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ADVERSITY



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JPM disowns aspirants, urges intense scrutiny

UN agencies: Covid-19 cuts vaccinations drive globally

LONDON

LEVELS of childhood immunisations against dangerous diseases such as measles, tetanus and diphtheria have dropped alarmingly during the COVID-19 pandemic, putting millions of children at risk, United Nations agencies have declared.

"Avoidable suffering and death caused

Three-quarters of the 82 countries that responded to a survey for the report said they had suffered coronavirus-related disruptions to their immunisation programmes as of May 2020.

by children missing out on routine immunisations could be far greater than COVID-19 itself," World Health Organization (WHO) director general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a joint report with

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Former Foreign Affairs minister Bernard Membe waves to Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo) members and supporters shortly after a meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday at which it was officially declared that he had joined the opposition party. With him are ACT-Wazalendo national Chairman Maalim Seif Shariff Hamad (L, foreground), party Leader Zitto Kabwe (to Membe's right), and the party's Dar es Salaam regional chairman, Salum Soud (R, in specs). Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Membe calls for opposition alliance towards next polls

By Henry Mwangonde

ALLIANCE for Change and Transparency's (ACT-Wazalendo) new cadre, Bernard Membe yesterday called on opposition parties to unite and form a strong coalition to challenge the ruling party in the October elections.

Membe, a former Foreign Affairs minister who was early this year suspended from CCM and joined ACT-Wazalendo last week, asked other opposition parties to join hands with his new party ahead of the October

This party has touched my heart and it has sparked my emotions. It has not remained quiet when serious human rights violations were happening in the country

General Election.

"Let me call upon our fellow opposition to unite and form a powerful coalition that will remove someone from the State House," Membe said, when addressing delegates during a function to officially welcome him in the party.

Membe said that the opposition is big and that it is high time for them to come together and form a strong coalition that will remove CCM from

TURN TO PAGE 2

By Henry Mwangonde

PRESIDENT John Magufuli yesterday disowned CCM aspirants vying for various posts in the forthcoming General Election, saying he has not sent anyone to contest.

The Head of State insisted

The president has trusted you to go and serve the people; you should be satisfied with what you have

that CCM delegates involved in party primaries properly scrutinize the scores of aspirants based on their competence, to come up with the best individuals to stand as flag bearers.

The president made the remarks yesterday at the Chamwino State House when swearing in recently appointed government executives including for posts of District Commissioner (DC), District Executive Director (DED), Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS), District Administrative Secretary (DAS) and director general of the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC).

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Beware of FETO, Turkish envoy alerts African states

By Francis Kajubi

AFRICAN countries have been called upon to team up in fighting against terrorism by tracking down operations of private

institutions as some are believed to be involved in terrorist activities.

Interim Turkish Ambassador Onur Yay made the call in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday, as his country marked the fourth anniversary of a controversial coup attempt on July 15, 2016 centred in Istanbul.

He cautioned African governments to be careful as some foreign private institutions are often also agents of terrorist networks.

He blamed organisations such as FTOs - listed by



the United States State Department as foreign terrorist organizations - for perpetuating terror ideologies in Africa by establishing private institutions.

"In fighting against terrorism, we call upon African countries to be careful with foreign companies coming to invest in different sectors as such institutions are used for preparing future terrorists," said Yay.

He said that Turkey commemorates the day because it was a man-made tragedy that claimed the lives of 251 innocent people and left more than 2,000 wounded. The prime minister's vehicle was attacked and air-bombarded at the Grand National Assembly,

he elaborated.

"We commemorate the day to remember an attack on the presidential complex. Buildings of the National Intelligence Organisation and Turkish National Police departments were similarly attacked."

The Police Special Operations Centre, the crucial counter-terrorism operational body of Turkey in Ankara, was bombed by fighter jets, killing 55 police officers and injuring hundreds on the spot," he explained.

FETO was declared as a

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Membe calls for opposition alliance towards next polls

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power because the way is clear.

"I have joined ACT-Wazalendo to work with its leaders and members towards bringing genuine development changes, changes that will benefit the majority of Tanzanians. This party is fast growing compared to other political parties," he asserted.

ACT-Wazalendo is an important party that is well focused on improving people's lives, he said, noting that the party has never remained quiet when issues that involve people's lives arose.

"It has spoken out on various issues, including the re-run of elections in Zanzibar and the repeated arrests of Chadema top officials.

"This party has touched my heart and it has sparked my emotions. It has not remained quiet when serious human rights violations were happening in the country."

The former presidential aspirant in CCM took time to explain why he has joined ACT-Wazalendo, saying it is a party that stood out among other political parties to speak against human rights violations in the country.

In his agenda, Membe said upon winning elections, ACT-Wazalendo will expand political space and there will be no fear among Tanzanians. He pledged to offer job opportunities to young graduates and return investors who have fled the country.

Membe said the type of gov-

ernment to be formed by ACT-Wazalendo will practice economic diplomacy which will be friendly to investors and improve agriculture. It will seek to empower farmers by ensuring a coordinated market system for major agricultural produce, he stated.

He further said the new ACT-Wazalendo government will respect the rule of law and revive the Constitution-making process, initiated by fourth phase president, Dr Jakaya Kikwete.

Upon winning elections in October, his party will review contracts for construction of the Bagamoyo Port which would create a huge number of job opportunities to the youth.

He said the new ACT-Wazalendo government will also sustain gas projects in the southern regions by putting in place policies that will make the southern region improve further.

"We will create a better environment to facilitate all these needs, and let me assure you that this is exactly what we are preparing for Tanzanians," he declared.

He informed delegates that he has a team of CCM followers who are ready to follow him in the new party.

The former Mtama MP said he will not follow the negative example of former premier Edward Lowassa who joined the opposition, vied for the Union presidency and later returned to the ruling party.



Former Tanzania Private Sector Foundation executive director Godfrey Simbeye (L) exchanges greetings with his successor, Zacky Mbenna, at an office handover ceremony in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Beware of FETO, Turkish envoy alerts African states

FROM PAGE 1

terrorist organisation at the 43rd session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC held on October 2016. A similar resolution was written at the Asian Parliamentary Assembly on December 2016 and ratified at the 12th Conference of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC held January 2017.

Ali Davutaglu, Retired Turkey Ambassador to Tanzania blamed FETO as an organisation that disguised itself as an education movement gradually turned into a secretive operational structure aiming to transform the society by taking control of the Turkish state from within.

"The organisation had before the terror attack established media houses to shape public opinion for and against any person, group or idea. Many people in Turkey who saw the organisation for what it really was got lynched through these media houses," said Davutaglu.

Media houses became the focal point of actions taken against journalists, academicians, bureaucrats and military officers who opposed them or tried to expose them, the retired envoy intoned.

UN agencies: Covid-19 cuts vaccinations drive globally

FROM PAGE 1

UNICEF.

Three-quarters of the 82 countries that responded to a survey for the report said they had suffered coronavirus-related disruptions to their immunisation programmes as of May 2020.

Most problems were linked to a lack of sufficient personal

protection equipment (PPE) for health workers, travel restrictions and low medical staffing levels - all of which led to immunisation services being curbed or shut down.

At least 30 measles vaccination campaigns have been or are at risk of being cancelled, threatening new outbreaks of the

contagious viral disease this year and beyond, the report said.

Measles outbreaks were already on the rise, infecting nearly 10m people in 2018 and killing 140,000 persons, mostly children, according to WHO data.

For diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis, preliminary data for the first four months of 2020

"points to a substantial drop" in the number of children getting all three doses of the DTP vaccine, the report said. It is the first time in 28 years that the world could see a fall in coverage for this routine childhood immunisation.

Data for 2019 showed that nearly 14m children worldwide missed out on life-saving

vaccines. Most of these children live in Africa and are likely to lack access to other health services, the report noted.

Progress on immunisation was already stalling before the new coronavirus emerged and spread around the world, but the pandemic made a bad situation worse, it added.



UNDP's Resident Representative in Tanzania, Christine Musisi (R), pictured in Dodoma yesterday presenting an assortment of ICT equipment and supplies worth 160m/- to Judge (rtd) Mathew Mwaimu, Chairman of the Tanzania Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance, for use by the commission. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Ibrahim

JPM disowns aspirants, urges intense scrutiny

FROM PAGE 1

"Let me assure CCM members that I have not asked anyone to contest any position. May I ask my fellow CCM members involved in party primaries to choose representatives who they think will help in finding solutions to challenges facing people in their respective areas," he affirmed.

The party's national chairman said the number of aspirants vying for parliamentary and councilorship seats has so far reached 8,000 and counting.

Aspirants include those vying for special seats, he said, noting that Dar es Salaam Region had the biggest number of contestants, at 829 until then.

On July 14th CCM opened doors for interested cadres to collect nomination forms to vie for parliamentary and councilorship seats, an exercise that will formally be

closed today at 4:00pm.

Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan told the newly appointed leaders to keep in mind that the leadership style has changed and is now based on serving the people and not looking for positions.

"The president has trusted you to go and serve the people; you should be satisfied with what you have," she said.

Big names in the government and the ruling party are among those collecting nomination forms seeking endorsement for contesting parliamentary and councilorship seats.

Former Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Paul Makonda, who lost his post late Wednesday is vying for Kigamboni constituency, confronting former Deputy Health Minister Dr Faustine Ndugulile, seeking reelection.

Dr Magufuli replaced Makonda as RC with Aboubakar Kunenge, up to that point the Dar es Salaam Regional Ad-

ministrative Secretary.

High profile political appointees are leaving their current positions to seek elected positions in the coming polls.

In Butiama constituency in Mara Region, three members from the family of former president Julius Nyerere picked nomination forms.

In the southern regions, Prime Minister Kassim Majalwa collected forms in Ruungwa, Lindi Region submitted it the same day.

In the region, 46 CCM members in eight constituencies turned up to vie for parliamentary seats. Nape Nnauye, Mtama MP is seeking reelection.

Former first lady Salma Kikwete picked up forms for Mchinga Constituency in the region, held by Hamidu Bobali (CUF).

She has been serving as a nominated MP, one among ten whom the Union president is allowed by the constitution to nominate to the legislature.

MCT takes part in Africa-China Solidarity Forum on COVID-19

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Media Council of Tanzania yesterday participated in an on-line forum organised by the All-China Journalists' Association (ACJA) which brought together Chinese and African media professionals.

Apart from Tanzania, countries which took part in the forum under the theme "Solidarity against Covid-19 and China-Africa Community with a Shared Future" are China, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Nigeria and Rwanda.

Speaking at the forum, MCT Executive Secretary Kajubi Mukajanga said the media in Tanzania have been hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic, and journalists are finding their work

especially difficult and risky.

He said communities and the citizenry have huge expectations in the Tanzanian media, while information is not readily available from the authorities concerned "as official information on Covid-19 will only be provided by the Prime Minister, the Health minister and the Chief Government spokesperson".

The publishing of such information without abiding by the guideline is actionable, he noted, adding that official media briefings on the pandemic have become increasingly rare over time.

Soon after the official announcement of the first Covid-19 case in the country on March 16, Mukajanga said, MCT compiled 'Guidelines on the Safe and

Ethical Reporting of Covid-19, and distributed copies to the media.

He said that there is a lot of "suspect" local, regional and international information on Covid-19 from all sources, "and sifting through the 'disinfodemic' has been a challenge to Tanzanian journalists as they seek to give context to their news stories, features and analyses".

"Many of our journalists are not properly trained in debunking false information spread on- and offline," Mukajanga said, adding that the guidance given by MCT is helping, "but a lot of work has to be done to ensure that reporters do not end up as both victims and purveyors of disinformation".

He said one challenge worth

discussing related to ways to fight online disinformation laced with racist hate speech, adding that society needs to be made aware of "the fallacy of these claims which seek to attribute the disease to particular people".

"While Tanzanian reporters and news outlets are burdened with the task of fact-checking and debunking a never-ending stream of false claims, communities need to be engaged so that such racist and xenophobic fallacy does not take root," said Mukajanga.

He said more discussions can be arranged online for media practitioners and members of the public to share experiences and strategies.

He cited a meeting on Covid-19

and other issues held on June 12, 2020 that brought together the media/press councils of Tanzania, Algeria, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

"Today's forum is an indication that we can do this more regularly and make sure that our media organisations not only stay safe but also cover this pandemic most effectively," he said.

On steps MCT has taken since the first reported case of the pandemic in Tanzania, Mukajanga told the forum that the entire MCT workforce was taken though rapid training on staying safe and the way the council runs its programmes has since changed to ensure the safety of both staff members and clients.

"We suspended all programmes

which needed people to come together in large groups. We started using an online approach in implementing projects," he said.

He added: "We also started working from home and made sure that there were enough gloves, masks and hand sanitiser for those who would be forced to occasionally come to office."

"When the situation arose, we observed strict social distancing and did not allow more than six people in a room that previously held up to as many as 20 people," Mukajanga told the forum.

Covid-19 was reported to have broken out sometime in China in December 2019, with the World Health Organisation declaring it a pandemic this March 11.

Ministry offers training to over 700 animal skinners

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries has provided training to 735 skimmers in efforts to add value to the hides and skins produced in the country.

This was revealed by the Ministry's Assistant Director of Livestock Products, Food Security and Nutrition Gabriel Buraat at

a meeting of stakeholders in the Livestock Development Fund (LDF) that assessed the effects of Covid-19 in the hides and skins sector held here on Wednesday last week. Bura said the training was conducted in Kilimanjaro, Manyara, Arusha, Mwanza, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Morogoro and Kagera regions, and added that they have already begun the process of issuing licenses to these regions.

"We have also started distributing special skinning knives recommended by experts in Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions to ensure they reach all zones where we provided the training," he added.

He said the next step being awaited is for the livestock and fisheries minister to sign documents for the appointment of skin inspectors in 113 local councils who have already been endorsed by the Attorney General after which they will start supervising skins quality in accordance with the low governing hides and skins. Earlier, speaking at the opening of the meeting, the Ministry's director of production and

marketing Dr Felix Nandonde said due to Covid-19, hides and skins produced in the country was not being exported, and if it does, then not in former quantities.

The director of DIT Mwanza Branch Dr Albert Mmari said his institute has already embarked on several steps in adding value in the hides and skins sector including increase of equipment for training

in shoe making and so far there are 50 machines compared to 25 they had earlier.

"Our institute has received more than 37bn/- from the World Bank to be used in the five-year project for the improvement of the institute's infrastructures including purchase of modern training equipment, and construction of lecture rooms and after comple-

tion we can accommodate more than 1,000 students," he added. Stakeholders who attended the meeting included those from the ministries of Livestock and Fisheries, Industry and Trade, the Office of the President (Regional Administration and Local Government and the Mwanza Branch of the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT).

UNDP presents ICT equipment worth 160m/- to commission

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE United Nations Development Population (UNDP) yesterday handed over Information and Communication Technology (ICT) equipment worth 160m/- to the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG).

Speaking at the brief handing over ceremony held at the commission's offices in Dodoma, CHRAGG chairman, Judge (rt'd) Mathew Mwaimu said the equipment received are purposely aimed for Zanzibar office and branches of Mwanza and Lindi.

He said the gesture is a clear confirmation of the good relations and collaborations both organisations have established, terming it not the first or the last of such kind of support.

"UNDP's previous supports include capacity building of our staff, establishment of planning and coordination unit, development of five years' strategic plan, development of communication and visibility strategies," he said.

He cited other support as development of stakeholders' engagement strategy, development of monitoring and evaluation system, development of quick response strategy for complaints handling and supply of working tools of facilities such as motor vehicle, furniture, photocopier machine, computer, among others.

The chairperson assured UNDP that whatever support CHRAGG was receiving would be positively utilised for ensuring the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.



Kilimanjaro Women Against AIDS health expert Anna Mgonja (R) addresses members of the NGO in rural Moshi yesterday on Covid-19. This was shortly before the holding of the organisation's annual general meeting. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

He said the UNDP has been supporting the commission in terms of both technical and financial support towards human rights protection and promotion initiatives in Tanzania, specifically for ensuring that CHRAGG's mandate is effectively discharged.

UNDP Resident Representative, Christine Musisi in her keynote address noted that the gesture was meant to help support CHRAGG in im-

plementing its important role of promoting human rights in the country.

She said that UNDP appreciate the mandate of the commission, promising continued support to increase the institution's effectiveness, transparency and public education and awareness on human rights issues.

The UNDP boss noted that the commission has developed strong collaboration with civil society organisations

(CSOs), terming it a good step towards improved public awareness on human rights.

"We recognise that CHRAGG has only six offices countrywide, thus the need for more equipment to let it have more office to reach more people in the country is quite vital," she said, adding that her organisation is ready to continue supporting the commission.

Mbenna takes over from Simbeye as TPSF's boss

By Guardian Reporter

THE Board of Directors of Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) has appointed Zacky Mbenna, acting Executive Director of the institution effective from July 15, 2020.

Before the appointment, Mbenna who has a vast experience in business management and administration was holding the position of Director of Membership Services at the foundation.

According to a press signed by the TPSF chairperson, Angelina Ngalula, the appointment follows the official resignation of Godfrey Simbeye who served the foundation for over ten years.

"Once again, the Board of Directors would like to thank Simbeye for his devotion and commitment towards promoting effective engagement of the private sector in driving the socio-economic development of the country," the statement said.

Ngalula in her statement reassured all the members, the government and

development partners of smooth transition period and the mandate of the foundation would not be affected.

TPSF is a key partner of the government and other stakeholders in formulation and implementation of policies and strategies geared towards stimulating socio-economic growth and development in Tanzania.

The foundation is the voice of the private sector and the umbrella body for private sector associations and corporate bodies in all sectors of the economy.

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TANZANIA PORTS AUTHORITY (TPA)

PUBLIC NOTICE

DISPOSAL OF SCRAPER MATERIALS FROM ON GOING CONSTRUCTION OF MODERNIZATION AT DAR ES SALAAM PORT ON 23RD JULY, 2020

Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) intends to dispose various scraper materials in Dar es Salaam Port through Public Auction. This Public auction exercise shall be conducted by M/S Marcas Debt Collectors and Auctioneers Ltd on behalf of Tanzania Ports Authority as follows:

The auction shall be held on 23rd July, 2020 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Dar es Salaam Port premises

CONDITIONS OF THE PUBLIC AUCTION

- I. The buyer shall be required to pay 25% of the auction price within the same day and the remaining balance be paid within fourteen (14) days from the auction date. Failure by the buyer to pay the remained balance within the stipulated time will lead to forfeiture of the amount paid earlier and re-auction of the property.
- II. Inspection of auction goods shall take place on 21st and 22nd July, 2020 from 10:00am to 2:00 pm. All expenses related to the inspection especially transport shall be borne by the prospective buyers.
- III. The buyer must be registered/certified by NEMC.
- IV. The buyer must have valid TAX clearance certificate.
- V. The successful buyer must comply with all requirements by NEMC during removal of the scraper material from the Port.
- VI. Prospective buyers must produce any Government Identification signed and stamped letter (with passport size photo attached) from employee introducing the individual as a representative from the company for the said Auction.
- VII. The scrapped equipment or materials will be sold in the condition as they are. The buyer must make sure has all necessary mechanisms to collect the sold goods within thirty days (30).
- VIII. The highest bidder is not necessarily the winner Auctioneer has the right to reserve the price.

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AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2019 TZS'000	2018 TZS'000
Income		
Income from donors	7,120,366	5,743,530
Other income	-	-
Total income	7,120,366	5,743,530
Expenditure		
Staff costs	2,545,679	2,351,061
Program costs	3,995,086	2,481,479
Administrative costs	453,861	595,435
Travel costs	106,789	295,787
Equipments costs	18,951	19,769
Total expenditure	7,120,366	5,743,530
Deficit/surplus for the year	0	0

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

	2019 TZS'000	2018 TZS'000
Non Current Assets		
Equipment	8,594	25,782
Total non current Assets	8,594	25,782
Current Asset		
Accounts receivables	401,757	80,935
Inventory	-	751,801
Cash and bank balances	15,402	440,826
Total current assets	417,159	1,273,562
Total Assets	425,753	1,299,344
Equity and Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payables	425,753	1,249,589
Payroll liability	-	49,755
Total current liabilities	425,753	1,299,344
Total Equity and liabilities	425,753	1,299,344

These financial statements were approved for issue and signed by:

Juvenalius Kuruletera
Country Director
Joan Zakayo Msumi
Ag. Finance and Accounting Manager





Agriculture ministry permanent secretary Gerald Kusaya (2nd-L, foreground) views farm implements at the Agricom Africa Ltd yard at Mbarali in Mbeya Region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

Zungu promises Lodhia Steel Industries prompt solution to scrap metal problem

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER of State in the Vice-President's Office (Union and Environment) Mussa Hassan Zungu yesterday promised quick intervention to end the problem of getting scrap metal that cripples production of Mkuranga-based Lodhia Steel Industries. The company requires daily 8000 tonnes of scrap metal but gets only 2000.

The company's managing director, Sailesh Pandit, told the minister during his visit to the company that Tanzania had plenty of scrap metal but the firm was getting only 2000 tonnes because suppliers had no permits to supply the raw material. "We cannot switch on machines in the furnace unless we have 8000 tonnes in place. But we only get 2000 tonnes and for the last two weeks we had not even received 2000.

We appeal for your intervention so that we can have uninterrupted production," Pandit said adding that the furnace alone employs 300 workers.

He reported that reliable small entrepreneurs who sell the scrap metal to the factory were unable to do so because, he said, they had difficulties in getting requisite permits from the National Environment Management Council (NEMC). Scrap metal, he said, was badly needed to sustain local industrial production, explaining that steel products were in high demand in on-going infrastructural projects like building the SGR, the JKN hydro-power scheme in Rufiji and building



big bridges.

Pandit also told the minister that the small entrepreneurs were asserting that the annual 1.5 million/- tax was too big, besides the initial 50,000/- form fee they must pay to get permits. "It is wise to look into this challenge minister," he appealed. The MD also reported that medium entrepreneurs who sell more than three tonnes who were caught doing business without permits were fined 5m/-.

Zungu (pictured) promised to consult NEMC to put in place a good system of issuing permits to scrap metal vendors. He restated that the government valued highly local industries for their worth, more so now that Tanzania has achieved a middle-income nation status. "The kind of machinery you have give you the quality of being designated as a primary industry and this is important to us as a nation," he said.

He also praised the company for protecting and preserving the environment as required by the law.

The company produces a range of products including steel bars and plastic tanks and exports products to Burundi and DR Congo.

SIDO scoops machines equipment manufacturers and engineering award at DITF

By Beatrice Philemon

THE Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) has emerged winner of Machines Equipment Manufacturers and Engineering Exhibition at the just-ended 44th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF).

The organisation was awarded due to its uniqueness in produc-

ing quality machines and equipment. It was named during the exhibition's closing ceremony held on July 13, this year.

Receiving the award, SIDO director general Prof Sylvester Mpanduji said: "We are so proud for this achievement; it is really a great honour for us because we have emerged winners in the same category for three consec-

utive years."

He said: "Our aim to take part at the fair is to assist entrepreneurs showcase their products, learn from their counterparts, and share experience from each other, hence gain confidence in running their enterprises successfully. We also wanted to enhance SIDO services visibility and recognition of what Small and Medium

Enterprises (SMEs) are doing in Tanzania."

"The organisation believes that one way of succeeding in all these initiatives is through collaboration with different development partners with similar focus on facilitating growth of SMEs sector," he stressed.

Mpanduji further requested United Nations Development Pro-

gramme (UNDP) as an important partner to assist in payment of the pavilion rental fee which is 20m/-.

"We very much look forward to this support which is in line with government's plans to ensure more industries are created," he said.

Prof Mpanduji noted that currently SIDO operates in 25 regions of Tanzania mainland and

owns seven Technology Development Centres (TDCs) in Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Shinyanga, Kigoma, Mbeya, Lindi and Iringa.

The organisation also owns four Training Cum Production Centers (TPDCs) in Dar es Salaam, Singida, Dodoma and Mwanza.

SIDO is a parastatal organisation which was established by the Act of Parliament No. 28 of 1973.

The organisation is mandated to plan, coordinate, promote and offer every form of services SMEs.

The responsibility of the organisation includes facilitating entrepreneurship development and offering extension services, promotes technology development and industrialisation, marketing, investment and financial services.

Pay all workers their dues, Mwanza-based firm told

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda, Mwanza

THE government has directed Auric Air Company in Mwanza Region to pay its junior pilots on monthly basis or give them allowances to enable them meet their daily basic necessities.

Speaking to this paper yesterday here, the Mwanza Region labour officer Oddo Hekela said that it is illegal to employ people without paying them even if they are interns.

