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ISSN 0856 - 5422 ISSUE No. 7880 • PRICE: Tsh 1,000, Kenya sh100 TANZANIA MONDAY 20 APRIL, 2020

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## 'No guarantee world can find vaccine usable on coronavirus'

LONDON

ONE of the world's leading experts on the new coronavirus has said there is no guarantee that a vaccine will be successfully developed, implying that the threat is going to loom "for the foreseeable future."

"You don't necessarily develop a vaccine that is safe and effective against every virus," Britain's David Nabarro, a professor of global health at London's Imperial College, and a World Health Organisation envoy on COVID-19, said here on Saturday.

"Some viruses are very, very difficult when it comes to vaccine development – so for the foreseeable future, we are going



**Over 60 potential vaccine candidates and treatments for coronavirus are being developed in labs around the world, most in pre-clinical stages**

to have to find ways to go about our lives with this virus as a constant threat," added Nabarro.

"That means isolating those who show signs of the disease and also their contacts," he said. "Older people will have to be protected. In addition hospital capacity for dealing with cases will have to be ensured. That is going to be the new normal for us all."

Over 60 potential vaccine candidates and treatments for coronavirus are being developed in labs around the world, most in pre-clinical stages.

US pharmaceutical Moderna began clinical trials last month, and Oxford University scientists are to commence human trials this week. Another group

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Inside – Special Focus:

**The Dr Reginald Abraham Mengi legacy: Celebrating the life of a Tanzanian philanthropist and environmentalist. – Page 3.**

# Ministry clarifies on Covid-19 face masks

By Guardian Reporter



HARD TIMES, BUT LIFE MUST GO ON

Biharamulo district commissioner Sada Malunde (R) receives a consignment of desks and corrugated iron roofing sheets from NMB Bank Plc's acting Lake Victoria Zone manager Amon Mubusi at the weekend on behalf of three schools in the district. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

FORMAL government guidelines on proper use of face masks have been set out after chaotic orders and tailoring spree as people rushed to obtain inhibitors of Covid-19 infections.

Dr Faustine Ndugulile, the Deputy Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, told the National Assembly in Dodoma that surgical masks are the most effective in preventing infections, not those made of simple clothing.

He said surgical masks, known technically as N95 respirator types should only be used by health workers taking care of Covid-19 patients.

"The surgical masks should be worn by people in public places for four and six hours and disposed of as they are not meant for re-use," he said in a parliamentary written down answer.

As for cloth masks, Ndugulile said they are not as effective as N95 respirator and surgical masks but can still be used "to reduce the possibility of transmission" in public and work places.

"The cloth must be made of cotton and the mask should have more than two layers. One person should have at least two masks to allow for washing and ironing of the same," he said.

Earlier, the parliamentary shadow Minister for Health, Cecilia Paresso issued a statement calling for clear guidance, saying wearing any mask made of anything as some people had started doing was likely to expose more people to Covid-19 than protect them.

"Reports by competent international health

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## Z'bar: 23 new COVID-19 cases, while two patients die at home

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR yesterday announced the confirmation of 23 new Covid-19 cases in the Isles and two deaths that occurred at home.

Health Minister Hamad Rashid Mohamed said in a brief statement that the total number of confirmed cases in the islands now stands at 58 and three fatalities, with two new cases being registered in Pemba.

Out of the 23 new cases, 21 are Tanzanian nationals while two are foreigners who are residents of Zanzibar," he said.

The two foreigners who have contracted the disease in the Isles are citizens of France and Cuba.

"I call upon Zanzibaris and foreigners living

here to take precautionary measures against coronavirus. The most important is to avoid unnecessary movements and gatherings," said the minister.

Mohamed however, did not divulge further details about the two patients who succumbed to the highly contagious disease at home and what was being done to contain further spread in their neighbourhoods.

The country's tally has now reached 171 cases when the 23 Zanzibar cases are added to the total 148 registered countrywide by last Friday.

Ummu Mwalimu, the minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, said on Friday that patients on

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## Govt all out to revive, directly export horticultural produce

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

A STRATEGY to revive the country's horticultural industry with direct export of flowers, fruits and spices produced in the country will soon be unveiled.

It seeks to change the current situation whereby most horticultural produce from Kilimanjaro and Arusha regions is sent abroad via Kenya and counted as belonging to the neighbouring country.

Agriculture minister Japhet Hasunga said here at the weekend that in the strategy, the government will review various levies to attract cargo services of international airlines to land at the Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA), the Julius Nyerere International Airport, along with Songwe and Mwanza airports.

Hasunga spoke when he joined with various private institutions in viewing products of the Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA) at KIA.

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### SHARE FACTS ABOUT COVID-19

Know the facts about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and help stop the spread of rumors.

**FACT 1** Diseases can make anyone sick regardless of their race or ethnicity.

Fear and anxiety about COVID-19 can cause people to avoid or reject others even though they are not at risk for spreading the virus.

**FACT 2** For most people, the immediate risk of becoming seriously ill from the virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to be low.

Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more serious complications from COVID-19.

**FACT 3** Someone who has completed quarantine or has been released from isolation does not pose a risk of infection to other people.

For up-to-date information, visit CDC's coronavirus disease 2019 web page.



**FACT 4** There are simple things you can do to help keep yourself and others healthy.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

**FACT 5** You can help stop COVID-19 by knowing the signs and symptoms:

- Fever
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath
- Seek medical advice if you
- Develop symptoms
- AND
- Have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

cdc.gov/COVID-19



# Zanzibar confirms 23 new COVID-19 cases, with 2 patients dying

FROM PAGE 1

the Mainland were in Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Kilimanjaro, Coast, Lindi and Kagera regions.

With Dar es Salaam having majority of cases, Lindi and Coast regions registered their first cases end of last week while Kagera and Mwanza registered second Covid-19 cases.

She said 11 of the patients had recovered and were discharged from treatment centres.

As of yesterday, globally confirmed cases surpassed 2.35m with over 161,000 fatalities and more than 0.6m recoveries. The coronavirus has affected virtually all countries and territories around the world.

Millions of Orthodox faithfuls in Russia yesterday celebrated Easter with churches closed and services broadcast on TV and online in an attempt to slow the pandemic.

In Moscow the main Easter vigil was held with no congregation. The patriarch told those following at homes that this was to protect them from a "terrible illness."

President Vladimir Putin, who normally attends mass with the patriarch, sent a video message to the nation instead. He assured people that things were "fully under control" and said Russia would come through the "trial" it had been sent.

On a positive side, while countries around the world are trying to prepare a lockdown exit strategy, Denmark is

one of the first nations to have already started lifting restrictions.

Primary schools and nurseries are already open, and small businesses, including hairdressers and beauty clinics, were allowed to open from yesterday.

Iran has become the latest country to ease restrictions by allowing bazaars and shopping malls to reopen from Sunday as part of an easing of lockdown restrictions. Some shops and businesses were allowed to open again on Saturday but Sunday's openings apply to "medium-risk" businesses.

Israel has already allowed some types of shops to reopen, although shopping malls must remain closed for the time being. Poland is gradually lifting lockdown measures from Sunday, with shops among the businesses allowed to reopen.

Europe's largest economy, Germany, will allow shops of up to 800 square metres as well as car dealers and bike shops, to open their doors again.



**The two foreigners who have contracted the disease in the Isles are citizens of France and Cuba**



Prisons Commissioner Uwesu Ngarama (R) represents the Prisons Commissioner General in Dar es Salaam at the weekend in handing over to Business Registration and Licensing Agency (Brela) CEO Godfrey Nyaisa (C) and acting Director of Business Names Meinrad Rweyemamu a building to be used by the agency. Story on Page 7. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## Ministry clarifies on Covid-19 face masks

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bodies say the only masks that can effectively prevent the spread of Covid-19 are N95 respirator and surgical masks. But the availability and affordability of these masks in the country has become a big challenge," she said.

Due to obvious challenges in access and affordability of N95 respirator and surgical masks, the government must come up with a home-made solution stipulating the right materials for

manufacturing the protective and local garment factories allowed to embark on mass production.

"The government should also provide awareness on proper use of face masks through mass media so as to effectively protect the people from contracting the virus," she said.

She also appealed to the government to ensure that respiratory protective devices and surgical masks are made available to health workers as they are on the frontline against Covid-19.

Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Paul Makonda, administering the most affected region, announced on Saturday that beginning Monday everybody setting foot in public places must wear a face mask of any type, made of anything including plain cloth.

But World Health Organisation (WHO) advisories affirm that healthy only people need to wear a mask if they are taking care of a person with suspected Covid-19 infection.

It also recommends wearing of mask for those who have symptoms of the disease, as they may cough or sneeze. WHO further maintains that masks are effective only when used in combination with other preventive measures such as frequent hand-cleaning with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

"If you wear a mask, then you must know how to use it and dispose of it properly," cautions WHO in a published advisory.

## 'No guarantee world can find a usable coronavirus vaccine'

FROM PAGE 1

in the United States and one in China have commenced human trials.

In Israel, scientists at the state-funded Migal Galilee Research Institute have

said that their vaccine for coronavirus was on track to be ready for testing within "a few weeks," though it won't be available for months because of the lengthy testing and approval process.



Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children minister Umyu Mwalimu (C) receives a dummy cheque for 2bn/- from Vodacom Tanzania managing director Hisham Hendi (R) in Dar es Salaam at the weekend in support of the government's efforts to fight off the spread of Covid-19 infections. With them is the firm's director of corporate affairs, Rosalynn Mworira. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

FROM PAGE 1

the second horticultural consignment destined for European markets.

"There is a long time problem faced by Tanzania's business people especially producers of horticultural products in the export of their products through Kenya. It is a problem that is now being eased after TAHA chartered a cargo plane to airlift the products," he said.

"The harm was that some of our products were treated as originating in Kenya, while they originate in Tanzania. Therefore we have made

these efforts to ensure we have a plane that flies direct, pick the products and directly fly back to Europe.

"This is the first time we are directly accessing the European market. An Ethiopian Airways plane will be coming at least three times per week to airlift our products to Europe. This is a great opportunity for a country like ours, as this long time challenge is being solved."

Hasunga said these achievements are a result of great efforts by TAHA

in collaboration with the ministry and other stakeholders.

The ministry continues discussions with Emirates Airlines to also chip in airlifting horticultural products to Arab countries, he further noted.

"The third issue.... as you all know, in the past our country used to produce flowers in abundance as well as fruits, and we had big firms that were engaged in the cultivation thereof especially in Kilimanjaro and Arusha regions. Many of them were faced with huge foreign

debts and hence they had to close business," he said.

Due to the problem, the government has decided to take deliberate steps to ensure all those firms should come back and continue with what they have been doing, he stated.

The fourth issue that will be worked upon by the government is to review levies that were seen as a hindrance to the growth of the horticultural sector.

"Trade is competition, airlines

compete with each other and stakeholders do that as well. When Kenya heard that we have acquired a plane, they started reviewing some of the issues, hence we as government we will also review various levies as outlined by TAHA so that our products and our airports become more attractive to foreign dealers," he specified.

The fifth issue is to develop the horticultural sector to open more opportunities for farmers, youth,

women and elders to invest in commercial horticulture as the country now has a reliable market for the produce.

Earlier, TAHA Executive Officer Dr Jacqueline Mkindi presented their recommendations and asked for 50 percent relief in planes' landing charges especially during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The government must also increase the period of permits for cargo planes to three months instead of issuing a landing permit every time the plane lands at the airport, she added.

## Covid-19: MP wants police punished

NAIROBI

Homa Bay Town MP Peter Kaluma has asked the government to take action against police officers who allowed the 'mourners' to travel from Nairobi to Homa Bay County.

He termed it irresponsible for the officers to allow people to travel from Nairobi and other counties under lockdown as the country battles Covid-19.

He called on Health Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe to round up the police officers who were manning the roadblocks at the time the said individuals travelled.

The legislator added that the officers should be tested for coronavirus, quarantined and face prosecution for corruption and criminal negligence.

This is comes after the driver of the vehicle which was transporting people to a funeral to Homa Bay tested positive for Covid-19 after passing a number of roadblocks before security officers in Homa Bay got suspicious, opened the coffin and found it empty.

"The government should make public the measures it has put in place to ensure that individuals permitted to travel from Nairobi and other counties under lockdown are tested before being allowed to travel," said Kaluma.

He raised alarm that no serious contact tracing, mass testing and extensive quarantine has been done

by government in the affected area of Homa Bay County to contain the spread of the disease.

Meanwhile, a second group of mourners who sneaked out of Nairobi to Homa Bay County on Saturday have been quarantined at Homa Bay Kenya Medical Training Centre.

In the same vein, Deputy President William Ruto will be operating at least once a week from Jubilee Party headquarters located in Pangani as he takes the fight for the ruling party to the doorstep of his rivals.

Ruto will be operating from Jubilee in his capacity as the deputy party leader to "reclaim the party".

The move will likely escalate the tension since ordinarily, it is the secretariat that runs the day-to-day activities of the political parties.

Two MPs who spoke to the Press and did not want to be named said those behind the strategy (working from Pangani, Nairobi) are keen to intimidate Uhuru allies so as to back off.

The thinking in DP's camp is that the president, whom they seem to have studied over some time now, will likely recall his troops if he feels the intended objective will be drowned in the ensuing anarchy.

Jubilee Vice-Chairman David Murathe, an Uhuru ally but a Ruto critic, said the DP is welcome at the party offices anytime.

AGENCIES

# Dr Reginald A. Mengi legacy

**"I grew up in poverty, but I always saw it as a challenge. The good thing is that you can surmount a challenge if you are willing to pay the price. The price is hard work."**



By Special Correspondent

REMEMBERING Dr Reginald Abraham Mengi as a public figure is hard to bring down to one thing, or to a particular point of focus.

This is for no other reason than that his involvement in a wide range of activities as well as his achievements in those engagements just can't be brought under a specific or particular sphere of society.

Dr Mengi emerged into the league of those special individuals who tower above their business sector confinements to go deep into the greater society.

Individuals are not just a product of circumstances; they help to model conditions in society so long as there is a starting point, for talent - or money - to work.

There are spheres of involvement that can be attributed to professional engagement, which for Dr Mengi was the case at the beginning.

For instance, the fact that he was once a professional auditor means that his tenure at the National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA) could entirely be related to his training and his career as a 'partner' at Coopers and Lybrand.

However, his next vital engagement at a public or countrywide level - that is, the chairmanship of the National Environmental Management Council (NEMC) - arose out of his pointed activism in that direction.

In several other areas there was pointed leadership of corporate interests in the respective fields, among them industry and the media sector, while others arose out of philanthropy.

Explaining this sort of involvement requires some models and the proper starting point, if one can hazard something to that effect, is a kind of supply and demand scenario.

It can also be a demand-driven matter - that all these areas at a certain point needed leadership, and Dr Mengi rose to the occasion and supplied the leadership precisely needed as appropriate.

Here there is a sort of convergence of personal ability and creativity and a clear sense of need expressed at the public level in relation to this or that matter. But there is also his ability to sense what was relevant or needed to

## A paragon of philanthropy, a phenomenal public figure



Environmental crusader Dr Reginald Mengi plants a tree at one of the numerous environmental protection and promotion events he graced in various parts of Tanzania.

be done.

It is that aspect rather than merely the ability to extend direct financial

support that may explain Dr Mengi's overlapping presence in numerous areas of societal leadership needs

nearly at the same time.

In order to even be interested in all these areas at the same time, there has

to be an element of genuine concern for society. It cannot be articulated merely for the sake of obtaining this

or that sort of benefit. After all, in all of his pursuits, Dr Mengi tended to use money rather than gain it.

Still, the goodwill so created plus the business acumen worked to enable his proper business interests to climb one bottleneck after another and safely cross most of the stumbling blocks.

Many gurus argue that caring for others - call it altruism or philanthropy, if you will - is something that often helps to propel individuals to greatness.

But the kind of benevolence that society expects from such a person would soon thin out. Dr Mengi must have been clear on this, which is why many say the gist of his "message" to the world was that he simply felt compelled to help, everywhere.

Some of Dr Mengi's engagements came from socially felt challenges and he wished to demonstrate that, to steal from Father of the Nation Mwalimu JK Nyerere, "it can be done, if you play your part".

Dr Mengi's professional life was little more than a demonstration of this axiom as there was something of a rise 'From Goatherd to Governor' - as a probable role model of his, Edwin Mtei, put it in a much-acclaimed autobiography.

At one point, as board chairman for the Tanzania Standard Newspapers Ltd, Dr Mengi directed that one of the newspapers in the stable - Daily News/Sunday News - be improved from 12 pages to 16 pages.

But the management (and definitely portions of the board) kept saying that it wasn't possible. It is said when Dr Mengi went on safari, and the papers promptly resumed their 'natural' size.

When he came back, board chairman Dr Mengi opted to resign from the board chairmanship and show the board and the management that "it can be done if you play your part".

Dr Mengi thus went into his own newspaper venture, where his newspaper had 16 pages from the start, adding or reducing pages as time went by, on account of operational and wider economic considerations.

But the point was made as to the capacity of the market to take up a 16-page paper - if there is the right aptitude in terms of management.

That was but one illustration of the sort of problems Industrialist Dr Mengi solved with vision and determination, not just with cash.



Dr Mengi has a feel of students' participation in a science experiment during a visit to Dar es Salaam's Wazo Secondary School.



Dr Mengi, widely acknowledged as a tireless advocate of the self-advancement of children, youth, women and other segments of the population across Tanzania, is accorded a hearty welcome by members of Arusha Region's Patandi School Teachers Savings and Credit Cooperative Society.



# TPSF and stakeholders join hands in Covid-19 fight

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) has called on firms making various products to fight Covid-19 to increase production in a bid to surpass demands in the country.

Speaking shortly after touring a factory dubbed 'OpenSanit' which produces masks in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, TPSF chairperson, Angelina Ngalula said the foundation has realized that it necessary to team up with other stakeholders in making sure that production is beefed up.

"Demand for masks to protect people from contaminating coronavirus (Covid-19) had increased, it's a high time producers boosted their production capacities to meet the demands," she said.

Ngalula noted that already talks were underway in collaboration with TANTRADE to see the possibility of using the latter's facilities at Sabasaba grounds area along Kilwa Road in Dar es Salaam.

"Many entrepreneurs especially those investing in fashions and designing have been adversely affected by this pandemic, our talks with TANTRADE aims at seeing the possibility of

finding a place where the entrepreneurs can put machines and produce masks," she hinted.

Ngalula pointed out that the reason why TPSF eyes TANTRADE facilities is due to space that meets health experts requirements and the location which is suitable for production activities.

The executive director of Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC) Dr Godwill Wanga who accompanied Ngalula in the tour, said entrepreneurs should be more innovative especially during this time when the country and world in general is at war against the pandemic in question.

"Innovation is key among industrial owners in a bid for the protection of people's health," he explained.

The OpenSanit managing director, Octavian Mshiu said there has been under production of masks leading to shortages whereas demand is increasing day after day.

"Our production capacity per week is pegged at 22,000 masks, this is not enough

given the size our country and population, we are willing to work with government, TPSF and all other stakeholders to see to it that this demand and supply issues are adequately addressed," he said.

Since the pandemic broke out Tanzanian government under the leadership of President John Magufuli has taken several measures to curb the spread.



Tanzania Private Sector Foundation chairperson Angelina Ngalula (2nd-L) makes remarks at the weekend shortly after visiting Dar es Salaam's OpenSanit factory, which is engaged in the making of masks. The tour sought to assess the quality of the items, particularly their effectiveness in inhibiting the spread of Covid-19 infections. Others include dress fashion designer Mustafa Hassanali (L) and Tanzania National Business Council executive director Dr Godwill Wanga. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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A delegation led by Mussa Hassan Zungu (in cap), Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment), has a first-hand account yesterday of the damage that ongoing rains in Mpwapwa District have wreaked on strategic Shaaban Robert Bridge. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Kasulu

## Eight Kasulu villages pass on 35,000 ha to sugar producer

IN a rare proactive move, eight villages in Kasulu district have voluntarily surrendered a total of 35,000 hectares to Kigoma sugar company, to allow the investor to produce annually 110,000 tonnes of sugar in the border district, Kasulu district Commissioner, Colonel Simon Anange announced here yesterday.

