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# Mbowe, 3 others facing six counts of terrorism

By Guardian Reporter

PROSECUTION attorneys yesterday read out to Chadema national chairman Freeman Mbowe and his three co-accused persons six counts of terrorism-related offences at the Kisutu Resident Magistrate's court.

State attorneys Pius Hillary, Christopher Msigwa and Sylvia Mintato told Principal Resident Magistrate Thomas Simba that investigations into case number 63 of 2020 are complete.

Hillary named the accused persons as Mbowe, Halfan Hassan, Adam Kasekwa also known as Adamo, and Mohamed Lingwenya.

In the first count, he alleged that between May 1 and August 1 2020, at Aishi Hotel located within Moshi municipality in Kilimanjaro Region, and at different places in Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Arusha regions, all the accused persons conspired to blow up filling stations to endanger national security and cause alarm.

In the second count, the prosecution alleged that within the same time and at the same places, Mbowe facilitated



Opposition Chadema national Chairman Freeman Mbowe (2nd-R) boards a Prisons bus to head back to remand prison shortly after the adjournment of his terrorism case at the Kisutu Resident Magistrate's Court in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

**He ordered that the accused persons be produced in court on Friday next week when witness statements will be read, paving the way for the case to proceed to the High Court for hearing**

Halfani, Adamu and Lingwenya financially while aware that the money would be used to commit terrorism, namely to blow up filling stations and gatherings to disrupt political stability, constitutional order, the country's economy and put into disrepute the good name of the United Republic of Tanzania.

In the third count, Hillary alleged that Halfani, Adamu and Lingwenya collected money from Mbowe with the intent of using the same to enable blowing up of filling stations and other gatherings.

In the fourth charge, the prosecution alleged that on August 5, 2020, Adamu was found in possession of a pistol, Luger brand number A 5340 without a licence.

In the fifth count, Hillary alleged that within the aforesaid period and places, Adamu was found with ammunitions, namely three bullets, without a licence.

In the sixth count, it was alleged that on August 10, 2020, Halfani was found in possession of military uniforms and other items belonging to the Tanzania People's Defence Force (TPDF) and the National Service.

Hillary named the items as five trousers, one T-shirt, one raincoat, one jacket,

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## LHRC challenges mobile cash levies in High Court

By Guardian Reporter

THE Legal and Human Rights Centre has filed a case at the High Court challenging the newly-introduced levies on mobile money transactions.

In case no.11 of 2021, LHRC wants the High Court's review of National Payments System Act Cap 437 and its regulations which facilitated the introduction of the levies.

LHRC executive director Anna Henga

said at a press conference that the case which is before Judge John Mgeta was first mentioned on 6th August 2021 at the High Court's Dar es Salaam registry. She said LHRC filed the case after the

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## WHO allays fears tied to Covid-19 vaccines safety

By Getrude Mbago

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) yesterday responded to questions relating to fears over the safety of the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen Covid-19 vaccine being administered in Tanzania, saying it was approved after passing all safety and efficacy tests.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the WHO representative to Tanzania Dr Tigest Ketsela Mengestu (pictured) said vaccination offers strong immunity which protects against severe and deadly COVID-19.

"In this area, we still need more public awareness programmes to change the negative attitudes which some people express towards the vaccines. We appreciate that the media has been doing a lot to educate the public," she said.

The WHO official noted that mass vaccination started many years ago and has been producing positive results in the health status of millions of people, so Tanzanians should shed doubts on any vaccines which will be brought in the country after having been approved by WHO and other reputed global agencies.

"Yes, it has been done in the past and the same process is on-going for many COVID-19 vaccines available. They have to undergo stringent scrutiny of safety and efficacy," she explained.

Dr Mengestu cautioned that the variant delta is causing devastation and more variants with the potential to be even more dangerous are possible if robust measures will not be taken, including strengthening mass vaccination.

"However vaccines do not replace the need for frequent hand washing, social distancing, masking, sanitizing and avoiding crowds because it doesn't provide 100 per cent protection but it builds strong immunity to the vaccinated person from

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan leads mourners in paying their last respects to former Defence and National Service minister Elias John Kwandikwa at Karimjee grounds in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House

## Kwandikwa's keys to success set out in glowing tributes

By Henry Mwangonde

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has hailed the departed minister for Defence and National Service, Elias Kwandikwa as a humble, polite but dedicated and hardworking leader and that is why he was entrusted with key positions in the government.

National leaders who attended the national last respects ceremony in Dar es Salaam yesterday described the late minister as an example of a very well trained civil servant.

The president who led mourners to pay last respects said his death is a blow to the government, noting that she has known Kwandikwa as a hardworking and polite individual, taking up proactively what he was doing.

President Samia said it was this mark of character that made the late President John Magufuli and herself appoint Kwandikwa as cabinet minister, in various capacities.

"Kwandikwa has lived a great life. This is a lesson for all of us that one day we shall die and our deeds will follow us as we have heard about the late

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Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Amos Makalla (L) presents a Tax Identification Number certificate to Innocent Dismas, a trader at Dar es Salaam's Makumbusho mixed-goods market, at yesterday's launch of a Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) campaign to register new taxpayers in the region. Looking on (2nd-L) is TRA's Domestic Revenue commissioner Hubert Kabemela. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Mbowe, three others face six counts of terrorism

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five caps, five overalls, one bag, four badges of corporal rank, four belts, one pair of socks, a sweater, a parachute training bag, a water keg and an AK 47 CCCP knife.

Hillary told the court that the prosecution decided to bring up the fresh charges because on 26 of last month, charges were read against Mbowe alone and the next day charges were dropped against three accused persons, reducing the

number of accused persons from seven to four and counts dropped from 13 to six.

In the new charge sheet, two counts of possession of heroin and five others of forging bank documents were dropped.

After finishing reading the charges, the state attorney said investigations were complete and the file was with the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP). After the reading witness accounts in the next mention, the case could

proceed to the High Court for hearing, he stated.

The defence team is comprised of nine lawyers, namely Peter Kibatata, Lwekamwa Rweikiza, John Mallya, Fredrick Kihwelo, Selemani Makoweka, Michael Rugina, Iddi Msawanga, Jebra Kambole and Sisty Aloyce.

Lead counsel Kibatata asked that the witness accounts be read as soon as possible so that the case can proceed and the accused persons know what awaits them next.

Magistrate Simba said the case has been dragging in that court since August 2020 and some of the accused persons have been remanded since then, in which case if investigations are now complete, there is no reason to waste time.

He ordered that the accused persons be produced in court on Friday next week when witness statements will be read, paving the way for the case to proceed to the High Court for hearing.

## Kwandikwa success keys set out in glowing tributes

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Kwandikwa," she said.

Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) General Venance Mabeyo said the army received news of the late Kwandikwa's death with profound shock, noting that the nation has lost an important person who dedicated his life to serving the country.

He was a man of action and after ascending to the position of defence minister he toured all army commands - the navy, air force and infantry.

He was a quiet man, understanding and very polite who interacted and mingled easily with anyone and in a short period of time he learnt a lot on his capacity, the army commander noted.

"The army will remember him for working hard to ensure universal health coverage for soldiers but also his encouragement to officers and soldiers on national defense services," he stated.

The chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security Mussa Azzan 'Zungu' said in a very short time of being in the ministry he worked closely with the committee.

"He worked tirelessly to ensure the security of the country was

prioritised and many times he sought advice and was ready to learn," he told the gathering.

Faraji Mnyepe, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Defense and National Service, outlined the late leader's biography, that he was born on July 1, 1966 in Kahama, Shinyanga region, attended Kisuke Primary school in Kahama, joining Mwenge secondary school in Singinda for O'Level education.

Kwandikwa attended Shinyanga secondary school for A Level education, enrolled in the Institute of Finance Management and graduated with an advanced diploma in accountancy. He has worked with several organizations as an accountant.

He joined politics in 2014 and in 2015 vied for Ushetu constituency in Shinyanga and once served as deputy minister for Works and Transport.

In 2020 he won the Ushetu parliamentary seat and was appointed minister for Defense and National Service by the late president Dr John Magufuli.

Minister Kwandikwa died on August 2 at the Muhimbili National Hospital, leaving behind a wife and children.

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enactment of the Finance Act, 2021 and budgetary recommendations which approved the introduction of the levies.

Henga said the levies have an impact to common Tanzanians as well as middle and small medium enterprises.

"LHRC conducted a review of the budget speech which was presented on June 10, this year and we have seen that the levies have a great impact on people's lives," she said, noting that the High Court will bring up the case for hearing next Monday.

The government last month amended the Electronic and Postal Communication Act (CAP 306) by imposing a levy on all mobile money transactions, depending on the amount sent and withdrawn in an effort to raise revenue collections by 1.254 trn/- to partly finance the 36.68 trn/- budget for the 2021/22 financial year.

Upon implementation at rates different from those given in the minister's winding up explanations on the levy, the rates sparked a public outcry where the public

loudly protested that the rates are too high to carry.

The outcry reached President Samia Suluhu Hassan who promised that the government will come up with a friendly modality on how to execute the newly-introduced mobile money levy which will not be a burden for the public.

So far this has not happened and top level officials have been defending the levies as they are, and it looks dim that any changes will be made soon.

Still observers wonder if the issue is the Act or the quotations formulated by the regulatory authorities, as in any case the government can levy any business conducted within the United Republic.

The president said the government has listened to concerns from the public and that a solution will be announced soon on the matter.

The Head of State said however that the government decided to introduce the levies to finance rural roads which were impassable and farmers were failing to transport agricultural produce to the market, in which case the levies will remain but be modified to remove the sting.

## CNN fires 3 employees for violating policy on coronavirus pandemic

WASHINGTON

said in the memo.

Three employees at CNN have been fired for violating the network's coronavirus policy by coming into the office unvaccinated, according to US media reports.

In an internal memo emailed to staff Thursday and obtained by several US media outlets, CNN President Jeff Zucker said that in the past week the company had become aware of three employees who came to work unvaccinated. All three were "terminated".

"Let me be clear -- we have a zero-tolerance policy on this," he said in snippets of the memo tweeted by CNN media reporter Oliver Darcy.

His memo did not specify the fired employees' names, positions or office locations. CNN did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

The network had been relying on an honor system that required workers to be jabbed but did not demand they show proof. But Zucker said that may change going forward.

Inoculations are mandatory for anyone reporting in the field, working with any other employees or entering the offices, he reportedly

In May, the United States federal government said it was legal for employers to require staff physically entering the workplace to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Tech giants including Facebook, Google and Microsoft have all said they will require employees to get jabbed before returning to their US offices.

They are among several major US employers that have recently revised their virus policies, vaccine mandates or return-to-office dates as the fast-spreading Delta variant fuels another surge of Covid-19 cases.

In his note to staff, Zucker said CNN will postpone its company-wide September 7 return-to-office date likely until sometime in October.

Roughly one-third of the network's American newsroom staff are currently using the offices on a voluntary basis, he said.

AGENCIES

"Let me be clear -- we have a zero-tolerance policy on this," he said in snippets of the memo tweeted by CNN media reporter Oliver Darcy



Dr Grace Magembe (3rd-R), Deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments - Health Sector), cuts ribbon in Dar es Salaam yesterday to launch a project meant to fight TB. It is to be implemented by the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF) with funding from USAID. Others include AMREF Tanzania Resident Director Dr Florence Temu (2nd-R) and Board chairman Dr Eric van Praag (R). Photo: Correspondent Mary Geoffrey

## WHO allays fears tied to Covid-19 vaccines safety

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serious illness," the WHO medic intoned.

Dr William Mwengee, WHO Tanzania vaccine program manager, remarked that vaccine production passes through several stages including intensive research and trials on animals and at higher stages, human trials before being supplied for mass rollouts.

During clinical trials, a vaccine is checked at preclinical stages where animals are tested and in phase one it tests the safety and immunogenicity to low-risk individuals to determine tolerability. Then it goes to phase two of monitoring safety, potential side effects, immune response and determining optimum dosage, he elaborated.

"The third phase involves testing the vaccine efficacy in disease

prevention and further safety information through more diverse populations, multi-country study and longer time observation," he stated.

Dr Mwengee commended Tanzanians for responding well and President Samia Suluhu Hassan for showing way and proving to Tanzanians that vaccines are important for their lives.

"We commend the government from national to lower levels for being in the fore line to show others. Regional and district authorities have played a huge role especially in advocating the importance of vaccination," he further noted.

Dr Nemes Iriya, WHO Tanzania team leader for care, management and infection prevention control (IPC) said that pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers should not

worry as the vaccine does not affect them and their babies' health.

He further urged the public to avoid going to the hospital late but rather seek help earlier when they recognise that they have symptoms of illness.

On July 28, President Samia launched the national mass vaccination campaign emphasising that the public get the jab in efforts to fight the spread of COVID-19 infections.

Speaking before receiving the vaccine, the president said it is safe and that those who are willing to get it have nothing to worry about.

The president said she would not risk her life or put herself in danger while knowing that she has so many responsibilities awaiting her. She said she's also a mother, grandmother and wife, and that as

president she must show this to the masses who are behind her. "There are people who resist vaccination but there are a lot of people waiting for the vaccines," she asserted.

Dr Dorothy Gwajima, the minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children urged leaders to encourage people to get vaccinated.

"I'm asking all our religious leaders, political leaders and other leaders from each area in Tanzania to receive this vaccine, encourage and educate others that this vaccine is a modern weapon to slow down COVID-19 and eradicate it completely as other diseases," she urged.

The vaccination campaign gives priority to frontline health workers, the elderly and those with underlying diseases.





Jordan Ombeni (2nd-L), a Form One student at Saint Carolus Secondary School in Singida municipality, briefs Selemani Jafo (L), Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment), on their recent research on economical use of water in horticulture as part of an environmental conservation strategy. The demonstration was made when the minister visited the school on Thursday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## NHC to invest in commercial buildings in the country's border areas - Banyani

By Guardian Reporter, Musoma

THE National Housing Corporation (NHC) has started implementing strategies to invest in commercial buildings in the country's border areas.

NHC director general, Dr Maulid Banyani made the statement mid this week here during the launching of 50 new residential houses at Buhare area in Musoma District, Mara Region, an event which graced by deputy minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development Dr Angelina Mabula

"We have already started implementing strategies of ensuring that NHC operates commercially and improve income, we have already constructed modern commercial buildings in border areas such as Mutukula, Kagera and we are now looking at the possibility to invest in the Tanzania and Kenya border," he said.

According to him, they have commended feasibility study at Sirari border area

in Mara Region so as to construct the buildings and thus stimulate trade and other economic activities at the area.

"We are calling for the government to support us especially on getting enough land as we aim to construct modern and commercial buildings which will be used for various services from public and private organisations,"

Dr Banyani said as part of the corporation's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), NHC has been also supporting communities in various areas including education, health, water and others.

"From 2018 to 2020, the corporation designed and built an administration building at the Mwalimu Nyerere University of Agriculture and Technology (MJNUAT) at a cost of 200m/-. We have been doing various initiatives to support communities in the country," Br Banyani asserted.

In his remarks, Dr Mabula commended NHC for the investment and called on district councils located in border areas

to cooperate with the corporation by facilitating availability of land.

She also directed authorities in Musoma to collaborate with NHC and construct a primary school in the Buhare residential area. The area has 135 acres of land and those which have been used are 10 acres only.

"District councils across the country should ensure that they put basic infrastructures in all areas of investments so as to facilitate smooth implementation of the projects. The areas should have water, power and roads so as to reduce renting fees especially for NHC houses," Dr Mabula insisted.

The National Housing Corporation was established to undertake an array of business in real estate in the country which includes construction of houses for sale, construction of buildings as part of approved schemes, facilitating the provision of building materials and components.

## US gov't hands over TB diagnostic kits to support health facilities in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter, Songwe

THE US government through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has transferred laboratory equipment worth 424,361,043/- (\$ 182,993) to 19 health facilities in Katavi, Kigoma, Rukwa, and Songwe regions.

The equipment will strengthen tuberculosis (TB) diagnostic capacity which will ultimately result in an increase in TB cases identification and hence contribute to TB control in Tanzania. These four regions are supported by USAID's Uhuru TB and Family Planning Facility Solutions Activity for Local Organizations Network (TB & FP LON).

Tanzania Health Promotion Support (THPS) Executive Director, Dr Redempta Mbatia, transferred the eight GeneXpert machines and 11 iLED microscopes to Songwe Regional Commissioner, Omary Mgumba, who received the equipment on behalf of all four regions.

The event took place at Mlowo Dispensary in Songwe Region. Attendees included representatives from the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG); Songwe's Regional Medical Officer, Regional TB and Leprosy Coordinator, Regional Laboratory Technologist; and District Medical Officers for Mbozi and Tunduma Districts.

The donated equipment will be installed at health facilities with high patient volume, identified by regional health managers. Tanzania ranks among the 30 highest TB burden countries in the world. USAID's Uhuru TB and FP LON Activity aims to improve access to and use of quality TB and family planning services for better health outcomes in Katavi,

Kigoma, Rukwa, and Songwe regions.

Prior to this donation, these four regions had only 16 GeneXpert machines and 13 iLED microscopes serving a population of nearly 6 million. This results in low health facility and community TB case identification. GeneXpert diagnostic equipment reduces diagnostic turnaround time from two - three weeks to 90 - 120 minutes. iLED microscopy will be used to increase TB case detection at the facilities with no GeneXpert machines.

Speaking about the event, USAID Mission Director, Kate Somvongsiri said: "The eight GeneXpert machines and 11 iLED microscopes are part of USAID's ongoing commitment to strengthen tuberculosis laboratory services in Tanzania. These gadgets are expected to increase identification of TB patients with an emphasis on reaching marginalized populations and reducing inequities in TB services. In order to realize the country's mission to end tuberculosis by 2030, patients should be identified in a timely manner and treatment initiated early."

THPS, a Tanzanian non-governmental organization, is implementing this activity in collaboration with Baylor Tanzania, MKUTA, and Ifakara Health Institute. THPS works in partnership with the MOHCDGEC and PORALG, the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Health in Zanzibar to ensure accessible high-quality health care services to Tanzanians. Their work includes strengthening health and community systems for comprehensive quality health services which address HIV/AIDS; tuberculosis; prevention of gender-based violence; reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child, and adolescent health services; and laboratory and health management information systems.

### Clarification: Brig Gen Mbindi's photo

One of the illustrative photographs we used in the front page Special Report we ran in Thursday's (August 7) issue was that of Brigadier General Francis Mbindi, Labour Commissioner in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disabilities). However, he has since notified us that the particular photo was outdated relative to his current military rank - and that the one above is the correct one. We regret the slip-up and apologise for whatever inconvenience it will have caused. - Editor



## Venture into investigative reporting to make leaders accountable, Z'bar reporters advised

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

MEDIA practitioners in Zanzibar have been urged to venture into investigative reporting to make the public and government leaders accountable to boost the country's socio-economic development.

A lecturer from the State University of Zanzibar (SUZA), Dr Mzee Mustafa, made the call here on Wednesday when speaking at two-day media training on women participation in leadership, which was organised by the Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA Zanzibar).

Journalists had a great responsibility to the community and should invest their energies in investigative reporting - an important driver for accountability, according to Dr Mustafa.

"It's high time journalists make sure that rights of citizens are protected and fulfill their responsibilities that will benefit the community," he said, urging them to establish a system of interrogation

when they find that civil rights are being violated.

The media should encourage the community to recognize itself as part of the people to be involved in various development programmes, he said.

"Go and work with local government authorities, public institutions on how they deliver services, work on budget, how much disbursed to development projects, how those projects are executed - value for money...is this project worthy?"

"Unveils people's challenges and ask leaders what are they doing to solve those challenges. Be at the centre between the government and the public. Stand for the voiceless," said Dr Salum Suleiman Ali, a lecturer at SUZA

"If the community is involved, it's clear that rapid development will be achieved in tandem with directly affecting the community and all that they need to be easily identified," Dr Ali added.

Opening the training, TAMWA director Dr Mzuri Issa said that

scribes have a responsibility to empower women to question their basic rights, including overseeing the implementation of projects that directly target them.

Commenting on the issue of accountability, the director said: "There is a great need for journalists to make government leaders accountable in everything they do because accountability is the catalyst for change."

She also urged journalists in the islands to take a look at projects that are more about women believing that they are part of the community that needs support so remaining silent will not help many women who are a major contributor to society.

One of the participants, Salim Kombo Khamis described the training as an eye-opener towards improving social accountability - a broad range of actions and mechanisms that citizens, communities, independent media and civil-society organizations can use to hold public officials and public servants accountable.



Dodoma district commissioner Jabir Shekimwari opens the 1st Annual Public Administrators Conference, organised by the Association of Public Administrators Tanzania, in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

# The Guardian Limited

## VACANCY

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## New TANROADS CEO tasked to supervise country's 36,000 kilometers of road networks

By Guardian Reporter

Minister for Works and Transport, Eng Leonard Chamuriho, has directed the newly appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) Eng Rogatus Mativila to work on challenges facing the agency and ensure proper supervision of the country's 36,000 kilometers road networks.

He made the statement in Dar es Salaam on Thursday during an event to invite the new CEO in office.

Eng Mativila was last week appointed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan as the new TANROADS CEO to replace the late Engineer Patrick Mfugale who passed away on June 29, 2021.

Prior to that appointment Mativila was the Director of Roads, at the Ministry of Works and Transport (Construction Sector).

According to the Minister, TANROADS supervises construction and maintenance of the roads at tarmac level as well as construction of bridges countrywide.

He urged the agency to make sure the roads are passable throughout

the year and that drivers do not over load their vehicles to protect the roads. He said workers at the weighing bridges must ensure proper supervision of set regulations.

Dr Chamuriho instructed them to work on complaints by contractors which are caused by delays in clearing of cargo due to delayed processes for tax exemption.

"Roads must be constructed at required standards; issues related to payments of compensation should be sorted on time to allow project implementation," he added.

TANROADS CEO Eng Mativila promised to work diligently and cooperate with other staff in finding solution to the existing challenges. He also called upon workers to build a culture of making self-evaluation instead of waiting to be evaluated.

"We are here responsible of ensuring proper performance of the agency due to its importance in the country's economy," he said.

The event was attended different government officials including the ministry's Permanent Secretary Eng Joseph Malongo, management and the agency's board members.



Presence of a zebra crossing comes in handy, and safety all but assured, as students of Dar es Salaam's Mother of Mercy School cross a newly tarmacked section of the Wazo-Madale road earlier this week assisted by their teachers. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Govt to suspend issuance of sugar import permits

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has said that it will suspend the issuance of sugar import permits to companies that are local producers of the product starting next year.

Agriculture Minister, Prof Adolph Mkwinda said the shortage of the product in the country is not due to the shortage of sugarcane but sugar manufacturers' failure to increase

their factories sugarcane processing capacity.

Prof Mkwinda made the remarks in Dodoma on Thursday as he was addressing delegates of the 7th agricultural stakeholders conference held at Asante Estates at Ntyuka area.

"The government will not issue sugar import permits to local manufacturers from next year. By 2022, the country would be

capable of producing enough sugar for local consumption because efforts are ongoing to expand existing factories as well as construction of new industries," said the minister.

Minister Mkwinda was concerned that more than 350,000 tonnes of sugarcane produced by out growers at the Kilombero valley in Morogoro Region are destroyed over lack of market.

He said Tanzania imports more than 40,000 tonnes of the sweetener each year, an amount that could be produced locally. He urged the sugar factories to expand their factories to be able to purchase all the sugarcane produced by small scale farmers.

Prof Mkwinda warned against illegal importation of sugar in the country's markets insisting legal measures will be taken against

anyone proved to have violated the set regulations.

He added that expansion of the factories would help in creating millions of jobs for young Tanzanians as the demand for sugarcane will increase.

In February this year, the minister said that the government will give the mandate for sugar importation to the Sugar Board of Tanzania (SBT).

The comment signals change in the government policy, which has been allowing traders to import sugar to offset the shortages.

Recent reports indicate that Tanzania's demand for domestic sugar was 470,000 metric tons, while the country's five sugar processing factories had the capacity of producing 378,000 tonnes in 2019.



Construction of a classroom building meant for students with special needs in progress at Nyambono B Primary School in Musoma Rural constituency earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## How rural radio has improved farming for Tanzanian farmers

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

MVIWATA is the Swahili acronym for the National Network of Small-Scale Farmers Groups in Tanzania and the group began operating a radio service in August 2020.

It is supported by the Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) which is a partnership involving the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and other partners.

To improve her knowledge in farming, Odilia Jiovin relies on listening to MVIWATA FM's agricultural radio programs, and this has helped her as well as other farmers to learn better farming skills.

The agricultural advisory services have been made easy for Odilia and other farmers through the radio service as they get to learn, ask questions, and gain knowledge that they later apply to their farms.

"I know that I am privileged to listen and follow different programs aired through MVIWATA FM", says Odilia Jiovin, a farmer from Kilosa District, known for production and marketing of sunflower, coconut, sugarcane, and sisal in Morogoro Region.

"I always take the initiative to share the information with my fellow farmers in our community and apply the knowledge shared through the radio on my farm where other farmers come and learn too," she says.