"Recruiting people with conditions to serve for some years without salary or allowances in order to get experience as qualification is not accepted as that is modern forced labour. So

any worker in the company should be paid," he said.

According to him, the labour department visited the company recently after being informed on various irregularities.

"We have directed the company to ensure that it employs the pilots or pay them allowances so that they can benefit from their job by having reliable income to help them lead a good life," Hekela said.

Hekela however said that when someone is working on voluntary basis has no right to demand payment but if it is for the needs of the employer, then the worker should be paid salary or allowances.



Monduli district commissioner Edward Balele (R) pictured yesterday checking cheques for loan funds to be distributed to 21 groups of women, youth and persons with disabilities in the district. Photo: Woinde Shizza

TCDC, PCCB agree to strengthen funds monitoring in cooperatives

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

TANZANIA Communication and Development Centre (TCDC) has vowed to continue working together with the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) to strengthen the supervision of funds in the country's cooperatives.

The two institutions held a joint meeting yesterday at the commission's offices whereby PCCB delegation was led by its director general Brig Gen John Mbungu and TCDC

delegation was led by the registrar of cooperatives and TCDC chief executive officer Dr Benson Ndiege.

Dr Ndiege said work done by the PCCB in reclaiming money that was embezzled has provided a special message that money and assets belonging to members are not to be so misappropriated.

"We shall continue working together with the PCCB to protect money and assets of members of the cooperatives and I instruct assistant regional registrars of coop-

eratives and district cooperative officials to work together with the PCCB in their areas towards that goal," he said.

PCCB Director General, Brig Gen Mbungu presented investigation reports on money that was reclaimed by the Bureau on behalf of cooperatives countrywide after he was instructed by the Agriculture Minister Japhet Hasunga to do so.

"Just send to us your problems and challenges concerning em-

bezzlement by some officials who steal funds from the cooperatives so that we deal with them to ensure members assets are safe," Brig Gen Mbungu said.

At the meeting the delegates discussed the system and procedures used by the PCCB in reclaiming embezzled funds and on ways to plug avenues for such embezzlement in the cooperatives.

The PCCB and TCDC also agreed on areas for cooperation in regard to the two institutions.

In Ever-loving memory



ANNAMSURI MELKIZECK SALEMA
15/3/1925 – 17/7/2019
R.I.P

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light". Mathew 11: 28-30.

On 17/7/2019, you were called to go and be with our Lord. It is now one year we have lived without your loving care. You are forever missed by your Children, Grand Children, In-laws, Brothers & Sisters, Relatives and Friends.

Our prayer is always for your Soul to rest in Eternal
Peace till we meet again.
AMEN.

THE CRDB BANK MARATHON 2020



Message from the CEO

In line with our social investment policy, we have been involved in improving the lives of our community as we continue to amplify our focus on three key sustainability priorities: Health & Wellness, Education, and the Environment.

CRDB Bank Marathon allows us to work with our customers, business partners, and all Tanzanians in solving the challenges facing our society.

Abdulmajid Mussa Nsekela

Message from Director of Corporate affairs

The gist of organizing this charity race "CRDB Bank Marathon" is to participate in financing the treatment of children with heart disease.

Our theme for this year is "Kasi Isambazayo Tabasamu", focusing on encouraging all Tanzanians to participate in contributing to the cause and giving new hope to these children. The treatment will be done at the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKIC) whereby currently there are about 511 underprivileged children waiting for heart surgeries.



Tully Esther Mwambapa

HOW TO REGISTER

Join the Bank and thousands of runners on 16th August 2020 at the Green Grounds, Oysterbay Dar es Salaam to raise funds that will be channeled towards the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute to help finance surgeries for underprivileged children with congenital heart problems.

To register please visit the official CRDB Bank Marathon registration page <http://crdbtz.co/marathon>. Registration fee is Sh 30,000 for all categories: Running; 21km, 10km and 5km and Cycling; 42km.

Step 1 **Visit the CRDB Bank Marathon registration page**
You will be required to fill in your details (name & mobile number), then click register. You will receive a message with marathon verification code.

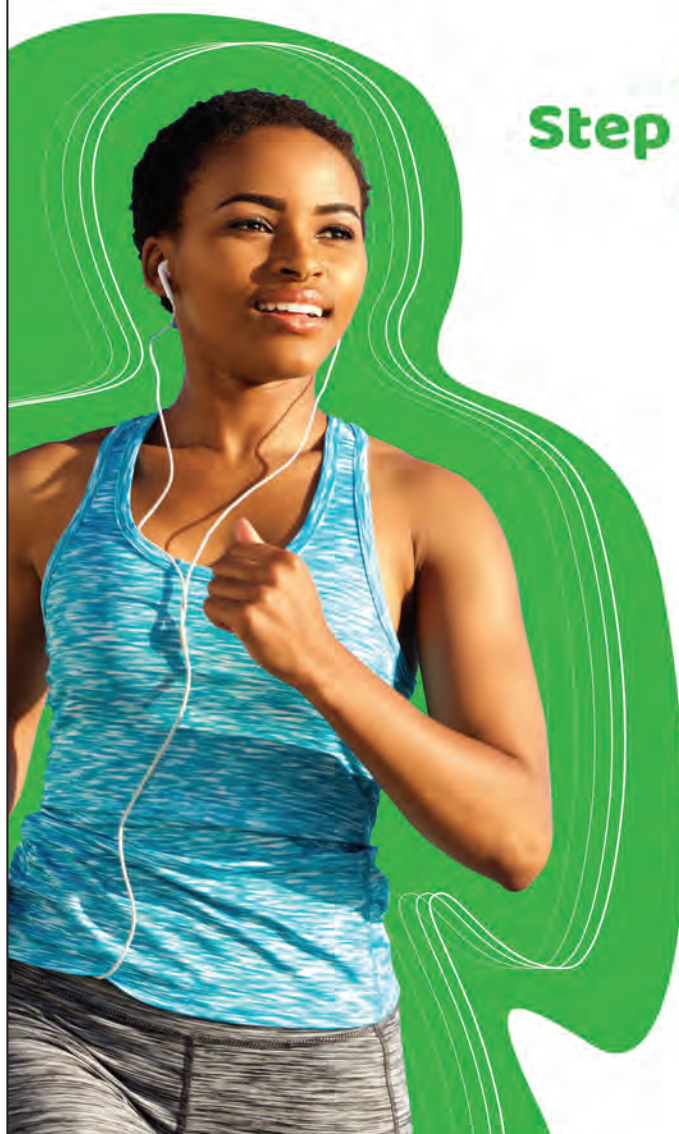
Step 2 **Registration**
After submitting details, you will be transferred to registration page to fill more details including verification code, gender, age, race category, t-shirt size and then complete registration. Participant will then receive message with payment reference number.

Step 3 **Payment**
Use payment reference number to make payment through our CRDB Bank branches, CRDB Wakala, SimBanking App or Mobile wallets (MPesa, TigoPesa, Airtel Money).

After payment, you will receive payment receipt that will be used to collect the 'Marathon Kit' at Mlimani City on the dates to be communicated later.

Let's run to together and spread a smile to our children.

"CRDB Bank Marathon, Kasi Isambazayo Tabasamu"



Bank replaces dinosaur 'suggestion boxes' with new smart QR mobile applications

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

REMEMBER the old, mostly wooden suggestion boxes that used to hang in the lobbies of financial institutions? Well the CRDB Bank has taken the initiative to replace the Jukeboxes styled, feedback chests, with new digitalised applications that can be accessed via one's mobile phone, tablet or portable computers.

"We are revolutionising customer feedback services by taking the suggesting boxes right to the palms of their hands, through digital applications," explained the CRDB Bank's Northern Zone Manager, Chiku Issa, who added that, through the new system, clients' complaints will also receive rapid response and solutions.

The new digital 'suggestion app' is known as 'Quick Response Code' or simply abbreviated as 'QR Code' and has already taken immediate application effect through the theme; 'Tunakusikiliza, tupe maoni!' (Let's hear from you).

According to Chiku Issa, the old suggesting boxes, installed at bank lobbies to collect customers' feedback, suggestions, pieces of advice and hand-written

complaints used to be opened only once a week and the seven-days duration was a rather long period for one to wait until his or her problem could be addressed.

"Besides, even the idea of treating all complaints at once, upon opening the box, lacked the tailor-made direct response to individuals who logged the complaints, which means it was hardly effective in making the customers or clients feel that their needs and demands were solved, or even reached the right desk," maintained the CRDB Bank Manager during the occasion to launch the service at the Friends Corner Branch of the Financial institution in Arusha City.

Dina Patrick is one of the bank clients, who also happens to be a school director, and was of view that the new QR Code will be helpful to pupils and students, because they are the ones who regularly pay their fees through online and mobile money transfers, therefore when stuck, they can use the application to solve their problems.

Another customer, Charles Hotay, said in the past they were forced to report to the bank whenever they had complaints

and then subjected to fill forms then slot the papers into suggestion boxes without being sure if they would be read, leave alone being solved.

The Head of CRDB Bank's Customer Experience, Yolanda Urilo stressed that the new QR Code was first effective and easy to use, in addition to giving on spot feedback and acknowledgement, adding that all one has to do is download it onto their devices.

With branches in practically all regions and districts in the country CRDB Bank is a leading financial services provider in Tanzania which has so far expanded across the border to as far as Burundi and South Sudan. The bank was established in 1996 and was listed on the Dar Es Salaam Stock exchange (DSE) in June 2009.

Over the years, CRDB Bank has grown to become the most innovative and preferred financial services partner in the region. Supported by a robust portfolio and uniquely tailored products, CRDB Bank remains the most responsive bank in the region.



Lindi residents line up earlier this week, waiting for their turns to undergo hernia and hydrocele surgery at the municipality's Sokoine referral hospital. In progress was a nine-day medical camp organised by Muhimbili National Hospital doctors with Equinor Company sponsorship. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



MWALIMU COMMERCIAL BANK PLC

PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Issued pursuant to regulation 7 and 8 of the Banking and Financial Institutions (Disclosures) Regulations, 2014

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2020	Current Quarter 30-June-2020	Previous Quarter 31-March-2020
A. ASSETS:		
1. Cash	141	170
2. Balances with Bank of Tanzania	2,621	4,541
3. Investments in government securities	-	-
4. Balances with other banks and financial institutions	281	115
5. Cheques and items for clearing	-	18
6. Inter branch float items	132	-
7. Bills negotiated	-	-
8. Customers' liabilities for acceptances	-	-
9. Interbank loans receivables	1,000	1,000
10. Investment in other securities	-	-
11. Loans, advances and overdrafts (Net of allowance for probable losses)	15,347	15,764
12. Other assets	5,213	5,851
13. Equity investments	-	-
14. Underwriting accounts	-	-
15. Property, plant and equipment (net)	1,046	1,128
16. TOTAL ASSETS	25,781	28,587
B. LIABILITIES:		
17. Deposits from other banks and financial institutions	-	600
18. Customer deposits	8,926	9,926
19. Cash letters of credit	-	-
20. Special deposits	-	-
21. Payment orders/transfers payable	-	-
22. Bankers' cheques and drafts issued	-	-
23. Accrued taxes and expenses payable	616	781
24. Acceptances outstanding	-	-
25. Interbranch float items	421	423
26. Unearned income and other deferred charges	222	265
27. Other liabilities	1,165	1,152
28. Borrowings	-	-
29. TOTAL LIABILITIES	11,350	13,147
30. NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES) (16 minus 29)	14,431	15,440
C. SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS:		
31. Paid up share capital	30,912	30,912
32. Capital reserves	-	-
33. Retained Earnings	(14,554)	(14,520)
34. Profit (Loss) account (Provision General Reserve)	(1,926)	(952)
35. Minority interest	-	-
37. TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	14,431	15,440
38. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES		
39. Non performing loans & advances	300	315
40. Allowances for probable losses	(266)	(303)
41. Other non performing assets	-	-
D. SELECTED FINANCIAL CONDITION INDICATORS		
- Shareholders' Funds to Total Assets	56%	54%
- Non Performing Loans to Total Gross Loans	1.9%	2.0%
- Gross Loans and Advances to Total Deposits	169%	147%
- Loans and Advances to Total Assets	58%	54%
- Earning Assets to Total Assets	63%	59%
- Deposits Growth	-15%	-5%
- Assets Growth	-10%	-4%

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2020	Current Quarter 30-June-2020	Comparative Quarter 30-June-2019	Current Year Cumulative 30-June-2020	Comparative Year Cumulative 30-June-2019
1. Interest income	646	697	1,319	1,506
2. Interest expense	99	175	222	277
3. Net interest income (1 minus 2)	547	522	1,097	1,229
4. Bad debts written-off	-	-	-	-
5. Impairment losses on loans and advances	(25)	(1)	(25)	(115)
6. Non-interest income:				
6.1 Foreign currency dealings and translation gains/(loss)	60	74	121	151
6.2 Fees and commissions	3	4	6	142
6.3 Dividend income	56	70	112	9
6.4 Other operating income	1	-	3	-
7. Non interest expenses:				
7.1 Salaries and benefits	1,607	2,013	3,170	3,996
7.2 Fees and commission	697	841	1,359	1,707
7.3 Other operating expenses	910	1,172	1,811	2,289
8. Operating income/(loss)	(975)	(1,416)	(1,927)	(2,501)
9. Income tax provision	-	-	-	-
10. Net income/(loss) after income tax	(975)	(1,416)	(1,927)	(2,501)
11. Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
12. Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	(975)	(1,416)	(1,927)	(2,501)
13. Number of employees	61	59	61	59
14. Basic Earnings Per Share	-16	-23	-31	-41
15. Number of branches	2	2	2	2
SELECTED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS				
(i) Return on Average Total Assets	-4%	-5%	-7%	-9%
(ii) Return on Average Shareholders' Funds	-7%	-7%	-13%	-13%
(iii) Non Interest Expense to Gross Income	265%	338%	260%	291%
(iv) Net Interest Income to Average Earning Assets	3%	3%	7%	6%

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 JUNE 2020 (Amounts in million shillings)	Current Quarter 30-June-2020	Previous Quarter 31-March-2020	Current Year Cumulative 30-June-2020	Comparative Year Cumulative 30-June-2019
I. Cash flow from operating activities:				
Net (loss)/profit before tax	(975)	(952)	(1,927)	(2,501)
Adjustment for:				
- Impairment/amortisation/depreciation	319	295	614	1,162
- Net change in loans and advances	417	388	805	(132)
- Net change in deposits	(1,600)	(547)	(2,147)	319
- Net change in short term negotiable securities	-	-	-	-
- Net change in other liabilities	(329)	313	(16)	58
- Net change in other assets	472	519	991	(504)
- Tax paid	-	-	-	-
- Others	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	(1,696)	16	(1,680)	(1,607)
II. Cash flow from investing activities:				
Dividend received	-	-	-	-
- Purchase of fixed assets	-	(12)	(12)	(14)
- Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	-	-	-	-
- Purchase of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	946
- Proceeds from sale of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	-
- Others	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	-	(12)	(12)	932
III. Cash flow from financing activities:				
Repayment of long term debt	-	-	-	-
- Proceeds from issuance of long term debt	-	-	-	-
- Proceeds from issuance of share capital	-	-	-	-
- Payment of cash dividends	-	-	-	-
- Net change in other borrowings	-	-	-	-
- Others	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by financing activities	-	-	-	-
IV. Cash and cash equivalents:				
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(1,696)	4	(1,692)	(675)
- Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	4,653	4,649	4,274	1,557
- Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the quarter	2,957	4,653	2,582	882

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 30 JUNE 2020 (Amounts in million shillings)	Share Capital	Retained Earnings	Regulatory Reserve	Bond Revaluation Reserve	Provision General Reserve	Total
Current Year						
Balance as at the beginning of the year	30,912	(14,445)	-	-	-	16,466
Profit for the year	-	(1,927)	-	-	-	(1,927)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bond Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provision General Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	(308)	-	-	-	(308)
Balance as at the end of the current period	30,912	(16,480)	-	-	-	14,431
Previous Year						
Balance as at the beginning of the year	30,912	(9,976)	-	179	179	21,293
Profit for the year	-	(4,827)	-	-	-	(4,827)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bond Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	(179)	-	(179)
Provision General Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the previous period	30,912	(14,445)	-	-	-	16,466

NAME AND TITLE	SIGNATURE	DATE
Richard L. Makungwa (Chief Executive Officer)	(signed)	16 July 2020
Selemani Kijiro (Head of Finance)	(signed)	16 July 2020
Patrick Mashalla (Head of Internal Audit)	(signed)	16 July 2020

We, the undersigned directors, attest to the faithful representation of the above statements. We declare that the statements have been examined by us and, to the best of our knowledge and belief, have been prepared in conformance with international Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act, 2006 and they present a true and fair view.

NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
1/ Herman Kessy	(signed)	16 July 2020
2/ Ambrose Nshala	(signed)	16 July 2020

MINIMUM DISCLOSURE OF CHARGES AND FEES MADE UNDER REGULATION 11

S/N	ITEM/TRANSACTION	CHARGE/FEE
1	Current Accounts	
(a)	Required minimum opening balance	TZS 50,000
(b)	Required minimum (deposits/overdraft) minimum	TZS 7,500
(c)	Cheque withdrawal over the counter	TZS 2,000 for amounts less than Sh5M otherwise 0.1% max. TZS 100,000
(d)	Fees per ATM withdrawal	TZS 1,300
(e)	ATM card statement	TZS 300
(f)	Interim statement per page	TZS 2,500
(g)	Periodic scheduled statement	0
(h)	Cheque book	TZS 500 per leaf
(i)	Discontinued cheque	TZS 6,000
(j)	Special clearance	TZS 38,400
(k)	Counter cheque	Free
(l)	Stop payment	Free
(m)	Standing order (same bank)	Free
(n)	Balance enquiry	TZS 300
(o)	New ATM card issuance	TZS 8,000
(p)	ATM card renewal or replacement (indicate costs for different card types)	TZS 15,000
(q)	Overdrawn account interest charge	20%
(r)	Unearned overdraft	20%
(s)	Interbank transfer	TZS 10,000
(t)	Bill payments through ATM	n/a
(u)	Deposit fee	0
(v)	Other (please specify)	n/a
2	Savings Accounts (Disclose for product specific types)	
(a)	Required minimum opening balance	TZS 5,000
(b)	Monthly service fee	TZS 1,000
(c)	Interim statement	TZS 2,500
(d)	Account closure	TZS 20,000
3	Electronic Banking	
(a)	Internet banking monthly fee	n/a
(b)	Internet transfers	n/a
(c)	SBM banking	TZS 1700
(d)	Other	n/a
4	Foreign Exchange Transaction	
(a)	Purchase/sale of FCS transactions over the	n/a
(b)	Purchase of foreign cheque	n/a
(c)	Sale/purchase of cash passport	n/a
(d)	Telegraphic transfer	n/a
(e)	Telex/SWIFT	n/a
(f)	Transfer from foreign currency denominated account to local current account (within bank and to other bank)	0
5	Personal Loans	
(a)	Processing/Arrangement/Appraisal fee	3%
(b)	Processing fee	1%
(c)	Coordination	2%
(d)	Mortgage finance	3.5%
(e)	Asset finance	4.0%
(f)	Loan/loan instalment	4.5%
(g)	Early repayment	0%
(h)	Valuation fees	two months interest
(i)	Other	n/a

Fixed Deposit - TZS	Deposit Rates			
	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months	18 Months
1 - 2 Mln	3.5%	2.5%	3.5%	3.5%
2 - 10Mln	2.0%	3.0%	4.0%	4.0%
10 - 50 Mln	2.5%	3.5%	4.5%	4.5%
50 - 100 Mln	3.0%	4.0%	5.0%	5.0%
100 - 300 Mln	3.5%	4.5%	5.5%	5.5%
300 - 500 Mln	4.0%	5.0%	6.0%	6.0%
500m - 1Bn	4.5%	5.5%	6.5%	6.5%
Above 1 Bn	-	-	-	-

Savings Account - TZS	Accrue on Daily Cleared balance paid Monthly			
	0 - 50k	50k - 1m	1 - 10m	10 - 100m
0 - 50k	0.5%	1.0%	1.5%	2.0%
50k - 1m	1.0%	1.5%	2.0%	2.5%
1 - 10m	1.5%	2.0%	2.5%	3.0%
10 - 100m	2.0%	2.5%	3.0%	3.5%

Loan Type	Base rate	
	Short term (up to 1 year)	Long term (2-4 years)
1	19.5%	+/- 4.5%
2	21.5%	+/- 3.5%
3	19.0%	+/- 4.0%

We, the undersigned have examined the above information and hereby declare that the information is true and correct to the best of our knowledge and information.

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE	DATE
Richard L. Makungwa	Chief Executive Officer	(signed)	16 July 2020
Selemani Kijiro	Ag. Head of Business Development & Marketing	(signed)	16 July 2020
Patrick Mashalla			



Habib African Bank Limited
Dar es Salaam

PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Issued pursuant to regulations 7 and 8 of the Banking and Financial Institutions (Disclosures) Regulations, 2014.

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30.06.2020
(Amounts in million shillings)

	Current Quarter 30.06.2020	Previous Quarter 31.03.2020
A. ASSETS		
1. Cash	6,537	5,052
2. Balances with Bank of Tanzania	36,331	41,047
3. Investment in Government Securities	85,250	76,411
4. Balances with other banks and financial institutions	22,882	24,101
5. Cheques and items for Clearing	42	36
6. Interbranch float items	18	21
7. Bills negotiated	1,377	1,714
8. Customer liability on acceptances	2,866	2,124
9. Interbank loans receivable	0	0
10. Investment in Other Securities	0	0
11. Loans, advances and overdrafts (Net of allowances for probable Losses)	126,706	131,857
12. Other Assets	1,989	1,495
13. Equity Investments	0	0
14. Underwriting accounts	0	0
15. Property, Plant and Equipment	6,422	6,499
16. TOTAL ASSETS	290,420	290,357
B. LIABILITIES		
17. Deposits from other Banks and financial institutions	0	0
18. Customer deposits	235,354	232,126
19. Cash Letters of Credit	0	0
20. Special deposits	1,565	1,755
21. Payment orders/transfers payable	0	0
22. Bankers' cheques and drafts issued	86	116
23. Accrued taxes and expenses payable	5,701	6,101
24. Acceptances outstanding	2,866	2,124
25. Inter branch float items	41	26
26. Unearned income and other deferred charges	0	0
27. Other liabilities	5,661	9,520
28. Borrowings	0	0
29. TOTAL LIABILITIES	251,274	251,767
30. NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)(16 minus 29)	39,146	38,590
C. SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		
31. Paid up share capital	2,600	2,600
32. Capital reserves	229	241
33. Retained earnings	31,573	31,748
34. Profit (Loss) account	1,088	369
35. Other capital accounts	3,655	3,632
36. Minority Interest	0	0
37. TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	39,146	38,590
38. Contingent liabilities	65,467	63,322
39. Non performing loans and advances	8,441	8,625
40. Allowances for probable losses	146	9
41. Other non performing assets	0	0
D. SELECTED FINANCIAL CONDITION INDICATORS		
(i). Shareholders Funds to total assets	13.48%	13.29%
(ii). Non performing loans to total gross loans	6.43%	6.32%
(iii). Gross loans and advances to total deposits	55.38%	58.39%
(iv). Loans and advances to total assets	45.18%	47.03%
(v). Earning Assets to Total Assets	80.86%	80.03%
(vi). Deposits Growth	1.30%	2.98%
(vii). Assets growth	0.02%	3.52%

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30.06.2020
(Amounts in million shillings)

	Current Quarter 30.06.2020	Comparative Quarter (Previous Year) 30.06.2019	Current Year Cumulative 30.06.2020	Comparative Year Cumulative 30.06.2019
1. Interest Income	5,444	5,849	10,963	11,470
2. Interest Expense	(3,073)	(2,816)	(6,173)	(5,632)
3. Net Interest Income(1 minus 2)	2,371	3,033	4,790	5,838
4. Bad Debts Written Off	0	0	0	0
5. Impairment Losses on Loans and Advances	146	250	155	133
6. Non-Interest Income	1,167	1,288	2,075	2,551
6.1 Foreign Currency Dealings and Translation Gains(Loss)	283	310	499	724
6.2 Fees and Commissions	281	314	548	697
6.3 Dividend Income	0	0	0	0
6.4 Other Operating Income	602	663	1,029	1,130
7. Non Interest Expenses:	(2,605)	(2,850)	(5,122)	(5,740)
7.1 Salaries and Benefits	(1,563)	(1,563)	(3,128)	(3,101)
7.2 Fees and Commission	(71)	(89)	(131)	(159)
7.3 Other Operating Expenses	(970)	(1,198)	(1,863)	(2,480)
8. Operating Income/(Loss)	1,080	1,722	1,898	2,781
9. Income Tax Provision	(360)	(405)	(810)	(810)
10. Net Income (Loss) After Income Tax	720	1,317	1,088	1,971
11. Other Comprehensive Income (Itemise)	0	0	0	0
12. Total Comprehensive Income/(Loss) for the year	720	1,317	1,088	1,971
13. Number of Employees	89	93	89	93
14. Basic Earning Per Share	277	506	419	758
15. Number of Branches	4	4	4	4
SELECTED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS				
(i) Return on Average Total Assets	1.00%	2.51%	0.76%	2.00%
(ii) Return on Average Shareholders' Funds	7.41%	13.93%	5.61%	10.46%
(iii) Non Interest Expense to Gross Income	39.40%	39.93%	39.29%	40.94%
(iv) Net Interest Income to Average Earning Assets	4.03%	5.22%	4.48%	4.97%

SELECTED EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30.06.2020

In preparation of the quarterly financial statements, consistent accounting policies have been used as those applicable to the previous year audited financial statements.