The DC told the executive director of the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC), Geoffrey Mwambe, that the villagers offered willingly the land to the district council because they understood the importance and economic benefits of having a sugar plant in their vicinity.

He named the villages as Nyamidaho, Kuntundu, Nyarugusu, Heru, Ushingo, Kigadye, Kitanga and Kiyugwe. Land

would be taken over by the TIC for investment coordination and would be used to grow sugar cane and establish a sugar plant.

Col. Anange said construction would start this year and the plant was expected to produce 110,000 metric tons annually. He said the amount would increase substantially Tanzania's local sugar production capacity.

Tanzania has an estimated annual sugar demand deficit of 320,000 tones, and has to import amount to offset the shortfall, the DC explained.

The DC praised the villagers for

the move, saying it would go a long way in spurring development in the district and Kigoma Region. He also said voluntary surrender of the land showed that the villagers supported the economic policies the fifth phase government led by President John Magufuli.

Mwambe thanked the villagers for surrendering their land voluntarily and pledged that the TIC would ensure proper investment coordination. He said investment was a multi-sectoral issue and it called for joint efforts from different stakeholders.

"The TIC will ensure proper coordination of the land and ensure the planned investment benefits the villages that have made this sacrifice and Kasulu district," he pledged.

Meanwhile the TIC and Trolle Meesle Company Limited plan to train 1,850 farmers in proper palm tree husbandry in order to increase palm oil production in Tanzania. The farmers are members of eight primary cooperative societies devoted to growing palm trees.

Trolle Meesle plans to establish a palm oil processing plant in Kigoma region.

## Electoral Commission to relocate to Dodoma as new building ready

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE National Electoral Commission (NEC) will soon relocate to Dodoma as its new building nears completion.

According to the contractor carrying out the project, the implementation of the project is now at over 90 per cent.

The contractor, SUMA-JKT, was expecting to hand over the project any time soon, according to the operations commander, Major James Philemon.

The news comes as the country prepares for the next general elections later this year, as President John Magufuli insisted last month that the elections were still intact even as the country continues battling the deadly Covid-19 pandemic.

This means, the national electoral body will soon relocate its activities from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma, and for the first time, the election results for the next general elections will be announced from the country's capital.

The SUMA-JKT operations commander announced here shortly after a media tour at the facility to oversee the ongoing construction of NEC office at Njedengwa area in the outskirts of Dodoma city.

The project is now being undertaken by the National Service-SUMA JKT after the first contractor - Tanzania Building Agency (TBA) was relieved for failure to cope with contract bidding agreed pace.

The contract between SUMA-JKT and NEC was signed on January 7, 2020, after which the army started clearing the area for the project. According to Major Philemon, the actual construction began on January 17.

Immediately after the signing ceremony, NEC director of elections Dr Wilson Charles insisted that all activities in the 2020 general elections at the national level will be conducted in Dodoma as the project to construct new headquarters nears completion.

Dr Charles, who accompanied NEC chairman Professor Semistocles

Kaijage gave an assurance when he visited the project site in January, 2020, insisting that the implementation of the project would be completed in April.

This means, the construction of the building will be completed in just within four months, and this according to the head of National Service, Brigadier General Charles Mbugu, the army was fully committed to ensure that all projects under SUMA-JKT were completed on time and with high quality and efficiency.

"The army works for 24 hours that is why you have witnessed many of our projects being handed over to our clients on time," said Mbugu.

Lazaro Masanja who is Suma JKT project manager said at the weekend that he expects to hand over the completed project at high quality and standards.

"We have the best workforce and experienced enough for such construction that offers quality work and reflects a client's funds," said Eng Masanja.

According to him, the new NEC building will have three separate buildings—main building, results centre and the warehouse centre which will be used to preserve the electoral body's crucial documents.

"We have the best workforce and experienced enough for such construction that offers quality work and reflects a client's funds," said Eng Masanja.



**We have the best workforce and experienced enough for such construction that offers quality work and reflects a client's funds,**

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Dar es Salaam residents pictured yesterday having a mandatory walk through a disinfectant-spraying machine planted at Muhimbili National Hospital's main gate in implementation of a strategy meant to prevent Covid-19 infections. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## TARI, brewer in contract to produce sorghum seed varieties for making of beer in Tanzania

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

TANZANIA Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), Hombolo Centre, Dodoma region has entered into a special contract with Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) for researching and producing sorghum hybrid seeds varieties with needed grain tannin for brewing Eagle beers.

Under the financial patronage from the South African-based AB InBev company, at worth of at least 11,000 USD \$, a one-year project is expected to open a fresh successive agribusiness door to farmers in Dodoma region, and the central zone at large.

Launched sometimes on

December last year, the key agricultural initiatives has already saw establishment of a vast hectares of preliminary field trial plantation of needed sorghum seed varieties at the state-owned center in Hombolo and in Kibaigwa, in Kongwa district at acreage of at least 10,000 plantation.

The seed plantations, according to him, have already been visited and appreciated by the Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI).

So far, among the proved local sorghum seed varieties with tannin potential for making the targeted Eager Beers, including TEGEMEO, NACO I, MASIA, HAKIKA and WAHI varieties.

Moreover, the project will also see AB InBev Company marketing

to local farmers the South African based sorghum seed varieties, namely PAC 501 and SILA, the potential grain seeds for brewing Eagle beers.

Giving an exclusive interview to "The Guardian", Senior Plant Breeder for TARI-Hombolo Dr Lameck Nyaligwa, expressed that the timely initiative was a promised vehicle to stimulate expecting production and productivity of the key cash crop among the farmers in the semi-arid region.

"As per the project's projection anticipation, TBL will enter into key contract farming with a number of farmers in the region, a development which apart from boosting the farmer's economy will play crucial role in elevating the nation economy," he observed.

According to him, more than 200 farmers are expected to benefit from the envisaged economic opportunity, added, "Our role as TARI, apart from conducting the needed seed researches, is to impart farmers with recommended agronomic practice with an eye to enable them meeting the set standard seeds standards required for brewing the targeted -favorable brand beer in the country.

"To attain the needed tannin content for brewing the mentioned beers, farmers need to have special training especially on application of fertilizers which often, failure to apply it professionally can distort the needed recommended sorghum needed tannin content," Dr Nyaligwa detailed.

## Stamico conducts outdoor workplace training on coronavirus

By Guardian Reporter

THE State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) has joined other public and private institutions in the country in cautioning their staff to take precautions against the deadly coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

In achieving this, STAMICO management organised a one-day outdoor training for its Dar es Salaam-based staff and were encouraged to protect themselves against Covid-19, and told to report immediately to selected health facilities as soon as they detect symptoms of the disease.

The staff were told that timely medical attention would help them to avoid potential impacts from possible infections.

A statement issued by STAMICO said the training was also geared at warning the staff against other infectious viral diseases such as Hepatitis B and HIV-AIDS.

STAMICO acting Director General, Dr. Venance Bahati Mwase, has been quoted in the statement saying that work places where workers meet for a long time expose them to the risk of contracting the diseases.

"Dr. Mware encouraged STAMICO staff to be vigilant and follow the instructions issued by our government leaders, such as avoiding unnecessary gatherings, washing hands from time to time and continue to work with greater caution so that they can protect themselves (the institution's workforce) and their families," the statement said.

Among the steps that STAMICO staff and visitors have been told to observe to reduce the potential of contracting coronavirus include washing hands with soap, flowing water, use hand sanitizers and checking body temperature using thermal scanners while in office.

Another step was to organize different training sessions on how to avoid infection of viral diseases, the statement added.

In addition, the acting director general has pledged to continue checking infections at work place through cleaning of door locks using chlorine, fumigation and taking disciplinary measures against those who ignore this protective activity against infection.

In the training facilitated by two experts, Dr Macha Njile and Dr Ally Juma from the Special Unit for Prevention of Infectious Diseases under the Ministry of Health, Gender, Elders and Children, various topics on viral diseases were covered. The topics also included information on how the diseases are being transmitted, their symptoms and how to protect them.

STAMICO has been at the forefront in provision of training at workplaces, specifically regarding health and safety of employees where a total of 48 employees were able to be trained on Covid-19 and other infectious viral

diseases.

In addition, the staff also had the opportunity to check their health condition to know their status and others were given the first vaccine to protect them against

Hepatitis B.

Training on how to protect oneself from coronavirus was earlier organized for STAMICO staff at Kivira mine as well as those in Dodoma offices.

## BRELA to save 63.2/- after relocating to new building

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Business Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA) is expected to save 63.2 million that was used as office rent per month after they received building that was used by Prison headquarters in Dar es Salaam.

This move is implementation of President Magufuli directives he had given in October 6, last year to all government institutions and companies to move from private buildings to government own buildings.

BRELA chief executive officer Godfrey Nyaisa received the building over the weekend from Prison Commissioner Uwesu Ngarama, who represented Commissioner General of Prisons (CGP), Suleiman Mzee.

The handover ceremony took place over the weekend at the then Prison Headquarters in Dar es Salaam along junction of Sokoine and Shaaban Robert street.

Speaking at the ceremony, Nyaisa said the next move is to handover the building to the National Housing (NHC) for renovations before they move into the building.

Nyaisa congratulated the government under the leadership of President John Magufuli for the building which he said

would help his institution to save a lot of money which were used for rent in a private building.

"For a long period BRELA has been using a lot of money to pay for the rent in private buildings, but for this help BRELA will save 63.2 million that were used every month" said Nyaisa.

October 6, last year while in Rukwa during the launching of Tunduma-Sumbawanga road, President Magufuli said some government institutions and companies have been using a lot of money to pay as rent to private buildings.

"We have a lot of government buildings but some government institutions and companies still rent in private buildings...for those who will continue in private buildings make sure you have reasons," cautioned President Magufuli.

*"For a long period BRELA has been using a lot of money to pay for the rent in private buildings, but for this help BRELA will save 63.2 million that were used every month"*



### INVITATION TO BID (ITB)

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL FRAME AGREEMENTS FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ASSORTED ITEMS

##### 1. Background:

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Representation Office in Dar es Salaam invites reputable and qualified suppliers and manufacturers to submit firm offers for Establishment of Multiple Frame Agreements for the supply and delivery of any or all the below listed Items.

##### 2. Requirement:

TENDER REFERENCE	TENDER ITEM DESCRIPTION	DEADLINE SUBMISSION NUMBERDATE
ITB/2020/SUP/015	Supply & Delivery of Spare Parts	Wednesday 13th May 2020,16:00 hours
ITB/2020/SUP/016	Supply & Delivery of Toners	Wednesday 13th May 2020,16:00 hours
ITB/2020/SUP/017	Supply & Delivery of Tyres	Wednesday 13th May 2020,16:00 hours
ITB/2020/SUP/020	Supply & Delivery of Sanitation Products	Wednesday 13th May 2020,16:00 hours
ITB/2020/SUP/024	Supply & Delivery of Pharmaceuticals	Friday 06th May 2020, 16:00 hours

##### 3. Eligibility:


Manufacturers, authorized resellers, wholesalers, or traders duly registered with relevant government authorities, with sound financial basis, relevant experience, reputed clientele and with knowledge of how to meet UNHCR's needs are invited to participate in the bidding process.

Kindly download the tender documents in the below link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1blc8pY2VnUlK8hbLbXcR4OotKTYK3g3?usp=sharing>

If you fail to access the link, please write to [ndassa@unhcr.org](mailto:ndassa@unhcr.org) copy [ishobeza@unhcr.org](mailto:ishobeza@unhcr.org)

UNHCR tenders are free of charge, no fees are charged to collect the tenders.


**United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**  
 Open to Tanzania Nationals Only

**Official Job Title:** Driver  
**Grade:** G2  
**Duty Station:** Dodoma, United Republic of Tanzania  
**Post Type:** Fixed Term Appointment  
**Duration:** 1 Year (Renewable based on performance)  
**Closing Date:** 05 May2020

**Organizational Setting**

**The Position**  
 The post of Driver is located in UNFPA's office in Dodoma and reports to the Admin/Finance Associate and to the Programme Analyst, Family Planning, based in Dodoma.

**Qualifications and Experience**

**Education**  
 Completed Secondary Level education.

**Knowledge and Experience**

- Valid driver's license
- Three years' work experience as a driver in an international organization, embassy or within the UN system with a safe driving record.
- Knowledge of driving rules and regulations, chauffeur protocol and courtesies, and local roads and conditions.
- Skills in minor vehicle repairs.

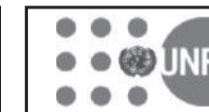
**How to Apply**

Full details of the vacancy and how to be apply can be found on UNFPA Tanzania's website at: <https://tanzania.unfpa.org/en/vacancies/driver-13>. Applicants are kindly requested to apply through the online link below:

[https://erecruit.partneragencies.org/psc/UNDPPIHRE/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRM\\_HR\\_AM.HRS\\_CE.GBL?Page=HRS\\_CE\\_JOB\\_DTL&Action=A&JobOpeningId=30036&SiteId=1&PostingSeq=1](https://erecruit.partneragencies.org/psc/UNDPPIHRE/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRM_HR_AM.HRS_CE.GBL?Page=HRS_CE_JOB_DTL&Action=A&JobOpeningId=30036&SiteId=1&PostingSeq=1)

**Closing date: 05 May 2020**

**Notice:** There is no application, processing or other fee at any stage of the application process. UNFPA does not solicit or screen for information in respect of HIV or AIDS and does not discriminate on the basis of HIV/AIDS status.


**United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**  
 Open to Tanzania Nationals Only

**Official Job Title:** Driver  
**Grade:** G2  
**Duty Station:** Kasulu, United Republic of Tanzania  
**Post Type:** Fixed Term Appointment  
**Duration:** 1 Year (Renewable based on performance)  
**Closing Date:** 5 May2020

**Organizational Setting**

**The Position**  
 The post of Driver is located in UNFPA's Kasulu Field Office and reports to the Admin/Finance Associate and to the UNFPA Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Coordinator based in Kasulu.

**Qualifications and Experience**

**Education**  
 Completed Secondary Level education.

**Knowledge and Experience**

- Valid driver's license.
- Three years' work experience as a driver in an international organization, embassy or within the UN system with a safe driving record.
- Knowledge of driving rules and regulations, chauffeur protocol and courtesies, and local roads and conditions
- Skills in minor vehicle repairs.

**How to Apply**

Full details of the vacancy and how to be apply can be found on UNFPA Tanzania's website at: <https://tanzania.unfpa.org/en/vacancies/driver-14>

Applicants are kindly requested to apply through the online link below:

[https://erecruit.partneragencies.org/psc/UNDPPIHRE/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRM\\_HR\\_AM.HRS\\_CE.GBL?Page=HRS\\_CE\\_JOB\\_DTL&Action=A&JobOpeningId=30047&SiteId=1&PostingSeq=1](https://erecruit.partneragencies.org/psc/UNDPPIHRE/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRM_HR_AM.HRS_CE.GBL?Page=HRS_CE_JOB_DTL&Action=A&JobOpeningId=30047&SiteId=1&PostingSeq=1)

**Closing date: 5 May 2020**

**Notice:** There is no application, processing or other fee at any stage of the application process. UNFPA does not solicit or screen for information in respect of HIV or AIDS and does not discriminate on the basis of HIV/AIDS status

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## EAC experts urging synergies during Covid-19 crisis: Is anyone listening?

**A** BURST of activity can be said to be taking place at various levels of the East African Community, firstly as part of its daily activity as constituting numerous think tank points for economic and social spheres in East Africa. This routine function is now being complemented with the sense of urgency, in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic, which for starters it has just complemented another crisis EAC was battling, a desert locust invasion from the north-east. That's plenty for a few months.

The latest call is one which says that airlines of the EAC can actually convert their passenger planes to cargo for a while, as no one knows when skies will be opened for business and other routine travel. Even without formal restrictions on getting out of the country or obtaining a visa to another country, everyone knows that the process will be compounded with difficulties. A 14 day mandatory quarantine isn't in good taste for most business travelers, especially as it also enhances chances of infection on the part of an individual, put in restrained premises with equally risky individuals, etc.

Converting passenger aircraft for airlifting cargo is like adopting a taxi hire for supermarket purchases because of an effective lockdown. It is an effort to minimize involvement of individuals in procuring supplies from outside, where aircraft crew only need to remain in the plane as it is self-sufficient, obtain goods and fly off to where they came from. It is an environment they are more familiar with, and even if they don't move in and out of planes easily, they can phone home, talk to visitors.

Dr Peter Mathuki, Executive Director of the East African Business Council released a dispatch outlining the synergies, where a point that could

be underscored is that if they link their planes with cargo needs of other countries, the flights could be coming to the region on a regular basis (say daily) from different parts of the world. In those points of departure, other synergies can be organized by transporters or logistical companies to bring goods to the relevant airliner, what travelling businessmen are often the ones charged with doing. And this is done on mobile phone, email, twitter. The catch-22 in Dr Mathuki's suggestion all the same is that countries will need to operate on a unified borders sense of delivery so that it works. Goods should be delivered to East African destination without discrimination, and freight to a particular capital or city can afterwards be organized. It is fairly easy to see it works.

It is not clear if any of this is within the working schedule of top bureaucrats in each of the partner states, or it is just the business community or experts thereof appearing to be imagining things. As the EABC consultant and executive asserts, it is now the moment of dropping the 'business as usual' attitude of inter-state competition and non-tariff barriers. These will be allies of public woes during this period of severely constrained international travel and diminishing retail or wholesale activity as well.

At the consultant noted, there is already a framework that the EAC needs to adopt for this operational framework to be feasible, namely to decide on implementation of International Air Transport Association (IATA) operational guidelines for ground handling during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

Logistical challenges in the wake of non-travel need making planes more usable and trips more feasible, thus use hired delivery and broadened entry points where delivery and type plane are easily cleared.



## Forests and biodiversity: Too precious to lose!

By Fred Kafeero

**F**ORESTS play a critical role as home to biological diversity. Life on earth depends on forests considering the provision of oxygen we breathe. They are a source of livelihood for humanity; they are important habitats for animals; they contain species of trees that are important for environmental, scientific or societal value. They play an important role in mitigating the negative impacts of climate change.

There are many reasons advanced including an increasing population; expansion of agriculture land; reliance on wood fuel for energy and other unsustainable land use practices. Deforestation, chiefly caused by the conversion of forestland to agriculture and livestock production areas, threatens not only the livelihoods of forest dependent communities and indigenous peoples, but also the variety of life on our planet. Land-use changes result in a loss of valuable habitats, land degradation, soil erosion, a decrease in clean water and the release of carbon into the atmosphere.

It is sad to see that despite all this significance, forests are disappearing at an unprecedented scale world over! According to the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015 report, in 1990 the world had 4,128 million hectares of forest but by 2015, this area decreased to 3,999 million hectares.

Today, as we celebrate the International Day of Forests, the theme for 2020 'Forests and Biodiversity', reminds us of the important role that forests play in maintaining life on the earth.

It is sad to see that despite all this significance, forests are disappearing at an unprecedented scale world over!

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**T**HE story of U.S. leadership in the global battle against COVID-19 is a story of days, months, and decades. Every day, new U.S. technical and material assistance arrives in hospitals and labs around the world. These efforts, in turn, build on a decades-long foundation of American expertise, generosity, and planning that is unmatched in history.

The United States works shoulder to shoulder with our friends and partners around the world to guarantee global health security. Our help is much more than money and supplies. It is the experts we have deployed worldwide and those still conducting tutorials today via teleconference. It is the doctors and public-health professionals trained, thanks to U.S. funding and educational institutions. And it's the supply chains that we keep open and moving for the production and distribution of high-quality, critical medical supplies around the world.

