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National Pg 3 Villagers challenged on shifting cultivation



National Pg 4 African indigenous cattle more resilient



National Pg 5 NEMC rapid response team



National Pg 6 Hand washing reduces threat of diseases



TRC set to expand regular freight runs

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government yesterday inaugurated seven locomotives for cargo trains that have undergone refurbishing at the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) workshop in Morogoro at a cost of 13bn/-.

Works, Transport and Communications minister Isack Kamwelwe said at a ceremony here yesterday that the locomotives will streamline TRC services and make its operations more efficient.

The seven locomotives were refurbished with a World Bank soft loan, as part of the project to revamp the central line, where the World Bank has issued a loan of some 680bn/-, he stated.

The project involves revamping of the railway line and repairs locomotives and wagons, he said, noting that refurbishing of locomotives will ease freight services from Ruvo dry port near Dar es Salaam and other locomotives will be allocated to Kilimanjaro and Dar es Salaam regions.

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This means the fifth phase government is intent in strengthening railways by improving various infrastructures

Climate shifts taking effect on the Lake Tanganyika fishery cycle

By Special Correspondent

CLIMATE change could put a major fishing water body – and the millions of people who depend on it – at risk in one of the world's most vulnerable regions, according to researchers. "Fisheries are important to food security throughout the world,"

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Minister unveils seven revamped locomotives



Tanga city residents hold a commemorative International Day of the Girl Child (October 11) march yesterday. Each October 11 UNICEF launches a campaign with girls to amplify their voices and stand up for their rights. The Day is this year marked under the theme: 'My voice, our equal future'. It focuses on girls' demands to live free from gender-based violence, harmful practices, and HIV and AIDS, to learn new skills towards the futures they choose, and to lead as a generation of activists accelerating social change.. Photo: Correspondent Boniface Gideon .

Cancer: Late diagnosis sparks rise in fatalities

By Guardian Reporter

THE burden of cancer in the public health system is worsened by stubborn late diagnosis which increases fatality as tens of thousands of new cases are reported annually.

At an event to mark the World Mental Health Day, consultant oncologist and director of clinical services at the Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI), Dr Mark Mseti said that a staggering 70 to 80 per cent of patients come to the hospital with the disease at terminal stages.

Despite repeated calls for people to undertake cancer screening among other regular health checks, it ap-



Up to 70 to 80 percent of cancer patients need palliative care in one way or another because they are in very serious condition from the disease

pears the message has difficulties to be heard or something is amiss in the public healthcare system, he stated.

"Only 20 to 30 percent arrive with stage one or two at which the disease is curable," he said.

This paints a grim picture of fatalities at a time when the number of new cancer patients has risen to more than 42,060 annually.

So what does the hospital do with these thousands of late comer patients? They are provided with palliative care, said Dr Mseti.

Palliative care is the service given to improve the quality of life of patients who have a serious or terminal disease such as cancer, explaining that

ORCI has a palliative care section with hospital-based as well as home-based service for patients who are already terminally ill.

For patients coming to the facility when they are at stage three or four of the disease, their treatment involves the stopping of the spread of the disease, thereby enhancing their days of living, as opposed to stage one or two patients who receive treatment and get cured.

"Up to 70 to 80 percent of cancer patients need palliative care in one way or another because they are usually in very serious condition," he said.

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Mwinyi is clean, Shein tells voters

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR president Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has called on islanders to vote for CCM presidential candidate Dr Hussein Mwinyi saying he hates corruption and laziness at work places.

Dr Shein who is also CCM Vice Chairman (Zanzibar) gave the remarks at a campaign rally at Chwaka, Central district in Zanzi-



bar South Region.

He said Dr Mwinyi is a good administrator as they had worked together; hence he knows his performance and that kindness, patience are among leadership qualities he possesses.

He said Dr Mwinyi has well embraced the Union from the time he was minister in

the Vice President's Office, responsible for Union Matters. He appealed to the crowds to vote for him come 28th of this month.

He said Dr Mwinyi was a member of the CCM National Executive Committee in three different electoral periods and made a substantial contribution in the party.

In regard to maintaining peace, unity and solidarity, he said Dr Mwinyi was an expert considering that he is currently the Minister for Defence and National Service, and is best positioned to lead Zanzibar.

He praised CCM members who came up in huge numbers

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INVESTMENTS

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MODERN TOILETS

Page 4



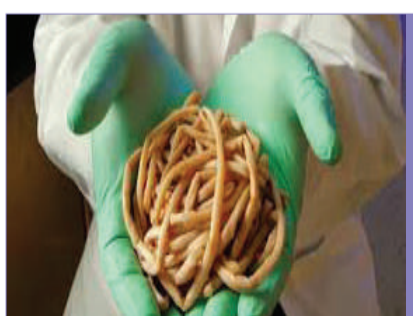
DRY OCTOBER

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TROPICAL DISEASES

Page 11



Climate shifts taking effect on the Lake Tanganyika fishery cycle

FROM PAGE 1

said Sarah Ivory, assistant professor of geosciences at Pennsylvania State University, near the city of New York.

"Developing nations, like those surrounding Lake Tanganyika in eastern Africa, depend on fish as an important protein source. It's also an important part of their cultural identity."

Lake Tanganyika is home to small pelagic fish, known locally as dagaa, that feed millions of people in Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burundi and Zambia. The fish's conservation is crucial to the food security and economy of rapidly growing and largely impoverished segments of these nations, but certain climatic changes may place the fishery at risk.

Dagaa feed on algae and plankton, which means greater algae production in the lake results in more fish. Understanding how this aquatic food web responds to external forces, like climate, is critical for identifying vulnerabilities and maintaining healthy fish stocks. But until now, limited information existed on how Lake Tanganyika may respond to such forces.

To understand how the lake reacts to climatic changes, the scientists analyzed well-preserved sediment cores taken from the lake for information on the lake's upwelling – the process by which deep waters rise and fertilize surface waters, thereby increasing algae and photosynthesis. They reported their findings on Friday in *Science Advances*.

The chemistry and fossil content of each layer of the sediment cores tell a specific story about how the lake functions, said Michael McGlue, Pioneer Natural Resources Professor of Stratigraphy at the University of Kentucky and lead author of the study.

"Our study revealed that high frequency variability in climate can lead to major disruptions in how the lake's food web functions," he said.

Until now, sedimentary records from Lake Tanganyika lacked the resolution needed to accurately measure the influence of frequent climatic events, such as the El Niño Southern Oscillation. Most sedimentary datasets are low resolution, meaning that changes can only be detected over wide intervals of time, such as thousands of years. Conditions within certain areas of Lake Tanganyika converged to provide high temporal resolution of its sediment, which the team was the first to sample.

"We were able to detect changes that were happening in Lake Tanganyika over very short intervals of time (months or years) using these sediments," McGlue said.

"This is quite rare – and crucial – for using the data to guide fisheries management and conservation practices. Designing effective strategies for fisheries management using low resolution data is a challenge because environmental changes that affect the food web can occur rapidly."

Statistical analyses of the sediment records revealed cycles of climate processes

that resulted in changes to the aquatic communities, said Ivory. The team tied those cycles to climate mechanisms influencing the lake system.

The researchers observed increases in algae production due to high solar irradiance – the amount of energy from the sun that reaches Earth's atmosphere. The convergence of high solar irradiance and La Niña results in a strong monsoon and upwelling, which increases algae in southern Lake Tanganyika, according to the researchers. In contrast, a monsoon weakened by low solar irradiance and El Niño, as well as warmer surface waters, results in weak or absent upwelling and low algae production.

The sediment samples provided the detail necessary to capture abrupt change associated with climate processes, said Jeffrey Stone, an associate professor from Indiana State University and co-author on the paper.

The team said the socioeconomic threat these conditions create for sub-Saharan Africa is the most severe of any region on Earth, but they believe their findings can help guide long-term management practices.

Ismael Kimirei, director-general of the Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI), said the study's findings are a critical building block toward research-informed policymaking in the Lake Tanganyika region.

"The importance of fisheries to the food security of the east and central African nations cannot be overemphasized," Kimirei said. "There is a growing body of research on declining fish production from Lake Tanganyika and other great lakes, which, coupled with the findings of this study and the ever-increasing fishing pressure, paint a gloomy future for the region. Therefore, sustainable fisheries of the lake can be achieved/maintained only if conventional fisheries management marries with ecosystem management and conservation approaches."

The results make clear that changes in climate can have a cascading effect on the food webs in large tropical lakes, said Ivory. "The impacts of this are akin to multi-year or multi-decade droughts in agricultural systems, from a food security perspective," she said. Andrew Cohen, with the University of Arizona, said the findings have implications beyond tropical lakes, as climate impacts on freshwater resources in the tropics are a bellwether for global change.

Future work needs to take into account how landscape changes as well since changes in vegetation can also alter nutrient and sediments into lakes, added Ivory.

"This work is important because climate changes that affect food security disproportionately hurt the poor," McGlue said. "This is one way science and social justice can become intertwined."

Additional researchers included Jennifer Latimer, Indiana State University; Michael Soreghan, University of Oklahoma; McKenzie Brannon, a University of Kentucky alumna who contributed to the study during her time as an undergraduate; and Tumaini Kamulali, a University of Arizona graduate student and researcher from TAFIRI in Tanzania.

The University of Kentucky-Pioneer Endowment, the Society of Exploration Geophysicists/Geoscientists Without Borders and the National Science Foundation supported this research.



The ruling CCM's presidential running mate, Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan, alights from a helicopter yesterday on arrival at Kalakala village in Rukwa Region for a General Election campaign rally. Photo: VPO.

Mwinyi is clean, Shein tells voters

FROM PAGE 1

at the meeting, saying its aim was to seek votes for CCM candidates in the district, urging the district to continue supporting the party as it was its stronghold since the era of Afro Shirazi Party (ASP) days. Even in the 1961 elections, the Chwaka seat was taken by ASP, he recalled.

Dr Shein told Chwaka residents to vote for the CCM Union presidential candidate

John Magufuli and his running mate Samia Suluhu Hassan, Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, CCM parliamentary candidates, those for the House of Representatives and for local councils.

On his part, candidate Mwinyi praised Dr Shein for implementing the CCM Election Manifesto for the Isles with more than 90 percent success.

He also praised Dr Shein's government for building of 26 storeyed schools

complete with all teaching tools, desks and other equipment.

In regard to health, he congratulated Dr Shein for initiating the Binguni Hospital project and promised to complete it.

Apart from Dr Mwinyi, there are 14 other candidates in the race namely Said Soud (AAPP), Juma Ali Khatib (ADA TADEA), Hamad Rashid (ADC), Mfaume Khamis (NLD), Ali Juma (CHAUMA), Issa Muhammed Zonga (SAU), Ameri Said

Ameri from Demokrasi Makini and Hamad Muhammed Ibrahim of UPDP.

Others are Hussein Juma Salim from Tanzania Labour Party (TLP), Mohamed Omar Baharia from the Union for Multiparty Democracy (UMD), Shafi Hassan Suleiman (Democratic Party), Khamis Faki Mgau (NRA), Seif Sharif Hamad (ACT Wazalendo) and Othman Rashid Khamis from CCK.



Former President Alhaj Ali Hassan Mwinyi cuts a ribbon in Dar es Salaam at the weekend to launch a book entitled *Kwa Nini Amani?* (literally, *Why Peace?*), whose author is Al-Hikma Foundation managing director Sheikh Nurdeen Kishk (R). Others include the foundation's president, Abdulqadir Al-Ahdal (L), and Dar es Salaam regional Sheikh Alhad Mussa Salum (2nd-L). Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Cancer: Late diagnosis sparks rise in fatalities

FROM PAGE 1

As for psychotherapy at Ocean Road, Dr Mseti said the treatment is normally accorded to patients with stubborn diseases, which includes cancer.

"The aim is to improve the lives of patients and their families, and if a patient is not in great pain, we ensure we reduce the pain, conduct soothing and work on

challenges the patient faces," he specified.

Dr Mseti said sufferers of non-communicable diseases such as cancer are the main target of ORCI and are also provided with psychological and legal counseling, on how to live with the disease.

"The patients also need spiritual counselling from religious leaders, like admin-

istering confession and helping them desist from tendencies to act as their own judges," he remarked.

In the last five years, ORCI has increased the number of health workers, acquired modern equipment and ensured an adequate supply of drugs that assure better handling of cases being rerated at the facility, he added.

TRC set to expand regular freight runs

FROM PAGE 1

As earlier TRC did not have the freight locomotives, it was compelled to use larger locomotives for hauling freight thereby increasing operational costs, the minister affirmed, elaborating that in the current financial year the government has set aside other funds for refurbishing seven other locomotives for freight trains.

"This means the fifth phase government is intent in strengthening railways by improving various infrastructures," he said, highlighting that the refurbishment of locomotives was undertaken by local engineers.

The refurbishment of locomotives has reduced potential government expenditure as new locomotives costs over 4bn/- each, he stated, urging TRC to properly supervise contractors implementing various projects to ensure they conduct the work in the specified time frame.

As to the ongoing Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) project, the minister said in February next year the government will start receiving wagons for the new line.

The 2,561 km SGR line will connect the port of Dar es Salaam to landlocked countries like Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, and the eastern part of DR Congo. The project is estimated to cost \$14.2 billion and is due for full completion in 2024.

The railway corridor project is expected to ease transit and domestic freight and passengers, and provide an economic stimulus to communities along the corridor, a further improvement as TRC resumes services in routes that were muted for a decade, thus making wagons and railroads fall into disuse.

Passenger and cargo train services for Dar es Salaam to Moshi via the Dar -Tanga-Moshi route resumed last December, dampening end of year travel woes and bus fare speculative hikes.

Next, services were resumed from Moshi to Arusha as repairs on the line were completed in August.

Villagers challenged on shifting cultivation

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

VILLAGERS in Tunduru District particularly those living around the Selous Game reserve have been challenged to avoid shifting cultivation and ensure proper and effective management of land use plans to mitigate human-wildlife conflict.

Shifting cultivation is an agricultural system in which plots of land are cultivated temporarily, then

abandoned while post-disturbance fallow vegetation is allowed to freely grow while the cultivator moves on to another plot.

Assistant Director, Wildlife department in the Ministry of Natural Resource and Tourism Canisius Karamaga said this in Tunduru adding that shifting cultivation near and along the Selous game reserve has partly contributed to increased human-wildlife conflicts in some villages in the

district. He also cited recent increased invasion of livestock keepers into the Selous Game Reserve and near and in the newly established Park which is part of what is known as Selous Game Reserve, Nyerere National Park as another human activity that has aggravated the human-wildlife conflicts.

"We should ask ourselves why such cases of elephant invading villagers' crop were not many in the past? Some of the reasons are

because some human activities such as shifting cultivation, improper management of land use plans and livestock invasion into the game reserve have disrupted wildlife," he said.

Responding to the plea raised by Tunduru authorities on the increasing elephant invasions into several villages, he said the Ministry is taking short and long term measures to mitigate the human-wildlife conflicts in district he di-

rected each village with wildlife management areas (WMA) to use village game scout. "These village game scouts have already been trained, for the time being, they should be able to help," he said.

He said these villages have also supportive militias who can be used because they have knowledge on animal behavior. There are also reports and scientific research through TAWIRI which helps. They show and indicate

when and where is the location and direction of the elephants whether in Selous or crossing the border to Mozambique and the time of coming back.

"If we collaborate and join hands with the district, stakeholders like TAWA, TNRF, public education will continue, there shall be proper management of land use plan, the villagers grow their crop in one area instead of shifting cultivation and addition budget and

game scouts, I am sure, we will get rid of this problem," he said.

"TANAPA has done a good work of conducting land use plan. The every good thing every WMA being established must have land use plan and must be recorded but the challenge we have is lack of proper management of these plans. TANAPA is expected also to conduct land use plan at Nyerere National Park but this will help if there is no land use plan.

Businesspersons wooed to invest in industrial sector

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

INVESTORS have been wooed to exploit investment opportunities available in Tanga Region as there are many areas for development in the industrial sector.

The call was given at the weekend by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Prof. Riziki Shemdoe during his tour at Nellikanth Chemical Ltd in Amboni area, Tanga City as part of his one-day visit of the region's factories.

Shemdoe said since Tanzania is now facilitating the country's investment there were many areas for the investors and therefore called those in need to go to Tanga Region to invest, pay taxes and create employment.

Prof. Shemdoe also spoke about production at the factory and said it has many huge areas for investment in lime production business, including the 2,500-acre area for salt farming that has started production.

"In the past, this area was not fit for farming but now there are mines that produce minerals beneficial to the country via taxes and as provider for employment," he said.

He said the factory has been doing a great job, it has employed 2,000 people who at the factory and other

4,000 in other areas owned by the investor.

The factory's manager Rashid Amour (Liemba) said through the factory's huge production, they have already grabbed competitive markets in various countries in East Africa and the Great Lakes region.

"Up to now our big markets is Congo DRC, but we have also invaded Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda," he explained.

He added: "As you very well know business means competition and we have entered the competition for the markets in these countries, we therefore appeal to the government to help in the competition as I am sure we will win without any problem."

He said so far a bid competition was from South Africa, and expressed his fear the Congo market has been infiltrated by China that manufactures lime products and export to Congo DRC.

He also mentioned other goods they produce as including magnesium used in refining copper.

He said we export more than 10,000 tons of lime to Congo DRC alone even in the past they used to export up to 20,000 tons while 10,000 tons is exported to both Kenya and Zambia.



IPP public relations manager Nancy Mwanjika pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend presenting to Kisarawe district commissioner Jokate Mwegelo (R) a consignment of sanitary pads for use by students in Kisarawe schools. This was at the climax of a 'Namthamini Fun Walk', which was organised by East Africa Television and East Africa Radio through its Namthamini campaign in celebrating International Day of the Girl Child. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



USAID PROTECT Project
Plot No. 175, Ruhinde Road, Ada Estate • P.O. Box 23182 • Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Website: www.rti.org

October 6, 2020

Project Close Out Notification

Notice to the Stakeholders, Partners, and Others Who Work With RTI

The RTI USAID PROTECT project partners with wildlife, conservation, and tourism organizations in Tanzania to address threats to biodiversity conservation and private sector-led tourism growth.

RTI USAID PROTECT supports interventions that:

- Reduce threats to biodiversity such as human-wildlife conflict, habitat loss, and wildlife trafficking
- Empower a wide range of organizations to participate effectively in the policy-making process
- Build the capacity of institutions working with wildlife, conservation, and tourism
- Leverage private sector investment in the wildlife tourism sector
- Support local partners to implement conservation activities at a landscape scale

The project started on April 1, 2015 and will come to an end on December 31, 2020.

This is to inform the General Public that the RTI USAID PROTECT Project will officially close on December 31, 2020. In this regard all project activities will officially cease on December 31, 2020, and all 13 staff will unfortunately be declared redundant.

Please be assured of management commitment to go through this exercise efficiently with a full appreciation of the difficulties it may cause to those who might be affected. In this regard, please let us know if you have any pending issue with anyone from our organization so that we sort on time. This notice will last until end of October 2020.

Sincerely,

Thadeus Binamungu
Thadeus Binamungu
Chief of Party

215837702



TANZANIA-ZAMBIA RAILWAY AUTHORITY

Head Office

TENDER NO.: TZR/HQ/CTC/2019/2020/05

INVITATION TO BID

FOR THE SUPPLY OF GAS OIL AT NOZZLE POINT AND MANAGEMENT OF THE GAS OIL DEPOT AT NEW KAPIRIMPOSHI, ZAMBIA (RE-ADVERTISED)

1. The Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) will make funds available for its operations for the financial year 2020/2021. It is intended that part of the proceeds be used to cover eligible payments under the contract for the Supply of Gas Oil.
2. TAZARA now invites sealed Bids from eligible National Suppliers for carrying out the Supply of Gas Oil at Nozzle Point and Management of the Gas Oil Depot at New Kapiri Mposhi, Zambia.
3. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Method of Bidding as per procedures specified in the TAZARA Procurement & Supplies Manual of November 2011 and is open to all Bidders as defined in the Manual.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents at the office of the Secretary of the Central Tender Committee, TAZARA Head Office, Nyerere/Mandela Roads Junction, P. O. Box 2834, Dar-es-Salaam or the office of the TAZARA Lusaka Area Manager, TAZARA House, Independence/Dedan Kimathi Roads Junction, P. O. Box 31784, Lusaka, Zambia from 08.00 to 16.30 hours E.A.T or C.A.T from Monday to Friday, except on public holidays.
5. A complete set of bidding documents in English and additional sets may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 4 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of USD 200.00 or its equivalent in Tanzanian Shillings or Zambian Kwacha. Payment should either be by Cash, Telegraphic Transfer or Cheque payable to Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority.
6. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Securing Declaration/Bid Security in the format provided in the bidding documents.
7. All bids in one original, plus two copies, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes marked "TENDER NO: TZR/HQ/CTC/2019/2020/05 for the Supply of Gas Oil at Nozzle Point and Management of Gas Oil Depot" must be addressed and delivered to the office of the Secretary of the Central Tender Committee, TAZARA Head Office, Nyerere/Mandela Roads Junction, P. O. Box 2834, Dar-es-Salaam or the office of the TAZARA Lusaka Area Manager, TAZARA House, Independence/Dedan Kimathi Roads Junction, P. O. Box 31784, Lusaka, Zambia, by Friday 30th October 2020 at or before 10:00hrs C.A.T or 11:00hrs E.A.T. Tenders will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of bidders or representatives who choose to attend the opening ceremony at TAZARA, Head Office Board Room in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania or TAZARA Lusaka Area office Board Room in Lusaka, Zambia.
8. Late bids, portion of bids, electronic bids, and bids not received, bids not opened and not read out in public at the bid opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

The Managing Director
Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority
Head Office, Nyerere/Mandela Roads Junction,
P.O. Box 2834, Dar-es-Salaam,
TANZANIA

Or

The Managing Director
Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority
TAZARA House, Independence/Dedan Kimathi Roads Junction,
Lusaka Area Office,
P.O. Box 31784, Lusaka,
ZAMBIA

215820001

'Use smartphones to search for prospects income generation'

By Guardian Reporter

THE Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications, Dr Zainab Chaula has appealed to Tanzanians to use smart phones to search for various opportunities for income generation for themselves and the country as a whole.

Dr Chaula was speaking at the 4th Information and Communication Technology (ICT) forum held in Dar es Salaam from 7 to 9 October this year.

"We must use smart phones well searching for opportunities for economic growth, instead of using for leisure only, we must change our habits," said Dr Chaula.

She gave the call to stakeholders from public and private institutions who participated in the

forum to implement all that were under their capability, they should not leave the government to do everything as many opportunities are obtained from the stakeholders.

She also told the forum that the Ministry received all opinions given and pledged to work on them quickly, trustfully and diligently.

Lecturer from Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT) Dr Moses Mwasaga said the correct use of smartphones will enable many people enter and participate in the digital economy by getting various services for instance financial transactions via mobile phones, which has seen many people self-employing themselves in the essential service delivery which in the past was used to be provided by banks only.



This was revealed by the registrar of cooperatives in Lindi Region Edmund Massawe when responding to complaints from members convened here recently



Temeke District Hospital psychiatrist Dr Francis Lukuwi (L) makes a World Mental Health Day presentation to TBL Plc staff in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Appeal: Protect and safeguard welfare of the girl

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Permanent Secretary in the ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Dr John Jingu has called on parents and society at large to protect and safeguard the welfare of the girl child.