Name and Title	Signature	Date
S.S HASAN RIZVI (Managing Director)		15.07.2020
EPHRAIM MKONDE (Finance Manager)		15.07.2020
SHAIKU GWANDI (Ag. Internal Auditor)		15.07.2020

We, the undersigned directors, attest to the faithful representation of the above statements. We declare that the statements have been examined by us and, to the best of our knowledge and belief, have been prepared in conformance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act, 2006 and they present a true and fair view.

Name	Signature	Date
1. ZAIN HABIB		15.07.2020
2. VAZIR A BUKHARI		15.07.2020

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30.06.2020
(Amounts in million shillings)

	Current quarter 30.06.2020	Previous quarter 31.03.2020	Current Year Cumulative 30.06.2020	Comparative Year (Previous Year) Cumulative 30.06.2019
I. Cash flow from operating activities:				
Net income (loss)	1,080	819	1,898	2,781
Adjustment for:				
Impairment/amortization	106	108	214	218
Net change in loans and advances	5,151	10,097	15,248	(6,937)
Gain/loss on sale of Assets	0	0	0	0
Net change in deposits	3,039	4,760	9,798	(11,153)
Net change in Short Term Negotiable Securities	3,319	(5,832)	(2,513)	(10,940)
Net change in Other Liabilities	(4,274)	4,833	559	410
Net change in Other Assets	2,159	1	2,160	0
Tax paid	(524)	(450)	(974)	(810)
Others (Specify)	0	0	0	0
Net cash provided/(used) by operating activities	10,856	16,334	26,390	(4,550)
II. Cash flow from investing activities:				
Dividend Received	0	0	0	0
Purchase of Fixed Assets	(114)	(7)	(121)	(37)
Proceeds from Sale of Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0
Purchase of Non-Dealing Securities	0	0	0	0
Proceeds from Sale Non-Dealing Securities	0	0	0	0
Others(specify)	0	0	0	0
Net cash provided/(used) by investing activities	(114)	(7)	(121)	(37)
III. Cash flow from financing activities:				
Repayment of Long-Term Debt	0	0	0	0
Proceeds from Issuance of Long Term Debt	0	0	0	0
Proceeds from Issuance of Share Capital	0	0	0	0
Payment of Cash Dividends	0	0	0	(2,300)
Net change in Other Borrowings	0	0	0	25
Others(specify)	0	0	0	0
Net cash provided/(used) by financing activities	0	0	0	(2,275)
IV. Cash and cash equivalents:				
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	9,941	16,328	26,269	(6,862)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Quarter/Year	53,735	37,407	37,407	52,733
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the Quarter/Year	63,676	53,735	63,676	45,870

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 30.06.2020
(Amounts in million shillings)

	Share capital	Share Premium	Retained Earnings	Regulatory Reserve	General Provision Reserve	Other Reserve	Total
Current Year 2020							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	2,600	-	31,644	3,715	-	262	38,221
Profit for the year	-	-	1,088	-	-	-	1,088
Dividend paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer to statutory/Regulatory Reserve	-	-	80	(80)	-	-	-
Transfer to other Reserve	-	-	33	-	-	(33)	-
Prior years tax paid	-	-	(164)	-	-	-	(164)
Balance as at the end of current period	2,600	-	32,661	3,635	-	229	38,146
Previous Year 2019							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	2,600	-	32,445	576	1,283	230	37,134
Profit for the year	-	-	3,166	-	-	-	3,166
Dividend paid	-	-	(2,300)	-	-	-	(2,300)
Transfer to statutory/Regulatory Reserve	-	-	(3,140)	3,140	-	-	-
Transfer to general Reserve	-	-	1,283	-	(1,283)	-	-
Transfer to other Reserve	-	-	(31)	-	-	31	-
Difference in right of use and lease liability as at 01.01.2019	-	-	221	-	-	-	221
Balance as at the end of the year	2,600	-	31,644	3,715	0	262	38,221

Disclosure made under regulation 10 of banking and financial institutions (Disclosures) regulations, 2014
Bank of Tanzania debited TShs 130,000.00 in respect of discrepancy of cash bundles deposited for the quarter ended 30th June 2020, under requirement of Circular number 1, Section 2.3 (b) and Section 2.4 of Bank of Tanzania.

DISCLOSURES MADE UNDER REGULATION 11 OF BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (DISCLOSURES) REGULATIONS, 2014
MINIMUM DISCLOSURE OF BANK CHARGES AND FEES (GHARAMA ZA HUDUMA ZETU)

No.	ITEM/TRANSACTION	CHARGE/FEE	
		USD	TSHS
1.0	Current Accounts		
a)	Required minimum opening balance	500	500,000
b)	Monthly Ledger fees	35	35,000
c)	Bank cheque cancellation charges	15	15,000
d)	Withdraw charges	1.0%	Free
e)	Bank draft	35	-
f)	Interim statement per page	2.00	2,000
g)	Temporary statement per page	2.00	2,000
h)	Cheque book	35	35,000
i)	Cash deposit charges	Free	Fcy with small denomination-5%
j)	Bank draft cancellation charges	60	-
k)	Closing Account	25	25,000
l)	Stop Payment	-	10,000
m)	Tiss transfer	10	10,000
n)	Balance enquiry	Free	Free
o)	Dishonoured cheque	50	50,000
p)	Bulk Cash deposit charges	Free	Free
q)	Overdrawn account interest charge	13%	27%
r)	Unarranged overdraft	13%	27%
s)	Certificate of balance	25	25,000
t)	Letter of introduction	25	25,000
u)	Salary handling	-	10,000
v)	Banker's cheque	30	30,000
w)	Dormant Account Activation	15	15,000
x)	Clearing Charges	-	Tzs 1,000 per cheque
xi)	Other (please specify)	-	-
2.0	Savings Accounts		
a)	Required minimum opening balance	50	50,000
b)	Monthly Ledger fees (half yearly)	14.50	13,200
c)	Withdraw charges	1.0%	Free
d)	Temporary statement per page	2.00	2,000
e)	Interim statement	2.00	2,000
f)	Account closure	25	25,000
g)	Dormant account activation	15	15,000
h)	Cash deposit charges	Free	Fcy with small denomination-5%
3.0	Electronic Banking		
a)	Internet banking monthly fee	-	-
b)	Internet transfers	-	-
c)	SMS banking	-	-
d)	Other	-	-
6.0	Foreign Remittance charges		
	LCY to FCY	Telex/Swift	Commission
		50	Nil
	FCY to FCY (Usd or Equiv.)		50
	Up to 10,000	50	100
	From 10,001 to 25,000	50	150
	From 25,001 to 50,000	50	200
	From 50,001 to 100,000	50	225
	From 100,001 to 250,000	50	300

Note: Above charges may vary at the discretion of the management approval

No.	ITEM/TRANSACTION	CHARGE/FEE	
		USD	TSHS
4.0	Foreign Exchange Transaction		
a)	Purchase of foreign cheque	25	-
b)	Inward foreign transfer	20	-
c)	Outward foreign transfer	50	-
d)	LC Opening commission (Cash covered) per quarter	1.75%	-
e)	LC Opening commission (No Cash covered) per quarter	2.00%	-
f)	LC Advising commission (Inward/Export)	200	-
g)	Foreign documentary bill for collection (Inward/Export)	1.00%	-
h)	Telex/Swift	2.00%	-
i)	LC Acceptance commission	2% per quarter +50 swift charges	-
j)	LC Payment/Settlement commission	0.75% of LC Value	-
k)	LC Amendment commission	125	-
l)	Treasury bill bid charges per bid	-	100,000
m)	LG Issuance per quarter	-	1.5% to 2.0%
5.0	Personal Loans		
a)	Processing/ Arrangement/ Appraisal fee	1.50%	1.50%
	(i) Personal loans	1.50%	1.50%
	(ii) Overdrafts	1.50%	1.50%
	(iii) Mortgage Finance	1.50%	1.50%
	(iv) Asset finance	3.00%	5.00%
b)	Unpaid loan instalment	-	-
c)	Early repayment	Actuals as per valuer	-
d)	Valuation fees	-	-
e)	Other	-	-

The Guardian

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FRIDAY 17 JULY 2020

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

Covid-19 impact on global finances making talks on debt relief difficult

WITH export earnings likely to plummet this calendar year owing to unmet expectations that the coronavirus pandemic will be erased during the northern summer, and instead it is galloping in a number of countries, Tanzania and other African countries have fresh worries about servicing their foreign debts.

President John Magufuli was on record as having as recently as a month or so ago that Tanzania uses about 700bn/- per month to service the foreign debt, and all that is denominated in foreign currencies.

Without sufficient export earnings, it means that the country pared down its reserves to service the debt.

Our Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation ministry has lately said that it was in consultations with the Chinese Embassy on debt relief, and China has displayed keen interest in assisting Tanzania and other African countries in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, there are hiccups with respect to the otherwise free flowing legacy of cooperation.

As part of oversight in relation to sovereignty over resources, a Chinese loan worth \$10 billion was signed during the last years of the 'fourth phase' government to build a major port. But this doesn't meet the current criteria and has lately been cancelled, despite noticeable Chinese interest.

Just like Japan is globally acknowledged in building supertankers, the Chinese are developing large port concessions around the world that are often intensely debated in recipient countries and at times by foreign powers.

Scores of developing countries are picking up such contracts while there is also intense opposition from other quarters, especially the United States.

At the local level the dispute isn't a Cold War sort of difference but it has to do with sovereignty over natural resources - though, even then, talk

about debt relief invites conditionality as countries don't always cancel debts. Still there is slight room for this move too.

One way to resolve these differences is to take up the mining sector model, where Acacia's differences with the Tanzanian government were resolved when Barrick Gold Inc., the parent company, bought the idea of forming a joint venture firm with the government.

This way, the company hopes to have a direct say and keep watch over operations and earnings, and therefore land its rightful share of the proceedings but without the government being in the dark as to the goings-on.

It is also likely that joint venture firms will be created with Chinese companies which finance or earlier financed certain projects, so that the repayment burden isn't accentuated and don't result in conflicts of debt servicing.

The flagship legislation on 'unconscionable' terms of contracts reached with foreign companies and the theme of 'permanent sovereignty' over natural resources both seek equitable terms in contractual engagements. Legislation sought to rectify piracy and to underline the national interest and moral issues involved for contracts with a purpose.

Tanzania is now classified as a lower middle income economy boasting an abundance of natural resources, and is also logistically a potential trade hub for numerous countries in eastern and central Africa or large parts of those countries.

Accordingly, it is only to be expected that we will gear up for joint ventures. Insisting on total state control of strategic units in transport, energy or other areas could prove a big burden in loan servicing, while funding options to help us get over Covid-19 impacts will be limited, as each country needs to generate such funds. The ball is in our court - and the choice is ours.

Seeing huge numbers of women seeking nomination good, but...

ASPIRANTS for various positions "on offer" in the late October General Election are busy collecting nomination forms from their respective party offices all over the country.

There are also reports that women constitute the greater part of those picking up forms in one of the major opposition parties, Chadema, which at least suggests that many will be adopted as party candidates for parliamentary and (ward) councillorship seats.

Even if one should expect the best outcome, that women will receive equal consideration by party delegates in the nomination meetings - as there is apparently an actual strategy to make the women's wing the party's campaign base in the forthcoming polls - there will still be a long way to go.

Being nominated by a party is one thing and being endorsed by voters as a legislator or councillor is a different matter. But, as they say, even the longest journey begins with the first step. We shall have to wait for the outcome of the actual polls to know where women stand or opposition women voices stand with voters.

Still, the mere fact of a large turnout is positive in that it ignites the feeling that part of the work activists have been doing for years has actually been done to some satisfaction.

It is about the whole outdated idea that taking to a rostrum and talking politics isn't a woman's place and is better left to men to do the job, a view of things that is decidedly behind the global time schedule of do's and don'ts for women.

With an already shining record of women holding top state positions like Vice President or National Assembly Speaker, it is clear that good enough psychological preparations have been completed.

What can't be fully assured is however how far the number of actual Chadema (or any other party's) candidates will be women, and whether this in itself will demonstrate something in an indisputable manner.

The yardstick is 50-50 in candidacy and in the actual voting, which cannot be assured by any stretch of imagination, as the nomination is a competitive engagement.

Just like in any other scenario, parties stand to lose voters when they poke holes in candidates' ability to express themselves clearly enough. So the best aspirant has to be endorsed to enhance poll chances.

There is all the same a hidden psychological aspect in the number of women taking forms in the particular case of Chadema, which may have started being felt months and even years before the nomination exercise came about.

It is to figure out anchors of party stability in membership and support base generally in the more harrowing circumstances of the past five years, where those without firm commitment would abandon ship for "failing" to promise the same earlier pickings.

It is clear that Chadema is experienced and sensitive enough to this and other critical considerations to move with greater caution during the countdown to the General Election and thereafter.

Much the same applies to the rest of the political parties determined to participate meaningfully in the upcoming polls.

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Clear strategies needed to reduce bushmeat hunting

By Special Correspondent

DISEASE prevention and protection of species from the wildlife trade require differentiated strategies according to new research published in the *People and Nature* journal.

Extensive wildlife trade not only threatens species worldwide but can also lead to the transmission of zoonotic diseases. It encompasses hundreds of species with significant differences in their conservation status and associated disease risk. However, current strategies to mitigate the wildlife trade often neglect these differences.

(Zoonotic diseases, also called zoonoses, are illnesses caused by germs that are passed between animals and people. Put simply, they are ones that originate in animals and can cause disease in humans.)

An international research team led by the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (MPI-EVA) and the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) shed new light on the motivations why people hunt, trade or consume different species.

The research, which has been published in *People and Nature*, shows that more differentiated solutions are needed to prevent uncontrolled disease emergence and species decline.

Covid-19 and the associated global economic, health and societal distortions have shed light on the alarming threat of infectious diseases emerging at an increasing rate.

Around 60 per cent of emergent infectious diseases are zoonotic, originating in animals; among the most prominent are SARS, MERS, Ebola, HIV and Covid-19. More than two-thirds of those originate in wild species.

Many voices have called for higher restrictions or even a blanket ban on the wildlife trade. This demand is also fuelled by the devastating effects of unsustainable hunting that threatens hundreds of species.

However, millions of people, especially in the Global South, depend on wild meat ("bushmeat") for their livelihoods. Hunting and consuming wild meat is a vital part of their culture.

Therefore, current strategies often aim at trade regulations, rather than the enforcement of



strict bans. Even though species vary in their conservation value and their associated risk of transmitting zoonotic diseases, little is known about the reasons why people choose a certain species.

"In order to make wildlife trade more sustainable, to prevent uncontrolled disease emergence and species decline, it is essential to know and understand these reasons. I was surprised how little information existed on these," explains lead author Mona Bachmann, doctoral researcher at iDiv and MPI-EVA.

An international research team led by Mona Bachmann and Hjalmar Kühl from MPI-EVA and iDiv, studied a wildlife trading network in Ivory Coast. Since the wildlife trade is mostly illegal, people often hesitate to share information.

With the help of local, trustworthy informants, often hunters or bushmeat traders themselves, the researchers were able to break the ice.

Around 350 hunters, 200 bushmeat traders and 1,000 bushmeat consumers provided detailed insights into the wildlife trade and contributed to one of the most comprehensive data sets for a wildlife trading network to date.

Different species, different risks

In Sub-Saharan Africa alone, bushmeat trade encompasses over 500 species - from rats to elephants. Around 80 per cent of the bushmeat biomass harvested in this region consists of fast-reproducing generalists like

rodents, small-bodied duikers or antelopes.

These species resist high levels of hunting and are a crucial component of livelihoods throughout rural areas. Replacing them with alternative animal proteins could substantially increase the exploitation of fish stocks or lead to habitat degradation to provide grazing land.

Species that produce fewer offspring, like many primates, are threatened by even low levels of hunting. Since they are comparatively rare, they usually represent only a small percentage of a hunters' catch. Additionally, different risks of zoonotic disease transmission are associated with those species. In general, proximity with humans - either in the phylogenetic sense, like many primates, or in the spatial sense, like rodents in areas highly populated by humans - can increase the risk of transmitting diseases.

Most strategies aim at reducing wild meat in general, irrespective how common a species is or how likely it will transmit diseases.

However, people might use species for different purposes. If mitigation strategies neglect this fact, rare species of greater conservation relevance that contribute little to the total bushmeat biomass, like many primates or disease-prone species, would likely be overlooked.

According to the study, preferences for bushmeat differed widely between hunters, bushmeat traders and consumers, and so does their motivation.

People hunt for monetary, nu-

tritional, educational and cultural reasons. Primates, for example, were mostly targeted by commercial hunters for profit and consumed as a luxury meat, while rodents were hunted and consumed when alternative proteins like fish or domestic meat were lacking.

Interestingly, hunters and consumers who were aware of the negative ecological consequences of unsustainable bushmeat hunting targeted or consumed primates less. In contrast, bushmeat traders did not change their behaviour.

Broadly applied mitigation approaches are often development-based, educational or cultural. The results show that these interventions may address the likes of rodents, duikers and primates differently. Also, different responses by the individual user groups of hunters, traders or consumers are to be expected.

If bushmeat were considered as one generic good, we would have probably identified a lack of protein as the main reason for its use and had thus recommended development-related projects.

However, primates were consumed irrespective of the availability of proteins, and economic development could even increase economic resources to purchase the desired luxury product. Therefore, to protect primates, development-related strategies need to be complemented by educational strategies.

The researchers, therefore, urge policy makers to prioritise planning processes: clear goals, like conservation, development or disease prevention, have to be set. Prior assessment needs to identify the behaviour causing problems, the user group and its motivations. Knowledge and tools from disciplines such as psychology or marketing may optimise campaigns.

"Scientists and practitioners in conservation often rush to find quick solutions because every delay comes at high cost," says Bachmann, adding that in West and Central Africa, this often leads to one-size-fits-all solutions.

However, the researchers' results suggest that many conservation strategies may be tailored to fit the wrong targets. Poor planning not only hampers the effectiveness of strategies but can also cause harm and waste the already scarce resources available for biodiversity protection.

Hjalmar Kühl says: "If we really want to solve the problem of the overexploitation of wildlife and reduce the threats associated with it, for species conservation and human well-being, we need to tackle it at its roots." "We cannot continue ignoring this problem, but we need to invest resources and develop strategies that really help to create a more sustainable human-wildlife co-existence." Kühl adds.

Agencies

THESE words punch me in the face during an episode of Super Soul Sundays with Oprah. The guest gives an example of playing a guitar. If you pick up a guitar and become good at it, that does may mean you are the next musical sensation or you just love guitars. You could possibly make the best cupcakes on a whim that does not mean you should open a bakery store tomorrow.

You are great at many things, that does not mean you should do all of it.

This is made possible by how powerful your mind is. I dare you to set your mind on one thing you want to this year. If you focus all your energy, it can only get away from you for too long. Remember the universe; the human laws created by God to ensure balance? They are all working for your good.

I am great at many things.

It took the #decade challenge for me to reflect on a couple of them. Take away every negative thing that social media has amplified and you have a source of enrichment. The #decade challenge had us give gory details of the past decade in the hope of inspiring someone else across the world. It is too late to think about privacy and what Amazon, Facebook and Google are doing with our information, so why stop cataloging our lives now? My inspiration for the decade was by renowned director Ava DuVernay who details what paced success looks like with a touch of unquestionable great talent.

When I look back at my 10 years I see a rambunctious young teen racing too fast for her own good and facing a serious case of identity crisis. At 17 years old I walk into a theatre (No America I will not spell it as Theater, how else do you get the flair?). At 17 years old I walk into the Phoenix Players Theatre and try to convince a respectable director that I am the piece that is missing in his directorial career. I am the talent he has been waiting for. I fail miserably but that begins a beautiful journey of dancing through different media platforms. I miss a few steps and fall face flat but we made it through the decade.

Will Smith has said in interviews that a lot of his motivation comes from the fear of losing everything he has achieved so far. Kevin Hart says the same thing in his latest Netflix series. I totally understand where that fear stems from. If you grew up in a world where everybody lived off the same script, it is no surprise that any level of success would trigger intense impostor syndrome.

While growing up, I was quite sheltered an inconvenience I embraced out of fear. My childhood is littered with some inconveniences so when I could get away, I hibernated. Being a loner also makes you the most trusted person in the hood. I was privy to so much and that kept me away from the streets, quite literally.

To date only a handful of us made it out. There is a complacency that comes with living in the hood. The sense of community, knowing how life is going to roll out and having just enough exposure to be cool but a string's budget to have sporadic fun.

With that chip on my shoulders it was easy to talk myself into being great at anything. I was a greenhorn actor so I worked on becoming the best production assistant. Three years later of balancing school and a part time job at Phoenix Players Theatre, a cash crunch bit and my broke antennae went up. The next opportunity was an internship at a radio station, then a host, back to production assistant, an art director assistant, TV production and literally everything that happens on a TV set I can do. 2016 kicked in and the economy packed her bags in a huff. Budget cuts led to job loss and I was not spared. An ad agency job saved the day but before I could redo my house interior décor, the company shattered. One more try, okay a million little tries and I scored a radio job.

It has been as messy as that paragraph.

I loved all those jobs but I loved to survive too. Make it out of the hood. Pull my mother and cousins with me. Break these cycles and set up the next generation for success with a better chance at self actualization. Hard work is sold as the golden ticket. That has proven to not be entirely true owing to systemic classism and organized corruption. It will take a couple of posts to unpack the rot by the political class in Kenya.

Today I focus on what we can do to achieve greater success with our available resources.

This part of the piece is credited to my friend Gladis. I called him in despair recently venting about how lost I felt. America moves too quickly it's easy to disappear in the crowd. It was after a day of reflecting on the past decade that culminated in conversations with people who told me that my aspirations need to be 'adjusted'. I did not pack my bags and leave my mother's cooking for this.

Gladis listens. Quietly but you can hear him process each word. When he speaks, I have a pen in hand because people say the best things on phone and I am trying to live with more intention.

I have had a decade of scattered opportunities and living flustered because I was working to not be broke, as opposed to gearing towards success. It's hard to be consistent while crash dieting through opportunities.

Here is how we achieve consistency.

Think with a pen in hand of everything you are good at and list them in categories...eg,

What I am good at and have previously monetized

Skills that I am actively working on improving Things I am passionate about; you could do them for free.

Tie this in with the milk, honey and wine concept. This I learned from one of my many former bosses. Here's my sample breakdown.

What I am good at and have previously monetized Milk Writing

TV & Radio hosting

Production management

Running my mother's business

Skills that I am actively working on improving

Honey New Media technologies

Producing content

Teaching

Things I am passionate about

Wine Filmmaking

Acting

Working with charity organizations especially children

I love tables they make things so easy to understand. Milk is what you need for everyday living. Honey is what you are working on to add more value to your milk. Wine is what needs more time because you can only allocate a limited

You are great at many things, but that does not mean you should do all



amount of time. It all leads up to great success spread over time. We are not limited to the nine boxes. There will be unplanned opportunities that will come your way and you will be ready as a result of your relentless consistency.

With a list it is easy to focus and hence be more consistent. I use the word hence a lot. Writing what you are good gives you much needed affirmation. It feels good to know your strengths and kick impostor syndrome out and may be economy can move back in.

It is going to take more than a table to get you consistent. Hopefully this pushes you to the first step of taking your success seriously. Share your experiences with me and keep the momentum.