The United States provides development assistance to strengthen bonds with nations around the world because we believe it is the right thing to do. We also do it because pandemics don't respect national borders. If we can help counties contain outbreaks, we will save lives abroad and at home in the U.S.

Here in Tanzania, our shared



Fred Kafeero

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Inmi Patterson

commitment to health security has never been more visible nor more important than right now. U.S.-trained laboratory and public health experts test suspected cases, track potential contacts, and design public awareness and risk communication efforts.

While our investment in Tanzania is sizable and enduring, it is just one part of the \$100 billion investment the United States has made in the health of Africans across the continent in the past two decades. Facing the COVID-19 outbreak, the U.S. commitment to American, African, and global health has not, and will not waiver. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, the U.S. government has committed nearly \$500 million worldwide in assistance

the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), is a commitment made by countries to tackle the complex challenges we face, from ending poverty and hunger and responding to climate change to building resilient communities, achieving inclusive growth and sustainably managing the Earth's natural resources.

While the importance of forests and trees to a healthy, prosperous planet is universally recognized, the depth of those roots may be greater than imagined. Several indicators under SDG15 focus on forests, specifically monitoring forest land and the share of forests under sustainable management.

Bearing in mind the important role that forests play in conserving biodiversity, FAO is working with governments of the Member States across the globe to ensure that these resources are utilized in a sustainable manner.

For instance, through the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA), FAO is supporting countries across the globe including Tanzania by strengthening capacities for collection and analysis of official national statistics on forest resources to enable them ensure sustainable use of their natural resources.

For some years here in Tanzania, FAO has continued to provide technical support for the development of the first ever-comprehensive National Forest Inventory - the National Forestry Resources Monitoring and Assessment (NAFORMA).

FAO has also been supporting the Government of Tanzania by providing both technical and financial support for conducting assessments and studies on forests and biodiversity; community based forestry management; forest tenure in the framework of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT); forestry for sustainable food security and nutrition; cost-benefit analysis of forestry interventions for supplying woodfuel, among others.

With regard to forestry governance instruments- policy, legal and guidelines, FAO has supported the review of the National Forest Policy; development of the National Forestry Policy Implementation Strategy; and currently, review of the National Forestry Management Act.

Managing forests sustainably, and restoring degraded ones, is crucial for people, biodiversity and climate. Forests and Biodiversity are indeed too precious to lose!

"The author of this article is the Representative of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) to Tanzania."

## More can be done to preserve jobs

**T**HERE is need to work together to preserve jobs during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and ensure that the required restrictions on normal business activity put in place to stop or slow the spread are observed.

Scientists are however yet to tell the origins of the virus which emerged in China in December 2019. The virus has since been declared a pandemic has so far killed over 1.5 people globally as of April 10, this year.

No one expected this pandemic. We were all caught unaware because the coronavirus did not give a warning.

The President John Magufuli declared a 14-day lockdown in line with similar painful, but necessary efforts globally to end and contain the spread of Covid-19, which has, however, inevitably caused serious financial and economic damage to countries, companies and individuals.

We need to stand together and for each other more than ever before to overcome the burden of this global pandemic to recover well after it has gone. The viral disease has not and will not only have serious health-related consequences on humanity, after killing thousands and infecting millions others across the world.

Covid-19 has already shuttered factories, disrupted global supply and value chains, plunged global markets into turmoil and is certain to send the vast majority of world economies into recessions never seen since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

The point we want to drive home is that while the impact of Covid-19 is unmistakable and will leave indelible imprints long after it's gone, companies need to wear a human face by making painful, but job-saving sacrifices for the good of our beloved country.

Companies are already finding their balance sheets stretched, resources thin, margins squeezed and profits

probably wiped out, while costs remain unchanged, but a human heart will save jobs for our brothers, sisters, parents and friends.

At this juncture, we implore capitalists for once, to consider the plight of people, some who have been with their companies for many years.

We say this fully aware that life in Tanzania and indeed the rest of the world will never be the same for many by the time Covid-19 leaves our shores, but we can do something to improve our situation. Companies need to survive no doubt, and certain job losses may be inevitable, but we implore every company in Tanzania to play its part in minimising the after-effects of the lockdown occasioned

What is presently in the mind of every corporate executive and business owner at the moment is certainly how they will deal with the after-effects of the 14-day lockdown, which has clogged all or some business' income, in order to remain afloat.

Certainly, it won't be a stroll in the park, but we implore all patriotic and caring business owners to have human hearts. After all a company is nothing without its workers. Businesses must adopt altruistic responses to Covid-19, to save precious jobs.

Businesses will need to undertake thorough introspections to find how they can streamline on non-essential areas to cut costs without costing their workers elusive jobs.

For instance, companies can suspend non-urgent programmes like research, training and development in the short term as well as expendable costs like performance, annual bonuses and non-essential allowances.

Firms can make reasonable cuts to directors' fees and related benefits and perquisites, including certain costly entitlements that do not contribute to short term revenue generation until the current storm is over.

## The United States' partnership in Tanzania and around the world in the fight against COVID-19



Inmi Patterson

commitment to health security has never been more visible nor more important than right now. U.S.-trained laboratory and public health experts test suspected cases, track potential contacts, and design public awareness and risk communication efforts.

While our investment in Tanzania is sizable and enduring, it is just one part of the \$100 billion investment the United States has made in the health of Africans across the continent in the past two decades. Facing the COVID-19 outbreak, the U.S. commitment to American, African, and global health has not, and will not waiver. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, the U.S. government has committed nearly \$500 million worldwide in assistance

to date, including 3.2 billion shillings for Tanzanian efforts. America funds nearly 40% of the world's global health assistance programs, adding up to \$140 billion in investments in the past 20 years - five times more than the next largest donor. Since 2009, American taxpayers have generously funded more than \$100 billion in health assistance and nearly \$70 billion in humanitarian assistance globally. This money has saved lives, protected people who are most vulnerable to disease, built health institutions, including those at the front line of Tanzania's COVID-19 response, and promoted the stability of communities and nations.

No country can fight COVID-19 alone. As we have time and time again, the United States will aid others during their time of greatest need. We will continue to help countries build resilient health care systems that can prevent detect, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks. Together we can meet the historic challenge posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, every day, all over the world.

Dr. Inmi K. Patterson is Chargé d'Affaires of the US Embassy in Tanzania





**International Commercial Bank (Tanzania) Limited.**

**PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**ISSUED PURSUANT TO REGULATIONS 7 AND 8 OF THE BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (DISCLOSURES) REGULATIONS, 2014.**

**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31st MAR 2020**  
(All Amounts in millions of Tanzanian shillings)

	CURRENT QUARTER 31.03.2020	PREVIOUS QUARTER 31.12.2019
<b>A. ASSETS</b>		
1 Cash	1,593	2,996
2 Balances with Bank of Tanzania	6,306	4,987
3 Investments in Government securities	9,563	10,630
4 Balances with other banks and financial institutions	3,851	2,336
5 Cheques and items for clearing	804	733
6 Inter-branch float items	-	-
7 Bills negotiated	-	-
8 Customers' liabilities for acceptances	-	-
9 Interbank Loans Receivables	-	-
10 Investments in other securities	-	-
11 Loans, advances and overdrafts (net of allowances for probable losses)	47,375	50,905
12 Other assets	2,434	2,993
13 Equity Investments	-	-
14 Underwriting accounts	-	-
15 Property, Plant and Equipment	536	572
16 <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>72,463</b>	<b>76,152</b>
<b>B. LIABILITIES</b>		
17 Deposits from other banks and financial institutions	14,024	18,241
18 Customer deposits	37,329	35,514
19 Cash letters of credit	-	-
20 Special deposits	216	216
21 Payment orders/transfers payable	-	-
22 Bankers' cheques and drafts issued	35	121
23 Accrued taxes and expenses payable	942	787
24 Acceptances outstanding	-	-
25 Inter-branch float items	-	-
26 Unearned income and other deferred charges	61	61
27 Other liabilities	211	1,353
28 Borrowings	-	-
29 <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>52,818</b>	<b>56,292</b>
30 <b>NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES) (16 minus 29)</b>	<b>19,645</b>	<b>19,860</b>
<b>C. SHARE HOLDERS' FUND</b>		
31 Paid up share capital	20,025	20,025
32 Capital reserves	4,561	4,165
33 Retained earnings	(4,961)	(3,149)
34 Profit (Loss) accounts	20	(1,181)
35 Other capital accounts	-	-
36 Minority interest	-	-
37 <b>TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS</b>	<b>19,645</b>	<b>19,860</b>
38 Contingent liabilities	1,948	2,537
39 Non performing loans and advances	12,736	11,452
40 Allowance for Probable Losses	1,256	1,227
41 Other non performing assets	-	-
<b>D. SELECTED FINANCIAL CONDITION INDICATORS</b>		
(I) Shareholders Funds to total assets	27%	26%
(II) Non performing loans to total gross loans	26%	22%
(III) Gross loans and advances to total deposits	94%	97%
(IV) Loans and advances to total assets	67%	68%
(V) Earning Assets to Total Assets	84%	84%
(VI) Deposits Growth	-4%	-20%
(VII) Assets Growth	-5%	-15%

**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31st MAR 2020**  
(All Amounts in millions of Tanzanian shillings)

	CURRENT QUARTER 31.03.2020	COMPARATIVE QUARTER PREVIOUS YEAR 31.03.2019	CURRENT QUARTER CUMULATIVE 31.03.2020	COMPARATIVE QUARTER CUMULATIVE 31.03.2019
1 Interest income	1,739	1,698	1,739	1,698
2 Interest Expense	697	840	697	840
3 <b>Net Interest Income (1 minus 2)</b>	<b>1,042</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>1,042</b>	<b>858</b>
4 Bad debts Written-off	-	-	-	-
5 Impairment Losses on Loans and Advances	29.36	-	29.36	-
6 <b>Non interest income</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>200</b>
6.1 Foreign Currency Dealings and Translation Gains/(Losses)	63	(79)	63	(79)
6.2 Fees and Commissions	49	58	49	58
6.3 Dividend Income	-	-	-	-
6.4 Other Operating Income	285	221	285	221
7 <b>Non Interest Expense</b>	<b>1,389</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>1,389</b>	<b>1,508</b>
7.1 Salaries and Benefits	617	637	617	637
7.2 Fees and Commission	17	67	17	67
7.3 Other operating Expenses	755	804	755	804
8 <b>Operating Income/(Losses)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(449)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(449)</b>
9 Income Tax Provision	-	30	-	30
10 <b>Net Income/(Losses) After Income Tax</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(479)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(479)</b>
11 <b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>	-	-	-	-
12 <b>Total Comprehensive</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(479)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(479)</b>
13 Number of employees	63	68	63	68
14 Basic Earnings Per Share	1	(24)	1	(24)
15 Dilute Earnings Per Share	1	(24)	1	(24)
16 Number of Branches	5	5	5	5
(i) <b>SELECTED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS</b>				
(ii) Return on Average Total Assets	0.03%	-0.40%	0.03%	-0.40%
(iii) Return on Average Shareholders' Fund	0.10%	-2.30%	0.10%	-2.30%
(iv) Non Interest Expenses to Gross Income	65.06%	79.45%	65.06%	79.45%
(v) Net Interest Income to Average Earning Assets	5.28%	4.48%	4.81%	4.48%

**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31st MAR 2020**  
(All Amounts in millions of Tanzanian shillings)

	Share capital	Share premium	Retained Earnings	Regulatory reserve	General Provision Reserve	Others	Total
Balance as at the beginning of the year 2020	20,025	-	(4,330)	4,165	-	-	19,860
Profit for the year	-	-	(236)	-	-	(160)	(396)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend paid	-	-	(256)	3%	-	-	(256)
Regulatory reserve	-	-	-	(1,181)	-	-	(1,181)
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the period 31.03.2020	20,025	-	(4,941)	4,165	-	-	19,645
Balance as at the beginning of the year 2019	20,025	-	(1,947)	3,534	464	9	31,085
Profit for the year	-	-	(1,181)	-	-	(160)	(1,421)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory reserve	-	-	(1,158)	1,631	(464)	(9)	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the period 31.12.2019	20,025	-	(4,330)	4,165	-	-	19,860

**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31st MAR 2020**  
(All Amounts in millions of Tanzanian shillings)

	CURRENT QUARTER 31.03.2020	PREVIOUS QUARTER ENDED 31.12.2019	CURRENT QUARTER CUMULATIVE 31.03.2020	COMPARATIVE QUARTER CUMULATIVE 31.03.2019
<b>I Cash flow from operating activities</b>				
Net Income (Loss)	20	(287)	20	(449)
<b>Adjustments for-</b>				
-Impairment/Amortization	89	1,005	89	89
-Net change in Loans and Advances	3,500	85	3,500	(168)
-Gain/Loss on Sale of Assets	-	-	-	-
-Net change in Deposits	(2,401)	(13,754)	(2,401)	(3,408)
-Net change in Short Term Negotiable	-	-	-	-
-Net change in Other Liabilities	(1,073)	947	(1,073)	1,125
-Net change in Other Assets	559	148	559	(1,280)
-Tax Paid	-	30	-	(30)
-SFR	12	733	12	(1,267)
-Other	915	-	915	-
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<b>1,622</b>	<b>(11,093)</b>	<b>1,622</b>	<b>(5,388)</b>
<b>II Cash flow from investing activities</b>				
Dividend Receivable	-	-	-	-
Purchase of Fixed Assets	(24)	(35)	(24)	(4)
Proceeds from Sale of Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-
Purchase of Non-Dealing Securities	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from Sale of Non-Dealing Securities	-	-	-	-
Others (Foil/Bond/Placement)	4,656	8,955	4,656	(3,754)
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	<b>4,632</b>	<b>8,920</b>	<b>4,632</b>	<b>(3,759)</b>
<b>III Cash flow from financing activities</b>				
Repayment of Long-term Debt	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from Insurance of Long-term Debt	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from Insurance of Share Capital	-	-	-	-
Payment of Cash Dividends	-	-	-	-
Net Change in Other Borrowings	-	-	-	-
Other (Specify)	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by Financing activities	-	-	-	-
<b>IV Cash and Cash Equivalents:</b>				
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash equivalent	<b>6,253</b>	<b>(2,173)</b>	<b>6,253</b>	<b>(9,147)</b>
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Quarter	10,424	12,598	10,424	48,062
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the Quarter	<b>16,677</b>	<b>10,424</b>	<b>16,677</b>	<b>38,915</b>

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

Signed By: **GEORGE MSAMBAZI** Head of Finance Date: 17 Apr 2020, **JOHN MWAKASONDA** Head - Internal Audit Date: 17 Apr 2020, **VILLY VELLAYAPPAN** Chief Executive Officer Date: 17 Apr 2020

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

Signed By: **ALFRED MKOMBO** Director Date: 17 Apr 2020, **CHARLES RWECHUNGURA** Director Date: 17 Apr 2020

**MINIMUM DISCLOSURE OF BANK CHARGES AND FEES As at 31st March 2020**

PRODUCT TYPE	TZS	USD	GBP	EUR
<b>SERVICES</b>				
Monthly Statement Current Accounts	Free	Free	Free	Free
Monthly Statement Savings Accounts	Free	Free	Free	Free
E-statement	Free	Free	Free	Free
Interim statement - per page	1,000	1	1	1
<b>MINIMUM ACCOUNT OPENING</b>				
Savings Account-Salaried	Free	Free	Free	Free
Savings Account-Normal	20,000	50	50	50
Current account-Normal	50,000	100	100	100
Current account -Premium	1,000,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
<b>CASH WITHDRAWALS OVER THE COUNTER</b>				
Savings account - A				
I. Above 500,000	Free	NA	NA	NA
II. Less than 500,000	1,000	NA	NA	NA
Savings account - B				
I. Up to USD/GBP 10,000	NA	5	5	5
II. Above USD/GBP 10,000	NA	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Current account				
I. Up to 5,000,000	Free	NA	NA	NA
II. Above 5,000,000	2,000	NA	NA	NA
Current account				
I. Up to USD/GBP 10,000	NA	5	5	5
II. Above USD/GBP 10,000	NA	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Third Part withdraw per leaf	30,000	30	30	30
<b>CASH HANDLING FEE</b>				
Deposits on Small Denominations Less than \$50	3%	3%	3%	3%
<b>ATM WITHDRAWALS</b>				
On Us	600	NA	NA	NA
On Others	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>OTHER ATM TRANSACTIONS</b>				
Issue of ATM Card(New)	6,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Replacement ATM Card (faulty)	10,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Replacement ATM Card (worn out)	10,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Replacement ATM Card(Lost)	10,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>TRANSFERS</b>				
Internal transfers	Free	Free	Free	Free
Interbranch Transfer	Free	Free	Free	Free
<b>STANDING ORDERS</b>				
Standing orders (within bank)	1,500	0.50	0.50	0.50
Standing orders (to other banks Local Currency )	11,800	NA	NA	NA
Standing orders (to other banks ) below usd 10,000	NA	3	3	3
Standing orders (to other banks ) above usd 10,000	NA	10	10	10
Unpaid standing orders	40,000	20	20	20
<b>CHEQUES</b>				
Cheque book issuance				
I. Personal chq book with 25 leaves	20,000	10	10	10
II. Corporate chq book with 50 leaves	50,000	20	20	20
III. Corporate chq book with 100 leaves	70,000	35	35	35
Counter cheque charges per leaf	20,000	20	20	20
Stop Payment orders -per instructions/ Cheque series	40,000	20	N/A	N/A
<b>Outward Cheque Unpaid (Chq returned by Us)</b>				
I. Refer to Drawer	50,000	50	N/A	N/A
II. Effect not Cleared	30,000	30	N/A	N/A
III. Any Technical reason (Like endorsement)	10,000	5	N/A	N/A
<b>Inward Cheque Unpaid (Chq returned by other bank)</b>				
Inward Cheques processing per leaf	500	1	N/A	N/A
Bankers Cheque (account holders)	15,000	10	N/A	N/A
Re- Purchase of Bankers cheque on customers request	20,000	10	10	10
Uncollected Cheque book (after one Month)	10,000	5	5	5

OTHER SERVICES				
Current Account Closure on customer's request	30,000	15	15	15
Savings Account Closure on customer's request	20,000	5	5	5
Cheque Force clearance (with one day float)	20,000	10	10	10
Chq Force clearance (with more than one day float)	40,000	20	20	20
Dormant Charges for Savings account	Free	Free	Free	Free
Dormant Charges for current account	25,000	15	15	15
Dormant account Activations	Free	Free	Free	Free
Account Maintenance Charge - Savings	1,000	2.50	2.50	2.50
Account Maintenance Charge - Current	10,000	5	5	5
Certificate of balance	50,000	25	25	25
Letter of introduction	50,000	25	25	25
Salary handling	Free	Free	Free	Free
School fees deposits	Free	Free	Free	Free
Un arranged Temporary Overdrafts (TODs)	24%	10%	10%	10%
Corporate Premier Account Maintenance Charge	20,000	20	N/A	N/A
Individual Premier Account Maintenance Charge	20,000	20	N/A	N/A
Lost Cheque charges	20,000	18	18	18

# 2,000 trained Ebola contact tracers being sidelined for 6,000 new Covid-19 'recruits'

By Mosoka P. Fallah

I HAVE tried to remain focus on the COVID-19 response over the past several weeks as I am convinced that if it becomes explosive it would cause irreversible damage to our very existence as a people and as a country. I have remained silent while working 20 hours a day when a few journalists wrote that I should not be confirmed because I prevented Liberians from getting their just benefits from the ebola virus. While this accusation was laughably unfair to me, I chose to remain silent. My silence was never an admission of guilt but I felt that the lives of the 4.5 million Liberians rest on my conscience and on the heads of other like-minded colleagues who are active in this Coronavirus response.