MVIWATA FM attracts smallholder farmers, youth and other marginalized groups, reaching approximately 250,000 people in the rural and urban areas of Tanzania.

The radio station has designed its programs to focus on information, education, knowledge sharing, and entertainment related to agricultural practices, and fills the gap left by mainstream media outlets that provide only limited coverage of issues relevant to rural people.

Listeners can tune in to programs

produced by a team of journalists who work closely with MVIWATA, and the airwaves also carry recordings of farming community group meetings.

The various agricultural practices shared through MVIWATA FM have significantly helped farmers to improve farm preparation and pest management, which has helped ensure higher yields.

Odilia says that MVIWATA FM programs, like Uzalishaji endelevu (Sustainable Production), taught her about integrated pest management, a low-cost and effective method which she applied in her horticultural farm and which saved her crops, and her money.

Educational programs and information sessions have also supported farmers at the community level.

In Ilonga village in Kilosa district, for example, information on the process of participatory planning helped the community to request a budget for the construction of a health centre. As a result, the central government has allocated some funds for the construction in the 2021/2022 budget.

Other program topics have included crop diversification, market access, social accountability, and handling land disputes.

The Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) supports MVIWATA to share information with family farmers through the radio, sensitizing them on new processes and better farming techniques to improve their livelihoods.

The FFF is a partnership between FAO, the International Institute for Environment and Development, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and AgriCord, and was launched in 2012 to improve rural farming, forestry, and farmers' organizations through collective action.

Supporting rural radio, FFF has increased its positive impact and ensured the active engagement of a wide range of family farmers in rural Tanzania and in other African countries.

## AU endorses deployment of its observation mission to Zambia's 2021 General Election

By Guardian Reporter

FOLLOWING an invitation from the government of Zambia, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat, has approved the deployment of an African Union (AU) Short-Term Election Observation (STO) mission to observe the country's general elections scheduled for Thursday.

The STO mission is led by

Dr Ernest Bai Koroma, former President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, and composed of former and current African ambassadors accredited to Ethiopia, members of election management bodies in Africa, members of civil society organisations, and independent electoral experts.

The mission's objective is to provide an independent and impartial assessment of all aspects of

the 2021 electoral process, including the legal framework, the political context and the transparency and effectiveness of the electoral preparations.

It will operate in accordance with relevant AU and international standards and obligations for democratic elections such as the 2007 African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance; the 2002 AU/OAU Declaration on Principles

Governing Democratic Elections in Africa, 2002 the AU Guidelines for Elections Observation and Monitoring Missions. The mission will present its findings at a press conference in Lusaka shortly after the conclusion of the elections, where a preliminary statement will be issued and followed by a more detailed final report that will include recommendations for improvement of future elections in Zambia.





A heap of garbage by the side of a Magomeni Kagera section of Dar es Salaam's Morogoro Road, with little evidence of anyone caring, as found yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msaala

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

## Mainland, Zanzibar agree on ways towards promoting tourism sector

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism and Zanzibar's Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities have agreed to develop a professional system to facilitate its operations, thus bringing positive results in developing and promoting the tourism sector.

The ministers, Dr Damas Ndumbaro and Lela Muhamed Mussa said this in their joint meeting held in Zanzibar town whereas they agreed to cooperate in ensuring further improvement of the sector in both sides of the Union.

They insisted that the new system to be formed will also include capacity building for the ministry executives in both Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.

The ministers agreed to jointly promote the available tourism attractions to increase the number of visitors as well as showing foreigners what Tanzania has to offer in the tourism sector.

Earlier, Minister Lela urged

stakeholders in the tourism sector to be honest to win the trust of local and foreign tourists. "Joint promotion of our tourism attractions would see the sector growing and contributing heavily to the country's economy. Marketing our tourism attractions is one of the best strategies to attract more foreign visitors," she added.

Meanwhile, Dr Ndumbaro mentioned the two tourist attractions that are yet to be properly promoted as the Kiswahili language and the Islamic culture which does not only exist in Zanzibar, but several regions in Tanzania mainland.

He said such tourist attractions are available in Mtwara, Kilwa, Tabora, Lindi, Tanga, Kigoma and Zanzibar.

"This is the time for us to come up with better environment for improvement of our tourism sector. We need to work on all the barriers that hinders the sectors' growth," said Dr Ndumbaro.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said in April this year that despite challenges brought by the Covid-19 pandemic, Tanzania hosted a total of 624,096 tourists in the 2020/2021 fiscal year surpassing the set targets of receiving 437,000 visitors.

Majaliwa acknowledged that due to Covid-19, Tanzania didn't expect even to reach half of the number of tourist arrivals as it was in previous years.

He said that the government took several measures during that hard time so as to ensure that it rescues the tourism sector as it is one of the important areas contributing highly in the country's economic growth.

"The measures that were put in place by most countries, globally, to contain the spread of the pandemic, and particularly border closures and lockdowns, affected the tourism sector across the whole world, Tanzania included," he said.

## Govt sets aside 15bn/- for vulnerable Tanzanians' health insurance cover

By Guardian Correspondent

THE government has allocated 15bn/- to pay for health insurance for identified vulnerable Tanzanians as part of efforts to ensure universal health coverage.

Director of Policy and Planning in the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Edward Mbanga made the revelation in Dar es Salaam yesterday when addressing participants of a conference aimed to discuss ways to improve provision of health insurance services in the country.

"Not all Tanzanians are capable of paying for health insurance; the government intends to identify them and see how it can assist them to get health insurance. So far, only 14 percent of Tanzanians are registered with health insurance services," said the official who represented Health Minister, Dr Dorothy Gwajima.

According to Mbanga, the government is still working on modalities to implement the exercise. He called upon firms offering health insurance services to further improve their services as well as coming up with different packages to allow more people to register.

"There should be a standard in setting up the cost for health

insurance to enable many people to register. We are also working to simplify the registration process by using the national identification numbers issued by the National Identification Authority (NIDA)," he added.

According to Mbanga, the ministry is finalizing preparations for the universal health bill which will be tabled in the National Assembly this year. He said the policy will elaborate on a number of issues including the issuance of such services at health facilities across the country.

Chairman of the Africa Insurance Institute, Dr Baghayo Sagware said they are now conducting research on how to improve provision of health insurance services. He said the aim is to make sure all medical health services are offered through insurance.

He said the yesterdays' meeting was to come with resolutions and suggestions to improve provision of services because among the attendees are experts and students.

"We want the insurance sector to contribute heavily in the country's economy," he said.

Pharm Access International Director, Dr Heri Marwa said they are consulting the government in Zanzibar on reducing the costs of

health insurance. He said they are also reviewing the costs for some diseases treatment such as kidney because its treatment cost a lot of money.

Launching the NHIF new board of directors and the fund's 20th anniversary last month, Health Minister, Dr Dorothy Gwajima called on the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) to expand its coverage and invest in public education to enlighten them on the importance of health insurance.

She said the procedures for establishing the universal health insurance are already on the ground and it is only waiting to be tabled in the House in September this year.

"Let's educate the public so that everyone could be accommodated in the new system, our focus must be on how to include everyone in this system," she noted.

Elaborating, she said the government has set aside 149bn/- to support the universal health insurance.

Dr Gwajima maintained that the 6th phase government is committed to improving provision of health services and it is on that background that President Samia Suluhu Hassan has increased the age bracket of NHIF members' dependants from 18 to 21 years old.

## UNFPA helping to restore the hope, dignity of Ugand's fistula survivors

KAMPALA

"I was depressed and ashamed to interact with friends and relatives because of fistula. My husband who was my source of support told me at one point that he almost abandoned me. I was not a happy woman as a result of fistula predicament," recollected 38-year-old Maseray Bangura, a petty trader from Mambolo, chiefdom headquarter town in the Kambia District.

Obstetric fistula, a childbirth injury wherein a hole develops between the birth canal and the urinary system resulting in constant leakage of urine or faeces is often the direct result of failure by a health system to provide quality health care during childbirth.

Women who develop fistula often have prolonged labour due to the failure to make a timely decision to go to the health facility when labour starts, or a delay in reaching a health facility due to a poor referral system or bad road network, or the failure of a health facility to provide timely and apt treatment to women during childbirth.

Approximately 2 million women currently live with fistula globally.

In 2003, in line with universal targets to advance maternal and new-borns health and with the goal of making fistula as rare as possible, UNFPA and its partners launched a global campaign to end fistula.

Pregnant with her fifth child, Maseray Bangura was taken for her delivery to the Government Hospital in Lungi, a referral hospital in Port Loko district. There, she

encountered difficulties and was unable to deliver the baby.

"For three agonizing days, I was experiencing severe labour pain. Clearly I was unable to deliver my baby. The nurses told me I was not having enough blood. It was a difficult moment for me. To save my life and that of the baby, a caesarean delivery was performed successfully and few days later, I was discharged," she narrated her ordeal.

With 717 deaths per 100,000 live births, according to the 2019 Demographic and Health Survey, Sierra Leone is still among countries with the world's highest maternal mortality ratio. Bleeding in pregnancy (obstetric haemorrhage) accounts for about 40 per cent of maternal deaths in the country.

Safe pregnancies and childbirth depend on functioning health systems and provision of quality care. In Sierra Leone, therefore, UNFPA is addressing fistula prevention (as well as prevention of maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity, and stillbirth, and improving the quality of maternal care) by supporting the Ministry of Health and Sanitation in improving quality services for pregnant and postnatal women.

When Maseray was discharged a week later, she realized she had developed serious complications, having returned home with fistula. "Four days after returning home, I realized I was leaking urine unconsciously. This was too much for me. It was a shameful thing to experience. I chose not to tell anyone and only confined it to

my husband and my mother," she revealed with sadness.

Obstetric fistula is preventable and in most cases can be repaired surgically. In Sierra Leone, with funding from the Government of Iceland, UNFPA partners with non-governmental organizations like Haikal Foundation and Aberdeen Women's Centre to conduct screening for women with suspected obstetric fistula, and surgery to repair their fistula and restore their dignity. UNFPA also supports the government in preventing the incidence of obstetric fistula by strengthening the quality of obstetric services, a key component to addressing maternal mortality.

In 2020, for instance, 260 women were screened for suspected obstetric fistula. Of these women, 129 had surgery to repair their fistula, with 31 of them receiving livelihood skills as part of their rehabilitation and reintegration. Since 2011 to date, Aberdeen Women's Centre, with funding support from UNFPA, has successfully performed 1,731 fistula surgeries. When Maseray learned of the work of Aberdeen Women's Centre, she travelled to Freetown with her husband to be admitted at the centre for her fistula surgery.

"I successfully underwent the surgery without paying a cent. I have seen so much improvement and I am beginning to gain my happiness and self-confidence. My dignity has been restored. I have spent a week without experiencing urine leaks. My wish now is to return to my hometown because I am not leaking anymore."



### INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR HIRING OF HIRING OF CRANE FOR GGML INTERNAL WORK OPERATIONS BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

#### I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of hiring a crane and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of the below service.

#### Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01267	HIRING OF CRANE FOR GGML INTERNAL WORK OPERATIONS

#### II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	1.25%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.25%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.25%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage (%))	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.25%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	<b>5%</b>
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5%</b>
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.7%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.7%
Safety and Environmental Policies	1.7%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01267)</b>	<b>75%</b>
Proof of Equipment Availability	25%
Proof of Technical personnel's availability & experience	25%
Evidence of Tenderer's previous experience in related Tender	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER( GGME01267) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than 0830 A.M 13TH August 2021 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



## Tanzania overtakes Kenya as Uganda's largest source of imports in EAC region

KAMPALA

TANZANIA capped an eight-month surge in exports to Uganda during June, replacing Kenya as Uganda's biggest source of imports within the East African Community (EAC), according to data from Bank of Uganda.

Uganda's imports from Tanzania have for the last three-months doubled, increasing by an average of 18 per cent.

During June, Uganda imported goods worth \$125.12m (Shs444b) from Tanzania, indicating a 43 per cent surge from \$70.07m in the same period last year.

However, this was a reduction from \$149.38m and \$125.91m that had, according to Bank of Uganda, been recorded during May and April, respectively. However, the report indicates a wide trade imbalance

between the two countries with Uganda exporting goods worth \$10.07m during June. Exports during May and April stood at \$8.78m and \$9.34m, respectively.

During the three months from April to June, Uganda's imports from Kenya stood at \$83.25m, \$71.78m and \$66.85m, respectively. This put Tanzania ahead of Kenya as Uganda's main source of imports within EAC.

Imports from Rwanda during June, stood at just \$0.14m, reducing from \$0.24m and \$0.32m during May and April, respectively.

During June imports from Burundi stood at \$0.05m while DR Congo contributed \$1.82m, which was a growth from May's \$1.72m and April's \$1.71m.

Uganda imported goods worth \$0.71m from South Sudan, a reduction from \$0.96m and \$0.79m in May and April, respectively.

According to data from Uganda Bureau of Statistics (Ubos), major imports from Tanzania include gold, rice, trailers and semi-trailers, rolled iron and non-alloy steel and dried and salted fish as well as rice and wheat. Uganda is, however, concerned by the increasing trade deficit that currently stands at \$105.31m within EAC.

Of this, Tanzania accounts for the largest share, standing at \$138.2m.

During the period, South Sudan and Kenya accounted for the largest export destinations in the region for Uganda's exports, accounting for \$51.5m and \$48m, respectively.

Uganda's export receipts within EAC have grown by 73 per cent from \$67.31m in May last year to \$116.56m, while imports have almost doubled, growing by 44 per cent from \$153.95m to \$221.87m over the same period.



Salma Mwako (R), an Emmanuel Brotherhood Foundation project manager, pictured in Dar es Salaam on Thursday presenting personal protective equipment to Sharik Choughule (2nd-R), councillor for Dar es Salaam's Kivukoni ward, for use by the city's Magogoni International Fish market in the war on Covid-19. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

By Guardian Reporter

THE Conrad N. Hilton foundation has the Campaign for Female Education (CAMFED) as the 2021 Conrad N. Hilton humanitarian prize recipient and will receive \$2.5 million in funding.

As the world's largest annual humanitarian award presented to a non-profit, the Hilton humanitarian prize recognizes extraordinary contributions toward alleviating human suffering.

"The Jury's selection of CAMFED as the recipient of the 2021 Hilton Humanitarian Prize speaks first and foremost to its community-led approach and to the power of investing in girls," said Peter Laugharn, president and CEO of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation.

He added: "CAMFED has revolutionized how girls' education is delivered, tapping into local expertise in a way that is sustainable and scalable. Further, the pandemic has had a catastrophic effect on families and girls, with estimates that 11 million girls may not return to school as a result of the crisis. The time for the global community to learn from this model is now."

CAMFED's Executive Director, Angeline Murimirwa, was one of the first young women to receive support from CAMFED to go to secondary school and is a founding member of the CAMFED Association. She now oversees the delivery of CAMFED's mission, working closely with all CAMFED offices. Angeline understands from experience both the desire for education and the enormous hurdles girls face in securing their right to education.

CAMFED Executive Director - Africa, Angeline Murimirwa said: "We are thrilled to have this recognition at this critical moment.

## CAMFED wins 2021 Conrad N Hilton humanitarian prize

Around the world we are faced with the question: 'How do we navigate the impact of COVID-19 and climate change without turning back the clock on women and girls?' The Hilton humanitarian prize shines a bright light on our movement, rising from Africa. This Prize belongs to our communities, for rallying around the education and leadership of young women who know intimately what poverty and exclusion feel like, and what it takes for girls to succeed. When girls succeed, and women lead, we can tackle the world's most intractable challenges together."

Julia Gillard, the 27th Prime Minister of Australia and Chair of the Global Partnership for Education said: "CAMFED has demonstrated an ability to make a large-scale difference to girls' lives through education. I have been truly impressed by their approach to scaling their model while retaining an unrelenting focus on reaching girls who are the most vulnerable and 'invisible.' Their results are well-evidenced, sustainable and replicable, and the societal consequences are deep and profound. CAMFED is creating a movement of future leaders who I believe have the potential to transform a continent. I am thrilled to see this recognized by the Hilton Humanitarian Prize."

CAMFED was founded in 1993 in response to the scale of girls' exclusion from education, and in recognition of the transformative benefits that accrue when the right to education is secured for all girls.

What began in Zimbabwe as a program supporting 32 girls in two schools has now become a movement that has already

supported more than 4.8 million disadvantaged students in 6,787 schools across 163 districts in Ghana, Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

CAMFED's model, which has been thoroughly tested and refined, provides financial and social support for girls to attend and thrive in primary and secondary school. Post-school, CAMFED provides business training, finance, and support for young women to access higher education and employment opportunities, so that they can safely transition to a secure and fulfilling adulthood.

Those joining the CAMFED Association, the pan-African peer support and leadership network, commit to mentoring and supporting each other, as well as the next generation, as they grow into respected role models in their communities, working to secure every child's right to go to school, and change the status quo for girls for good.

The CAMFED Association, founded in 1998, now includes 178,000 young women who serve as mentors and trainers, work as teachers, health care workers, and climate-smart entrepreneurs, and each support with their own resources another three girls - on average - to go to school each year.

The CAMFED model of investing in girls' education from childhood through their formative years, with a focus on celebrating the agency of the next generation of female leaders, is a proven success even in the face of adversity. As a result, the organization has been recognized by notable leaders and thinkers across the globe.

## EAC challenged to improve business and investment climate in the region

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Business Council (EABC) Chairman Nick Nesbitt has urged the East African Community (EAC) council of ministers to initiate a common regional vaccination facility and fast-track finalization of the Common External Tariff review process.

Speaking in Nairobi, Kenya during the EABC-KEPSA CEO Round Table on EAC regional integration, Nesbitt underscored the need for the EAC to harmonize taxes and product standards, open up East African skies and enforce agreed-upon EAC protocols to markedly improve the business and investment climate and boost economic resilience, recovery and growth.

"We need to implement a regional coordinated approach on Covid-19 measures and get into action to build back our economies better amid the pandemic," said Nesbitt.

He elaborated that the high air passenger ticket and freight fares in the EAC increase the cost of doing business. He also called upon the EAC to formulate supportive policies for SMEs to innovate, improve skills and technology to be able to expand

across the EAC border and the continent.

"Transport infrastructure development and interlinkage are important to enable giants of East Africa to march across the rest of Africa and access the continental market," said Nesbitt.

The Chief Guest, Adan Mohamed who is the Cabinet Secretary for East African Community & Regional Development Kenya and the Chair of EAC council of ministers committed to improving the business environment in the EAC region in close partnership with the private sector-led by EABC

Speaking at the CEO Round Table, John Bosco Kalisa, EABC CEO said: "As EABC we appreciate the political goodwill from the EAC Heads of State evidenced by recent High-Level Bilateral Engagements and State Visit to Kenya leading to resolution of trade barriers such as visa fees and recurring Non-Tariff barriers."

Kalisa elaborated that in 2020, Kenyan exported Ksh. 71.9 billion to Uganda and Ksh. 31.2 billion to Tanzania, Ksh. 25.1 billion to Rwanda and this is set to increase if the EAC Trade Remedies Committee is

operationalized.

He also urged the EAC Partner States to sustain tax reductions and stimulus packages until impacted business sectors recover to the pre Covid-19 level.

Dr Peter Mathuki, EAC Secretary-General urged the private sector to amplify advocacy and seat at the table with policy decision-makers to articulate solutions to boost trade and investment.

He emphasized that the recently launched EAC-EABC Technical Working Group is a platform for the private sector and EAC to chart out the road map to increase intra-EAC trade and prosperity.

Principal Secretary State Department of EAC, Ministry of East Africa Community and Regional Development Kevit Desai urged for more collaboration and greater coordination between the private and public sectors to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and cross border women traders in the region.

Desai said the ministry with support from TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) has embarked on developing cross border traders market at the Busia.

ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI  
GEITA GOLD MINE

### INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR HIRING OF ROCK BREAKER FOR AGGREGATES CRUSHING OPERATIONS BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

#### I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of hiring a rock breaker and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of the below service.

#### Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01266	HIRING OF ROCK BREAKER FOR AGGREGATES CRUSHING OPERATIONS

#### II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	1.25%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.25%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.25%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage (%))	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.25%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	<b>5%</b>
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5%</b>
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.7%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.7%
Safety and Environmental Policies	1.7%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01266)</b>	<b>75%</b>
Proof of Equipment Availability	25%
Proof of Technical personnel's availability & experience	25%
Evidence of Tenderer's previous experience in related Tender	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01266)** of the service they intend to express interest on **THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to **GGML**, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the **GGML** Office via e-mail at **geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com** not later than **0830 A.M 13TH August 2021 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline)**. EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=





Ghizlane Gouch (L), project manager of Oman's real estate developer Muriya Company, briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam earlier this week at the launch of the housing exhibitions meant to attract Tanzanians interested in buying residential houses in the sultanate. She is with the firm's chief finance officer, Mohamed Abdallah. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

## Iringa RC launches awareness drive on COVID vaccinations

IRINGA Regional Commissioner Queen Sendiga yesterday launched the vaccination campaign against Covid-19 calling upon residents to come out in large numbers to get the jab.

The region received 30,000 doses of the Johnson & Johnson single-shot vaccine along with 135,000 syringes through the Medical Stores Department (MSD).

RC Sendiga was speaking during the vaccination exercise held at the Iringa Regional Referral Hospital. The RC received the vaccine along with other government officials and journalists.

Sendiga urged the public to show up in large numbers at located centers, insisting they should go with their national identification numbers (NIN), driving license or voters' registration cards.

She said although taking the vaccine is voluntary; they have given priority to health workers because

they meet and attend to a good number of people every day.

The list also includes those with chronic diseases as well as those aged between 50 years and above.

"We encourage the elderly people to come up for the jab because they are among people in the risk group," she said noting the vaccine is safe and has been approved by reputable medical institutions.

She however urged the residents to continue adhering to health professionals' advices to prevent themselves from the disease. Some preventive measures include frequent hand washing with soap and running water or using alcohol-based hand washing rubs.

Iringa Regional Medical Officer, Dr Mohammed Mang'una stressed that the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is safe and has no side effects, urging the public not to panic.

Chairperson of the Iringa Region Council of Elders, Rev Laurence Mwambusi commended the government for efforts to ensure Tanzanians are protected from Covid-19. He said the elders are ready for the jab because they have been educated enough on the importance of taking the vaccine.

On July 28, this year, President Samia Suluhu Hassan got vaccinated against the coronavirus to kick off the country's first vaccination campaign. The prime minister, chief justice and other top officials also got their shots.

The president said she would not risk her life or put herself in danger while knowing that she has so many responsibilities awaiting her.

She said she's also a mother, grandmother, and wife and that as the president, she must show this to the masses who are behind her.

## AU Peace, Security Council team on four-day field mission to CAR

By Guardian Reporter

THE Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), under the Chairmanship of the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Burundi to the AU, Ambassador Joel Nkurabagaya has arrived in Bangui, Central African Republic (CAR), on a four-day field mission from June 28th to July 1st 2021.

The delegation comprises of Permanent Representatives of the following PSC member states—Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Mozambique, Senegal and the Deputy Permanent Representative of Ethiopia, as well as the representatives of Algeria, Chad, Djibouti, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi and Nigeria.

The field mission is taking place in line with the council's mandate to promote and enhance peace, security and stability in the continent, in particular, as it relates to the implementation of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation (PAPR-CAR)

signed between the Government of CAR and 14 arms groups on 6 February 2019, in which the AU is a Guarantor, as well as to follow up on the implementation of PSC and AU Assembly decisions on the situation in the CAR.

The field mission is also taking place following the holding of the presidential and legislative elections in the CAR, which has contributed to the promotion of relative institutional stability, safeguard constitutional order, and deepening of democracy; the installation of the new National Assembly the appointment of a new prime minister and formation of a new government on 23 June 2021.

During its mission, the council will gather first-hand information on the prevailing political, security, economic, social and humanitarian situation on the ground, including the status of progress in the implementation of the political agreement.

The information gathered during the field mission will be instrumental in shaping the decisions of council

regarding the required next steps in supporting the government and people of CAR in its efforts to find lasting solutions to the plethora of challenges facing their country.

The field mission will also be undertaken as an expression of the AU solidarity with the government and the people of CAR, as well as to reaffirm the unwavering commitment of the AU to support CAR.

The delegation will hold consultations with a number of stakeholders, among others, the high officials of the government, political parties, religious leaders, civil society organisations, armed groups that are party to the APPR-CAR, African Diplomatic Community, representatives of the G5+ members (United Nations, European Union, African Union, Economic Community of Central African States, World Bank, France, United States of America, Russian Federation, China). The Delegation will also visit the African Union Military Observer Mission in the Central African Republic (MOUACA).

By Special Correspondent

HUMAN-DRIVEN climate change is fuelling weather extremes – from record drought to massive floods – that are hammering key agricultural regions around the world.

In July, a video went viral on social media in Argentina showing people walking across what looks like a desert. But it isn't a desert.

Besides damaging crops, the drought also means barge-hauled grains can't get to market cheaply, forcing Argentina to support commodities transport with \$10.4 million, and costing the nation's grain farmers and exporters \$315 million. It's likely consumers will ultimately foot the bill.