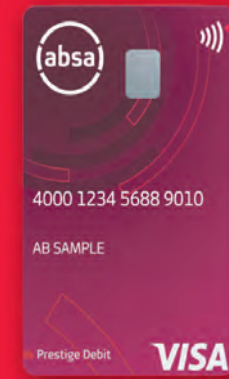
Happy Consistent 2020!

College Comfort Zone
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Absa is tapping in When you need us most



Abdi Mohamed
Managing Director of
Absa Bank Tanzania

1 Hello Tanzania,

As a country and global community, we are currently facing unprecedented social and economic challenges as a result of COVID-19. Despite the hurdles we've had to overcome, this crisis presents us with the opportunity to demonstrate care, to innovate and to effect long-lasting positive change. As a proudly African brand, we have prioritised the health, safety and well-being of our employees, our communities and you – our customers.

At Absa, we continue to build a digital bank for a digital age, tapping into more ways to not only make banking safer but also more convenient.



2 Contactless payments are here

We are very pleased to announce that contactless technology is now enabled on all new Absa Visa Debit Vertical Cards. This feature allows you to pay for your everyday goods and services by simply tapping on a contactless-enabled payment terminal (POS).



No need to insert, swipe or type.

What's in it for you?

It's fast – Shorter queues and a quicker check-out process.

It's easy – There's no need to swipe a card, sign a receipt or have cash for everyday items.

It's safe – Reduces the chances of fraud as the card never leaves your hand. Of course, the main benefit is that you can avoid touching the device, limiting your exposure to the coronavirus.

4 We're here for you and Tanzania

Along with our cutting-edge digital solutions, we have focused on other ways we can help reduce the negative impacts of COVID-19.

There is no doubt that livelihoods have been compromised. In response, we have introduced payment holidays and other relief schemes – for individuals, SMEs and corporates. These include SME loans, helping to sustain small business, the lifeblood of our economy. We have so far provided relief to 12 corporates and to 310 individuals and representing 27% of Absa Bank Tanzania's total loan book. What's more, we've waived charges on electronic interbank and mobile money transfers.

Absa has also actively contributed towards government relief efforts, including public awareness campaigns, screening and testing initiatives and the provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) to healthcare workers.

Since COVID-19 was declared a pandemic, Absa Bank Tanzania has provided 100 million towards health and community support programmes in Tanzania.

3 Our digital banking solutions

To help reduce your exposure to the coronavirus, we encourage you to use our world-class digital banking solutions, instead of visiting a branch. If you do need to visit a branch, we have implemented social distancing measures and strict hygiene protocols in all our branches.

Vertical cards
Designer cards that are packed with advanced functionality, including contactless tap.

Mobile banking app
State-of-the-art banking app with biometric access that lets you bank anywhere, anytime.

HelloMoney
You can do your banking wherever there's a mobile network. Do your banking when it suits you, simply dial *150*20#

Online Banking
Whether you are an individual or a business customer, banking convenience is just a click away. You can complete numerous types of transactions with just an internet connection.

Chat Bot
A virtual assistant, as well as our WhatsApp number +255743254244, that's available 24/7 to answer all your banking questions.

To find out more, visit absa.co.tz

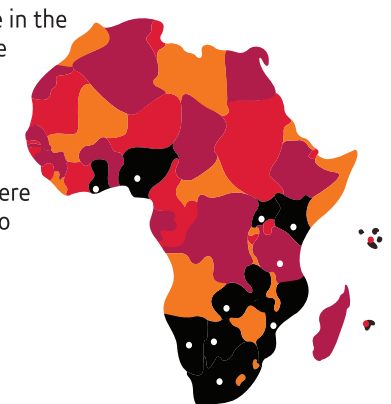
5 Africanacity is still alive

As a global African bank, we believe in the possibility of this continent, and are inspired by its people who are still getting things done, despite the challenges we all face.

You are not in this alone – we are here to not only help you survive but also to thrive.

#StaySafe

MD
Abdi Mohamed



Everyone says outdoors is safer with Covid-19 – and here's why

By Robert Roy Britt

WHILE cases of Covid-19 surge to new highs nationwide, responsible outdoor activities are being encouraged. From California to New York, states and cities are shutting down indoor dining – or keeping it closed – while allowing outdoor service and keeping beaches and parks open, too.

Governors are coming around to the view that scientists have been espousing for months: the coronavirus transmits more easily indoors than outdoors.

"The risk is definitely lower outdoors," says Kimberly Prather, PhD, an atmospheric chemist at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, adding: "The primary reason is there's just such a large volume of clean air."

Imagine a tablespoon of saltwater dispersing in a bucket of fresh water versus in a small glass of water, she suggests. She further notes that sunlight has also been shown to kill the coronavirus, "although the effect takes a few minutes".

However, outdoors is not totally safe, and images of crowded beaches and maskless pool parties over the Fourth of July (US Independence Day) weekend have health experts worried that already skyrocketing infection rates will just get worse. After all, an infected person's coronavirus-laden respiratory exhalations don't always obey the six-foot rule.

"I'm wearing a surgical mask at all times and I'm farther away than six feet. I'm at least ten, indoors or outdoors," Prather says, adding: "Distance is your friend. Always."

Prather admits that she is more cautious than many people, both because of what she knows and what remains unknown.

How the coronavirus gets airborne

The coronavirus that causes Covid-19 can be passed along by handshakes or after landing on surfaces, and maybe even through human feces. But the primary means of spread is thought to be through the air, especially in poorly ventilated indoor spaces, and especially within six feet.

Here's what happens: when we breathe, talk, sing, cough, or sneeze, we spew droplets of various sizes, from the visible to the microscopic.

Scientists recently measured droplets from a cough flying 16 feet indoors and sneeze droplets traveling 26 feet. Each droplet contains moist mucus and saliva, plus salts and proteins, cells from the respiratory system, and other bodily stuff.

In a person infected with Covid-19, the droplets can also contain super tiny coronavirus particles. The measurements are in microns, or millionths of a meter.

Upon hitting the air, the droplets begin evaporating immediately. Larger, heavier ones tend to fall quickly. Others lose most or all of their moisture and shrink down to as small as five microns or less, a mere nucleus of the former droplet.



Somewhere around this rough threshold, the droplets become aerosols, able to stay suspended in the air for minutes or hours, says Prather, who explained it in a recent perspective article in the journal *Science*.

Indoors, virus-infected aerosols can spread throughout an entire room and effectively create an invisible, infectious cloud.

How long the coronavirus remains infectious in aerosols is an open question, however. A recent study in the *New England Journal of Medicine* suggests the virus can remain viable in aerosols that can drift about for many minutes or hours.

In an enclosed space, they'll be constantly replenished as long as people keep breathing. If individuals are talking loudly, shouting, or singing, even more viral particles are spewed.

"In a poorly ventilated indoor environment where you need to shout to be heard, the six-foot separation rule will not be effective," says Dr Donald Milton, an environmental health professor at the University of Maryland and an expert on airborne infections.

Why outside is less risky

Whether you come down with Covid-19 depends on two primary factors: dosage (how many viral particles you inhale) and duration (for how long you inhale them). The thresholds are not known.

The US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention says a person should be tested or isolated if they've been exposed to someone infectious, closer than six feet for at least 15 minutes, regardless whether either was wearing a mask or not.

"It's not about one inhalation," Prather explains, adding: "It's about sitting there

and breathing it over time."

Aerosols will follow circulation patterns – they drift with the wind, in sort of a plume. Prather uses cigarette smoke as an analogy to understand the plumes you might encounter: "If a person was smoking and talking to me, where would I sit, to not breathe their smoke?"

A recent computer modelling effort illustrates what can happen when someone coughs outside. Taking into account evaporation and air movement, it showed that a slight breeze of 2.5 mph carried a plume of droplets 18 feet in five seconds.

A stronger wind keeps the droplets higher off the ground, but they'll disperse more across the same distance, the scientists concluded in the journal *Physics of Fluids*.

The point is that whether at an outdoor restaurant or the beach or strolling the boardwalk, proximity to others and environmental conditions matter. Even with a mask and several feet of separation, you wouldn't want to be just downwind from a group of people who are singing or shouting.

"If you're walking behind a group of people who are talking, you have to think about that, too," Prather says.

There are other factors that may further lower risk outside. Simulated summer sunlight kills 90 per cent of the coronavirus particles in aerosols within six minutes, according to a June 11 study in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*.

Heat and high humidity are bad news for many viruses, which is one reason the flu subsides in summer. But it's not yet clear whether or how quickly they disable the coronavirus.

One indication: unlike the flu, Covid-19 has been raging throughout southern states despite the heat of summer. The

simulated sunlight study found no evidence that humidity alone kills the virus.

Being outside is just one layer of protection

No single protective measure is foolproof, but in a layered approach, they add up. Prather explains one aspect of this with some funky math: if two people who are near each other are wearing masks that are, say, 50 per cent effective, the combined efficiency between them is 75 per cent. If they back up, that helps. If they're outside, that's even better.

"There's a reason we have stacked up so many imperfect measures" to reduce risk, says Dr Neha Nanda, an expert on emerging infectious diseases at Keck Medicine of the University of Southern California.

"Each lever has an additive benefit and they complement each other, and all are imperfect. So at a given time, we want to apply all if possible to reduce the risk," the expert explains.

One hint that outdoor gatherings can be relatively safe: protests around the US, which started in late May and most often involved a lot of mask-wearing, have not yet produced any known, significant outbreaks, based on early data from several cities.

Experts worry they still might, but even in New York City, no significant protest-related surge had yet been identified as of July 1.

Experts say that because so many younger people are now getting infected, often passing the disease along without knowing it, because they may not have symptoms, prevention requires constant vigilance from everyone in a community.

Clearing up confusing communication

The messaging on all this has been confusing, scientists admit, in part because it took time to figure out the behaviour of a novel virus that emerged just six months ago. Every virus has different means and levels of infectiousness and durability.

Additional confusion has been created by suggestions that there's a firm cutoff between droplets and aerosols. Rather, experts agree that there's a continuum of sizes – and, therefore, a range of distances across which the virus might be carried.

As one example of the evolving advice, even the World Health Organisation has been reluctant to acknowledge what the vast majority of experts now agree on, based on a letter sent only days ago to the UN health agency by more than 200 scientists.

And this is that the coronavirus can spread via airborne, aerosol-sized respiratory particles well beyond six feet. The sci-

entists admit that direct evidence for this is lacking – you can't gather people, spray the virus all around, and see what happens. "Is aerosol transmission possible? Well it's not proven, but absence of evidence is not evidence of absence," says William Hanage, PhD, an associate professor of epidemiology at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

He adds: "It can be possible on some occasions, and yet the majority of transmission can be short-range and droplet – which the majority of studies suggest it is."

Among the indirect evidence for aerosol transmission is that of several "superspreader" events, in which one person has infected dozens or hundreds of others, at a choir practice, at nightclubs, and on cruise ships. Adding to the consensus conclusion is the overall speed and pervasiveness of the coronavirus spread.

The WHO has since formally acknowledged that aerosol transmission, particularly among those who are indoors for long periods of time, "cannot be ruled out".

Meanwhile, some scientists are concerned that calling the coronavirus "airborne" will instill unnecessary fear, especially given how quickly it disperses outside. Measles is decidedly and very dangerously airborne, for example, but other viruses don't survive at all outside the body.

"When we talk about aerosols, especially with Covid-19, it's really about closer interaction within an enclosed space," says Saskia Popescu, PhD, an epidemiologist and adjunct professor of public health at the University of Arizona.

"We know that primarily, transmission is through droplet transmission," says Popescu, adding: "Aerosols can be generated, but we shouldn't take this as 'it's airborne!' – rather as a layer of transmission to consider".

What experts are willing to do outdoors

After three months of online school at home, Jennifer Horney's children needed to get out. Horney, PhD, an epidemiologist and professor at the University of Delaware, understands how Covid-19 is transmitted. But she also understands that we can't all stay cooped up forever.

She emphasizes that the best way to combat the physical and mental downsides of isolation "is to do some outdoor activities that are relatively safe compared to other things", including hiking, biking or swimming – so long as physical distancing can be maintained.

So her children are now spending time at a local community pool, where they swim in lanes only with other members of the family. Horney knows that chlorine and bromine, in a properly maintained pool, render the coronavirus inactive.

Two other keys to Horney's decision to give her children a break: in Delaware, mask-wearing is widely accepted, and the level of community transmission has been low compared to other states.

"What I'm willing to do both personally and to advise people professionally is really contingent on what the metrics look like in our community," she says in a phone interview, adding: "It all goes back to your local situation."

She would not, for example, take her family to a crowded beach in California or Florida, where new cases are surging and where she'd have less control over the behaviour of others.

Marc Lipsitch, PhD, a professor of epidemiology and director of the Centre for Communicable Disease Dynamics at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, knows as much as anyone about this pandemic.

He said that, given all he understands, he'd go to an outdoor restaurant during the pandemic.

"I have, actually, once," he said. It was with family and one friend, who he describes as almost family. "I don't think that's a riskless activity," Lipsitch says.

But the wait staff was masked, and we were masked when we weren't eating. "Importantly, he notes, this was in a part of Massachusetts where he knew there were very few cases.

"That seems completely reasonable to me. If I were in Houston, Texas, I might not," he says.

• **An Elemental dispatch. Robert Roy Britt is a science and health journalist and an author.**

China's civil code addresses challenges of the internet era

By Xue Jun

INTERNET is now integrated into all sectors of the Chinese society, and this social change has been fully taken into consideration in the making of China's civil code.

Because of this, the Chinese civil code is considered a symbolic one in the internet era, and deserves an important place in the global history of civil code compiling.

Paperless revolution and electrification are a major change brought by the internet, and they are widely applied in social and economic exchanges. To address the transformation, the Chinese civil code has made systematic regulation.

How can an online transaction or contract be valid? What online behaviours are considered legally binding offers and what are considered promises? When is an online delivery considered completed? These problems all have legal basis in the Chinese civil code.

To some extent, the civil code offers a complete statutory rules for online economic exchanges, which will effectively lower the institutional cost of online transactions and propel the de-

velopment of e-commerce and other businesses.

Internet also facilitated the emergence of platform economy, and many internet platforms are playing a pivotal role in today's social and economic life. Therefore, these platforms, as new market entities, are also a focus of the civil code, and complete liability clauses have been developed in this regard. For instance, the "notice and take down" rules are replaced by the more detailed "notification and counter-notification" in the civil code. All infringement of rights and interests on internet platforms can be compensated under this institutional frame, which will further normalize the platform economy and make it more sustainable.

People's social activities are more and more moved online in the internet era, which has brought new features of and changes to the rights of personality and property. For instance, online ID is now an important carrier of a person's social personality image, so it is protected by the civil code. New properties, such as virtual properties and data, are also taken into consideration by the civil code.

It is expected that as the internet economy further develops, a new

property law system will be created for the internet era on the basis of relevant civil code regulations.

The enhanced protection over personal information in the internet era is another focus and highlight of the civil code. The protection over personal information in the internet era is a global issue, and many countries have made special laws to respond to it. China also has similar legislation plan. The civil code, from the perspective of civil law, pays high attention on the protection of individuals' legal interests in terms of personal information. The implementation of the civil code will bring China's legal protection of personal information onto a new level.

The civil code's close relation with the internet era comes from the remarkable development of China's information and technology industry. Its clauses and terms related to the internet not only regulate, but also propel the healthy and sustained development of the internet industry.

The implementation of the civil code will further improve China's stable and expectable legal environment, and make China's digitalization and informatization more stable and sustainable.

People's Daily



A staff worker of "Jie You Bus," a legal service platform, explains new regulations and offers legal consultation services to residents in southwest China's Chongqing municipality, June 23. (File photo)

GPS boosts number of jumbos, rhinos in Ruaha National Park

By Guardian Reporter

THE use of Global Positioning System (GPS) technology in tackling wild animal poaching has shown positive results in Ruaha National Park with a significant increase in wild animals.

The technology is said to significantly contribute to the decline of poaching incidents especially the endangered species—elephants and rhinos.

GPS is a global navigation satellite system that provides location, velocity and time synchronization. It enables conservationists to remotely observe movement or migratory patterns of the animals.

"Poaching incidents at the Ruaha National Park have decreased with only two elephants killed in the 2019/2020 year compared to 30 elephants killed in 2015", said David Mlay, a conservation officer from the law enforcement and security strategy department at the park.

He however noted that the killing of two elephants in the year 2019/2020 happened outside the reserve.

Mlay linked the recorded successes in controlling poaching at the park with the use of GPS technology which has greatly helped in enhancing protection of the wild animals as well as early detection of problems.

The conservation officer explained that the GPS technology is used to monitor elephants and other endangered animals at the park.

"GPS marks all high risk areas and makes it easy for us to trace where there is a problem. It helps us to respond quickly before damage occurs", Mlay explained.

The use of GPS has simplified security operations compared to the previous period when wardens were walking by foot or use cars when conducting patrols. The new technology is capable of tracing and tracking wild animals' location and movement, the thing that makes them safer than before.

"Efforts to strengthen security in the entire reserve area and outside the park has facilitated the arrest of 1331 poachers within five years (2015/2020). Some of these poachers have been charged while others have already been convicted", added the conservation officer.



According to Mlay, some poachers were found in possession of firearms that were used to kill the animals. He said some people were arrested for allegedly conducting mining and fishing activities in the reserve area.

Most of the arrested poachers are Tanzanians, he said.

"We are proud that we have managed to control poaching in five years since President John Magufuli came into power. The number of wild animals is increasing significantly," he noted commending the government's efforts in combatting poaching.

The conservation officer added that apart from rhinos and elephants, other animals that are often killed by poachers

include antelopes, many of which are hunted for meat.

Despite the achievement, the Ruaha National Park has put in place effective strategies including strengthening domestic patrols to achieve its targeted goals of reaching zero killing of elephants.

Other strategies are to strengthen good relations within villagers surrounding the park, the thing that will enable conservation officers to get intelligence information and to act on it before incidents occur.

He said the park has embarked on provision of education to the surrounding community to promote mindset change so that they stop considering animals as their enemies.

Idodi Ward Executive Officer, Abdulatifu Issa explained that the situation is now calm compared to the past years when there were several poaching incidents.

The Ward Officer acknowledged that the reserve has largely strived to strengthen wildlife protection including the use of modern technology that ensures early detection of problems.

He said the establishment of the good neighborhood units has facilitated information sharing between the villagers and park officers.

"A number of youth in the area have benefited with job opportunities at the park", he said calling for strengthened relationships between the park and villagers to make them contribute more in wildlife protection.

Dorcas Samwel, a resident of Tungamalenga village which is among the 65 villages bordering the Ruaha National Park said wild animal's poaching has been largely controlled with the use of modern technologies.

She however complained of frequent wild animal invasion into their residential areas as well as farms. She said the big animals are destroying crops and attacking villagers.

Samwel called upon the Ruaha authority to have also applied the same modern technology to control wild animals that destroyed the villagers' farms.

Recently a team of journalists from various media houses paid a field visit at the Ruaha National Park in Iringa region. The tour was organized by the Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) with support from Internews-Earth Journalism Network.

Ruaha National Park is a national park in Tanzania located in the Iringa region, with the size of 20,226 km², making it the largest protected area in Tanzania and East Africa.

The park is one of the Tanzania birds' paradise with more than 571 species and some of them are known to be migrants from within and outside Africa.

Ruaha is believed to have a higher concentration of elephants than any National Park in East Africa. It is also a place where magnificent mammals like Kudu, Sable and Roan antelopes can easily be spotted in Miombo woodland.

The park is also a habitat for endangered wild dogs. Other animals in the park include lions, leopards, cheetah, giraffes, zebras, elands, impala, bat eared foxes and Jackals.

Apart from large animals, the park also harbors a number of reptiles and amphibians such as crocodiles, poisonous and non-poisonous snakes, monitor lizards, agama lizards and frogs.

The park is characterized by semi-arid type of vegetation, baobab trees, Acacia and other species.

In African villages, coronavirus sparks fears of a spike in malaria deaths

GULU/PALABEK, Uganda

IN her small home in northern Uganda surrounded by the six children she cares for, Acayo Rose (74) sleeps under a mosquito net she inherited from a dead relative.

"My net has many holes," said Rose, dressed in a t-shirt with the words "never quit", as she gestured towards the bedroom in the old, run-down building in Gulu district where she lives. "All the nets have holes."

Rose has just recovered from malaria, which also infected the two-year-old grandchild she cares for.

She is unemployed and went into debt to pay for the 25,000 Ugandan shillings (\$6.80) medication needed to treat both herself and the toddler, whose life she feared was at risk.

"It was really terrible," she said, watching him playing with a stick on the ground.

World Health Organization (WHO) data shows about 405,000

people died from malaria in 2018, with sub-Saharan Africa accounting for 94% of these deaths. More than two-thirds of the victims were under five.

The WHO warned in April that the number of annual malaria deaths in sub-Saharan Africa could almost double this year due to the coronavirus pandemic to 769,000 - a level last seen 20 years ago.

The spread of COVID-19 has impacted access to anti-malarial medication, with people wary of going to a doctor, and the distribution of insecticide-treated mosquito nets.

It would not be the first time an outbreak of another disease led to a rise in the number of malaria infections.

North Kivu province in the Democratic Republic of Congo saw an eight-fold increase in malaria cases after the 2018 Ebola outbreak there as the focus of medical efforts shifted.

Aware of the risks, many coun-

tries are pushing ahead with campaigns aimed at reducing the numbers, concerned about losing gains made in recent years to reach a globally agreed United Nations target to eliminate malaria by 2030.

Uganda is planning a nationwide mosquito net distribution programme this year, the first since 2017, with about 27 million nets to be given out to 43 million people.

The distribution teams have started work, kitted out in protective gear and supported by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Against Malaria Foundation, and USAID.

"Mosquitos are not in a lockdown, they are still free. Why survive COVID-19 and die of malaria?" said Jimmy Opigo, a programme manager at Uganda's Ministry of Health National Malaria Control Program.

"The mosquito net distribution is one of the main means of fighting malaria. We do it every three

years because mosquito nets, the long lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets, last three years."

Uganda has reduced the prevalence of malaria to about 9.2% in 2018 from 42% in 2009 and Opigo said it was key that routine public health interventions continued, despite the pandemic.

"For malaria especially, if you don't respond we can have a resurgence and an epidemic. A reversal and a loss of all the gains we have made," he told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

But while efforts are under way to distribute bed nets, some healthcare workers fear the government-distributed nets will be too slow to arrive.

"We have some of the worst malaria rates in the world," said Nicolas Laing, co-founder of One Day Health, which runs remote health centres in northern Uganda.

Laing is raising money to buy 5,000 nets, fearing the government ones will come too late.

"Malaria season in Gulu is be-

tween April and October and we're due to get our nets in October or November," Laing said.

"It's absolutely crippling ... You have all these children and adults who are anaemic. They have much lower energy than they should."

MALARIA SEASON

Across Africa, where there are now more than 600,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases, healthcare workers fear the pandemic is deterring people from visiting doctors.

"There is a general hesitation to visit any health facility because patients, and also parents of patients, are afraid of getting infected," said Fabio Biolchini, head of a Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) hospital in Sierra Leone's Eastern Province.

Biolchini said they were only seeing a third of the numbers of patients that came this time last year, with parents bringing sick children only "as a last resort".

Instead, MSF is now operating outreach programmes including mobile clinics, where Biolchini said they were seeing "many, many" cases of malaria.

Keziah L. Malm, a programme manager with Ghana's National Malaria Programme, said malaria was a huge public health concern. "It affects every aspect of the health, social and economic life of the people," Malm said.

Ghana reported its first COVID-19 case in March and now has more than 23,800 confirmed cases - one of the highest numbers on the continent.

Meanwhile admissions for malaria have decreased.

"People will rather stay at home and buy over-the-counter medications and visit the hospitals only when all other attempts at self-medication has failed," said Malm.

In northern Uganda's Palabek refugee settlement Ocen David, a 19-year-old South Sudanese refugee, is recovering from malaria.

"This time the mosquitoes are too much. We're contracting malaria every day," said David, who has lived in the settlement of about 53,000 people since it was set up in 2017.

Ocen Robert, who chairs the Refugee Welfare Council, said nets were last distributed in 2018. More were promised, but have been delayed by the pandemic, he said.

At one of Palabek's health clinics, staff said they were overwhelmed and lacked the resources needed to tackle COVID-19, such as soap and masks or space for social distancing as about 100 refugees waited outside for appointments.

Clinical officer Adong Nancy said many of the patients had malaria or anaemia caused by it, while others had been affected by a scabies outbreak.