I am now constrained to respond to the article written by Rodney Sieh on April 11, 2020, the publisher of the Front-Page Africa under an article captioned, "LIBERIA: 2,000 TRAINED EBOLA CONTACT TRACERS BEING SIDELINED FOR 6,000 NEW COVID-19 'RECRUITS'".

In this article he intimated that we failed to recruit 2,000 trained contact tracers for COVID-19 response and that the 6,000 persons recruited by the MCC/NPHIL team are more than all of the teams across the country. He further went on to write that prior to taking over as Director General of NPHIL, I was head of an NGO, named and style Rescue Place International and my NGO has become a party to this efforts to recruit the 6,000 active case finders,

which according to the article, presents a potential conflict of interest. It was also reported that the Community-based Initiative (CBI) that I founded during the ebola was now being sidelined for the MCC.

In the next few paragraphs, I will attempt to address the issues raised in this article and offer clarity. I am convinced that information cited in the article was provided by corrupt and misguided individuals with no credibility.

Conflict of Interest and using Rescue Place International to benefit from the recruitment of the 6,000 active case finders

I had hoped that my learned publisher would have taken the time to grant me a fair chance to explain myself and my patriotic contribution to our dear country Liberia without any conflict of interest. Firstly, none of the employees of Refuge Place International works with the COVID-19 response team. They are currently involved with the management of our NGO clinics. Secondly, I did not transition from the Founder/CEO of Refuge Place to my current position as Director General of NPHIL. I was appointed as the Deputy Director for Technical Services by Former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, after I helped to build NPHIL. From my appointment in 2017 until I was asked by His Excellency Dr. George Manneh Weah to serve as Director General, I was paid by PREVAIL Liberia and did not take a single dime from National Government as salary.

Thirdly, I founded Refuge Place International in Kentucky, USA, when I was doing my doc-

torate to help to bring health care to poor Liberians. Since, my returned to Liberia in 2013, my board and I have completed 2 clinics that treated over 50,000 patients for free during the ebola outbreak. We are constructing additional 2 clinics in Montserrado County, 1 in lower Bong County and 1 in Lofa County. We have provided free lenses to over 2,000 students. All the funds for these projects have come from two major sources. Royer Charitable Foundation started supporting me since 2014, with the initial 3,000 US dollars, and increased it to \$120,000 in 2019. The second major funder is Liberia Mercy Partners that provides us \$1000.00 US dollars every month and in February of 2020 made a single donation of \$10,000 so we could build more clinics to serve our people. There have been some support from my classmates and board members in the US who believed in my humanitarian work in Liberia. When the COVID-19 preparedness began in December, of 2019, I quickly realized that we needed to quickly mobilize funds to enhance the surveillance at the RIA. Since funds was slow in coming, I instructed one of our workers to withdraw \$10,000 from Refuge Place International account and later withdrew an additional \$5000 to support the response. I have kept their receipts and hope to seek reimbursements later.

6,000 active case Finders over 2000 contact tracers and greater than all

Contact tracers from the 15 counties. Other health professionals are left out.

Contact tracing is involves



contact identification and contact follow up. Contact tracing is a passive process that first waits for a case to be identified. When I deferred my trip back to the USA in 2014 to help my country fight the ebola crisis, I realized that contact tracing would never be sufficient to end the ebola outbreak. I then initiated community-level active case finding using the Tuberculosis model. There was nothing written at the time, I had to adapt the model to Liberia. At the height of the ebola outbreak, there were 5,700 active case finders and over 300 support teams. These were students, teachers, Imams, pastors, community leaders and even a 75 year old Kissi governor. Due to the moderate rate of transmission of ebola, we had 1 active case finders to cover 50 households to check for the sick, the dead and provide awareness. For the

population of 1.3 million people the 5,700 active case finders was sufficient to ensure that all cases and the sick in Liberia were found and turned over to the contact tracers.

However, if you compare the transmission rates of ebola to COVID-19, you will realize that the rate of transmission of the COVID19 is higher than ebola. Since, 1976 when ebola was first discovered to 2020, there has been about 37,000 cases with an average of 50% deaths. However, from December, 2019 to April, 2020, COVID-19 has had 1,793,728 cases and 110,196 deaths. As a result of these factors, we have realized that we would need 15,000 active case finders to support the 2000 contact tracers. Given the fact that there is a higher risk of infection and the special protection it requires to do active case finding, we proposed one active

case finder to cover 20 houses a day to check for the sick and provide awareness messages every day for the next three months. We took into consideration that Montserrado County has 1,500,000 people and, at 5 persons per household, we determined that there are 300,000 households in Montserrado County. Hence, we would need 15,000 active case finders to cover the entire Montserrado County. Thus, the 6,000 active case finders was a welcome opportunity for us and would need to work closely with the Montserrado County Health Team (MCHT) and incorporate other health workers. Montserrado County needs an additional 9,000 active case finders to identify all of the potential cases and contain the current spread.

The second point is the confusion between active case finders and con-

## Africa's unique opportunity for post-pandemic rejuvenation

By Mamphela Ramphela

IT has taken a tiny organism, SARS-CoV-2, to get even the most conservative traditionalists to accept that state institutions are essential to mobilising national resources to protect and promote the common good. The fragilities of neoliberal economies have been laid bare.

Institutional capacity in public health care systems, law enforcement and regulatory agencies, as well as the capacity of the state to commandeer production of essential goods and services, have become decisive interventions in this pandemic. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, whose conservative government had for years underfunded the public sector, confirmed this unequivocally when he thanked the National Health Service (NHS) for saving his life after he was hospitalised with the coronavirus.

We have President Cyril Ramaphosa to thank for his leadership in mobilising national, continental and global public and private resources to enhance our capacity to tackle this pandemic.

The admirable collaboration between public and private health care institutions has laid an important foundation for a well resourced and run National Health Insurance (NHI) system. We can learn from Britain's NHS about what works and what doesn't, so we can build our NHI on a firmer footing.

There is no wisdom in hankering after the old socio-economic development models that brought us to the multi-layered global crises (climate, health and socio-economic) we face today. Post-pandemic socio-economic restructuring has to go beyond traditional notions of privatising state-owned enterprises and smaller government.

The entire global socio-economic system we have relied on has been exposed as fragile and a threat to both rich and poor in our society. No economy can prosper while excluding the energies and talents of the majority of its youthful population, as we have

done since 1994.

We need to transform our economic and social relationships to build an inclusive prosperous democracy where wellbeing for all people and the planet are sustainably promoted.

Such a system would have to dispense with traditional ideological hangovers of pitting the private and public sectors against each other. We have to leverage the strengths of our very well developed private sector while broadening its base, recognising that its narrow base is a weakness and a missed opportunity for the entire society.

The future of the global economy lies in innovative enterprises that service the needs of local communities, as well as those of the nation and beyond, in mutually supportive ways. Lessons from China and other successful East Asian countries show how leveraging the strengths of both private and public sectors enabled them to build solid resilient systems able to withstand crises.

Small, medium and microenterprises have struggled to thrive in our society. This is largely because of both legal and institutional biases against them that undermine their access to credit and other essential support. Why should these enterprises be legally permitted to only access no more than a tiny two-and-a-half percent of assets held by major funds, despite being estimated to account for 98.5% of the formal economy and provide 28% of jobs? We need to fundamentally rethink this approach as we restructure our economy and strengthen support for sustainable livelihoods in all local communities across the country.

The Covid-19 crisis presents an invaluable opportunity for Africa to take advantage of its diaspora and get ahead of yet another round of colonialism in the new world order. The rise of nations leveraging the diaspora and minds of its people is well evidenced by the Jewish in the development of Israel; the Indians, especially the ones in the US, spearheading the technological revolution of India; and the Chinese contributing immensely to



Dr Mamphela Ramphela

the development of the modern China through the 'Bamboo network'.

Africa's leaders need not despair nor look too far for African minds committed to developing practical strategic ways to integrate existing progressive policies and to innovate. Young African leaders across the continent are a responsive catalyst ready to be leveraged in the efforts to overcome the global Covid-19 crisis.

Tim Akano, a Nigerian entrepreneur, reflecting on lessons the global lockdown has for Africa, concluded in an online article that African leaders are the only ones who have the obligation to focus on promoting the continent's interests.

Africa needs to harness its comparative advantages - people and natural assets - to shape a future that leapfrogs a traditional linear development model that condemns us to servicing the needs of others in a lopsided glob-

al economy.

I have taken the liberty of modifying the seven points he listed as "must-dos" for Africa to emerge out of this emergency stronger:

- We must strengthen and activate the ACFTA - Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement - and use it as a basis for negotiating with China. Fifty-two countries cannot relate with China on an individual basis and hope to get a fair, equitable deal.
- We need a single currency in Africa (AFRO) - not the West Africa's ECO which the French have contaminated. The world currency battle will begin after the lockdown as China and Russia are bent on overthrowing the dollar hegemony. What will strengthen Africa's economy is to have its own currency through which we can trade in one African market.
- The race for the 4th Industrial Revolution is open to all people

- including Africans. No country has hegemony yet. African youths are hungry and competent enough to compete with their Chinese and American counterparts provided we make the right investment in infrastructure. The Rwanda-based programme initiated by Prof Neil Turok's African Institute of Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) is a great base.

• Africa must insist on fair and equitable trade deals (50/50) with China, going forward. The good news is that China's own experience over the years has demonstrated just how effective this is to build local capacity. China's monopoly of the global supply chain has caused a huge disequilibrium. This does not augur well for peaceful coexistence.

• The African Union (AU) must insist on China writing off Africa's \$145-billion debt once the pandemic is under control. This is the only way Af-

rica can breathe! How will Africa come up with \$8-billion in annual interest after the lockdown caused by China? Africa should also take advantage of the IMF/World Bank proposed debt write-off. China borrowed very strategically from the World Bank in the 1990s in order to access technical capacity to sustainably develop its own national priorities. It never begged for aid from the West.

Then why should we depend on debt and aid to grow? African leaders should desist from going cap-in-hand looking for aid from Russia, China, America, Japan, India and Brazil. Africa has enough resources to build a modern civilization for itself.

• According to McKinsey research, the Chinese love to go on vacation abroad and they were projected to spend about \$250-billion in 2020. African countries should target 50% of China's tourism spend by building modern amusement and sustainable natural and wildlife parks across the continent, while modernising other infrastructure accordingly.

• Africa's greatest strength lies in the economic power and technical know-how of Africans in the diaspora. Africa should plan to build six modern cities to accommodate its citizens currently in the diaspora and incentivise them to return home.

South Africa needs to take advantage of our president's term as chair of the African Union to strengthen our continental links, not as leaders but as partners with other countries to actualise the African Free Trade Agreement.

We need to strategically leverage the unique advantage of Africa - a demographic endowment of a young population of 800 million. Investing in the talents and energies of these young people is essential to building a formidable continental platform of innovation and creative industries, as part of the restructuring of our continental economies for the 21st century in the post-coronavirus era.

This is a moment of great opportunity and we dare not let it slip through our fingers.

# Letshego extends relief to customers and communities amid COVID-19

By Guardian Reporter

LETSHEGO Holdings Limited (Letshego Group) has set aside 580m/- to support the Sub-Saharan countries to fight against coronavirus pandemic.

Already the financial institution

has donated 33m/- Tanzania's National Relief Fund COVID-19. The donation was presented to the Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Umyy Mwalimu last Friday.

Letshego's Group Chief Execu-

tive, Andrew Okai said coronavirus affects the societies and they need to work together and support each other to mitigate the negative impact of this pandemic.

Okay said Letshego remains committed to doing all it can to support our customers through

these tough economic times.

He said the pan-African lender with a presence in 11 sub-Saharan markets intended to support national efforts in preventing the spread of the virus, caring for those infected with the virus, as well as sustaining local economic

activity.

Letshego continues to partner with local government and health authorities to advocate official health guidelines, as well as align

with international health advice from organizations such as the World Health Organization and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Letshego employees

and customers have access to the latest facts and health information in an effort to collaborate in combatting the Coronavirus across Letshego's footprint markets.



Letshego Tanzania (Faidika) Limited accountant Julieth Kileo (2nd-R) presents over a dummy cheque for 33m/- to Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children minister Umyy Mwalimu (2nd L) to support the fight against Covid-19. Right is the firm's acting CEO, Andrew Lyimo, and left is lawyer Kenedy Lyimo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## VACANCY (For reputed Developer)

**Project manager : Posts: 2**

**Qualification :** Civil or Mechanical Engineer, Electrical Engineer  
7 years experience in project or site management

**Electrical engineer : Posts: 5**

**Qualification:** Graduation in Electrical  
7 years experience

**Electrical technician : Post : 5**

**Qualification:** Diploma in Electrical  
5 years Experience

**Plumber : Post :5**

**Qualification:**Diploma in Plumbing  
10 years Experience

**AC Technician : Post :3**

**Qualification:** Highly qualified Diploma in  
Air condition technology  
5 years Experience

Very fluent in English and Swahili for all above posts.

**Only Tanzanian citizens for all posts**

**Deadline: 7th May 2020**

Resumes should be sent to Email : [Safari@sura-tz.com](mailto:Safari@sura-tz.com) & [vasudha0606@yahoo.com](mailto:vasudha0606@yahoo.com)



## PRE-QUALIFICATION OF A CONTRACTOR FOR THE PROVISION OF PROJECT DESIGN WORK FOR MKUJU RIVER PROJECT

Mantra Tanzania Limited (Mantra), operating as a subsidiary of Uranium One, is focused on the potential development of Uranium Mine at the Mkuju River Project (MRP) in the Namtumbo District of Ruvuma Region.

Mantra Tanzania Ltd invites eligible contractors to express their Interest for the provision of project design work.

Interested Companies are requested, as a minimum, to submit the following;

- Detailed Company Information with Organization structure, List of workers with CVs of key personnel.
- Details of completion of similar type of contracts in the last three years and similar contracts/agreements currently under execution under headings:
  - a) Brief scope of work
  - b) Value of work in USD
  - c) Contractual Duration
  - d) Clients name
  - e) Contact details of the Client (Mantra may approach the client directly for the feed back).
- Details of Resources available in terms of number of manpower; equipment etc. for providing similar services
- Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) policies, procedures and statistics covering the last 4 years.
- Copies of Valid Quality Certifications / Accreditations, ISO certifications, If any
- Company's financial performance documents (Audited Balance sheets, Profit and Loss Account & cash flow statement, Auditors Report and Notes to Accounts etc.) for last 3 (three) years. Latest financial statement should not be older than 18 months on the date of submission of response to Expression of interest.

The interested bidders should submit a soft copy of their Expression of Interest via e-mail address; [francis.rweyemamu@uranium1.com](mailto:francis.rweyemamu@uranium1.com) and the hard copy to the below address latest on 25nd April 2020 at 16.00 hours.

**Managing Director  
Mantra Tanzania Ltd  
Plot No. 1520, Masaki Ikon, Bains Avenue-Masaki  
P.O. Box 2345 I, Tel +255762700440  
Dar es Salaam.**

## THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY

ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



## PUBLIC NOTICE

Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) through its Content Committee has suspended Online Content Service Licence issued to Mwananchi Newspaper (Licensee) for a period of six (6) months and has imposed a fine of Tanzania Shillings Five Million (TZS 5, 000, 000) to the Licensee for violating the Electronic and Postal Communications (Online Content) Regulations, 2018.

The measures have been taken upon Content Committee finding that on 13th April, 2020, Mwananchi Newspaper through its social media platforms published false and misleading content likely to deceive the public and cause dismay contrary to Regulation 5 (1) (a), and 12 (l) of the Electronic and Postal Communications (Online Content) Regulations, 2018.

Upon establishing violation of the Regulations and pursuant to Section 28 (1) (b) and (c), the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act [CAP 172 RE 2017], Mwananchi Newspaper was summoned to appear before the Content Committee on 15th April, 2020 to show cause why regulatory measure should not be taken against them for being in violation of the law. In response thereof, Mwananchi Newspaper appeared before the Committee as ordered and admitted the violation.

Having considered Mwananchi Newspaper's defence and mitigations, the Content Committee found Mwananchi Newspaper through online social media platforms had violated Regulation 5 (1) (a), and 12 (l) of the Electronic and Postal Communications (Online Content) Regulations, 2018.

In accordance with Section 28 (1) (b) and (c), the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act [CAP 172 RE 2017], the Content Committee has ordered Mwananchi Newspaper as follows:

1. To suspend provision of Online Content Services for a period of Six (6) months. A period during which they are expected to reform and reorganise their online delivery operations hence enable management of their online social media platforms in accordance to the law, and media and broadcasting codes of ethics; and
2. To pay a fine of Tanzania Shillings Five Million (TZS 5, 000, 000) to Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority.

Failure to comply with the above orders, TCRA shall proceed to take further regulatory and legal actions against Mwananchi Newspaper without prior notice and at their own peril.

ISSUED BY

**DIRECTOR GENERAL  
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
16TH APRIL, 2020**

# We must act now to prevent food riots

By Marius Oosthuizen

**O**UR problem is not that we don't have enough food in South Africa. Our problem is that the food is only available to those who have cash, and the poorer you are, the less likely you are to live near a retailer.

It pains me to write this, but unless certain actions are taken soon, we will drift towards a worst-case scenario during Covid-19.

First, the president has done a superb job to get the nation moving proactively in response to the pandemic. Health Minister Zweli Mkhize too has been a godsend in his portfolio at this time, and with his team, has done well to stem the spread of the virus.

Let's applaud the command structure for the job done to date, and then get on with the job still to be done - steering the country through the triple challenges of economic incapacity, social vulnerability and rising frustration.

## Criminality

Gauteng Education MEC Panyaza Lesufi this weekend lamented the 55 schools vandalised and burgled during the lockdown. While Lesufi bemoaned the damage done to education infrastructure, Police Minister Bheki Cele condemned the looting of 16 liquor stores in the Western Cape during the same period.

Forty-one arrests have now been made in Gauteng in relation to the school break-ins. Meanwhile, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town and Limpopo have begun to see riotous crowds looting convenience stores. These are worrying trends.

However, insecurity at street level is not our only problem.

## Running low on food

Around eight million children in South Africa depend on the school-based food programmes of the Department of Social

Development. This week, activists urged Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga to restart the programmes, which were suspended nationwide during the lockdown.

What have these children been eating? They have probably survived on the welfare of social grant recipients, who themselves are under pressure.

What about the millions of undocumented migrant workers in South Africa? They have probably been scrounging for meals from friends, who themselves have been unable to work for more than two weeks.

Our problem is not that we don't have enough food in South Africa. Our problem is that the food is only available to those who have cash, and the poorer you are, the less likely you are to live near a retailer.

It is up to the informal retail distribution channels, such as spaza shops, to reach you.

## Pay now, or pay later

Finance Minister Tito Mboweni announced that he is contemplating an extension of social grants to include a basic income grant. Well, the minister better think quickly, because I suspect most food shelves were emptied out during the Easter weekend, and this coming weekend there will be a reckoning.

South Africa has a choice between paying for these social ills now, in the form of fiscal largesse which puts cash in people's pockets and food on their tables, or paying for them later in the form of social unrest.

## Tear gas, rubber bullets and hungry crowds

For all the bravado by the SANDF's General Solly Shoke, who in a speech last week in Tshwane said the army and police will take a tough stance without reverting to "skop en donner" tactics, I doubt the hungry crowds will be intimidated by tear gas and rubber bullets.

Instead, conflict makes a hungry person an angry person. What happens in Manenberg or Diepsloot Extension 2 after a crowd of hungry youths torch a Casspir with three soldiers inside?

Of course, the police and SANDF will put on a brave face, announce stricter measures and kick



A Tesco store is seen stripped of toilet paper amid warnings shoppers must avoid panic buying essentials

down a few doors. But something else happens. The community loses trust in the armed forces and the legitimacy of the state evaporates.

Next, the democratically elected president announces a State of Emergency. It feels like 1985, only this time the enemy is our own ineptitude.

