressed disappointment with Simba's inability to take chances in Wednesday's game, but he was confident they will use the draw to recover their level ahead of a crucial CAF Champions League home against Sudan's Al Merreikh.

He stated: "We missed aggressiveness, we missed many things, we missed a penalty, opportunities to score. We might accept we can't be satisfied because the three points could be on our end."

He disclosed: "We are very disappointed, we are responsible. I don't want to share such excuses, we are a top level team and we must be able to

play every three or four days."

He said: "I am the coach of the team so I take my responsibility on this bad draw. We could win easily but we didn't do things clearly. For sure, it will help us to react and to recover the level we have played against Al Ahly and AS Vita Club. I am completely sure together we will react and we will be more aggressive and simple."

"Of course we can say that we played a lot of matches in one month but that is not a reason to draw against this team. We had the match in our hands, we dominated a lot, like I said earlier, we are very disappointed. Even the draw is not good."

"Like I say every time, I don't want to blame my players when they concede. Even though we work on training sessions on set pieces and penalties and corner kicks we are not efficient particularly offensively. Defensively it is better now."

Simba now have 46 points from 20 games while table-toppers Yanga have 50 points from 23 games.

Gomes's side have five to regroup before hosting Al Merreikh in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday - a fixture in which the hosts hope victory will edge them closer to the quarterfinals of the CAF Champions League.



Simba's head coach Didier Gomes da Rosa.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

CAN YOU TELL ME IN SIMPLE TERMS WHAT EXACTLY IS ... ROCKET SCIENCE?