He gave the appeal in his message in commemoration of the international day of the girl child saying ensuring children rights

and protection must be core in all aspects.

Dr Jingu said parents and community must bear their noble task of ensuring protection of children especially girls by accessing them with the basic needs for them to prosper.

The PS said the task should not be left to the government alone instead all parties must join hands to protect and safeguard girls improved welfare.

He said, "As the world marks the day of the girl child today, the government remains committed to cares for children and it will use all means possible to protect and safeguard them".

Dr Jingu said caring and protection of children should begin at family levels and climbing the ladder to the community and later to the government.

He commended teachers countrywide who have been

keeping a close eye on children and make necessary follow up and when disciplinary measures are to be taken they impose them positively with the aim of shaping the children to become good citizens.

Dr Jingu said parents despite their busy schedules in search for greener pastures must give time for taking care of the children instead of leaving the task to teachers and house maids.

"Looking for greener pasture is important but there is no way parents can swap their guiding and parental responsibility for busy jobs schedules, we must be responsible" insisted Dr Jingu.

The United Nation has termed the International Day of Girl Child 2020 a very special. This year the theme of International Day of the Girl Child is "My voice, our equal future". The theme focuses on how girls globally are

leading the way.

International Day of the Girl Child is a UN designated day, observed every year on October 11. This year, Day of the Girl Child is also significant as the 'Generation Equality' campaign has been launched.

It is a "multi-year, multi-partner campaign and movement for bold action on gender equality". The International Day of Girl Child 2020 marks 25 years

of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action for working towards empowering girls and their rights globally.

The Beijing Declaration is one of the first "most comprehensive international agreements on women's rights and gender equality". In a pandemic year, a clear agenda and multi pronged approach is essential to look after the needs and opportunities of adolescent girls.



Tanzania Investment Centre executive director Dr Maduhu Kazi plants a commemorative tree at Kasoli Technical College in Simiyu Region yesterday shortly after the institution was handed over to the government by Alliance Ginnery Ltd, which funded its establishment. Photo: Correspondent Happy Severine

African indigenous cattle more resilient to climatic shocks, diseases, study shows

By Special Correspondent

THE genetic make-up of indigenous cattle found in the sub-Saharan African region is more resilient to climatic shocks and diseases, a recent released study has revealed.

Scientists who carried out the study that was published in the October issue of Nature Genetics said that Africa's indigenous cattle varieties have proved highly adaptable amid evolving climatic conditions and pathogens.

"We believe these insights can be used to breed a new generation of African cattle that have some of the qualities of European and American livestock-which produce more meat and milk per animal," said Olivier Hanotte, principal scientist at the Nairobi-based International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI).

Scientists from ILRI and their counterparts from research institutes in South Korea, Britain, Sweden, and Sudan, studied the genetic traits of 172 indigenous cattle from Africa that revealed their resilience to harsh climate and diseases.

Hanotte said the research scientists embarked on "genomic time travel" that helped them gain new insight on the reasons behind the unique adaptability of African indigenous cattle.

He said that scientists involved in the study discovered that the arrival of Asian cattle breeds in East Africa 1,000 years ago and their cross-breeding with local varieties, enhanced their survival in hostile environments.

Head of ILRI's LiveGene program Steve Kemp, said the study yielded evidence that African herders commenced breeding local breeds called Taurine with the iconic Asian Zebu in the past millennia, to enhance their ability to cope with the hot and dry climate synonymous with the Horn of African region.

"You can see from studying the genomes of indigenous cattle that breeding for environmental adaptation has been the key to successful livestock production in Africa," said Kemp.

"And that has to be factored in our future efforts to develop more productive, more sustainable animals," he added.

Principal scientist at ILRI, who leads its African Dairy Genetic Gains Program Ally Okeyo Mwai, said the study is a wake-up call for countries to harness the resilient nature of local cattle breeds to boost food security and household incomes.

He said that climate-resilient livestock varieties are key to an adequate supply of milk and meat in a rapidly urbanizing African continent.

Jimmy Smith, ILRI director-general said the study reaffirmed that targeted livestock breeding has been instrumental in sustaining the health and wealth of African communities.

"The focus on breeding for resilience that guided past efforts provides a touchstone for future work to chart a sustainable path for livestock production in Sub-Saharan Africa," said Smith.

RC roots for use of modern toilets to stamp out waterborne diseases

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

SIMIYU Regional Commissioner, Anthony Mtaka has called on Tanzanians to do away with traditions and customs that discourage people to use modern toilets to free them from waterborne disease outbreaks.

RC Mtaka made the call over the weekend when speaking with this paper on the need for people to use improved latrines, hence, discouraging open defecation.

"It is high time for the community to abandon all traditions and customs, which are discouraging the effective use of improved la-

trines," he said.

He added: "There are some cultures, which don't support the use toilets, particularly the issue of sharing toilets with their in-laws, so even if the facility is there, some family members weren't ready to use them. This is challenge to campaigns that encourage people to use improved toilets."

"We also need to carry out a serious campaign against these cultures as we did in other campaigns such as female genital mutilation (FGM)," Mtaka said, supporting health practitioners, who have been in forefront in encouraging the best use of toilets to get rid of water-

borne diseases.

According to Mtaka, in 2019, Simiyu Region had 215,316 households, whereby out of that only 208,856 households (97 percent) had toilets, 97,536 households (46.7percent) had modern toilets.

"But, we're still encouraging people to use of those toilet facilities to avoid waterborne disease outbreaks."

Anyitike Mwakitalima, coordinator of the National Sanitation Campaign, once quoted as saying that the initiative is one of the government's efforts to fulfill the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which states; 'by

2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations'.

He said that the government through Ministry of Health Community Development, Gender, Elderly, and Children was alarmed by open defecation along highways, hence is determined to build toilet facilities in those strategic areas, across the east African nation.

"As a government, we're concerned about the high number of people who defecate in the open mainly along the main highways in

the country," the official said.

According to him, the open defecation was one of the leading causes of the increase in the number of typhoid and diarrhoea cases in the country.

According to a desk study carried out by the Water and Sanitation Programme (WSP), poor sanitation costs Tanzania US\$206 million, and the sum is the equivalent to US\$5 per person in Tanzania per year or 1% of the national GDP.

About 26 million Tanzanians use unsanitary or shared latrines, whereby 5.4 million have no latrine at all and defecate in the open.

Conservationists: Africa can learn from China's efforts to conserve wildlife

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

AFRICA can learn from China's efforts to conserve its wildlife resources, a pan-African wildlife conservation body has said.

Fred Kumah, vice president

of external affairs at African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) said that China has used a combination of conservation measures and community engagement to achieve wildlife conservation success which is an area Africa needs to keep in focus.

"The lessons from giant panda recovery are already present in Africa and being implemented across key endangered species," he said, adding: "Very critical to the recovery was the engagement of communities, both in protection and in projects that

ensured benefits to communities as well as increased the habitat space of the species."

The official said a keen focus on securing habitat space, preventing further loss and fragmentation of wildlife space is going to be the next and most

important factor in securing wildlife populations going forward in Africa.

He added that most African countries need species recovery plans aimed at wildlife species identified as endangered or vulnerable because they will help

in mobilizing stakeholders in support of actions that will lead the desired results.

He added that the COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging to all aspects of society, especially the conservation sector where isolation measures have

impacted revenues from nature tourism and protected areas.

"There is certainly an increased threat to biodiversity loss as communities turn to other forms of livelihoods sources to meet their needs," he revealed.

'Dar utilises NEMC rapid response team'

By Guardian Reporter

IN the last four months Dar es Salaam residents have used gainfully the National Environment Management Council (NEMC)'s 24-hour rapid response emergency team by reporting industrial effluent and irresponsible household waste discharges into public storm channels.

NEMC's director general Dr Samuel Gwamaka said in Dar es Salaam yesterday that members of the public used profitably the team because they reported suspicious behaviour relating to waste disposal, hence saving environment from harm.

"In the past people regularly complained to us over abnormalities relating to waste disposal or emerging structures, noise pollution and illegal felling of trees. There were industrial effluents going to wrong places we were unaware of. People raised the alarm and sometimes the alarms were quite timely.

The number of complaints has sharply dropped because the law is being observed, meaning we have benefited from the work of our emergency response task force," Dr Gwamaka explained.

He said members of the public reported to the team unregulated sand mining that damages river banks; a practice that props up horrifying flood waters.

Floods damage expensive physical infrastructure like roads and bridges. NEMC has called on district councils to ensure young people form groups so that sand can be regulated and councils get revenues from sand mining activities.

He thanked institutions for the support they gave to NEMC, saying the council achieved its statutory obligations because of the understanding and support it received from stakeholders.

Dr Gwamaka said there has been noticeable environment protection awareness that can be traced to the activities of the work of response team.

"When we receive complaints we visit the areas and provide education to both parties," he explained adding that general public awareness has averted outbreaks of diseases like cholera in densely populated places like Dar es Salaam city.



Caroline Mbagi (C), NCBA Bank Tanzania's head of marketing and communications, makes a presentation in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during panel discussions at a women's financial sector forum that brought together women stakeholders from the banking and insurance sectors. The event was sponsored by the bank. With her are National Insurance Corporation's chief manager for actuarial services and risk management, Annet Magogo, and AAR Insurance CEO Violet Mardichai. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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Ginnery builds secondary school and college to spur education in Lake zone

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda, Mwanza

BARIADI-based Cotton Alliance Ginnery has built new secondary school and vocational training college worth 330m/- in a move aimed at improving education in Lake Zone region of Simiyu.

Handing over the education institutions, ginnery's general manager, Boaz Ogola said that construction of Bugatu secondary school and Kasoli Vocational Training College is part of the company's Social Corporate Responsibility (SCR) and is also geared towards spearheading the government's industrialization agenda.

He said that the support came after realizing that many school children travel long distances looking for secondary education.

The ginnery spent 150m/- for building secondary school in Bagatu village of Magu District and 180m/- for building vocational training college, according to Ogola.

Magu district commissioner, Salum Kalli lauded the ginnery for the support, which according to him is a relief to hundreds of students, who have trekking long distances to look for education.

He appealed to other investors to emulate the spirits shown by the ginnery.

Simiyu Regional Commissioner, Anthony Mtaka ordered all girls who have completed Standard Seven around the ginnery to register and undergo training at the newly build vocational training college in the area.

He also urged parents to ensure that all Standard Seven leavers continue with secondary education taking into account that the government has worked on challenges thwarting school girls' education.

Executive Director of the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC), Dr Maduhu Kazi commended the initiatives made by the ginnery, assuring them that the government will provide investors all the support they need so that they operate smoothly.

The Fifth-Phase government, according to Dr Kazi is in need of serious investors, who ready to serve communities around them through their Social Corporate Responsibility (SCR).

"As TIC, we're ready all the time to ensure that investors get all the support they need," he said, adding that centre uses technology in communicating with investors to ensure that they invest in better environment.

He called on prospectus investors in the Lake zone to use TIC offices so that they can fully utilize a lot of opportunities available in the area.



NMB Bank Plc chief human resources officer Emmanuel Akonay (3rd-L) pictured in Kahama at the weekend presenting to Kahama district commissioner Anamringi Macha beds and mattresses donated by the bank in support of Ushetu District Hospital. It was all part of the commemoration of Customer Service Week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TCCIA for practical entrepreneurship centres in colleges, says coordinator

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) in Dodoma Region is set to establish entrepreneurship club centres (ECC) in all higher learning institutions and vocational training colleges.

The envisaged programme, to be implemented through TCCIA's Tanzania Youth Mem-

bership Club (TYMC), targets to impart practical-based entrepreneurship skills in the institutions.

According to regional coordinator for TCCIA in Dodoma, Idd Senge, the chamber is in a round table dialogue with leaders of numerous varsities and colleges in the region in readiness to kick-start the vital programme.

"Basically, the program intend to fuel efforts by the govern-

ment on industrial economy by ensuring the educate youth in Tanzania are fully participating effectively in diverse entrepreneurship and other economic activities," he expressed.

He said it was frustrating that training curriculum in universities and colleges have little to imparted the students in pertaining to entrepreneurship skills and enterprise, a gap which needed to be bridged im-

mediately.

"As per our expectations and plans, the club centers to be initiated will be manned by potential trainers who will stand professionally to impart the beneficiaries students with the much needed entrepreneur knowledge," he informed.

As part of preliminary stages and in readiness to implement the program to intended full scope, at least 42 students from

numerous varieties and colleges from across the country are currently undergoing a six-week long internship training at the Dodoma-based TCCIA office.

The students, among others, from the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) and Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDP) are using the training as part to fulfill requirements of their colleges' internship field studies.

A the national level, the program, TYMC, was launched some years elapsed and it is being implemented in cooperation with the University of Dar es Salaam's Business School (UDBS), the Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development (IMED) and key vocational training colleges.

According to the nature of its establishment, the chamber was due to sign memorandum of un-

derstanding (MoU) with Mhimbili College of Health and Allied Science and Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) in a bid to roll-out the program more wider and professional.

Moreover, at a national level, the country-wide program will also base on skill development among the youth in the informal sector, through the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) scheme.

Health expert stresses: Handwashing has vital disease prevention role

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

AN expert on infectious diseases from Simiyu Region Dr Hamisi Kulemba said if hand washing will become a normal tradition for every Tanzanian, infectious diseases would not be a great threat to the society.

He said many infectious diseases including diarrhea, cholera, amoeba and Covid-19 have been spreading through the air and hand contact.

Dr Kulemba told reporters who visited Bariadi District Hospital at the weekend that the community should adhere to environmental cleanliness all the time including personal hygiene to fight infectious diseases that have been taking human toll.

He said environmental cleanliness in many households is a big challenge, the situation that has brought havoc to people's lives.

He said the community is supposed to regard cleanliness as essential for everyone at all the time.

He also called on reporters to educate the community to abide by directives and guidelines from health experts.

Masunga George, a Bariadi Town resident said training is much needed to sensitize the community on the issue of cleanliness to eradicate infectious diseases.

According to World Health Organisation (WHO), lack of access to safe, clean drinking-water and basic sanitation, as well as poor hygiene cause nearly 90% of all deaths from diarrhoea, mainly in children.

While 87% of the world's population now has access to improved water sources, 39% still lack access to improved sanitation. Moreover, in developing countries 1.1 billion people still defecate in the open, and hand washing with soap is practised, on average, only after 17% of toilet uses.

Diarrhoea most often results from the ingestion of pathogens from faeces that have not been disposed of properly, or from the lack of hygiene.

A person is classified as having diarrhoea when she or he experiences more than three liquid stools per day. During acute diarrhoea, absorption of macronutrients tends to be high, but when diarrhoea continues for 14 days or more, malabsorption can become severe. Repeated episodes of diarrhoea lead to great loss of nutrients and fluids, causing overall weakness and dehydration.



According to World Health Organisation (WHO), lack of access to safe, clean drinking-water and basic sanitation, as well as poor hygiene cause nearly 90% of all deaths from diarrhoea, mainly in children



Yolanda Uriyo, CRDB Bank Plc's head of customer services, speaks at a Customer Service Week event the bank held for its staff in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The thrust of her remarks was on the need for collaboration in serving customers. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PCCB issues warning on 'loan sharks' in Geita

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

THE Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) in Geita Region has warned against increasing cases of loan sharks preying on residents in desperate need of cash.

Speaking here at the weekend while handing over 5.5mn/- recovered from a loan shark to one of the victims, head of PCCB in Geita Region Leonidas Felix said the informal lenders mainly target workers in the public sector.

The 5.5mn/- was recovered from lender Isack Maswi and handed back to a victim-retired teacher Adela Faustine.

The teacher had borrowed 700,000/- from Maswi in an agreement that she would pay 30 per cent interest after receiving her pension but was coerced to cough up 7mn/- equivalent to 200 per cent.

PCCB received complaints in July this year and has been investigating until last week when the lender surrendered the money.

"Upon search in Maswi's house, we found him with 64 bank cards belonging to other people he had lent money, most of them public servants," Felix said.

The PCCB regional boss said other victims of loan sharks in the area include groups of small-scale traders, savings and credit cooperative societies and individual business persons.

Collectively, PCCB recovered over 190mn/- which was returned to victims.

Speaking after receiving her

money, the elated Faustine said she managed to put up a strong case with PCCB because she kept records of the money she received and paid.

"I don't advise other people to deal with these lenders but if one has to, it is important to keep records of transactions," she said.

Regulation four of the Microfinance business in Tanzania requires that a person who intends to undertake microfinance business under Tier two, namely non-deposit taking microfinance

service providers, must be established under the Companies Act or relevant laws, and in case for an individual money lender, register as a sole proprietor.

It is as well mandatory on registering such entity to include either of the words microfinance, finance, financial services, credit or microcredit in the name of such microfinance entity.

To operate as non-deposit taking microfinance service provider, an entity must obtain license from the Bank of Tanzania.



Lawyer-cum-poet-cum-composer Aisha Kingu (3rd-L) has a word with youths who attended the launch of her book, entitled Poetry Rebirth, in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

POETRY REBIRTH

by
AISHA S.
KINGU

East Africa set to experience very dry October-December

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African community bloc is destined for a very dry period between the month of October up to December, the Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum has warned.

The Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum pools the national meteorological and hydrological experts in the region.

According to this agency, while October to December is normally considered an important rainfall season for Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda, this time round a drier than normal season is expected in most parts of the EAC region.

Only western Uganda and the border area with South Sudan might see higher than normal rainfall according to the agency.

Rains in the region are expected to start late over Burundi, eastern Kenya and Tanzania while they will start earlier than usual in the rest of Kenya, Rwanda and southern Uganda including the border region with South Sudan.

The Deputy Secretary General in charge of Productive and Social Sectors in the EAC Secretariat, Christophe Bazivamo, urges the Partner States to take appropriate measures in time to mitigate possible threats to the citizens related to the expected high temperatures.

These weather conditions are driven by near average sea surface temperatures over the western Equatorial Indian Ocean coupled with warmer than average conditions over the eastern Equatorial Indian Ocean, a combination which is not favourable for good rainfall over most of East Africa.

Due to the impact of climate change, scientists expect up to 45% yield reductions for grain crops, such as maize, rice and soybean by the end of this century for Sub Saharan Africa.

However, two grain crops, namely millet and sorghum, are more resilient to climate change with expected yield reductions of less than 20%.

Root crops, such as sweet potato, potato and cassava are also projected to be less affected than most crops with yields reductions ranging from about 15% to 10%.

For the two major export crops, tea and coffee, up to 40% yield loss is expected due to the reduction in suitable growing areas caused by increasing temperatures according to the Association of Applied Biologists' Journals



Rains in the region are expected to start late over Burundi, eastern Kenya and Tanzania while they will start earlier than usual in the rest of Kenya, Rwanda and southern Uganda including the border region with South Sudan

Production of maize up in eastern Africa as diseases contained

By Guardian Reporter

EFFECTIVE management of maize lethal necrosis (MLN), a pervasive viral disease affecting the cereal, has reduced seed production losses from 33 percent to 16 percent in the last four years, boost-

ing supply of the product in the Eastern African region, experts noted.

The better management of the disease has thus saved 17 percent of seeds initially lost to the disease that led to maize deficit in Kenya, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda.

MLN project coordinator at African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) Samuel Angwenyi, said that different approaches are being deployed simultaneously to combat the disease in the region.

"Challenges brought

about by pests and diseases such as fall armyworm (FAW), striga weed and MLN require integrated management strategies to provide lasting and impactful solutions," said Angwenyi in a statement.

He stated that a surge of new pests and diseases like FAW and MLN threaten to cause damages worth billions of dollars at a time

when farmers in the region are beginning to embrace new technologies, innovate and increase productivity to improve their livelihoods.

Angwenyi observed that farmers using MLN tolerant varieties are recording additional yields of over five tons per hectare in addition to increased grain production

estimated at about US\$1,600 per hectare.

The MLN disease has been effectively controlled in some developed countries through strategies that combine tolerant varieties, crop rotation, and introduction of maize free seasons to reduce the insect vector pressure that transmits the disease.

However, in eastern Africa, the epidemic is aggravated by little access to MLN tolerant maize varieties by farmers and year-round cultivation of maize, allowing transmission via insect vectors.

At least 160 firms are producing maize seeds across the region as MLN is managed, guaranteeing production of the staple.

Poet: Your talent can employ you

By Guardian Reporter

A budding poet and author, Aisha Kingu, said in Dar es Salaam she believes many people have undeveloped talents that are likely to employ them if those talents are developed.

Aisha, who launched her book entitled Poetry Rebirth in the city yesterday, said she believed many people's talents remained undeveloped; adding that if young people recognized their talents and let them develop they would employ themselves.

"Writing poetry has been my burning passion. I have written numerous poems. Those who have come across them told me I have a talent to nurture. I have continued to write poems and this has exposed me to hidden opportunities. Opportunities are a source of employment and honour," she argued.

The book she launched has 101 poems.

Aisha has written poems about retired President Jakaya Kikwete and on other subjects. As a result of the poems she wrote she met Russian President Vladimir Putin and British Queen Elizabeth.

She said she held a lunch function in the city in order to get a forum she could use to address Tanzanian youths and tell them that if they developed their talents those talents would reward them handsomely and possibly employ them.

The father of the poet, Dr Kingu Mtemi, said because their daughter was doing well in science subjects parents thought she would study medicine and make a doctor.

"We tried hard to convince her to join the medicine profession but all was in vain. This struggle gave me good lessons. Parents should encourage their children to develop their internal urges not otherwise," he said.

Musa Makange who attended the launch said he shared Aisha's argument that one's talent was one's biggest tool in looking for employment.



Wentworth Africa Foundation directors Neema Ndikumwami (L) and Sauda Simba (R-back row) pose for a group photo with students of Masasi Secondary School in Mtwara Region at the weekend shortly after donating sanitary pads in commemoration of the International Day of the Girl Child (October 11). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Food security investigation helps Africa out

By Special Correspondent

SCIENTISTS at Queen's University Belfast helped identify the cause of a crisis - and avert a larger catastrophe - in humanitarian aid to Africa run by the World Food Programme (WFP) - winners of the Nobel Peace Prize 2020.

Researchers at the university's Institute for Global Food Security (IGFS) were called in to support an investigation after a major food-poisoning incident in Uganda in March 2019, which killed five people and saw hundreds hospitalised. A second outbreak occurred in a refugee camp in a completely different area of Uganda in August 2019.

In both regions, the WFP had distributed what's known as Specialised Nutritious Foods (SNFs), used to combat malnutrition and given to vulnerable populations such as infants, adolescent girls and nursing mothers in developing countries. It was

thought that one of these SNFs, a fortified soya and corn product called Super Cereal, might have been the source of both outbreaks of foodborne illness.

This caused two separate crises as the Super Cereal supply chains for the two incidents appeared totally different. Super Cereal deliveries worldwide had to be suspended, leaving many tens of thousands of people without adequate food or nutrition. Super Cereal is distributed to around 5 million people every year.

Working alongside WFP and the US Food and Drug Administration, Professor Chris Elliott OBE, Dr Simon Haughey and their team at IGFS were able to detect lethal plant toxins known as 'tropane alkaloids' in samples of the Super Cereal from the first outbreak.

The identification of DNA from jimsonweed, a plant in the nightshade family, provided further evidence as the seeds of this plant contain high levels of tropane alkaloids. This research was carried out using

types of mass spectrometry, a highly sensitive laboratory technology.