## Avoid the downward spiral

Once we allow the looting of spaza shops, we will have to deal with the burning of delivery trucks. Once it comes to that, the SAPS will securitise the streets and institute roadblocks. The community will roll stones onto the roads, taking control of their

neighbourhoods, and burn tyres to obstruct their visibility from the onlooking securocrats.

Once these us-and-them postures are in place, running battles turn to reprisals.

In this environment, no food comes into the parts of town where it is needed most. The private sector clams up to protect themselves and the poor suffer more than anyone else.

Saving what is left of our national reputation  
A recently retweeted video I found after a Twitter search for the word "looting", contains Ian Cameron's footage of the looting of a South African liquor store. The video was tweeted on 9 April by the UK's polariser-in-chief, Katie Hopkins, who asked, "How far away is NYC and London from this?"

She called our looting "civil unrest".  
The tweet has so far received 761 comments and 2,700

"likes", has been retweeted 1,300 times and viewed 117,400 times worldwide.

What this portrays to the world is that South Africa is broken and will fall apart during this crisis. It magnifies our faults and generalises our fault-lines. It obscures the good that is in our society. But to complain about the discontents of social media is to miss the point.

We need to arrest the decline, now, before it becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

## Emergency measures, before the emergency

In the same way that we proactively responded to the looming health pandemic, we need to respond now to the food riots before they happen.

We can do this by creating a national food security task team, headed by two representatives from the government, two from business and two from civil society.

We can give them a presidential mandate to convene the social partners, to mobilise the resources and develop a nationwide food parcel and voucher distribution strategy for immediate implementation.

We can partner NGOs with churches, businesses with communities, and government can facilitate the integration of these responses. We can use the crisis as a call to society-wide action to ensure that the only thing we need to fight is the virus.

If we do so, we can avert the national disaster which the president has already pre-emptively declared. If we fail to act, we will sleepwalk deeper into the disaster as another day of inaction passes.

# Please, Mr President, don't let the military and police subvert the rule of law

By Omphemetse S Sibanda

**W**HAT the country now fears are Covid-19 responses by law enforcement agencies that threaten the safety and security of communities.

Dear President Cyril Ramaphosa,

Covid-19 seemingly is approaching the high lethal levels of the influenza pandemic of 1918-1919 - and it might get even worse if there is a secondary outbreak. You probably are inundated with calls to lift or soften the lockdown. I do not envy you your position, particularly considering the statement made on 12 March 2020 by the director-general of the World Health Organisation, Tedros Adhanom, warning that "countries that decide to give up on fundamental public health measures may end up with a larger problem and a heavier burden on the health system that requires more severe measures to control".

But a new problem is emerging. What the country now has to fear are Covid-19 responses by law enforcement agencies that threaten the safety and security of communities. Specifically, alleged misconduct by some members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) and the South African Police Services (SAPS) is detracting from the good job you have been doing since the start of the country's Covid-19 response.

"Sic utere tuo ut alterum non laedas" and "salus publica suprema lex est": Mr President, you are schooled in law and I hope will understand my reference to the two principles that democracies based on the rule of law use to justify and sustain the powers of public health law enforcement agencies. Sic utere tuo ut alterum non laedas (use that which is yours so as not to injure others) and salus publica suprema lex est (public wellbeing is the supreme law).

It would seem South Africa is backsliding from these principles and also from the rule of law and human rights in general since the introduction of a law enforcement dimension to the Covid-19 response. Several articles and commentaries have been written about Covid-19 and the duties of governments to ensure citizens' and residents' rights to health are

protected. The question on the lips of many is whether the lockdown is working and whether it is the best solution. And the government is urged to start looking for alternatives.

Some reports indicate a worrying trend of human rights abuses. "Like the SANDF members who walked into a man's home, opened his fridge, found a beer, and then beat him to death with sjamboks. Just like our slave masters used to do. Nine people have been killed by police and SANDF brutality since lockdown. On 3 April, 30 cases of misconduct were registered at IPID," read one open letter to you, Mr President, published by Daily Maverick.

Others have branded the implementation of the lockdown as akin to having placed South African democracy in the emergency room. Shades of the apartheid era are beginning to rear their heads.

"There the police and the army have behaved in ways indistinguishable from and reminiscent of the dark days of PW Botha's successive states of emergency in the eighties," reads a concern about implementation of the extended lockdown.

As if we were back in time during the apartheid period of yellow police vans pouncing on villages and shebeens, we have seen visuals of the SAPS and/or SANDF spilling drums and bottles of umqombothi (traditional African beer) without thinking such actions might be seen as heavy-handed.

I had flashbacks to the growth of the "European beer" industry following the lifting of prohibition on the sale of so-called European liquor to Africans in the early 1960s while, on the other hand, African beer was banned by the 1927 Liquor Act. Interestingly, in 1937, the Johannesburg municipality assumed the monopoly to brew traditional beer and banned Africans from brewing umqombothi and other African concoctions. One cannot even keep one bottle of beer in the fridge for the fear of being brutalised by the SANDF, who illegally gain forceful entry into houses and impose their own - and not yours, Mr President - ban on the drinking of beer in the comfort of our homes.

Acts of violence against the citizens and residents of our great republic heighten the fear that

engulfs the country. People are asking what is next to come, on 30 April 2020. Is there going to be another extension of the lockdown? Or is the President going to step up the tempo through an Act of Parliament that declares a state of emergency, based on section 37 of the Constitution, according to which a state of emergency may be declared when the life of the nation is threatened by war, invasion, general insurrection, disorder, natural disaster or other public emergencies?

Some may argue that Covid-19 does not present any sustainable justification to trigger section 37 of the Constitution. In my view, a health pandemic of the magnitude of the 1918 influenza pandemic and now Covid-19 is a public health emergency that calls for public health emergency powers allowing the government to take extraordinary powers to protect the citizens and to flexibly respond to the Covid-19 risks situations without having to strictly adhere to ordinary legal standards and processes. Moreover, the Constitution provides no definition of "other public emergency", leaving it to the governor to determine what constitutes an emergency.

The sometimes barbaric acts suffered by communities - in most cases poor and historically black communities - at the hands of the country's security forces are worrying. It is because of such acts of criminality against citizens in the name of enforcing the lockdown that many are starting to doubt if the extension of the lockdown is legal. This is in addition to the constitutionality of some of the initial lockdown regulations being questioned.

Communitarian bases for subordination of individual rights

It is beyond any argumentation that the communitarian bases of the South African legal system and constitutional order give support for the subordination of individual rights during this dark time of Covid-19, because it is necessary for the preservation of common good - which in this case is public health. It is for this reason that people in South Africa have subjected themselves to quarantines and lockdowns. But that does not mean people must allow our country to become another of the despotic and militarised African countries, a country



where little people do not matter. Reign in your troops, Mr President, you are the commander-in-chief.

The world is no longer operating in the beginning period of the 20th century, when there was a belief that rapid action by law enforcement agencies was necessary to preserve health, even if those actions infringed on individual freedoms. There are legal, social, economic and ideological imperatives and transformations that call for the limitation of such powers.

The actions of the SANDF and the SAPS have brought about profound changes in societal perceptions of the relative weight of individual rights vis-à-vis state powers during this lockdown. Take a moment, Mr President, and find ways to recalibrate the role of the SANDF and the SAPS in the enforcement of the lockdown.

I do not need to remind you that on 16 March 2020 the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights called on states to "avoid overreach of security measures in their response to the coronavirus outbreak" and reminded them that "emergency powers should not be used to quash dissent". It also reminded governments that "any emergency responses to the coronavirus must be proportionate, necessary and non-discriminatory".

The UN experts called on governments "to prevent such excessive powers to become hardwired into legal and political systems; restrictions should be narrowly tailored and should be the least intrusive means to protect public health". They encouraged states "to remain steadfast in maintaining a human rights-based approach to regulating this pandemic, in order to facilitate the emergence of healthy societies with rule of law and human rights protections".

Where is the proportionality and rationality of Covid-19 responses?

All individuals are entitled to human rights and should respect the human rights of others. The right to privacy, for example, is one of the rights that is coming into sharp focus because of the Covid-19 surveillance responses our government has introduced.

Human rights groups including Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, Access Now, Privacy International, and 103 other organisations (including Unwanted Witness of Uganda, Media Rights Agenda of Nigeria and Open Data Institute Privacy International, for example) released a joint statement on 2 April 2020 calling on governments to be cautious in their use of digital surveillance technologies to fight the Covid-19 pandemic to respect human rights. The joint statement reads, in part, that "surveillance measures adopted to address the pandemic must be lawful, necessary and proportionate. They must be provided for by law and must be justified by legitimate public health objectives, as determined by the appropriate public health authorities, and be proportionate to those needs... We cannot allow the Covid-19 pandemic to serve as an excuse for indiscriminate mass surveillance."

Mr President, as a lawyer you are aware that lockdown regulations do not enjoy any form of a presumption of constitutional validity. Therefore, the South African Covid-19 regulations cannot be allowed to descend into "sledgehammer" measures as opined by Advocate Tembeka Ngcukaitobi SC.

Mr President, I do not believe you deliberately released on your people enforcers with sledgehammers. But only you, supported by the Minister of Police and the Minister of Justice, can stop the killing of your fellow South Africans.

Please go back to the drawing board to determine if the current and future regulations are rational and their enforcement proportional. Is the lockdown and its enforcement compliant with the requirements of the limitation clause of the Constitution? That is the question that should underscore all Covid-19 responses moving forward.

As you are aware, Mr President, proportionality has many formulations, and built into it is the principle of rationality. The implication of proportionality, which was eloquently stated in one of the first cases of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, *S v Zuma* 1995 4 BCLR 401 (CC) 419, and later fully adopted by the same court in the death penalty case of *S v Makwanyane* 1995 3 SA 391 (CC), are the following pillars:

- The policy or regulation interfering with the right must pursue a legitimate goal (legitimate goal stage). When formulating, adding or amending the regulations you or your team must ask the following questions: Which goals are and which are not legitimate? From the onset, crime control is not the legitimate goal of the Covid-19 lockdown regulations. Clearly, public health protection and promotion are the over-riding goals of the lockdown regulations;

- There must be a rational connection between the regulations and the achievement of the goal. In other words, interference with rights must be a suitable means of achieving the Covid-19 response goal, at least to a small extent;

- The law must be necessary in that there is no less intrusive but equally effective alternative (necessity stage). So, for example, banning the sale of liquor serves a legitimate goal of promoting the lockdown and social distancing to stop the spread of Covid-19 and associated risks. However, beating up people drinking alcohol in the comfort of their homes amounts to extra-judicial banning of drinking alcohol and does not have any rational connection to the legitimate goal of preventing the spread of Covid-19. It must be called for what it is: dictatorship justice. It is not necessary to seize, forfeit and destroy a one-household liquor stash because the goal of keeping people from the streets is already achieved by the ban on the sale of liquor, unless the stash was bought in violation of the liquor ban or was used to host a group of friends and party-goers; and

- The law must not impose a disproportionate burden on the right-holder (balancing stage; proportionality in the strict sense). The question is whether the interference with the right is justified in light of the gain in the protection for the competing right or interest?

## INVESTMENT

## Boost in production of sunflower set to reduce oil imports

By Guardian Reporter

IMPROVED production of sunflower oil will help the country curb 60 percent imports of edible oil which gobble over US\$250 million (over 577.6bn/-) per annum, a recent study has indicated.

The study 'Progress Review of Industrialization in Tanzania's Sunflower Sector,' was conducted jointly by Dalberg, Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), Agricultural Markets Development Trust (AMDT), Agriculture Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF) and Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank backed by USAID funding, said the country's sunflower sub-sector is transforming following the government decision to offer tax incentives hence encouraged industrial investments.

According to the study, the

2017/18 tax and trade reforms which exempted value added tax on agricultural processing equipment which covered solvent extraction and refining equipment that is necessary to produce competitively priced sunflower oil, have boosted the sub-sector.

"At the same time, VAT exemption on sunflower seedcake came into effect to improve the economics for sunflower processors while the decision to maintain the import tariff on palm oil - at 10 percent for crude palm oil and 25 percent for refined palm oil which competes with domestically produced sunflower oil, has played an important role in improving competitiveness to a great extent," the report noted.

It further said the tax and tariff changes made by the government have transformed the whole sub-sector by prompting investors to

use hybrid seed, process the commodity into oil and thus increasing investments in sunflower agri-business. "The seed sector has responded first by importation of hybrid seeds and now local production of such seeds has started," the report added.

Sunflower processors are investing in more than 50,000 metric tons of processing capacity and are demanding more sunflower seeds from farmers who continue to gain a steady income currently com-

pared to previous years when local farmers relied on recycled seeds with poor yields.

"Farmers can also use the highest yielding hybrid sunflower seeds which were previously imported thus expensive and scarce. However, Tanzanian companies have recently invested over \$200,000 in growing hybrid seeds in Tanzania. In 2019, 50 metric tons of hybrid seeds were produced locally," the report added.

SAGCOT CEO, Geoffrey Kirenga said, "Industrializing Tanzania's sun-

flower sector helps the country compete in international markets, creates jobs and transforms the economy and that this approach can serve as a model for other value chains in Tanzania."

"This can also inspire other countries pursuing industrialization by industrializing the sunflower sector and replicating this success in other value chains," Kirenga noted saying SAGCOT is part of the development of the value chain transformation in the country.

In addition, local production also includes 243 metric tons of improved sunflower variety popularly named as 'Record,' widespread adoption of improved seeds which an important driver of increased production of sunflower oil in Tanzania making it one of the largest producers of the commodity in Africa. The study further reveals that private investment in seed multiplication has cut the price of high-yielding hybrid sunflower seeds by 60 percent thus increasing productivity drastically.



SAGCOT chief executive Geoffrey Kirenga

## PLEA

## Taha pleads with govt to ease horticultural exports permits

By Guardian reporter

THE government has been requested to issue landing permits of between 3-6 months and also lower airports charges by 50 percent to allow smooth horticultural produce exports from Kilimanjaro International Airport to European markets.

Taha Group CEO, Dr Jacqueline Mkindi said currently the landing permits are issued for each incoming flight with routine airports charges imposed hence making it not only operationally cumbersome to apply, but also uncompetitive during the COVID-19 crisis.

Dr Mkindi said at Kilimanjaro International Airport over the weekend after successfully bringing a second Ethiopian Airlines cargo plane to airlift high-value perishable commodities to overseas markets, the state need to support the hard currency earning industry by addressing such challenges.

"We are requesting our listening government to issue a long term landing permit to allow cargo freighters ship our perishable commodities to overseas markets at this darkest hour when almost all airlines are grounded," Dr Mkindi said.

Mkindi made the plea to Agriculture Minister, Japhet

Hasunga and Deputy Minister for Works, Transport and Communication, Atashasta Nditaye who witnessed the second cargo plane carrying local horticultural commodities to European markets.

"This mode of transportation keeps shelves of European supermarkets stocked with our fresh vegetables, fruits as well as spices and flowers while bringing us foreign currency and saves Tanzanian jobs," the Taha Group CEO argued. The second cargo flight loaded 32 metric tons of various horticultural produce and will be doing so thrice a week.

"We shouldn't allow cargo flights filled with life-saving horticultural foods grounded due to cumbersome and bureaucratic processes to secure operating permits. Not in our times, not into our great country," she argued.

In addition, horticultural producers also need to get a radiation certificate by submitting product samples for each consignment to Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TAEC) and has to pay 0.02 percent of total invoice value for each consignment. "Although this requirement is mandatory for any food exports from Tanzania, it is not compulsory to any importing

countries, making the document irrelevant beyond our borders," she lamented.

Responding to Mkindi's requests, Hasunga said in order to position the country's key airports as being competitive, the government will surely look on the charges and lower them in order to attract more cargo flights to carry the commodities to global markets.

"All businesses, airports included, are facing cutthroat competition. We are going to look at the airports charges and reduce them in order to be able to attract cargo planes to carry our exports," Hasunga promised while Taha for securing the Ethiopian Airlines plane.

In his remarks to back Hasunga's promises, Nditaye said the government will purchase a cargo plane to facilitate the export of horticultural produce as it seeks to transform the industry.

"We have set aside some money in the 2020/21 financial year to purchase a cargo plane and we believe the equipment will quench long time exporters' thirst to deliver horticultural produce directly to overseas markets from Tanzania," said Engineer Nditaye.

"If all goes well, we will pay the first instalment to the cargo plane manufacturer come July



Agriculture minister, Japhet Hasunga (L) has a word with Works, Transport and Communications deputy minister Atashasta Nditaye (C) and Taha Group CEO Dr Jacqueline Mkindi after seeing off the second Ethiopian Airlines cargo plane carrying local horticultural produce to European markets at Kilimanjaro International Airport at the weekend. Photo courtesy of Taha.

2020. We want to serve horticultural exporters year-round," he said at a press conference held at KIA.

He pleaded with horticultural

exporters from Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Tanga to use the government's state-of-the-art cold-room facility at KIA with a capacity to accommodate 110

metric tonnes at ago, to reduce export costs.

Speaking at the same event, Managing Director of Vasso Agroventures Limited, Fons Ni-

jenhuis, said as a key exporter, the direct cargo plane will be an incentive to all investors in the horticulture industry of the country.

## SANCTIONS

## SA's Compcom sends mask manufacturer to court for suspected price-gouging

JOHANNESBURG

A COMPANY believed to have hiked the price of face masks by 500% during the coronavirus epidemic has been sent to a South African court, and more prosecutions for suspected price gouging will follow, the competition watchdog said on Wednesday.

The Commission is investigating more than 300 complaints against retailers and suppliers for overcharging essential commodities at a time when South Africa is already reeling under a shortage of medical supplies and equipment.

President Cyril Ramaphosa announced a 21-day lockdown from March 27 and later extended it to the end of April to contain the spread of coronavirus. South Africa has already seen about 2 500 coronavirus-led infections and 34 deaths, according to the health ministry.

The lockdown has barred sale of non-essential items such as clothes, stationery and cosmetics but it also disrupted supply chains for groceries and other essential commodities such as sanitisers and medicines.

Most complaints of excessive

pricing were related to hand sanitisers and face masks, followed by toilet paper, flu medication and other products during the coronavirus outbreak, the Competition Commission said last month.

The Commission said the first case that was referred to the Competition Tribunal was against Babellegi Workwear Overall Manufacturers, which had hiked the price of face masks by more than 500%.

The Tribunal - which makes rulings and can prosecute cases - intends to hear the matter next Friday, the Commission said.

## CHARITY

## Three public schools in Biharamulo given NMB 15m/- material donation

By Guardian Reporter

THREE public schools in Biharamulo district of Kigoma region received desks, iron sheets, tables and chairs worth 15m/- courtesy of NMB Bank Plc.

The bank's acting Lake Zone Manager, Amos Mabusu said the donation is aimed at improving the learning environment at the public schools which are facing shortage of education materials. "This donation is part of the bank's profits which we invest back into communities that support our business," Mabusu said.

He said the donation which included 56 iron sheets, 60 desks and 140 tables with chairs and went to Biharamulo B Primary School, Kalenge and Katakoka Secondary Schools is part of 1bn/- allocated for investment in community projects by NMB Bank this year.

Mabusu said the bank's support to communities targets education, health and relief aid against disasters. "We have targeted education and health sectors because these are areas which cater for the majority of the people and face many challenges in terms of facilities," he noted.

The NMB Lake Zone Manager further said in collaboration with Ministry of Education, the bank has sensitized more than 41,781 youth in primary and secondary schools on the need to save and plan for the future through a program called, 'Jifunze, jipange, wajibika.'

Biharamulo District Commissioner, Sada Mahunde commended NNB's management and staff for regularly support community services in her district saying the latest donation will go a long way in preparing youths to

play a role in the government's industrialization drive.

"We have a serious shortage of infrastructure and materials in education and health sector in our district hence call upon other institutions to follow NNB's example to support us," Mahunde said while stressing that investing in social services is a priority for the government.