The Paraná region is experiencing "a veritable environmental holocaust," says Rafael Colombo, a member of the Argentinian Association of Environmental Lawyers.

The multiple causes, he states, include "a complex and diversified series of anthropomorphic interventions, associated with the expansion of agro-industrial, ranching, forest, river and mining extractivism over the last 50 years." Add to that the impact of global human-caused climate change.

Extreme weather impacts can be expected to dot various parts of the planet every year, but the Paraná watershed drought isn't an outlier in 2021. Instead, it represents the new normal as major regional bread baskets around the globe are assaulted by unusually high temperatures that exacerbate simultaneous record droughts, bringing disastrous wildfires.

Extreme heat waves and drought have smashed records across the U.S. West, from southern California to Nevada and Oregon. As the unprecedented mega drought deepens, California's water

## Human-driven changes in climate ram food security

regulators this week took a highly unusual step: forbidding thousands of farmers from extracting water from major rivers and streams for irrigation. The drought is surely going to be bad news for spaghetti lovers: California grows more than 90% of America's canned tomatoes and a third of the world's supply. Expect much higher prices and "cue the tomato hoarding."

Meanwhile, 91 wildfires are currently raging across the U.S., devastating ecosystems and infrastructure. Three million acres have burned so far this year, with the fire season far from over, while during the same period last year only 2.1 million acres burned.

Western U.S. climate change-induced mega fires are also having adverse agricultural commodities impacts, with farmers and ranchers now saddled with skyrocketing fire insurance rates, often increasing by tens of thousands of dollars.

"The trend has sent shock waves through California's agricultural regions," says online environmental news service Grist. Those exorbitant insurance rates could push some farms out of business, or make agriculture too risky to insure.

Farther east, in Colorado and Utah, cattle ranchers are feeling the pain too. As their drought worsens, many have reluctantly decided to cull their herds. "Everyone is gonna be selling their cows, so it's probably smarter now to do it, while the price is up, before the market gets flooded," said Buzz Bates, a rancher from Oab, Utah.

The West's drought has also created ideal conditions for grasshopper eggs to hatch, leading to widespread infestation and

crop loss. "I can only describe grasshoppers in expletives," said one Oregon farmer. "They are a scourge of the Earth ... They just destroy the land, destroy the crops."

Drought this year is exacerbating hunger in some of Earth's poorest countries. Southern Madagascar is experiencing its worst drought in four decades. Maliha, 38 years old and a single mother of eight, told Reliefweb: "Since the rain stopped, the children are not eating regularly. I give them whatever I can find, like cactus leaves. With this diet, they have diarrhea and nausea, but we have no choice. At least it doesn't kill them."

According to World Food Programme Executive Director David Beasley, the food crisis in Madagascar has been building for years: "There have been back-to-back droughts which have pushed communities right to the very edge of starvation." More than 1 million Madagascans have been left "food insecure," without access to "sufficient, safe and nutritious food," he said.

He's emphatic as to the reason: "This is not because of war or conflict; this is because of climate change."

As disaster follows disaster, some evoke tales of the 10 plagues found in the Old Testament, sent by God to punish humanity for its evil. Not even the plague of locusts is missing: Just a year ago, the Greater Horn of Africa and Yemen suffered the largest desert locust outbreak in 25 years, triggered by record rains. In Ethiopia alone more than 356,000 tons of cereals were lost, leaving almost 1 million people food insecure.



### INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF HEATER: PART NO: WTS 2250B; TYPE: ELUTION TO BE PROCURED BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

#### I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of procuring Heater with part no: wts 2250b; Type: Elution therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of the below service.

#### Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01262	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF HEATER: PART NO: WTS 2250B; TYPE: ELUTION

#### II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	1.25%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.25%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.25%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage (%))	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.25%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	<b>5%</b>
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5%</b>
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Environment Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Safety and Environmental Policies	1.25%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.25%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.25%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above) where applicable	1.25%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.25%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA(GGME01262)</b>	<b>75%</b>
Proof of dealership authorization from OEM	40%
Proof of technical capability to supply the item	20%
Evidence of previous work supplying this item.	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>TECHNICAL INFORMATION (GGME01262)</b>	
Input: 9529 Mj/HR	
Output: 2250kW	
Working Pressure: 2000kPa	
Design Pressure: 2000kPa	
Design: 250°C	
Max Working Temp: 150°C	
Hydrostatic Test Pressure: 3000kPa	
Design Code: AS1228.1	
Manufactures to: AS4458	
NDT: AS4032	
Flow Rate: 60.0 m³/hr	
Pressure Loass Across Coil: 450kPa	
Temp Rise Across Coil: 34°C	
Inlet & Outlet Flanges: 100nb ANSI 300psi, C/W Matching Flanges	
Boiler Mass: 12000kg	
DN40 for four Inlet & Outlet Flanges.	

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01262) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than 0830 A.M 13TH August 2021 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email..

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



## Can Africa's third industrial development decade deliver?

INCREASING the severity of punishment does little to deter crime. Laws and policies designed to deter crime by focusing mainly on increasing the severity of punishment are ineffective partly because criminals know little about the sanctions for specific crimes. There is no proof that the death penalty deters criminals.

According to sociologists, youths, among the various age groups, face high exposure for indulgence in crime because of their great ambitions to do whatever they wish to. As they are more influenced by their peers, sometimes they become restless to replicate others' adventure. Particularly, if they are unemployed resorting to criminal act has high possibility. Others also might use them to serve their interest. Therefore, in order to facilitate a better future for the youth and help them be optimistic, parents and the society must be considerate towards the youth.

On the other hand, as crime is a threat to a nation's stability, tracing and preventing it must be a priority agenda. At this point, the justice organs as well as the system must be reorganized and institutionally strong.

It is understood that criminal activities could be induced by socio-economic factors such as unemployment and poverty. Criminal mentality is being spurred by the growing materialist cultural and global network of money laundering, human trafficking and contraband trade. And a terrorism network is affecting the world's socio-economic arena as it changes its maneuvers from time to time.

If rampant unemployment and poverty continues the chance of the youth to involve in criminal activities is much higher. Hence,

the government's plan of reducing poverty through job creation is vital. The on going effort to create job through small-scale enterprises must be enhanced. Tracing criminals and bringing them to justice is a secondary action. Rather, addressing poverty and unemployment is vital and must be prioritized because it could address the root causes of the problem.

According to Twaweza findings released in 2015 crime rate in the country is on the rise. It showed that three out of ten citizens experienced theft in 2014, with half of all Tanzanians having had something stolen from them. The findings have it that majority of the citizens, almost 84 per cent, believe they are likely to be affected by gangs similar to Panya Road in Dar es Salaam.

In January 2015, Panya Road, a gang of youthful criminals, caused mayhem among residents, with extensive social media blowing the panic beyond proportions.

Two out of ten citizens report that they witnessed violence during the local government elections in December 2014. Twaweza in a research titled, "Our Safety? Citizens' views on security and justice," said the findings are based on data collected from 1,401 respondents across Mainland Tanzania in February and March in 2015.

Despite the relatively high rates of theft, fears about gangs and incidents of political violence, eight out of ten citizens report never or rarely, feeling unsafe in their own communities and neighbourhoods.

However, they believe that the justice system in the country is not functioning as it should, whereas over half of citizens believe that ordinary citizens would be punished according to the law if they commit a crime.

## If well executed, national laws have immense capacity to deter criminals

THERE are many requirements needed to make industrialisation efforts bear positive outcomes. Reliable financing is vital, and Africa and its development partners need to mobilise and prudently deploy the necessary funds. Countries also need to design and implement comprehensive industrial policies, promote industrial entrepreneurship, advance innovation and technology, enhance energy efficiency, and promote climate change resilience.

Fund mobilisation for the decade needs to build on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which recognizes the importance of industrial development as a critical source of economic growth, economic diversification, and value addition.

It also highlights several key avenues for financing development initiatives. Equally important is the need to effectively leverage markets through regional integration.

Since the turn of the century, much of Africa has achieved impressive economic growth. Sixteen African countries were among the world's top 30 fastest growing nations. Last year, the 10 fastest growing African economies posted GDP growth rates exceeding 5 per cent.

On the flip side, continued commodity-dependence - coupled with fluctuations in commodity prices - makes African economies vulnerable and hampers their ability to create decent jobs and effectively tackle poverty.

Hence the need for African countries to take further action to advance inclusive and sustainable industrial development. This is the reason behind the proclamation by the General Assembly last year of the third Industrial Development Decade for Africa. The Decade represents a global initiative in support of African

industrialization.

Through it, the international community acknowledges the important link between industrialization and development, and takes note of Africa being the least industrialized, poorest and the most vulnerable continent, in spite of its immense economic and social potential.

The Decade is not an isolated undertaking, but complements other key development initiatives, such as the African Union's Agenda 2063, the "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and various bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives.

Greater regional integration has the potential to support industrialization by increasing intra-African trade and intra-African investments, through the free movement of capital.

Our goal must be to provide jobs and opportunities, particularly for Africa's growing population of youth. Industrialization can and must also be a tool for women's empowerment and gender equality.

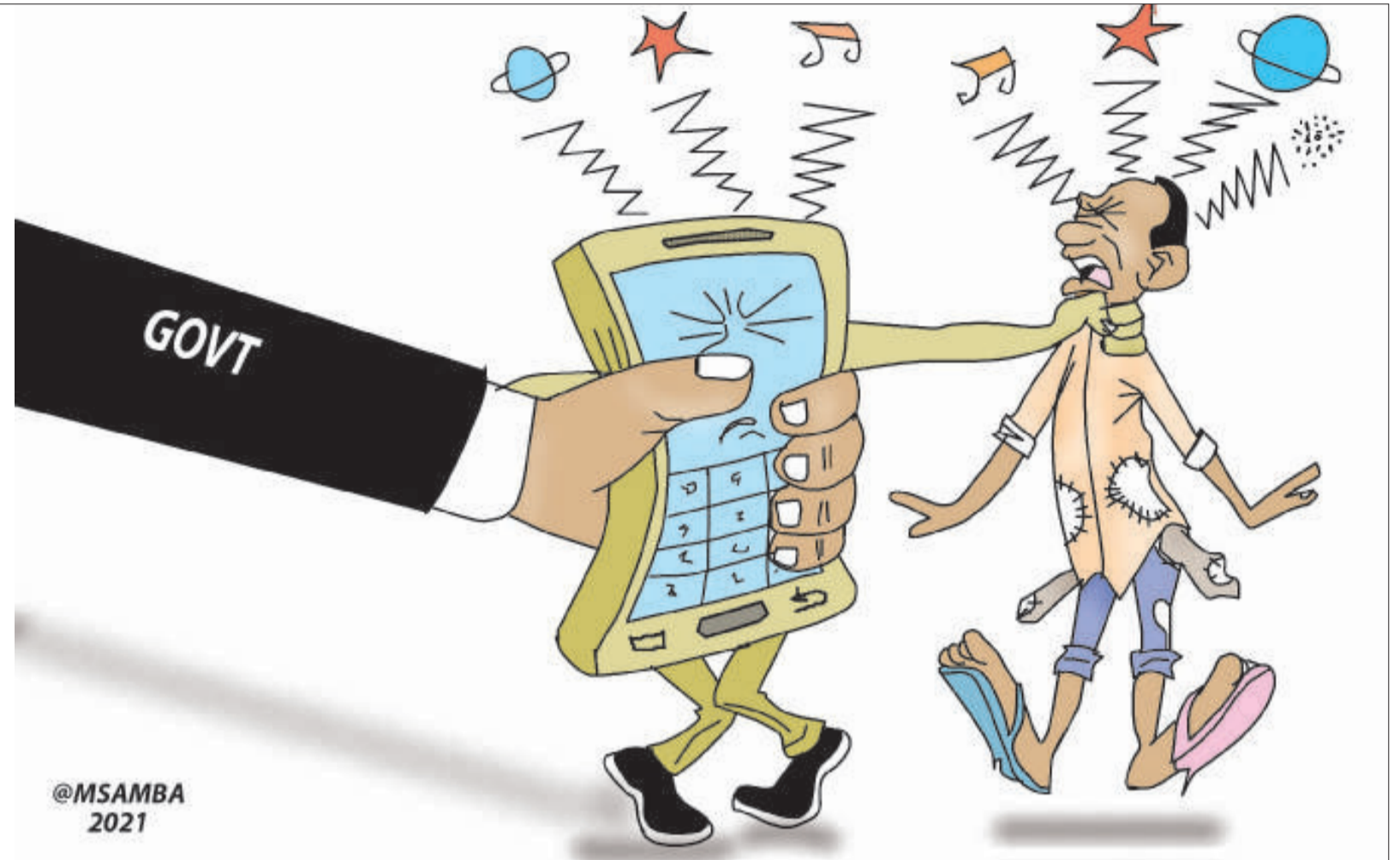
For this we must invest in appropriate vocational and skills training and closing the digital divide.

No single country or institution is fully equipped to tackle the challenges of African industrial development on its own. The implementation of the third Industrial Development Decade for Africa requires concerted efforts from a wide range of stakeholders.

Apart from intra-African partnerships, Africa needs to leverage the full potential of its development partners through appropriate bilateral, regional, inter-regional, and multilateral arrangements.

South-South, North-South and triangular co-operation are all necessary. The United Nations system is a key partner, along with the public and private sectors, financial institutions, civil society organizations, academia.

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## Outlook of political parties

By Special Correspondent

IT has been widely circulated that there are about twenty political parties and aspirants for the forthcoming presidential elections. The political atmosphere is therefore a Guest Editoriale fully loaded for the race to the State House. It is an unprecedented development in the politics of the country.

This, perhaps, has been motivated by the emergence of a coalition government in the aftermath of the 2016 elections in which power-sharing became a phenomenon in Gambian politics. However, with the history of the poor performances of small parties in the past elections, it could be said that having so many unknown, small, less consequential and very thin political out fits will not leave any significant marks in the totality of the elections.

Forming a party is a democratic right but political realism is a must-know element if one is to avoid waking up to the harsh reality of the political arena. There could be some alliances, not in numbers of supporters they bring, but in terms

of goodwill in the name of the party leader. The race is basically between NPP, UDP, APRC, GDC, and to some extent, GFA and CA. Let us now view the outlook of these parties as they position their agendas for public consumption.

A youthful party like Citizens' Alliance (CA) could be spoilers in making a significant swing away from the major contenders. The youth votes must not be underrated in the elections. The UDP has been a culturally entrenched party in the political arena. The party seemingly tends to have the numbers in terms of support which could be of advantage in a simple majority win under the current constitution. However, it cannot be ruled out that the UDP could encounter strong challenges in the event of a united coalition force in the elections.

The NPP, like many other parties, is a new outfit in the political arena. Many have said that it was a presidential creation under the pretext of PEOPLE'S DEMAND. The party does not seem to have souA Guest Editoriale structures on the ground and has no capacity for political mobilization. It depends

on financial resources and the advantages of incumbency. The party has a tendency to over-concentrate on the UDP which is not a good political strategy. In a convoluted political environment, it is prudent for the NPP to forge alliances with other parties. A presidency that was backed by seven parties in the 2016 elections is quite different from the NPP going it alone in the 2021 elections. From the look of things the NPP energy and efforts in politics seems to be focused on upcountry. Electorally speaking, upcountry cannot produce a president. The voting population is in the Kombos and KMC. As a ruling party, it must be mentioned that credit goes to the government for ensuring democratic governance.

The APRC from all indications is still a force to be reckoned with but they have to deal with Jammeh's leadership role. The party must make that INEVITABLE DECISION no matter how bitter it may be. Time is running against the party. The GDC seems to be actively engaging the electorate on its agenda. The GDC leadership has the most effective political articulation which

is an important component of political mobilization. Going by the party's gains in the 2016 elections, if the numbers increase significantly in terms of support and in a united alliance with other parties then a breakthrough in 2021 elections will be certain.

The party has accomplished a lot in bringing development to communities across the country. The GFA leadership is the most experienced in governance and to a large degree in politics. However, the party hailed from a split party (PPP) and could affect the party's rating and acceptance by the people. An alliance with GFA will be feasible because of the formidable character of its leadership.

Based on the outlook of these parties, predictions as to which of them will win the 2021 elections may be comparatively more accurate after a clear picture of the voter registration exercise. And, also, when the campaign begins and turnouts are assessed, December 4th will be a critical moment in the contest for power. On that day, the pretenders will be separated from the contenders.

## Budgetary allocation to fight rape is extremely necessary

By Special Correspondent

GOING through the budgetary appropriations of the Special Budget that is to cover July to December, there is glaring notice that there is no allocation for the combat of rape - an endemic the country is battling.

IN September 2020, President George Manneh Weah declared rape a national emergency. He also introduced the first set of new measures to address the increase in violence against women. The measures include designating a specific prosecutor to handle rape cases and setting up a national sex offender registry. He is also creating a national security task force to handle sexual and gender-based violence and is allocating \$2 million to address the issue.

Women's rights advocates praised the move but emphasize the need to hold Weah accountable. Sexual violence against women increased by 50 per cent in Liberia during the pandemic. The Ministry of Justice recorded more than 600 reported rape cases between January and June 2020 alone, a rate close to reaching annual levels. Liberia recorded 803 rape cases in 2015, according to a UN report.

Women and girls around the world face an increased risk of experiencing gender-based violence because they are more likely to be trapped at home with their abusers and lack resources to escape. Disruptions in social services and health care are making it even more challenging for survivors to seek assistance.

It is quite unfortunate that despite the lofty promises toward the

combat of this menace in our society, too little has been seen towards the fulfillment of these promises.

Over the weekend, a group of Women and children rights advocates have called on the Legislature to allocate funding in the 2021 Special budget to effectively combat of rape and protect survivors of the menace.

The group said, "The President's action to declare rape as a national emergency and later the Ministry of Gender's deliberately refusing to put money in the 2021 national special budget was just a mere bluff. It's sad, but the President's action was all performative just for the media."

They continued: "Well, we believe they have fooled us. But today, we say, enough is enough. We want accountability. We want the actions and we want the Legislature to allocate funding for fight against

rape. You can't declare rape as a national crisis and refuse to fund it."

The cry of the children for their own protection must be ignored or brushed under the carpet. The Legislature still has the opportunity to right the wrong of the Ministry of Gender by appropriating funds specifically for the pursue of rape and rape-related cases.

Words must be accompanied by actions - that's how goals are achieved.

As the Feminist-in-Chief of the Republic, we believe that much more is expected of the President ensuring that Liberia begins to change the narratives on the prevalence of rape in the country. Our children remain vulnerable, it is incumbent upon our generation to save and protect our future generation. It must begin now with real actions, not bluff words.



**Y**OU might have resigned for personal reasons or got laid off when the company was merging efforts with another or maybe you got fired for some mistakes that cost the company millions of money.

Now it's been a few months, a year or two since all that occurred and you have nothing serious lined up for you and no job placements in sight either.

Whichever reasons that might be the cause of your lengthy unemployment status, the question still remains: how do you handle all that and explain to a potential employer your whereabouts during that gap period?

Pretty much how do you do so without minimizing the chances of them offering you the job?

We are all aware that several graduates and other people who had been employed before have undergone a period without employment for years and also their are some graduates who still attend to job duties outside their field of study for as well for as long as they can remember.

You should be honest but...take a pause and do something tangible for some time

It's hard to explain when we have to lie about something, when we should have done something but didn't do it. In situations like those, we try to make up stories and make ourselves miserable.

If you have tried something sincerely but didn't work out, mention the same honestly. Even if they don't believe it, you should not feel bad about it because you have honestly tried it.

If you have not done something worth mentioning in last 2 yrs, then I suggest you to take a pause for next 6 months from your job search. Do something tangible - it could be a training, a free internship, a low paid job, an odd job whatever may be it, but something that you can say that you have done it. If you can explain your last 6 months, people may not bother too much about last 2 yrs. Even when someone wants to know,

# The unemployment hack



just laugh and say that you have wasted your time doing nothing significant. Do anything but ...not every thing that comes your way

Get busy and do any legal activity that earns you a living and keep pushing to find a job.

Don't shy away from jobs that the society thinks are for unlearned people.

I have heard of alot of successful people tell of how they once took low paid jobs and still made to the top of their careers later. Jobs such as that of a barista are not mediocre if you know where you are headed after that and what you would like to achieve in life.

All in all, if you are still jobless it's pretty clear that there was a mismatch between what you possess as skills and what your interviewers wanted. So various activities that you will do will have you acquiring various skills.

Learn a different languages, get a job and not just the job you desire like taking care of old people as a nursing maid for instance. Take an additional course, if you can afford it etc.

Have a personal schedule and set goals as well Make a schedule, and stick to it, have a weekly plan

too.

Get out of bed early and have a plan already in mind, this helps you minimise wasting precious time and doing unnecessary activities.

If you spend the day sitting at your desk on the computer, you'll feel better having showered and dressed. Keep a regular bedtime too - try not to go to bed in the wee hours of the morning. Assume a night schedule similar to what you'd keep if you were working. Plan out your day. If you don't own a planner, you might want to invest in one.

Allocate time in your day for activities like applying to jobs, exercise, socialization, and networking.

Frankly speaking, the reality is this: If you've been unemployed for a long period of time, you're going to face a steeper uphill climb than those who are currently employed or have recently become unemployed.

They assume your skills have begun to deteriorate or their is something about your character as a person or otherwise you might have taken another placement sooner after your previous one. So as a job seeker don't give in to that mentality but Instead prove them meeting by investing in your self, your abilities and skills and make it to the top.

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## China steps up mass inoculation to curb Delta variant

**BEIJING** LOCAL authorities in China have ramped up mass vaccination drives to contain the latest resurgence of COVID-19 attributable to the highly contagious Delta variant.

A total of 17 provincial-level regions on the Chinese mainland had reported locally transmitted infections linked to this coronavirus strain as of Wednesday.

More than 1.7 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines had been administered on the Chinese mainland by Tuesday, according to the National Health Commission (NHC). It took China less than a week to administer the most recent 100 million vaccine jabs. The country's mass inoculation campaign has accelerated since multiple places reported local COVID-19 infections related to the Delta variant.

On Wednesday, the Chinese mainland reported 62 new locally transmitted COVID-19 cases -- 40 in Jiangsu, nine in Hunan, three each in Beijing, Shandong, Henan, and Yunnan, and one in Hubei, according to daily updates by the NHC.

In central China's Hunan Province, health authorities have set up over 3,000 vaccination sites to meet the growing demand. Long queues can be seen at several vaccination sites in the provincial capital Changsha.

"The public has been keen to get vaccinated in recent days, so we have launched an online appointment platform and trained our staff to provide better services," said Zhang Sili, a nurse at a vaccination station in Changsha's Tianxin District. Zhang added that the vaccination station has so far administered about 87,000 vaccine jabs to some 55,000 local residents.

Official data showed that as of Tuesday, Hunan had administered more than 67.8 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines, with over 25.5 million people in the province fully vaccinated against the novel coronavirus. China is orderly propelling its vaccination program among senior citizens and minors aged between 12 and 17, on the premise of ensuring safety.

By July 28, a total of 150 million people aged 60 and above in the country and 12.48 million minors in the aforementioned age group have been vaccinated against COVID-19, according to the NHC.

In Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province that has recently reported a cluster of local COVID-19 infections, parents have been keen to get their children inoculated since the megacity extended its vaccination program to minors in early August.

"The Delta variant is very infectious, and I will feel safe after my kid gets vaccinated," said a Chengdu resident surnamed Chen, who took her 12-year-old daughter to a local hospital for inoculation. As of Tuesday, more than 3.6 million doses had been administered to minors aged between 12 and 17 in Sichuan, according to the provincial health commission.

China's top medical experts have pointed out that COVID-19 vaccines are effective against the Delta variant. Shao Yiming, a researcher with the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, said in a recent interview that although no vaccine can provide 100 percent protection against viral infections, various COVID-19 variants can still be controlled with existing vaccines.

Citing evidence-based studies, Shao noted that China's domestic COVID-19 vaccines can effectively reduce rates of hospitalization, severe cases, and deaths.

Preliminary studies on the latest COVID-19 outbreak in south China's Guangdong Province show that China's homegrown vaccines are effective against the Delta variant, China's top epidemiologist Zhong Nanshan said Saturday. The protective effect of China's domestic vaccines is 100 percent effective against severe cases, 76.9 percent against moderate cases, 67.2 percent against mild ones, and 63.2 percent against asymptomatic carriers, respectively, Zhong added.

Xinhua



**ISO 9001: 2015 CERTIFIED**

## PRESS RELEASE

Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) wishes to inform the public that the Statement of Tax Withheld for **other payments** for the month of July 2021 is due for submission by 07th August 2021 as provided for under Section 84(2) of the Income Tax Act, Cap. 332. Currently, the Statement of Tax Withheld for **other payments** is not available for filing through our electronic filing system due to technical reasons. Therefore, the Authority regrets to inform the public that the requirement for filing of the Statement of Tax Withheld for **other payments** is hereby stayed until the completion of the System Upgrade. For the time being there will be no legal consequences for failure to file the Statement of Tax Withheld for **other payments** until when the Authority advises otherwise.

All withholding agents are required to continue to withhold taxes from other payments and pay the respective tax withheld through the Revenue Gateway System as usual.