The team was also able to trace the contaminants from the outbreak back through complex, international supply systems and to identify Turkey as the country where the affected Super Cereal was produced and became contaminated. Just when the crisis seemed to be coming to an end the second outbreak occurred in a refugee camp in the North of Uganda. As the Super Cereal going into this region was from a completely different supply chain, the WFP had to take the decision to suspend all supplies of Super Cereal.

Prof Elliott and his team, however, suspected that some form of fraud had occurred and were able to show that both outbreaks were caused by contaminated ingredients from the same batches produced in Turkey. Immediately act-

ing on this finding, the WFP released many millions of dollars' worth of the unaffected, detained Super Cereal back into circulation, helping restore vital food aid to many parts of the developing world.

For this project, the research team were able to exploit a wide range of analytical platforms available within their ASSET Technology Centre at Queen's University, Belfast. The team have spent more than ten years developing this Centre and their approaches to dealing with complex food-contamination episodes.

The group has published an account of this research in the Elsevier journal Food Control.

Commenting on the ongoing investigation, Prof Elliott said: "We were delighted to be able to support this investigation as we hold the WFP and their work in the highest esteem. Our approach to investigate the incidents was based on using the combined strengths of many forms of analytical chemistry."

MONDAY 12 OCTOBER 2020

**Taking A New Look
At The News
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Clients' appreciation week: The customer is always right

LAST week saw many financial institutions holding customers' week of appreciation because they had done a tremendous job in the growth of the banks. The customer is king or the customer is always right is a motto or slogan which exhorts service staff to give a high priority to customer satisfaction. It was popularised by pioneering and successful retailers such as Harry Gordon Selfridge, John Wanamaker and Marshall Field. They advocated that customer complaints should be treated seriously so that they should not feel cheated or deceived.

Marshall Field was an American entrepreneur and the founder of Marshall Field and Company, the Chicago-based department stores. His business was renowned for its then-exceptional level of quality and customer service. This attitude was novel and influential when misrepresentation was rife and caveat emptor (let the buyer beware) was a common legal maxim. Variations include "le client n'a jamais tort" (the customer is never wrong) which was the slogan of hotelier César Ritz of Germany who said, "If a diner complains about a dish or the wine, immediately remove it and replace it, no questions asked".

A variation frequently used in Germany is "der Kunde ist König" (the customer is king). However it was pointed out as early as 1914 that this view ignores that customers can be dishonest, have unrealistic expectations, and/or try to misuse a product in ways that void the guarantee and states "if we adopt the policy of admitting whatever claims the customer makes to be proper, and if we always settle them at face value, we shall be subjected to

inevitable losses. The work concluded "If the customer is made perfectly to understand what it means for him to be right, what right on his part is, then he can be depended on to be right if he is honest, and if he is dishonest, a little effort should result in catching him at it.

Nowadays, the customer is always right motto often leads to situations in which customers tend to overuse their position in relations with customer service representatives who have to provide best possible service and have no right to say "no". As we enter an eatery in Dar es Salaam recently, all the waiters and waitresses are giving us that "why bother us" look.

Many hoteliers in the city have in the past run campaigns geared at improving customer service, like the customer care campaigns that mean to receive customers well and serve them with warmth, courtesy, respect and total attention.

Why is it that bank tellers, waiters and waitresses, hair dressers in our enterprises and service sectors still find it hard "to serve with a smile or say 'thank you'"?

All these thoughts went through my mind recently as a friend and I settle into our seat at the downtown Dare Salaam restaurant. The reception by the staff contrasts with the environment: the waiters and waitresses were smartly dressed, the ambience was very attractive to the eye, and everything seemed to be in order. However, that's where it all started and ended.

After we were seated, we ordered for two cold sodas. The guy who took our order looks like he is being forced to work; his is a blank unsmiling face one can never want to find in an eatery.

Unchecked malaria mosquitoes could pose grave danger to Africa

AN Asian malaria-carrying mosquito that has adapted to urban life has the potential to spread to dozens of cities across the African continent, a new modeling study suggests. That could put more than 100 million additional people at risk of the deadly disease, including many who were never before exposed to it and have no immunity.

The mosquito species, Anopheles stephensi, poses a serious new threat for African cities, says Francesca Frentiu, a geneticist at the Queensland University of Technology who was not involved in the research. She praises the work as "an important effort, underpinned by robust methods."

Malaria, which kills more than 400,000 people per year—most of them African children—is caused by Plasmodium parasites and spread by several mosquito species. The Asian tiger mosquito, or forest day mosquito is a kind of mosquito that is native to tropical and subtropical South-East Asia. It has black and white striped legs, and small black and white striped body.

In the last few decades, the species has spread to many other countries, mainly through the transport of goods. Many communities see this species as a pest. Unlike other mosquitoes, the Asian tiger mosquito associates with humans. Other mosquitoes tend to live in wetlands. The Asian tiger mosquito is also active during the day, while most other mosquitoes are only active during dusk and dawn.

The Asian tiger mosquito can spread several diseases, such as West Nile virus, Yellow fever virus, St. Louis encephalitis, dengue fever, and Chikungunya fever.

Already grappling with the highest incidence of malaria with more than 90 per cent of global cases, Africa should be wary of an Asian mosquito species that has the potential to spread the disease into the continent's urban areas - subjecting an additional 126 million people to risk - a new analysis suggests.

Unlike endemic mosquito species in Africa, which have made themselves at

home in warm and wet climates in largely rural areas, this particular mosquito - An. stephensi - has made an appearance in African cities in recent years.

"This mosquito is unlike any other primary malaria vector found in Africa - it can live in urban areas that other species just don't like," said the lead author, Dr Marianne Sinka from the University of Oxford.

As about 40 per cent of Africa's population live in urban areas, this means there are a lot of people who are currently protected by their environment that could become exposed - if the mosquito spreads.

Unlike this species' predecessors, who are usually unable to survive in polluted water, An. stephensi is highly adapted to finding man-made water tanks or containers to lay its eggs, with larval site habits similar to Aedes aegypti, the species responsible for outbreaks of yellow fever and Zika.

This similarity could be exploited to bring in control measures that have previously worked for Aedes aegypti, although mosquitoes are notoriously difficult to control in urban areas where suitable water sources are abundant, she added.

To predict the spread of the species in Africa, the researchers combined location data for An. stephensi across geography with spatial models that identified the environmental conditions that it finds most suitable.

The results were sobering - 44 out of 68 African cities were predicted to be "highly suitable" locations, putting roughly 126 million additional people at a heightened risk of malaria if the species were to proliferate unchecked.

The causes of malaria transmission are evident - data show land use patterns, climate change as well as migration and urbanisation all contribute. But in the case of An. stephensi, migration to urban areas, particularly along transport routes, appears to be implicated, the researchers said.

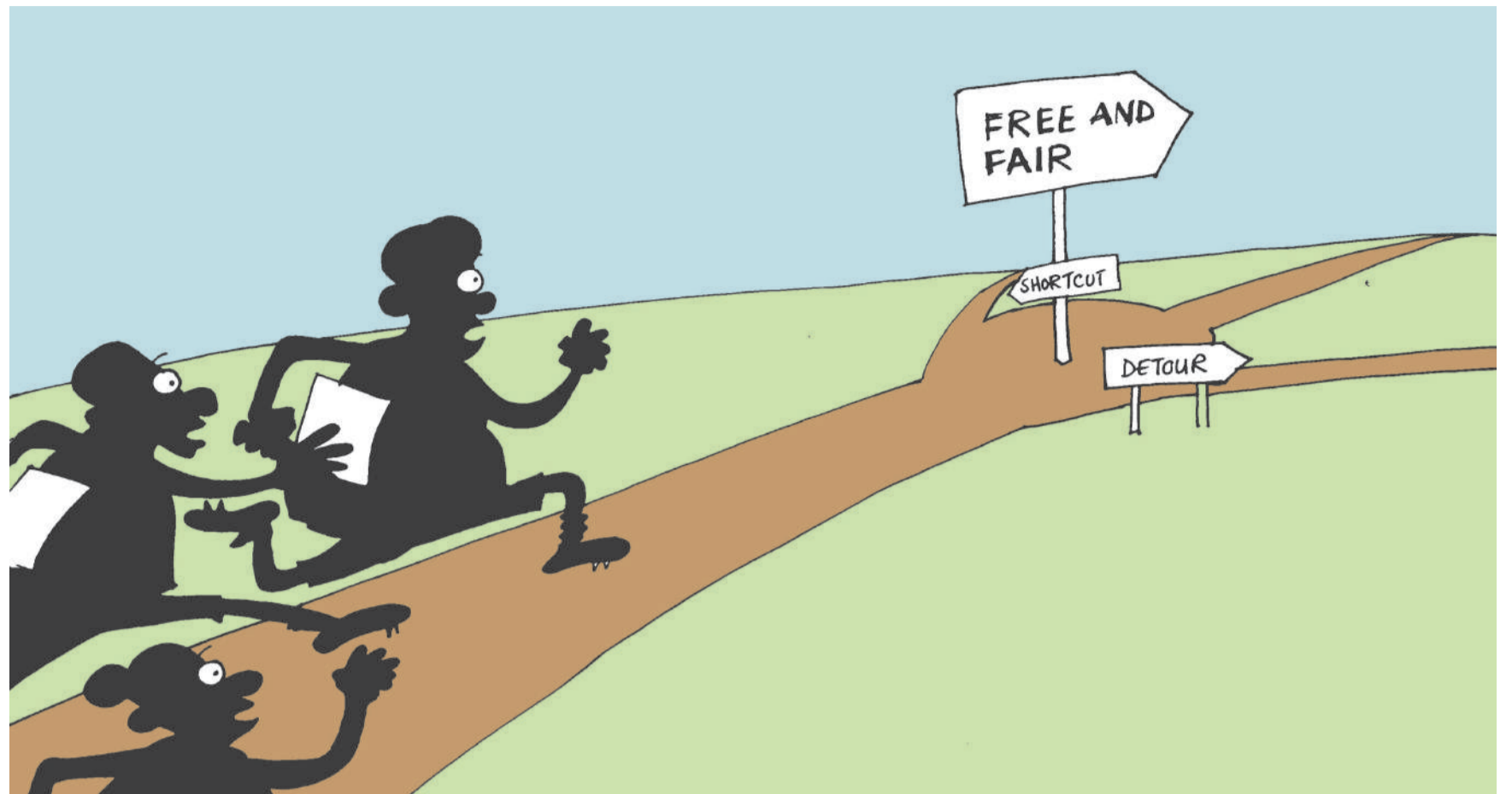
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Patriotic Bill long overdue

DEMOCRACY is indeed a game of numbers and any faithful sticklers to its tenets should appreciate the simple fact that elections and their outcome determine the structure and future of any country and also that no one, apart from the person with the mandate of the people can be their spokesperson.

Indeed, democracy is a rule of the majority and in the Zimbabwean context a rule by Zanu PF, a political party that won by a landslide the mandate to rule this country for the next five years.

Thus no one, rather than elected officials and their appointees, should be allowed to masquerade as a spokesperson of Zimbabwe, much worse to hostile nations such as the United States, a country which wrongly assumes the role of the world's prefect.

Therefore, it is refreshing to hear Government saying the Principles of the Patriotic Bill, a piece of law which will impose stiff penalties on persons campaigning against the country through private correspondence with foreign governments and harming national interests, has now been completed.

Drawing from similar pieces of legislations such as the Logan Act in the United States which outlaws consorting with foreign nations against the State, the Patriotic Bill is a welcome legislation that will go a long way in

instilling some sense of responsibility on the country's self-hating opposition parties that have a fixation with making people suffer so as to get into power.

The list of the opposition's transgressions against the people of Zimbabwe is almost endless, from calling for the imposition of sanctions on the country at the turn of the millennium, to asking for the US military intervention, to sabotage through the kudira jecha antics after losing polls, which is their wont and endless misery, to the latest attempts to smuggle guns and set-up so-called Democratic Resistance Committees that are, for all intents and purposes, violent militia groups.

Government has been more than lenient on these treasonous acts and now its noteworthy action is being taken to right those oversights.

Opposition leader Mr Nelson Chamisa and his Vice President Mr Tendai Biti have flown to the US to speak for the retention of the economic sanctions, an albatross rock that has cost Zimbabwe more than US\$40 billion in investment and also donor support of over US\$4 billion annually for over two decades.

Through their shameless unpatriotic acts, the leaders of the opposition have inflicted so much pain on Zimbabwe, with the effects reverberating across the country as Zimbabwe has to go it alone with no access

to lines of credit from Bretton Wood Institutions.

Just recently, the same Mr Biti, wrote a letter to the World Bank pleading for the international lender not to extend any financial aid to Zimbabwe, at a time when the country, just like the rest of the world was grappling with the devastating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Therefore, the hands of the country's opposition drips with the innocent blood of Zimbabweans who are failing to get requisite facilities because of the continued isolation they have sought and continue to campaign with no shame for their continuation.

And if their hands drip with blood, isn't it about time that Zimbabweans take stiffer measures to checkmate them, after all the country isn't reinventing the wheel, but is just protecting its citizens from further abuse.

Where in the world does the opposition seek to hem the country's borders, what is worse at a time when the Government is painstakingly measures to revive the economy after months of stagnation that was caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Such acts of sabotage, whether they have been committed within or outside the country's borders should be severely punished with deterrent laws to ensure that Zimbabweans move in one direction.

There is an apparent lack of shame

and decorum on the part of the opposition and indeed it is the responsibility of the Government to instil this into their power hungry souls.

According to Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs permanent secretary Mrs Virginia Mabhiza, said the Bill is "premised on the constitutional provision on the foreign policy of our country, which values the promotion and protection of the national interests of Zimbabwe. It is the duty of the State to engage other sovereign nations on issues pertaining to foreign relations, and not self-serving citizens".

The Bill will also outlaw "private correspondence with foreign governments or any officer or agent thereof will be prohibited, including false statements influencing foreign governments, or any other such conduct aimed at undermining the country" as has been the regular conduct of the opposition party leaders.

The country's lawmakers should debate such a Bill with gusto and ensure its expeditious passage into law, it would have been a crowning moment if such a law would come into effect by October 25, the day that SADC set aside as a day to denounce the MDC-A begged for illegal economic sanctions.

Time has indeed for the opposition to reform or perish as no country in the world will allow such errant behaviour.

South Africa reopens borders to Africans, but not to France and the US

By Laura Angela Bagnetto

SOUTH Africa has opened its borders to travellers the first time since it went into COVID-19 lockdown in March. But travellers will be subject to conditions, including a valid negative coronavirus test, and the door is not open to all countries.

"To allow ease of travel from the African countries, 18 borders will be opened," said International Relations Minister Naledi Pandor on Wednesday, adding that anyone coming from the US, France, UK, India, Russia, Switzerland, or the Netherlands will not be allowed in.

South Africa has the highest amount of cases on the African continent with 674,000 confirmed cases, but it will not be allowing citizens from those countries with higher Covid-19 infection rates.

There are notable exceptions outside the tourism sector: "Only citizens who are investors, diplomats, high-skills visa holders and businesspeople will be allowed," Pandor added.

Tourists from the non-blacklisted countries are encouraged to visit South Africa, but cruise ships will not be allowed to dock and off-load passengers.

Arbitrary measures

The three international airports, including Oliver Tambo International in Johannesburg, King Shaka in Durban, and Cape Town International will be open, as well as a limited number of land borders.

The negative tests will need to be no more than 72 hours before travel, but passengers will also be subject to additional Covid-19 screening. If a tourist tests positive, they will be quarantined and will have to pay for all their own expenses.

While the list seems to apply to essential measures, in reality governments are putting in place arbitrary



International Relations Minister Naledi Pandor

measures that resemble the patchwork standards that came from the 9/11 attacks in New York, says Linden Birns, aviation expert and head of Plane Talking, a public relations organisation in South Africa.

"In some airports you have to take off your shoes, in some you have to pull out your laptop," says Birns. "The International Air Transport Association (IATA) and other industry bodies wanted to make sure that with Covid-19 there was a global, consistent set of standards applied, so we don't have any of this confusion," he adds.

An international task force created by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UN sister organisation International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) came up with a set of guidelines for airline and airport safety in the time of Covid-19.

"Now we're seeing countries making up their own rules again - like South Africa," says Birns, who tells RFI that the ambiguous set of regulations that came

out Wednesday night was only published for incoming travellers, not outgoing.

Hope for travel industry, then dismay
Two weeks ago, South Africa President Cyril Ramaphosa announced an opening of the borders for travel.

"We expect the number of international passengers to grow gradually as this is an important step on the road to recovery," President Cyril Ramaphosa said in September.

Travel experts did not understand why it took so long to put the measures in place, when South Africa already had a proven track record in implementing biometric norms for domestic travel in June and July.

Birns says "the entire industry was very disappointed that it took two weeks" from Ramaphosa's announcement. "And the country restrictions put in place is based, it seems, on infection and mortality rates for July," he adds.

Too little, too late?

South Africa is entering the spring season, and the tourism and travel industry needs to start moving quickly to benefit from the border reopening.

"We are opening up because we want people to come slowly and to start to travel for leisure and tourism. But what the president has directed is that we must do this cautiously," said Transport Minister Fikile Mbalula.

"The industry is crying out - across Africa, there are four million jobs in aviation and tourism, and in South Africa alone, 280,000 jobs still in place out of 470,000 who depended on the sector before the crisis," says Birns.

South Africa announced its unemployment statistics this week - on top of already ailing economy, Covid-19 has seen 2.2 million jobs lost.

Fighting COVID-19 in villages

By Rajendra Aneja

COVID-19 continues to march ravenously in small towns and villages in developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The infections are spreading in the rural areas.

About 65.5 percent of India's total population of 1.35 billion, live in 6,64,369 villages, where medical facilities are scarce. Fifty percent of Nigerians and sixty-nine percent of Kenyans live in villages. The fight against Covid-19 in the villages has to be fought on a war-footing, since rural health infrastructure is weak and collecting information is tedious. It is difficult to manage the disease in the villages.

Involve Village Governing Council: In fighting Covid-19 in the villages, health authorities should seek the co-operation of the village headman and the local council. In India, the "Panchayat" is a five-man elected committee, which administers the village. The village headman and the committee carry authority in the village. Their cooperation is critical. Villagers have to be briefed sensitively about the dangers of Covid-19 and how to manage it. They should be coached on maintaining records about the infections and recoveries in the village.

Rural Covid-19 Warriors: The local governing bodies should form an auxiliary volunteer force, "Covid-19 Warriors", comprising of young village volunteers, who will brief people home-to-home about the precautions to be taken.

The markets in the villages, attract hundreds of villagers to buy food grains, apparel, animals like goats,

cows, etc. The rural "Covid-19 Warriors", should ensure that social distancing is practised at these markets.

Rural Opinion Leaders: Opinion leaders in the villages, like the school teachers, priests, doctors, should be deployed to spread awareness in the villages. These opinion leaders have credibility. Their words are respected. Hence, governments should brief them to educate the villagers. This awareness is vital, for many afflicted persons may not even know that they have Covid-19. They may mistake it for an ordinary cold.

The key message should be that the disease is curable and patients should report any symptoms at the earliest. There should be no stigma attached to any person who gets infected. The facilities in the primary health centres in the villages need to be augmented, to conduct Covid-19 tests.

Free Masks: Doctors and scientists have under-scored that use of face masks helps to fight Covid-19. Yet, many villagers do not use masks. Some just wear it around the chin. Many people find it inconvenient to wear a mask, because it reduces the oxygen intake. Research is needed to improve the mask, so that it protects and also ensures adequate oxygen. Free distribution of masks by the governments, can help to fight Covid-19.

Role of Corporations: The corporate sector can produce masks and distribute them free in villages, as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives. They can even print the name of some of their brands on the masks, to derive advertising mileage.

Deploy Digital Weapons: One out



of every three 4G subscribers lives in the villages, in India, according to a study by CyberMedia Research. Across the world smart phones and internet are leapfrogging in the villages. Advertising agencies should prepare special Covid-19 rural campaigns for mobile phones.

Rural propaganda/Cinema Vans: To create rapid awareness about Covid-19, health authorities should use propaganda and cinema vans. These are four-wheel vans or three-wheel autos, equipped with videos and screens, accompanied by a driver and two propagandists.

The propagandist distributes masks free to the assembled villagers. He makes announcements on the measures to avoid infections, i.e. masks, social distancing, etc. Videos show how to use the mask, maintain social distancing, importance and method of washing hands, etc. Showing, is more effective than telling.

Cinema and propaganda vans have been used effectively in countries like India, Tanzania, Kenya and Brazil, etc., to propagate the consumption of soaps, tooth paste, detergents, etc., in the villages by companies. The propa-

ganda unit can cover six villages per day. If one hundred villagers congregate at every meeting, then a van can educate 600 villagers daily.

Vaccine Distribution: A challenge confronting countries with large rural populations, is the transportation of the vaccines after they have been finalised, in frozen or semi-frozen state, to small villages, with a population of 500 or even less. Of the total 664,369 villages in India, 35.5 percent, which is 2,36,004 villages, have a population less than 500. It will be an enormous undertaking, to transport the vaccine to tiny villages.

Governments should network with companies like Nestle, Unilever, Colgate, etc., for distributing the vaccine, since these companies have a distribution reach in villages with a population of 2,500 or less. Companies which engaged in products like frozen foods and ice-creams, can study the logistics of vaccine distribution in villages. Health authorities can also deploy vans with freezers, to transport the vaccines to villages.

Deploy Boats in Rivers: Some developing countries in

Asia, Latin America, etc., do not have all-weather roads to reach villages. Many villages along the Amazona river, in Peru, Colombia and Venezuela are inaccessible by road.

In such areas, health authorities should launch "Covid-19 Boats". They will visit six villages daily, distribute masks to the villagers, organise demonstrations on social distancing and washing hands. The boat-team should distribute pictorial pamphlets to educate the villagers.

In a previous assignment with Unilever, we piloted the deployment of boats, to propagate the use of bathing soaps in Brazil and Peru. I travelled to many villages on the banks of the Amazona river in Brazil and Peru, briefing villagers.

The mass marketing techniques used by FMCG companies to educate villagers, can be deployed by health authorities.

Folk songs for Awareness: It will also be useful to create songs, based on the local folk music, incorporating the fight Covid-19 messages. The song can be played, during the mask distribution and demonstrations on social distancing. These songs should be sung by lead singers in every country. Perhaps music may impact people's behaviour, more than just fear.

The battle against Covid-19 in villages should commence right now. We should not be caught unaware, as happened when Covid-19 spread voraciously and stopped the world.

--Aneja, former Managing Director of Unilever Tanzania, is an alumnus of the Harvard Business School and the author of "Rural Marketing Across Countries"

The truth they won't tell President Buhari

By Dele Momodu

FELLOW Nigerians, I was one of those who celebrated Nigeria's 60th Independence anniversary in the grandiloquent Ovation International style. Many had queried me on social media asking what was there to celebrate? My response was easy and straightforward. LIFE. One word that encapsulates the whole essence of our existence. I will never take LIFE for granted. This is more so when we consider the corona virus pandemic now ravaging the world. The latest person to fall victim to this insidious, but utterly dangerous and dreaded ailment is the omnipotent President of the United States, Donald Trump, who like the Brazilian President, had pooh poohed the corona virus not knowing he would suddenly contract the disease and be laid low by it I pray that COVID-19 does not consume him. My Column today, is dedicated to Nigeria's Diamond Independence Jubilee and another powerful President, Muhammadu Buhari.