Acting District Education Officer for Biharamulo, Moris Rusasa seconded Mahunde's observation saying the district has serious shortage of classrooms which currently stand at 23 for secondary schools only. "Our district which has 14,000 secondary school students from form one to six, has 2,000 desks deficiency and 124 teachers mainly for science and mathematics," he noted.

## PROGRESS

# Emirates debuts on-site rapid COVID-19 testing for passengers

By Guardian Reporter

DUBAI based Emirates Airlines became the first global carrier to test passengers on-site for coronavirus before boarding planes to their destination.

In a statement, the carrier said in coordination with Dubai Health Authority, it started on-site Covid-19 testing last week

for passengers who flew to Tunisia. The quick blood test was conducted by the DHA and results were available within 10 minutes. This test was done at the airlines' check-in area of Dubai International Airport Terminal 3.

"The testing process has gone smoothly with innovative solutions. This would have not been possible without the support of

Dubai Airport and other government authorities. We are working on plans to scale up testing capabilities in the future and extend it to other flights," said Emirates Chief Operating Officer, Adel Al Redha.

Al Redha added, "This will enable us to conduct on-site tests and provide immediate confirmation for Emirates passengers travelling to countries that re-

quire COVID-19 test certificates. The health and safety of staff and passengers at the airport remain of paramount importance."

Commenting on the exercise, DHA's Director General, Humaid Al Qutami said the authority was glad to work with Emirates on the successful implementation of rapid COVID-19 testing at the airport for departing

travellers. "To tackle COVID-19, we have been proactively working with various governmental organisations and the private health sector and we have implemented all necessary measures from public health protection to provision of high-quality health services in line with the latest international guidelines," Al Qutami said.

"We believe strongly that the

most effective solutions require close partnerships with other public and private sector organisations," he noted.

The airline's check-in and boarding formalities have also been adapted with social distancing in mind with protective barriers being installed at each check-in desk to provide additional safety measures to passengers and employees during

any interaction. Gloves, masks and hand sanitisers have been made mandatory for all employees at the airport.

Passengers are also required to wear their own masks when at the airport and on board the aircraft, and follow social distancing guidelines. Emirates has modified its inflight services for health and safety reasons, the airlines stated in the statement



Emirates passengers take a rapid COVID-19 on-site test at Dubai International Airport Terminal 3.

## DIVERSIFICATION

## Over 20 Rwandan firms authorised to make COVID-19 protective gear

KIGALI

RWANDA Food and Drug Authority (FDA) on Friday approved a list of more than 20 domestic companies that have been authorized to turn their facilities into production of personal protective equipment.

The companies will be producing barrier and surgical masks, as well as face shields, and this is expected to support the country to cut down on the imports of these equipment. Dr. Charles Karangwa, the Director General of Rwanda FDA told The New Times on Saturday that the local companies were given green light after thorough assessment.

"Some (companies) have already been producing informally, so we have done an assessment and inspection of their premises to give them,

and others a go-ahead," he said. The companies include some of the big firms in production of garments like UTEXRWA, Pink Mango, Apparel Manufacturing Group (AMG), Pharmalab, and Bureru Garments, to mention but a few.

"We are now largely relying on imports, that's why we needed to revise the situation. There are a lot of constraints to imports from outside," the director noted. They are all expected to produce a combined 600,000 masks per day.

Dr. Karangwa indicated that some countries like the United States and China have already put restrictions on exports of personal protective equipment to protect their people. European Union, for instance, adopted a scheme last month to limit exports of medical supplies to other countries to

ensure enough supply in the bloc.

The President of the European Union Ursula von der Leyen said at the time that the EU adopted an export authorisation scheme for protective equipment. This means such medical goods can only be exported to non-EU countries with the explicit authorization of EU governments.

The move by domestic firms to produce needed protective gear that helps in the fight against the spread of Covid-19 would go a long way to fill the vacuum left by countries like those in the EU. Other countries are following the same move under the African Union Development Agency.

Apparel Manufacturing Group (AMG), one of the companies that has received green light, will put their 300 machines and 500 tailors to work to exclusively produce masks.

## GENEROSITY

# Vodacom Foundation donates 2bn/- to COVID-19 kitty

By Guardian Reporter

IN a bid to boost the government's coronavirus armour, Vodacom Foundation has donated 2bn/- to Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Ummu Mwalimu.

Speaking after receiving a dummy cheque for the donation in Dar es Salaam on Friday, Mwalimu commended the Vodacom Tanzania Plc for the gesture while calling for more concerted efforts in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

"So far there are 147 people who have been affected by COVID-19, eleven people have been treated successfully with five reported deaths. Out of 131 remaining patients, 127 are doing well," Mwalimu said noting that victims remain in quarantine because they are still testing positive.

In remarks made after handing over the paycheque, Vodacom's Managing Director, Hisham Hendi said the telco has taken preliminary in-house measures and in the community



Vodacom managing director Hisham Hendi

at large to support government efforts to curb spreading of the pandemic.

"The Vodacom Tanzania Foundation is making the donation to assist the government in its efforts to combat the coronavirus outbreak by purchasing medical equipment and supplies. We further extend our support to the government at all levels including Zanzibar Government and Mainland Tanzania's regional and local government working directly with approved vendors and suppliers in delivering the needed assistance," Hendi said.

Vodacom has been active in ensuring its efforts to combat the

outbreak of the Covid-19 reach the masses by working hand in hand with dedicated team of actors through the Ministry of Health to send over 100 million SMS to the telco's subscriber base of 14 million people.

"Vodacom can play a critical role in supporting society during this unprecedented time and is committed to doing its utmost during this rapidly evolving situation. We will endeavour to put measures in place to keep Tanzanians connected to their family and friends and to ensure businesses can continue to operate," the Vodacom chief assured.

He further emphasized the telco's willingness and commitment to assist the government in whatever way to successfully mobilise the public to take collective responsibility in preventing the spread of the deadly virus.

"We trust that our efforts will be well received to support the government at large in meeting the needs of the community that we serve, in these trying times," Hendi added. Vodacom Tanzania Foundation is the corporate social responsibility of Vodacom Tanzania Plc with the mandate to provide public benefit to vulnerable groups with a focus on women and youth.

## COVID-19

## Lockdown: Mkhize gives full support to cigarette, alcohol ban

JOHANNESBURG

HEALTH Minister Zweli Mkhize has supported the recent banning of sales of cigarettes and alcohol during the lockdown, as they had a negative impact on the health of people who had tested positive for coronavirus.

So far, cigarettes and alcohol sales have been temporarily banned in the country to assist government in curbing the rapid spread of the coronavirus. To date, a total number of 3 034 people have tested positive in 108 021 tests conducted, and two more deaths have been recorded.

The number of deaths has increased to 52. Alcohol Consumption May Increase Odds of Getting COVID-19, Says WHO. Alcohol sales have jumped since the pandemic started, but the World Health Organization (WHO) says drinking may be putting people more at risk. Addressing the nation on Saturday, Mkhize firstly highlighted that smoking caused to one's health.

"It is something we discourage. Once you have Covid-19 as an added infection, we believe that those who smoke are vulnerable because Covid-19 affects the ca-



South African Health minister Zweli Mkhize.

capacity of the lung to be able to process the normal day-to-day exchange of gases in the lungs. "We discourage people from smoking. I still have to find a good beneficial action that the tobacco has in an individual. In general terms, we discourage people from smoking and more so with this Covid-19," said Mkhize.

"We have been talking about active smoking and passive smoking. It induces so many conditions and other conditions

which are related to pulmonary diseases, or chest-related symptoms. "The problem with smoking is that it tends to affect the lining where people breathe and creates some reactions. In some instances, it can provoke a reaction where someone's lining is irritated and becomes easy to get infected," he said.

He said smokers could also get bronchitis, and even tuberculosis. "Beyond that, it affects the cardio-vascular system. Nico-

tine reduces flow of blood into the small blood vessels," Mkhize said. He said alcohol resulted in many problems, including neurological ones.

"Under the circumstances we are working in, we really need everyone to cooperate so we can reduce pressure in hospitals and the possibility of people being infected, because everyone is taking a very responsible approach when they are in sober senses," said Mkhize.

## ALERT

## Indian airlines asked not to sell tickets before final decision on lockdown

NEW DELHI

INDIA'S Aviation Ministry has asked airlines to take travel bookings only after a final decision on lifting or easing restrictions on domestic and international flights is announced.

"The Ministry of Civil Aviation clarifies that so far no decision has been taken to open domestic or international operations," Minister Harddeep Singh Puri said in a tweet late on Saturday. It wasn't immediately clear if it was a binding order or an advisory for the country's aviation sector.

The country is currently in the midst of a nationwide lockdown until May 3 to control the spread of coronavirus infections. India had initially announced a 21-day lockdown until April 14 and airlines had started selling tickets for flights before an extension until May 3 was announced on Tuesday. There's been no clarity so far if flights, especially international, will be allowed even when the lockdown is lifted.

Airlines are now selling domestic and international tickets for flights starting from May 4. National carrier Air India on its website on Saturday said it opened bookings on selected domestic routes from May 4 and international ones from June 1.

Most carriers have been offering credit instead of refunds if flights are cancelled due to the travel curbs as the ticket sales are providing them much-needed cash flow at a time when all other sources of revenue have dried up. Passengers worldwide are fighting against that practice, including in the US and some governments have ordered airlines to refund passengers without charging a cancellation fee.

DECELERATION

# Virus hands China its first economic contraction in decades

BEIJING

CHINA'S economy contracted for the first time in decades last quarter as drastic measures to contain the coronavirus pandemic brought activity to a standstill, official data showed on Friday.

Gross domestic product shrank 6.8% in the January-March quarter from the same period a year earlier, according to figures released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). It was the first negative growth reported by the world's second-largest economy since Beijing began logging quarterly data in the early 1990s.

The figure marks a sharp drop from China's six percent expansion in the fourth quarter of last year, but was slightly better than the 8.2% contraction forecast by economists in an AFP poll. Economists have long harboured doubts about the accuracy of the official Chinese data, however, suspecting that the numbers are massaged for political reasons.

And analysts have warned of tougher times ahead, with weaker external demand for Chinese goods to weigh on growth as key export markets are battered by Covid-19. "We are now facing rising pressure in the prevention of imported epidemic infections, as well as new difficulties and challenges for resuming work and production," NBS spokesperson Mao Shengyong told a press conference.

1976. The International Monetary Fund has pegged China's 2020 full-year expansion even lower at 1.2% but predicts a strong rebound to 9.2% in 2021.

It has also painted a grim picture of the global impact of the Covid-19 outbreak, forecasting the deepest economic contraction since the Great Depression of the 1930s. Friday's data showed a 1.1 decline in industrial output for March, reflecting lingering damage from factory shutdowns even as travel restrictions in the country were progressively eased and businesses stirred back to life.

Retail sales also plummeted 15.8% last month as many consumers stayed home and avoided crowds due to fears of a resurgence in virus cases. But the urban unemployment rate dropped slightly to 5.9% last month, after surging to 6.2% in February.

**Underwhelming recovery**

China has set an ambitious target of eradicating extreme poverty and build-



China NBS spokesperson Mao Shengyong.

ing a "moderately prosperous society" by the end of 2020, but this is increasingly under threat from the pandemic fallout. "Public records suggest that at least half a million firms were dissolved in the first quarter and more are likely to close shop," said Capital Economics chief Asia economist Mark Williams in a report this week.

Surveys pointed to more layoffs in March, and unemployment will likely remain higher in the coming months, he said. Some analysts believe the worst has passed for China but still expect a slow recovery.

Williams said depressed demand in foreign markets could reduce Chinese exports - which account for 15% of national GDP - by as much as half. The impact on export demand may have shaved 1.8% points off China's real GDP growth in the first quarter, Nomura's chief China economist Lu Ting said earlier.

**Grim picture**

Full-year GDP growth expectations have fallen to 1.7%, according to AFP's poll - the worst annual performance since

CRISIS

## US jobless claims top 5.2 million, erasing a full decade of gains

NEW YORK

THE number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits fell last week to a still-massive 5.25 million, capping four weeks of coronavirus-related shutdowns that erased more than 10 years of job creation.

Initial jobless claims in the week ended April 11 followed 6.62 million the prior week, according to Labour Department figures Thursday.

The median estimate of economists was for 5.5 million, with projections ranging as high as 8 million. The four-week sum of 22 million filings compares with roughly 21.5 million jobs added during the expansion that began in June 2009.

The latest figures suggest an unemployment rate currently around at least 17% - far above the 10% reached in the wake of the recession that ended in 2009 - in a sign that the effects of shutdowns have spread well beyond an initial wave of restaurants, hotels and other businesses. Another reason for elevated claims is that Americans are getting through on outdated or overwhelmed systems after previously being stymied.

Even so, the data showed most states reported declines in claims from the prior week on an unadjusted basis, suggesting that the breakneck pace of job losses is starting to slow, if just a bit. Continuing claims, or the total number of Americans receiving unemployment benefits, jumped by 4.53 million to a record 12

million in the week ended April 4. Those figures are reported with a one-week lag. Other reports Thursday showed the broadening and deepening impact of efforts aimed at preventing the spread of Covid-19.

Housing starts slumped in March by the most since 1984, while manufacturing in the Philadelphia Fed's region contracted in April by the most since 1980. Last week also marked when banks were starting to lend to small businesses to keep payrolls intact, part of a \$2 trillion stimulus package. The Paycheck Protection Program was on the verge of depleting its \$349 billion in funds this week and lawmakers were haggling over boosting the plan, while many companies reported difficulty accessing the money.

In addition to the extent to which the pandemic is brought under control, the delivery of stimulus funds to Americans and businesses will help determine the speed of any recovery in output and employment. Most economists expect a rebound starting in the second half, though it could take several years or longer to return to employment levels seen before Covid-19 arrived in the US.

**State totals**  
California had the most claims last week, at about 661,000 on an unadjusted basis, down from 919,000 the previous week. New York was next at about 396,000, followed by Georgia at 318,000 and Texas at 274,000.



**ISIDINGO** MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

ITV PGM SCHEDULE	00:30	02:00	03:30	05:00	06:30	08:00	09:30	11:00	12:30	14:00	15:30	17:00	18:30	20:00	21:30	23:00	00:30																					
<b>SATURDAY 18 April</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Shika Bamba 5	10:30 Mjue Zaidi rpt	11:15 The Base rpt	11:45 The Great Queen Seonduk	12:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt	13:15 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	15:30 Igizo rpt: Mapito	16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	16:20 Igizo: Mtego	17:00 Shamsam za Pwani	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Igizo: Mapito	19:00 Jungu Kuu	19:30 Shika Bamba	20:00 Habari	21:00 Art and lifestyle	21:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:15 Kesho leo rpt	22:45 Isidingo rpt	01:30 DWTW											
<b>SUNDAY 19 April</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto Wetu	10:00 Isidingo	11:40 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt	12:00 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	15:00 Mwangaza	16:00 The Great queen Seonduk	16:45 ITV Top 10	17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Uchumi na biashara	19:00 Jarida la wanawake	19:30 Isidingo	20:00 Habari	21:00 Mrejesho	21:30 Chetu ni chetu	22:15 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost	23:00 Habari	23:30 The Base	00:30 DWTW												
<b>MONDAY 20 April</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 Habari	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap: Isidingo the need	10:00 Watoto wetu	11:00 ITV Top 10 rpt	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Igizo Mtego rpt	13:00 Mjue Zaidi	13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt	14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 The Base	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:10 Aibu yako rpt	18:15 Mapishi	18:45 Kesho leo	19:00 Afya ya Jamii	19:30 Isidingo	20:00 Habari	21:05 Dakika 45	22:00 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost	23:00 Habari	23:30 The Base										
<b>TUESDAY 21 April</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 Habari	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Isidingo	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Jungu Kuu rpt	11:00 The Base rpt	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Afya ya jamii rpt	13:00 Kipindi maalum: KTMDA	13:30 Igizo rpt: Mapito	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto wetu	17:00 The Base	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:10 Yu wapi	18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Uchumi na biashara	19:00 Jarida la wanawake	19:30 Isidingo	20:00 Habari	21:00 Mrejesho	21:30 Chetu ni chetu	22:15 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost	23:00 Habari	23:30 The Base	00:30 DWTW					
<b>WEDNESDAY 22 April</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Isidingo	09:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Uchumi na biashara	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 The Base rpt	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Dakika 45	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 The Base	17:30 Ibada ya kisilamu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mizengwe rpt	18:30 Shamba lulu	19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA	19:30 Isidingo	20:00 Habari	21:05 Kipima Joto	23:00 Habari	23:30 The Base	00:30 DWTW			
<b>THURSDAY 24 April</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habariz za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	19:00 Ijue Sheria	19:30 Isidingo	20:00 Habari	21:00 Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka	21:10 Aibu Yakol! Hata wewe?	21:15 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco	21:45 Ripoti Maalum:	22:15 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	23:00 Habari	23:30 The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera	2:00 DWTW	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habariz za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo												
<b>FRIDAY 25 April</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Isidingo	9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Usafiri wako rpt	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 The Base	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Jagina rpt	13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt	14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 The Base	17:30 Ibada ya kisilamu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mizengwe rpt	18:30 Shamba lulu	19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA	19:30 Isidingo	20:00 Habari	21:05 Kipima Joto	23:00 Habari	23:30 The Base	00:30 DWTW	
<b>SATURDAY 26 April</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Shika Bamba 5	10:30 Mjue Zaidi rpt	11:15 The Base rpt	11:45 The Great Queen Seonduk	12:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt	13:15 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	15:30 Igizo rpt: Mapito	16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	16:20 Igizo: Mtego	17:00 Shamsam za Pwani	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Igizo: Mapito	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Shika Bamba 5	10:30 Mjue Zaidi rpt	11:15 The Base rpt	11:45 The Great Queen Seonduk	12:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt	13:15 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	15:30 Igizo rpt: Mapito	16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	16:20 Igizo: Mtego	17:00 Shamsam za Pwani	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Igizo: Mapito
<b>SUNDAY 27 April</b>	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto Wetu	10:00 Isidingo	11:40 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt	12:00 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	15:00 Mwangaza	16:00 The Great queen Seonduk	16:45 ITV Top 10	17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Matukio ya wiki	19:30 Igizo: Mtego	20:00 Habari	21:05 Mizengwe	21:20 Mjue Zaidi	22:05 Bongo Movie:	23:35 ITV Top 10	00:30 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost														



US Labour Department Secretary

**CAPITAL**

<b>Sat 18 April</b>	08:00 CNN International	09:00 Drive It rpt	09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt	10:00 Culinary delight rpt	10:30 Innovation rpt	11:00 Out n' about rpt	11:30 Sports Gazette rpt	12:00 Usafiri wako rpt	12:30 Eco@Africa rpt	13:00 Business edition rpt	13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Kimchi Family	14:30 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?)	17:15 Tanzania Yetu rpt	17:45 Bundesliga Kick off	18:15 Capchat rpt	19:15 Mizengwe	19:30 The Decor	20:00 Korean Drama: Kimchi Family	21:00 Out n' About	21:30 Movie: The four horsemen	23:00 Series rpt: Itohan	01:00 Al Jazeera
<b>Sun 19 April</b>	08:00 CNN International	09:00 In good shape	10:00 Capchat rpt	11:00 Sports Gazette rpt	11:30 Korean Drama rpt: Kimchi Family	12:00 Jagina rpt	12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt	13:00 In good shape rpt	13:30 Series rpt: Itohan	15:15 Aibu yako	15:30 Drive it rpt	16:00 Dakika 45 rpt	16:45 Mizengwe rpt	17:00 The Decor rpt	17:30 Meza huru	19:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt	19:30 Tanzania yetu	20:00 Series: Itohan	20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?)	21:30 Capital Prime News	22:00 Capchat rpt	23:00 Al Jazeera
<b>Thurs 23 April</b>	06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?)	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Itohan	16:30 Culinary delight rpt	17:00 Innovation rpt	17:30 Meza Huru	19:00 Sports Gazette	19:30 Chetu ni chetu	20:00 Series: Itohan	20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?)	21:30 Capital Prime News	22:00 Capchat rpt	23:00 Al Jazeera						
<b>Wed 22 April</b>	06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?)	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Itohan	16:30 Culinary delight rpt	17:00 Innovation rpt	17:30 Meza Huru	19:00 Sports Gazette	19:30 Chetu ni chetu	20:00 Series: Itohan	20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?)	21:30 Capital Prime News	22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt	22:30 Eco@Africa	23:00 Al Jazeera					
<b>Frid 24 April</b>	06:00 Al Jazeera	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)	13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?)	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)	16:00 Series rpt: Itohan	16:30 Culinary delight rpt	17:00 Innovation rpt	17:30 Meza Huru	19:00 Sports Gazette	19:30 Chetu ni chetu	20:00 Series: Itohan	20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?)	21:30 Capital Prime News	22:00 Capchat rpt	23:00 Al Jazeera						

## WORLD

## Virus could kill 300,000 in Africa, even with interventions, says UN

BLOOMBERG

THE coronavirus pandemic could kill 300,000 people in Africa this year, even with assertive government measures to limit social interactions, according to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

Overcrowded slums with no access to water coupled with fragile health-care systems make the continent especially

vulnerable to the disease, the Addis Ababa-based body said in a report on Friday.