In addition, you are reminded to complete filing of Statement for tax withheld from employees (PAYE) and Skills and Development Levy returns using the e-filing system available on our website ([www.tra.go.tz](http://www.tra.go.tz)) on or before 07th August 2021.

We regret for any inconveniences caused.

**“Together We Build Our Nation”**

For further information, please contact our Call Centre at:

Toll free: **0800750075** or **0800780078**

Email: **services@tra.go.tz** or **huduma@tra.go.tz**

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**COMMISSIONER GENERAL**



# Promoting breastfeeding is a shared family and community responsibility

By Liesel Engelbrecht

**T**HIS week marks World Breastfeeding Week 2021. The Nourished Child project focuses on how interconnecting systems shape the diets of women and young children. In line with this year's theme of Protect Breastfeeding: A Shared Responsibility, two women in one of the Nourished Child study sites share their experiences of breastfeeding in their community, and talk about the systems and environments that influenced their choices.

Esther Nqakala is 55 years old. She was born in Zweletemba, a low resourced neighbourhood near Worcester, the largest town in the Western Cape interior region, about 120km from Cape Town. Apart from six years spent in Johannesburg in the early 1990s, Zweletemba is the place she's called home for all her life.

Esther is also a keen breastfeeding advocate, as this is something she believes can help the children in her community reach their full potential and get their "minds prepared for school".

But Esther wasn't always this familiar with breastfeeding and all its benefits.

When Esther gave birth to her three daughters in

1985, 1990 and 1995 respectively, no one told her about exclusive breastfeeding, the practice of only offering your baby breastmilk and no other food and drinks. Though South Africa's breastfeeding policy between 1980 and 1999 did include recommendations to exclusively breastfeed for four to six months, Esther was not aware of this.

"I started giving foods like baby cereal from one month already. Nobody told me about exclusive breastfeeding." Though Esther continued to breastfeed all her children until the age of three, she practised mixed feeding from an early age.

South Africa has since aligned itself with Unicef and the World Health Organization recommendations of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life, and the continuation of breastfeeding for two years and beyond. The benefits of breastfeeding are now more well-researched and well-known, with evidence for optimal breastfeeding practices reducing the risk of infant mortality through a variety of mechanisms, including offering protection against diarrhoea and respiratory infections, as well as offering long-term benefits for both the child and the mother.

"If I knew then, I would have done better," says Esther.



More than 30 years later, there are however many other women who are still doing exactly what Esther did in the 1980s and 1990s, which is to introduce solid foods and other liquids before the age of six months. Though exclusive breastfeeding rates in South Africa for the first month of life have increased from 11.3% in 2011 to 44% in 2016, only about 32% of women continue to exclusively breastfeed at five months. In a country where diarrhoea and respiratory infections are two of the leading causes of death among children under five, in addition to high levels of food insecurity, this may come as a surprise.

So why aren't more women, especially those whose children are more vulnerable to malnutrition due to unemployment (making formula milk financially out of reach) and diarrhoea due to poor water and hygiene facilities (thus making it more difficult to wash and sterilise bottles) not adhering to these recommendations?

According to Esther, it was only when she was recruited and trained as a fieldworker in 2011 to work on a research project related to breastfeeding, that she came to know and trust the benefits of breastfeeding. She has since been involved in many research projects as a fieldworker. So when Esther's youngest, Ermillia Mutombeme, had her baby girl in February of 2020, it was understandable that Esther would encourage her to breastfeed from the start.

Ermillia's experience at Zweletemba hospital also reflected some of the work South Africa has done in promoting breastfeeding. "The nurse at the clinic told me to exclusively breastfeed until six months. She was very supportive and even helped me to hold my child so that she can drink better," Ermillia recalls. "I plan on breastfeeding at least until my little girl is 24 months," Ermillia says.

Ermillia is, however, one of a few that are lucky to have her mother's support. She says one of the biggest challenges is community support. "Women listen

to their mothers. But most grandmothers will say 'just give the baby food, then they will stop crying'. Then the mothers do that."

But even with her mother's support, Ermillia had to constantly remind herself why she chose to breastfeed, as alternative support was lacking.

"Having a baby is hard. For me, the first four months were really difficult. I had issues with the baby's daddy and I didn't sleep. I was depressed. So, it's easy to resort to being negligent and drink alcohol. You start thinking if you really want to be a full-time mom... I also had a lot of pressure from friends. I don't even blame other mothers if they don't breastfeed - it's difficult if you don't have the motivation or support. But for me, I knew that it was the best for my baby and I wanted to give the best that I can."

Esther and Ermillia's stories echo what many researchers on this topic have found, and this year's World Breastfeeding Week theme calls for: breastfeeding needs to be seen as a shared responsibility.

"There are many reasons people give you not to breastfeed. For example, they will say that it is too difficult to breastfeed if you work, or others will say you should rather give your baby food so that they don't cry in the evening. People listen too much to each other's advice. I think the fathers should also be more involved," says Esther, highlighting that it is not as simple as an individual choice, but needs to be supported, protected and promoted by communities, health systems and workplaces.

With Covid-19 seeing an increase in the country's food insecurity and unemployment, it makes even more sense not to rely on expensive formula milk and to support breastfeeding.

"At least buying formula milk is one less thing I have to worry about," says Ermillia who, despite having completed a national diploma in human resources management recently, is cur-

rently unemployed and living in a room in her mother's backyard. Since 2016 she has also joined her mother on research projects as a fieldworker.

If they could draw up a wish list of actions they think will improve breastfeeding in their community, Esther and Ermillia both believe that it starts with educating the whole of the community - the grandparents, the men and the younger boys and girls - about the benefits of breastfeeding and the risks of not breastfeeding.

Practical tips for action Esther and Ermillia believe would work to increase breastfeeding in the Zweletemba community:

Create more capacity at clinics so that there is enough time for maternal and child health information sessions. "The clinics are very busy. Even though the nurses want to give more information, there isn't always time with everything else they need to do," Esther reflects.

Bring grandmothers along to clinic visits when the young mothers come for check-ups or bring their children for immunisations so that they too can hear the information sessions where the benefits of breastfeeding are shared. "Because in our community, you do as your mother tells you to do," says Ermillia.

Have workshops for men and young boys about the responsibility of having a child and the importance of healthy living for the mother while she is pregnant and for the baby to be breastfed exclusively for six months because it is superior to formula milk. "Men can have a big influence in this way," Esther suggests.

Emphasise to young men and women some of the personal sacrifices one needs to make when you have a child. "Parents and mothers need to know that life can't just continue like it was before the baby. You need to be okay if the baby cries without giving her food to stay quiet, and you can't always go out when you want to," says Ermillia.

DM/MC




**Advertisement**  
**BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED**

**Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below services at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/service packages.

No.	Reference no.	Description of work/goods to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-21-08-03	Underground UTV – Scissor Lift SL2	i. Original Equipment Manufacturer with site support for vendor managed inventory, min 5 years ii. Quality iii. Lead time iv. Guarantee and warranty time frames Company to have more than 5 years of experience

The above Services/goods are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable pre-qualified and experienced suppliers listed on the Barrick vendor list shall be invited to receive the tender documents. Please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead referencing the work package reference number should your company qualify as per the pre-qualification criteria together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Full company profile;
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business licence, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.;
- BRELA – Register of Companies detailed information certificate
- Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registration
- Years' service and experience of key personnel to be assigned to project
- Required equipment availability to perform the specific work
- A copy of current local content plan approval from the Mining Commissioner

Kindly send your response by email to [bulytender@barrick.com](mailto:bulytender@barrick.com) by latest close of business on the 16 August 2021. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered. Please quote reference number in the subject line of your email.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of BGML.

*For and on behalf of BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED*

# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



## GGML's local content initiative makes businesses in Geita thrive

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

LOCAL business content is one of the basic ways in which economies especially an emerging one, ensures that its people directly benefit from incoming/foreign investments.

Upon enactment of the Mining Act in 2010 and supplementing Local Content Regulations in 2018 as well as its amendment in 2019, a new local content regime for Tanzanian mines was introduced to mining companies and their contractors/suppliers as well as other allied entities.

The amended Mining Act included a requirement for mining companies to have a Local Content Plan. This Plan has always been an integral part of the mining industry, however, historically the main aspect of local content in mining laws pertained to the shareholding structures, employment and training of locals as well as having a succession plan in place.

This was to ensure that there was a clear strategy for the transfer of knowledge and preparing Tanzanians to fill positions which were at the time occupied by non-citizens. The other side of the local content nevertheless also positively impacts local businesses.

AngloGold Ashanti - Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) recently awarded a two-year fuel transportation contract, worth approximately \$10.8m a year, to two local Tanzanian contractors.

Amongst the benefitting local companies is Blue Coast Investment Limited, a Geita based company which deals with transport and logistics. Its specialized offerings in transportation, warehousing and value-added service have seen the company grow rapidly and develop a diverse customer base.

"Our strategy is to deliver long-term value for our customers by further leveraging our existing skills to streamline our operations and develop industry-leading supply chain capabilities," elaborates Ndahilo Athanas, Managing Director of Blue Coast Investment Limited.

"I am grateful to Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) for implementing local content legislation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for creating such a conducive business environment for local companies," says Ndahilo. Initially, Blue Coast Investment Limited struggled to acquire business opportunities from mining companies working in Geita. Winning the fuel transportation tender follows the amendment of the Mining Act and is preceded by a capacity building initiative for host community entrepreneurs funded by GGML. The initiative is implemented jointly with the National Economic Empowerment Council, under the Prime Minister's Office.

"The training has borne results. We learned a lot including compliance with necessary criteria on eligibility for supplying goods and services to the mining and other sectors. Upon reading a newspaper advert on a two-year fuel transportation tender, I felt my company stood a chance. It presented a golden opportunity for us to bid and compete. We are lucky that we were amongst two companies winning the tender," shares Ndahilo.

The special capacity-building program has increased the transparency of GGML business procurement standards making it easier for local businesses to supply one of the region's biggest employers. So far 320 businesses have



Blue Coast Investment Limited operates over 200 trucks in four cities in Tanzania as well as in East and Central African countries offering a full end-to-end supply chain service to a range of national and international companies.

received training in Geita with 50 businesses in the evaluation processes of securing supply agreements.

Blue Coast Investment Limited also adheres to the local content regulations and runs a number of social initiatives aimed at uplifting the lives of host community residents. The objective is to ensure all employees recruited for the project are Geita based residents. Additionally, they are also implementing AngloGold Ashanti - Geita Gold Mining Limited's requirements for diversity and inclusion by hiring a

good number of women and where feasible people with disabilities.

AngloGold Ashanti has been operating Geita Gold Mine for more than 20 years, with the project initially a single pit mine, evolving now to a predominantly underground operation, employing over 5,000 employees, directly and through contractors.

Earlier this year, the government recognized Geita Gold Mining Limited's contribution to the economy of the country, awarding it for its outstanding performance in a number of areas, including local

business content, environmental performance, corporate social investment, revenue contribution and overall best performer in the mining sector in Tanzania in 2019/2020.

In a similar fashion, GGML has a long while now been applauded for its exemplary investment in the host community through its comprehensive Corporate Social Responsibility Plan where it spends about 10bn/- annually to support social infrastructure in education, health, water, transportation as well as in catalyzing small and media enterprises.

## AfDB launches new transaction guarantee to support SMEs, trade in Africa

By Special Correspondent

THE African Development Bank (AfDB), through its Financial Sector Development's Trade Finance operations, has launched a Transaction Guarantee instrument designed to provide up to 100% cover for non-payment risk to regional and international banks, for trade transactions initiated by

local banks in Africa.

The guarantee will cover an array of trade finance instruments, including confirmed letters of credit, trade loans, irrevocable reimbursement undertakings, avalized bills and promissory notes.

In opening remarks at the virtual launch of the guarantee recently, Bank Director for Financial Sector Development, Stefan

Nalletamby stated: "We are excited about this new instrument as it offers us the flexibility to use our strong AAA rated risk bearing capacity to increase access to trade finance and boost intra/extra-African trade on the continent. Our target end-users will be women entrepreneurs, environment-friendly enterprises, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) and local

corporates through the facilitation of local participating banks. Priority will be given to low income and transition states."

The new instrument will provide much needed opportunities for local financial institutions to build relationships with international correspondent banks, increase links to a global network of trade finance partners and reduce the need for

cash collateral, thereby increasing access to finance for SMEs across the continent.

This intervention is therefore strongly aligned with the Bank's High 5s, and its financial sector development strategy, whose main priorities are to broaden and deepen Africa's financial systems by putting finance at the center of the continent's productive capacity.

Trade remains an important driver of Africa's social and economic development despite the persistently huge trade finance gap. This is mostly due to lack of liquidity and risk mitigation facilities across the continent and has been exacerbated by recent market developments, such as increased banking regulations and global shocks like the Covid-19 pandemic.

The launch event was organized in partnership with Making Finance Work for Africa (MFW4A). It included a panel discussion featuring seasoned trade finance experts from IFC, Afreximbank, Ecobank, ODDO BHF and Moza Banco. The African Development Bank Group board of directors approved the new instrument in October 2020.

## Study finds that minority of animals host majority of zoonotic viruses

By Michael Tatarski

IN May 2020, Shivaprakash Nagaraju, senior scientist at The Nature Conservancy in India, was working in New Delhi when he contracted COVID-19.

"I had breathing problems and other symptoms, and as a result I was isolated in my room for around two months. And around that time there was news that COVID-19 likely originated in a wildlife market, and a lot of people were blaming the wildlife trade, so this built a curiosity in me to understand this connection, he said."

While experts have not yet confirmed the initial source of the novel coronavirus, it is believed to have passed from an animal to a human, a process known as zoonosis, at a major wildlife market in Wuhan, China. This suspected link has drawn intense attention to the wildlife trade – both legal and illegal – over the last 18 months.

Alone and completely separated from his family, Nagaraju began collecting literature on the wildlife trade and zoonotic viruses and analyzing it; a task that, he said, staved off depression: "Though I was infected and going through symptoms, to keep my mind thinking positive, I started collecting data. If I had not been infected, I might not have thought seriously about going deeper into this."

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to rage across much of the world, Nagaraju's new research paper in Current Biology has uncovered vital information: a small minority of animal species in the wildlife trade host the vast majority of known zoonotic viruses. Nagaraju and his team found that just 26.5% of mammals in the wildlife trade host 75% of known zoonotic viruses, "a level much higher than domesticated and non-traded mammals," they write.

Primates, ungulates, carnivores and bats present the highest risk, as these four groups alone harbor 132 of the 226 currently known zoonotic viruses, or 58% overall. However, according to the researchers, bats, rodents and marsupials pose the greatest risk in the future given expected shifts in the wildlife trade.

More specifically, primates alone carry 77 known zoonotic virus, even-toed ungulates host 62, and carnivores 41, highlighting these three groups as particularly acute spillover threats for future pandemics.

"I think one of the key messages we have provided is that most diseases come from just a few mammals with a lot of zoonotic spillover," Nagaraju said. "When you blame the wildlife trade for COVID-19, you could be saying that all animals carry disease, but this shows that specific groups carry a huge proportion of zoonotic diseases."

Trang Nguyen, founder of the Vietnamese wildlife conservation organization WildAct and an expert on the illegal wildlife trade, said data sets



The illegal wildlife trade at Kwa-maimai market in South Africa.

such as this should be used by governments to better target risks of disease transmission.

"Transporting animals will always come with the risk of zoonosis, and it's important for countries to have a government agency that comprehensively screens legal wildlife imports for pathogens," he said.

"There must be collaboration between private industry and government officials to implement safer strategies, which include testing before transport and at the border, so that animal health certificates could accompany wildlife – similar procedures to what's re-

quired for livestock."

Nagaraju also argues for smarter policies built on a better understanding of exactly where zoonotic viruses may come from.

"You can try to keep these groups which actually pose a greater risk out of the wildlife trade," he said. "The legal trade is a \$300 billion industry and millions of people rely on it for their livelihood, and we need to understand that. So there is livelihood and food security associated with the wildlife trade, and complete bans aren't a solution, but you can keep zoonotic reservoir species out of the trade."

Enforcement agencies could also improve pathogen surveillance at wildlife markets to ensure that high-risk species aren't being sold.

Given its nature, the illegal wildlife trade – which in countries like Vietnam, consumes a wide range of mammals including pangolin, tigers, bears and civets – is much harder to monitor, a major concern for Nguyen.

"The risks associated with the illegal wildlife trade are huge," she said. "Over the past 40 years, humans have faced some of the most severe pandemic, including HIV, SARS, avian flu, swine flu, the

Ebola virus, Zika and COVID-19, all of which stemmed from trading in and consuming animals and destroying their habitat."

With the world approaching 200 million COVID-19 cases, more than 4.2 million deaths and deep economic damage, Nguyen argues that addressing known high-risk aspects of the wildlife trade is essential: "The risks to human survival that come with the illegal wildlife trade must not be taken lightly, and it is time for actions to end the illegal wildlife trade and provide alternative livelihoods for those who depend on wildlife and resource extraction."



THE LAW & YOU

Right to life: Death penalty losing ground worldwide

By Telesphor Magobe

IT is common to see a person beaten and hurt with machetes or stoned to death after being accused of committing an offence.

This culture of taking the law into our own hands has cost the lives of many innocent persons, who are survived by widows and children, some of who have turned into hapless dependants.

It's painful to hear that a close relative, friend, colleague or neighbour has been killed merely after being suspected of committing an offence. But even if that person were indeed guilty, he or she would still have the right to live and (possibly) reform.

Lynching, judicial murder or extrajudicial killing deprives a suspected offender of this fundamental right. But even the State itself can turn into an arbitrary killer if it obstinately imposes the death penalty and carries out executions, whose methods include beheading, electrocution, hanging, lethal injection and shooting.

A prominent American lawyer, Clarence Darrow, is quoted as

having said in one of his speeches: "We teach people to kill and the State is the one that kills them. If the State wishes that its citizens respect human life, then it should stop killing. The greater the sanctity that the State pays to life, the greater the feeling of sanctity the individual has to life."

In the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, the right to life is not absolute. It is qualified (Article 14: Every person has the right to live and to the protection of his life by the society in accordance with the law). But in the constitutions of Kenya (Article 26), Rwanda (Article 12), South Africa (Article 11) and Mozambique (Article 40), for instance, it is unqualified - or absolute.

The Constitution of Mozambique expressly states that 'all citizens shall have the right to life' and that 'there shall be no death penalty in the Republic of Mozambique'.

In Tanzania, sections 26 of the Penal Code and 322 of the Criminal Procedure Act provide that a person sentenced to death shall suffer death by hanging. But although Tanzania is a retentionist of the death penalty, it is an abolitionist in practice.

Amnesty International (AI) reports show that the number of executions in the world as of December 31, 2020 dropped by 26 per cent, compared to the 2019 total - when 657 executions were registered - and also dropped by 70 per cent from the peak of 1,634 executions reported in 2015.

Just over two-thirds (about 67 per cent) of



the countries across the world have abolished the death penalty either in law or in practice.

Abolitionist nations for all crimes by December totalled 108, with only eight for ordinary crimes, 28 abolitionist in practice, 144 abolitionist in law or practice, and 55 retentionist.

There was a drop of 1,477 death sentences (36 per cent) in 2020 compared to 2,307 in 2019 and 3,117 (53 per cent) in 2016.

In sub-Saharan Africa, the number of death sentences dropped by 6 per cent - from 325 in 2019 to 305 in 2020. Meanwhile, the number of executions dropped by 36 per cent - from 25 in 2019 to 16 in 2020.

Chad became the first country in sub-Saharan Africa in the 21st century to abolish the death penalty for all crimes, while the commutation of death sentences rose by 87 per cent. According to AI, there were at least 244 pris-

oners on the death row in Tanzania by the end of 2020.

However, 123 states backed Resolution 75/183 of December 16, 2020 as adopted by the UN General Assembly (UNGA). This pushed for a moratorium on executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty.

Kenya's Supreme Court, in Francis Karioko Muruatetu and Wilson Thirimbi Mwangi v Republic, abolished the death penalty for murder in December 2017 - leading to the commutation of the death sentence to life imprisonment.

Therefore, the death penalty is increasingly losing ground across the world. The reasons given include its being cruel, degrading and unconstitutional and above all for annihilating the right to - and sanctity of - life. So, its implementation lacks cogent justification.

The irony of it all is that the victim of execution is denied the right to live and reform, while the ends of criminal justice are deterrence to other would-be offenders, prevention of crime and retribution for the offences committed and the reformation of the offender.

In Republic v Mbusuu @ Dominique Mnyarore and Another [1991], the High Court of Tanzania held that the death penalty was cruel, inhuman and degrading, offended the right to dignity and violated the right to life, was not in the public interest and was unconstitutional.

It was consequently declared null and void. The High Court commuted it to life imprisonment. However, the Court of Appeal subsequently reversed it to death by hanging on the grounds that it was not arbitrary but was reasonably lawful and was constitutional.

In East Africa, Kenya and Tanzania are abolitionist of the death penalty in practice, South Sudan and Uganda are retentionist of the penalty while Burundi and Rwanda are abolitionist for all crimes.

Tanzania has for at least 26 years been an abolitionist of the death penalty in practice (no prisoner on death row is known or reported to have been executed during the period).

It is therefore high time we rethought its constitutionality and effectiveness, with a view to striking it off the statute book and commuting it to life imprisonment. This corresponds better to civility.

Telesphor Magobe is a lawyer based in Dar es Salaam and reachable at tmagobe@gmail.com.

African farmers could benefit from more friendly EU agriculture policies

UNITED NATIONS.

GILBERT Bor manages a small farm in the western highlands of Kenya. Landscapes are hilly, village roads lined with pine trees, his cows mostly of the Friesian breed. He is up at 6:00am daily to lead his animals through the woods into the valley below.

Most farmers in and around his village in Kapseret grow maize or beans for subsistence. But that is set to change, says Mr. Bor.

East African regional authorities have started promoting cash crops like avocados and coffee to increase Kenyan exports to the European Union and China. At the same time, local farmers are getting organized as well, says Mr. Bor. His own community collectively invested in a milk tank to strengthen its position on regional dairy markets.

"For products like coffee, mangoes or peanuts, Europe is an important market," Mr. Bor explains, enthusiastically. "Crops exported from Kenya are exempt from taxation in Europe. That also goes for exports to Europe from Ghana, Nigeria and the Francophone countries."

The EU is a global agricultural powerhouse. The 27-country bloc feeds a steady stream of processed foods, grains, dairy and meats onto the world market while importing large quantities of raw commodities like soy, sugar cane or palm oil, tropical vegetables and fruits like avocados.

Keeping an eye on EU policies Globalization is making markets better accessible to farmers like Mr.



Bor. He says: "Almost all EU countries purchase Kenyan agricultural goods. Who stands to benefit most will depend on what countries like Germany or the Netherlands decide. African farmers must keep a closer eye on European policymakers."

In particular, African farmers need to watch the evolution of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) that was conceived in 1962 to provide affordable food for its population post-World War II.

Under CAP, the EU became so efficient that surpluses piled up. The authorities subsequently introduced export refunds-paying international traders the difference between the EU's high internal prices and lower world market prices.

Those subsidies put pressure on food prices worldwide, leading to

detrimental effects on African farming economies.

However, the EU abandoned its trade-distorting subsidies in 2017. A year later the EU-Parliament, for the first time ever, commissioned a study on the impact of the CAP around the globe.

"In recent years we have seen progress in better aligning agriculture with international development goals," says Maria Blanco, head-author of the Technical University in Madrid, Spain.

However, simply increasing international trade in agricultural products would not automatically lead to better incomes for African farmers, experts say.

If unchecked, such trade could damage the environment, lead to the displacements of local peoples or hu-

man rights violations.

Ms. Blanco warns: "Importing sugarcane from outside Europe would create economic activity in the global south. But commodity imports from developing countries can also lead to land grabs or environmental pollution."

Commodities are usually grown on large plantations. Once money starts pouring in the stakes, economically and politically, are raised, which put small farmers at risk. The shift to industrial-style agriculture usually puts tremendous pressure on the environment when it comes to chemical usage, deforestation or water pollution.

Pressure from exports Research by the thinktank ARC2020 and the German NGO Heinrich Böll Stiftung finds that the

EU agricultural policy creates ripple effects around the globe.

Trade arrangements with Honduras, for example, concentrated the banana trade in the hands of few multinationals while the demand for grain and soya in Europe encourages land control in Central Asia.

Despite the positive outlook, African farmers are under unrelenting pressure of EU exports. After markets inside Europe were awash with milk after the bloc abandoned its quota system in 2015, Dutch and German producers quickly sought out other export opportunities.

Global dairy players like Danone or FrieslandCampina have increased their processing capabilities in West Africa. The FrieslandCampina subsidiary WAMCO controls no less than 75 percent of the milk market in Ni-

geria.

In Ghana increased exports of frozen chicken, from 13,000 metric tons in 2003 to 175,000 in 2019, have affected local production.

Over 90 percent of chicken meats in supermarkets in Ghana are imported from the United States or the EU.