I was born on May 16, 1960, just before Nigeria gained Independence. So, I'm months older than our dear beloved country. I have since found time to read many accounts of what transpired before and after we assumed we were free from colonial bondage. I could imagine the giddiness that accompanied that much sought-after illusory freedom, at the time. But sadly, though we were free from colonial rule, events have shown that our emancipation was instantly replaced and replicated by home grown colonial masters, those many literary artists have described as neo-colonialists. That's a story for another day.

For now, I'm more interested in how we celebrated our 60th birthday two days ago. To be quite honest, I had expected to witness a more serious sign of soul searching and moment of sober reflections, in the light of a terribly horrible year for our country, the world and, indeed, civilisation. I expected our dear President and his speechwriters to craft a magnum opus of sorts. It is a rare privilege for any President to superintend such a milestone and landmark event. Something that would reverberate and resonate for decades in the annals of Nigerian, nay African and world history. But the day came and went poof, just like that. It was like a charade, a real anti-climax. There were no monumental decisions and changes. No forceful, emphatic and inspirational declaration of policy or direction from a government that has been apparently rudderless and clueless for the most part of its five years in office. Instead what we got was just the same lacklustre and lethargic performance of the last five years that we have now been made accustomed to, by fire by force.

The speech by the President gave no solid tone or re-assurance. It was littered with platitudes and vague, watery promises, not the solemn, earnest proclamations of how to heal the nations wounds and progress the dreams of its teeming populace. I couldn't believe that a government that has burnt five years already, would still frivolously promise heaven and earth in ten years, forgetting it has spent more than half of its two terms of four years each. Truth is, the least discerning of Nigerians will agree with me that there is no prospect that anything much would be achieved by this government, even if allocated a 20-year term. It is not because it cannot find the brightest Nigerians to work with, it is because of the Messianic attitude of the titular head of government. I'm shocked that this government still has the temerity to blame previous governments for its own glaring failures. Wake up smell the coffee, Sir! The reason you were voted into power was to fix the rot and the mess that the nation had been plunged into by the very same previous governments that you are blaming. We knew that they had brought us to our knees. You promised to bring us to our feet, not to merely lay the blame for your deficiencies and defalcation at not succeeding in this respect at the doorsteps of your predecessors.

President Muhammadu Buhari needs to be told the gospel truth so that he may be rescued from his delusions of grandeur. His



greatest flaw is not new to our nation. And it is not likely to go away very soon. Inherited prejudices are often stubborn and intractable. President Buhari is obviously neither willing nor able to steer Nigeria in a different direction from that which he has been all too familiar with. I can write the history of how his government would end in advance. It does not require any gift of clairvoyance or precognition to see that, when tomorrow comes, history would record that the Buhari administration was a most unambitious government that came to warm the seats of power and enjoy the trappings and appurtenances associated with it, but achieved little or nothing despite the humongous resources at its disposal.

Why do I say President Buhari's political ailments are inherited and self-inflicted? He wants to be seen more as a champion of the North and the protector of the Fulani protectorates than as a world, even African statesman. It is so sad that this uncommon second chance is being blown and frittered away so recklessly. It is obvious from the President's latest speech, on this epochal occasion of Nigerian nationhood, that he's not too bothered about how anyone feels about his full-blown parochialism. How I wish the President has some Advisers who can stare at him eyeball to eyeball and tell him that Nigeria is torn at the seams and shattering and splintering at the speed of light. What shall it profit a leader who was handed a cohesive country but allowed things to fall apart under his watch?

When a President says on national television that some Nigerians traded away their rights, by not voting right, meaning not voting for him, so they must pay the price, I shudder. I simply cannot imagine or understand that any progressive leader would possess such an incredibly bigoted and sectarian mindset. Nigeria is being riven, divided and torn asunder by elements and communities clamouring for self-emancipation, restructuring, separate identities and even downright secession. Soothing, calming, conciliatory and rehabilitation words are required. That is not what the speech, which was full of belligerent, bellicose, pugnacious and discordant notes, portended. The President needs to learn the tenets of Democracy. It is impossible for everyone to vote for you, Sir. Nigeria is a multiparty, multicultural, multi-ethnic and multireligious State. And freedom of association and expression and other individual liberties are enshrined in our Constitution. So, it is unthinkable that any President would expect absolute loyalty from everyone. Even totalitarian regimes expect dissent. They only clamp down on them on occasions that such dissent becomes to them a destabilising force or to teach a salutary lesson.

The one thing that the President must do, as a matter of utmost necessity and urgency, is to regard and embrace every Nigerian as a bona fide valued and cherished citizen of the Federal Republic. No one should be victimised for not supporting the President during

any particular election.

The reasons all the Nigerian Republics seemed to have failed spectacularly is embedded in an editorial written by the Time magazine in 1958 shortly before we got our Independence. It was forwarded to me last night by Ijeoma Nwogwugwu, the Managing Director of Arise News Channel. In fact, it summed up how Nigeria started failing before even starting. I'm glad I read the editorial while preparing this article. I will recommend it to every Nigerian who can read, and I reproduce it below:

"The Time Magazine 10th November 1958

INDEPENDENCE WITHOUT DIFFICULTIES IS A DREAM OF UTOPIA.

For one month, delighted Londoners watched the 80 ceremonially dressed Nigerians --some with necklaces of animal teeth, others with feathered straw hats, at least one with a jewelled crown -- parade into Lancaster House for their historic conference.

Everything possible had been done to make them feel at home.

For the Colonial Office's big reception at the Tate Gallery, all nude statues were carefully screened so as not to offend Moslems. The Lord Mayor served up a banquet of stewed peanuts, and one paramount Chief -- His Highness James Okosi II of the Onitsha -- fulfilled a lifelong ambition: to ride the escalator at the Charing Cross underground station. [?]

In the end, the Nigerians got what they had come for: on Oct. 1, 1960, the largest (373,250 sq. mi.) of Britain's remaining colonial territories would get its independence (TIME, Nov. 3). But behind the scenes the conference had revealed ominous signs of

trouble to come.

From the start there was a clash between the personalities of the Premiers of the three regions -- each obviously more important than the scholarly Federal Prime Minister, Alhaji Abubakar Tafawa Balewa.

In Western eyes, Obafemi Awolowo of the Western Region seemed the most statesmanlike: as the conference began, the London Times carried a full-page ad proclaiming his declaration for freedom under the title "This I Believe," prepared with the help of an American public relations man.

In contrast, U.S.-educated Premier Nnamdi ("Zik") Azikiwe of the Eastern Region seemed to have learned more in the U.S. about Tammany tactics than Thomas Jefferson, and was somewhat under a cloud as a result of a British tribunal's 1956 investigation into corruption in his administration.

The North's Premier, the Sardauna of Sokoto, a haughty Moslem of noble birth, could barely conceal his contempt for his less aristocratic colleagues.

Insults & Accusations. Under the great chandeliers of the Lancaster House music room, where Chopin once played for Queen Victoria, the Premiers bickered, shot insults back and forth like poisoned darts.

When the conference took up the ticklish problem of how to protect the rights of minorities among Nigeria's 250 tribes, Awolowo suggested creating three new states. The North's Sardauna, not wishing to relinquish any of his own territory, vetoed the idea. Nor did he like the plan for a centralized police force under the federal government: he much preferred to use his own force, which, answerable only to him, can pop a man in jail with no questions asked.

At one point, the Sardauna accused Awolowo of sending his supporters to Israel to be trained as saboteurs in the North -- a charge fabricated out of the fact that Western Nigeria has imported agricultural experts from Israel to advise its farmers. Awolowo counter charged that the Sardauna flogs his prisoners.

At receptions the delegates sipped their orange juice, icily aloof from one another. In elevators conversation would suddenly stop if a delegate from another region got on.

Compromises & Contests. But as the weeks passed, the Sardauna grudgingly consented to let the constitution carry a bill of rights, though he was so thoroughly opposed to giving the vote to women that the conference decided that this was, after all, not necessarily a "fundamental" right.

The delegates then agreed on a centralized police force, but one that would be administered by a council of representatives from each region. Finally, with their own independence from Britain assured (as well as that of the adjacent British Cameroons, should they choose to become a part of Nigeria), the delegates started for home.

Until Nigeria's federal election takes place next year, the three Premiers will continue jockeying for power, and the fate of Nigeria could well hinge on who comes out on top. Last week, even as the National Planning Committee of Independence opened its contest for the design of a national flag (first prize: \$300), many Nigerians had grave reservations about what lay ahead.

For all its jubilation, Nigeria's West African Pilot felt obliged to warn: "Independence without difficulties is a dream of Utopia."

This Time Magazine editorial could as well have been written today by the same writer for the same magazine. Its prophetic analysis is so scary, and yet there is no sign Nigerian leaders are ready to change a system that has held us by the jugular for so long. Indeed, they seem to prefer to continue fostering the feeding frenzy that ensues from the rent system engendered by this broken system.

By Guardian Correspondent, Babati

Anthrax kills, veterinarian cautions herders

ANTHRAX is mentioned as a dangerous disease for both animals and humans as it affects all warm-blooded living things caused by bacteria that can survive 60 years.

This was disclosed here yesterday by a senior veterinary

officer from Babati District Council, Dr Godfrey Kayombo in an interview with this paper on infectious diseases in animals.

Dr Kayombo said anthrax affects cattle, goats, sheep, hu-

mans and all warm-blooded living things.

"If a cow dies from anthrax it emits blood via its various openings, it suddenly dies without blood clotting," Dr Kayombo said.

He said anthrax symptoms include animal's inactivity and high temperature, hence with these symptoms the animals should not be let out of its enclosure. "In human the symptoms include skin rashes

and the disease becomes very infectious, but is preventable via vaccination administered yearly," he explained.

He said to control the disease vaccination should be administered to cattle, goats,

sheep and donkeys.

Dr Kayombo further said bacteria causing anthrax are encountered in grazing areas and can survive up to 60 years, hence the prevention is only via vaccination.

He said the eruption of the disease result in death to livestock, burial expenses and poverty.

He called on livestock keepers to vaccinate their animals, it is not a matter of choice, but of necessity according to the Animals Diseases Act (No 17 of 2003).

NACTE, TNMC challenged on speed of the issuance of certificates, nursing licences to newly graduated students

By Felister Peter, Mwanza

THE government has challenged the National Council for Technical Education (NACTE) and the Tanzania Nursing and Midwifery Council (TNMC) to fast track issuance of certificates and nursing licenses to graduating students to enable them to secure jobs.

This came after stakeholders raised concerns over delayed issuance of certificates and nursing licenses to the students, which contributes to delayed employment.

The Director of Preventive Services in the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Dr Leonard Subi, made the statement in Mwanza Region when speaking at the dissemination meeting for the More and Better Midwives for Rural Tanzania (MBM) project which has reached an end after being implemented in Lake and Western zones for five years.

The project was implemented by Jhpiego in partnership with Amref health Africa, Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM) and Tanzania Midwives Association (TAMA) with funding from the Canadian government. It was implemented within 20 health training institutions and 19 in-service training clinical practice sites in 19 districts in Mwanza, Kagera, Mara, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Kigoma, Tabora, and Geita regions.

"You should prioritize issuance of certificates and nursing licenses to graduating nurse-midwives. We do not want students to stay at home for a long period since their carrier requires more practice", Dr Subi noted.

He however challenged heads and the management of nursing colleges to ensure timely submission of all the required docu-

ments to NACTE and the regulatory-TNMC to facilitate preparation as well as issuance of certificates.

Dr Subi added that the government values the contribution of the MBM project is producing skilled nurse-midwives urging that trained health professionals may contribute into reduction of child and maternal deaths by 80 percent.

He said the various interventions made by the government and stakeholders have resulted in reduction of child and maternal mortality in the country, whereas the number of maternal deaths have now dropped to 2,000 per year compared to 11,000 deaths recorded in 2015.

According to him, more midwives will be employed by the government, noting that a total of 14,400 health care providers have been employed in five years. During the period, a total of 487 health care centers were constructed.

Ministry of Health's Assistant Director (Nursing and Quality Improvement), Dr Saturini Manangwa said the ministry has started working to facilitate timely issuance of certificates and nursing licenses. He said the government is also looking into possibilities of introducing similar projects in other regions and to increase the number of clinical instructors.

"The MBM project has direct links with the government since it gears at improving maternal services through production of quality midwives. We need similar projects across the country", he said.

AMREF Tanzania Country Director, Dr Florence Temu highlighted the need to prioritize employment to graduating nurses



Beneficiaries of a more and better midwives for rural Tanzania (MBM) project demonstrate the management of a pregnant mother with pre-eclampsia in Mwanza Region over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

and midwives, noting that only 10 percent of all the graduates produced during the project implementation have been employed.

Jhpiego Country Director, Alice Christensen said the project aimed at ensuring that women and children in rural and hard to reach areas of Tanzania have access to skilled midwives.

"Sustained improvement of maternal and newborn health outcomes may be attained through provision of better midwifery skills guided by evidence-based training and specific strategies to retain the workforce. We are proud that we have addressed the gap of quality and

skilled midwifery," she added.

She said that world's statistics show that approximately 287,000 women die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth whereas 2.7 million babies die every year in their first month of life and a similar number are stillborn.

An estimated 56 percent of these deaths could be prevented through strong partnerships in strengthening and enabling midwives in providing quality midwifery care.

Dr Julius Masanika, MBM Project Manager, said implementations of the project have man-

aged to reduce the midwives staffing gap in Lake and western zones from 54 percent in 2016 to 41 percent.

He added that 94 percent of trained midwives are now capable of performing their skills more professionally compared to only 25 percent of trained midwives who could professionally execute their duties before the project was introduced.

Dr Masanika said the government of Canada through the Global Affairs Canada funded the project to a tune of 10 million Canadian Dollars (over 16bn/-).

NTDs cause the loss of 17 million healthy life years

By Special Correspondent

EVERY year Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) cause the loss of 17 million healthy life years (or disability free life years) of which 40 per cent is in Africa.

A report Reducing the burden of parasitic worms in sub-Saharan Africa released by the Economist Intelligence Unit, a research and analysis division

of The Economist Group highlights. The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that globally over 1.76 billion people still require interventions against NTDs.

Schistosomiasis (Bilharzia) and soil-transmitted helminthiasis (worm infections including round worm, whip worm and hook worm) are the most prevalent NTDs in sub-Saharan Africa.

The majority (86pc) of global

schistosomiasis cases occur in sub-Saharan Africa, and 26 per cent of soil-transmitted helminthiasis cases.

The two diseases caused a loss of about 2.1 million healthy life years in 2017. The ill health caused by these diseases hampers adults' ability to work, and could adversely impact children's schooling, says the report.

The report that profiled Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda and

Zimbabwe says eliminating morbidity and mortality from schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted helminthiasis in these four countries could boost their GDP by \$5.1 billion in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms by 2040.

In addition, there could be gains of \$1.2bn (PPP) in income among school-age children in these countries over the same period once they enter the

workforce, as the elimination of ill health associated with these diseases could improve their ability to learn and attend school.

These are likely gains Uganda could register with the elimination of schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted helminthiasis

In Uganda the common NTDs also include among other schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted helminthes.

Schistosomiasis (Bilharzia) is endemic in 38 of the 56 districts in the country. Both the intestinal and urinary forms of the disease exist in the country, however the intestinal form is more widespread than the urinary one which exists mainly in five districts.

Despite availability of effective tools and proven strategies for control of the two NTDs, until recently very little was being

done for most of these diseases, says the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The most recent WHO roadmap for NTDs (2021-2030) sets targets for the elimination of both schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted helminthiasis as public health problems by 2030.

Once this is achieved, the countries will need to eliminate transmission to stop these diseases returning.

'Witchcraft beliefs dents case against GBV and child abuse'

By Guardian Reporter

EXISTENCE of the environment of witchcraft in some cases on gender based violence (GBV) and child abuse is cited as among challenges facing some families and activists against such incidents in Zanzibar's Unguja North Region.

Thabit Makame Haji, Gender Desk for Unguja North Region said that more than three times they have been facing open environments pointing to witchcraft even though the cases thereof were progressing well and believed criminals would be found guilty and punished to act as lesson to others.

According to him, there was one case they dealt with since its early stages and witnesses mobilized but when the case was referred to the court: the victim could not speak a single word.

"We at the Desk were pained by the development as we saw justice was disappearing via acts of witchcraft, and true enough, the case was thrown out of court, and the suspect was found not guilty," Haji said recently when speaking at a three-day training seminar aimed at capacity building to the society, local leaders (shehas) and other officials from various institutions involved in the fight against these incidents.

The training seminar aimed to sensitise the society against on incidents of gender based violence and child abuse conducted by Tanzania Media Women Association, Zanzibar (TAMWA-Zanzibar) in collaboration with Action Aid Zanzibar and drew in 210 participants.

He said since witchcraft is being used as a subterfuge for the criminals there was the need for the government through its institutions not to remove cases from the courts in which a witness failed to testify due to witchcraft beliefs and instead they should be adjourned.

Haji said he believes there were certain gender based violence and child abuse incidents which were not reported at any police station in the Region because some families were instilled with witchcraft fear.

"For instance, we at the Desk received a case from one lady who reported that her child was sexually abused, and after investigations we found that the crime was committed, but surprisingly a few later the lady came to withdraw the case in fear of being bewitched," Haji added.

Some parents whose children were reportedly sexually abused said there were situations that sometimes make them lose all hope.

He said that one of the parents whose children were sexually abused and finally impregnated, her case is still in court since 2017



Thabit Makame Haji of the Gender Desk in Unguja North Region, speaks at a three-day gender-based violence capacity building seminar. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

and no ruling has been issued.

"This makes her feel inferior as justice has been delayed," desk official attested.

Health official from Kivunge Hospital in Unguja North Region, Mwajuma Makame Kombo said they issue test results immediately on any child who had been sexually

abused and sent for medical examination.

In July this year, GBV incidents in Zanzibar rose to 114 as compared to June's 102 incidents, something which calls for more collected efforts to fight the vice.

A statistician at the office of the Chief Government Statistician Ramla Hassan Pandu

named West B- district as an area where most cases of child abuse were reported having 24 cases, followed by West 'A' district with 20 incidents and the Mjini District (19 incidents).

"Children are the victims of violence acts with the report saying that 95 children (83.3

percent) and 29 women (16.7 percent) faced the challenge. Children between the age of 15 and 17 are the one who are mostly at risk of these incidents, so more efforts should be made to address the matter," he said when presenting a report at the forum held in Mazizini, Unguja.

He said that in the incidents, 56 women were raped, 14 children were defiled as well as other four cases of sodomy.

He noted that violence acts were not only confined to women but children as well thus needing intensive efforts to fight it as it had adverse impacts to the community and the country as a whole.

"Most of the violence cases occurred at home, so this translates that the children are being abused by people who know them or their family relatives. 94 percent of the incidents happened at home," he added.

Pandu further said that all the incidents are under police investigation with others having taken required legal measures.

Zanzibar Mwinzi Bakari, head of crime statistics department of the Police Force said that they have been taking several measures to fight the challenge.

"This is a joint work, we should work together to ensure that we fight the vice so as to enable our children and women to live happily in a peaceful nation. We will continue working collaboratively with other organisations to fight violence in the country," he said.

This intentional mis-education of Africa...

By Dr Bamidele Adeoye

THE arrow of time is always delving deeper in us, constantly forcing us forward, and in any story, time only flows when the story is told. The arm of time is always ticking to the beat of change, and change is as constant as time. We should move along with time, and not be swept along by the tide of time.

Progress is the attraction that moves humanity—Marcus Garvey

The essence of education in all societies is to prepare individuals to be useful and effective participants in their society. It prepares youths to be active and productive members of their societies by instilling them with the necessary skills and talents from an early age.

Koma Kenneth stated that education is everything that prepares the young people for either integration in a given specific society to perpetuate the established values and norms of such society or transform and changing such values and norms.

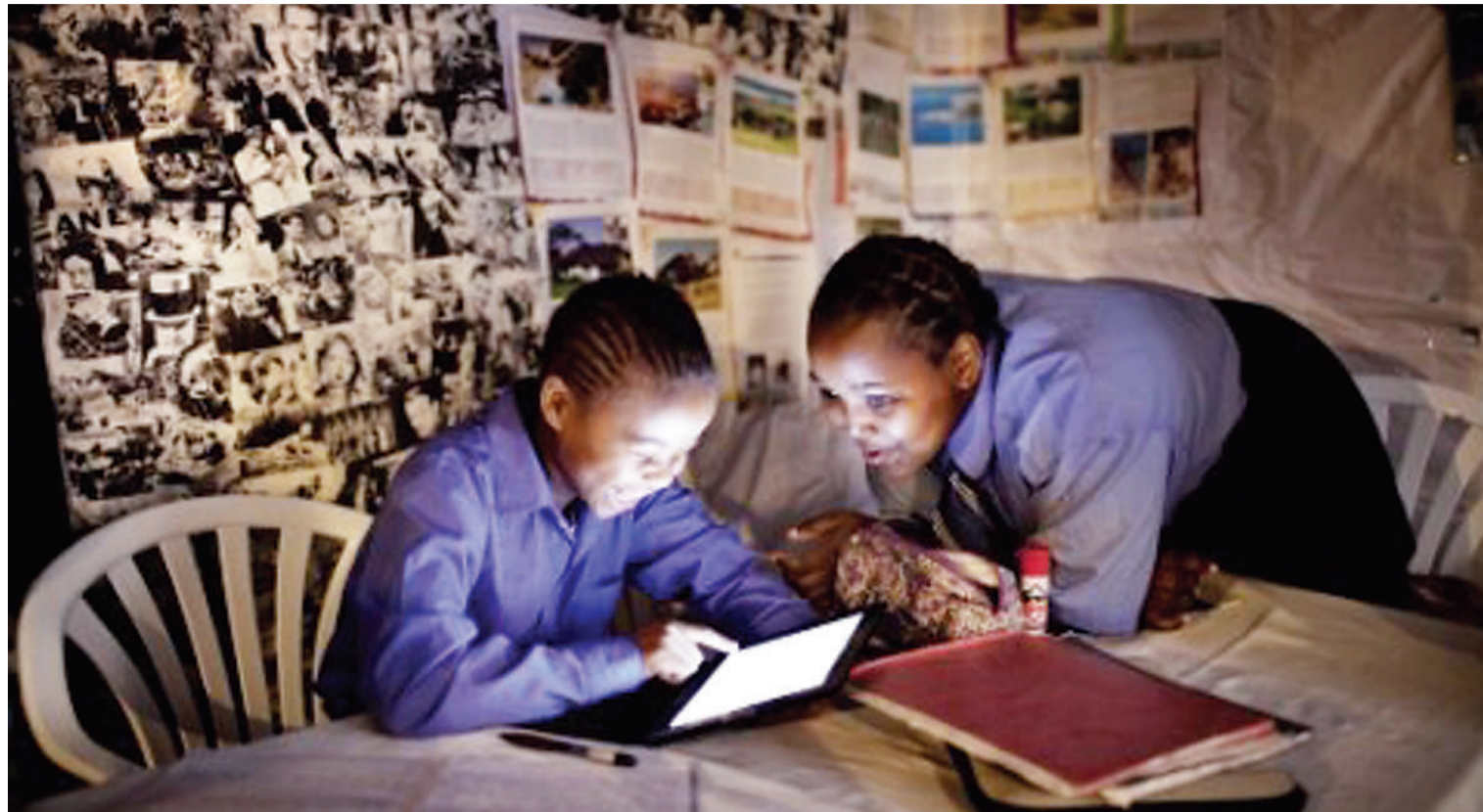
While Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere defined education as the transmission of accumulated wisdom and knowledge of the society from one generation to the next and also to prepare the young people for their future membership in the society in which they find themselves.