Countries across the continent have implemented measures from nationwide lockdowns, in which people are only allowed to leave their homes to buy food and medicine, to suspending schools, prohibiting public gatherings and halting all travel.

The report presents four scenarios



Ethiopian doctors attend training to use mechanical ventilators for COVID-19 patients at the American Medical Center (AMC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. (AFP)

and shows that zero interventions -- a worst-case scenario -- would lead to the death of as many as 3.3 million people in a continent with a population of 1.3 billion.

"How African countries respond to the COVID-19 crisis in the coming weeks will affect the

trajectory of national epidemics across the continent," it said.

The virus has killed 1,017 people in Africa so far, out of 154,213 deaths worldwide. However, the pace of contagion has picked up with the number of cases more than doubling to 19,895 in two weeks, according to data from the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

The pandemic also threatens to push as many as 29 million people into extreme poverty in a continent that is already home to nearly two-thirds of the world's destitute, Uneca said.

The continent's economy could contract as much as 2.6 percent this year.

A third of the 440 million formal and informal jobs in Africa could be affected as lockdowns across the continent deprive people of the means to make a living, according to McKinsey & Co.

Africa needs at least US\$200 billion to respond to the pandemic and its impact, Uneca said. An initial US\$100 billion is needed to beef up its health-care system and social-safety net and another US\$100 billion in emergency economic stimulus.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Friday urged creditors to grant a debt standstill for all developing countries, not just the poorest, Reuters reported. The International Monetary Fund should allocate new Special Drawing Rights to mobilize more resources, he said.

Agencies

## UN chief pledges to defeat COVID-19, rebuild fairer world

UNITED NATIONS



UNITED Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres pledged on Saturday night that all human beings should unite as one to combat the common enemy of coronavirus and rebuild a fairer world.

"Together, we will defeat this virus and rebuild a fairer world - as united global citizens and united nations," the UN chief said in his video message for "One World: Together At Home" concert organized by international advocacy organization Global Citizen.

"We face a crisis unlike any other. To overcome it, we must unite," he noted.

"Tonight, through the universal language of music, we salute the bravery and sacrifice of health heroes and others," said the secretary-general.

"As we do so, let's remember the most vulnerable," he said. "Please join our call for a global ceasefire to focus on our common enemy - the virus."

"Thank you for your support for the lifesaving work of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the other humanitarian agencies," said Guterres.

Speaking at a virtual press conference in Geneva on March 6, WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that his organization has been working with Global Citizen for several weeks on the "One World: Together At Home" concert series. "Now we're working with Lady Gaga to take this concept and make it even bigger," he said.

Xinhua

## Wang: Supporting WHO means safeguarding multilateralism

BEIJING

CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Saturday that at the critical moment when the world is combating the COVID-19 pandemic, supporting the World Health Organization (WHO) and its director-general is to safeguard the philosophy and principle of multilateralism.

He made the remarks when holding a phone conversation with WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, noting that the support is also an act to secure the United Nations' status and role and maintain the international solidarity in the face of the disease.

Wang (pictured) said he made the phone call to show that the Chinese government and people firmly support the WHO, expressing confidence that fair-minded people will tell right from wrong,

and that the international community and people across the world hold the same attitude.

Noting that Tedros was elected as the WHO director-general with a large margin and has since won a high degree of trust of member states, Wang said that Tedros, as the first director-general from a developing country on the African continent in particular, also symbolizes the advancement and development of human civilization.

Since taking office, the director-general has been actively committed to the cause of global public health and done a great amount of creative work, which has been highly commended by various parties, Wang said.

Wang said the WHO is needed to continue to play its due and important role in the fight against the epidemic.

The smears and attacks against the WHO have no factual basis,



and pressure and coercion will not enjoy popular support, he said, adding no country with conscience will support them.

Facing the epidemic, the WHO is needed by people of all countries, and is needed to save lives and eradicate the virus, said the Chinese foreign minister, expressing his belief that Tedros will lead the WHO to continue to coordinate the international community to jointly fight the epidemic in a professional and

scientific manner.

China always attaches great importance to the status and role of the WHO and is willing to increase its support for the organization through various channels based on the current cooperation, Wang said.

Wang noted that Chinese President Xi Jinping has, on various occasions, made it clear to the world that the coronavirus is the common enemy of humanity, and that only with solidarity and coordination can the international community prevail over the epidemic.

He said China stands ready to work together with all countries to strengthen anti-epidemic cooperation and overcome existing difficulties through thick and thin until a complete victory over the virus globally.

For his part, Tedros thanked China for its continuous and firm support for the WHO.

Xinhua

## US uses questionable approaches to designating terrorists - Ministry

MOSCOW

WASHINGTON uses questionable approaches while designating certain entities as terrorist organizations and adding them to relevant lists, and this fact is also confirmed by domestic US experts, the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement released on Friday.

The Russian Foreign Ministry referred to a report, issued by the US-based non-governmental organization Anti-Defamation League and the George Washington University, headlined 'White Supremacist Terror: Modernizing our Approach to Today's Threat.' The experts named Ukraine's nationalist organization, the Azov Battalion, as the main candidate for becoming designated as a terrorist organization by the United States.

"According to the report, this Ukrainian group presents an evident threat and fully complies with criteria of the blacklist of foreign terrorist organizations," the ministry said. "Estonian ultra-right group, Feuerkrieg Division, which has many US citizens in its ranks, is also mentioned in this context, as well as many others."

However, the US government has not yet paid attention to the opinion of experts.

"Regrettably, as we see, Washington is guided by another approach, based on habitual media-political manipulation and proverbial double standards," the ministry said.

"Conclusions of experts, who undertook to lay down recommendations, including with regard to expanding lists of terrorists, and Washington's reaction to them, once again raise serious doubts about motives of the US side, which brazenly uses its self-proclaimed authority to impose sanctions under the pretext of fighting global terrorism and extremism," the ministry said.

The US Congress recommended including the Azov Battalion into the list of terrorist organizations in the fall of 2019.

Agencies

## Coordinated, continuous international action essential for global recovery from pandemic - IMF

WASHINGTON

COORDINATED and continuous international action will be essential to support vulnerable countries, restore market confidence, contain financial stability risks, and spur global economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, a senior official of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has said.

"As countries implement necessary quarantines and social distancing practices to contain the pandemic, the world has been put in a Great Lockdown. The magnitude and speed of collapse in activity that has followed is unlike anything experienced in our lifetimes," Zhang Tao, deputy managing director of the IMF, told Xinhua in a recent written interview.

"At this point, there is great uncertainty about its severity and length of the economic downturn," he said.

The global economy is expected to contract sharply by 3 percent this year in a baseline scenario as a result of the pandemic, the worst recession since the Great Depression in the 1930s, according to the IMF's

latest World Economic Outlook (WEO) report released Tuesday.

Advanced economies will contract significantly by 6.1 percent in 2020, and emerging market and developing economies, which typically have growth levels well above advanced economies, will shrink by 1.0 percent, the report showed.

Citing the IMF's newly-released Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR), Zhang (pictured) said the global financial system has already been "dramatically impacted" by the pandemic.

"A further tightening of financial conditions and an intensification of the crisis could threaten global financial stability. The risks to the outlook, globally, are certainly on the downside," he said.

While advanced economies have already absorbed a severe blow, emerging markets and frontier markets could endure a crisis that causes intense economic, financial and social pain, Zhang warned.

"If the economic crisis intensifies, there is a risk - not a certainty, but a risk - that a financial crisis could occur," he said, noting emerging markets have seen exceptionally large



portfolio outflows since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak.

"The speed and magnitude of the capital outflows are unprecedented posing policy challenges" for emerging markets, Zhang said, adding the IMF Executive Board has just approved a new short-term liquidity line for countries with strong economic fundamentals, including many emerging markets.

The Fund's membership will also explore whether the use of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) could be helpful particularly to emerging market and developing economies, according to the IMF official.

"Particularly, a general SDR allocation has been practiced in the past, which by its nature would take time, likely several months as in the

past, to secure, as it was done in 2009 during the Global Financial Crisis," he said.

Zhang stressed that authorities should also take vigorous monetary, fiscal, and financial policies to cushion the impact of the shock, as "coordinated, continuous international action" will be essential to support vulnerable countries, restore market confidence, and contain financial stability risks.

"The IMF is working around the clock - it's all-hands-on-deck as we support our 190 member countries with policy advice, technical assistance, and financial resources," he said, adding the IMF has 1 trillion U.S. dollars in lending capacity.

The IMF official observed that the Chinese economy is "gradually turning around" after taking a hit in the first quarter due to the COVID-19 outbreak, as "market liquidity and financial stability are generally maintained."

"As a result, the widespread reopening of firms and the fact that employees are returning to work makes us hopeful that we will see a strong recovery starting in Q2," Zhang said.

Xinhua

## Nigerian president pays tribute to top aide killed by COVID-19

ABUJA

NIGERIAN President Muhammadu Buhari on Saturday paid tribute to his chief of staff, Mallam Abba Kyari, who died on Friday from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Mallam Abba Kyari was the very best of us. He was made of the stuff that makes Nigeria great," Buhari said while mourning the top presidential aide, Kyari, 67, who had had underlying health conditions, "was a true Nigerian patriot," the president said. He was notably one of the closest allies of Buhari.

"My loyal friend and compatriot for the last 42 years -- and latterly my Chief-of-Staff -- he never wavered in his commitment to the betterment of every one of us," said Buhari.

Kyari's passing marked the first high-profile death since the novel coronavirus hit the West African country.

Xinhua

## WHO timeline shows impartial response to pandemic fight

GENEVA

SINCE the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak, the World Health Organization (WHO) has taken timely and decisive measures with an objective, scientific and impartial response to guide global anti-epidemic cooperation, gaining wide recognition from the international community.

Despite the rapid spread of the pandemic, which, according to the latest figures of the WHO, has led to over 2.1 million cases and more than 146,000 deaths globally, the US administration announced earlier this week that it is halting funding to the WHO, after weeks of criticism of the

health organization and its handling of the outbreak.

While some Western politicians have politicized the virus and smeared the efforts of the WHO, China has called for solidarity and cooperation in the global fight.

In an article published in the Qushi Journal on Thursday, Chinese President Xi Jinping wrote that only with solidarity and cooperation can the international community prevail over the epidemic and protect humanity's common home.

TIMELY WARNINGS

As a specialized agency for public health, the WHO has striven to fulfill its purposes of collecting

information on various infectious diseases globally and issuing timely warnings.

The WHO "has largely served its purpose well" in the COVID-19 crisis, said Thomas Bollyky, director of the global health program and senior fellow for global health, economics, and development at the Council on Foreign Relations, a US think tank, urging Washington not to "degrade it amid a crisis."

On Jan 5, the WHO published its first disease outbreak news on the new virus, including a risk assessment, advice, and China's reports on the virus, two days after China informed the organization of



the outbreak, as well as relevant countries and regions.

On Jan 12, the agency said in a press release that "China shared the genetic sequence of the nov-

el coronavirus, which will be of great importance for other countries to use in developing specific diagnostic kits."

On Jan 31, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus declared the outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), sending the highest level of alarm.

On March 11, Ghebreyesus said at a press conference that "COVID-19 can be characterized as a pandemic."

The WHO quickly declared a PHEIC and classified COVID-19 a pandemic soon after, Lawrence Gostin, a public health law professor at Georgetown University,

tweeted on April 8, adding that "US/Europe had time to prepare. They didn't! Easy to blame @WHO, but it's our fault."

US President Donald Trump is attacking the WHO "because he loves to have international targets that deflect from his own performance on the pandemic," Darrell West, director of governance studies at Brookings Institution, a Washington DC.-based think tank, told Xinhua.

In addition to sounding warnings at critical moments, the WHO always sends experts to virus-hit regions to collect information to better understand the situation.

On Jan 28, a senior WHO delega-

tion led by Ghebreyesus traveled to China's capital Beijing.

On Feb 16, the WHO-China Joint Mission, consisting of 25 experts from eight countries and the WHO itself, began its nine-day field study trip in Beijing and the provinces of Guangdong, Sichuan and Hubei.

"China's good cooperation with the World Health Organization has enabled various national authorities to prepare, as best as possible, for the difficulties brought by the wave of contamination," former French prime minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin told Xinhua.

Xinhua



# Heroic city of Wuhan makes important contribution to global fight against Covid-19

By He Yin

WUHAN, once the epicenter of COVID-19, is now receiving close attention from the international community as it lifted outbound travel restrictions and orderly restored outbound traffic on Wednesday, April 8.

Wuhan awakens from two months of coronavirus isolation, and the end of lockdown has a huge significance for the entire China.

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus pneumonia had thrown the city into a 76-day stagnation, but the unusual experiences of the anti-pandemic battle will always be remembered by history, astonishing the world with indomitable Chinese spirit and unyielding Chinese power.

China's decisive and strict lockdown of a city with a population of over 10 million demonstrated the country's responsibility for its people's lives and health, its institutional advantage to concentrate resources to accomplish large undertakings, as well as its outstanding leadership, coping capacity, mobilization and implementation. China, racing against time to achieve a final victory, displayed its image of a responsible major country and received high reputation from the international society.

What's unforgettable for the world in this fight against the pan-



Members of the second medical team assisting Hubei from north China's Shanxi province pose for a picture, facing the Yangtze River with their flashlights on March 23, 2020. They hope Wuhan achieves an early win over COVID-19. Photo by Wang Changqing/People's Daily Online

demetic is also the heroic people in the heroic city. Wuhan was a window for the world to know more about China during this special period. WHO Assistant Director-General Bruce Aylward said that China has demonstrated phenomenal collective action and cooperation spirit. He noted that every Chinese has a high sense of responsibility and is willing to sacrifice and make contribution to defeating the virus.

Foreign experts agreed that China's forceful measures have significantly changed the stats curve that demonstrates the development of

the pandemic.

A joint research done by American, UK and Chinese scientists published on Science indicated that Wuhan travel restriction delayed spread of the virus to other cities in China by 2.91 days, and reduced total COVID-19 cases by 96 percent. As of mid-February, the lockdown has prevented nearly 80 percent of international transmission, playing a vital role in curbing the pandemic from further spreading.

"I would like to appreciate them and thank them for their cooperation for believing that the actions

they are taking protect the people and protect the rest of the world," said WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus at a press conference in February.

"To the people of Wuhan, it is recognized that the world is in your debt," Aylward also expressed his appreciation to Wuhan and its people. He believes it is Chinese people's resilience and dedication that have largely contained the spread of the virus.

The success in Wuhan inspired people across the world that are still in fight against the pandemic,



A batch of medical materials donated by the Chinese government to Malaysia arrive at Kuala Lumpur International Airport on March 28, including 100,000 nucleic acid test reagents, 100,000 pieces of N95 masks, 500,000 pieces of surgical masks, 50,000 protective suits and 200 portable ventilators. Representatives from Malaysian National Disaster Management Agency received the materials at the airport. Photo courtesy of the Chinese Embassy in Malaysia

and the city's approaches and Chinese experiences, such as traffic control and building makeshift hospitals, offered valuable reference for other affected countries.

"Wuhan provides a window into the uncertain, post-virus future," said Bloomberg in a recent report. The Lancet also noted that evidence suggests that the colossal public health efforts of the Chinese government have saved thousands of lives, saying there are important lessons that presidents and prime ministers can learn from China's experience.

Dominique Bertrand, president of French National Commission of Public Health said that China's quarantine measures achieved very good results, and set an important reference for France.

In an open letter to Wuhan, Olivier Guyonvarch, Consul General of France in the city said China-France friendship has set a great example for the mutual assistance they offered in the pandemic. He believes only by solidarity can the world achieve the final victory over COVID-19. His words revealed that Wuhan's success has enlightened

and injected confidence into the world.

From the bitter cold winter to the warm spring with the blooming cherry blossoms, Wuhan has achieved significant results in containing the virus, inspiring the people all over the world. Wuhan, singing an anthem for life, is conveying a message to the world that human beings will finally prevail. By fighting the pandemic with solidarity and cooperation, the dark clouds of the virus will finally be expelled, and human beings will eventually embrace the vigorous spring.

## Medical assistance to Africa remains vital for securing victory over Covid-19

"WE are gravely concerned with the serious risks posed to all countries, particularly developing and least developed countries, and notably in Africa and small island states," leaders of the Group of 20 (G20) said in a joint statement recently issued on COVID-19.

"We consider that consolidating Africa's health defense is a key for the resilience of global health."

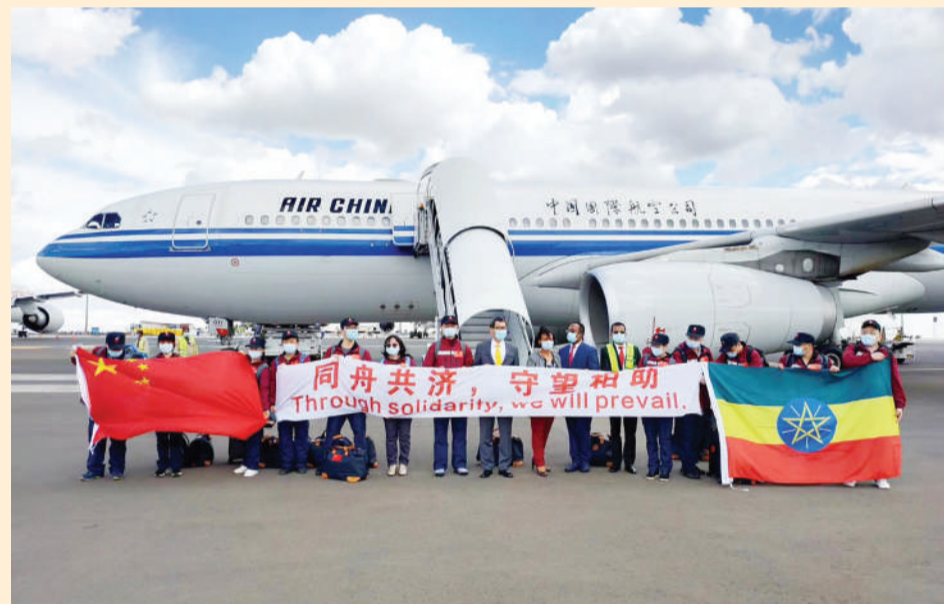
The special attention paid to Africa reflects the consensus reached by each party to cope with the health crisis with solidarity, and also highlights the importance of global assistance to Africa which plays a significant role in securing the final victory over the COVID-19 pandemic.

Virus respects no border, and only international cooperation can help the world defeat it.