"Poultry has the highest turnover and its short cycle of production is for income generation for farmers in Ghana. But European exports of frozen chickens negatively affect our own meat industry," worries poultry farmer Anthony Akunzule.

Africa's free trade area

The newly established African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) could boost African farmers' efforts to compete with the EU. The trade agreement, which eliminates tariffs between African countries by 90 per cent and tackles customs delays, could foster intra-African trade in agriculture.

Professor of European Agricultural Policy Alan Matthews of the Trinity College, Dublin, says attention is rightly shifting attention away from the notion that CAP alone is responsible for Africa's agricultural woes.

Mr. Matthews says that African governments had failed to prioritize investment in rural areas, even as most experts now believe the AfCFTA will be a game changer for Africa's development.

What Africa farmers need are favourable policies and actions in both Europe and Africa, says Mr. Bor. For now, he says that, "Opportunities are all around for small farmers like me, mostly in the organic niche. **IPS**

RADIO One RATIBAYA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

Table with 7 columns: MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY. Each column lists a time program with specific broadcast times and content.

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One



## BUSINESS

## RESTITUTION

## The looted bronze artefacts of Benin

## BENIN CITY

EARLY this week I read that Iraq had reclaimed 17,000 looted artefacts, its largest ever repatriation. The cuneiform tablets and other objects had been held by the Museum of the Bible, founded by the family that owns Hobby Lobby craft store chain, and by Cornell University, an Ivy League university.

The repatriation of so many objects rounds out a remarkable chapter in the story of a country so ravaged by decades of conflict and war that its very history was pulled out of the ground by antiquities thieves and sold abroad, ending up on display in other countries' museums. It is a victory in a global effort by countries to press Western institutions to return culturally vital artefacts. This reminded me of the push to repatriate

the famed Benin Bronzes to Nigeria.

The Benin Bronzes are not actually from the country of Benin; they originate from the ancient Kingdom of Benin, now in southern Nigeria. They are also not made of bronze. The various artefacts known as the Benin Bronzes include carved elephant tusks and leopard statues, even wooden heads.

The most famous pieces are 900 brass plaques, dating mainly from the 16th and 17th centuries, once nailed to pillars in Benin's royal palace. There are at least 3,000 items scattered worldwide, maybe thousands more. Nobody is entirely sure.

You can find Benin Bronzes in many of the West's great museums, including London and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. They are to be found in smaller museums too. The Lehman,



Benin Bronze from the Oba-era. The state governor has big plans for the bronze, once returned.

Rockefeller, Ford and, de Rothschild families have owned some. So did Pablo Picasso.

Their importance was appreciated in Europe from the moment they were first seen there in the 1890s. Curators at the British Museum compared them at the time to the best of Italian and Greek sculptures.

Today, the artefacts still leave people dumbstruck. Neil Macgregor, the British Museum former director, has called them "great works of art" and "triumphs in metal casting." But how did these precious works of art find their way to the Western

world?

On 2 January 1897, James Phillips, a British official, set out from the coast of Nigeria to visit the oba, or ruler of the Kingdom of Benin. It is said that he took a handful of colleagues with him to persuade the oba to stop interrupting British trade.

Previously he had written to the colonial administrators seeking to overthrow the oba, but he was turned down. When Phillips was told that he could not see the oba because a religious ceremony was taking place, he went anyway. He did not come back.

Within a month, Britain sent

1,200 troops to Benin to take revenge for the killing of Phillips. On 18 February, the British Army took Benin City in a violent raid. The western media was full of colonial jubilation over the event, but none mentioned that the British troops used the opportunity to raid the city of its precious artefacts.

At least one British soldier was "wandering around with a chisel and hammer, knocking off brass figures and collecting all sorts of rubbish as loot," Captain Herbert Sutherland Walker, a British officer wrote in his diary. "All the stuff of any value found

in the King's palace and surrounding houses, has been collected," he added.

Within months, much of the bounty was in England. The artefacts were given to museums, sold at auction, or kept by soldiers for their mantelpieces. Four items, including two ivory leopards, were given to Queen Victoria. Soon, many artefacts ended up in elsewhere in Europe and the United States.

"We were once a mighty empire," said Charles Omorodion, 62, an accountant who grew up in Benin City but now lives in Britain and has campaigned to have the artefacts returned from British museums. "There were stories told about who we were, and these objects showed our strength, our identity," he said.

He said that seeing the Benin Bronzes in the world's museums filled him with pride, as they showed visitors how great the Benin Kingdom had been. But he also added that he felt frustration, bitterness and anger about their being kept outside his country. "It's not just that they were stolen," he said.

"It's that you can see them being displayed and sold at a price." Benin City has been calling for the return of its artefacts for decades. But a key moment came in the 1970s when the organisers of a major festival of Black art and culture in Lagos, Nigeria, asked the British Museum for one prized item: a 16th century ivory mask of a famous oba's mother.

## RECOGNITION

## Barbie debuts dolls in likeness of Covid-19 frontline workers

## NEW YORK

MATTELS new collection of Barbie 'role model' dolls showcases six women in the field of medicine who have worked tirelessly in the fight against Covid-19. Honoured with a one-of-a-kind doll made in their likeness, the six experts in the fields are being highlighted for making a positive impact in their communities, in-

spiring current and future generations for years to come.

"Barbie recognises that all frontline workers have made tremendous sacrifices when confronting the pandemic and the challenges it heightened. To shine a light on their efforts, we are sharing their stories and leveraging Barbie's platform to inspire the next generation to take after these heroes and give back. Our hope is

to nurture and ignite the imaginations of children playing out their own storyline as heroes," said Lisa McKnight, senior vice president and global head of Barbie & Dolls, Mattel. The global lineup of women honoured with a one-of-a-kind doll includes:

Amy O'Sullivan, RN (United States): Emergency room nurse Amy O'Sullivan treated the first Covid-19 patient in Brooklyn at

the Wyckoff Heights Medical Center, became ill and was intubated, then a few weeks later returned to work to continue taking care of others; Dr Audrey Sue Cruz (United States): Dr Cruz, a frontline worker from Las Vegas, during the pandemic, joined forces with other Asian-American physicians to fight racial bias and discrimination; Dr Chika Stacy Oriuwa (Canada): A psychiatry

resident at the University of Toronto, Canada, Dr Oriuwa has advocated against systemic racism in healthcare, which has been further highlighted by the pandemic; Professor Sarah Gilbert (United Kingdom): As a professor of vaccinology, Professor Gilbert led the development of the University of Oxford vaccine in the UK; and Dr Jaqueline Goes de Jesus (Brazil): As a biomedical researcher, Dr

Goes is credited for leading the sequencing of the genome of a Covid-19 variant in Brazil.

Dr Kirby White (Australia): A general practitioner in Australia, Dr White co-founded the Gowns for Doctors initiative - by developing a PPE gown that could be laundered and re-used, allowing frontline workers in Victoria to continue seeing patients during the pandemic.

This is a continuation of Mattel's #ThankYouHeroes signature programme, launched last year as part of the company's broader 'Play it Forward' platform, focused on leveraging Mattel's brands to give back to communities in times of need. The programme honours individuals who have led the fight against Covid-19, as well as the everyday heroes who have kept communities up and running.



Barbie 'role model' dolls showcase six women in the field of medicine who have worked tirelessly in the fight against Covid-19.

## RELIEF

## J&amp;J vaccine protects against Delta variant, study shows

## JOHANNESBURG

EVIDENCE from the Sisonke Johnson & Johnson (J&J) study shows that the one-jab vaccine is effective against the Delta variant of the virus that causes Covid-19, which is spreading fast.

Speaking during a briefing on Friday morning, co-principal lead of the study Professor Glenda Gray said they found that the vaccine was effective against severe disease and death caused by Covid-19. "Linda-Gail [Bekker] and I and the team provide the first-world evidence that the J&J vaccine is effective against the Delta variant of concern. We know that in South Africa it protects against severe illness and death." The Sisonke study targeted healthcare workers between February and May.

When the study was first implemented, the Beta variant was the most dominant one circulating in the country. She said their evidence showed that the vaccine offered more protection against the two variants.

Gray added: "We can report that the single-jab J&J vaccine protected between 91% and 92% of healthcare workers against death. Consistently, after receiving the vaccine, there is little death occurring." She said there was no evidence yet that people who were vaccinated with J&J would need a booster shot.

Gray said in cases where healthcare workers were infected after vaccination, the disease was mild. She added that they investigated all deaths that occurred 28 days after a person received the vaccine.

"Every person in Sisonke who died within 28 days [of getting the vaccine], we did a full post mortem to evaluate if there was any association. We did not see any safety signal around the vaccine causing deaths. We saw two clotting dis-

## ACTIVISM

## Slum art school where lives are transformed

## NAIROBI

SOON after Adam Masava came back from his first successful art exhibition in the Czech Republic, he began teaching art to school children from his old neighborhood Mukuru Kwa Njenga as his way of 'paying back' his 'hood for all it had taught him - both good and bad things - as he grew up.

"I also saw school-age kids 'getting lost' because they didn't have useful things to do in their spare time. I wanted to engage them in art as a way of teaching them they could use their imaginations to solve their problems," Masava says. One of those children, Ann Mumbi, 18, was just age six when she

first met him teaching art at her school. She just came back to studying art with him a few months ago.

As word got around that he was teaching art for free, the age of his students rose. "I eventually had to move out of the school and invite students to come work in my studio," says the artist cum art teacher who currently has over 40 students, aged from 17 to 39.

On the day BDLife went to visit his studio, now known as Mukuru Art Collective, over a dozen students were at the double-decker studio. "Now that schools have reopened, many have gone back to their schools," he observes.

But Masava's same open-door policy re-

mains, irrespective of the numbers. He doesn't set limits on membership in the collective since he believes that art can serve as a means of uplifting people's lives, giving them a sense of purpose and a means of self-expression.

Now he coaches everyone from an ex-convict, female boxer, and former signwriter to a former math teacher, eggshell artist, and award-winning teenager. Alex Mungare, 17, just won the Toyota 'Dream Car' Competition and earned himself Sh50,000 and Sh500,000 for Mukuru Art Collective.

"I'm also the youngest artist here at the studio," he announces proudly. Having

joined Masava's art club when he was 10, Alex had already visited Patrick Mukabi's Dust Depo when he met Adam whose studio is just down the road from his family home.

"Alex shifted to my studio and has been painting there ever since," says Masava who since 2008 has also been exhibiting his art everywhere from Austria, Germany, and the Netherlands to Taiwan, Slovakia, and the US.

Alex isn't the only award-winning artist who paints at the Collective. Stephen Ndovu, 30, just won second prize in the student category at the annual Manjano Art competition. Two years before, Isaiah Malunga won the Kenya Arts Diary artist's residency at Kitengela Glass Trust.

Besides Ann Mumbi, an increasing number of girls are joining the Collective. Amina Martha, 25, is an amateur boxer who initially went to the gym to lose weight. She was still at Masinda University, studying journalism at the time.

"One of the ways we learned to lose weight at the gym was boxing. Once I started it, I found I enjoyed it," says this petite bantam-weight amateur who hopes to one day represent Kenya in international tournaments. "After I had only trained two weeks, I entered a competition and lost, but I also won one round," she says, now determined to keep training and even coaching other young women on boxing and self-defense.



## PLAN-B

## Liquor shops up 274pc on Covid-19 measures

NAIROBI

A new phenomenon in Nairobi's estates is worrying residents. It seems every day regular businesses like salons, stalls selling new and second-hand clothes, grocery stores and fruit shops are being replaced by liquor stores.

The number of wines and spirits shops licensed in Nairobi in 2020 has increased 274 percent compared to previous years, says Nairobi County liquor board CEO Hesbon Agwena. In 2020, a total of 1,648 liquor stores were registered in Nairobi alone compared with 440 in 2019 and 430 in 2018.

It all started when Covid-19 first hit the country last year and Kenyans were confined to their homes to help reduce the rate of infection. Enterprising Kenyans snapped up the opportunity that came with millions staying indoors with practically little or nothing to do.

To kill time, many turned to drinking more alcohol. But there was a hitch: bars and clubs were forced to close earlier than usual, leaving thirsty Kenyans to seek alternatives. Pavements in estates were turned into barazas by young men and

women where they would meet up in the afternoon to drink alcohol until after curfew hours.

Open grounds were also filled with cars as 'park and chill' became the new flavour of the month. In constituencies, Starehe had the highest number of registered liquor stores (88), followed by Roysambu (48), Lang'ata and Dagoretti North (35 each).

Westlands added 29, Ruaraka six, Mathare 11, Makadara 18, Kibra 14, Kasarani 32, Kamukunji 13, Embakasi West 32, Embakasi South eight, Embakasi North five, Embakasi East 21, Embakasi Central 15 and Dagoretti South 30. Most revellers have also switched from beer to spirits because of their apparent affordability in liquor stores.

"The curfew imposed by the government might have helped stop the rapid spread of Covid-19 but it has left us with a much bigger problem, alcoholism," says Susan Mwendu, a resident of Tumaini estate in Embakasi South. Day drinking, she said, has become acceptable because of the night curfew.

Financial results published by East African Breweries Ltd (EABL)



A liquor store in Nairobi.

for the year, July 2020 to June 2021, showed the drinking of spirits by

Kenyans increased by 24 percent. In particular, purchases of Johnnie

Walker, Red Label, Smirnoff Vodka and Tanqueray Flor de Sevilla - all

premium spirits - grew 32 percent compared with the previous year.

## RECOMMENDATION

## Pregnant, breastfeeding mothers encouraged to get Covid vaccine

KIGALI

Rwanda Biomedical Centre (RBC) has encouraged pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers to go for Covid vaccination. "We encourage pregnant women and their health care providers to not miss out on vaccines," Dr. Sabina Nsabimana, the Director-

General of RBC said in a podcast.

The message is the latest attempt to protect both the mother's and baby's lives in the wake of the escalating Delta variant of coronavirus. According to Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), symptomatic pregnant women are more likely to suf-

fer severe illness, hospitalization and deaths when not vaccinated.

In a study done on Maternal and Neonatal Morbidity and Mortality among pregnant women, those with Covid-19 diagnosis had a lower rate of spontaneous initiation of labour but higher cesarean delivery rate, re-

flecting the higher rates of pregnancy complications.

However, CDC said that research shows that people who have received Covid-19 vaccines during pregnancy, mostly during their third trimester, have passed antibodies to their fetuses, which could help protect them after birth.

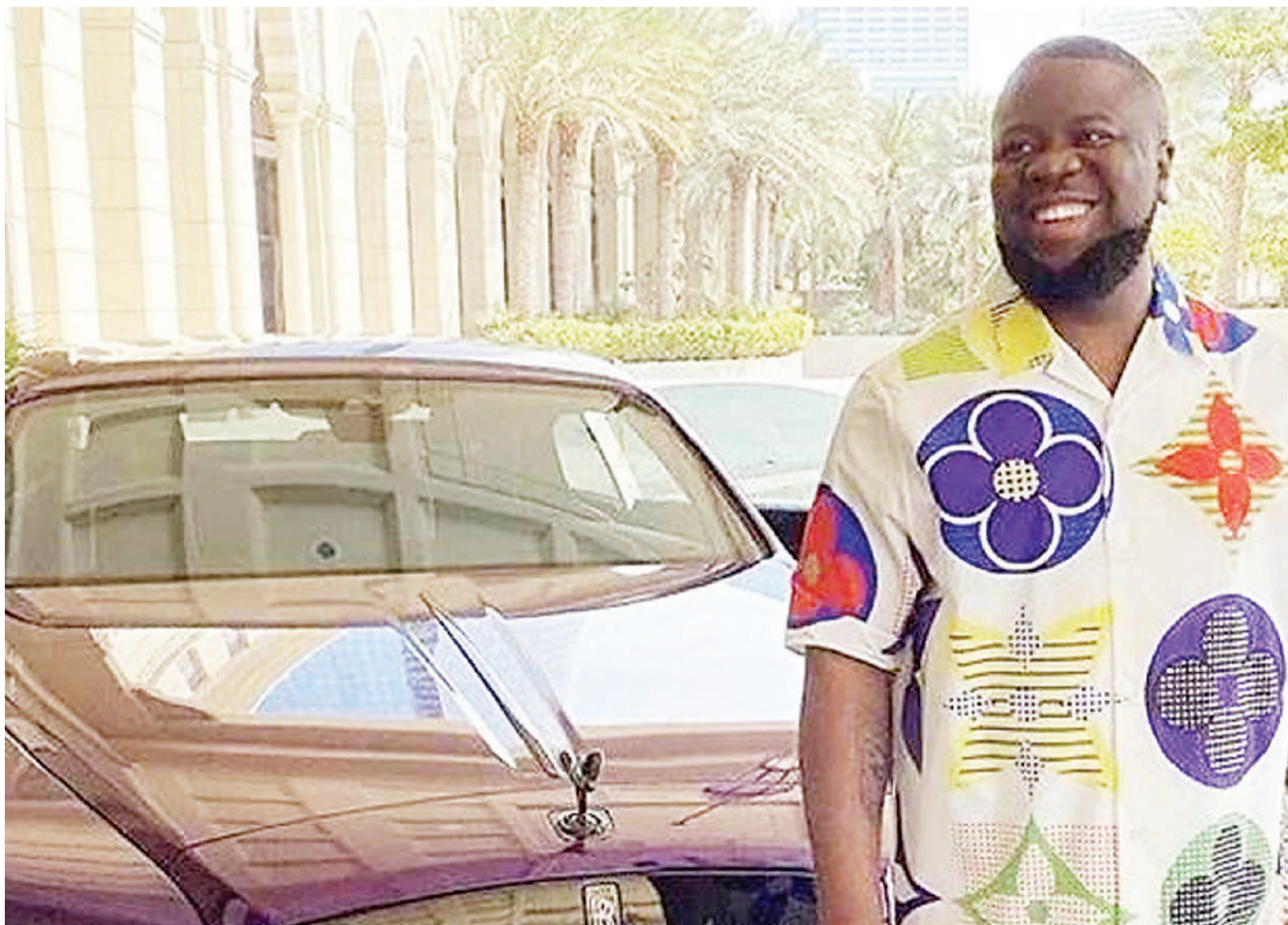
"Pregnant women have not reported side effects...after vaccination with mRNA vaccines," Dr. Nsabimana said, clarifying that the Covid-19 vaccines are not manufactured from the actual virus in a way that it can cause any disease. "The vaccine does not fuse with blood vessels that a mother shares with a

fetus," he said.

For lactating women, he continued; "Research has proven that the vaccine has no particular side effects on breastfeeding mothers and their infants." According to CDC, breastfeeding people who have received the Covid-19 vaccines have antibodies in their breast milk, which

could help protect their babies.

However, it adds, more data are needed to determine what protection these antibodies may provide to the baby. It is advised that mothers continue to wear masks and practice maximum hygiene when in contact with the baby.



Nigerian influencer Hushpuppi

## CRIME

## UAE helps US in charging Nigerian influencer Hushpuppi

ABU DHABI

THE UAE played a key role in bringing Nigerian Instagram celebrity Raymond "Hushpuppi" Abbas before a US court to face charges of money laundering.

Abbas, 37, was arrested in Dubai last year in a raid at a five-star hotel. He pleaded guilty to money laundering in a US court last month and could face 20 years in prison. Abbas, with five others, faces charges over an elaborate scheme to defraud a Qatari school founder and launder the proceeds through bank accounts around the

world.

"The defendants allegedly faked the financing of a Qatari school by playing the roles of bank officials and creating a bogus website in a scheme that also bribed a foreign official to keep the elaborate pretence going after the victim was tipped off," said acting US attorney Tracy Wilkison.

"Abbas, who played a significant role in the scheme, funded his luxurious lifestyle by laundering illicit proceeds generated by con artists who use increasingly sophisticated means. In conjunction with our law enforcement partners, we will identify and

prosecute perpetrators of business email compromise scams, which is a massive and growing international crime problem."

Hamid Al Zaabi, director general of the UAE's Executive Office of Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism Financing, said the case was a testament to UAE's commitment to international co-operation on these cases, state news agency Wam reported.

"This case will act as a landmark for the effectiveness of multinational collaboration," Mr Al Zaabi said. "While led by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the UAE law enforcement com-

munity played a strategic role in the apprehension of the defendants."

The office was established in February to combat money launderers, organisations and people suspected of financing terrorists and organised crime. Abbas, meanwhile, has more than two million followers on Instagram. He is known for his displays of wealth on social media.

The court heard of his extravagant lifestyle - he lived in the residence of the Palazzo Versace on Dubai Creek and owned a fleet of luxury cars. The Nigerian posed as a real estate investor and businessman.

## GOOD-SAMARITANS

## Kindness of strangers: Stellenbosch student has university debt paid off

JOHANNESBURG

STELLENBOSCH University psychology student Shayen Gomis is "over the moon" after her student debt was cleared by people she has never met.

At a time when thousands of students across South Africa struggle with enormous pressure and debt, Gomis was donated the costs of her fourth-year studies through Feenix and the V&A Waterfront.

Gomis, who grew up in Rondebeg, near Philadelphia, has always had big dreams for her future. "It was literally a weight off my shoulders, as my debt gave me sleepless nights, wondering how I was going to pay off these fees so that I can graduate," the 23-year-old told News24.

When a lack of funds placed her degree and hopes of giving back to the community in jeopardy, Gomis wasted no time in creating a profile on Feenix, the online student crowdfunding platform where students can fundraise for their outstanding university fees.

She originally went onto Feenix to look for an internship to clear her debt, but saw the success others had in raising money to pay off outstanding fees. She said she received the call in June with the good news that a "Good Samaritan" had cleared her student debt of R15 114.32.

"It still feels 'surreal' that someone saw my plight on the student crowd funder Feenix and decided to clear my debt," Gomis said that she wrote a letter to her sponsors thanking them for their immense generosity. She is now aiming to graduate and serve her community as a psychologist.

She said: "I love listening to people, providing them with strategies and tools to improve their lives. I love empowering people through knowledge and helping them grow and evolve, and once I have graduated, I hope to plough back into the community around me to inspire and empower individuals."

She continued: "I want to be a resource and asset for those who need psychological assistance." It has not been an easy time trying to study on-



Shayen Gomis is thrilled that her student debt has been cleared by Good Samaritans she has never met.

line during the Covid-19 pandemic. "There were plenty of days I felt that I can't do this anymore, it's too much for me. But with the strong support from my family, I managed to pull myself together," Gomis said. But she was always carrying the nagging worry that she would not be able to graduate unless she had paid off her debt.

Cara-Jean Petersen, Feenix Student Engagement Manager, said Gomis's profile stood out and resonated with the V&A Waterfront's CSI programme. "The beauty of the Feenix platform is that it allows potential funders to connect with students' personal stories, who they are and the communities they are from. It allows them to put a face and a name to the futures they invest in," she said.

Donald Kau, Head of PR and Communications at the V&A Waterfront, said Feenix had built an innovative platform to help young bright minds of the future access the funding they need to achieve their dreams. "The V&A Waterfront's Our Community Programme is dedicated to making opportunities for outstanding individuals such as Shayen. We wish Shayen all of the best in her career," he said.



THE THERAPY

# The benefits of steaming: for face, body, hair and mental health

DUBAI

WHILE modern-day steaming is largely focused on the beauty and pampering aspect of cleansing the face and body, the treatment goes back thousands of years and used to be rooted in ritual. References to steaming can be found in Native American culture, as well as in the ancient Mayan society and, like so many therapies, it was the ancient Greeks and Romans who expanded upon the concept.

The two civilisations used to build huge, elaborate steam baths where people would gather to detoxify the body, at a time when cleanliness was seen as a way to honour the gods. Botanicals, oils, clay and minerals were also introduced for medicinal and aromatherapy purposes.

The concept of steam baths still exists, and the modern spa has become the place to get your steaming fix. It is a treatment that has many benefits and plenty of variations to treat all manner of ailments and conditions. As well as the hot steam, there is also cold steam, which is used to treat inflammation, lock in moisture and keep the skin hydrated.