Last month one person died in the clinic from malaria, and others died in hospital after presenting with advanced symptoms.

More than 1000 farmers to benefit from spice farming project in Morogoro region

By Getrude Mbago

OVER 1000 small-scale farmers in Morogoro Region are set to benefit from a programme dubbed: "Uluguru Spice Project" which is aimed at empowering them with new skills and knowledge of sustainable spice cultivation and marketing strategies to improve their yields and income.

Implemented by Sustainable Agriculture of Tanzania (SAT) with support from the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), the project focuses on farmers working in the Ruvu river catchment area in the Uluguru Mountains.

Janet Maro, SAT executive director said in an interview that farmers will be benefiting from a strengthened spice value chain focusing on direct processing at the farm, product development and market access.

"We commenced the project in 2017 and will go until 2022, so far several farmers have started to reap big from their activities due to the skills and knowledge given by SAT experts," she said.

In addition 90 model-farmers and 15 governmental agricultural extension officers will benefit directly from the Uluguru Spice Project," she said.

"Indirectly the project will reach 12,625 people that benefit either from education through their relatives or by farmers who were already taught before. Moreover, open source information will be available to a broad audience, comprising marketing through internet and social media as well as throughout annual agricultural events in Tanzania. In addition, through the implementation of water protection measures, the project will benefit



many more people," Maro said.

According to her, to reach the target groups, a series of activities will be carried out. First, farmers will be mobilized to build groups or to collaborate with already existing groups.

"Here we pay especially attention to gender balance and encourage women to take over leading positions. In the next step, farmer groups are trained in agroecological practices with focus on spices, but without excluding other existentially important agricultural areas such as the cultivation of crops. Parallel to the agroecological training, the farmers will be taught in other sectors such as leadership, marketing, documentation, value addition as well as processing and storing. To this, saving and lending groups will be established to fund investments of group members," she explained.

Maro further said, to ensure the best possible marketing of the products, several workshops with interested representatives of the spice value chain as well as farmers will be organized.

"SAT already implemented a market study in the project area. The study showed that farmers are interested in the cultivation of spices and that some of them already are producing spices today. Though, the prevalent poverty in the region indicates lack of access to the market for the farmers. Most

farmers are not organized yet and do not follow any quality criteria, which makes it even more difficult to negotiate for a good price of their produce," she said.

She further noted that to guarantee water supply for the fast-growing population, water conservation measurements are indispensable. This can be achieved by sustainable land use, realized through agroecological cultivation methods, reforestation and protection of the existing tree stock.

The Uluguru mountains are surrounded by a forest that reaches until the farmers' fields. Spice cultivation is very suitable to such areas, because many of the cultivated spices find shade under the trees and if climb needed can up the existing vegetation. If farmers benefit from spice cultivation, then they benefit as well from the present trees and therefore won't clear land for conventional agriculture. Conventional agriculture comes mostly with monoculture and is therefore especially prone to erosion.

The mountains provide habitat for various endemic plant and animal species and are therefore a biological hotspot in east Africa. Moreover, the Uluguru Mountains are of significant importance for the inhabitants of Tanzania because the steep slopes are the source of the most important water catchment area in the country.

TANGOLDCORP STARTS COMMERCIAL GOLD PRODUCTION AT BUCKREEF MINE

By Property Watch Reporter

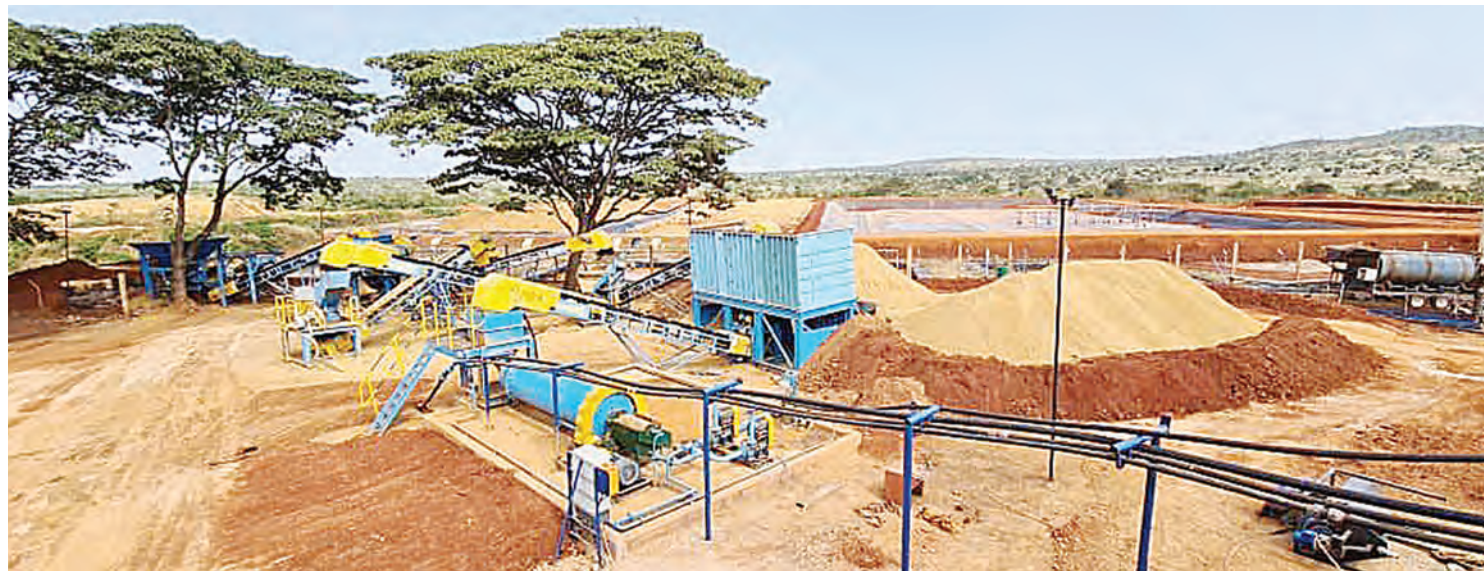
Commercial-grade production of gold from oxide has started at Buckreef Gold Project in Geita Region, Tanzanian Gold Corporation has said in a statement.

"The ore comes in two forms – the primary ore that is at depth and then becomes oxidized as you get close to the surface," said Ulrich Rath, the company's director. In the statement, Rath said, "The oxidized ore has different characteristics to the underlying sulphides."

He added that some companies elect to build plants that process both of them at the same time; however, they decided to treat the oxide ores first, as they are close to the surface and then to build a second plant to process the sulphide ores.

Roth noted that Tanzanian Gold now plans to expand the oxide plant in the fourth quarter of this year, with a further expansion scheduled for early next year. "The money generated from production at the oxide plant will be used to complete a feasibility study for the development of a sulphide processing plant," he added.

The combined plants of the facility will produce between 150,000 to 175,000 ounces of gold per year at full production capacity, he noted while stressing that recent drilling has also identified ore below the bottom of the pit, which could lead to an underground mining operation once the open pit comes to the end of its life.



Buckreef Gold Mine.

The company has also reassessed the mineral resources for the project, which now stand at 35.88 million measured and indicated tonnes grading 1.77 grams gold per tonne for 2.04 million contained oz. of gold. Inferred resources add 17.82 million tonnes grading 1.11 grams gold for 635,540 oz. of gold. The estimates used a cut-off grade of 0.4 gram gold.

In June, the company announced that it received an independent technical report entitled

'Updated Mineral Resource Estimate for the Buckreef Gold Mine Project, Tanzania, East Africa,' which revealed that gold mineralization has doubled.

The report said, "Since the last update, June 2018, the Buckreef Shear Zone Measured Mineral Resources have more than doubled in terms of tonnage but increased by two and half times in terms of contained ounces mainly due to the high grades intersected in the Main Zone Central and North East extension during

the last drilling campaign."

Tanzania Gold Corporation's Executive Chairman, James Sinclair said mineral resources have increased by approximately 20 percent with a corresponding nearly 30 percent increase in contained ounces.

"Inferred mineral resources have also more than doubled with but contained ounces just fall short of being double due to the deeper drilling and to reflect the open-ended nature of the mineralisation," Sinclair noted

adding that the report has highlighted two significant aspects of the growing resource base – the high grade nature of the bulk of our resources.

"When we upgrade the inferred category we will most likely have more gold than we announced on March 17, 2020 and today; and this still leaves the potential for further increased from the deep drilling," he added. The Buckreef project is jointly owned by TGC and State Mining Corporation.

Nigerian scholar calls for halt to auction of sacred Igbo artworks

LONDON

A prominent Igbo-Nigerian artist and academic has called for the cancellation of a forthcoming auction in Paris of two sacred sculptures taken out of Nigeria during its devastating civil war in the late 1960s.

Chika Okeke-Agulu, a professor of art history at Princeton University, said the sale of the Igbo objects – called *alus* or "sacred sculptures" – at Christie's auction house later this month would "perpetuate the violence" of the conflict.

Similar sculptures that adorned Igbo shrines in Okeke-Agulu's hometown and across south-east Nigeria were taken during the failed push for an independent state of Biafra. Up to 3 million people died, many from starvation, during the conflict, one of the darkest chapters in modern history.

"The original acquisition was rooted in violence," Okeke-Agulu said in an interview. "These objects are from my hometown, removed from places around eastern Nigeria during that war. What we're seeing now is the continuing benefit from that original act of violence, which is an extension of that violence."

The sculptures, which have an estimated sale price of between €250,000 and €350,000 (£227,000-£317,000), were acquired from Nigeria by the prolific French art collector Jacques Kerchache. Countless *alus* sculptures were systematically looted during the war from Mbari houses – communal shrines lined with symbolic murals and sculptures of Igbo deities.

Many artefacts were taken from Okeke-Agulu's home state of Anambra, the frontline of the war in the majority Igbo south-east of Nigeria. As the conflict raged, local conspirators collaborating with wealthy benefactors engineered the exodus of cultural treasures across the border to Cameroon.

"I remember there was deep pain at what the war cost us when it was over," he said. "I still remember my mother looking through catalogues in the 70s of *alus* and important cultural artefacts, most of which were outside of Nigeria."

"As an art historian it is a continuing agony that I teach African art. I studied African art at the University of Nigeria in Nsukka and we did not have access to the key artistic monuments of Igbo or Yoruba art."

According to Christie's, the sculptures were acquired by Kerchache between 1968-69, likely through a Belgian dealer, Philippe Guimiot, and other local art dealers. "There is no evidence these statues were removed from their original location by someone who was not local to the area," Christie's said in a statement. "At no stage since they have been widely known has there been any suggestion that these statues were subject to improper export."

Nigeria's 1953 Antiquities Ordinance law made the trade of stolen cultural artefacts illegal, and a 1970 Unesco convention signed by Nigeria banned the international trade in stolen artefacts. The *alus* statues are among a vast collection amassed by Kerchache and sold to a private collector after his death in 2001. Kerchache, who advised the late French president Jacques Chirac, was a prominent art figure and helped to found the Musée du Quai Branly-Jacques Chirac in Paris.

Okeke-Agulu said Kerchache was a key player in the global market for cultural artefacts who exploited Nigeria's war. "It does not matter whether Jacques braved the bullets and bombs, went by foot into Biafra and carted away or seized these objects. The main issue is that in a place that was at war, people went in and took away valuable materials of artistic and cultural value and sold them," he said.

Beginning with a rallying Instagram post earlier this month, Okeke-Agulu has spurred growing awareness of the statues' origins and opposition to the sale. The loss of cultural objects during the war was immense. Anna Craven worked as an ethnographer and curator at the Nigerian Federal Department of Antiquities in Jos, central Nigeria. In 1970, she was present during a raid where Cameroonian traders were stopped with dozens of cultural artefacts.



Two Igbo figures pictured in the Christie's catalogue.

CAIRO

Egypt requested urgent clarification from Ethiopia on Wednesday night as confusion reigned over whether Addis Ababa had begun to fill its Nile dam reservoir days after latest talks ended with no resolution.

The Horn of Africa nation's water minister first appeared to announce the move on TV before backtracking, saying that it was rainwater backed up behind the dam but that construction and filling "go hand in hand." Ethiopia has long said it would start the first impounding of water at some point this month.

Then shortly after the minister's comments, Sudan said water levels in the Blue Nile had declined by about 90 million cubic metres per day and said the dam's gates were shut. The average water flows down the river's main tributary on which the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (Gerd) is being built reaches 500 million cubic metres per day in August as it reaches Sudan.

Egypt, which depends on the Nile for more than 90 per cent of its water, made no further comment on the reports but the Foreign Ministry said it was seeking clarification. The conflicting statements came a day after the release of satellite images purporting to show the dam reservoir filling up. Experts said it was rainwater rather than a deliberate action by Addis Ababa to fill the nearly completed \$4.6 billion, 6,000-megawatt dam on the Blue Nile.

The photos were taken on July 9 and made public on Tuesday, the day after the latest round of talks involving Ethiopia, Egypt and Sudan on the operation of the dam ended without a breakthrough. Water behind the dam photographed by the European Space Agency's Sentinel-1 satellite was probably a "natural backing-up of [rain] water behind the dam caused by rainy season conditions," said William Davison, International Crisis Group's expert on Ethiopia.

Ethiopia has long maintained it would start filling the dam in mid-July regardless of whether an agreement was reached with Egypt and Sudan. The months of July and August witness the peak of the Blue Nile's annual flooding caused by the seasonal rain on the Ethiopian highlands.

"The construction of the dam and the filling of the water go hand in hand," Ethiopia's minister for water, Seleshi Bekele, told the Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation. He also confirmed the satellite images of July 9. Media outlets also quoted him as saying the filling has begun.

However, the minister later told the Associated Press that the images in fact reflected heavy rainfall. He did not explain the discrepancy



Benishangul-Gumuz region of Ethiopia.

Nile Dam: Egypt demands answers from Ethiopia on reservoir water level

in his comments. Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan on Monday wrapped up nearly two weeks of talks on the disputed dam without a breakthrough.

That round, held virtually because of the coronavirus pandemic, was the latest in nearly a decade of protracted talks between the three nations over the dam which, on completion, would be Africa's largest hydroelectric dam. The talks were attended by representatives of the United States, the European Union and South Africa, in its capacity as AU chairman.

Egypt, which has long blamed Ethiopia for the lack of progress in the talks, fears the dam would significantly reduce its vital share of the river's waters, costing the most populous Arab nation hundreds of thousands of jobs and disrupting its food security. Sudan is concerned a structural breach in the dam could flood large chunks of its territory and maintains that, without operational co-ordination, the Gerd could close its own

hydroelectric dams on the Blue Nile.

Ethiopia has sought to reassure Egypt and Sudan, saying the dam on the Blue Nile is key to the alleviation of its widespread poverty and is meant to benefit, not harm, the two downstream countries as well as other Nile basin countries.

But Egypt contends that Ethiopia is refusing to reach a legally binding deal and is rejecting proposals for a deal on the flow of the river during persistent drought or a mechanism for resolving future disputes. Egypt's share of the river's water is said by President Abdel Fatah El Sisi to be an existential issue.

A statement on Monday by the Egyptian irrigation ministry said the three nations would separately send their assessment of the talks to South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, whose country is the current AU chairman. The South African leader would later call for a summit meeting of the three nations and others to decide what should be the next steps.

The amount of water Ethiopia said it intended to save behind the dam this and the next year is relatively insignificant, but Egypt and Sudan fear that filling the dam without an agreement in place would set a dangerous precedent since Addis Ababa intended to build more dams on the Blue Nile.

Egyptian officials have so far avoided any reference to military action to settle the dispute, but Mr El Sisi has recently declared without mentioning the dispute directly that his military was prepared to carry out missions outside the country.

Pro-government social media influencers have, in the meantime, been urging the government to strike the dam before it is filled, a possibility that may have grown as the talks continue to fail to produce results. Military action by Egypt, however, poses logistical and operational challenges to Cairo and would be difficult to justify to the international community as an act of self-defence.

I&M BANK INAUGURATES MAIN BRANCH IN DAR AS IT CLOCKS A DECADE

By Property Watch Reporter

A leading regional financial institution, I&M Bank Tanzania Limited has inaugurated its main branch in Dar es Salaam but also launched an exclusive women only account dubbed, 'Tumeweza Women Account'.

Speaking at a ceremony to inaugurate the building which is located along Indira Gandhi Street in Dar es Salaam, I&M Bank's board member, Ambassador Bertha Semu Somi said the new branch and account will help Tanzanians improve their saving culture to back the lower middle income status that the economy achieved recently.

Ambassador Semu Somi said I&M Bank's latest development will also enable to meet the country's targeted economic dreams thanks to the women's dedicated account which has distinguished features rarely available in the market.

"The 'Tunaweza Women Account' comes in three variants, namely; Tunaweza Individual Savings Account, Tunaweza Current Account for businesses and Tunaweza Group Account for associations," said Ambassador Semu Somi.

Seconding his boss' statement, I&M Bank's CEO,



I&M Bank Tanzania Limited board member Bertha Semu-Somi speaks during the launch of the bank refurbished main branch and 'Tunaweza Women Account' in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Photographer.

Baseer Mohammed said the new main branch is an investment that is aimed at steering the economy to the next level of income status. "This year, we are celebrating ten successful years of our existence in the market, having originated from a very strong banking group, I&M Holding of Kenya," Mohammed said.

He said the bank appreciates the spirit of women in striking a perfect balance between managing work and family hence considers it as its responsibility to avail opportunities available to the group to invest in themselves.

"This account has very exciting features with no monthly charges as well as transaction charges to support women in different fields," said Lilian Mtali, Head of Retail Banking at I&M Bank. I&M Bank has presence in Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Mwanza and Moshi with fully-fledged branch operations in those specific areas.

Bank of Tanzania's Deputy Governor, Dr Bernard Kibesse who was chief guest at the event, commended I&M Bank for doing a great job in support of the economic growth during the past decade.

Dr Kibesse applauded the bank's management for its understanding of the needs of customers and responding positively by ensuring they get the best from I&M Bank. "After 10 years of existence in the market, with sustained trend of profit making, you gave the market a very promising future to bank with I&M," he noted.

Africa sees the swiftest railway line operational in Morocco

RABAT

Africa's fastest train line is fully operational. Railway infrastructure constructor Colas Rail, who built the project announced the reports.

The Al Boraq high-speed train line links the cities of Tangier and Casablanca, in Morocco. It was inaugurated in Morocco in November last year by King Mohammed VI in the presence of French President Emmanuel Macron.

Colas Rail subsidiary Colas Rail Morocco, in a consortium with engineering company Egis Rail, won a design-build contract for the high-speed line. The consortium built a 182 km/s electrified double track between Tangier and Kenitra.

According to Colas Rail Africa business Development Director Frédéric Priest, the railway allows for a maximum operational speed of 320 km/h and leads to a two-and-a-half-hour gain between Tangiers and Casablanca.

Construction works on the project included track studies and construction of catenaries and two base camps. Priest added that some of the high-speed-line project key figures included two-million tons of ballast, 50 000 t of rail, 700 000 sleepers, 400 km of track and a 25 kV catenary.

About 5 000 workers were mobilized during this project out of which 95% were recruited from the areas of Tangier, Casablanca and Rabat. Colas Rail laid 18 km of rail track - 10 km on the Kamsar port site and 8 km in Tuinguillinta. More than 75 000 t of ballast were transported to the site, along with 14 500 t of various machines and material.

"In Morocco, it was a legally binding solicitation. Our customer, Morocco national railroad administrator the ONCF Agency, requested that we consider the nearby combination of aptitudes by making an instructional hub during the task. In Africa, Colas and Colas Rail are accustomed to working with nearby accomplices and preparing neighbourhood individuals on location. It is a solid duty from our side and we trust in this model," said Priest.

City Lodge: Disastrous BEE matter

JOHANNESBURG

It is hard to overstate just what a terrible deal City Lodge's 2008 black economic empowerment (BEE) transaction has been, principally for shareholders.

Just three weeks ago, the hotel group surprised the market with a request for the approval of a R1.2 billion rights issue. At that point in time, its entire market cap was just R1.3 billion. Since then, it has declined to R914 million. Of course, the impact of Covid-19 and the countrywide lockdown since the end of March has been brutal on the hospitality sector. City Lodge shares are down 70% this year, so it is tempting to imagine the group desperately needing funding for the market to sustain its currently limited operations.

The reasons disclosed in the rights offer circular include allowing the company to "repay corporate debt; provide for its obligation under the BEE Funding arrangements; allow the Company sufficient working capital to fund its cash flow shortfall as a result of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and national lockdown; and create debt capacity and a flexible capital structure to position the company for future growth."

Remove the substantial burden of BEE funding from its balance sheet, and it would be hard to describe the level of debt as "high", which the group does in the circular. In fact, it is clear that shareholders are being asked to stump up R1.2 billion for the primary purpose of bailing out City Lodge's BEE scheme.

Rewind to 2008

In 2008, the group completed a BEE transaction with three entities who, together, would acquire 15% of the company. At that time, the value of the deal was R485 million. Vuwa Investments would acquire 6%, the Injabulo ("happy smiles") staff trust a further 6% and an entity to be established by the University of Johannesburg, School for Tourism and Hospitality for the education of primarily black students of the tourism and hospitality industry would acquire 3%. The investments by the two latter entities are held via Newshelf 935 and Newshelf 892.

Vuwa was described at the time as "an empowerment company led by Mr. Bulelani Ngcuka who is an 18% shareholder in Vuwa. Vuwa is majority-owned and controlled by historically disadvantaged individuals and includes African Footprint Investment Holdings, an investment holding company controlled by black women". Vuwa was not allowed to dispose of shares until 31 December 2017 and it undertook to "ensure a minimum contribution to City Lodge's empowerment rating which includes a commitment to remaining at least 75% black owned and remaining 10% owned by black women."

Funding for the acquisition of City Lodge shares by the various parties would be via preference share funding provided by Standard Bank. This funding

SGR cargo revenue declines by Sh154m

NAIROBI

Revenue generated from transportation of cargo on the standard gauge railway (SGR) dropped 3.3 percent, or Sh154 million, in the first five months of the year, official statistics show, amid continued pressure by the State on importers to use the line to move goods from Mombasa.

Freight services, which informed the decision to build the modern railway from Mombasa to Suswa near Naivasha, earned the country Sh4.51 billion in the January-May 2020 period compared with Sh4.66 billion a year earlier, data by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) indicate.

Cargo services were not affected when President Uhuru Kenyatta ordered cessation of movement into and out of Mombasa and Nairobi early April. Passenger services were, however, suspended. The KNBS data shows China Communications Construction Company, the SGR operator, sold 320,730 tickets in January-March 2020 period before the "Madaraka Express" (passenger) services were temporarily paused early April.

Earnings from passenger services in the first quarter of the year amounted to Sh350.33 million, a drop of 17.84 percent compared with

would be guaranteed by the company. These seven-year A preference shares would bear interest at 74% of prime, and the (rolled-up) cumulative zero coupon five-year B preference shares at 75% of prime. With the scheme under water, the redemption date on both was extended to "no later than" 31 January 2021.

Fast forward to 2020

Today, the situation is dire. The June circular says matter-of-factly: "The B-BBEE Transaction is unfortunately materially out of the money". The total value of the BEE SPV shareholding on 15 June was R161 million. The amount outstanding in terms of transaction funding was R750 million.

The R50 million loan granted to Vuwa remains outstanding and has attracted total notional interest of R37.4 million, which has been converted to equity. It was not repaid at the original due date of 31 December 2017, as this was subject to the settlement of the BEE preference shares.

Excluding lease liabilities (a change under recent IFRS amendments), City Lodge's long-term liabilities as at its interim results



SGR cargo train in Nairobi.

the year before when 355,554 seats were booked. The passenger services only resumed on Monday, albeit on half capacity as part of measures to stem the spread of the coronavirus pandemic.

The KNBS data shows nearly 1.6 million tonnes of cargo were ferried from Mombasa to Nairobi on the SGR line between January and May 2020, a drop of 5.05 percent compared with more than 1.68 million tonnes a year earlier.

Data sourced from the Kenya Railways Corporation indicate transporting a tonne of merchandise on the SGR cost importers Sh2,820.79 on average in the review pe-

riod, a slight increase from Sh2,769.58. The SGR line has struggled to attract adequate cargo volumes with investors balking at the tariffs to transport goods from the Port of Mombasa to the inland container depots (ICDs) in Nairobi and Suswa near Naivasha.