Thus, the African educational system, "it takes a village to raise a child" concept, the education, knowledge, skills, and attitudes were passed from generation to generation mostly orally, and training was done by example in most African societies. In essence, the training was done directly, formally, indirectly, or informally by the family members, kinships, village groups, and the community at large participated in the educational and socialization process of the child.

And no matter how old we are, we are a product of the community that raised, trained, supported, and helped shape the way we see the world from childhood. For that reason, western education has limited values compared to being educated in the "it takes a village to raise a child" concept and the values inherited from them. That is why the concept it takes a village to raise a child is very crucial in African societies.

Therefore, the African concept of it takes a village to raise a child-focused on producing a well-grounded, skillful, accommodating, and civil adult capable and able to contribute to the development of the community at large. As a result, the concept of education was never a colonial invention in Africa. Rather, training systems existed in Africa long before the intrusion of the rogue colonizers.

Magnus Bassey posited that the African training was very practical, those who took to fishing were taught navigational techniques like seafaring, the effects of certain stars on tide and ebb, and migrational patterns and behavior of fish. Likewise, those who took to farming had similar training. Those



who learned trades and crafts, such as blacksmithing, weaving, woodwork, and bronze work, needed a high degree of specialization and were often apprenticed outside their homes for training and discipline. On the other hand, those who took to the profession of the traditional priesthood, village heads, kings, medicine men and women diviners, rainmakers, and rulers underwent a long period of painstaking training and rituals to prepare them for the vital job they were to perform.

The African system of education emphasized practicality, social solidarity, equal opportunity for all, homogeneity with culture, and religion focused, which were later destroyed by the introduction of western theoretical education that impedes Africa's development.

"If you can control a man's thinking you do not have to worry about his action. When you determine what a man shall think you do not have to concern yourself about what he will do. If you make a man feel that he is inferior, you do not have to compel him to accept an inferior status, for he will seek it himself. If you make a man think that he is justly an outcast, you do not have to order him to the back door. He will go without being told; and if there is no back door, his very nature will demand one" Carter Godwin Woodson.

The later introduction of western education excluded African languages, history, cultures, religions and lifestyles in their curriculums. And practicing African cultural lifestyles or languages were discouraged or punished in those institutions.

Early churches discriminated against and discouraged the use of African names for baptism, forcing Africans to take biblical names for baptism, indirectly vied that African names were not Godly enough for Christian Salvation. White missionaries consistently preferred biblical names, and that they (Africans) stopped using an individual's

given or non-Christian name after their baptism – Katharine Gerbner. Likewise, traditional beliefs of naming ceremonies were frowned upon.

Unfortunately, decades later, Africans now mimic these behaviors in their institutions and at homes. That is why it is not surprising that the younger generations of Africans can hardly speak in their mother tongues.

Regrettably, and so far, 52 languages (Wikipedia, 2020&UNESCO) are extinct in Africa. Foreign instructional languages and religions introduced by the colonizers (western educational subjugation and negative attitude towards own languages) were the leading contributing factors to these losses. Therefore, the extinction of any language is not the loss of spoken words. Instead, it is the loss of self-identity, cultural, historical, linguistic, and psychological.

Baffoe, IssahandAmoah, Anthony Kwaku noted that Ghana had made concerted efforts to prioritize the use of indigenous languages in education. On the other hand, Mako Muzenda posited that South Africa's proposal to teach students Mandarin has not been well received. Instead, there was a call for more focus on indigenous languages, which have been neglected by the education system. Despondently, Zimbabwean primary and secondary schools planned on introducing more foreign languages: Mandarin, French, and Portuguese into the education syllabus, instead of indigenous languages. Liseli A. Fitzpatrick put forward that language is the main conduit that transports cultural expression and marks one's identity.

Thus, the further introduction of more foreign languages instead of indigenous languages in the school systems must be challenged and frowned upon, it will undoubtedly further exacerbate the extinction of more languages, if not checked. If this trend continues, Africa will deliberately seek more foreign gods to worship due to its "enclosure of the

mind" syndrome. It should be noted, that the introduction of more foreign languages to the school systems is not limited to these few countries mentioned above.

That is why, if the elders leave you a legacy of dignified language, you do not abandon it and speak childish language— Ghanaian Proverb. In short, western education is culturally biased that it makes Africans consider their cultures and languages along with their history with a disdainful and shameful attitude.

Dr. John Henrik Clarke acknowledges that to control a people, you must first control what they think about themselves, and how they regard their history and culture. And when your conqueror makes you ashamed of your culture and your history, he needs no prison walls and no chains to hold you.

According to Vanqa Tembe, basically training was intended to enable an individual to play a useful role in society. Education was seen as a vehicle through which western cultures can be fostered or promoted in the African continent by its colonizers. Western education was meant to reinforce the colonial conditions by inculcating the values of colonial society and training individuals for the service of the colonial state.

The colonizer's unfamiliarity with the diversities of Africa's culture, training, and religion, they viewed any practices different from theirs as inferior, barbaric, and degraded these practices as witchcraft, devil-worshiping, and heathenism. As a consequence of their close-mindedness and superiority complex, they sought to convert and then exploit Africa.

Bartolomé de las Casas was part of the early conquistador of the Indies. Later, became reformed and a strong advocate to stop the Christian dehumanization and violence against the Inca Indians. Bartolomé de las Casas enumerated the account of the colonial destruction of the (Inca) Indians in his most influential writings the Brief Report on the Destruction of the Indies (1542). The conquistadors' excesses reflected the reasons why the Christians killed and destroyed such an infinite number of souls (Inca Indians) because of their greed for gold and their desire to enrich themselves within a short time. Bartolomé de las Casas emphatically vied that Christ did not come into the world to die for gold.

That is why dehumanization and colonial violence in Africa intertwined with Christian intrusion.

As a result, the word "colonization of Africa" is a conjuring word for masking the disorganization, and dehumanization of Africa. And it should be called by the rightful and detrimental word association, Dehumanization of Africa, instead of colonization of Africa.

Research and studies indicated that the mother tongue (thinking language) is the best instructional language, an enabler that facilitates better learning, understanding, and transfer of knowledge. Despite these indicators, the colonizers discouraged these enablers and facilitated the self-destroying behaviors.

The colonizers intentional mis-education had a devastating effect of the psyche of Africa, particularly the confusion of six foreign instructional languages, excluding Arabic; English (20 countries), French (20 countries), Portuguese (4 countries), German (3 countries), Spanish (2 countries), and Italian (3 countries). Useless instructional languages on the continent that excluded Africa's heritage.

However, a subtle indirect emphasis was placed on religion to manage the conscience of Africa, to be forever subservient to the colonizers' interests on the continent. And Africa, sheepishly took the bait with the hope of heavenly salvation, when the colonizers did not believe in their own god.

With reference to Dr. John Henrik Clarke's famous quote on religion, "anytime someone says your God is ugly and you release your God and join their god, there is no hope for your freedom until you once more believe in your own concept of God". Thus, when others impose the image of their deity upon you while you abandon your Gods and accept theirs, you inevitably become their spiritual prisoners.

The introduction of western education was to reshape Africa for government control, religious mission, and economy in favor of the colonizers. Therefore, making it possible for the newly educated African elites that would later become leaders of the church, commerce, industry, and politics, their future masked indirect instruments of change. According to Bishop Jordan, J.P. Shanahan the head of the Holy Ghost Fathers in Eastern Nigeria in the early twentieth century, acknowledged that those who hold the school hold the country, holds religion, hold its future.

Thus, western education and religion were subtle key elements in masking class and race superiority, used to manipulate, dominate, and oppress Africans.

Western education was also designed to instill foreign cultural values, and Africans were craftily manipulated to abandon their own cultures, history, education, languages and traditions. And unfortunately, Africans did not understand that the colonizers did not only colonized people, but they also colonized the interpretation of history itself and was rewritten to favor them at the expense of other people.

Yet, culture is the product of human creativity, imaginative contrivance, the overall concept of self, life, and God, which is uniquely and endemically localized, one's enthrallment. That is why there is no right or wrong culture, superior nor inferior culture, and every culture has a logic of philosophy guiding it. Consequently, the question is to understand the behavior of the people in that particular cultural space or localities and settings.

What makes one God superior to the other, if the concept of God is an exaggerated worship of the cultural self? According to the Cambodian proverb; "Do not take the straight path or the winding path. Take the path your ancestors have taken".

That is why African culture, in every facet, is not an accident or inconsequential, nor decorative, or the songs as the west contended. Instead, African culture is about the body of moral and ethical values placed on each member within that cultural space. Cultural values do not limit the intelligence and know-how of the people. However, it is the collective strength of the people within that particular cultural space.

Likewise, Africans cherished the inviolability of their culture because the most fundamental aspect of human identity is their culture, a foundational part of the conscious self. Hence, Africans considered their culture a powerful concept of self-identity and self-esteem which should be respected.

Unfortunately, western education and religion infringed on Africaness, with a subtle but destructive scheme, to replace them with western lifestyles and values, which in essence, very detrimental to Africa's existence.

Culture cannot occur without education, which is the transmission of values and accumulated wisdom of a society, while education is impossible without some form of societal culture.

The learning strategies, training, and teaching methods African societies engaged for a very long time were discarded and weakened at the expense of western education.

Furthermore, Apollon Nwauwa argued that, while missionaries used education as an instrument for effective conversion of Africans to Christianity, colonial governments saw education as a means of socially and politically controlling the subjects. In turn, education and religion confused and corrupted the African psyche, as expressed by Chinua Achebe series of books; Things Fall Apart (1958), No Longer at Ease (1960), and The Arrow of God (1964).

That is the state of hopeless disorientation caused by religion and the imposed colonial education. From an African proverb perspective, one who causes others' misfortune also teaches them wisdom.

However, the colonizers left the back door unlocked, with a tool to confront them. The wisdom from the Zambian proverb states that the worlds of the elders do not lock all the doors; they leave the right door open.

Africa's western education was a catalyst and a perceived contradiction; while empowering in one hand, it became alienating and corrupt on the other. The unintended consequences of western education are the consciousness of knowledge, coupled with access to a vast amount of data (information), unparalleled in the history of mankind. The academic consciousness and knowledge are the tools to challenge the colonizer's manipulations.

The Pandora box was opened with renewed awakening and consciousness, as predicted by Pixley Ka Isaka Seme's speech, The Regeneration of Africa on April 5, 1906.

Fantz Fanon avers in Black Skin, White Masks that colonizer internalizes colonialism and its attendant ideologies, and how the colonized internalize the idea of their own inferiority, ultimately emulate and speaking the language of the colonizer at the expense of their language, is to appropriate its world and culture. Since language is the carrier and instrument of culture. Thus, racism functions as a controlling mechanism that maintains colonial relations as 'natural' occurrences.

Instead, western education, theoretical (memorization without thinking) academics without interrogation or practical, provided the workforce for the continuation and exploitation of Africa's resources with the help of the pseudo educated Africans.

The German educational policy was designed to train Africans as laborers to ensure the regular supply of workers for the colonial system.

Walter Rodney posited that colonial education in Africa was an education for subordination, exploitation, the creation of mental confusion, and the development of underdevelopment; killing the communal spirit in Africans and replacing it with a capitalistic one, corrupting the mental sensibilities of Africans by providing selective training to fill auxiliary positions in the colonial service, emphasizing vocational rather than a well-rounded education, disregarding the peoples' cultures in the educational curriculum and fostered the underdevelopment of Africa's intellectual resources.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 144 00--

WORD-FIT

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 USE, SIN, STY,
4 letters GADS, DUES, DEED, TIPS, UPON, EFTA
5 letters RUPEE, NUERS, FYTTE, YEARS, A'ASIA, EVICT,
6 letters STRING,
7 letters ARDUOUS, DARLING,
8 letters LILONGWE,
9 letters LIBERATED, BLIND DATE, LAID PAPER

CROSSWORD

1 F R A N C E R M
2 R R V O I C E
3 E N D U R E N A
4 S E A G T
5 H O N E Y M O O N
6 S T A G E U
7 T U G Z E N
8 I E N A M E L
9 A F A R B E L O W
10 Y I N P
11 E T U B E R
12 A D O W A

1 M K W A W A S
2 O R H T
3 G H A N A N I A N
4 A N I L E R
5 D A G G E R V
6 I S L E D I E T
7 S K E R R Y R
8 H I A G A
9 U N D A M A G E D
10 E O R O E
11 S W I N D L E R
12 S E E S

CLUES: Across

1 the festival of christian church celebrating the resurrection of christ
6 someone dejected
7 a small, narrow river
9 intense sorrow
11 the food eaten
12 salary
13 mate and then produce offspring
15 shed tears
17 have a different opinion
20 harmony in opinion or feelings

CLUES: Down

1 achieved without great effort
2 a sudden powerful forward movement
3 messages send electronically
4 Italy's capital
6 Hellenic Republic
8 rub out
10 Paris is the capital city
11 the formal union of a man and a woman
14 barking and howling animal
16 a long, narrow strap attached at one hand to a horse's bit, typically used in pairs to guide or check a horse in riding or driving
18 Yemen's Capital
19 Capital city of Italy

By Magezi: 0755429240 telxmagezi@gmail.com

BUSINESS

GLOBALIZATION

FNB customers can now own shares in Apple, Amazon, Tesla and Facebook

JOHANNESBURG

First National Bank (FNB) announced that its customers and institutional investors in the country can now buy and own shares in big international companies for as little as R10 on the FNB app.

The companies in question include Amazon, Facebook, Apple, Microsoft, Netflix, Tesla, Coca Cola and Alphabet which owns Google. According to the bank, this is a result of the listing of 10 FNB Exchange Traded Notes (ETNs) on the JSE on 1 October, giving investors access to a wide variety of wealth creation assets.

"We are excited to scale our invest activities by providing our customers and investors at large an opportunity to broaden exposure to wealth creation assets. "Through FNB's platform, customers have the opportunity to access both local and global shares which will allow them to diversify their portfolios during a very challenging time," said FNB CEO Jacques Celliers.

To buy the shares, customers will need to have access to FNB's share trading platform via FNB Online or the FNB App. FNB Wealth and Investments and Ashburton CEO, Sizwe Nxedlana said the global shares will create financial inclusion, allowing customers across all income categories equal opportunity to own shares beyond South African borders.

"Our aim is to drastically minimise barriers to entry for individual customers and institutional investors. Over the years, we have invested heavily to building platform capabilities in our investment business and this is starting to manifest in solutions which are customer-centric, and valuable for customers across all income categories," said Nxedlana. For those who are not FNB customers but are interested in buying shares, they would have to visit the FNB website, select the investment they are interested in, create an account and follow the prompts.



FNB CEO Jacques Celliers.

RECOVERY

Tanzania sees big rise in number of French tourists post Covid-19

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

FRENCH nationals are now ranked as a leading inbound travellers coming to Tanzania, largely thanks to government's decision to re-open its airspace following a brief ban earlier this year due to the coronavirus outbreak.

The government allowed foreign visitors and international flights back into the country in June after a three-month ban due to the Covid-19, becoming the first country in East Africa to do so hence attract the attention of French travellers.

Tanzania National Parks' Assistant Conservation Commissioner in charge of Business portfolio, Beatrice Kessy, said last week that records indicate that a total of 3,062 French tourists visited national parks in the period starting July to September this year. Kessy said France was followed by the US which had 2,327 holidaymakers.

She said third on the list is Germany with 1,317 visitors, followed by the UK with 1,051 tourists while Spain had 1,050 holidaymakers and India had 844 travellers who came to the country. Other countries on the top ten list were Switzerland (727 tourists), Russia (669), Netherlands (431) and Australia (367).

"We are so grateful to French tourists for casting a vote of confidence in Tanzania as a safe destination. Their arrival plays a key role in spreading trust more widely, with benefits travelling far beyond tourism,"



French tourists enjoying a Safari ride in the Serengeti National Park last week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

she explained.

Tanzania's Ambassador to France, Samwel Shelukindo said France has become a reliable ally to the country because the European nation supports responsible and timely recovery of the tourism industry, on which millions of small businesses and jobs depend.

Shelukindo said the development has not occurred by default, but rather, was out of painstaking joint efforts spearheaded both governments and

the private sector. "My office worked extra-time in close co-operation with the Mount Kilimanjaro Safari Club and Axiom by Parker, as well as Tanzania Tourists Board. We have organized several meetings with tour operators and mainstream media to reassure French travellers that Tanzania is a safe destination free from Covid-19," Shelukindo said in a recent interview.

The envoy also commended President John Pombe

Magufuli's firm position to keep the country open to business other than follow his peers' decision to lockdown their countries for fear of the virus.

He said Dr Magufuli has joined few world leaders who have resisted to lockdown their countries such as Sweden. "I'm proud of President Magufuli's bold stance against the virus which has boosted confidence abroad for Tanzania. I'm also heavily indebted to MKSC, Axiom by Parker and TTB for

their spirited campaigns to promote Tanzania as a safe destination," he noted.

Since assuming office as the country's envoy to France way back in 2017, Shelukindo has boosted numbers of French tourists coming to the country tremendously. Official data shows that in 2016, there were 24, 611 French tourists who visited the country but the number increased to 33,925 in 2017 and 41,330 in 2018 but reached a record 56,297 holidaymakers last year.

MKSC founder, Denis Leboutoux said in most cases, French tourists have been flocking into Tanzania in low season when the country's national parks and hotels are almost empty. "So this is uniqueness of French tourists," Leboutoux said, adding that they come at a time when Tanzania needs them most.

Enthralled by the country's peace and love, its endowed wildlife, beaches and culture, French tourists are slowly, but surely becoming an important group of visitors rejuvenating the Covid-19 battered tourism industry.

With nearly 1.5 million tourist arrivals annually, wildlife tourism continues growing and cementing its position as the leading foreign currency earner in Tanzania, fetching the country US\$2.5 billion, an equivalent to nearly 17.6 percent of gross domestic product. In addition, tourism also provides 600,000 direct jobs to locals and an estimated one million plus indirectly.

ALERT

Anti-GE group cautions state against corporate lobbying

By Francis Kajubi

CORPORATE lobbying by companies seeking to convince the government relax regulations that frustrates cultivation of genetically engineered organisms in the country should be ignored.

Tanzania Alliance for Biodiversity's Coordinator, Abdallah Ramadhani said in Dar es Salaam last week that the government should be careful with some companies lobbying for total removal or further weakening of a strict liability clause in the 2009 Biosafety Regulations targeting importers and researchers of the crops.

Ramadhani said TABIO is aware of the ongoing intense lobbying by the genetically engineered organism dealing companies to convince government officials that the strict liability clause should be deleted to allow commercialization of the crops.

"These regulations came into force under the Environment Management Act 2009 that guides procedures in development, handling and use of GMOs in Tanzania," he said while warning that the 2015 amendments of the biodiversity regulations, is posing risks



Activists are against genetically engineered organisms such as corn.

to human health.

The biodiversity regulations are a result of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, an international supplement to the Convention on Biological Diversity effective since 2003 and which Tanzania signed in September 2003.

The protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by

genetically engineered organisms resulting from modern biotechnology development. The implementation of the biodiversity regulations is under the Vice President's Office.

Biodiversity regulation 56 (1) of the Environment Management Act 2009, earlier stipulated that any person or his agent who imports, transits, make contained or confined

use of, release, carries out any activities in relation to GMOs or products thereof or place on the market a GMO shall be strictly liable for any harm, injury or loss caused directly or indirectly by such products or any activity in relation to them.

"After the 2015 amendments regulation 56 (2) reads: notwithstanding the provisions of sub regulation 56 (1) any person or his agent who develops, imports, transports GMOs or products thereof, or carries any activity for the purpose of undertaking research shall be liable for any harm, injury, or loss caused directly or indirectly by such GMO, or their products or any activity in relation to GMO," the Tabio chief added.

He explained that before amendments, section 56 (2) described the harm, injury or loss as being personal injury, damage to property, financial loss and damage to the environment or to biological diversity as well as taking into account socioeconomic, cultural and ethi-

cal concern. In this case, the amendments leave GMO producers and researchers free from being held responsible for the damages it causes to final consumers.

"Strict liability in the biodiversity regulation should be maintained so as to provide a balanced approach in utilizing the benefits of modern biotechnology. At the same time, we should ensure that human health and the environment are protected from the likely adverse effects that GMOs may pose," he explained.

When asked about the raised concern, VPO's Legal Officer, Isakwisa Mwamukonda said that regulations are amended according to fulfill requirements of a particular time. "It is obvious that amendments were made in some sections of the law but this does not mean that importers of GMO products and researchers will do whatever they like. There are other regulatory instruments such as the nation's biotechnology policy of 2010," Mwamukonda argued.

CONFESSION

Coal dust remains major environmental challenge in Mozambique

MAPUTO

Vale mining company recognised today that the emission of coal dust is "one of the major environmental challenges" of its opencast mining in Mozambique, but said it has made "major investments in technology to reduce the impact."

"This [pollution] is one of our major environmental challenges, and the company is aware of it," Mauricio Simbine,

from the Environment department of the Brazilian mining company, said. Simbine was speaking to journalists on the sidelines of a visit by Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy Max Tonela to the Vale mine in Moatize district, Tete province, in the western interior of the country.

Simbine said that the months of September, October and November routinely registered a "more critical situ-

ation" in terms of coal dust emissions from coal production, because they represented the "windy season" in the region.

"Mining activity has an inherent emission of dust, but the intensity with which this happens varies according to the season, the day and the climatic conditions," he said. Simbine did not give figures for the amount of emissions that the company produces, but said

that the company had installed an air quality monitoring network around the company's facilities.

"This is state-of-the-art equipment, which measures and continuously monitors the emission of coal dust," Simbine explained. While pollution continues to be a major drawback of the company activities, emissions have been significantly reduced due by the introduction of dust containment technology, Sim-

bine stressed. "We have installed a water sprinkler system, which is activated periodically for mitigation," he said.

The system is installed at several points which are the source of dust, he added. Moatize administrator Maria Torcida said that the [dust] emission control technology that Vale introduced eliminated "the [coal] dust waves" that were regularly seen in Moatize, and also reduced concerns about the impact of

the company's activity.

"The population feels that the company is making a great effort, the company is doing its best," Torcida said. The Moatize administrator pointed out that a health survey was carried out on 10,000 residents, and no disease resulting from pollutants were detected, although health complications associated with other diseases were diagnosed.

COMMEMORATION

Absa Bank salutes customers for supporting its smooth transition

By Guardian Reporter

CUSTOMERS of Absa Bank Tanzania Limited have been commended for continuing to support the bank which has been on transition severing relations with Barclays Bank Plc of London.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam on Friday to mark this year's Customer Service Week, the bank's Chief Financial Officer, Obedi Laiser said Absa Bank Tanzania recognize its external dream team that has shown utmost dedication and provided extraordinary services customers.

"Indeed, the celebrations are about recognizing our longstanding customers who have been part of the story of our growth and change since 2000 when we first opened doors in Tanzania. Our ultimate aim and objective is to deliver the 'One Absa' customer experience consistently and seamlessly by increasing digital footprint by providing relevant products and services in these changing times," said Laiser.

Backing Laiser's observation was the bank's Head of Retail Products and Strategy, Heristraton Genesis who said the bank appreciates its customers' support which has enabled Absa Bank Tanzania to exist and prosper.