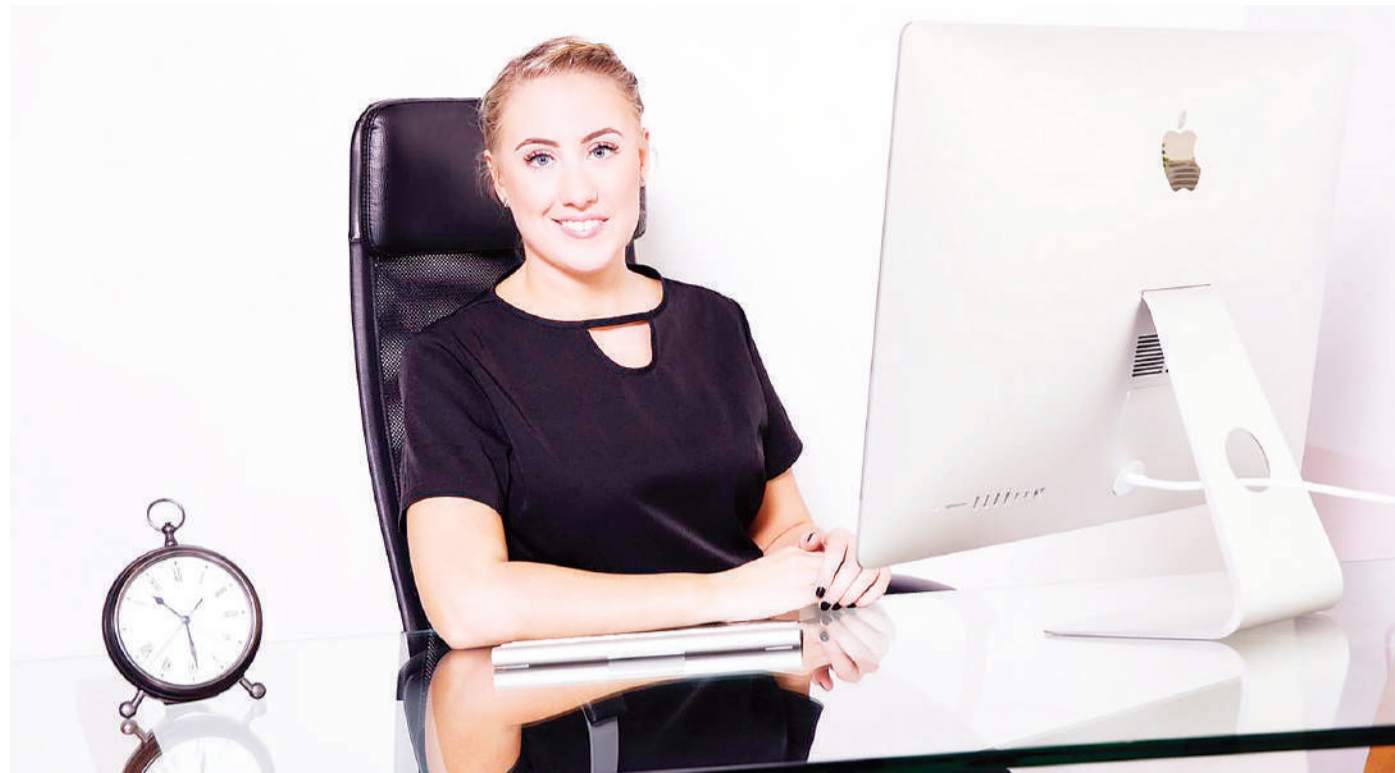
What does steaming actually do?

So how does steaming work? "As the soothing warm steam starts to work on the skin, it causes it to sweat, allowing the natural oils within the skin to flow," explains Naomi Bell, beauty therapist and chief executive of Dubai salon NRBeauty. "This helps to soften the surface layer of dead skin, and supports the release of dirt, oil and bacteria from the pores."

Loosening the skin, in particular opening up the pores, has myriad benefits, especially when it comes to removing stubborn blackheads and acne-causing bacteria. Edwige Gandin, beautician at Pastels Salon Jumeirah, says: "The combination of warm steam and an increase in perspiration dilates your blood vessels and increases circulation." This resultant increase in oxygen intake makes the skin look and feel healthier.

Steaming for absorption and hydration

As well as helping to release bacteria and impurities,



"Steaming supports the release of dirt, oil and bacteria from the pores," says Naomi Bell, beauty therapist and CEO of NRBeauty.

steaming can also help with absorption. "It helps your skin better absorb skincare products," says Dr Eman Kotb, specialist dermatologist at Medcare Medical Centre in Sharjah. "Steam increases the skin's permeability, enabling it to better absorb topical creams."

"The increased blood flow experienced during a steam facial promotes collagen and elastin production. This results in firmer, younger-looking skin." And it's not only the absorption of face and body creams that steaming encourages; it also works on aiding natural moisture, hydrating the skin by increasing oil production.

Inversely, Bell warns of the dangers of over-steaming or using water that is too hot for the process, as this can dehydrate the skin. "Always steam with caution," she advises. "A steam burn is more damaging than a burn from boiling water. Try to limit each steam session to under eight minutes once a week. Over-steaming can cause dehydration and dryness."

Best for... and bad for

Dr Shadan Naji, dermatologist at Dr Kayle Aesthetic Clinic, says acne-prone skin can "really benefit from hot steaming." Experts agree that people with oily skin and

outbreaks have much to gain from regular steaming sessions. "Steaming will help to kill bacteria on the surface and increase the skin's natural detox process," says Bell. "In time this will help eliminate the build-up of bacteria and blocked sebum, gradually clearing and restoring healthier, balanced skin."

However, she advises that anyone with "active acne" should avoid the treatment until their skin has calmed, to avoid further inflammation.

Those with eczema and rosacea should avoid steam treatments, as should anyone with sensitive skin or thread veins, and

those suffering from inflammatory diseases, such as psoriasis.

"Hot temperatures at the surface of the skin cause dilation of the blood vessels, while greater circulation in the face can increase inflammation and redness," explains Gandin. Eda Gungor, co-founder of Seva Experience, says: "It can aggravate sensitive skin. The heat and steam may trigger 'facial flushing.'"

Steaming hair for growth, healing and circulation

Steaming has benefits beyond use on the face and body, with treatments also available for hair. "It releases trapped sebum," says Gungor. "This naturally occurring oil is produced by the skin's sebaceous glands to lubricate skin and hair. When sebum gets trapped beneath the skin's surface, it creates a breeding ground for bacteria."

The benefits for the hair and scalp are numerous, particularly when it comes to hair types that don't easily absorb moisture. Kotb says: "Steaming helps with deeper conditioning; the steam lifts the hair cuticle allowing your treatments to penetrate deeply into the hair shaft helping to heal damaged hair. It allows you to get a deeper clean and is good for low porosity hair."

"This hair type struggles to absorb moisture because the cuticle doesn't open easily. The steam opens the cuticle and helps the hair with absorption. It also encourages blood flow and circulation, which promotes hair growth too."

PLEA

## France, Germany, UK plan to proceed with Covid-19 booster shots despite WHO's plea

GENEVA

SEVERAL countries are going ahead with plans to administer Covid-19 vaccine booster shots to their populations, despite the World Health Organization (WHO) calling for countries to abstain from administering the additional shot until at least the end of September.

"I understand the concern of all governments to protect their people from the Delta variant. But we cannot accept countries that have already used most of the global supply of vaccines using even more of it, while the world's most vulnerable people remain unprotected," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said at a media briefing on August 4.

More than four billion vaccine doses have been administered globally, with more than 80% going to middle- or high-income countries, according to the WHO. France, Germany, and the UK are among countries that plan to offer Covid-19 booster shots next month to the elderly and vulnerable. In the UK alone, 32 million booster shots are expected to be administered, reported the Telegraph.

"We want to provide the vulnerable groups in Germany with a precautionary third vaccination and at the same time support the vaccination of as many people in the world as possible," the German Health Ministry told Reuters.

Israel has administered more than 11 million vaccine doses and over 60% of its nine million population is vaccinated, according to Our World in Data. It started rolling out its booster vaccine program this month to the elderly, citing data that the vaccine's efficacy may fall over time.

Speaking after the WHO briefing, Israeli Prime minister Naftali Bennett said in a Facebook Live event that Israel has a small population that "doesn't significantly affect the global surplus," adding that what the country is doing "dramatically contributes to global knowledge," reported AFP. Bennett also called for the elderly to receive the "great gift" of a booster shot, while encouraging young people to get vaccinated.

The US - which has not announced plans for booster shots yet - also refuted the WHO's plea on Wednesday. At a press briefing, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki called it "a false choice," saying the US can donate more vaccines while also providing booster shots.

The US has donated over 110 million vaccines to the world - more than any country - and intends to donate more, she said, calling for other G7 members and the global community to step up. "If the FDA decides that boosters are recommended for a portion of the population, [the US will] provide those as well. We believe we can do both, and we don't need to make that choice," Psaki said.



WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

SATURDAY 7 AUGUST		SUNDAY 8 August		MONDAY 9 Aug		TUESDAY 10 Aug		WEDNESDAY 11 Aug		THURSDAY 12 Aug		FRIDAY 13 Aug	
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19:30	Shika Bamba	19:30	Shika Bamba	19:30	Shika Bamba	19:30	Shika Bamba	19:30	Shika Bamba	19:30	Shika Bamba	19:30	Shika Bamba
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21:00	Igizo: Rebecca	21:00	Igizo: Rebecca	21:00	Igizo: Rebecca	21:00	Igizo: Rebecca	21:00	Igizo: Rebecca	21:00	Igizo: Rebecca	21:00	Igizo: Rebecca
21:30	Art and Lifestyle	21:30	Art and Lifestyle	21:30	Art and Lifestyle	21:30	Art and Lifestyle	21:30	Art and Lifestyle	21:30	Art and Lifestyle	21:30	Art and Lifestyle
22:00	ITV TOP 10	22:00	ITV TOP 10	22:00	ITV TOP 10	22:00	ITV TOP 10	22:00	ITV TOP 10	22:00	ITV TOP 10	22:00	ITV TOP 10
22:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo
23:45	Soap: Uzalo rpt	23:45	Soap: Uzalo	23:45	Soap: Uzalo	23:45	Soap: Uzalo	23:45	Soap: Uzalo	23:45	Soap: Uzalo	23:45	Soap: Uzalo
00:30	DWTV	00:30	DWTV	00:30	DWTV	00:30	DWTV	00:30	DWTV	00:30	DWTV	00:30	DWTV
14:55	Habari za saa	14:55	Habari za saa	14:55	Habari za saa	14:55	Habari za saa	14:55	Habari za saa	14:55	Habari za saa	14:55	Habari za saa
15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru
16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base
18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu
18:10	Albu yako rpt	18:10	Albu yako	18:10	Albu yako	18:10	Albu yako	18:10	Albu yako	18:10	Albu yako	18:10	Albu yako
18:15	Igizo: Mazingwe	18:15	Igizo: Mazingwe	18:15	Igizo: Mazingwe	18:15	Igizo: Mazingwe	18:15	Igizo: Mazingwe	18:15	Igizo: Mazingwe	18:15	Igizo: Mazingwe
18:30	DWTV: Kesho leo	18:30	DWTV: Kesho leo	18:30	DWTV: Kesho leo	18:30	DWTV: Kesho leo	18:30	DWTV: Kesho leo	18:30	DWTV: Kesho leo	18:30	DWTV: Kesho leo
19:00	Alya ya Jami	19:00	Alya ya Jami	19:00	Alya ya Jami	19:00	Alya ya Jami	19:00	Alya ya Jami	19:00	Alya ya Jami	19:00	Alya ya Jami
19:30	Soap: Uzalo	19:30	Soap: Uzalo	19:30	Soap: Uzalo	19:30	Soap: Uzalo	19:30	Soap: Uzalo	19:30	Soap: Uzalo	19:30	Soap: Uzalo
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21:05	Dakika 45	21:05	Dakika 45	21:05	Dakika 45	21:05	Dakika 45	21:05	Dakika 45	21:05	Dakika 45	21:05	Dakika 45
22:00	Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	22:00	Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	22:00	Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	22:00	Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	22:00	Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	22:00	Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	22:00	Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
23:00	Habari	23:00	HABARI	23:00	HABARI	23:00	HABARI	23:00	HABARI	23:00	HABARI	23:00	HABARI
23:30	The Base	23:30	The Base	23:30	The Base	23:30	The Base	23:30	The Base	23:30	The Base	23:30	The Base
24:00	Al Jazeera	24:00	Al Jazeera	24:00	Al Jazeera	24:00	Al Jazeera	24:00	Al Jazeera	24:00	Al Jazeera	24:00	Al Jazeera
02:00	DWTV	02:00	DWTV	02:00	DWTV	02:00	DWTV	02:00	DWTV	02:00	DWTV	02:00	DWTV
12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
12:55	Habari za saa	12:55	Habari za saa	12:55	Habari za saa	12:55	Habari za saa	12:55	Habari za saa	12:55	Habari za saa	12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Kipindi Maalum: TMDA rpt	13:00	Kipindi Maalum: TMDA rpt	13:00	Kipindi Maalum: TMDA rpt	13:00	Kipindi Maalum: TMDA rpt	13:00	Kipindi Maalum: TMDA rpt	13:00	Kipindi Maalum: TMDA rpt	13:00	Kipindi Maalum: TMDA rpt
13:30	Igizo: Rebecca rpt	13:30	Igizo: Rebecca	13:30	Igizo: Rebecca	13:30	Igizo: Rebecca	13:30	Igizo: Rebecca	13:30	Igizo: Rebecca	13:30	Igizo: Rebecca
13:55	Habari za saa	13:55	Habari za saa	13:55	Habari za saa	13:55	Habari za saa	13:55	Habari za saa	13:55	Habari za saa	13:55	Habari za saa
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14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
14:45	Habari za saa	14:45	Habari za saa	14:45	Habari za saa	14:45	Habari za saa	14:45	Habari za saa	14:45	Habari za saa	14:45	Habari za saa
15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru	15:00	Meza Huru
16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base	17:00	The Base
18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Majishi	18:15	Majishi	18:15	Majishi	18:15	Majishi	18:15	Majishi	18:15	Majishi	18:15	Majishi
18:30	Ijue Sheria	18:30	Ijue Sheria	18:30	Ijue Sheria	18:30	Ijue Sheria						



## WORLD

## S. Africa's Zuma admitted to hospital from prison

LONDON

SOUTH Africa's jailed former president, Jacob Zuma, was admitted to hospital for medical observation yesterday, the government's Correctional Services department said.

Zuma has been held at Estcourt prison in Kwa-Zulu Natal province since handing himself over on July 7 to serve a 15-month sentence for contempt of court. His jailing led to South Africa's worst outbreak of violence in years.

Zuma's foundation, while confirming that he was in hospital, said it was for his annual routine medical check-up.

"No need to be alarmed, ... yet," the foundation said in a tweet.

Correctional Services said in a statement earlier that a routine observation at the prison had prompted authorities

to take Zuma to an outside hospital for further examination.

"Everyone who is detained, including every sentenced prisoner, has the right to conditions of detention that are consistent with human dignity, including ... medical treatment," the statement said.

It added that, because he was a former president, Zuma's healthcare needs required the involvement of South African Military Health Services.

Zuma, 79, was jailed for defying a Constitutional Court order to give evidence at an inquiry investigating high-level corruption during his nine years in office until 2018.

When Zuma handed himself in, protests by his supporters escalated into riots involving looting and arson that President Cyril Ramaphosa described as an "insurrection".



South African former President Jacob Zuma

Zuma, who was briefly permitted to leave jail on July 22 to attend the funeral of his younger brother, is due to appear in public again on Tuesday for his arms deal corruption trial.

In this case, he is accused of receiving kickbacks over a \$2 billion arms deal from the 1990s. He pleaded not guilty in May to charges including corruption,

fraud and money laundering.

He has evaded prosecution for more than a decade, and portrayed himself as the victim of a politically motivated witch-hunt.

Efforts to prosecute him are seen as a test of South Africa's ability to hold powerful politicians to account. **Agencies**

## China to provide 2 billion COVID-19 vaccines globally this year - Xi

BEIJING

CHINA will strive to provide 2 billion COVID-19 vaccine doses to the world throughout this year and offer 100 million U.S. dollars to COVAX, Chinese President Xi Jinping said on Thursday in a written message to the first meeting of the international forum on COVID-19 vaccine cooperation.



The 100 million U.S. dollars to COVAX will mainly go to the distribution of vaccines to developing countries, he said, adding that China would do its best to help developing countries cope with the COVID-19 pandemic.

China is committed to building a global community of health for all and has provided vaccines to the world, especially developing countries. The country actively carried out joint production, which illustrates the concept of vaccines as global public goods, Xi (pictured) stressed.

"I hope this forum will promote the accessibility and fair distribution of vaccines around the world, strengthen solidarity and cooperation in developing countries, and make new contributions for an early victory against the pandemic," he said.

At the Global Health Summit this May, Xi announced five measures to support global solidarity against COVID-19. These include the proposal of setting up an international forum on vaccine cooperation for vaccine-developing and producing countries, companies, and other stakeholders to explore ways of promoting fair and equitable distribution of vaccines worldwide.

"We are willing to work with the international community to promote international vaccine cooperation and build a community with a shared future for humanity," he said. **Xinhua**

## J&amp;J vaccine effective against Delta in South Africa trial

PARIS / BERLIN / NEW YORK

JOHNSON & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine is working well in South Africa, offering protection against severe disease and death, the co-head of a trial in the country said yesterday.

The J&J vaccine was administered to healthcare workers from mid-February in a research study, which was completed in May, with 477,234 health workers vaccinated, joint lead investigator Glenda Gray told a media briefing.

South Africa's health regulator approved the J&J shot in April, and it is being used in the national vaccine programme alongside Pfizer's.

Gray said the single-shot J&J vaccine offered 91 percent to 96.2 percent protection against death, while offering 67 percent efficacy against infection when the Beta coronavirus variant dominates and about 71 percent when the Delta variant dominates.

"Consistently after receiving the vaccine, there was very little death occurring in the vaccinated group as compared to the control group and showing a remarkable up-to 96.2 percent protection against

death," Gray said.

"This was our primary endpoint and we are able to say this vaccine protected health workers against death," she added.

US

Daily new COVID-19 cases have climbed to a six-month high in the United States, with more than 100,000 infections reported nationwide as the Delta variant ravaged Florida and other states with lower vaccination rates.

The seven-day average of new reported cases reached nearly 95,000, a five-fold increase in less than a month, Reuters data through Wednesday showed.

Seven US states with among the lowest COVID-19 vaccination rates - Florida, Texas, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi - account for half of the country's new cases and hospitalizations in the last week, White House COVID-19 coordinator Jeff Zients told reporters on Thursday.

"We're seeing terrifying #COVID19 trends in our hospitals," County Judge Lina Hidalgo wrote on Twitter. She is the top official of Harris



A medical worker prepares a syringe with a dose of the Johnson & Johnson Covid-19 vaccine at the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 399 union hall vaccination site in Chicago, Illinois, on April 6, 2021. File photo

County, the most populous county in Texas and home to the city of Houston. "At this point if you're unvaccinated by choice, you're complicit in this crisis."

The Biden administration is considering using federal regulatory powers and the threat of withholding federal funds from institutions to push more

Americans to get vaccinated -- a huge potential shift in the fight against the virus and a far more muscular approach to getting shots into arms, according to four people familiar with the deliberations.

Africa

Some 53 African countries have acquired 103 million

doses of COVID-19 vaccines so far, the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) said in the latest weekly briefing held Thursday.

The Africa CDC, the specialized healthcare agency of the African Union, said around 1.58 percent of Africa's population have been fully vaccinated.

Some 70.6 million of the total 103 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered, the Africa CDC said.

Five countries, namely Morocco, South Africa, Egypt, Nigeria and Tunisia have acquired and administered the most doses of COVID-19 vaccines to their respective populations, according to the agency.

The North African country of Morocco has so far administered 24.7 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines, accounting for 28.3 percent of the country's total population.

As of Thursday afternoon, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Africa had reached 6,866,597, with 174,054 deaths and 6,016,902 recoveries, according to the agency. **Agencies**

## Defence minister points to foreign centres spreading propaganda against Russia

KRASNOYARSK

PROPAGANDA facilities that engage in training Russians to carry out seditious activities in the country operate in Latvia, Estonia and Poland, Russian Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu said at a meeting with workers at the Krasnoyarsk Machine-Building Plant yesterday.

"Information has become a weapon. A propaganda strategy center has been set up in Riga, similar centers have been established in Tallinn and Warsaw. Information weapons are created there that are particularly used against our country," Shoigu pointed out, adding that those centers also spread a lot of rumors.

"You will hardly be able to name a facility in Russia where experts receive training in conducting cyberattacks. We don't train such experts. However, there are several centers in Europe that do provide this kind of training to our country's citizens," Shoigu added.

The Russian defense minister explained that Western centers like those monitored the online information space, detecting those "who won't write anything positive" and offering them grant-based jobs. "Dozens of such people are churned out every three months," Shoigu noted.

According to him, the Russian Defense Ministry paid special attention to the information agenda. In particular,

## Sudan reiterates demand to replace Ethiopian forces within UNISFA

KHARTOUM

SUDAN on Thursday reiterated its demand to replace the Ethiopian forces within the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA).

During a meeting held at the Presidential Palace in the capital Khartoum, Sudan's Security and Defense Council discussed the UNISFA's situation and its future.

The council reaffirmed Sudan's firm position regarding the necessity of continuing the mission with multinational forces, without Ethiopia being part of it, said Sudan's Defense Minister Yassin Ibrahim Yassin in a statement.

The council expressed concern over "the security violations of military nature and the growing phenomenon of exploitation and use of military uniforms in conducting crimes that threaten social security and peace," the minister said.

He added that the council stressed the need to form a joint force under a unified command, with an appropriate mandate to deal with the violations.

Sudan believes that Ethiopia has failed to help establish peace at the disputed area of Abyei between Sudan and South Sudan.

The UNISFA was established in 2011 by the UN Security Council to monitor the Abyei border. It is mainly composed of Ethiopian forces of around 4,200 troops and 50 police personnel. Later, the size of the forces was increased 5,326, all of whom are from Ethiopia.

## Taliban close in on two provincial Afghan capitals as US forces exit country

KABUL

TALIBAN fighters yesterday intensified clashes with Afghan forces and targeted militias allied with the government, officials said, stretching their dominance of border towns and closing in on two provincial capitals as foreign forces leave.

At least 10 Afghan soldiers and a commander of armed members belonging to the Abdul Rashid Dostum militia group in the northern prov-

ince of Jowzjan were killed.

"The Taliban launched violent attacks on the outskirts of (provincial capital) Sheberghan this week and during heavy clashes a pro-government militia forces' commander loyal to Dostum was killed," said Abdul Qader Malia, the deputy governor of Jowzjan province.

The Taliban, fighting to reimpose strict Islamic law after their 2001 ouster by U.S.-led forces, have stepped up their campaign to defeat the U.S.-

backed government as foreign forces complete their withdrawal after 20 years of war.

Another provincial council member said nine of the 10 districts of Jowzjan were now controlled by the Taliban and the contest to control Sheberghan was under way.

In southern Helmand province, damage to civilian property aggravated the humanitarian crisis as shops caught fire in a week-long battle to control the capital of Lashkar Gah.

The United Nations this week said it was deeply concerned about the safety of tens of thousands of people trapped in the city.

"Violence has only escalated and there is no way to assess the damage in Lashkar Gah as both sides are locked in an intense ground battle... it is hard to even recover bodies by aid agencies," a senior Western security official said in Kabul.

The Lashkar Gah office of aid group Action Against Hunger was hit by a bomb during

fighting in the area on Thursday.

"Civilians find themselves in between warring parties. They are being displaced from their homes and are often the first victims of the conflict," said Mike Bonke, Action Against Hunger's Country Director in Afghanistan.

"Humanitarian organisations like Action Against Hunger try their best to support people's needs, but we need safety guarantees from all parties to be able to operate," he

## China continuously improves mechanisms for protection of rights, interests of persons with disabilities

PERSONS with disabilities are equal members of humanity, and the cause of persons with disabilities is a systematic social undertaking.

The Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Persons with Disabilities, enacted on May 15, 1991, is the first specialized law in China that comprehensively protects the rights and interests of persons with disabilities.

Over the past three decades since the enacting of the law, China has continuously improved the mechanisms for the protection of rights and interests of persons with

disabilities.

So far, the protection of rights and interests of persons with disabilities has been written in 80 of all laws approved by the National People's Congress and its Standing Committee, and 70 of all administrative laws and regulations approved by the State Council.

Nearly 30 terms in the Civil Code are directly related to the protection of the rights and interests of persons with disabilities. During the past five years, legal assistance for persons with disabilities has been constantly enhanced.

A total of 2,600 organizations of

legal assistance coordination and 2,318 legal aid centers were established across the country for this group during the period.

By constantly improving people's livelihood, China is bringing more assistance to the development of the cause of persons with disabilities and guaranteeing their rights and interests.

Zhang Shundong and Li Guoxiu are a couple that have only one hand and one pair of feet and used to live in poverty. Thanks to the minimum living allowance, employment subsidies, and the government's supporting policies for

persons with disabilities, they finally found a path leading to prosperity.

Apart from shaking off poverty themselves, they are also helping farmers sell farm produce on e-commerce platforms. Last year, they were awarded an honorary title for their contributions to the poverty alleviation cause.

During the past five years, China has removed over seven million persons with disabilities from the poverty list. It is doing as much as possible to advance the cause of persons with disabilities, and overcoming its deficiencies in a target-

ed manner, so as to help the group better fit into the society and share the outcomes of economic and social development.

According to China's Outline of the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives Through the Year 2035, the country will work to better guarantee the basic rights and interests of women, minors and persons with disabilities, and improve the capability of persons with disabilities to support and develop themselves.

It is believed that new achieve-

ments will be made by China in its cause of persons with disabilities.

People's Daily



**By constantly improving people's livelihood, China is bringing more assistance to the development of the cause of persons with disabilities and guaranteeing**



## UN envoys appalled by increase in sexual violence in Somalia

UNITED NATIONS

THE UN secretary-general's special representative for children and armed conflict, Virginia Gamba, and the special representative on sexual violence in conflict, Pramila Patten, said on Thursday that they were appalled by the alarming increase in the scale and severity of sexual violence in Somalia.