The Treasury also expects the SGR business to generate more revenue to help offset loans taken to build the multi-billion shilling railway line, and ease the burden on taxpayers. The freight services formed the main economic justification for the \$3.6 billion (Sh384.84 billion under prevailing exchange rates) President Kenyatta's adminis-

tration pumped into the first phase of the project through loans largely contracted from Exim Bank of China from May 2014. Another \$1.5 billion (Sh160.90 billion) loan was spent to link the modern railway line to Naivasha, a section that was completed earlier in the year. More than 90 percent of Kenya's merchandise imports are shipped in through the Port of Mombasa. Latest statistics show goods valued at Sh655.70 billion were ordered from abroad into Kenya in the January-May 2020 period, a drop of 10.11 percent, compared with Sh729.43 billion in the same period of 2019.



City Lodge in Johannesburg.

on 31 December 2019 were as follows: Interest-bearing borrowings R660 million; BEE preference shares R353 million; BEE shareholder loan R50 million; BEE B preference share dividend accrual R337.2 million; and Deferred taxation R210.9 million.

The total exposure to the BEE scheme funding has since increased to the total of R750.1 million. This is more than the group's three revolving funding facilities (R660 million) secured over certain of its properties! It is this exposure that shareholders are being asked to bail out. By 31 January, an amount of R774 million (including interest to that point) will be due to Standard Bank, the preference share funders.

Obviously, if the rights offer is successful, the additional R426 million raised will be useful to reduce (actual) debt further. But, there is an enormous difference between a company trying to raise half its current market cap, or an amount 30% greater than its currently valued at!

CONSTRUCTION

US THREATENS TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS ON COMPANIES LINKED TO NORD STREAM 2 AND TURKSTREAM

WASHINGTON

The Trump administration on Wednesday hardened its efforts to prevent the completion of new German-Russian and Turkish-Russian natural gas pipelines by ending sanctions exemptions for companies involved in the projects and warning they'll be subject to US penalties unless they halt their work.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced the administration is ending grandfather clauses that had spared firms previously involved in the pipelines' construction from sanctions authorised by the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act, a 2017 law aimed at punishing Russia, in particular, for interference in US elections and other matters.

The move opens the door for US economic and financial penalties to be imposed on any European and other foreign company over the Nord Stream 2 and TurkStream projects, including those that had been working on the pipelines before the passage of CAATSA and had been exempted from the penalties.

The Trump administration has lobbied Europe, particularly Germany, to abandon the pipelines, which it believes will increase the continent's dependence on Russian energy. Wednesday's step comes as congressional legislation that would mandate the imposition of sanctions that



A Russian construction worker on his phone at the laying of a section of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline between Russia and Germany. Nord Stream 2 is owned by Gazprom, with investment from several European companies including Shell, Engie, OMV and Wintershall Dea.

had been authorised by CAATSA is advancing.

The US has been an outspoken

opponent of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, which would transport natural gas about 750 miles (1,200 kilometres) under the Baltic Sea from Russia to Germany. Along with eastern European countries

that also oppose the project, the US government argues that it will make Europe dangerously

dependent on Russia.

Already the threat of US sanctions has led one company that had not been covered by the grandfather clause to suspend its work on the pipeline. Late last year, the Swiss firm Allseas, which operated ships laying sections of the undersea pipeline, said it was halting work in anticipation of sanctions.

Nord Stream 2 is owned by Russia's Gazprom, with investment from several European companies. The German government has said it regrets the sanctions threat and considers them interference in the country's domestic affairs. However, Chancellor Angela Merkel made it clear last week that Germany isn't considering retaliation against the sanctions.

Russia has said it is, however, considering retaliatory measures. Mr Pompeo spoke to Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov on Monday, and President Donald Trump spoke to Turkey's president on Tuesday, but there was no indication that the pipelines had been discussed.

With TurkStream, Russian gas passes through the Black Sea to Turkey. Together, the two 578-mile (930 kilometre) TurkStream lines under the Black Sea, along with the Russian and Turkish onshore pipes, have the capacity to carry 31.5 billion cubic meters of natural gas annually.

China warns UK: Dumping Huawei will cost you

LONDON

China warned British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Wednesday that his decision to ban Huawei from the 5G network would cost Britain dearly in investment, casting the move as the result of politicised pressure from US President Donald Trump.

Hours after Johnson ordered Huawei equipment to be purged from the nascent 5G network by the end of 2027, Trump claimed credit for the decision and said that if countries wanted to do business with the US they should block Huawei.

But China, whose US\$15-trillion economy is five times the size of Britain's, warned the decision would hurt investment as Chinese companies had watched as London "dumped" the national telecoms champion.

"Now I would even say this is not only disappointing – this is disheartening," Chinese ambassador Liu Xiaoming told the Centre for European Reform, adding that Britain had "simply dumped this company." "The



Huawei's flamboyant 5G display.

way you are treating Huawei is being followed very closely by other Chinese businesses, and it will be very difficult for other businesses to have the confidence to have more investment," he said. As Britain prepares to cast off from the European Union, fears over the security of Huawei have forced New York-born

Johnson to take sides in the rivalry between the US and China.

"Relatively small place" In Beijing, the foreign ministry cast Britain as "a relatively small place" that was becoming subservient of the US. "Does the UK want to maintain its independent status or be reduced to being a vassal of

the United States, be the US's cats paw?" Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said. "The safety of Chinese investment in the UK is being greatly threatened."

Britain has become increasingly reliant on Chinese imports. Some 9% of all goods imported into Brit-

ain in 2018 – worth £43-billion – came from China, double the proportion from 15 years earlier.

But British companies have also invested increasingly in China. Between 2013 and 2018, they more than doubled their investment position in the world's second largest economy to £16-billion, according to official British data. By contrast, Chinese investment in British companies stood at £1.8-billion pounds in 2018 – far below that of the US, which is the biggest single foreign investor in Britain.

Trump identifies China as the US's main geopolitical rival, and has accused the Communist Party-ruled state of taking advantage over trade and not telling the truth over the novel coronavirus outbreak, which he calls the "China plague."

Washington and its allies say Huawei technology could be used to spy for China. Huawei has denied this. "We convinced many countries, many countries – I did this myself for the most part – not to use Huawei, because we think it's an unsafe security risk, it's a big security risk," Trump told reporters in the White House Rose Garden on Tuesday. "I talked many countries out of using it: if they want to do business with us, they can't use it. Just today, I believe that UK announced that they're not going to be using it."

Demand for office space to remain intact in the UAE and Saudi Arabia, CBRE reports

ABU DHABI

Demand for office space in the Arab world's two biggest economies – Saudi Arabia and the UAE – will remain intact despite expectations of major changes to the workplace caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

There is a belief in the market that uncertainty and weak economic conditions will cause businesses to take up less office space as many employees opt to continue working from home. However, with changes in how office and commercial space will be used to come up with safer work environments, the space requirements each employee requires could increase, Simon Townsend, senior director at CBRE and head of the advisory business in the Middle East North Africa and Turkey, told a webinar on Tuesday.

"What this could mean is that inverse is actually true," he said. "You may need more space, rather than less, as we move forward." The Covid-19 pandemic has infected close to 11.8 million people worldwide and killed more than 544,000, according to Johns Hopkins University, which is tracking the outbreak.

The rapid spread of the virus pushed governments across the world to close borders, shut all but essential businesses and restrict the movement of people, forcing millions of people to work from home. Although most economies are now reopening, businesses are embracing the work-from-home culture to protect their workforce. The trend has posed questions on the growth prospects of the commercial and office property sector.

Mr Townsend said that while the market is in a slightly "weaker place" than it was at the beginning of the year, demand for office space is expected to grow or maintain the same trend going forward. He said the UAE and Saudi Arabia enjoyed the geographical advantage of being the commercial and financial hubs for Asia, Africa and Europe.

"I think a lot of the global corporates will create and consolidate their hubs here and we will continue to see a strong office environment," he said. "There will always be demand for office space ... I don't see the end as yet."

Investcorp sells property worth \$200m in the US

NEW YORK

Investcorp, which counts Abu Dhabi's Mubadala Investment Company as its biggest shareholder, sold a portfolio of industrial properties in the US for more than \$200 million with the transaction generating "strong returns." "We are pleased with the result of this exit and our team's ability to generate strong returns amidst a challenging environment," Timothy Mattar, global head of distribution at Investcorp said in a statement on Tuesday.

The industrial properties in Boston and Chicago were acquired by Investcorp in 2017. The Boston properties comprised a warehouse, distribution and flex real estate portfolio, while properties in Chicago were primarily used for the storage and distribution of frozen food.

"Industrial, warehouse and logistics real estate assets are

essential for driving e-commerce and supporting supply chains, which is why we increased our focus on this area several years ago," said Babak Sultani, managing director and real estate product specialist at Investcorp. "We remain focused on continuing to identify resilient investment opportunities that are supported by long-term trends such as e-commerce-driven industrial real estate."

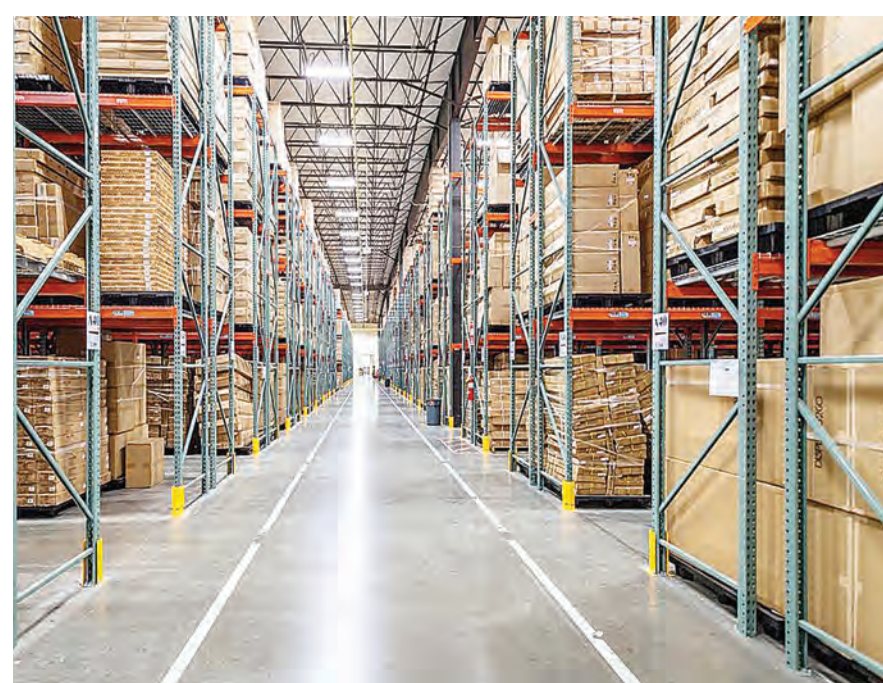
Middle East sovereign wealth funds and investment firms from the region have been investing in the US real estate sector for many years because of attractive returns. Established in 1982, Investcorp is one of the oldest Middle East alternative asset managers, with \$31.1bn of assets under management as of December 31, 2019, according to its half-year accounts.

Last year, Investcorp entered into a partnership with Dock Square Capital – a company founded by

former Florida governor Jeb Bush – to expand its business in the US. Investcorp owns about 230 industrial properties across the US totalling about 19 million square feet.

In November it bought a portfolio of 126 industrial properties in the US for \$800m. The company also invested \$164m to acquire two properties in the US this year. Despite a virus-induced economic slowdown there are strong opportunities to invest in the US real estate sector, some industry insiders say.

Second-tier cities in the Midwest, centre and south-east of the US including Indianapolis, San Antonio, Cincinnati, Kansas City and Houston, offer good investment opportunities, Ian Russ, managing partner of Delta Rhino Capital, a real estate investment management firm, said at an online seminar last month.



Investcorp sold a portfolio of industrial real estate properties located in the Boston (in picture) and Chicago metropolitan areas in two separate transactions for a combined total of more than \$200 million.

WORLD

E. African economies create better jobs in shift to services

NAIROBI

EAST African economies are gradually transitioning from agriculture to the services sector, a development that has to some extent resulted in the creation of employment opportunities in the region, according to the African Development Bank.

The International Labor Organization estimates that between 2000 and 2020, employment opportunities in the region's services sector more than doubled to 40.8 million, while those in agriculture increased by less than double from 56.7 million to 97.6 million.

Though opportunities in services are projected to grow more rapidly than those in agriculture, the bank said the bulk of employment opportunities would remain in agriculture.

This implies that though workers are expected to transition from agriculture to services, the rate of transition is not

as quick as expected.

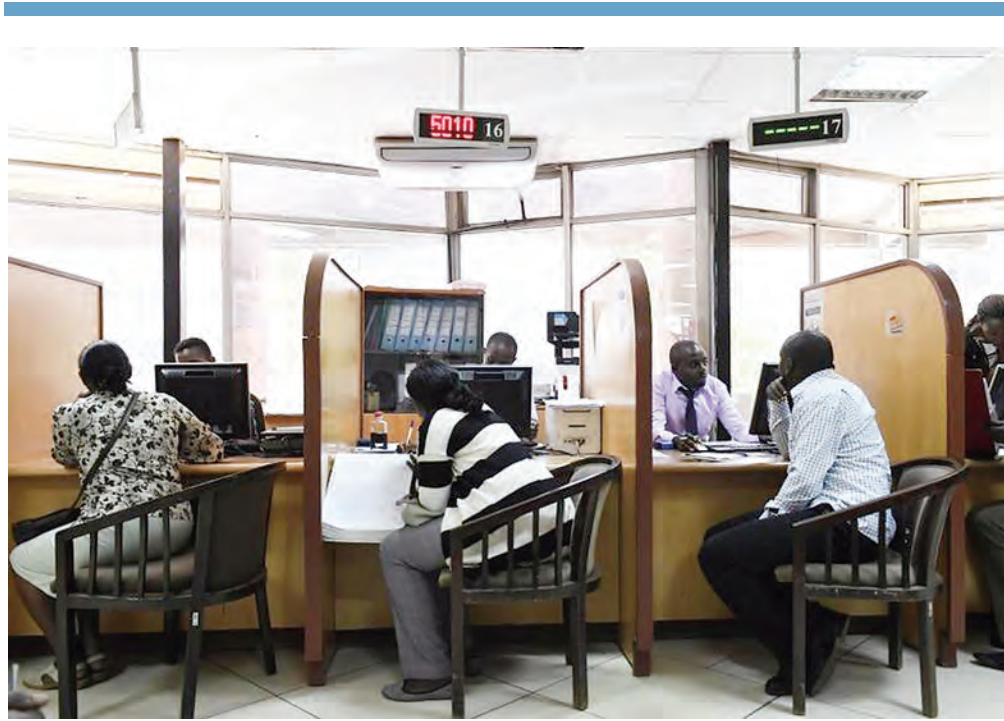
In its recently published East Africa Regional Economic Outlook 2020, the bank said workers in East Africa may be lacking the requisite skills required for working in the services sector, and that was the reason agriculture continued to employ more people.

Meanwhile, the report said the future of East Africa and Africa in general would be characterized by key disturbances in the future of work manifested in automation, changes in how people worked and collaborated and the information, communication and technology, or ICT, intensity of skills.

It is projected that 52 percent of tasks in the region could be automated based using existing technologies. Additionally, the intensity of ICT used for various tasks would increase in the short to medium term.

Impact of automation

For instance, in Kenya, over the last



Customers speak to bank representatives at the Equity bank on Mama Ngina street in Nairobi on February 6, 2018. (File photo)

decade 18.4 percent of formal sector employment occurred in occupations with high ICT intensity.

Digitalization and automation are reducing the demand for routine and manual tasks, while increasing demand for problem-solving and interpersonal skills.

And since automation threatens the jobs of those with basic education, it means that the future of jobs in the region is in activities with higher levels of education.

Further, the high intensity of ICT skills implies that the future belongs to workers who are endowed with intermediate to advanced skills in ICT, the report said.

The report therefore called on policy makers in East Africa to endeavor to integrate ICT skills in the curricula of higher learning institutions.

It also recommended the remodeling of the education systems to create critical and creative thinkers who are emotionally intelligent to fit in an automated and ICT intensive society.

This is in addition to making education financing progres-

sive.

A study of the provision and financing of education in the region revealed that governments were funding education in a regressive manner.

The economic outlook said that in East Africa, tertiary education received 0.84 percent of the region's GDP compared to 0.48 and 0.46 percent for lower and upper secondary education. This meant that East African countries prioritized tertiary education over secondary education.

The report said households provided 85 percent of the financing required for secondary education, implying that many of the poor who could not afford to pay for secondary education dropped out after primary school. **Agencies**

Xi voices confidence in China's economy, vows wider opening-up

BEIJING

THE fundamentals of China's long-term sound economic growth have not changed and will not change, Chinese President Xi Jinping said Wednesday in a reply letter to global CEOs.

He also pledged that China will keep deepening reform and expanding opening-up, and provide a better business environment for the investment and development of Chinese and foreign enterprises.

Writing back to representatives of Global CEO Council members, Xi said he appreciates their firm confidence in China's peaceful and open development, their commitment to staying rooted in China, and their constructive suggestions on China's economic development.

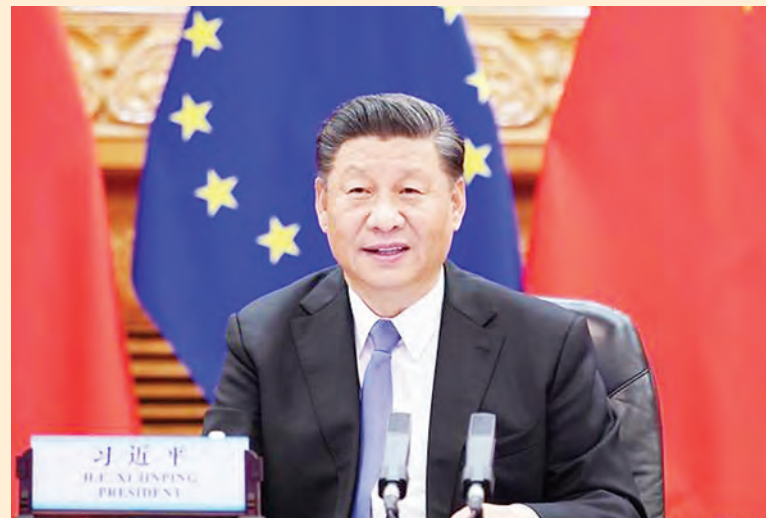
China, he added, is dealing with the COVID-19 epidemic and socio-economic development in a coordinated manner, striving for a decisive victory in building a moderately prosperous society in all

respects and eradicating poverty.

He said China will comprehensively implement major policies and measures aimed at ensuring the six priorities of employment, people's livelihoods, development of market entities, food and energy security, stable operation of industrial and supply chains, and smooth functioning at the community level, and ensuring stability in the six areas of employment, finance, foreign trade, foreign investment, domestic investment and market expectations.

China will foster new opportunities and create new prospects for Chinese and foreign enterprises, Xi said, adding that those CEOs have made the right choice to stay rooted in China.

In today's world, the interests of all countries are highly integrated, the human race is a community with a shared future that shares weal and woe, and win-win cooperation is the trend of the times, stressed the Chinese president.



China, he added, will be unwaveringly committed to pursuing the path of peaceful development, making economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all, and promoting the building of an open world economy.

Xi expressed his hope that those CEOs will adhere to the principle of win-win cooperation and common development, strengthen exchanges and cooperation with Chinese companies, and contribute to the world economic recovery.

Xi's letter was in reply to a recent joint letter from 18 CEOs of the Global CEO Council, which groups 39 multinational companies that are global leaders in their respec-

tive industries.

The CEOs spoke highly of the fact that China, under Xi's strong leadership, has rapidly contained the coronavirus epidemic, taken the lead in resuming work and production, and played a positive role in supporting the global COVID-19 fight and maintaining world economic stability.

They added that Xi's proposition on creating new opportunities out of crises and opening up new prospects in changing circumstances, as well as his resolve to unwaveringly promote economic globalization in a manner that will be more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all, have further consolidated their confidence in China and commitment to staying rooted in and serving China.

In their letter, the business leaders also offered suggestions on China's economic development and international cooperation in the post-pandemic era.

Xinhua

IMF chief warns global economy 'not out of the woods'

WASHINGTON

GLOBAL economic activity is picking up after an unprecedented decline this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, but a second major wave of infections could trigger more disruptions, the International Monetary Fund's top official said.

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said the fiscal costs of actions aimed at containing the pandemic and mitigating its economic fallout were driving up already high debt levels, but it was premature to start withdrawing needed safety nets.

"We are not out of the woods yet," she said in a blog posting ahead of Saturday's virtual meeting of finance ministers and central bank governors from the

Group of 20 major economies.

The IMF last month further slashed its 2020 global output forecasts, predicting a 4.9 percent contraction and weaker-than-expected recovery in 2021.

Georgieva (pictured) said US\$11 trillion in fiscal measures by G20 members and other countries, as well as massive central bank liquidity injections, have put a floor under the global economy.

Even so, dangers lurked, she said, including a major new wave of infections, stretched asset valuations, volatile commodity prices, rising protectionism and political instability.

Some countries lost more jobs in March and April than had been created since the end of the 2008 global financial crisis, and many of those jobs will never return,



Georgieva said.

Job losses, bankruptcies and industry restructuring could pose significant challenges for the fi-

nancial sector, including credit losses to financial institutions and investors, she said.

To ensure stability, continued

coordination across central banks and support from international financial institutions was essential, she said. Regulation should also support the flexible use of capital to keep credit lines open for businesses.

"Monetary policy should remain accommodative where output gaps are significant and inflation is below target, as is the case in many countries during this crisis," she said.

In a report to the G20, the IMF warned that rising protectionism and renewed trade tensions endangered the recovery.

A weak recovery itself raised the chances of disinflation and a prolonged period of low interest rates, which could undermine debt sustainability and financial stability, it said. **Agencies**

Beijing accuses Washington of making trouble on S. China Sea

CHINA said on Wednesday it was not afraid of any sanctions the United States might impose over the South China Sea issue, and accused Washington of stirring up trouble in the region and driving a wedge between regional countries.



Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying made the remark at a daily news briefing after Reuters reported that David Stilwell, US assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, warned on Tuesday that Washington could respond with sanctions against Chinese officials and enterprises involved in the South China Sea issue.

Stilwell spoke just one day after US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said that "Beijing's claims to offshore resources across most of the South China Sea are completely unlawful".

Urging Washington to reconsider its policies, Hua said, "As the world's most developed and powerful country, the only superpower, the US arbitrarily talks about sanctions, which is very pathetic."

Hua (pictured) said that Stilwell's remarks again showed that the US wishes nothing but chaos in the South China Sea and makes the utmost efforts to sow discord between China and other regional countries.

The US has dispatched advanced military aircraft and warships to flex its muscles in the South China Sea, while it also issued a statement to undermine the efforts of regional countries to jointly maintain peace and stability.

Such practices will only make the world more aware of US hypocrisy and hegemony, she said.

According to the US military, a US Navy destroyer carried out a freedom of navigation operation on Tuesday near the Nansha Islands in the South China Sea.

China will continue to firmly safeguard its sovereignty, security and legitimate rights on the South China Sea issue and maintain friendly cooperation with regional countries, Hua said.

She said she hopes that the US will not go further down the wrong path, urging Washington to play a constructive role in maintaining regional peace and stability.

Agencies

Kremlin says US threat of sanctions against Russian pipelines pressuring European business

MOSCOW

WASHINGTON'S

threat to impose sanctions against the Nord Stream 2 and the second line of the Turk-Stream gas pipeline projects within the framework of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) is an undue pressure on the European business and unfair competition, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said yesterday.

"That continues negative developments, continues the undue line on imposing various restrictions, undue pressure on the European business, which Russian companies also belong to," he said, adding that it "continues unfair competition" in an attempt "to force Europeans to buy more expensive gas under less favorable terms."

On June 4, US Senators Ted Cruz, Jeanne Shaheen and John Barrasso introduced a bill expanding sanctions against the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline project to the Senate, according to the statement posted on Barrasso's website.

The document clarifies that US sanctions related to Nord Stream 2 apply to vessels engaged in all pipe laying activities, as well as to those who facilitate providing those vessels, as well as to those who provide insurance, port facilities, or tethering services for those vessels, and ultimately to any company that provides certification for the Nord Stream 2 pipeline to begin operations, the statement said.

The Nord Stream 2 project contemplates construction of two gas pipeline strings with the total capacity of 55 billion cubic meters per year from Russia to Germany across the Baltic Sea.

The gas pipeline is 93% complete to date. The construction was suspended at the end of 2019 when the Swiss pipe-laying company Allseas stopped work due to US sanctions.