"We are having an ongoing initiative dubbed 'Great service starts

with me' to improve service delivery and turnaround time of serving customers while increasing individual accountability. We are brave, passionate and ready to continuously provide customers with the best service," Genesis said.

The bank's Head of Customer Experience and Digital, Samuel Mkuuy promised to provide customers with improved digital products aimed at meeting current needs. "The bank's strategy is to continually be relevant in the changing times hence several enhancements are being done to improve on service delivery with digital platforms," Mkuuy said.

"We are taking this opportunity to remind our valued customers on our service delivery promise and commitment. The year 2020 has proven that times are changing fast, and we are ready to prove to our customers that our service quality will rise to the occasion," he added.

Absa Bank Tanzania Limited is a subsidiary of South African based Absa Group Limited which is listed on Johannesburg Stock Exchange with presence in 12 African countries where it has approximately 40,000 employees.

Other countries where Absa has operations include Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Uganda and Zambia. In the country, Absa Group also owns National Bank of Commerce.



Absa Bank Tanzania's chief financial officer, Obedi Laiser (C), presents a certificate of appreciation to one of their "loyal" customer, long standing Prudence Masaku at a function organized to recognize loyal customers and partners to 2020 customer service week in Dar es Salaam on Friday. Looking on is the bank's head of corporate client service, Minal Sanghvi. Photo courtesy of Absa Tanzania.

Bank fetes clients in marking customer service week

By Guardian Reporter

CLIENTS with I&M Bank Tanzania Limited were given recognition for the crucial role that they play in its business activities while also commending staff for ensuring the highest standards of excellence and customer satisfaction.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam during the end of 2020 Customer Service Week, Head of Retail Banking, Lilian Mtali said at I&M Bank, they sought to embody Tanzanian hospitality with continue support and recognition of customer service officers and front desk staff. "From the moment customers are on-boarded, our customer service officers together with the support staff in the bank, have been working hard to ensure that their needs are met with positivity and satisfaction," Mtali said.

She said Customer Service Week is a period celebrated globally to recognise the importance of customers and the people who serve and support customers on daily basis. The event is celebrated annually during the first week of October by all service-oriented businesses and organizations around the world.

"Starting from the 5th of October 2020 all the way to 9th October 2020, I&M Bank

Tanzania marked the occasion which climaxed on Wednesday with number of activities and initiatives as a token of appreciations to our valued customers and as well as staff who play a key role in ensuring excellent customer services at all time," she added.

Among the exciting activities that the bank did was to have its senior management members play a role of customer service officers at branches and perform duties of servicing customers for a day. The week-long celebration was a result of I&M Bank's commitment in enhancing employees' engagement, supporting the world's theme of 'Dream Team.'

"In addition to the participation of the senior executive team, all customer service officers and staff across the bank received personalized letters of appreciation for their hard work and dedication in bringing positivity and happiness to all customers across the bank," the I&M Head of Retail Banking stated.

I&M Bank is a wholly owned subsidiary of I&M Holdings Limited, a listed company at Nairobi Securities Exchange. The bank has branches in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Kilimanjaro and Mwanza with plans to expand to other regions this year underway.



Lilian Mtali, Head of Retail Banking at I&M Bank Tanzania Limited.

WINDFALL

Investments drive up KPA profit by Sh3 billion after years of stagnation

NAIROBI

The Kenya Ports Authority's profit increased by more than Sh3 billion to Sh13.886 billion in 2019 with total capital and reserves almost doubling in the past one year. The increase in profit was a significant achievement taking into account the fact that the corporation's revenue growth has been flat since 2016.

According to KPA Financial Performance Report for the year ended 2019, KPA recorded increased total revenue from Sh45.358 billion in 2018 fiscal year to Sh53.258 billion last year while total expenditure increased from

Sh35.013 billion to Sh53.258 billion in the same period.

The total capital and reserves of the agency almost doubled from Sh123.370 billion in 2018 to \$287.492 billion in 2019 fiscal year, while its revaluation reserves almost tripled from Sh39.881 billion in 2018 to Sh111.646 billion in the subsequent financial year.

In 2019, KPA recorded Sh13.886 billion profit before tax compared to Sh10.345 billion in 2018 and Sh10.619 billion in 2017, while 2016 financial year recorded Sh10.469 billion. The increase in profit is attributed to efficiency at the Port of Mombasa as a result of heavy infrastructure investments.

The report indicates that KPA grants from the government increased from Sh13.041 billion in 2016/2017 fiscal year to Sh16.212 billion in 2017/2018, and then to Sh27.387 billion last year. The grants have been used in constructing Lamu port which is ready for commissioning after completion of three berths. Other projects are expansion of Mombasa Container Terminal 2 (CT2) and equipping the port with modern cargo handling equipment and the rehabilitation of the Kisumu port.

The expansion of the Mombasa port has resulted to the increase of cargo throughput especially on

transshipment cargo that also almost doubled from 121,577 TEUs in 2018 to 211,604 TEUs in 2019. Investment of more than Sh3 billion at the Kisumu port, however, continues to raise questions as the facility only received 41 vessels in 2019 with only one ship handled in December the same year.

Compared to Mombasa port, experts argue that investment at the Kisumu facility may not attain its objective. The number of vessels handled at the Kisumu facility for the 12 months of 2019 totals an average number of vessels recorded at the Port of Mombasa per month. KPA acting managing director Rashid Salim however expressed

optimism that business would pick after the completion of construction of Kisumu Phase 2.

"Kisumu port is already in operation after completion of construction of Phase One which included major repair on existing facilities, acquisition of required equipment / machinery and a face uplift of the Port. We expect the Port to be used by regional states once Second Phase, which is set to commence sometime next year, is complete," Mr Rashid said. Investment at the CT2 where dredging was taking place is at 56.3 percent completion and is expected to be completed by November 2021, he said.

The construction of the new terminal, Mr Rashid noted, was informed by the need to expand capacity ahead of demand to cope with the exponential growth in containerised traffic where the Port of Mombasa is expected to handle approximately 1.732 million twenty-foot equivalent unit (TEUs) up from the current 1.42 million TEUs by 2023.

The project, undertaken by a Japanese Company, TOYO Construction Company Ltd, involves construction of Berth No. 22 (300 metres long and 15 metres deep) to provide additional capacity of 450,000 TEUs.

RELIEF

Vodacom wins first round in big Lesotho battle

MASERU

Vodacom has won a round in its battle against the Lesotho regulator which revoked its licence on Thursday.

The Lesotho Communication Authority (LCA) said it stripped Vodacom of its licence for not paying a fine of more than R40 million. But Vodacom confirmed on Saturday night that the high court of Lesotho granted an interim order interdicting the Lesotho Communications Authority from revoking the company's licence.

The court also granted an interdict against the LCA's enforcing the payment of the fine it imposed on Vodacom. In terms of the court order, the LCA must on 23 October show cause why the interim order should not be made final order of the court, a Vodacom spokesperson confirmed to Business Insider.

"We assure citizens of Lesotho that we remain fully focussed on delivering great value and a superior customer experience to the 1.2 million people who have chosen us as their network provider of choice and the around 661 000 M-Pesa users who rely on us for inclusive access to financial services. In other words, it remains business as usual for all our valued customers."

In a strongly worded statement in Sesotho, the LCA last week accused Vodacom Lesotho of breaking governance rules by appointing an auditing firm associated with the sister-in-law of its chairperson, Matjato Moteane, to audit its accounts - which, the LCA pointed out, included the Lesotho community's money, which flows through Vodacom's payment system M-Pesa.

The LCA said that Vodacom showed "stubbornness" and "pride" after being confronted about this supposed breach, and accused it of trying to hold the nation at ransom because of its control of telecommunication in Lesotho.

It fined Vodacom R134 million, with 70% of the fine suspended as long as Vodacom comply with the licensing rules in future. Vodacom Lesotho managing director Philip Amoateng accused the LCA of showing "hostility" towards Vodacom.

Vodacom Lesotho was launched in 1996, and has 1.2 million clients. Vodacom has been clashing with the LCA for some time, reports The Post in Lesotho. The main source of contention is apparently how much the mobile company owed the LCA in annual fees, which are calculated as a percentage of the company's net operating income.

According to the publication, Vodacom does not consider its income from its mobile payment platform Mpesa as part of its income for purposes of calculation, while the LCA objects to this approach.



Vodacom Lesotho managing director Philip Amoateng.

WORLD

AMERICA'S CHOICE 2020: Trump no longer considered a transmission risk, doctor says

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump appeared back to his old self on Saturday as he addressed supporters at the White House in his first public event since being diagnosed with COVID-19 and his doctor said he was no longer a transmission risk.

Trump took a test on Saturday which showed he was no longer a "transmission risk to others," his physician Sean Conley said in a statement released seven hours after the White House event. The tests showed there was no longer evidence "of actively replicating virus," he added.

The White House had no immediate comment on whether Conley's statement meant Trump had actually tested negative for the coronavirus, which has infected nearly 77 million people in the United States and killed over 213,000.

Trump and his administration have faced criticism for their handling of the pandemic, as well as for a lax approach to mask-wearing and social distancing in the White House. At least 11 of his close aides have tested positive for the virus.

Standing alone and not wearing a mask, Trump spoke from a White House balcony on Saturday afternoon - his first public event since being diagnosed with the highly contagious disease. He was hospitalized on Oct 2 for treatment of COVID-19, and returned to the White House on Monday.

The Republican president, who is trailing Democratic challenger Joe Biden in national polls, urged a crowd of hundreds of largely Black and Latino supporters, most wearing masks but not following social distancing guidelines, to help get out the vote in the Nov 3 presidential election.

Eager to get back on the campaign trail after an absence of more than a week, Trump plans to travel to the key battleground state of Florida on Monday, followed by rallies in Pennsylvania and Iowa on Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively.

"I'm feeling great," he told the crowd. Speaking firmly and with no sign of the raspy throat evident in recent interviews, Trump delivered a shorter-than-usual campaign speech.



With two bandages on his hand, President Donald Trump removes his face mask to speak from the Blue Room Balcony of the White House to a crowd of supporters on Saturday, in Washington. (AP)

Trump is no longer a COVID-19 'transmission risk' - White House doctor

He attacked Democrats as pursuing a "socialist" or even "Communist" agenda, and hailed his own record in fighting crime and boosting the US economy, while flag-waving supporters cheered and chanted, "We love you."

A flesh-colored bandage was visible on his right hand.

While Trump's doctor had cleared him to resume public engagements from Saturday, other medical experts said the timeline appeared to be rushed.

Dr Sandy Nelson, an infectious diseases specialist at Massachusetts General Hospital, said public health guidelines allowed those with mild cases of COVID-19 to resume contacts 10 days after the onset of symptoms and after 24 hours with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications.

But for people who were hospitalized and required oxygen, such as Trump, the guidelines generally called for isolation of longer than 10 days and up to 20 days, she said.

"It's fair to say that he's meeting the time-based criteria, but those criteria are not designed for people who are hospitalized," she told Reuters.

In his statement on Saturday, Conley said the president's tests revealed decreasing viral loads and "decreasing and now undetectable subgenomic mRNA." He provided no further details.

Nelson, who is also a professor at Harvard Medical School, said the reference to mRNA was puzzling since the test was not used outside of research applications.

It was the first time Trump had appeared in public since his release from the hospital on Monday, when some observers said he appeared at times to

be short of breath.

The White House has released videos and Trump has called into television shows since then, but this was supporters' first chance to see the president live.

The White House has not disclosed when Trump last tested negative for COVID-19. He first revealed that he had tested positive on Oct 2.

Given the timeline, Nelson said it was possible that Trump was contagious on Sept. 27 during the first presidential debate with Biden. Biden, who has tested negative for the virus repeatedly, and again on Saturday, was probably safe, but would not be completely clear of the risk for two more days, she said.

The Biden campaign had no immediate comment on Trump's condition.

PANDEMIC HANDLING

Trump's speech on Saturday touched on scrapping former President Barack Obama's 'Obamacare' healthcare reform law, criminal justice reform, and the state of the economy.

Opinion polls increasingly show that as Election Day approaches, voters see Nov. 3 as a chance to cast a vote on Trump's handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

Trump repeated past calls for states to reopen their economies even as new cases of COVID-19 hit a two-month high on Friday. A Reuters analysis showed more than 58,000 infections were reported and hospitalizations in the Midwest hit a record for a fifth successive day.

Democrats and some commentators criticized Saturday's event for potentially exposing a new batch of supporters to the virus and for using a federal building as an election prop. **Agencies**

UN chief welcomes Nagorno-Karabakh cease-fire agreement

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Saturday welcomed the agreement on a humanitarian cease-fire in Nagorno-Karabakh announced on Friday by the foreign ministers of Russia, Azerbaijan and Armenia, said his spokesman.

Guterres called for the cease-fire to be respected and for a swift

agreement on the specific parameters of the cease-fire regime, said Stephane Dujarric, the spokesman, in a statement.

The secretary-general commended Russia for its mediation efforts, and welcomed the commitments by Armenia and Azerbaijan to beginning substantive negotiations under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

(OSCE) Minsk Group Co-Chairs - representatives from France, Russia and the United States.

Guterres appealed to the international community to support the cease-fire agreement and continue to encourage the parties to resolve their differences through peaceful means, said the statement.

Under the cease-fire agreement, the specific parameters of which

will be agreed on additionally, Armenia and Azerbaijan will exchange prisoners, other detained persons, and bodies of the dead under the mediation of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The two countries agreed to begin substantive negotiations for a peaceful settlement as soon as possible under the mediation of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs.

Armenia and Azerbaijan have been at loggerheads over the mountainous region of Nagorno-Karabakh since 1988. Peace talks have been held since 1994 when a cease-fire was reached, but there have been sporadic minor clashes.

A new round of armed conflict broke out along the contact line on Sept. 27. The clashes have reportedly caused heavy casualties. **Xinhua**

Nurses 'suffer burn-out, psychological distress' in virus fight

GENEVA

MANY nurses caring for COVID-19 patients are suffering burn-out or psychological distress, and many have faced abuse or discrimination outside of work, the International Council of Nurses (ICN) said.

Supplies of personal protective equipment for nurses and other health workers in some care homes remain insufficient, it said, marking World Mental Health Day on Saturday.

"We are extremely concerned about the mental health impact on nurses," Howard Catton, a British nurse who is the ICN's chief executive, told Reuters Television at the association's headquarters in Geneva.

"Our most recent survey of na-



Nurses arrive to pick up people who have recovered from COVID-19 at a hotel designated to treat asymptomatic patients in Karawaci, Indonesia's Banten province on Oct 5, 2020. (File photo)

tional nurses' associations shows that more than 70 percent of them (the associations) were saying that nurses have been subject to violence or discrimination and as a result of that they are very concerned about extreme cases of psychological distress and mental health pressure," he said.

The figure was based on responses from roughly a quarter of its national nurses' associations in more than 130 countries.

Nurses face a broad spectrum of issues that affect their mental health, including physical and verbal abuse, Catton said.

"There are nurses who have been subject to discrimination, where their landlord has not renewed their lease for their apartment, or they can't get child care for their children," he said, with-

out giving specifics of physical or verbal abuse. ICN has lobbied for better protection and working conditions for nurses on the front lines of the pandemic.

"We still continue to see problems with the supplies personal protective equipment. There have been improvements, particularly in hospitals," Catton said.

But some care homes and long-term care facilities in Europe, and in North and South America still lack supplies, he said, citing its members' survey.

The World Health Organization said last Monday that services for mentally ill and substance abuse patients have been disrupted worldwide during the pandemic, and COVID-19 is expected to cause further distress for many. **Agencies**

France: Brexit deal needs to be done by start of Nov

PARIS / LONDON



THE European Union and Britain must reach an agreement on their post-Brexit ties by the start of November, France's European affairs minister said yesterday, but the bloc would not accept a bad deal just for the sake of reaching a compromise.

"There needs to be an agreement in the coming weeks. That means around the beginning of November," Clement Beaune told FranceInfo radio.

"We must not lose our calm in the final days of negotiations because that is sometimes when bad concessions are made."

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson told French President Emmanuel Macron on Saturday that he would explore every avenue for a trade deal with the European Union but said progress to bridge significant gaps needed to be made in the coming days.

Johnson has set a deadline of the Oct 15 EU summit for agreeing a deal, and the EU is seeking a few more concessions before entering the final phase of negotiations.

"(Johnson) confirmed the UK's commitment to exploring every avenue to reach an agreement," Johnson's Downing Street office said in a read-out of the call.

"The Prime Minister emphasised that progress must be made in the coming days to bridge the significant gaps, notably in the areas of fisheries and the level playing field, through the process of intensive talks between Chief Negotiators."

The two chief negotiators, the EU's Michel Barnier and Britain's David Frost, say they are inching towards a deal ahead of the Oct. 15 deadline, though they have underscored that important gaps remain.

Johnson told Macron that Britain wanted a deal, but not at any price.

"He underlined that a deal was better for both sides, but also that the UK was prepared to end the transition period on Australia-style terms if an agreement could not be found," Johnson's office said.

Putin says no friends in big politics

MOSCOW



RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has said that there are no friends in big politics.

"Actually, there are no friends in big politics," Putin (pictured) said in an interview for the Moscow. The Kremlin. Putin programme.

An excerpt from the program was posted on journalist Pavel Zarubin's Instagram account on Saturday.

Earlier, in his address to the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 22, Russian President Vladimir Putin said that "there have been cases showing the deficit of humanity and, if you will, kindness in the relations at the official inter-State level." **Agencies**

IFAD's president says rural areas are key to fighting global hunger and poverty

ROME

WITH most of the world's hungriest and poorest people in rural areas, the president of the International Fund for Agricultural Development said the world needed more investments in global food systems, with an eye to making them more "inclusive, sustainable, nutritious, inclusive, and efficient."

Gilbert F. Hounbo, since 2017 president of the United Nations fund best known as IFAD, told Xinhua in an exclusive interview that the only effective strategy for fighting global hunger is to address the problem in rural areas.

"Many people associate poverty and food insecurity with slums and urban areas, but poverty and hunger are actually deepest in rural areas," Hounbo said.

"Many of those who are hungry are small-scale farmers and farm workers themselves, whose production and incomes are too low or too unpredictable because they don't have access to the right inputs, or because they are faced with other challenges."

Hounbo called for more support for food producers, particularly small-scale producers, in order to make sure the food they produce can get to markets cheaply while making sure vulnerable populations have access to those markets.

"We have to make sure food supply chains work for all vulnerable people, from small-scale producers to billions of consumers," Hounbo said, noting that IFAD is the only multilateral fund specifically dedicated to fighting poverty and hunger in rural areas. **Xinhua**

Mixed rice-crayfish farming leads new way of poverty alleviation in China

A new round of crayfish season has just started in many rice-crayfish fields in southern China.

In Duchang, Jiangxi, the rice-crayfish farming mode is bringing an net income of 3,000 yuan (\$439) per mu (667 square meters) to local farmers. Compared with rice planting, the output of the mixed mode at least doubled. The rice-crayfish farming mode has already become a new path of poverty alleviation for local farmers.

China has a long history of fish-farming in rice fields. As ear-

ly as more than 2,000 years ago, ancient Chinese had already been self-sufficient by planting rice and breeding fish in same fields. As one of the mixed rice-fishing farming mode, rice-crayfish farming is an important method for farmers to increase income, because it not only generates hundreds of kilograms of crayfish every mu, but also improves the quality of rice.

Compared with traditional rice planting, this mode is able to generate win-win results. The rice, which grows with the crayfish, needs no pesticides or

fertilizer, and the crayfish in the rice paddies can loosen the soil and kill pests. Besides, the excrement of the crayfish also serves as natural fertilizer.

The rice grown in such a green manner is several times more expensive than traditional ones, and some are even priced at over 20 yuan per kilogram.

As rent, price of agricultural materials and labor charges rise in recent years, there's a growth in the cost of crop plating. In a word, the rice-crayfish farming exactly mirrors the adjustment of grain production.

When traditional planting methods are seeing reduced profits and the market demanding more green and quality agricultural products, grain growers must change their farming mode.

Duchang, promoting the mode of rice-crayfish farming, has expanded the income channels for farmers and made the used-to-be low-output fields prosperous. It has achieved favorable results in both ecology and economy. More and more farmers are trying to mix husbandry with rice planting in

their paddies.

The adjustment of agricultural production modes calls for appropriate means that suit local conditions. On one hand, supporting facilities are needed to bring the new modes into full play; on the other hand, adjustment needs to be made according to local climates and resources.

For instance, Anhui Province's Lujiang is growing milk vetch, a kind of green manure, in rice paddies during winter, which has largely increased the organic content of the soil. Xinan

village in Suihua, Heilongjiang Province has built a rice field theme park for both production and tourism.

On the production end, farmers must increase the value added of their products, reduce the usage of fertilizers and pesticides, and stretch the industrial line to promote the supply-side structural reform in the agricultural sector, and realize high-quality, high-profit, and sustainable development of agriculture.

The reason for the large promotion of mixed rice-fishing

farming is that it not only enriches the side products in the rice fields, but also consolidates the basis for grain production and improves rice quality.

According to experts, crayfish and fish breeding in the rice fields is able to increase the leaf nitrogen content of the rice during tillering and postulation periods. Besides, it also improves the ear bearing tiller rate of the rice.

In addition, abandoned farmlands are re-exploited in this mode, which effectively expanded the area of grain planting.



Farmers dry, sort and pack chilies in a village in Wulanzaigesen township, Bohu county, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Sept. 28. File photo

China works to ensure long-term peace, stability for Xinjiang

THE long-term peace and stability of Xinjiang concerns the general reform and development of China, the national unity and ethnic solidarity of China, as well as the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. It is also an ultimate goal of China's work related to Xinjiang for the present and the years to come.

During the third central symposium on work related to Xinjiang held recently, Chinese President Xi Jinping demanded law-based governance and long-term efforts to develop Xinjiang, so as to continuously consolidate ethnic solidarity with a sense of community of the Chinese nation.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, raised the general goal to maintain long-term peace and stability for Xinjiang during the second central symposium on work related to Xinjiang in 2014. It is a major strategic decision made by the CPC Central Committee based on the situation in both the autonomous region and the whole country, which made clear the priorities of the work related to Xinjiang.

Arduous efforts have been made by all parties, leading to major achievements in the work related to Xinjiang. There have been no terrorist attacks in the autonomous regions for three years and nine months so far; the fight against extremism achieved remarkable progress; public order and security have returned to society; unprecedented achievements have been made in economic and social development, as well as livelihood improvement. Besides, the senses of gain, contentment and security of people from all ethnic groups have been enhanced.

Practices proved that the governance strategy for Xinjiang made by the CPC Central Committee with Xi at the core is completely correct, and all work related to the autonomous region shall be carried out for realizing the general goal of achieving long-term peace and stability.

Contradictions come in priority, and only addressing the principal contradictions can the general situation be stabilized. As long as China aims at the general goal, it is able to ensure law-based governance and long-term efforts to develop Xinjiang into a region that is united, harmonious, prosperous, and culturally advanced.

To achieve the general goal calls for efforts to ensure the general stability of Xinjiang. People from all ethnic groups in the autonomous region have realized from the practices in the recent years that stability is the most important livelihood, as well as the lifeline for Xinjiang's development and prosperity.

A prosperous Xinjiang shall be stable and harmonious. The autonomous region today is in a period of unprecedented prosperity, which needs a stable social environment more than ever.