In 2020, 400 civilians, primarily girls, were victims of rape and other forms of sexual violence perpetrated by all parties to the conflict in Somalia.

This represents a staggering increase of almost 80 percent compared with 2019, said the two UN envoys in a joint press release. In the first quarter of 2021, over 100 cases of sexual violence against girls were verified by the United Nations.

Often, perpetrators exploited the vulnerability of displaced girls, targeting them when they left camps to perform domestic chores, they said.

Sexual violence was closely linked with the prevailing insecurity in Somalia, marked by political tensions in the run-up to national elections, intercommunal clashes related to land-based disputes, and a surge in Al-Shabaab's activities, which intensified during the climate of uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, they said.

"The heightened levels of conflict-related sexual violence in Somalia demand urgent attention and action. We urge all parties to the conflict in Somalia to immediately cease these violations and comply with their obligations and responsibilities under international humanitarian and human rights law, as well as their commitments with the United Nations pursuant to relevant Security Council resolutions," said the two special representatives.

Gamba and Patten were alarmed by the significant increase in the number of cases of sexual violence attributed to Al-Shabaab, which continues to use sexual violence and forced marriage as tactics of domination in areas under their de facto control, forcing many families to flee their land.

The two officials also noted with concern the high number of violations perpetrated by clan militia, which has almost tripled over the past year, and are linked to a proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

In the vast majority of cases, the perpetrators remain unidentified, which perpetuates the vicious cycle of impunity and impedes access to redress and reparations for survivors.

## Moscow reaches record level of medical equipment exports

MOSCOW

EXPORTS of medical equipment from Moscow climbed 2.1-fold in January-May 2021, reaching the record level compared with the same periods in previous years, according to a statement released on the website of Moscow Mayor yesterday.

"Moscow demonstrated record results in terms of medical equipment exports in first five months of this year compared with the same periods in previous years.

Particularly, exports of goods in this category [in money terms] amounted to \$22.34 mln, up 2.1-fold compared with the same period last year (\$10.33 mln) and by 90.6% compared with January-May 2019 when exports of medical equipment amounted to \$11.72 mln," Moscow Deputy Mayor Vladimir Yefimov was quoted as saying.

"Moscow producers exported medical equipment to 81 countries around the world from January to May this year, with Kazakhstan being the leader in terms of purchases as supplies were worth \$6.85 mln, up by 100.3% compared with 2019," head of Moscow's investment and industrial policy department Alexander Prokhorov was quoted as saying.

Large volumes of medical equipment were exported to Uzbekistan (worth \$2.43 mln), the Netherlands (\$2.24 mln), India (\$2.18 mln), and Belarus (\$1.1 mln). Mexico, Bangladesh, Ecuador, Nepal, Qatar and Norway have become Moscow's importers this year as well. All in all, medical equipment exports from Moscow to those markets exceeded \$187,000.

## Philippine ruling party leaders endorse Duterte for VP in 2022

MANILA

LEADERS of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's political party have endorsed him to be a vice-presidential candidate in next year's elections, paving the way for him to stay in power for six more years after he steps down in 2022.

The move needs to be approved by the party general assembly, which meets next month.

In the Philippines, the president is limited to one six-year term. Duterte's term ends in June next year, but he has said he is seriously thinking about running for vice-president, which political observers and critics say could be a backdoor to the presidency.

Next year's polls will be a referendum on Duterte's policies, including his bloody war on drugs, in which thousands of people have been killed, and the handling of the pandemic, many political analysts say.

The backing for Duterte was announced by Melvin Matibag, secretary-general of the ruling PDP-Laban party, who said the endorsement by the key officers will be presented to a national assembly of the party next month for approval.

For its presidential candidate, the party leadership endorsed Duterte's top aide and incumbent senator Christopher "Bong" Go, Matibag said, describing Go and Duterte as a "formidable" team.

"We are hoping the entire membership can carry it. That is the popular and logical choice of PDP-Laban leaders," Matibag told a media briefing.

Agencies



## Anti-COVID policies remain contentious in US as cases surge in 'steep fashion'

WASHINGTON

MASKING, vaccination and lockdown policies remain contentious in the United States amid a rapid surge of COVID-19 cases driven by the Delta variant.

More than 18 months since COVID-19 hit its shores, the United States continues to debate the efficacy of mask-wearing as daily infections remain in the tens of thousands, in one of the world's worst containment efforts of the deadly disease.

### STANDING IN YOUR WAY VS. GET OUT OF THE WAY

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis hit back at U.S. President Joe Biden on Wednesday, a day after the Democratic president criticized DeSantis and other Republican governors for banning mask mandates in public schools and other places.

"If you're trying to deny kids a proper in-person education, I'm going to stand in your way, and I'm going to stand up for the kids in Florida," DeSantis said at a news conference.

"If you're trying to restrict people, impose mandates, if you're trying to ruin their jobs and their livelihoods and their small business, if you are trying to lock people down, I am standing in your way, and I'm standing for the people of Florida."

Biden said at the White House on Tuesday afternoon that a coordinated effort is needed to stem the virus's spread. "We need leadership from everyone and if some governors aren't willing to do the right thing to beat this pandemic, then they should allow businesses and universities who want to do the right thing to be able to do it," he said.

"I say to these governors, please help. If you aren't going to help, at least get out of the way of people who are trying to do the right thing. Use your power to save lives," Biden added.

In a tweet responding to DeSantis's remarks Wednesday afternoon, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki noted that 23 percent of new U.S. COVID-19 hospitalizations are in Florida and said the White House hopes DeSantis will join them in the fight against the pandemic.

DeSantis and Biden traded barbs as the United States is struggling with an increase of COVID-19 cases fueled by the more contagious Delta variant and millions of unvaccinated Americans.

### COUNTRY COULD BE 'IN TROUBLE'

The Delta variant accounted for an estimated 93.4 percent of all new COVID-19 cases in the United States during the last two weeks of July, according to figures published by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Wednesday. This num-



Refrigerated trailers are seen at a temporary morgue in Brooklyn, New York, the United States, June 15, 2021. File photo

ber is even higher in certain parts of the country, showed the figures for the week ending July 31. In the Midwest including Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, Delta accounts for more than 98 percent of all cases.

These figures have shown a rapid increase over the past two months. In the two weeks ending May 22, Delta's prevalence was estimated at around 3 percent.

The daily average of new cases across the country over the past week rose to 66,606 per day, from 40,597 the previous week, an increase of more than 64 percent, according to official figures.

Almost 72,000 children and teens caught COVID-19 last week -- a "substantial" increase from a week earlier, the American Academy of Pediatrics reported Tuesday.

U.S. COVID-19 cases driven by the Delta variant are rising in a "very steep fashion" and may double to 200,000 a day in the fall, said Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, on Wednesday.

"Remember, just a couple of months ago, we were having about 10,000 cases a day," said Fauci in an interview. "I think you're likely going to wind up somewhere between 100,000 and 200,000 cases."

The United States could be "in trouble" entering the fall unless a large portion of unvaccinated Americans decide to get the shots, said Fauci. "What we're seeing, because of this increase in transmissibility, and because we have about 93 million people in this country who are eligible to get vaccinated who don't get vaccinated -- that you have a significant pool of vulnerable people," he said.

The infectious disease expert said he is concerned the high number of unvaccinated people could lead to a stronger variant emerging that could reduce the efficacy of previously-administered vaccines.

## Secrets to Tongling's prospering copper industry



An employ of CRRC Yangtze Tongling Rolling Stock Co., Ltd., Tongling, east China's Anhui Province works with a machine tool, March 2, 2021. File photo

COPPER foil is considered a "neural network" for signal reception of electronic products and power transmission. It is an indispensable new material for the development of new industries.

How thin can this material be? In a workshop of an enterprise in Tongling, east China's Anhui Province, copper foils are made as thin as cicada wings.

According to an employee of the enterprise, the copper foils, which are only 6 mm (0.23 inches) thick and used in lithium-ion batteries, can be applied in new energy vehicle, smart phone, aviation and aerospace and other industries. They can significantly improve batteries' energy density and thus extend battery life, the employee added.

Today, new discoveries, technologies, products and materials are emerging at a faster speed, and technological innovation and research are generating infinite possibilities. This means that those whoever can do a good job in industrial upgrading and rapidly grasp new technologies and materials will gain an advantage in industrial reform.

For cities, only by taking advantage of the motivating role of reform, accelerating the development of advanced manufacturing, and enhanc-

ing real economy, can they find effective paths leading to a new development paradigm.

Tongling, which has been hailed as the "capital of copper" in China since ancient times, enjoys rich resources, and its industries have also been going through constant upgrading.

To pursue high-quality development, new industries in the city, represented by the copper foil sector, have built new industrial clusters based on an upgrade of their industrial chain.

Rolls of copper foils being produced, as well as boxes of products to be shipped to downstream enterprises indicate the vitality of the copper foil sector and development potential of Tongling.

Accurate positioning leads to faster development. In Tongling's Yi'an Economic Development Zone, there is a metalware industrial park where enterprises from Jiaxing, east China's Zhejiang Province have settled and established industrial clusters that integrate the industrial and supply chains.

The trans-provincial cooperation project effectively allocates geographical, technological and

land resources, forming a tiered industrial structure in the Yangtze River delta and thus promoting the flow of production factors and optimizing economic structure.

Industrial development is about both quantity and quality, and the two are primarily driven by innovation. Some of Tongling's products and technologies are very competitive, because the manufacturers have to some extent replaced imported high-end integrated circuit materials with domestically produced ones. A part of them are the first of their kinds in China, and some even broke the foreign technological monopoly.

To enhance future-oriented basic research and supply of technologies at the source, and carry out R&D for generic technology will help break technological bottlenecks. Practices have proved that as long as enterprises, universities and institutions work together, technological breakthroughs can be made, and market entities will also gain an edge in competition with technological innovation.

People's Daily

"If we don't crush the outbreak to the point of getting the overwhelming proportion of the population vaccinated, then what will happen is the virus will continue to smolder through the fall into the winter, giving it ample chance to get a variant," Fauci said.

### CONTENTIOUS POLICY DEBATES

Most unvaccinated American adults don't believe that COVID-19 vaccines are very effective and see the vaccines as a greater health risk than the virus itself, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation survey published Wednesday.

Fifty-three percent of unvaccinated adults believe the vaccine poses a bigger risk to their health than COVID-19 itself, while an overwhelming majority of 88 percent of vaccinated adults say that getting infected with COVID-19 is a bigger risk to their health than the vaccine.

Fifty-seven percent of unvaccinated adults also say that the news has "generally exaggerated" the seriousness of the pandemic, while three-fourths of vaccinated adults say the news has been "generally correct" or has "underestimated" its seriousness.

Among those who say they will "definitely not" get a vaccine, 75 percent say the news is exaggerated. "The sharply different views of the vaccinated and unvaccinated help to explain the contentiousness of ongoing policy debates about vaccine mandates," said the foundation.

For example, vaccinated adults are far more likely than unvaccinated adults to say the federal government should recommend employers require vaccination among their workers at 68 percent versus 16 percent.

The public overall is split on the issue, with 51 percent saying employers should require vaccination compared to 45 percent who say they should not. Vaccinated adults are also more likely to say they wear masks in grocery stores and other indoor places, at work, and in crowded outdoor settings.

"These differences are to a large degree driven by unvaccinated Republicans. Majorities of Republicans say they 'never' wear a mask outdoors in crowded outdoor places, at work, or in a grocery store. Democrats are more likely to report wearing a mask at least most of the time in all of these locations," said Kaiser.

The health-focused nonprofit group surveyed 1,500 U.S. adults between July 15 and 27 for this chapter of its survey, and found little change among those with the most hardened attitudes about vaccination. About 14 percent of those surveyed say they will "definitely not" get vaccinated -- the same proportion as in December.

Xinhua

## Moderna says its vaccine 93% effective 6 months after 2nd dose

NEW YORK

MODERNA Inc said on Thursday its COVID-19 shot was about 93 percent effective four to six months after the second dose, showing hardly any change from the 94 percent efficacy reported in its original clinical trial.

That compares favorably to data released by rivals Pfizer Inc and BioNTech SE last week in which they suggested their vaccine's efficacy waned around 6 percent every two months, declining to around 84 percent six months after the second shot. Both the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines are based on messenger RNA (mRNA) technology.

"We are very pleased that our COVID-19 vaccine efficacy is stable at 93 percent from four to six months," Moderna Chief Executive Stephane Bancel said in a statement. "This strong duration will benefit the hundreds of millions of people who have been dosed to date with Moderna vaccines."

Moderna's vaccine was authorized for emergency use in adults in the United States in December and has since been cleared for emergency or conditional use in adults in more than 50 countries.

The company started the process of filing for full approval with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in June and expects to finish its submission in August.

### Global tally

Global COVID-19 cases surpassed 200 million on Wednesday, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University, as the more-infectious Delta variant threatens areas with low vaccination rates and strains healthcare systems.

The global tally stood at 200,014,602 while the global toll hit 4,252,873 as of 3:21 pm local time (1921 GMT), according to the data.

The global surge in cases is highlighting the widening gap in inoculation rates between wealthy and poor nations. Cases are rising in about one-third of the world's countries, many of which have not even given half their population a first dose.

The World Health Organization (WHO) on Wednesday called for a moratorium on COVID-19 vaccine boosters until at least 10 percent of the population in every country was vaccinated.





# SPORT



Heritier Makambo

## Makambo now back to familiar Premier League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

HIS stellar 17 goals for Yanga in a season in which Guinea's Horoya Athletic Club decided to seek his signature and sign him was sure proof Heritier Makambo was really on fire.

He could be the last striker to score many goals for Yanga.

Since then they have never found a striker like him.

Before him, there was Amissi Tambwe and then Heritier came to Yanga.

They were the last two strikers, who should be perceived as 'Yanga strikers' before the outfit started making mistakes again in the registration of strikers.

The attackers that came to the outfit were not quite competent, the fact is that they were not in Yanga's status.

Yanga's management is aware of this and that is why they have acted so quickly to strengthen their outfit's offensive line.

Recently, Makambo was back at Mwalimu Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam and Yanga have offered him a two-year contract once again.

He is remembered for playing in an outfit, which was strapped for cash, before his departure.

His return is discussed from various perspectives. One of which centers on the way it is easy for a footballer to get back into either Simba or Yanga if he had put impressive showing for either of the teams in the past.

It becomes easier. Yanga fans are the ones who have pushed their team to recruit Makambo.

I'm not sure if they assessed his level of performance when he was turning out for Horoya AC.

I'm told that his second season was tough because he did not get much of a chance.

Was the person playing his role more dangerous than him or is it that Makambo's level has dropped?

We do not know. What we do know is that Yanga has brought Makambo back to pick up from where he left off.

They believe that Makambo will score more goals for this season's side, which is stronger than the previous one.

These are just feelings but Yanga had to convince themselves first about Makambo's current performance.

Is he the same? If yes, How sure are they? When they have finished satisfying themselves as the results are the same, they should be satisfied again with the footballer's fitness.

Is Makambo not having any injuries that hampered his level at the moment?

I am shocked to see such a player like DR Congo forward, Fiston Mayele, being introduced as a Yanga player without being shown either pictures or videos that would show him undergo medicals.

The only thing Yanga looked at the newly recruited footballer was his excellent goal-scoring record in DR Congo. The story of Makambo and Yanga reminded me of the story of Emmanuel Okwi and Simba.

Even now Simba is again associated with bringing Okwi back.

That is, if a footballer performs well for these prominent sides then he can be a

permanent 'king' at the clubs without them worrying about anything else about him.

For example, Yanga did not want to worry too much when it came to roping Makambo in.

I don't think they have a good scouting system. How confident are they that they would not have found another player more dangerous than Makambo after the footballer had left them? They did not want to bother too much.

However, Makambo may prove the doubting members of the Tanzania soccer fraternity wrong.

This is because the attacker was more dangerous than all his successors, David Molinga and Michael Sarpong.

If he is the same Makambo then it is clear that he is better than them. Again much better.

In the meantime, if he shines it will give us a hard time understanding the level of competition between Yanga and Horoya AC.

Perhaps Horoya AC's level of competition is higher than Yanga's. Or maybe the Guinea Premier League is more competitive than ours.

But there are players, who seemed to have failed in one country and then emerged as champions in the other side and regained respect.

This is the only theory I will rely on from Makambo for now. Otherwise, he will prove those who have mocked his exit from the Guinean team were right.

In any case, it is a gamble that Yanga can take because they have also signed Mayele and want to take on another striker, while Yacouba Sogne has also finished the season at a better level than the former he showcased at a time he arrived at the team.

There are reports that Yanga could sign another DR Congo striker Jean Makusu.

If they have Makambo, Mayele, Makusu, and Yacouba, I do not believe the footballers can all fail again together.

If Yanga had roped in either Makambo or Mayele alone it would have been a lottery.

For now, it is a matter of waiting and seeing if Makambo can replicate his exploits.

In any case, I think Yanga can improve even more. Let alone the registration issue is that Yanga has a good coach, Tunisian Mohamed Nabi.

He has strengthened Yanga, how they defend, how they pass, the team's offensive approach, and how they also attack in large numbers.

Nabi is a unique coach. Maybe Makambo can score more if they are careful because this past season Yanga's weakness boiled down to finishing.

It was quite disappointing to see Yanga's top scorer ended with eight goals in the Premier League, with Simba's three offensive players, Meddie Kagere, John Bocco, and Chris Mugalu each scoring more than 13 goals.

I'm finishing with a joke. I remind Yanga that suddenly their team is packed with Congolese players.

It should be noted that they have signed a right-back from AS Vita and DR Congo national football team, Djuma Shabani.

How many Congolese will they have? Mukoko Tonombe, Tuisila Kisinda, Djuma Shabani, Fiston Mayele and Heritier Makambo.

I hear they are looking for a creative midfielder from the same country.

I do not know if it is happening by fluke or if there is something special they have seen from DR Congo players? I'm not sure about it.

## SPORTS

### Have other clubs learned from Manara and Simba SC saga?

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SINCE the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) ordered Premier League clubs to have a secretariat, which would include employees, including the key role of information officer, there has been a misconception about the job.

Although most of the employees in the position have been journalists, their responsibilities were possibly not well defined.

So those who can make words appealing to people, funny, surprising, and even good words to crush opponents, seemed to be the ones who can competently take up the post, especially for such big clubs like Simba and Yanga.

There are also Mtibwa Sugar and Ruvu Shooting information officers, who have fallen into the trap, thus being an attraction for reporters whenever their clubs are about to play important or major matches or after the games are over.

And because those who offered them the jobs were the ones who believed that talking too much was the best practice, these information officers, who are supposed to be known as speakers, when the speaker is a person with great authority in the institution became the speakers in particular.

The mentioned people can sometimes comment on technical issues, including promising their sides' followers the outfits will come out victorious, something that even coaches are reluctant to promise.

The said people are sometimes talking about leadership issues when they do not attend management meetings.

They were the ones who portrayed the club's information officer as a talkative, fun-loving official, capable of using all sorts of words to bring down opponents, and it came at a time when even important football development issues were turned into unanswered jokes.

Some formed WhatsApp groups to increase the scope of followers, thus appearing to increase the effectiveness of their responsibilities by having larger groups and thus their message reached more people within a short time.

Haji Manara was one of those information officers. There were long-standing rumours that Simba's management



Former Simba SC information officer, Haji Manara.

wanted to get rid of him, but it was reluctant due to uncertainty about the outcome of their matches, but Manara remained and appeared to be bigger than the real situation.

A recent audio clip, which had the outspoken official threatening Simba Chief Executive Officer Barbara Gonzalez, was seen as a clash of leaders with the preconceived notion that Manara is a leader and not a person in a position that Barbara oversees and has the power to suspend Manara.

Perhaps that is what shocked Simba officials that there is a need for them to take action as the saga clearly showed that the club is still embracing outdated practices, so much so that even an information officer can insult his employer and the side's management does nothing about it.

So the Simba's Directors Board received the instruction and decided to agree with the decision to part ways with an official who was already believed to be a part of Simba's success and is on the same level as other club leaders.

But the subject has not been well received by the members of the Simba's Directors Board.

The information officer role is still too small in either the secretariat or management of the club to the extent that a letter of resignation is written by him.

As Barbara is the club's Chief Executive Officer, the decision of Manara's fate was in her hands as the Board of Directors wants her to have power over her subordinates.

The board usually employs the Chief Executive Officer to oversee the secretariat or management, including recruiting or taking disciplinary action under the club's labour laws.

If the board takes on the responsibility of communicating with the information officer about the latter's duties, then the CEO has no important job and if the board is the one assigned to appoint someone else to fill the vacancy, what is Barbara doing at the team?

The role of the board in most large corporations is to organize and issue directives and not to perform day-to-day operations when there is a secretariat or management.

The hiring of lower executives is the responsibility of the CEO-led management.

It is also important for Simba, as it states that it wants to be modern through its transformation to have rules governing the operation of the club's social media accounts.

### Caravans cricketers outplay Gymkhana in Kazim Nasser 50-over tourney

By Guardian Reporter

CARAVANS Cricket Club notched a six-wicket victory over Gymkhana Cricket Club in this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division A 50 overs' match, which took place early this week.

A below-par batting showing by Gymkhana Cricket Club played part in the side's defeat, as the club could not make the most of its innings.

Youthful batsmen, Jay Hirwania and Kheel Suchak, ended as the players with good displays when Gymkhana Cricket Club was presented with the opportunity to start batting and notched 104 runs all out in 31.4 overs.

Suchak, one of Gymkhana Cricket Club's openers, was the cricketer with the best showing as he posted 36 runs, cracking seven fours.

Amar Shangvi that was also slotted in as the opener exited in the very first over, as he was dismissed by youthful cricketer, Johnson Nyambo.

Hirwania, slotted in at number three, did all he could to pile runs, the cricketer ended up notching 15 runs, nailing a four.

The remainder of the club's members of the batting unit put less impressive showing and they were, for that matter, made to pay for their displays.

Caravans Cricket Club's player, Gerald Dzunguza, had no mercy for Gymkhana Cricket Club's batting unit, given the cricketer ended with a six-wicket haul.

The cricketer was, in the end, the team's bowler that had the best bowling figure, bowling 9.4 overs that included three maiden overs, notching 2.38 economy wicket.

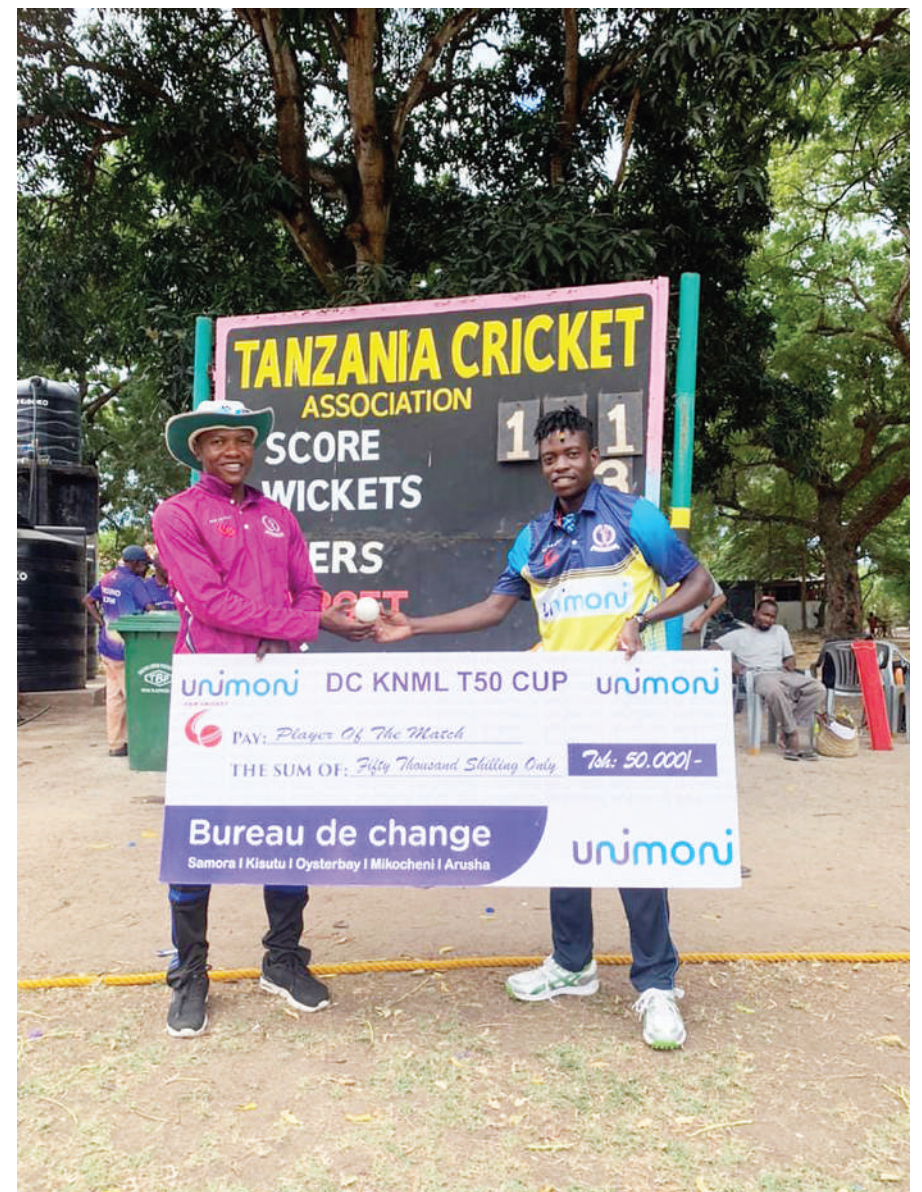
He was, as a result, voted as the best player of the tie and got an award.