Agencies



Stable power supply creates better living conditions for residents in Northwest China's Xinjiang

UNSTABLE power supply is now a thing of the past in Datong Township, Taxkorgan Tajik Autonomous County, Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, to which a newly built 158.6-kilometer transmission line is sending ceaseless electricity, bringing huge benefits to local residents.

For centuries, candles were the only source of light at night for local Tajik people in the township located in the Pamir Plateau and surrounded by high mountains. Even in recent years, they had to endure the unstable power generated by a small hydropower station and photovoltaic power panels.

"For about two months each year there was no electricity, as the power was generated by the water, which failed every once in a while," said Amirjan from Datong, who's also a security guard of the only hydropower station in the township.

Built in 1986, the power station generates power through a dam near a village using the elevation difference between the dam and a river connected to it by a man-made water channel. It has a capacity of only 40 KW, and normally sent electricity to local households at night as it had to reserve the power during the daytime.

Though the local government has installed photovoltaic power panels for households beyond reach of the hydropower station in the recent couple of years, the power was still unstable and was easily affected by the weather, said Amirjan.

Now, power supply is no longer an issue for Datong, as a 158.6-kilometer transmission line was extended all the way to the township from Kizilsu Kyrgyz Autonomous Prefecture, Xinjiang.

On June 29, a 35KV transformer substation was officially put into service in Datong, marking that the township, the last one in Xinjiang to connect to the

national grid, finally had access to stable power supply.

After the township was connected to the power grid, a new modulator tube with higher power was installed for Amirjan by electricians who also checked the pressure and circuits in his house. He turned on the refrigerator that had been kept empty for a long time.

"I unplugged the refrigerator because of the unstable voltage and frequent food spoilage caused by blackouts," Amirjan told the People's Daily, adding that now the appliance can get back to work as power supply is no

longer a problem.

Thanks to the stable power supply, Amirjan can make milk tea within five minutes with an electric kettle, but in the past, he had to make fire out of wood. Now an induction stove and an electric rice cooker are on his shopping list.

Nearly every household in the township grows hullless barley and wheat, yet the villagers couldn't grind the grain into flour with mills given the unstable electricity supply, said Amirjan.

The villagers used to feed the grains to chickens or sheep and buy flour at the stores instead, he added. However,

the stores need to transport the flour all the way from Yarkant County and normally sell it to the villagers at high prices.

After the township was connected to the power grid, villagers can build mills and use them to grind the grain, which has saved them much money, Amirjan pointed out.

Due to the unstable electricity supply, the equipment in the local clinic had never been used and villagers had to go to other townships over 80 km away for medical examination, said Hamzhan, Amirjan's brother who works at a local clinic. **People's Daily**



Photo shows the stunning scenery of the Shimentai National Nature Reserve in South China's Guangdong Province.

Trading of certified carbon emission reductions benefits villages in South China's Guangdong

EMISSION reduction of greenhouse gases is now certified and traded under the Puhui Certified Emission Reductions (PHCER) program in South China's Guangdong Province, helping increase the collective income of the province's villages.

In April, 1,448 tons of reduced carbon dioxide equivalents in Qianfeng village, Hengshitang township in Yingde city of the province was transacted after fierce bidding at an auction.

"The purchase price is 36 yuan (\$5) per ton," said Li Yanshen, Party head of the village. The transaction helped the village gain over 50,000 yuan in collective income.

The PHCER trading means the transaction of greenhouse gas emissions reduced by increasing carbon sinks in the process of forest management and operation, which will be converted into certified emission reductions.

Guangdong launched the first batch of the PHCER pilot schemes in July 2015. By quantifying and pricing energy saving and emission reduction behaviors of small and medium-sized enterprises, households and individuals, the province established an encouraging mechanism that combines commercial incentives, incentive policies, and trading of certified emission reductions.

"Qianfeng village has sound conditions to implement the PHCER program thanks to its abundant forestry resources," said Chen Shuyan, head of the forestry bureau in Yingde.

"Each forestry land participating in the program should provide its cadastral data, such as its boundaries," said Geng Hongbo, the first secretary of the village

for poverty alleviation, who believes that certificates of forest rights are very helpful.

"Third-party agencies will verify such data, mainly by measuring the growth of trees and carbon emission reductions in previous years," Geng added.

"About 456.3 hectares of forests in the village have been certified as a total of 1,448 tons of reduced carbon dioxide equivalents," according to Geng, adding that the village's PHCER scheme was approved in March after it was submitted and filed.

Many other entities in Yingde have participated in the PHCER program. Like Qianfeng, Longhua village in the township also completed a transaction in April at the China Emissions Exchange (Guangzhou), the largest local carbon market in China, generating a pollution-free income of about 130,000 yuan.

The Shimentai National Nature Reserve in Yingde is a place with lush mountains and lucid waters. "It's suitable for planting Schima superba and maple trees, and we have planted about 1,333.3 hectares of forest carbon sinks," said Zhou Guocheng, a ranger at the nature reserve.

Market-based PHCER trading has not only fostered a new growth point of green development for poverty-stricken villages to increase collective income, but also made villagers more convinced from their first-hand experience that lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets. Besides, it has enhanced the endogenous dynamism of economic profits and the ecological environment, providing valuable experience for other impoverished areas to pursue green development.

People's Daily

Twitter hacking spree alarms experts concerned about the platform's security

SAN FRANCISCO/WASHINGTON

THE extraordinary hacking spree that hit Twitter on Wednesday, leading it to briefly muzzle some of its most widely followed accounts, is drawing questions about the platform's security and resilience in the run-up to the U.S. presidential election.

Twitter said late Wednesday hackers obtained control of employee credentials to hijack accounts including those of Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden, former president Barack Obama, reality television star Kim Kardashian, and tech billionaire and Tesla founder Elon Musk.

In a series of tweets, the company said: "We detected what we believe to be a coordinated social engineering attack by people who successfully targeted some of our employees with access to internal systems and tools."

The hackers then "used this access to take control of many highly-visible (including verified) accounts and Tweet on their behalf."

The company statements confirmed the fears of security experts that the service itself - rather than users - had been compromised.

Twitter's role as a critical communications platform for political candidates and public officials, including President Donald Trump, has led to fears that hackers could wreak havoc with the Nov. 3 presidential election or otherwise compromise national security.

Adam Conner, vice president for technology policy at the Center for American Progress, a liberal think-tank, said on Twitter: "This is bad on July 15 but would be infinitely worse on November 3rd."

BITCOIN BOUNTY

Posing as celebrities and the wealthy, the hackers asked followers to send the digital currency bitcoin to a series of addresses. By evening, 400 bitcoin transfers were made worth a combined \$120,000. Half of the victims had funds in U.S. bitcoin exchanges, a quarter in Europe and a quarter in Asia, according to forensics company Elliptic.

Those transfers left history that could help investigators identify the perpetrators of the hack. The financial damage may be limited because multiple exchanges blocked other payments after their own Twitter accounts were targeted. **Agencies**

Russia, Germany discuss potential production of Russian COVID-19 vaccine in Germany

MOSCOW

RUSSIA and Germany are mulling over the possibility of producing a Russian vaccine against COVID-19 in Germany, the Russian Health Ministry informed on the outcomes of the meeting between Russian Health Minister Mikhail Murashko and German Ambassador to Russia Geza Andreas von Geyr.

"During the meeting, they have discussed the prospects of further cooperation, namely the use of Germany's production capacity to produce a Russian coronavirus vaccine," the message says.

In late December 2019, Chinese officials notified the World Health Or-



ganization (WHO) about the outbreak of a previously unknown pneumonia in the city of Wuhan, in central China. Since then, cases of the novel coronavirus - named COVID-19 by the WHO - have been reported in every corner of

the globe, including Russia.

On March 11, 2020, the WHO declared the coronavirus outbreak a pandemic. According to the latest statistics, over 11,965,900 people have been infected worldwide and more than 547,000 deaths have been reported. In addition, so far, over 6,913,000 individuals have recovered from the illness across the globe.

To date, 700,792 coronavirus cases have been confirmed in Russia, with 472,511 patients having recovered from the disease. Russia's latest data indicates 10,667 fatalities nationwide. Earlier, the Russian government set up an Internet hotline to keep the public updated on the coronavirus situation.

Agencies



Trump replaces campaign manager

WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Donald Trump demoted his longtime campaign manager on Wednesday, a move aimed at shoring up his re-election bid as he trails Democratic candidate Joe Biden in opinion polls less than four months before the Nov 3 vote.

In a Facebook post, Trump said campaign manager Brad Parscale would be replaced by Bill Stepien, who has been the deputy campaign manager. Parscale will shift to a role focused on digital and data strategy, the president said.

A leadership shakeup had long been rumored. Parscale was blamed internally for a botched Tulsa, Oklahoma, rally last month that drew a much smaller crowd than he predicted. A subsequent coronavirus outbreak forced Parscale and other campaign officials who attended to self-quarantine for two weeks.

A source close to the campaign said Trump has been anxious about the polls "and struck at the most visible target he could," adding that Parscale has been "a straight-shooter about the president's challenges."

Stepien, a longtime Republican strategist, is well known to both Trump and his son-in-law, Jared Kushner, who has been playing a more active role in the campaign. Stepien was political director at the White House before moving to the campaign.

In his statement, Trump credited both Parscale and Stepien for their involvement in his 2016 victory in the US presidential election and predicted that he would glide to a second term in office.

"This one should be a lot easier as our poll numbers are rising fast, the economy is getting better, vaccines and therapeutics will soon be on the way, and Americans want safe streets and communities," Trump wrote.

The Republican president publicly has scoffed at the numerous opinion polls showing him behind Biden. Trump trailed Biden by 10 percentage points among registered voters in the latest Reuters/Ipsos poll.

The president's standing among voters has sagged this year as the coronavirus has killed tens of thousands of Americans and threw millions more out of work. Biden has blamed Trump for not taking more dramatic steps to curtail the pandemic's spread.

Republicans are struggling to recalibrate as restrictions on large, in-person events have mostly sidelined Trump's signature campaign rallies.

Plans for his nominating convention in Jacksonville, Florida, remain up in the air with little more than a month before it is scheduled to begin. Republican officials are planning to move most activities there outdoors. Democrats are paring back their in-person event significantly.

Trump advisers have privately leveled criticism that the campaign lacks a central message. But they said Trump shared the blame because he lacked discipline on how to communicate what he would do with another four-year term in the White House.

Agencies

Agencies

US politicians' undermining of CDC 'unconscionable and dangerous,' former directors of CDC reveal

BEIJING

IT is "unconscionable and dangerous" for U.S. politicians to undermine the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the fight against COVID-19, former CDC directors wrote in an article published recently by The Washington Post.

"Through last week, and into Monday, the administration continued to cast public doubt on the agency's recommendations and role in informing and guiding the nation's pandemic response," read the article on Tuesday co-written by Tom Frieden, Jeffrey Koplan, David Satcher and Richard Besser.

Noting that the CDC has gathered the advice of thousands of experienced health experts which is critical for the United States to win the anti-pandemic fight, the former CDC directors wrote "their sound science is being challenged with partisan potshots, sowing confusion and mistrust," taking the CDC guidelines for reopening schools as an example.

The guidelines, "designed to protect children, teachers, school staffers and their families," were dubbed "an impediment to reopening schools quickly" by some politicians, they wrote, adding such attempts to overthrow the guidelines will only create chaos and endanger lives.

"The only valid reason to change released guidelines is new information and new science -- not politics," they said.



Robert Redfield (1st L), director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, prepares to testify before the House Energy and Commerce Committee on Oversight of the Trump Administration's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Washington, D.C., the United States, on June 23, 2020. (Xinhua)

"The four of us led the CDC over a period of more than 15 years ... We cannot recall over our collective tenure a single time when political pressure led to a change in the interpretation of scientific evidence," they wrote.

The former directors noted that the politicians' anti-CDC efforts have already "fueled a backlash against public health officials across the country," and impelled many Americans to overlook the CDC guidelines, which is the reason behind the surging infections and deaths in the United States.

"The United States is home to a quarter of the world's reported coronavirus infections and deaths, despite

being home to only 4.4 percent of the global population," they wrote.

"Sadly, we are not even close to having the virus under control. Quite the opposite, in fact," they wrote.

To contain the spread of the virus as soon as possible, they called on U.S. politicians to give back the CDC's "proper role" in the anti-epidemic fight, and urged the public to adhere to the CDC guidelines, wearing masks and maintaining social distancing measures.

"Trying to fight this pandemic while subverting scientific expertise is like fighting blindfolded," they wrote.

Xinhua

UK PM ejects own lawmaker after blow to his authority

By Bloomberg

PRIME Minister Boris Johnson is fighting to restore his authority after his preferred candidate lost his bid to take over the watchdog overseeing the UK's spy agencies.

Former Cabinet minister Chris Grayling was Johnson's choice to head up Parliament's powerful Intelligence and Security Committee but was defeated by Julian Lewis, who launched a last-minute campaign for chairmanship of the panel.

Despite being a Tory like Johnson and Grayling, Lewis won with the support of opposition politicians, a move seen as an act of disloyalty by the prime minister, who then fired him from the ruling Conservative party.

The risk now for Johnson is that he has lost control over an important and influential body at a sensitive time. The ISC announced yesterday that will push ahead and publish its long-awaited investigation into Russian interference

in British politics next week. Lewis is no longer bound by so-called whipping arrangements that require him to follow Tory party orders and may be more outspoken in his criticism of the government as a result.

More broadly, Johnson's failure to get his own man installed as ISC chair is a blow to his own political authority.

"It doesn't look good, it doesn't make the party look good and it doesn't make the government look good," Conservative MP Tobias Ellwood, who chairs the Commons defense committee, told Times Radio on Thursday. "Right now the story is not about what the committee is scrutinizing but on the makeup of the committee, and we need to move on from that."

Lewis said it was "strange" to be thrown out of the party, because by law



the chair of the committee is decided by its members, not the prime minister. Johnson's office had repeatedly denied it was trying to parachute in Grayling as chairman, he said.

"It was only yesterday afternoon that I received a text asking me to confirm that I would be voting for the prime minister's preferred candidate for the ISC chair. I did not reply as I considered it an improper request," Lewis said in a statement released through the Press Association on Thursday. "At no earlier stage did I give any undertaking to vote for any particular candidate."

Lewis has been a Tory MP for 23 years and his expulsion from the parliamentary party is the latest example of Johnson's intolerance of perceived disloyalty in the ranks. A sweeping re-shuffle of his cabinet earlier this year saw Chancellor of the Exchequer Sajid Javid resign, and removed rivals who'd expressed dissenting views on key issues such as Brexit.

Agencies

Agencies

China calls for multilateralism for sustainable development

UNITED NATIONS

A CHINESE envoy on Tuesday called for the promotion of multilateralism and international cooperation for the sake of sustainable development.

The world is undergoing major changes unseen in 100 years, Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the United Nations, told the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

Globalization has contributed greatly to the development of the world economy and material prosperity while scientific and technological progress has

been pushing the boundaries of human knowledge and activity, Zhang (pictured) said.

He said the collective rise of emerging markets and developing countries has changed the international political and economic landscape.

Meanwhile, unilateralism, bullying, protectionism and anti-globalization sentiments are eroding the very foundation of multilateralism and worsening the environment of international development cooperation. COVID-19 is having a devastating impact on economic and social development, Zhang said.

In the face of the grave and

complex situation, it is more important than ever to achieve common development and accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, he added.

Zhang said all parties should effectively combat COVID-19, promote sustainable and inclusive economic recovery and growth, and accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda with confidence, resolve and intensified efforts.

Zhang asked for the strengthening of solidarity and cooperation to jointly tide over the difficulties.

As the United Nations is mark-



ing its 75th anniversary, the international community should firmly uphold multilateralism, abide by the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, sup-

port the United Nations' central role in international affairs, and oppose all forms of unilateralism and protectionism, he said.

It has been proven that solidarity and cooperation is the most powerful weapon for humankind to tackle global challenges and there is no exception for implementing the 2030 Agenda, he added.

Zhang said countries need to work in solidarity toward a community with a shared future because that is the only way to overcome the difficulties and achieve common development.

He asked countries to prioritize development as it is the

master key to solving all problems.

Zhang said the international community should prioritize development in global macroeconomic policy coordination, and increase investment in development to give sustained impetus to the cause of international development.

"We must put people at the center of our efforts, and focus on major goals and targets of sustainable development, including poverty reduction, hunger eradication, health, education, employment and infrastructure, to ensure and enhance the well-being of the people," Zhang said.

ALSO READ: International solidarity only way forward

"Special attention should be given to the difficulties and challenges of developing countries in the midst of COVID-19 to help them recover better and faster," he added.

Zhang said countries must remain committed to openness and inclusiveness to achieve win-win cooperation.

The international community should actively pursue an open world economy, uphold free trade and the multilateral trading system, and ensure the stability of the global industrial and supply chains, he said. **Xinhua**

SPORT

Rapper Kanye West files for Oklahoma presidential ballot

OKLAHOMA CITY

RAP superstar Kanye West has qualified to appear on Oklahoma's presidential ballot, the first state where he met the requirements before the filing deadline.

But confusion remains over whether he's actually running.

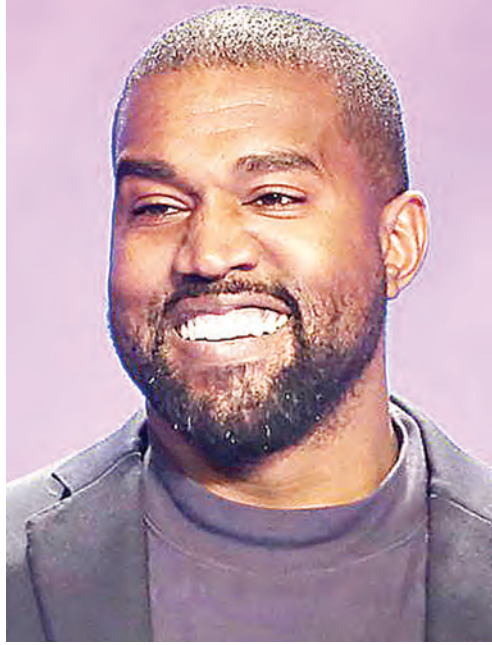
A representative for West filed the necessary paperwork and paid the \$35,000 filing Wednesday afternoon, which was the deadline for a spot on the state's Nov. 3 presidential ballot, said Oklahoma Board of Elections spokeswoman Misha Mohr. He was one of three independent presidential candidates to pay the filing fee prior to the deadline, she added. The others were concert pianist Jade Simmons and cryptocurrency entrepreneur Brock Pierce.

The filing came a day after New York Magazine's "Intelligencer" quoted West adviser Steve Kramer saying "he's out" and noting that the staff he had hired were disappointed.

However, TMZ reported that the West campaign had filed a "Statement of Organization" Wednesday with the Federal Election Commission, stating that a Kanye 2020 committee would serve as principal campaign committee for a West candidacy.

West has already missed the deadline to qualify for the ballot in several states, and it's unclear if he is willing or able to collect enough signatures required to qualify in others.

West, who is married to reality television star Kim Kardashian West, initially announced his candidacy on July 4. Days later,



Kanye West

he told Forbes magazine that he, who once praised President Donald Trump and said the two share "dragon energy," was "taking the red hat off" – a reference to Trump's trademark red "Make America Great Again" cap.

West, who said that he had been diagnosed with bipolar disorder, told the magazine that he planned to model his White House on the fictional land in "Black Panther" if he won the presidency, adding "Let's get back to Wakanda."

AP

Inside the bubble, NBA players have plenty of options

LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLA.

EVERY team in the NBA bubble has played golf. Most have had at least a few players go fishing. Some have taken boats out. Bowling is available for a few hours most nights. The barbers arrive for the first time later this week. And the walking trail is pretty much always occupied by coaches or players.

On occasion at Walt Disney World, basketball even gets played.

This is the NBA's home away from home for the foreseeable future – and efforts are being made to make the time here fun. The so-called bubble in Central Florida is where 22 teams have settled for about a week now, where they all will remain for another month and where teams that make the playoffs will be for considerably longer.

"We're trying to just live our life," Los Angeles Clippers coach Doc Rivers said. "Have our best Disney life."

This summer away from home isn't ideal, for obvious reasons. Players and coaches are away from their families, many teams are missing players or other personnel because of the coronavirus, and there are daily reminders that even this well-isolated world was created during a pandemic. Medical personnel – wearing gowns, masks, gloves and plastic visors – are arriving to place a swab in everyone's mouth and two more in their nasal passages for the next COVID-19 test.

But the league is trying to make the days at Disney go a little faster, with activities available almost around the clock. And players are making the best of things; Denver even turned an off day into time for a full-team pool workout this week.

"I don't think you can ever build enough 'we,' enough togetherness," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said.

Golf has been the free-time hit so far; a new private driving range just for NBA player use is scheduled to open Saturday, just to keep up with their demand. A few players – including some who don't even play golf regularly, like Miami's Goran Dragic – figured they might as well try to learn the game.

"It'll be good for me mentally to have something else to think about during the downtime," said Dragic, whose wife and children returned home to the family's native Slovenia on Wednesday. "So, I had my golf clubs sent here, just to try something new."

And, of course, there's the food.

Panned by some players upon arrival,

the fare in quarantine wasn't quite the level that NBA types are used to seeing but has generally gotten decent reviews since. Those still in quarantine at Disney get three meals dropped off outside their door each day, with an array of items to choose from in those bags.

Teams have meal rooms set up with menus that were developed in cooperation with their own staffs and dietitians. And when all else fails, there are delivery options and room service offering everything from bisques to steaks to flourless chocolate cakes.

"If you're talking about it being a five-star restaurant, no, but if you talk about it being good food that you can eat and enjoy, I think it is," New Orleans coach Alvin Gentry said. "We're not eating off of fine china, but we're also eating off of biodegradable containers which I think is very smart to do. Obviously, we're not eating with silverware because that poses a threat as far as spreading the virus also."

The NBA even developed an app for the Disney life.

Every team was assigned a liaison to help book outings and handle needs, and the app includes everything from how to get food delivered to how to book extra practice time. There's a page within the app that allows players to report violations of health protocols, such as someone not wearing a mask, as well as links to mental health resources and even details on how players can register to vote if they haven't already.

In short, there are many ways to keep busy in the bubble.

"I brought my bike – it's yet to leave the room, but the thought is nice, hopefully someday I get on it," Rivers said. "We've got a lot to do. It's still not normal, but that's fine with us. Again, we're going to live the best Disney life that we can."

NOTES: Brooklyn's newly signed Jamal Crawford, who will be the oldest player in the restart at 40 – a bit ahead of fellow 40-year-old Udonis Haslem of Miami – practiced with the Nets for the first time Wednesday. ... Indiana's Victor Oladipo, who previously said he wouldn't play in the restart, revealed Wednesday that his mind may be changing. "Coming down here and getting some practices in, getting my feet under me, going out there playing with the guys, there's a possibility that I could play," Oladipo said.

AP

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL ENEZA

AIKWAVES in the city of Dar es Salaam are still vibrant with interminable discussions on the domestic experiences of artiste Zuena Yusuf Mohamed, known by her stage name of 'Shilole', after the 33-year old musician and actress posted online photos of how she looked after a widely condemned scene of domestic violence. Those who have been discussing that event can be grouped into two categories, while some could lie out of this scope, one focusing on beating domestic partners, and another more concerned with the extent of the violence meted on Shilole. Can the issue be discussed singularly as a matter of principle?

One incontestably authoritative voice within the music fraternity would be classical Tanzanian soloist and social issues instructor Mbaraka Mwinshehe, whose songs covered nearly everything from politics to nutrition, while his contributions on conjugal issues were incomparable in depth and candor. There is a number he contributed in mid-career saying 'nimefurahi uliponi-uliza, kwanini leo nimekupiga sana...' implying that until the beating was over, the husband – played by the musician – had not even said what the issue was about. That is the crux of the matter, that husbands will beat wives and explain the act later.

Only on that premise is it possible to look into the moral issues involved with beatings, and then how it relates to the music profession, as Shilole's experiences hit the airwaves and remained there for a while not because of the incident, but the person. The said husband is basically an unknown quantity except for ardent followers of the musician rather than the general public, but his name is also becoming ingrained in the public conscience as it keeps coming up in relation to the incident. He became a celebrity by default, such that at one moment an FM radio station show participant said he was to be a guest at the 'Kariakoo derby.'