It must be realized that the work related to Xinjiang is complicated and

arduous and calls for long-term efforts. The country must further enhance social stability in the region, hold high the banner of the socialist rule of law, carry forward the spirit of the rule of law, and comprehensively promoting law-based governance, so as to improve the law-based social governance model under which Party committees exercise leadership, government assumes responsibility, non-governmental actors provide assistance, and the public get involved, and establish a social governance model based on collaboration, participation, and common interests.

To achieve the general goal calls for concerted efforts to address the deep-rooted problems concerning long-term peace and stability. The sense of community of the Chinese nation is the basis for national unity, ethnic solidarity and mental strength.

Xinjiang, since ancient times, has been an inhabitant for various ethnic groups, and they are all members of the Chinese nation. The country must build stronger the sense of community of the Chinese nation, strengthen the studies on the history of the community of the Chinese nation and the "diversity in unity" of the Chinese nation, incorporate the sense of community of the Chinese nation into the Party members, youth, and social education in Xinjiang, guide the cadres and people from all ethnic groups in the autonomous region to build the correct views of country, history, nation, culture and religious, so as to plant the sense of community of the Chinese nation deep in their hearts.

Besides, the country should continue strengthening education on ethnic unity and progress at all levels, and promote the exchange, communication and integration of all ethnic groups. It should fully implement the Party's fundamental policy on religious affairs and guide Islam in Xinjiang to adapt to China's realities, so as to help religions develop healthily.

Besides, the country must enhance work in the ideological field, carry out cultural projects in Xinjiang, and build a common homeland for all ethnic groups.

Nothing is more beneficial than stability, and nothing is more detrimental than chaos." The long-term peace and stability in Xinjiang is a fundamental interest of the 25 million people in the autonomous region, as well as a common aspiration of the 1.4 billion Chinese people.

As long as China works for the general goal, and deepens its understanding of the CPC's governance strategy for Xinjiang in the new era, it is able to develop Xinjiang into a region that is united, harmonious, prosperous, and culturally advanced, with healthy ecosystems and people living and working in contentment.

People's Daily

South Sudan to change national currency to shore up economy

JUBA

SOUTH Sudan's government on Friday said it will soon be changing its currency in a bid to shore up its economy following continued depreciation of the pound against the U.S. dollar.

Michael Makuei Lueth, Minister of Information and Broadcasting said the decision came after the cabinet realized that the majority of the popu-

lation were still holding on to the South Sudanese Pound (SSP) in their homes instead of banks. "Most of the citizens are actually holding currency in their houses, and most of them hold the currency because they fear that when they take their money to the bank it may be confiscated. So the cabinet has decided that the currency should be changed, so that anybody who does not take the money to the bank is left out and will lose it," Lueth told journalists in Juba, af-

ter the weekly cabinet meeting. "This is an advice to those who are holding the local currency in their houses to hurry it to the banks now, so that you avoid queuing up when the time comes for exchanging the currency," he added.

President Salva Kiir earlier on set up the economic cluster committee to investigate mismanagement of non-oil revenue and also to come up with recommendations to revive the falling economy. **Xinhua**

Second US presidential debate between Trump, Biden canceled



US President Donald Trump (left) and Democratic Presidential candidate and former US Vice President Joe Biden exchange arguments during the first presidential debate at Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio on September 29, 2020. (AFP)

By Bloomberg

THE Commission on Public Debates officially canceled the town hall-style debate between President Donald Trump and Democratic nominee Joe Biden scheduled for Oct 15.

The commission's decision comes after the Trump team rejected its plans to make the debate virtual citing concern about the coronavirus. The Biden campaign has since announced an alternative event for the same night.

"It is now apparent there will be no debate on October 15, and the CPD will turn its attention to preparations for the final presidential debate scheduled for October 22," the commission said in a statement. "Subject to health security considerations, and in accordance with all required testing, masking, social distancing and other protocols, the debate will take place at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee."

The Oct 15 debate was to be in Miami moderated by C-SPAN's Steve Scully. The

CPD announced Thursday that it would be done remotely, but the Trump campaign refused, demanding that it be held in-person. "No I'm not going to waste my time on a virtual debate," Trump said in a telephone interview with Fox Business Thursday. "That's not what debating's about."

The decision to make the debate virtual came after Trump was diagnosed with Covid-19 and hospitalized for three nights over the weekend. His campaign has insisted that he would be fully convalesced by the time of the Oct 15 debate. Biden spokesman Andrew Bates said it was "shameful" that Trump backed out of the only town hall-style debate of the three planned meetings.

"Everyone knows that Donald Trump likes to bully reporters, but obviously he doesn't have the guts to answer for his record to voters at the same time as Vice President Biden," he said.

Tim Murtaugh, the Trump campaign's director of communications, said there was "no medical reason to stop the Oc-

tober 15 debate in Miami from proceeding since the President will be healthy and ready to debate." He said the CPD was biased in Biden's favor, and reprinted an offer to add a debate on Oct. 29. The Biden team rejected that proposal on Thursday.

"It's time for the biased commission to stop protecting Biden and preventing voters from hearing from the two candidates for president," Murtaugh said. "There's nothing that says that President Trump and Joe Biden can't debate together without the overlords at the commission having a say in the matter."

Both candidates have made other plans for Oct 15 Biden will participate in a town hall in Philadelphia hosted by ABC News and moderated by George Stephanopoulos. Trump campaign manager Bill Stepien said Thursday the president would hold a rally, but CNN reported that he was in talks with NBC News about taking part in a town hall in Miami. **Agencies**

Azerbaijani, Armenian top diplomats sign joint document after talks in Moscow - Lavrov

MOSCOW

A CEASEFIRE agreement in Nagorno-Karabakh starting on 12:00 on October 10 has been reached after trilateral consultations in Moscow between foreign ministers of Russia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said on Saturday.

"A ceasefire is declared to begin on October 10 at 12:00 with the humanitarian aim of exchanging prisoners of war and other captured persons as well as to exchange bodies of victims with the facilitation of the International Committee of the Red Cross and in line with its regulations," Lavrov stated early on

Saturday citing a joint statement, signed by the foreign ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan.

"Detailed parameters of the ceasefire regime will be agreed upon in the near future," the Russian minister stated citing the signed document.

The document also states that Azerbaijan and Armenia agreed to begin practical talks with the mediation of the OSCE Minsk Group representatives on the peace settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh.

"The Republics of Azerbaijan and Armenia, with the mediation of the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs and based on the

principles of conflict settlements, begin practical negotiations with the main task of reaching the peace settlement as soon as possible," the statement from the Russian Foreign Ministry reads.

"All involved parties have confirmed their adherence to the invariability of the negotiating process," the statement added.

Azerbaijan and Armenia agreed to begin practical talks with the mediation of the OSCE Minsk Group representatives on the peace settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh, a joint statement, adopted by the Russian, Armenian and Azerbaijani foreign ministers, said. **Agencies**

HISTORY is created by the people, and the China-US relationship is also jointly built by the Chinese and American peoples. The friendship between the two countries carries incalculable efforts made by the two peoples over the past decades, and will never be broken by the political manipulation of certain US politicians.

To develop China-US relations, the fundamental interests of the two peoples must be safeguarded. However, some US politicians, out of political prejudices and the pursuit for private interests, are fanning the so-called "China threat" and abusing "national security" to hinder the normal exchanges between China and the US and unilaterally make troubles and conflicts.

People's aspiration for cooperation shall never be violated

Especially after the COVID-19 outbreak, they made use of the panic and fear of the US public, misguided the latter with political virus, and even shut the window for communication between Chinese and Americans, just to cover their failure of pandemic response and domestic governance. It has damaged both the normal development of China-US relations and non-governmental exchanges.

There's an old Chinese saying that a man cannot cure a fatal wound at all with the little advantage he's got by cheating, and what he gains is far less than what he loses. We must see that the extreme anti-China forces of the US, deceiving the public and manipu-

lating public opinions, run totally against the fundamental interests of the two peoples. Their attempts to escalate disputes between China and the US and divert public attention of the American people will not work.

Even at the time when the Chinese and Americans had very limited communication, the then US Ambassador to China Anson Burlingame appointed by former US President Abraham Lincoln was able to feel the harmony engraved in the Chinese culture, saying China came with no threat, but with a belief that "Don't do unto others what you don't want others do unto you", a Confucian philosophy that has been passed on for over

2,300 years.

Today we are living in an era of globalization, in which more and more Americans have felt the Chinese vision for peaceful development. The US politicians who want to misguide the US public with lies might get temporary gains, but they will eventually lose.

At present, the US ranks the first in the world in terms of COVID-19 infections and deaths. According to statistics released by the country, its GDP shrank at an annual rate of 31.7 percent during the April-June quarter, the sharpest quarterly decline since 1940s. Over 14 million U.S. citizens applied for unemployment relief. By the end of July, about 12.1 percent

of US adults reported that their households sometimes or often experienced food insufficiency in the previous week. Unquestionably, what the U.S. public really need now are practical measures to save lives, revive economy and recover employment. Just as Joseph Nye, a professor at Harvard University stressed, responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, China and the US need to cooperate, rather than certain US politicians trying to influence the public and preaching a new type of Cold-War-like relation with China.

State-to-state relations are underpinned by people-to-people relations. They need support from the people and eventually serve

the people.

The Chinese and Americans are always friendly to each other, and have never ceased the steps to seek exchanges and mutually beneficial cooperation. History has already proved that, the handshake which came across the vast Pacific Ocean between former U.S. President Richard Nixon and late Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai, the trans-Pacific cooperation, as well as all other China-US exchanges, all conformed to the aspiration of and benefited the Chinese and American peoples.

The US government refused to recognize the People's Republic of China when the latter was just founded, which set China-US rela-

China-Africa cooperation sets model for international win-win cooperation

BEIJING

UNFAZED by the ravaging and disruptive novel coronavirus pandemic, a new international air cargo route linking the central Chinese city of Wuhan and Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa was launched at the end of last month.

The new air route, whose maiden flight brought testing kits, face masks and other urgently needed materials to Africans fighting to contain the outbreak, reflects the vitality of China-Africa cooperation for which the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) has been constantly working over the past 20 years.

Through two decades of cultivation, FOCAC has grown into a key platform for collective dialogue and practical cooperation between China and African countries, and has also maintained a leading position in global cooperation with Africa.

At the first ministerial conference of FOCAC held in Beijing on Oct. 10 in 2000, China and Africa proposed a new type of partnership featuring long-term stability, equality and mutual benefit. Upholding such a spirit, FOCAC has yielded tangible results in promoting win-win cooperation between the two sides and also the development of the African continent.

Over the years, China has been helping boost Africa's industrialization process and enhance its capacity for independent development. It has built over 6,000 km of railways and roads, respectively, as well as nearly 20 ports and more than 80 large power plants across the continent.

The launch of FOCAC has moved South-South cooperation to a whole new level in the 21st century, providing a new strategic framework for collaboration in Africa's industrialization and infrastructure, said Peter Kagwanja, CEO of regional think tank Africa Policy Institute, in a commentary published in Kenyan newspaper Sunday Nation.

Moreover, China has been serving as a strong driving force for Africa's sustained economic growth. China has been Africa's largest trading partner for 11 years in a row, and bilateral trade exceeded 200 billion U.S. dollars in 2019. China's stock of direct investment in Africa has reached 110 billion dollars, and over 3,700 Chinese enterprises have invested and started businesses in various parts of Africa.

The booming China-Africa cooperation has also made countries worldwide further recognize the potential for investment and growth in the continent.

"Through FOCAC and other forums, China has worked to ensure that Africa's development is prominent on the international agenda," South African President Cyril Ramaphosa told the 2018 Beijing Summit of the FOCAC.

Apart from these achievements, the FOCAC mechanism has also risen to become a key venue for the two sides to weather rising global crises and challenges together.

Earlier this year, when China was fighting hard against the novel coronavirus, many African countries rushed to the aid of the Chinese people, delivering badly needed medical supplies.

Later, China has also extended a helping hand to the continent when it is under the attack of the virus. According to a communique issued on June 13 by the African Union, China ensured the supply of 30 million testing kits, 10,000 ventilators and 80 million masks each month for Africa, a "significant contribution."

Xinhua



Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president, Wallace Karia, speaks at a function which had the federation signing contract with Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) to financially back the senior national football team 'Taifa Stars', in Dar es Salaam last week. The SBL sponsors Taifa Stars through the Serengeti Premium Lager brand. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SBL

It is all systems go as SBL renews Taifa Stars sponsorship

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

THE ravages of the novel Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic has had far-reaching impacts on global business, with a further debilitating upshot befalling the sports sector.

The cancellation of mass gatherings as countries imposed strict lockdown restrictions to contain the impending rapid transmissions and spread of the virus meant that most of the stadia, the beloved destination for sports enthusiasts, remained empty.

The situation denied sports' spectators their favourite pastimes and, more significantly, caused massive reduction in revenue streams through decreased earnings in broadcast rights, sponsorship payments and match-day operations.

To buttress the seriousness of Covid-19 pandemic on sports sponsorship, it has been estimated that between \$50 billion and \$60 billion has so far been lost this year as the industry reels under cancellation of events and cancelled contracts.

Granted, the companies that provide the bulk of the sponsorships are themselves bedeviled by reduced revenues with their focus mainly being on staying afloat and conserving their little income they are generating from their gagged businesses.

It is under this uncertain background that Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) has renewed its financial backing for the Tanzania's senior national soccer team, Taifa Stars, through Serengeti Premium Lager brand.

The contract renewal has reassured Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) of another three-year stint of financial freedom after the expiry of the contract of a similar period, signed in 2017.

In the just-expired contract, SBL, courtesy of its flagship beer brand, Serengeti Premium Lager, had pumped into 2.1bn/- while in this new contract, perhaps due to Taifa Stars' encouraging showing within the last three years, the brewers have increased the sponsorship to a whopping 3bn/-.

The addition of the fund could either be attributed to SBL's confidence in TFF management or the team's sterling performance.

The team have achieved the near-impossible feat of qualifying for the prestigious Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) finals, held in Egypt last year, after a 38-year absence in the event.

Either way, the deal has been inked. It is now upon TFF to propel the national team to not only higher continental heights but also global soccer glory, now that they no longer have to contend with financial woes that were hitherto their achilles' heel.

Mark Ocitti, SBL's Managing Director, made it clear during the ceremony for renewing the contract that the beer makers considered Taifa Stars' exemplary performance when deciding on whether to renew the contract or not.

"We have decided to renew the sponsor-

ship for Taifa Stars after having been motivated by the national team's exemplary performance within the past three years of our sponsorship and the enthusiasm displayed by soccer lovers across the country", Ocitti said.

His comments indicated that the sponsorship was, on the one hand, performance-based and the other hand, pegged on sociological factors.

An upbeat TFF president, Wallace Karia, perhaps holds the four aces and has the answer to the question on Taifa Stars' future prospects.

He disclosed: "The renewal of this sponsorship is a clear testimony to the confidence that SBL has on TFF leadership, we promise that we will not let SBL down."

"We will, instead, endeavour to ensure that the money is spent prudently in order to catapult Taifa Stars to even higher altitudes of soccer excellence."

Karia issued the comments with the confidence of a man who knows too well that the destiny of the national team, for now, is in his hands.

The sponsorship too received thumbs up from the government with the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Hassan Abbas, who had attended the ceremony, applauding SBL for renewing the contract.

He disclosed that the SBL is evidently a reliable stakeholder in the development of sports in the country.

Soccer enthusiasts and indeed all sports stakeholders who have now sighed with relief after a few months of uncertainty about the renewal of sponsorship, are looking forward to a rejuvenated national team that is eager to go places now that the driver's foot is firmly on the accelerator pedal.

Sports play a significant role in the lives of many, bringing families, friends, towns and cities and a whole nation together, something that SBL, once again, has endeavoured to do through the sponsorship.

The SBL deserves praise for doing the well-nigh-impossible at a time when most of the companies are shying away from investing in sponsorships due to tight budgets occasioned by Covid-19 pandemic.

The sponsorship has come at a time most companies, which exist on budgets previously allocated for sponsorships, activities, agencies and people, have either been repurposed or remixed to different mediums.

These are difficult times for sports at both local and global levels whereby forecasts have shown that global sports sponsorship revenues have fallen by GBP 14.1 billion this year due to the Covid-19 phenomenon.

Worse still, global sports endorsement deals that were worth over \$55 billion in 2019 have shrunk irredeemably as companies are now cutting marketing budgets and considerably cutting their overall spending as they are focusing on survival amid an unpredictable future.

Lamine Moro: Leader and skipper for Yanga

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL MWEBE

YOUNG Africans SC (Yanga) named the side's defender Lamine Moro as the new permanent captain of the club in the ongoing season.

The Jangwani Street giants were yet to name a full-time captain for the 2020-21 season with Deus Kaseke, Haruna Niyonzima, and Moro taking turns to wear the skipper armband in different matches.

On Wednesday the club confirmed the appointment of Moro, who has already scored two league goals this season.

New signings, Bakari Mwamnyeto and Mukoko Tonombe, will stand in for Moro if and when he is unavailable.

Accusations of Yanga lacking leadership have been commonplace since the exit of midfielder Papy Tshishimbi.

The Congolese midfield dynamo angered the club officials when he took too long to accept a new contract offer.

He was released together with other 13 players despite being one of the key figures in his three-year spell at the Jangwani Street side.

Yanga needed a new captain but Kaseke and Niyonzima, the two temporary appointments, were uncomfortable choices for different reasons.

Ask the majority of Yanga supporters and Kaseke, Niyonzima would not make the fans' recommendations on the side's strongest XI at the moment.

Kaseke is a player seen as a leader by his team-mates but not trusted by the crowd.

Kaseke has been at Yanga since 2015, joining from Mbeya City FC.

He spent one season at Singida



Yanga defender, Lamine Moro. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

United before making his second spell at Yanga.

His time at Jangwani Street club has been filled with ups and downs, with a lack of consistency being his biggest issue.

Niyonzima has been at the club since 2011 and remains a popular figure, who could have been an option, but his two-year spell at age old rivals Simba SC means he is not fully trusted as he used to be in his first six years at Yanga.

Regardless of how good a leader or how well respected he

is, the 30-year-old Niyonzima is not a guaranteed starter in this Yanga side.

Appointing him as captain, for that matter, would not have been a smart choice.

With many questions over Kaseke and Niyonzima, that left Moro as the clear favourite for the armband.

Having already worn the captain's armband in this season's matches, it should come as no surprise Moro is the chosen numero uno captain, and Yanga have now made the

move official.

It is clear to see that the Ghanaian performances, communication and attitude on the pitch surely fits the role of what is expected of a captain.

Moro is a grafter and fighter and when the chips are down and Yanga are on the receiving end, he mixes up the game to remind the opposition that there are two sides in the contest.

Moro's availability played a huge part. The Ghanaian is a guaranteed starter and since his arrival at the start of last season, nobody at Yanga has played more matches than him.

He may not be blessed with the flair skills of modern defenders, but he is a solid defender who is not shy of a crunching tackle.

He can dig in, do the simple things well, motivate the slackers and possess the necessary leadership qualities.

Even before he wore the armband you would see him organise and galvanise the players around him, reminding them what was expected and that they could do much better.

He has proved to be a leader who is not afraid of shouting and barking orders to get the best out of those around him.

Given his past disciplinary record both on and off the pitch, he can be accused of not conducting himself as a professional at all times.

I am convinced he should be given the benefit of doubt that the armband would improve his patchy disciplinary record. To whom much is given, much is expected.

He does not need to be reminded more is expected from him and he should set high examples for others.

Arusha Women Football Association set for maiden election next month

BY CORRESPONDENT MARC NKWAME, ARUSHA

THE proposed Arusha Women Football Association will be staging its maiden election in the second week of next month, according to the Arusha Regional Football Association (ARFA).

The ARFA Electoral Committee's Chairman, Peter Nyamwero, said the polls will be conducted on November 15 and winners will be announced on the same day.

Prior to that, he said, the Arusha District Football Association is expected to conduct its election on November 8 this year.

He stated the regional women soccer association's election, though, is attracting all attention at the moment.

The contesting forms for the two forthcoming elections will be issued to interested candidates in the course of this week.

He noted the election forms will be procured from the ARFA offices here.

The regional women soccer association's election will feature heated debates and campaigns towards the mid-November polls.

"We shall conduct interviews to all contenders on November 10 2020 and members will have up to November 13 to lodge any com-

plaints regarding the candidates, after which campaigns towards the general polls will start," Nyamwero explained.

The Arusha women soccer clubs' members are expected to elect their new regional office bearers including Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary General, Assistant Secretary, Members of Annual General Meetings, Club Representatives and three members of executive committee.

Requirements for the candidates, the ARFA official disclosed, include a minimum age of 21, an Ordinary Level Secondary School Certification

and a valid National Identity Card.

Each of the candidates must also be an expert in sports with a track record in football development issues spanning not less than three years.

Vying for the posts does not come cheap, given one has to fork out 100,000/- to get forms for the major positions and 50,000/- for deputy office slots.

Arusha had yet to have its own women soccer association, despite the fact that the region is already floating a competent women football outfit, Tanzanite Queens, which plays in Mainland Women Premier League.

French Open champion Swiatek breaking the mould

PARIS

NEWLY-CROWNED French Open champion Iga Swiatek is not your standard academy-honed tennis prodigy nor, for the matter, is she your typical teenager.

For a start she eschews the latest pop music trends and lists Pink Floyd, AC/DC and Santana as her favourite bands. She also enjoys historical novels and meditating before bed.

Put her on a tennis court and the 19-year-old brings a cerebral and inventive style that is a refreshing change to the often pre-programmed games of some of her peers.

What is more, it is devastatingly effective as she demonstrated again on Saturday while beating American Sofia Kenin 6-4 6-1 to become Poland's first Grand Slam singles champion.

Swiatek, the youngest French Open women's winner since Monica Seles in 1992, dropped only 28 games in seven matches here, including a first-round win over 2019 runner-up Marketa Vondrousova and a last-16 trouncing of top seed Simona Halep.



Poland's Iga Swiatek lifts the trophy after winning the final match of the French Open tennis tournament against Sofia Kenin of the U.S. in two sets 6-4, 6-1, at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, France, Saturday, Oct. 10, 2020. (AP Photo)

She warmed up for the final on Friday not by practising and relaxing, but by contesting a doubles semi-final, after which she said she would approach the singles final not caring too much whether she won or lost.

If that was meant to allow her to play with the freedom to showcase her style it worked a treat.

She struck 25 winners in an ultimately one-sided match, many of which seemed to take Kenin completely off guard.

Swiatek has a big spinny forehand but can also flatten it for extra zip and her use of angles and ability to spot an opening are a gift that coaches would love to bottle.

Trailing 1-0 in the second set on Saturday she broke back with a whipped backhand, delivered down the line from out wide -- just one example of her ability to improvise and manipulate the tennis ball. There were also several drop shots that veered off at 90 degrees after bouncing.

Asked what she does differently to other players, Swiatek said she would have to play against herself to know, but added: "Really, I mean, I just have

my instincts. I think this is helping me a lot."

Despite her amazing breakthrough that will launch her into the world's top 20, Swiatek said she cannot even consider herself the best player Poland has produced, pointing to now-retired former Wimbledon runner-up Agnieszka Radwanska.

She also said her next target was to reach a level of consistency that has proved troublesome for some of the other women players after claiming maiden Grand Slam titles.

"I think this is what women's tennis is struggling with," she said. "That's why we have so many new Grand Slam winners because we are not as consistent as like Rafa (Nadal), Roger (Federer), and Novak (Djokovic). That's why my goal is going to be to be consistent. It's going to be really hard to achieve that."