Needing 105 runs to notch victory, Caravans Cricket Club had little trouble getting down to a successful chase, recording 106 runs, dropping four wickets in 18.3 overs.

Top-order performer, Nandakishan Pottachira, was the cricketer with the most runs, ending with 37 runs.

The opener, Gokul Das, had an unbeaten stint, given he scored unbeaten 16 runs, which included a four.

Promising cricketer, Wilbert Martin, put stellar performance, nailing four fours on his way to notching 22 runs.



Caravans Cricket Club all-rounder, Gerald Dzunguza (R), receives the man of the match award from match official, Salum Jembe, after the former's side took on Gymkhana Cricket Club in the 2021 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division A 50 overs' clash, which took place recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DAR ES SALAAM CRICKET

All-rounder, Kassim Nassoro, did not stay long at the crease, the cricketer though, posted 13 runs consisting of two fours.

Das thereafter had an unbeaten stand with Safvan Annarathodika, as Safvan posted four runs not out.

A successful chase was not in doubt even after talented all-rounder Jitin Singh's early dismissal.

Singh that has of late emerged as one of the best cricketers at his club and regional club competitions, was not in good form against Gymkhana Cricket Club, notching two runs.

Youthful player, Mohammed Yunus, was Gymkhana Cricket Club's only bowler to have had an impressive

stint, given he posted three wickets in six overs.

Caravans Cricket Club's key players, Nassoro, Singh, and Martin, were victims of the youthful player's skilful bowling.

There was little that Yunus could do, what with solid batting performance other members of Caravans Cricket Club's batting unit displayed.



## Madrid mull legal action against LaLiga - sources

MADRID

REAL Madrid are considering taking legal action against LaLiga and CVC Capital Partners after the Spanish league agreed to sell 10% of its business to the investment fund for €2.7 billion, sources have told ESPN.

Barcelona are pouring over the finer details of the deal with CVC, which LaLiga announced on Wednesday, sources have told ESPN, because they have doubts about voting it through at the general assembly on Aug. 12.

The league's executive committee have already unanimously approved the sale, but it must be ratified at the general assembly next week.

League sources said that despite the concerns some clubs have about the deal, they believe it will be voted through because only two-thirds of the 42 voting clubs in the top two tiers of Spanish football must be in favour.

Spanish news outlet El Independiente first reported on Thursday that Madrid were weighing up taking action for asset misappropriation. The report said that Madrid feel the sale "endangers" their business opportunities by allowing CVC to take money from, for example, television rights without the club agreeing to the deal.

For their initial investment, CVC will pocket 11% of the money raised by LaLiga through the sale of television rights and sponsorship for the next 40 years.

El Independiente also added that Barca and a third club, Athletic Bilbao, were in opposition to the sale.

Madrid said in a statement on Thursday: "This agreement was reached without the involvement or knowledge of Real Madrid and today, for the first time, LaLiga has given us limited access to the terms of the agreement."

"The negotiation was carried out without competitive proceedings and the financial conditions agreed with CVC Capital Partners give them annual returns of over 20%. This opportunistic fund is the same which tried and failed to reach similar agreements with the Italian and German leagues."

"Real Madrid cannot support a venture which hands the future of

42 Primera and Segunda División clubs over to a group of investors, not to mention the futures of those clubs who qualify over the next 50 years.

"Real Madrid will convene the Assembly of Representative Members to debate the agreement and discuss the significant loss of equity, unprecedented in our 119-year history."

Sources at Madrid have told ESPN there's been no definitive decision yet but confirmed they are looking at what legal action is available to them.

They feel they have managed their finances well in the wake of the pandemic and that a quick cash fix now goes against their interests while benefitting other clubs. They also want a more exhaustive explanation to the clubs about the agreement and what it means long-term beyond the short-term injection of funds.

Barcelona said in a statement: "FC Barcelona considers that the operation that has been made public has not been sufficiently verified with the clubs [owners of the TV rights]; that its amount is not congruent with the years of duration and that part of the audiovisual rights of all the clubs are affected for the next 50 years."

"The Club considers the signing of a half-century contract inappropriate given the uncertainties that always surround the world of football."

"The conditions of the contract that LaLiga is talking about condemn the future of FC Barcelona in terms of audiovisual rights."

"FC Barcelona wants to show its surprise at an agreement promoted by LaLiga in which it has not had the criteria of teams, like FC Barcelona itself, and does not even show options among more competitors to be able to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages in a scenario with many questions such as the post-pandemic."

The money raised from the sale will be distributed among the clubs in the form of a loan, repayable over a significant number of years. The payments will be based on the contributions the clubs have had since the centralisation of audiovisual rights in 2015, with Madrid allocated around €261 million and Barca €270m.

The clubs must spend at least

soon. Until next time."

It will be the second time City have held the British transfer record, joining the arrival of Robinho from Real Madrid in 2008.

Speaking to City TV, Grealish added: "There's obviously a lot of reasons why I decided to come here, obviously the manager has been a massive factor in that. Playing under the best manager in the world was something I couldn't really turn down."

"Competing for major trophies is something that I wanted to do, and it was something that, in the end, I couldn't turn down."

Manchester United have held the British transfer record seven times in the Premier League, and it has also been held twice by Chelsea.

Sources have told ESPN that Villa offered Grealish, their captain, a vastly improved deal to stay at Villa Park but that the 25-year-old has chosen to join City because of the lure of top trophies and regular Champions League football.

City first proposed a deal including £90m in transfer fees and winger Morgan Rogers -- who is valued at £10m -- but a straight cash offer of £100m has triggered a release clause in Grealish's contract.

After making Grealish their first signing of the summer, City remain keen to sign Tottenham Hotspur striker Harry Kane.

Kane wants to move to the Etihad, but Spurs are privately adamant he is not for sale. Sources have told ESPN that City believe they can finance deals for Grealish and Kane this summer through player sales.

City have raised £109m through sales since the start of the pandemic and could raise another £50m this summer, even without a first-team player leaving.

Villa have been active in the

# Messi to leave Barcelona: Breaking down the scenarios on how this saga will play out

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

NINETY-NINE words to wipe out 21 years walking hand in hand...not to mention 810 professional games, 683 goals, 10 Liga titles, seven Copas del Rey, four Champions League crowns and three FIFA Club World Cups.

Barcelona's terse statement on Thursday appears to leave no doubt, right down to the headline on the club website -- Leo Messi not staying at FC Barcelona -- that arguably the greatest single club career of any player ever has come to an end.

But, as with Messi's own "Burofax" incident less than 12 months ago, there's more here than meets the eye.

**Q: A few weeks ago everybody was reporting that Messi and the club had agreed to a new contract. Spanish media were hailing today as "Messi Day" -- the day when it would all become official. What happened?**

**A:** All we know for certain right now is that, according to Barcelona, the club are unable to register the contract due to the Spanish league's rules on player registration, despite having reached an agreement for a new five-year deal with Messi. They don't go into specifics, but it's safe to assume that they're referring to LaLiga's version of the "salary cap" which limits spending on wages and player acquisition costs based on projected club revenue and costs. And since Barcelona are in dire financial straits -- with more than a billion dollars of debt, of which as much as \$800 million is described as short-term -- Messi's new contract won't get the green light. Which means he will leave.

**Q: But how did this happen? Surely they knew what the limits were heading into the summer and the Messi negotiations...**

**A:** Yeah, that's one of the mysteries here. Especially since they spent \$9.6 million on Emerson from Real Betis and also made three free agent signings -- Memphis Depay from Lyon, and Sergio Agüero and Eric Garcia from Manchester City -- and the first two come with big salaries. The obvious question is this: If Messi was your priority (and he obviously was), why would you commit around \$50m in wages and the Emerson fee to sign those four other players if it was going to put you over the cap? That's why plenty are speculating there's something else afoot.

**Q: Such as?**

**A:** Some reports are suggesting that there was a last-minute hitch in the Messi deal, in terms of commissions to be paid and that he wasn't entirely happy with some of the club's transfer dealings this summer (even though they did sign his buddy and Argentina teammate, Agüero). And, because the club could never blame Messi, they're blaming LaLiga's rules instead. There may be some truth in that, but a much more plausible explanation may be the tense relationship with LaLiga and that it's a power play between Barca president Joan Laporta and Liga boss Javier Tebas.

**Q: What's that about?**

**A:** In one word: control. Barcelona are, along with Real Madrid and Juventus, one of only three clubs who have not dropped out of the Super League and, in fact, are taking legal action to push their case. Tebas, as you'd expect, is dead set against the Super League as he believes it would hurt the competitive balance of LaLiga. Perhaps more important than that is the deal Tebas struck with a private equity firm, CVC Capital Partners, which would see LaLiga receive a cash infusion of around \$3.2 billion in return for 10% of future revenues and a 10% stake in a newly formed commercial company. Barcelona, like Real Madrid (who, maybe not coincidentally, issued their own statement lamenting the deal on Thursday) are dead-set against the CVC agreement.

**Q: Why don't they like the deal?**



Messi wants to stay at Barcelona, but forces beyond his control might mean this split is permanent. (Agencies)

**Don't they want the cash?**

**A:** I'm sure they do, but they also say Tebas negotiated the agreement without their knowledge and that it hands the future of the clubs over to private investors. They're likely also unhappy with how LaLiga and CVC might redistribute funds going forward. The deal now needs to be approved by the clubs, and Real Madrid and Barcelona are likely to lead the "no" front.

**Q: I get that, but how does Messi come into it?**

**A:** Simply put, LaLiga, as a product, is less valuable without Messi. His departure, or even just the possibility of his departure, could turn public opinion against Tebas and his plans. Barcelona and Real Madrid generate the bulk of Liga revenue and a sizable chunk of that trickles down to other clubs. Messi leaving wouldn't just hurt Barcelona, it would hurt LaLiga. And not just in terms of image, but in commercial terms. That's another of the theories being bandied about. But there's a third, somewhat simpler scenario that may be the most plausible.

**Q: What's that?**

**A:** It's hard to believe that, having had months to talk to Messi and his family, Barcelona would not get their sums right and suddenly realize they couldn't afford him. The structure of the five-year deal they agreed suggests they were careful to stay within the cap. Plus, the transfer windows is still open until September. They could, conceivably, move on other players to keep him around. It wouldn't be easy, because the guys they'd like to transfer out of Barca are on high salaries and few clubs could afford them, but there are ways to do it. Not to mention the fact that if Messi was as committed to staying as they suggest, he could lower his wage demands or include more bonuses in his package or whatever. Instead, they're announcing that they're throwing in the towel now.

**Q: And what does that suggest?**

**A:** That it's a strategic move to spook Tebas. Either within the context of CVC or the Super League or, more

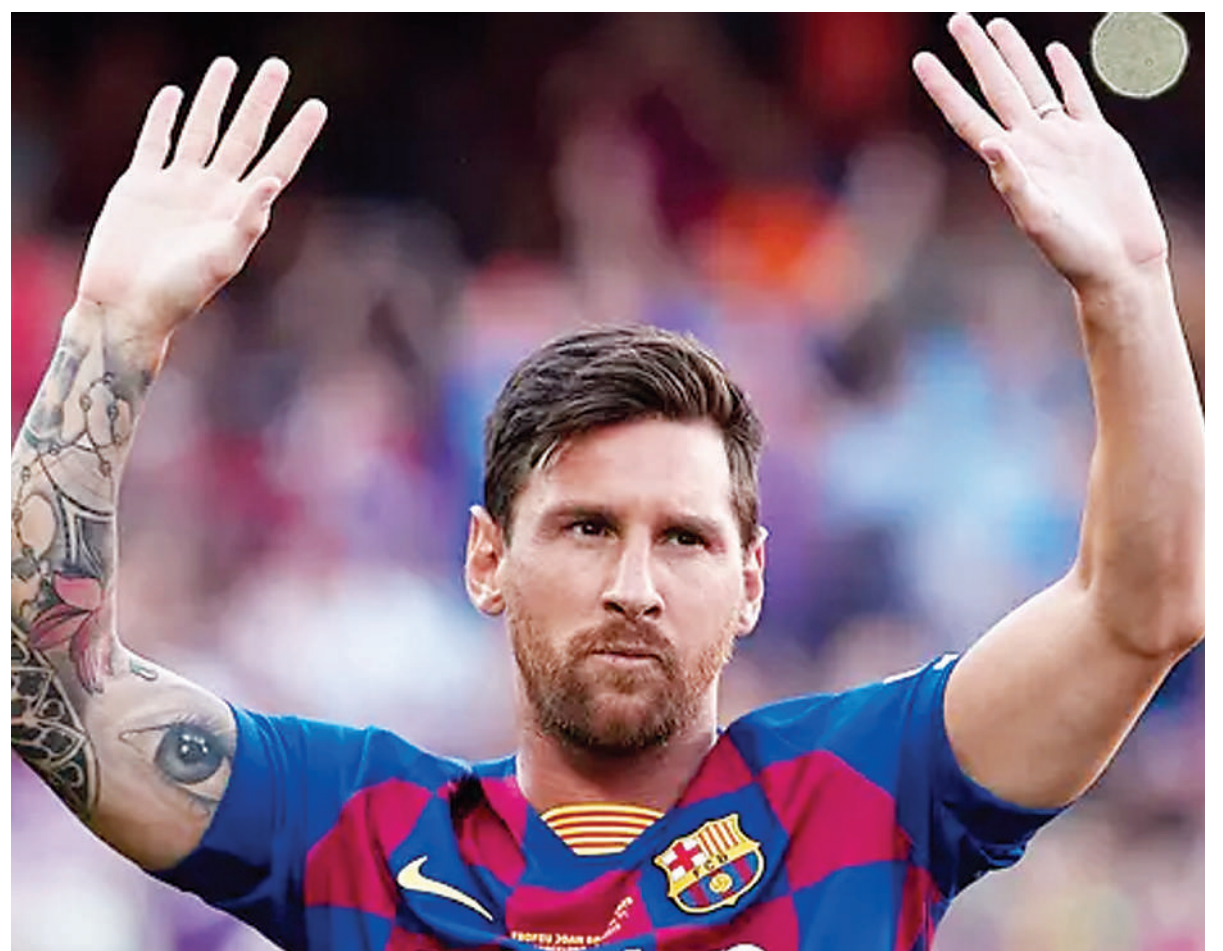
simply, in terms of cutting them some slack on the salary cap. This feels like giving up without a fight. And I can't see Barcelona -- or Messi -- doing that.

**Q: OK, let's assume you're wrong. Let's assume it really is over. Where could he go to next?**

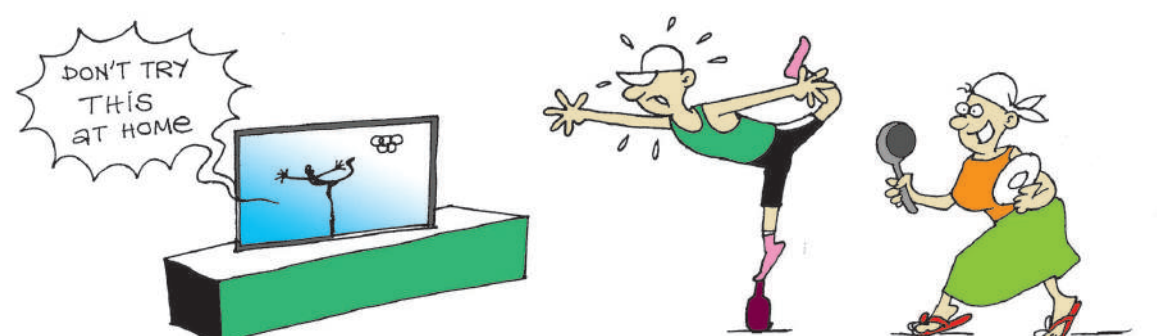
**A:** The usual suspects will be mooted: Paris Saint-Germain, Manchester City, maybe Manchester United, maybe a move to Major League Soccer. But the fact of the matter is that Messi became a free agent on July 1 and, legally, from Jan. 1, he could have signed a pre-contract with anyone. And, while there may have been interest from City 12 months ago, in the Burofax days, it's not as if clubs were beating a path to his door in the past six months. Why? Because many believed he was committed to staying at Barcelona. Now, most clubs have made other plans. City are pursuing Harry Kane. PSG are trying to extend Kylian Mbappé's deal before he becomes a free agent next June (and they've committed huge amounts in salary on big name free agents like Georginio Wijnaldum, Gianluigi Donnarumma and Sergio Ramos). Signing Messi would be a huge undertaking, you don't just magic up close to half a billion dollars over the next five years out of nowhere.

**Q: So what's going to happen?**

**A:** I'm purely speculating here, we may know more when Laporta addresses the media on Friday and, by the way, we haven't heard from Messi himself yet. But fundamentally we have a situation where -- at least according to Barca's statement -- Messi wants to stay and the club want to keep him, but the league won't allow it, even though his departure would hurt everyone, league included. Does that sound right or logical to you? No, it doesn't. Because it isn't. My guess is come Sept. 1, he'll still be a Barcelona player. Either because he will have restructured the contract they agreed on, or because Barca will have recouped some transfer fees or because LaLiga will have revised their salary cap to accommodate the club. Or a combination of all three.



Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

**Messi to leave Barcelona: Breaking down the scenarios on how this saga will play out**



International Council of Traditional Sports and Games (ICTSG)'s Secretary-General, Shammi Rana.

## Dar set to celebrate 2021 International Traditional Sports Day next week

By Guardian Reporter

DAR ES SALAAM is next week, set to join other cities in the world to celebrate this season's International Traditional Sports Day virtually.

International Council of Traditional Sports and Games (ICTSG)'s Secretary-General, Shammi Rana, said that the world is slowly but steadily rising from the COVID-19 outbreak that has crippled it for nearly two years now.

Rana disclosed: "In the wake of the virus, we are organizing the 2021 International Traditional Sports Day for the first time virtually. This is a worldwide event celebrating the diversity and the culture of the locals helping them secure their traditions."

He noted the games would fur-

ther help boost the tourism, local traditions, and culture of the host country.

The ICTSG is the official umbrella organization for all traditional sports and indigenous games.

The organization, as well as, operates as an organizing body of traditional sports games and sport-related international associations.

It also facilitates the understanding of traditional sports indigenous games in terms of cultural identity and diversity.

The organization gives exposure to opportunities that mainstream sports cannot provide.

According to Rana, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is backing traditional sports and games to expand intercultural awareness, making geographically distant cultures more reachable, enable youth development and advance ethical sports practices.

This fits into UNESCO's goal of building peace, eradicating poverty, and promoting sustainable development alongside giving a flavor of the different cultures across the globe.

The International Council of Traditional Sports and Games was established at the fourth Collective Consultation Meeting on Traditional Sports and Games, UNESCO on August 14, 2018, in Istanbul, Turkey.

The meeting was attended by more than 80 participants from 40 countries including Sports Ministers, government officials, representatives of UNESCO Permanent Delegations, and international organizations.

The International Council of Traditional Sports and Games acts as an international organization aiming to serve as an international platform for the preservation, promotion, and development of traditional sport and games (TSG) at the global level.

The organization moreover plays an integral part in socio-economic development, cultural heritage promotion, environmental sustainability, a healthy lifestyle, and a peace-building process.

International Council of Traditional Sports and Games better promotes the International Traditional Sports Day.

Rana revealed: "In fact, it makes it more meaningful through its diverse actions in favor of traditional sports and games. For example, ICTSG organizes events. This puts more emphasis on such events."

"One of the main projects of the ICTSG which will promote TSG and the International Traditional Sports Day is the World Traditional Sports and Games."

"Such an event will draw more interest on TSG, contribute to the gathering of people under important values as solidarity, fair play, and cultural awareness while giving a boost to tourism."

The International Council of Traditional Sports and Games is being led by Khalil Ahmed Khan who was appointed as the organization's president in 2018.

Alongside him, Rana was appointed as the organization's Secretary-General.

Previously Rana was appointed as rapporteur of the UNESCO Traditional Sports and Games Ad Hoc Advisory Committee in 2017 by the UNESCO.

In his UNESCO role, Rana promotes the mission of Traditional Sports and Games.

In the wake of the pandemic, the events are being organized online and the world is the stage to showcase the skills and culture of the community.

## TFF election campaigns reach conclusion

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

THE Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) election campaigns concluded yesterday.

They mostly involved people that are set to contest for the federation's Executive Committee members' posts.

The candidates were yesterday afternoon, set to conclude their campaigns ready for today's election which will take place in Tanga.

The Executive Committee has 17 candidates from six regions, but Zone Number One covering Dar es Salaam, Lindi, Mtwara, Morogoro, and Coast Region, is the one with a large number of voters, thus, emerging as a stronghold for those candidates.

The TFF Electoral Commission's vice-chairman, Benjamin Karume, said 83 voters will decide who is eligible for assuming a place in the TFF Executive Committee today.

Zone Number One expects to have 32 out of 83 voters, seven of which are from Simba SC, Yanga, Azam FC, Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, Namungo FC, Ruvu Shooting, and Mtibwa Sugar.

There are voters from 10 regional football associations, namely the Chairman and a member of the general assembly from each region.

Fifteen votes come from the participating associations, whose headquarters are in Dar es Salaam.

The associations include Tanzania Football Coaches Association (TAFCA), Tanzania Football Referees Association (FRAT), Tanzania Sports Medicine Association (TASMA).

Other associations are the Soccer Players' Union of Tanzania (Sputanza) and Tanzania Women Football Association (TAWFA).

Each of the associations produces three voters, namely Chairperson, Secretary, and member.

Other zones are Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Manyara, and Tanga, while Zone Three includes Iringa, Mbeya, Njombe, Ruvuma, and Songwe regions.

Zone Four is made up of Dodoma, Simiyu, and Singida while Zone Five consists of Geita, Mara, Mwanza, and Kagera.

Zone Six consists of Katavi, Kigoma, Rukwa, and Tabora.

Some of the candidates for the positions have launched a campaign identifying priorities they will work on, once they are to be approved by voters.

## Kagera Sugar FC now eyes good signings for next season



Kagera Sugar Football Club

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

KAGERA Sugar head coach, Francis Baraza, has said that his outfit will make good signings for the upcoming 2021/22 season so that it can achieve its goals after releasing eight players.

The footballers are Ally Mtoni, Haroun Mussa, Vitalis Mayanga, Mohamed Ibrahim,

Mussa Mossi, Hassan Isihaka, Abdulswamad Kassim, and Benedicto Tinoco.

Before that, the team's management had also promised to improve their squad further to ensure they do the right thing next season by replacing the footballers.

Kagera Sugar recently survived relegation to First Division League.

The team did not have good results in this season's Premier League, much as the outfit successfully got hold of its place in the local top tier at the last minute.

The team was this season, under

the tutelage of two tacticians, Mecky Mexime, and Baraza.

Baraza said: "I came here to Kagera Sugar to show the quality I have and I had no doubt as I did well too at Biashara United."

The Kenyan tactician pointed out: "Kagera Sugar has a good structure and next season we are going to improve."

"For the future, I hope to see that we do the registration well as everyone needs to see the team perform well especially in the domestic competitions."

"At the time of registration we will be working hard to sign good players who will be tasked with seeing to it the outfit notches win on the pitch," he said.

For a long time, the Kagera-based squad was under Mexime before things got tough for him.

The gaffer found himself leaving them and being replaced by Francis Baraza who finished the season with

the outfit.

Last season Kagera Sugar finished 12th with 40 points after playing 34 matches and that came about after battling it out on the relegation zone, which was a success.

The team's secretary general, Masoud Ally, has confirmed that the club will not extend contracts for eight more stars due to the recommendations of the technical bench and others have decided to leave in search of a new challenge.

"It is still too early for us to say how many we have signed, but we will fill the positions of those players according to the team's needs, basically we hope to have a better squad," Ally noted.

Kassim is reported to be joining Simba SC on a three-year deal.

Kagera Sugar has also lost the outfit's top scorer Yusuph Mhili who joined Simba SC on a two-year deal, leaving the former in search of a new top-notch striker.

**EATV FRIDAY**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 Mid Week Movie (r)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 Bongo Hits  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Wakilisha (r)  
16:00 Ujenzi (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 5SELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Skonga  
19:30 EATV SAA I  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 Friday Night Live  
23:00 Kurasa (r)

**TONIGHT @ 9:00**



**Friday Night Live** The Weekend begins here! Listen to upbeat mixed music by the hottest DJs, Gossip, showbiz updates and exclusive interviews with celebrities from home and abroad. Don't you dare miss this.

**eastafrika RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 Friday Night Live

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DAR ES SALAAM

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