While plenty can be said from a moral, cultural or religious point of view about domestic violence,

Mbaraka Mwinshehe and the Shilole beating furore



Zuena Yusuf Mohamed, nicknamed 'Shilole'.

the really pertinent issue is how to live with a music icon in an environment like Dar es Salaam, where all those traditional norms of fidelity are more observed in the breach. The question is also whether Shilole loses any esteem as a musician and role model following this event, or is likely to emerge as a heroine among so many quarters, and definitely that would explain her posting the photos on 'Whatsapp,' etc. The photos serve to underline the veracity of an accusation, to prove she has cause to abandon the husband.

Put differently, the moral that the artiste seeks to underline

is that since the premise of her husband's apparently intense dissatisfaction with her conduct isn't public, and it is the beating that is on the public arena, she will emerge the moral victor and the husband a pitiful, envious assailant. It is the sort of thing one gets in a Taarab show except that it went somewhat too far, not just raising ire about putting the marriage into question mark – where the singer would then insist it is stable, whatever ill wishers are saying to demonstrate the precise opposite. Taarab ethos hinges on ill mouthing lies, not saying the truth.

In that sense despite her 'What-

sapp' image building effort, Shilole is definitely the loser in this contention as neither Taarab nor routine dance music, or for that matter commonplace culture, would lay the blame squarely on the husband. Many may have raised their doubts on the wisdom of his rather pronounced violence, and indeed try to figure out what exactly the hubby expected from conjugal knots with an icon of rhythmic sounds like '...ukintekanya,' about which anything can be taken a little further. It's obvious.

Looking at the issue from that perspective, one wonders if there was anything that Shilole did that she would not have done routinely. That doesn't quite appear to be the case but diminishing patience on the part of hubby, which also means greater indifference of his wife to his probing, and virtually irrelevant questions. All signs are that he lost patience with his wife – but knows fully what her stage career entails.

In that sense it must be realized that this isn't a

Mbaraka Mwinshehe kind of environment, of a domestic list of do's and don'ts that the wife may have infringed, for instance being inhospitable to guests, hiding food although there is no shortage of it, infuriating the husband. Here we are talking about 'contractual marriage,' where the wife is free to engage in a blatantly see-through stage and social environment, which the hubby may have made an effort of looking aside while remaining every inch an envious husband. It is here that conjugal knots flopped, as Uchebe – it's the name – wanted a disciplined wife in 'Shishi Baby'...!

Diamond Trust Bank (DTB) basketball team's players (in red jerseys) take on their Ukonga Kings counterparts in a Regional Basketball League clash that was played in Dar es Salaam mid March, this year. The game took place before the suspension of sporting activities in Tanzania following the Covid-19 outbreak. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DIAMOND TRUST BANK



Dar resident wins SportPesa Jackpot prize

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

DAR ES SALAAM resident, Jamal Khalfan Al-Riyamy, has won this week's SportPesa Jackpot prize, winning over 288m/- in cash prize.

SportPesa Tanzania's Director of Administration and Compliance, Tarimba Abbas, said yesterday Al-Riyamy, aged 26, emerged as the 4th Jackpot winner after he placed the right bets on the 13 games

which took place last weekend.

"I would like to take this opportunity to announce the new winner of this week's SportPesa Jackpot, Al-Riyamy, his dream has definitely been realized and I ask soccer followers to keep on betting with our firm every week because SportPesa produces millionaires.

"I take this opportunity to thank every stakeholder for supporting SportPesa since the firm opened its offices in

Tanzania in 2017. Tanzanians' efforts have helped us keep on backing promotion of sports at the domestic level," Abbas said.

"We welcome Al-Riyamy in winners' family, we in August last year announced two winners who got over 414m/- apiece in prize money, and a month later we got Jackpot's first female winner, Scolastica Ngwalueson, who raked in over 260m/-, in February 2020 a participant, Yassin, received over 437m/- once

he emerged as the winner."

Tarimba disclosed: "Following the win, Al-Riyamy will, as per the tax laws, pay 20% in tax from his prize, amounting to 57,794,944/-, which will directly be channelled to the government."

He noted: "By betting with SportPesa, you can place your bets on different matches depending on your choice. A participant will receive his cash prize on spot whenever he wins."

Arteta on needing Arsenal funds: 'It's not magic'

LONDON

ARSENAL manager Mikel Arteta has said that he is concerned about not having enough funds in the off-season to strengthen his squad.

The former Gunners captain, who took over as team manager earlier this season after the sacking of Unai Emery, said it will take investment if the club is to compete for titles.

"You need it to build a squad. It's not magic," Arteta told Sky Sports after Arsenal's 2-1 win over Liverpool. "You need to improve with quality, quality players in the squad and you need bigger squads to compete in this competition. There's the challenge."

Arteta does have Arsenal in contention for silverware this season as they will face Manchester City in the FA Cup semifinals on Saturday, but stressed that there is a chasm between the London side and the likes of City and Liverpool, despite Wednesday's win.

"The gap between the two teams [Arsenal and Liverpool] today is enormous," he added. "We can not improve it in two months, but the accountability, the fight is now equal and I am very proud of that. The rest will take some time."

Speaking in his post-match news conference, Arteta further elaborated on what it will take for Arse-

nal to try and win their first league title since the 2003-04 "Invincibles" season.

"We are in a process, we don't know at the moment," he said. "There is a lot of uncertainty in many areas, what we can control now is who we want to be as a team, the culture we are building in order to do that, the spirit to be successful and then improve our players."

"My main focus is to make our players better, make them feel more comfortable and create an identity for the club because it will be easier to say we need this, this and this."

Among the players Arteta has been keen on signing include FC Porto veteran Danilo Pereira, sources have told ESPN's James Olley. The club has already signed defender William Saliba from French side Saint-Etienne. David Luiz signed a one-year extension earlier this month, while Dani Ceballos has extended his deal at the Emirates until the end of the season. Other players joining on a permanent basis are Cedric Soares and Pablo Mari.

But with a limited budget due to the financial impact of the coronavirus pandemic and the prospect of a fourth season without Champions League football, it may limit options.

(Agencies)

Solskjaer slams Chelsea's extra rest: 'It's not fair'

LONDON

MANCHESTER United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has aimed a dig at football authorities by questioning why Chelsea have been given two days extra rest ahead of their FA Cup semifinal.

United and Chelsea will line up at Wembley on Sunday, just two days after Solskjaer's team face Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park.

Chelsea will have the benefit of an additional 48 hours to recover for the tie after facing already-relegated Norwich on Tuesday night.

"There is a concern, obviously, that they will have had 48 hours' more rest and recovery than us," Solskjaer told a news conference on Wednesday.

"It's not fair. We spoke about a fair scheduling going into this restart and of course it isn't. But I have to think about Thursday [against Crystal Palace], winning that one, focusing on that one, and then pick up the pieces after that."

So far, United have been able to handle the physical impact of the packed schedule since the restart, remaining unbeaten in their seven games.

Solskjaer has been able to pick the same XI for the last five league games and the Norwegian says he

is confident the players' fitness will hold up.

"We've not really played every three days but we definitely will now," said Solskjaer.

"The next two weeks will be hectic but then again we're fit, very fit -- our lads have not felt as fit as this for years, I'm sure."

"It was a big thing towards the end of last season that we felt our team wasn't fit enough, we got a few injuries, this season we've not had that kind of a problem."

"It's not going to be a problem and a concern for us but 24 hours, 48 hours is a big difference at this time [of the season] so we've not been handed four Aces, to put it that way, for the last two weeks."

Ahead of the trip to Crystal Palace, Solskjaer has already hinted he may have to make changes with Luke Shaw and Mason Greenwood battling to recover from ankle injuries.

The United boss has also raised the possibility of Paul Pogba being rested after the France international reported a problem before the draw with Southampton.

"I've been speaking more or less every day with Paul, he knows that he wouldn't be dropped," said Solskjaer.

(Agencies)

4 games per day in group stage of 2022 World Cup in Qatar

LONDON

THE 2022 World Cup will have four games every day in a 12-day group stage and matches later in the tournament that go into extra time will extend past midnight in Qatar.

FIFA released the schedule for the first World Cup to be played in November and December on Wednesday, with kickoff times at 1 p.m. (1000 GMT), 4 p.m. (1300 GMT), 7 p.m. (1600 GMT) and 10 p.m. (1900 GMT).

"Once the pairings are known, the possibility will be discussed of providing a more beneficial kickoff time for audiences at home, or indeed for fans in Qatar with regard to the stadium allocation," FIFA said in a statement.

Host Qatar will open the Middle East's first World Cup in the 60,000-capacity Al Bayt Stadium at 1 p.m. on Nov. 21. The final starts at 6 p.m. on Dec. 18 at the 80,000-capacity Lusail Stadium. Those are the same kickoff times

from the last World Cup in Russia.

Eight venues in close proximity to Doha will be used at the tournament, which will be played in 28 days rather than the 32 days used in Russia to minimize the disruption to the European season. Teams and fans will not need to fly around Qatar because stadiums are within a 30-mile radius.

Both semifinals - like some games in the previous rounds - will kick off at 10 p.m. and will spill over into the next day if there is extra time, or even just long injury and VAR delays in regular time.

There is no space for a gap without games between the group stage and round of 16.

Most teams will get three days of rest between games, which FIFA said was "optimum for sporting performance." But teams in two last-16 matches will only have two days of rest. For the third-place playoff, one losing semifinalist will have two recovery days while the other has three.

AP

Records don't motivate, and loss to Arsenal proves it

BY JAMES OLLEY, SENIOR WRITER, ESPN FC

JURGEN Klopp was right: records don't inspire Liverpool. A sense of embarrassment almost did after Liverpool uncharacteristically gifted Arsenal their two first-half goals, but they failed to rally sufficiently and this 2-1 defeat ends any chance of surpassing Manchester City's record 100-point mark this season.

Nobody should be too hard on Liverpool after they ran away with the Premier League title, but the coronavirus hiatus has prolonged the sense of inevitability that has left them struggling to rally in this coda to the campaign. With the race long since won and nothing to play for beyond statistical milestones, Liverpool have drifted toward the finish at their own pace, understandably unable to replicate the intensity that put them so far ahead of the rest in the first place.

Although they responded to a thumping at City with successive wins against Aston Villa and Brighton, last Saturday's 1-1 draw at Burnley and now defeat here at Emirates Stadium mark the first times they have dropped points from a winning position all season. And they did themselves irreparable damage by making precisely the sort of mistakes they have avoided all year long to lift their first topflight crown in 30 years.

Klopp attempted to set the right tone before kickoff. After naming the strongest lineup available to him, he spent the warm-up watching Arsenal go through their pre-match drills with typical studiousness. Discussions with his coaching staff followed as they observed Arsenal's back five being put through their paces and it appeared normal service would be resumed when Sadio Mane put the



Alexandre Lacazette pounced on an error at the back to slot home and draw Arsenal level with Virgil Van Dijk the one at fault. (Daily Mail)

visitors in front after 20 minutes.

Mikel Arteta could be heard coaching his players through every passage of play, in marked contrast to Klopp's relative silence -- a sign of one team learning its craft and another proven masters of it. Yet the Gunners stuck doggedly to their task with Reiss Nelson, Nicolas Pepe and Alexandre Lacazette asked to go and press to force precisely the type of errors Arsenal's defenders made in defeat at Tottenham four days earlier.

Klopp looked bemused by an extremely rare error from Virgil van Dijk to gift the ball to Nelson, who fed Lacazette to equalise.

He was left literally open-mouthed by Alisson's 44th-minute error, passing straight to Lacazette, who returned the favour for Nelson to put the home side in front.

He ran down the tunnel at half-time and sent his players out early for the second half with no changes. They responded to the admonishment with a push to find an equaliser as Mane, Mohamed Salah and Trent Alexander-Arnold threatened in a frantic finale, but Liverpool's usual incision was absent, a combination of their own slackness and Arsenal's application.

"I am disappointed with the result of course," Klopp

said. "OK, for big parts of the performance it was one of the better games we played here but when you make these mistakes, you cannot win a football game in the Premier League or you need to be really lucky to win. We were not lucky today. The mistakes were too big and that's why we lost the game. We started exceptionally well. I can't remember such a dominant performance against Arsenal since I'm here."

"We completely deserved to be 1-0 up and then we took kind of a break. We are all humans and maybe it was just a misjudgment of the situation. We had controlled the game but in these mo-

ments, around your own box, giving these two balls away, obviously it is not helpful. In the second half, we were completely in charge. But the result is the truth and we accept that."

Arsenal rode their luck but this was nevertheless an important victory for Arteta, who has frequently stated he wants only players who are ready to "jump on the boat" to stay at the club. Here was a clear indication that the boat could have an exciting destination if those on board can regularly replicate this level of commitment, discipline and focus.

In the long term, Arteta wants to implement a possession-based front-foot game that Arsenal produced flashes of in defeat against Tottenham, but their ability to grind out results has been questioned for years and therefore performances like this are a genuine step toward the greater resilience the Spaniard is trying to instill.

"We forced mistakes, they made them and that makes a difference," Arteta said. "We talked a lot about how we win football games at the moment with the difference of the two teams and how we need to play to get the points. I am really pleased because they can do it. Sometimes the focus, that belief is keeping all the time the right spirit, the level of attention."

70 years on from the 'Maracanazo', Brazil and Uruguay cannot forget

RIO DE JANEIRO

BRAZIL great Pele was nine years old when his country suffered the "Maracanazo" trauma as Uruguay came from behind to win 2-1 in Rio de Janeiro to claim the 1950 World Cup.

Pele's father burst into tears when the winning goal was scored by Alcides Ghiggia. The young Pele promised his father he would win a World Cup to make up for the disappointment.

The shock of defeat was palpable in and out of the stadium.

"It was the first time in my life that I heard something that wasn't noise," Uruguay's Juan Alberto Schiaffino, who scored his country's first goal, said years later.

Brazil's trauma over a football defeat can be explained by the fact the country was looking for its place in the world while trying to consolidate itself as a nation state, says Ronaldo George Helal, a sociologist and professor at Rio de Janeiro State University.

The result of the match was viewed as "the victory or defeat of the Brazilian nation project," based on the idea of a racially harmonious country united by football.

"Until the 1930s, there was no concept in Brazil about what the Brazilian nation was," Helal told AFP.

By 1950 the country was heralded by UNESCO as the "exemplary situation" of "harmony" with football at its core.

The reality was a little different and black goalkeeper Moacir Barbosa was deemed the culprit by many.

"The maximum (prison) sentence (in Brazil) is 30 years, but I've already done 40 years," Barbosa said in the 1990s.

- No 'great feat' -
In Uruguay, the victory was turned into a metaphor for how the small can overcome a giant.

While "Maracanazo" means a national tragedy in Brazil, in Uruguay it is used to describe a victory against the odds or the overcoming of adversity.

In reality, though, despite the difference in the size of the two countries -- Brazil's population was around 23 times greater than Uruguay's in 1950 -- this was no David defeating Goliath.

Uruguay were still a footballing superpower at the time having won the



Uruguay's Juan Schiaffino scores the equalizing goal against Brazil in the decisive match of the 1950 World Cup that would forever more be known as the 'Maracanazo' (AFP Photo)

Olympic Games in 1924 and 1928 and the first World Cup in 1930.

"With the Maracanazo, sometimes the emphasis is put on a 'great feat' ... and the fact that Uruguay had a great team is brushed aside," said Uruguayan journalist Atilio Garrido, author of "Maracana, a secret history."

For sociologist Felipe Arocena, from the Uruguay's University of the Republic, what happened in the "Maracana" was a confirmation for those that experienced it.

Uruguay's position in world football "was much more than just the 1950 final, although the Maracana epic ended up overshadowing" three decades of success.

That's not the way the Brazilians -- hungry for a first world title -- saw things.

For Helal, the trauma lasted until Brazil's third World Cup triumph, when Pele inspired the Selecao to glory in Mexico in 1970 -- their third success in four tournaments.

That was greeted "as a

victory for the Brazilian nation."

With the passage of time, Brazilian society has come to understand that "national team matches are (just) sporting victories or defeats."

That change in mentality was evident when in 2014, Brazil suffered their most humiliating experience on a football pitch -- hammered 7-1 at home in the World Cup semi-final by a rampant Germany.

"In 1950 it was a tragedy; in 2014 it was a satire that became a meme, because

people didn't take it so seriously any more," said Helal, who added that it shows "a greater maturity in society."

For Uruguay, that moment was a peak the country has been unable to match since, either on the pitch or from an economic perspective.

Uruguay have never won the World Cup since, their best placing being fourth in 1954, 1970 and 2010.

"As a small country without great resources it's become ever more difficult to compete in a sport where the importance of money is growing," said journalist Luis Prats, an author of several books on football.

And once Uruguay began its economic decline from the heady days of the 1950s, "sport in general was no longer given the same importance by the state that it had at the beginning of the (20th) century," added Arocena.

Today, that result is seen through the lens of a tiny country dwarfed by two regional giants -- both from a footballing and economic perspective -- Brazil and Argentina.

"It's an episode that summons national pride, with aspects that seem legendary," said Prats.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Records don't motivate, and loss to Arsenal proves it

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Khawaja, Stoinis in expanded Australia training squad

SYDNEY

USMAN Khawaja and Marcus Stoinis have returned - at least loosely - to the national team fold after being named in a 26-man preliminary squad for Australia's proposed white-ball tour of England in September.

Test batsman Travis Head has also been named in a white-ball squad for the first time since he missed selection for the 2019 World Cup, while Riley Meredith, Josh Philippe and Daniel Sams make their first appearances in a senior training group, likely to be seconded to the National Cricket Centre in Brisbane next month before a cut-down group is conveyed to the UK.

Khawaja and Stoinis were the two most high-profile names to lose their national contracts after falling out of favour last summer, though it had been made clear in Khawaja's case at least that he remained a likely top-order replacement in the event of injuries to the likes of David Warner, Steven Smith or the limited-overs captain Aaron Finch.

The selection chairman Trevor Hohns outlined the fact that a larger than usual squad would need to be sent should the tour go ahead, given the fact it will not be possible to send replacement players in the event of injury or illness. England are currently playing the West Indies in a bio-secure "bubble" in the time of Covid-19 and similar arrangements are being worked through for an Australian tour.

"This preliminary list covers the contingencies of playing one-day internationals and T20 internationals in bio-secure hubs with the likely prospect of not being able to bring in replacements should the tour proceed," Hohns said.

"The preliminary list includes several exciting young players who have recently excelled at state level and in the BBL. These emerging players are among those we would like to develop further as we believe they have a bright future in Australian cricket. The preliminary list also has a view towards the upcoming T20 World Cup and in the longer term the 2023 World Cup."

Ben Oliver, Cricket Australia's head of national teams, said that negotiations with the ECB and the Australian and British governments were continuing with any potential quarantine requirements for the players on return to Australia, which currently has closed international borders, a key issue.

"There's a lot of complexity around the tour and international cricket at the moment, but we're doing everything we can to make sure we give that tour the best chance possible to proceed," he said. "We take the quarantining environment very seriously and it's important that we understand that fully before a decision on the tour is made."

"Obviously for elite cricketers, elite athletes generally, the ability to train and stay fit and keep ticking over is an important factor. The health and safety of players and staff and the public health component is most critical. The quarantine arrangements aren't confirmed. They obviously exist in terms of general international travel at the moment so that's something we're working through."

"[It's] at the start of our home summer so we are interested to understand how we navigate that. Equally we are fully supportive of the quarantine requirements that are in place across Federal and State and Territory Governments and our obligations around that from a public health perspective. We're having constructive conversations with government agencies and particularly the ECB."

Oliver also confirmed that Hohns would continue as selection chairman for the forthcoming summer, after his previous contract ended earlier this year. "We're moving forward with our selection panel as it was at the end of last season," he said. "The panel is really focused on the challenges of the upcoming 12 months. We have some interesting challenges as we swap between formats and different tours that players are going to be involved in. Trevor is committed through this season."

In addition to the UK tour, originally slated for July, CA has also postponed a Test tour of Bangladesh and a limited-overs visit by Zimbabwe. Neither of the latter two series have as yet been rescheduled. AGENCIES

Luc Eymael proud after Yanga bounce back from 2020 Federation Cup collapse



Yanga forward, Ditram Nchimbi (L), attempts to get the better of Singida United defender in a Vodacom Premier League clash which took place in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YANGA head coach Luc Eymael hailed his players for regrouping from their Azam Sports Federation Cup derby collapse by comfortably beating relegated Singida United in the Vodacom Premier League.

Pressure was on Yanga following their 4-1 defeat to arch rivals Simba in the Azam Sports Federation Cup semi-final tie, which took place in Dar es

Salaam on Sunday.

Yanga conceded twice in five minutes after the restart in a spectacular collapse against Simba.

Eymael's side, however, bounced back with a 3-1 victory over Singida United in the city on Wednesday.

An earlier kick of the day saw Azam FC squander their chance to stay second on the 20-team league table after they lost by a solitary goal away to Mtwara Sugar.

With Azam FC losing, there was more pressure on Yanga to deliver three points in the night

kick off.

Paul Godfrey and Mrisho scored in the first half at the National Stadium before substitute Yikpe Gislain added the third goal as Yanga leapfrogged Azam FC to go second in the Vodacom Premier League table with three matches

to the end of the campaign.

The Belgian coach who was appointed in early January expressed his pride post-match, telling reporters: "A deserved win, I sat down 55 minutes before the end of the game. We should have scored six goals with all the chances that we created. And we also gave away a silly goal, I understand that is another problem."

"I understand it is very difficult to bounce back after a game like Sunday. It was more than a game, you lose your pride, money and a lot of things. I told them I will shoulder the blame, I have no problem but we have to bounce back," he noted.

"We bounced back today, it should have been easier but at the end of the day whether you win 10-1 or 3-1 we are second, it is what counts."

Just after the hour mark, Eymael decided to pull out the club top scorer David Molinga for the for Yikpe Gislain who has come under heavy criticism since his move from Kenya's Gor Mahia in January.

Eymael has explained why he opted for the change, saying: "Yikpe scored today and also did the same when we were there (Singida). I had to add some speed at the front, someone to run between the two centre backs."

Nswanzurimo salutes Singida United players' resilience

By Correspondent Adam Fungamwango

SINGIDA United head coach, Ramadhani Nswanzurimo, has said he was impressed by his outfit's performance in the Vodacom Premier League clash with Yanga, played in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday, although the former conceded 3-1 defeat to their opponents.

Nswanzurimo noted his players conceded few goals in comparison with the goals they conceded in games against other prominent sides, Simba and Azam FC.

He said shortly after the clash's final whistle his players put good performance, which could not be likened to the one shown by a side that has been relegated to the First Division League (FDL).

"The players played really well. We did not play like a squad which has been relegated, that really pleased me. I looked at the third goal we conceded, it looked like the Yanga player was in an offside position," he disclosed.

The Burundian tactician noted conceding 3-1 is an indication his side is reducing the number of goals conceded and mistakes the club committed in most of the previous outings, which



Singida United

had ended with the team succumbing to huge losses.

"We suffered 8-0 loss to Simba, we later lost 7-0 to Azam FC, but we later began doing away with mistakes and putting good performance although we lost, we did not face huge defeats, we lost 3-2 to KMC FC, and we later lost 3-1 to Yanga... the players have improved much as we have been relegated," he disclosed.

Nswanzurimo pointed out he is unsure of his presence at the Singida-

based outfit, if some of issues will not be dealt with. "I have coached this outfit in truly difficult conditions, if the management will not find solutions to the crisis, I don't think I will keep on coaching this side," he stated.

In another development, Coastal Union and Mbeya City FC have heaped criticism on match officials, who oversaw the two clubs' respective Premier League games which took place this week, saying the officials favoured the two

clubs' opponents.

Mbeya City FC lost 1-0 to Namungo FC at Majaliwa Stadium in Lindi but the Mbeya outfit's head coach Amri Said lamented that the officials' decisions favoured his club's opponents.

"It was not a bad game, but the officials' refusal to let a goal be scored stand has frustrated us," the coach noted.

"I usually do not criticise officials, but not in this case. My outfit lost at home to Alliance FC, but I did

not criticise the officials, I blamed my players."

Coastal Union lost 1-0 to Kagera Sugar at Kaitaba Stadium in Bukoba, with the former's head coach Juma Mgunda lamenting opponents enjoyed officials' favour.

"I everyday do not talk about match officials but this is too much, it was a good game but the officials later spoiled it, all in all I have accepted the results," he disclosed.

The Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) had

recently disclosed it will seriously oversee games played in the top flight's closing stages, with a view to seeing to it there should neither be favouritism nor match fixing.

Steven Mguto, TPLB Chairman, stated his board will send officials in the top flight's remaining games with the aim of ensuring the games produce fair results, given a good number teams are placed in the relegation zone and they are seeking to avoid a drop to the FDL.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