REUTERS

Morocco impress, Ghana crumble, Micho fumes as Africa enters international window

BY ED DOVE, SPECIAL TO ESPN

AFRICA's national teams have returned to competition for the first time in 11 months, with a series of friendlies involving the continent's biggest nations.

North African trio Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria enjoyed outings to remember, but the same could not be said for Nigeria, Ghana and Senegal, all of whom have much work to do before Africa Cup of Nations qualifying resume in November.

Here are the main talking points to have emerged from Africa's international matches so far this window.

Morocco bounce back after Munir decision

Morocco were hoping to welcome former Spain forward Munir El Haddadi to the fold during this window, in light of FIFA's decision in September to allow nationality switches for players who had already represented one side in a full competitive international.

However, only hours before Friday's meeting with Senegal, the Royal Moroccan Football Federation issued a statement announcing that Munir's long-awaited debut had been put on ice after FIFA blocked his nationality switch.

The Atlas Lions were nevertheless the most impressive of Africa's heavyweights on Friday, dispatching Afcon finalists Senegal with ease in Rabat.

The North Africans took a 3-0 lead before Ismaila Sarr pulled one goal back late on, and they were fluid and incisive under Vahid Halilhodzic.

Youssef En-Nesyri, Youssef El Arabi and scored for Morocco, but Achraf Hakimi, playing wide on the right, was their outstanding player, notably providing a fine assist for the opener.

Even without Munir, this performance -- and the result -- suggested that Morocco could be the African team to watch across this next two-year cycle.

Dual nationals lead debutants across Africa

Much has been made of the talent drain to Europe -- Bukayo Saka (England), Adama Traore (Spain), Houssem Aouar (France) all made their debuts during the international break -- it's worth noting that players are committing their futures in the other direction as well.

Munir didn't get the chance officially to switch from Spain to Morocco, but various other players successfully made their debut on Thursday and Friday, some having switched nationality heading into the international break.

For Morocco, Eintracht Frankfurt midfielder Aymame Barkou made his debut having confirmed his switch from Germany, and former Belgium youth international Samy Mmaee started in the heart of the defence for his first international appearance.

Cameroon, who were held 0-0 by Japan in the Netherlands on Thursday evening, handed debuts to six new players, including former Germany Under-18 wideman Franck Evina, once of Bayern Munich.

France-born Farid Boulaya made his Algeria debut as they saw off Nigeria, while Anis Ben Slimane, who represented Denmark at under-19 level, scored on his maiden Tunisia appearance as they dispatched Sudan 3-0.

English League Championship club Barnsley also celebrated the Kenya debut of wideman Clark Oduor, and suggested on their official Twitter handle that there would be a few "new Harambee Stars fans" in the Yorkshire town after their victory over Zambia.

Akonnor gets Ghana tenure off to miserable start

Patrice Beaumelle launched his time as Ivory Coast head coach with an admirable draw against Belgium on Thursday, but C.K. Akonnor's tenure as Ghana boss commenced with a miserable, disjointed 3-0 defeat by Mali in Turkey.

and things could have been different had Jordan Ayew converted one of several decent chances.

But the second-half double that consigned Akonnor to a debut defeat cannot be ignored, with Ghana lacking cohesion and looking muddled in defence.

Alexander Djiku of Strasbourg and Brentford's Tariqe Fosu each endured a debut to forget, and Arsenal new boy Thomas Partey was unable to lift the gloom and get Ghana ticking going forward.

Ghana have been in decline since reaching the final of the 2017 Africa Cup of Nations, and this performance demonstrated how much work former Black Stars midfielder Akonnor has ahead of him.

McKinstry outlines expectations for Uganda at 48

Uganda celebrated 48 years of independence on Friday, but Cranes fans were unable to celebrate by watching their team in action as the Ugandan Federation opted to handle the international window slightly differently than their rivals.

The majority of African coaches opted to test their squads in competition against other nations this week but Uganda's Johnny McKinstry opted for a different approach with the Cranes, instead taking them to Dubai for a training camp.

"This break provides an invaluable opportunity for us to reacquaint the players with our objectives and key principles and further develop our game model," the Northern Irish coach told ESPN in explaining the decision.

"Given it has been 11 months since the senior national team were last together, it was imperative that we were able to get back on the field and do some quality work as well as provide the players with an opportunity to come together again personally after such a long absence."

McKinstry, who formerly held the reins with Rwanda and Sierra Leone, was appointed in September 2019 after the departure of Sebastien Desabre, who guided the Cranes to the knockout stages of the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations in Egypt.

"We felt that the best way to do this was to take the entire group away for a training camp, as opposed to playing a series of friendly games as some nations have elected to do," McKinstry said.

"This allows us to maximise our time on the training field and in the classroom, and work on our objectives as a team."

It remains to be seen whether, considering the challenges to come in the coming months, whether McKinstry will be rewarded for taking a different route with the East Africans.

Referee drama overshadows Kenya triumph

One of McKinstry's predecessors in the Uganda fold, Milutin Sredojevic, is back in African international management with Zambia.

Sredojevic coached high-profile African club sides Orlando Pirates and SC Zamalek after leaving the Cranes, and now he is charged with helping the 2012 African champions rediscover their lost lustre after several years in the doldrums.

His tenure began with a disappointing 2-1 defeat by Kenya on Friday, when Zambia were outthought and outgunned by the Harambee Stars.

Emmanuel Chaluba scored for the Southern Africans and should have been credited with another when the ball clearly crossed the line six minutes from fulltime, but it was missed by the officials operating without VAR.

Micho fumed at the refereeing error that denied his side a draw, and he called for the introduction of VAR in the African game.

"We knew Kenya is a strong team and we came prepared," the Serbian coach said.

"I cannot accept the way we conceded the two goals from counter-attacks, because you cannot come away from home and not defend against counter attacks."

"On the last minute incident, that shows why we need VAR in football because everyone can clearly see that was a clear goal."

Spain edge Swiss, Germany beat Ukraine in Nations League

LONDON

MIKEL Oyarzabal pounced on a horror slip by Swiss captain Granit Xhaka to seal a 1-0 victory for Spain in the Nations League on Saturday.

The night's other League A Group 4 match saw Germany beat Ukraine 2-1 in Kiev.

At the Estadio Alfredo Di Stefano in Madrid, usually home of Real Madrid's second string side, Real Sociedad striker Oyarzabal struck in the 14th minute.

The Swiss boldly tried to play out from the back, but Xhaka slipped as he sought to collect goalkeeper Yann Sommer's pass.

Mikel Merino pounced and threaded the ball through to clubmate Oyarzabal, who finished superbly past Sommer.

"I am happy for the victory and for adding three points," Oyarzabal told Spanish television.

"We knew that (Switzerland) were a powerful team, that they liked to play a lot and that they had fewer points than they deserved."

"We also knew they were risking a lot from behind and we wanted to pressure them because we believed we could rob them and hurt them and that's the way it worked out."

There was a golden opportunity for Oyarzabal to double his tally in the 52nd minute.

Switzerland again struggled to clear their lines, Jesus Navas fizzes a cross-shot into the area which Sommer could only push into the path of Oyarzabal.

The striker's effort, however, hit the post and went wide.

It was then the turn of Merino to scuff another prime chance. On the hour mark, a badly cleared corner fell to his unfavoured right foot and he shot high and wide directly in front of goal.

Sergio Ramos then saw an effort shielded away by Xhaka before a



Spain's Ansu Fati shoots at goal during their UEFA Nations League match against Switzerland at Estadio Alfredo Di Stefano in Madrid, Spain on October 10. REUTERS

header went just wide moments later with Spain in the driving seat.

Switzerland thought they had an equaliser as Xherdan Shaqiri pivoted and sent the ball spiralling into the Spanish net.

But it was not to be as the referee handed Atalanta's Remo Freuler a yellow card for a foul on Sergio Busquets in the build-up.

It was then the turn of Gerard Moreno to blast high after a smart twist and turn in front of the Swiss goal after a nice ball from Sergio Canales.

- Unbeaten run extended

Luis Enrique's side then contented themselves with seeing out the game, extending to 14 their current

unbeaten run. They have also not lost in Madrid in 20 games dating back to 1987.

"It was not an easy game, it was not a game in which we have been especially fluid," said Enrique.

"We took advantage of hard pressing to score the goal and then we had further opportunities to close down the game, but without luck."

The Spaniards top their group, having kicked off with a creditable 1-1 away draw against Germany before a sparkling 4-0 victory over Ukraine, whom they now face on Tuesday.

In Kiev, Germany picked up a first win in their Nations League group with a workmanlike 2-1 away vic-

tory over the Ukrainians.

Defender Matthias Ginter gave Germany a first-half lead, then Leon Goretzka capitalised on a horrible mistake by the Ukraine goalkeeper before Ruslan Malinovskyi converted a late penalty for the hosts.

Germany coach Joachim Loew said he was "satisfied" with the away win, but admitted "we should have been three or four goals ahead before they scored".

"In some phases we gave the ball away too easily."

After drawing their opening Nations League games against Spain and Switzerland, then being held 3-3 by Turkey in a friendly on Wednesday, the win lifted Germany to second in the

group behind Spain.

However, Germany can expect a much tougher task against the Swiss in Cologne on Tuesday and should have scored more having enjoyed around 75% possession against a weakened Ukraine side.

In the evening's other games, Luxembourg beat Cyprus 2-0 and Montenegro eased past Azerbaijan by the same scoreline in Group 1 of League C.

In League D action, the Faroe Islands were held to a 1-1 draw at home against Latvia and Andorra fought out a goalless draw with Malta in Group 1, while Gibraltar edged Liechtenstein 1-0 in Group 2.

AFP

England faces financial reckoning despite billion-pound transfer window - Part I

BY JAMES OLLEY, SENIOR WRITER, ESPN FC

THE fact that Premier League clubs spent £1.2 billion on transfers this summer may advance the sense that English football is returning to normal, but the reality beneath the surface is very different.

The headlines certainly point to a continuation of the madcap money-slinging that has made it the most exciting league in the world: teams spent approximately £1.24bn (\$1.6bn) on players during the summer window, with a net spend of around £880m (\$1.1bn). Trusted finance experts Deloitte are yet to publish exact figures for the latest window, but the estimated numbers fall into line with their reports from recent years: £1.41bn (\$1.8bn) in 2019, £625m (\$813m) net; £1.23bn (\$1.6bn) in 2018, £865m (\$1.2bn) net; £1.43bn (\$1.9bn) in 2017, £665m (\$865m) net.

(For comparison, FIFA's recently published "International Transfer Market Snapshot" showed how the Premier League was far above its peers for spending: Italian teams spent £418m, or \$544m; Spain's clubs a combined £375m, or \$487m; French clubs £350m, or \$455m; and German teams under £270m, or \$350m.)

That the 2020 net spending figures are on course to be one of the highest on record, despite a global pandemic forcing employee furloughs and significant losses across the sport, is nothing short of remarkable. Some may interpret this outlay as a reassuring robustness against deeply troubling market forces, but in fact it has only deepened the paralysis around discussions aiming to safeguard the future of the English game.

Sources have told ESPN there remains a widespread belief among key decision-makers at many Premier League and English Football League sides that the British government will ultimately step in to avoid any clubs disappearing from the pyramid as the financial crisis at lower levels deepens. The EFL believes it



Without fans in the stands, football clubs face a precarious financial future. (Agencies)

needs £250m (\$325m) to complete the season without losing any teams. However, while the Department of Culture, Media and Sport have not ruled out offering state aid, no such package has been forthcoming, in-

stead urging a game collectively still outwardly awash with millions to get its own house in order.

Private financiers have made multiple offers to step in, and some clubs have struck individual

deals to help with their cash flow, but any multi-lateral agreement between the Premier League, the EFL and DCMS is a long way off because of the steadfast belief that government will intervene. One source

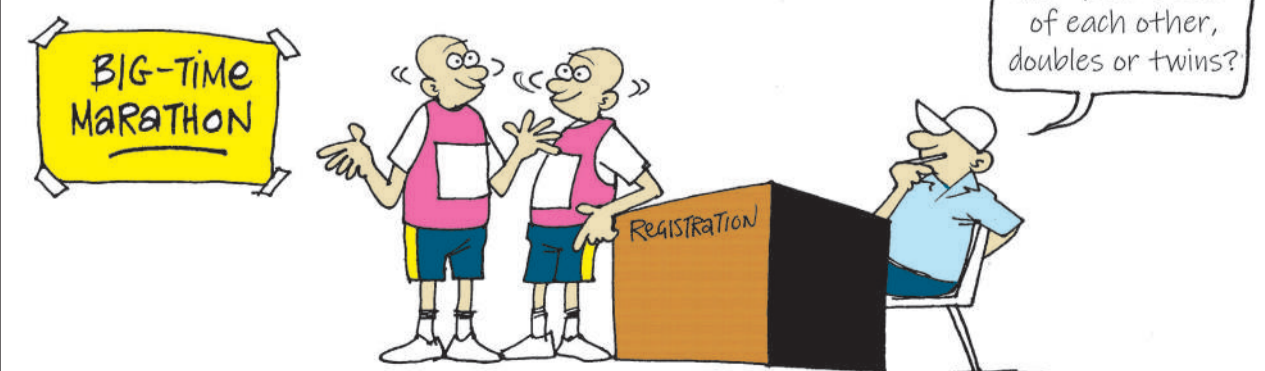
close to the talks told ESPN: "there are any number of potential solutions and everybody knows financial support is required, but nobody wants to make the first move on the basis that might not lead to the best outcome."

"It is a very dangerous game if everybody sits tight not wanting to make that decision because a club could potentially go out of business while the stand-off is in place. That has to be too high a price for this game of brinkmanship."

The government's decision to potentially ban supporters attending matches until March 2021 is a devastating blow for many clubs. Man United estimate they are losing £4m-£5m per game, while League One and League Two clubs are missing out on between £30,000 (\$38,000) and £100,000 (\$130,000) every match. Clarity and leadership is required with time running out.

To be continued

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Spain edge Swiss,
Germany beat Ukraine
in Nations League

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Failuna Abdi

Failuna tops 2020 Mount Meru Half Marathon

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIAN athlete, Failuna Abdi Matanga, has topped the women category of the 2020 installment of the Mount Meru Half Marathon held here yesterday.

The petite runner, also the winner of the recently held Ngorongoro Half Marathon, used one hour and 14 minutes to finish the Sunday race.

She topped the race's women category ahead of Natalia Elisante, who trekked the 21km race in one hour and 16 minutes to settle for the second spot, and Fadhila Salum, who finished third in one hour and 18 minutes.

Flagged off from General Tyre grounds in Njiro, the race had Fabian Nelson ending as the men's category winner, clocking one hour and three minutes.

Gabriel Geay finished second after posting one hour and four minutes, followed by Josephat Joshua in the third spot with one hour and five minutes.

The top three winners, Nelson, Geay and Joshua, managed to beat last year's men's category champion's record, an achievement that, according to the race's organizers, is rather an astounding feat.

Kenyan athlete, Robert Ndiwa, ended as last year's Mount Meru Half Marathon's men's category top winner, posting one hour, six minutes and 26 seconds to complete the race.

Tanzanian Joshua Sule from Arusha came second in the race after clocking one hour, seven minutes and four seconds.

Elisha Wema came third with one hour, eight minutes and one second, while the women's category was won by Tanzanian, Asha Salum.

This year's event also included a 10km category which was topped by Sylvester Naali who ran in 33 minutes and 44 seconds.

Mathayo Sombi ended second with 34 minutes and 12 seconds and Herman Sule (34:36) finished third.

It was previously announced that Kenya and Uganda would send athletes to participate in the 2020 Mount Meru Half Marathon, but as it happened, none of the athletes from the two countries showed up.

Carlinhos not fully fit, says Yanga coach



Carlos Stênio Fernandes Guimarães do Carmo 'Carlinhos'. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YANGA's assistant coach, Juma Mwambusi, admits that the outfit's midfielder,

Carlos Stênio Fernandes Guimarães do Carmo 'Carlinhos', is still not at his best.

Carlinhos started for Yanga against both Mubwa Sugar and Coastal Union in the Vodacom Premier League, and most recently, in a friendly game against Mwadui FC, which took place in Dar es Salaam on Friday and ended with Yanga winning 1-0.

The Angolan international has caught the eye, with his set piece delivery that has resulted in two league goals for Yanga plus a further one goal for himself so far.

However, Carlinhos remains somewhat short of full match sharpness.

And Mwambusi, who is taking charge of the team following the sacking of head coach Zlatko Krmpotic, is encouraged by Carlinhos' form with Yanga so far.

He believes that the midfielder will only continue to get better, as he

develops his fitness levels.

Mwambusi explained that Carlinhos has struggled to physically impose himself in games especially when played wide where more defensive output is needed.

"He is yet to hit the levels expected. If you have watched him, you would notice he still needs to gain full fitness. It will help him when deployed in wide positions."

"For instance when he played wide, you could clearly see he failed to put a defensive shift. He is often run over by the opposition and there is little he can do as he struggles with fitness," he said.

Mwambusi has given his support for the 25-year-old attacking midfielder and is confident there is more to come from him moving forward.

"We have to help him gain fitness, then we can start judging him not only on set

piece delivery. He remains a good player and can do more," he noted.

Eyebrows were raised when Yanga signed Carlinhos as a free agent from Angola's Interclube in the August transfer window, and it appears that he could have a key role to play over the course of the season.

Yanga's latest friendly with Mwadui FC ended 1-0 in favour of the Yellow and Green army, with Ghanaian import, Michael Sarpong, finding the back of the net from an accurate long ball from Carlinhos.

The Jangwani Street side has made a bright start to the new campaign, and currently sits in third place in the Vodacom Premier League table.

They are next in action on Thursday next week, when they take on Polisi Tanzania at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Simba Queens cricketers wallop Arusha Girls in 2020 Women Premier League

By Guardian Reporter

SIMBA Queens women cricket team recorded a comprehensive 52-run victory over Arusha Girls in a 2020 Women Premier League's duel, held in Tanga on Saturday.

The competition's Group A match had Simba Queens racing to 131 runs for the loss of one wicket in 20 overs after winning the toss and electing to bat.

Opener Hudaa Mrisho put in player of the match displays at the crease for the squad given she recorded unbeaten 51 runs, with her score consisting of seven fours.

After an early dismissal of fellow opener Mwanaidi Amani that managed 12 runs, Sophia Frank partnered Hudaa to pile runs for their side, helping the team post the convincing score after the completion of their innings.

Arusha Girls' Mwanaisa Bakari took the only wicket her outfit posted during its bowling spell.

She bowled four overs and leaked 13 runs that had her posting an economy rate of 3.25.

Chasing 132 runs to register victory happened to be a tall order for the mostly inexperienced Arusha Girls, they in response scored 79 runs for the loss of three wickets.

Openers Mwanaisa and Caren Christopher were so far the players with significant contribution with the bat, posting double digit figures.

Mwanaisa scored 26 runs that consisted of a four, Caren ened as the top run getter, posting 30 runs which included two fours.

The two openers gave Arusha Girls a good start to the chase, only to be let down by fellow batters who faced early exits.

Much as Marium Abedi and Angela Augustino ended the innings with bat in hand, their efforts did little to help their squad avoid defeat.

Marium scored three runs not out and Angela ended with two runs not out.

Lisa Justine posted two runs, her

efforts to extend her stay at the crease were foiled by Simba Queens' Rahma Yahaya, who dismissed the batter.

Simba Queens' Rahma had a good spell with the ball, ending with two wickets in four overs.

Simba Queens have as a result moved to the second spot in the Group A, two points below the group leaders Uluguru Stars that have recorded two wins out of two games.

In the day's other match, Uluguru Stars stretched their winning run, notching 11-run victory over Dar Combine Girls.

Uluguru Stars recorded 105 runs for the loss of five wickets in 20 overs once they had won the toss and elected to bat.

Skipper Fatuma Omary had the best innings, finishing three runs short of a half century in a performance which saw her crack five fours.

Shufaa Hamza was equally impressive given she posted 20 runs not out, cracking two fours.

Dar Combine Girls' skipper, Mwanaidi Shakimu, had the best bowling performance, posting two wickets in three overs.

Much as they batted zealously, Dar Combine Girls failed to chase Uluguru Stars' total, notching 94 runs for the loss of eight wickets in 20 overs.

Top order batter, Happiness George, was the top run getter in the innings, posting 27 runs not out with her score consisting of two fours.

Irene Kasembe was as well the batter with double digit figure, posting 20 runs which consisted of two fours.

Martha Karisti and Sonia Chachala ended with two wickets apiece to successfully foil Dar Combine Girls' chase.

Arusha Girls were set to confront Uluguru Stars yesterday, Simba Queens were also expected to lock horns with Dar Combine Girls the same day.



Rock City Marathon race coordinators, Kasara Naftal (2nd R) and Samwel Gisayi (L) and representatives from Dar es Salaam jogging clubs, Caroline Joseph (2nd L) and Mustafa Abdulhafidhi (R) display T-shirts to be worn by the participants of this year's Rock City Marathon, slated to take place in Mwanza on November 29, during a brief launch of the race held in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Rock City Marathon 2020 launched

By Guardian Reporter

THE 11th edition of Mwanza's annual Rock City Marathon has been launched in Dar es Salaam over the weekend.

The race's organizers, Capital Plus International, said that the race that gears towards promoting tourism in the Lake Zone region is scheduled to take place at the Rock City Mall in the region on November 29 this year.

Speaking at the event's launch, Kasara Naftal, the race co-ordinator, said important preparations had been made, including the issue of the T-shirts for the participants and medals.

He said that the race would involve 21km, 10km and 5km events.

He stated: "As for the prizes, along with the medals the first winners of the 21km men's and women's categories will take 2m/- apiece, second-placed runners will receive 1.3m/- apiece, third-placed runners will be presented with 700,000/- apiece, with runners placed fourth to 10th also emerging with medals and cash prizes."

"Further, we will not give out cash prizes for the 10km race

winners but the participants will get medals and T-shirts," he said.

"The 5km race will involve participants from various institutions along with participants with albinism though cash prizes will only be given to the three winners with albinism."

The race which has been taking place annually for the past 11 years in Mwanza city is gaining momentum every year and its success has attracted a number of partners.

They include TIPER, Pepsi, Tanzania Tourism Board (TTB), Tanzania Forest Agency (TFS), Chinese Construction Company CRJE (East Africa) Ltd, Pigeon Hotel, CF Hospital, Bugando Hospital, Garda World, The Cask and Mwanza's St. Augustine University of Tanzania (SAUT).

The race's spokesperson, Samwel Gisayi, said the registration for the race has already begun through the race website as well as physical registration through various centers allocated in a various regions including Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Geita, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Dodoma and Arusha.

"Registration is progressing well and the response from participants is overwhelming. The aim is to register at least 3000 participants in all categories, that is elite runners, fun run participants and students," he said.

Speaking at the race's launch, which involved representatives of various running clubs in Dar es Salaam, some runners commended the organizers of the race for the good preparations.

The athletes noted that the move makes the race maintain its status as one of the biggest races in the country.

"We have been very close with the organizers of this race and we have seen for ourselves how they planned to make sure things go better," Caroline Joseph, a jogger and the race's ambassador, stated.

She disclosed: "We would like to reassure our fellow participants that everything is fine and they should come out in large numbers so that we also have the opportunity to visit some tourist attractions found in the Lake Zone Regions including Saanane Island and the new Burigi Chato National Park."

Flexibles by David Chikoko