At the recent G20 Extraordinary Virtual Leaders' Summit on COVID-19, Chinese President Xi Jinping called on the world to help developing countries with fragile public health systems enhance response capability. His proposal powerfully consolidated the solidarity of the international community to fight the pandemic, and is of great practical significance for patching up the weaknesses of global public health.

To offer assistance to those in need within the best ability and join hands with African countries to fight the pandemic are exactly what's needed at present.

The first batch of donation of test kits from China to the Africa Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) had arrived in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia a month ago, and since then follow-up donations of medical



An anti-pandemic medical expert team, dispatched by the government of China, arrived by charter plane on April 16, to assist Ethiopia's efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19. Photo courtesy of the Chinese Embassy in Ethiopia.

materials to African countries kicked off in batches.

Chinese disease control experts had a video conference with representatives from Africa CDC and over 20 African countries to share China's experience and discuss solutions. The majority of the \$20 million China donated to the WHO will also be used to aid developing countries including those in Africa.

Besides, Chinese provinces, municipalities, enterprises, as well as overseas Chinese associations are also mobilized to help Africa under the guidance of Chinese government, contributing to Africa's efforts to fight the pandemic through multiple forms

and channels.

China is in a leading position to assist Africa amid COVID-19 from almost all aspects, including material donation, information exchange, experience sharing, private sector mobilization and third-party cooperation with international organizations.

The assistance coming from thousands of miles away indicates the sincere friendship between China and Africa, as the two parties have always been a pair of good friends, partners and brothers that support each other and offer mutual assistance.

African countries and organizations have provided powerful and valuable support for China in various forms since the coun-



Chinese enterprises make cash donation to the Ghanaian government to assist the fight against COVID-19. Photo courtesy of the Chinese Embassy in Ghana

try was hit by the novel coronavirus pneumonia, and this friendship will never be forgotten by Chinese government or society. China's assistance to Africa demonstrates morality, responsibility and vision.

It shows China's care for the world by offering timely help, as well as a global vision that enables it to provide mutual assistance to cope with the current difficulties.

By standing firmly with Africa, China has perfectly illustrated their brotherly friendship with which the two sides share weal and woe.

Cooperation is the only right choice to cope with major public health security crisis. Six years ago, China showed its right-

eousness and caring as the first country to assist Africa in combating the Ebola virus.

This time, it once again lent a hand to Africa in controlling the novel coronavirus and upgraded China-Africa cooperation on epidemic prevention, setting a new example for international medical aid to Africa with concrete actions.

"United, we can move the mountain." As such slogans printed on the packages of the Chinese donations to Africa.

The world is one in fighting the pandemic, and the light of cooperation will finally dispel the shadow of disease as long as the world works together with solidarity.

## Chinese enterprises quicken steps to resume production

By Lu Ya'nan, Ding Yiting

CHINA'S official Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose to 52 percent in March, up 16.3 percentage points from February, according to data jointly released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing.

As a month-on-month economic indicator, PMI reflects the short-term changes in economic activity. Generally speaking, 50 percent separates monthly growth from contraction.

When PMI is above the 50-point mark, it indicates an expanding manufacturing economy, and when the figure is below 50 percent, it reflects that the economy is generally contracting.

"The data can be interpreted to mean that half of the manufacturing enterprises embraced positive changes in production and business operations in March," according to Zhao Qinghe, a senior statistician with the NBS.

Statistics from Chinese steel trading website Zhaogang.com indicated that the country's steel trading volume stood at 880,000 tons in February, only 30 percent

of last year's average level. However, the figure increased explosively in March.

With positive changes taking place in domestic epidemic control and prevention, downstream manufacturing and construction industries resumed production at a faster pace in March, noted Gong Yingxin, secretary of the Party committee and senior vice president of Zhaogang.com.

Gong disclosed that the daily steel trading volume on the platform has reached 160,000 tons, four times that in February, and the platform's trading volume has generally recovered to last year's average.

Crown Advanced Material Co., Ltd. is a manufacturer of multi-functional composite materials based in Yichun of east China's Jiangxi province.

In March, it kicked off the second phase of a project of protective film, solar backboard and lithium battery aluminum plastic film production with a total investment of one billion yuan (\$141.6 million).

"Our orders have expanded by 30 percent year-on-year since we resumed production. In March we delivered orders worth \$4.5 million to our overseas clients,"



Workers assemble a locomotive for an order from Nigeria, one of the Belt and Road countries at CRRC Qishuyan Co., Ltd. located in Jiangsu Changzhou Economic Zone, April 2. The locomotive is among the second batch of 11 Chinese locomotives being exported to Nigeria, which are all made with Chinese standards and technologies. Upon delivery, they will be running on Nigeria's Abuja-Kaduna Rail Line and Lagos-Ibadan Rail Line, which are both built in accordance with Chinese standards. Photo by Shi Kang/People's Daily Online

said Yan Hongjia, president of the company.

China made positive progress in coordinating epidemic control and economic development in March, and enterprises have been resuming production at a faster speed, said Zhao.

However, the single-month rise doesn't necessarily mean the

production and operation have been back to pre-outbreak levels, according to head of the Service Survey Center with the NBS, who told People's Daily that the upturn of economy only comes when the PMI moves up for at least three consecutive months.

A survey indicated that enterprises still face significant pres-

sure to further boost production and operation despite the expanding PMI, Zhao pointed out.

In March, 41.7 percent of manufacturing enterprises reported insufficient capital provisions, up 2.6 percentage points from the previous month and 52.3 percent reported sluggish market demand, 4.1 percentage points

higher than February.

Zhongjie Footwear Co., Ltd. in Yifeng county, Yichun of Jiangxi province mainly exports shoes to Europe and the U.S. Due to the global spread of the pandemic, its export orders for the following months have shrunk by 40 to 50 percent, which brings a monthly loss of nearly 4 million yuan to a single branch factory of the company alone.

"We had planned to recruit 300 workers at the beginning of March to complete orders placed before the outbreak,

However, we didn't expect the pandemic to exacerbate so quickly overseas. Many of our foreign clients have been cancelling or postponing orders since mid-March," said He Jiating, head of the company.

The NBS statistics indicated that the index of new export orders and the import index of Chinese enterprises ticked up to 46.4 and 48.4 percent, respectively in March, but were still mired in contraction.

To match effective supply and effective demand is an important criterion to evaluate the effectiveness of production resumption.

In promoting resumption of work and production, the demand side must be improved, and supply-side structural reform should be deepened in a solid manner.

In addition, targeted measures should be rolled out based on market demand, so as to avoid inefficient and blind development, and reduce overstaffing, wasting of materials and inefficient circulation of capital.

Doing so, the losses caused by the epidemic can be minimized and the foundation for further economic recovery is consolidated.

Currently, epidemic control and the economic situation are seeing major new changes, both in China and abroad, Zhao said. The country faces huge pressure brought by imported cases of novel coronavirus disease, which challenges its economic development, especially the recovery of the industrial chain.

Therefore, PMI data need to be further observed.



Lady Gaga

## 'One World: Together At Home' to be aired to support fight against Covid-19

By Guardian Reporter

THE MultiChoice Tanzania is proud to announce that One World: Together At Home – a globally televised and streamed special in support of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, will again be aired on BET and Comedy Central today at 17:30 EAT.

The program had first been aired on Vuzu last Saturday at 21:00 EAT, and on MTV Africa the following day at 22:00 EAT.

Launched by international advocacy organization Global Citizen, and the World Health Organization, One World: Together At Home will show unity among all people who are affected by COVID-19 and will also celebrate and support brave healthcare workers doing life-saving work on the front lines.

Curated in collaboration with Lady Gaga, the One World: Together At Home broadcast special will include performances and appearances by Alicia Keys, Amy Poehler, Andrea Bocelli, Awkwafina, Billie Eilish, Billie Joe Armstrong of Green Day, Burna Boy, Camila Cabello, Celine Dion, Chris Martin, David & Victoria Beckham and Eddie Vedder.

Others are Ellen DeGeneres, Elton John, FINNEAS, Idris and Sabrina Elba, J Balvin, Jennifer Lopez, John Legend, Kacey Musgraves, Keith Urban, Kerry Washington, Lang Lang, Lizzo, LL COOL J,

## 'Big Three' discussing ways to help lower-level players, says Djokovic

LONDON

NOVAK Djokovic has been in touch with fellow ATP Player Council members Roger Federer and Rafa Nadal to discuss ways to assist lower-ranked players facing financial struggles amid the novel coronavirus outbreak, the world number one said on Saturday.

Answering a fan's question during his Instagram live chat with Stan Wawrinka, Player Council chief Djokovic said steps would be taken to ensure that only those players who are most deserving will benefit from any relief plans.

"I spoke to Roger and Rafa a few days ago and we had a conversation about the near future of tennis. How we can contribute to help lower ranked guys who are obviously struggling the most, Djokovic said.

"A majority of players ranked between 250 to 700 or 1,000 don't have federation support or sponsors and are independent and left alone."

The tennis season was suspended in early March due to the pandemic, leaving players in the lower tiers who depend solely on tournament winnings without the chance to earn a living.

The plight of players ranked outside the top 100 in singles has prompted the game's stakeholders – the ATP, WTA, ITF and the organisers of the four Grand Slams – to devise plans to provide some assistance.

"Players hopefully will (also) contribute collectively to the relief fund that the ATP (and others) will distribute using models and criteria," Djokovic added.

"You want to avoid giving money to player who fits into this category (low ranking) but does not need the money compared to someone else... hopefully between \$3-4.5 million will be distributed to lower-ranked players."

Djokovic, a 17-times Grand Slam champion, said other short-term solutions could include diverting bonus money meant for top players from season-ending events like the ATP Finals into the relief fund.

"If we don't have any events (in 2020), maybe next year's Australian Open prize money can be contributed to the fund," the Serb added.

"I'm glad the tennis eco-system is coming together. Everyone realises the base of tennis. These guys ranked 250 onwards are the ones making the future of tennis.

"We have to show them they're not forgotten. We also have to send a message to young players that they can live out of tennis when there's a financial crisis."

Meanwhile, tennis personality Patrick McEnroe has recovered from the coronavirus, he said on Saturday while praising the efficiency of New York's drive-through testing operation.

"Great news for me and my wife Melissa. We both tested negative for COVID-19," McEnroe said in a short video he posted on Twitter.

"We just got the tests back this morning from New York state. We both went to the drive-through which I had gone to a few weeks ago.

"It was even more efficient this time, there were six lines instead of two, lots more people helping out, a very efficient operation."

McEnroe, the younger brother of seven-times grand slam champion John, said on March 31 that he had a confirmed case of the coronavirus.

New York City and the surrounding suburbs have been hard hit by the virus.

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said on Saturday that about 2,000 people were still being hospitalised every day, though he expressed cautious optimism that the peak of the epidemic may have passed.

REUTERS

## CAF competition format disturbing moods at leading clubs in Tanzania

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

CHANGING the continental competition format from the two top clubs in the national Premier League to the league winner and winner of the equivalent of a federation cup is apparently the case of unsettled and often chaotic moods in leading clubs in the city of Dar es Salaam.

For once, it was alright earlier to finish at number two in the Premier League season, as it was dejecting but retained club dignity, as it shifted the competition to the continental scene. It was a matter of who was now going to survive the grueling continental contention, either champs or runners up.

With the decidedly low key federation tournament replacing the second slot place in the Premier League to pick the participant in the second tier CAF tournament, the Confederations Cup, the situation is different. Winning the league has become all too important, and as it is a competition taking the whole season and is indeed the reason for having major clubs, not the more eclectic and sporadic federation cup tourney.

The other competition is not capable of taking away the prestige of the premier league, and when it is given the slot for contention in CAF, it is only to downgrade the performance of other clubs, chiefly the runners up in the premier league, simply.

In addition, the tournament that is



Yanga vice chairman Fredrick Mwakalebela

more or less equivalent of a regional club championship, the Kagame Cup, has usually been a voluntary event, in which case when a city rival side feels it isn't adequately prepared to meet their archrivals, or habitually wishes to avoid them, it skips the competition.

Dissimilar to the CAF events, the regional content is an event that a team flies there and participates during one week and then leaves, where the rewards don't match efforts that have to be invested to do well in the tourney. Were it a regional league that would be something else, and then a continental league be reserved for winners and runners up of regional leagues.

There is a penchant somewhere in CAF for making Africa a country, taking up the European example, whereas Europe is limited in territorial expanse and its league structure is

lucrative to an extent, down to second or third division.

In Africa the lower divisions can compare in some flashes of talent with premier league sides, but cannot upsterling competition for continuous periods of time as the basic structures and resources are not comparable. In other words there is need to give priority to the premier league to skip unnecessary instability due to devaluation.

This is what is now being noticed especially at Jangwani Street, and not so long ago it was Msimbazi Street which was riven with divisions and factions, one of whose results is to increase the level of not just rivalry but hostility towards the next street rivals.

The reason is that when someone is distressed inside it will show on the outside, and that is why reports say that it is being noticed that lockdowns due to the coronavirus lead to a rise in domestic violence and abuse. Part of the reason is that lockdown is quite often an economic downturn in fortunes, and it is hard to maintain a placid and harmonious domestic environment amid crying insufficiencies.

There were intimations in the past relating to Simba SC leaders trying to corrupt players of the rival club, and that story was hushed up because people did not wish to take issues with its authenticity and accuracy. And lately a leading official of the club

whose player made rather gratuitous claims on the rival club comes out and makes claims that he ought to have known they plainly invite disciplinary measures on his side.

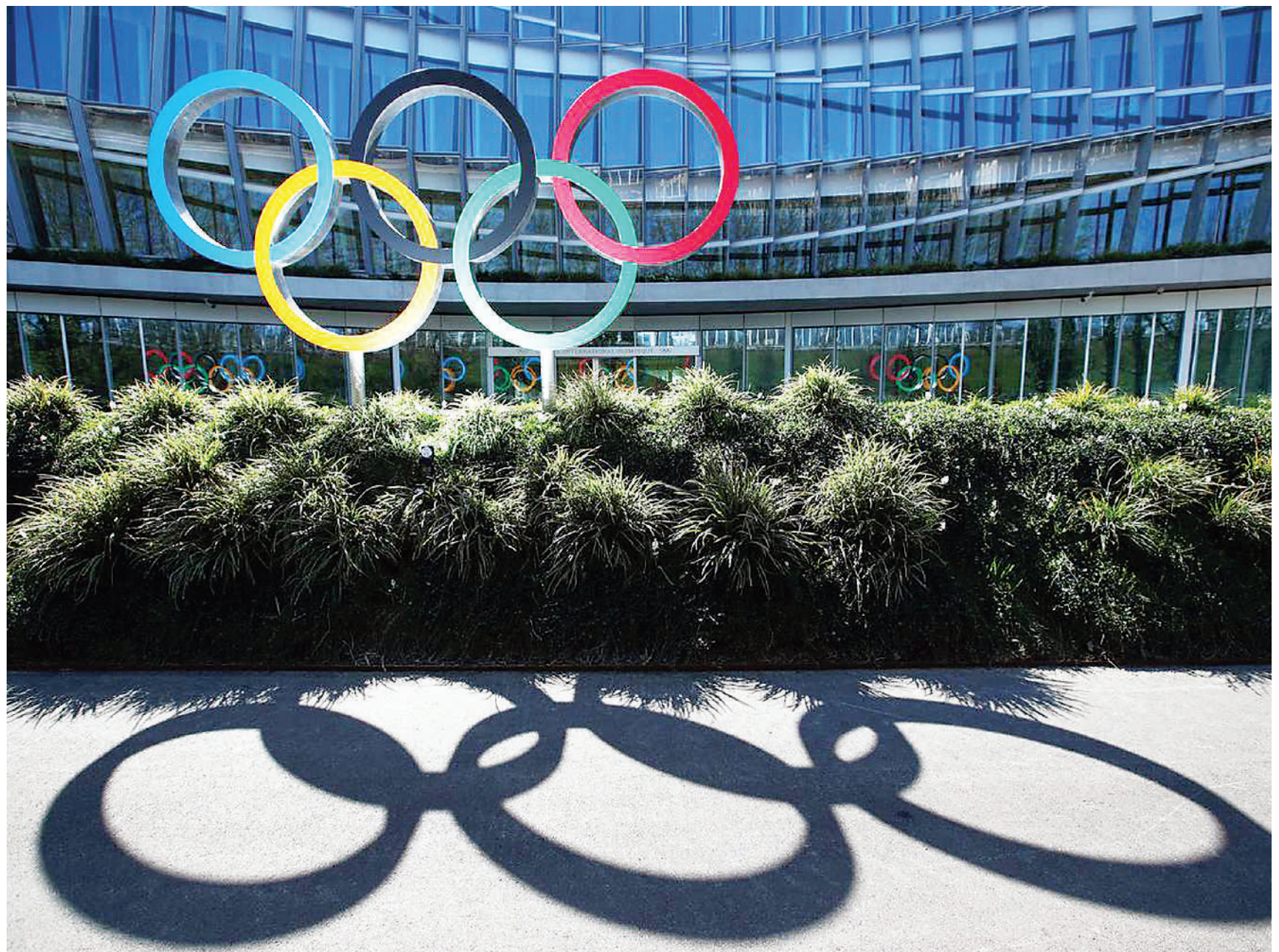
As the fellow is an experienced sports organizer even with administrative experience in the federation itself, making claims that designate him as a shooting target is sort of bizarre, efforts to apologize notwithstanding. Was it really accidental?

The latter claim like the previous seem to relate to a style, of unnerving the other side and bringing up unnecessary quarrels in its ranks, which would bring up the morale of the weaker side, or so on the basis of championship data until the coronavirus pandemic set in.

Even with a morale boosting draw and then victory over their archrivals, the fact that this can scarcely lead to handing the championship and therefore a prestigious continental competition leaves a dry taste in the mouth. Leadership is thus reduced to fomenting discord on the other side of the invisible soccer curtain in downtown Dar es Salaam, so that pundits have something to talk about.

It is to win a propaganda war and psychological unsettling of the rival club, so that the club's resource standing is weakened if the sponsorship structure begins to wobble, strategic sabotage as it were.

## Too early to worry coronavirus will further delay Tokyo Games



FILE PHOTO: The Olympic rings are pictured in front of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) headquarters, during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak, in Lausanne, Switzerland, March 24, 2020. REUTERS

LONDON

IT is premature to think the novel coronavirus outbreak will further delay the Tokyo Olympics, which have already been postponed a year, Brian McCloskey, an expert on global health security and outbreak prevention told Reuters.

Under increasing pressure from athletes, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and Tokyo Games organisers last month postponed the 2020 Games for one year as the coronavirus spread, shutting down global sport.

Yet as countries try to beat back the pandemic, with experts predicting a vaccine is still 12-18 months away, questions have begun to surface as to whether a year's delay is sufficient time to stage the Games in a safe environment. "I think that's probably a little bit premature in the sense that we've got 15 months more of planning

and preparing for the Olympics in 2021," McCloskey said. "So, I think it's premature to say it's unrealistic (that the Olympics cannot be held in 2021)."

"Clearly, having a vaccine would be extremely helpful, not just for the Olympics, but for all of us. But even without a vaccine I think there are other mitigation measures we will look at to make sure we can run the Games safely.

"So, it's a challenge, but I'd say it's too soon to say it can't happen."

The number of confirmed novel coronavirus cases in Japan rose to 10,000 on Saturday, public broadcaster NHK said, just days after a state of emergency was extended to the entire nation in an attempt to slow the spread of the virus.

WAIT-AND-SEE APPROACH

Just over 200 people have died from the virus in Japan.

"This year for Tokyo, it got to the point where the amount of mitigation

that would have been needed was more than we could ask the Japanese government to do when the Japanese government needed to be focusing on looking after its population," said McCloskey, a member of the World Health Organization Novel Coronavirus-19 Mass Gatherings Expert Group.

"But that could well have changed by next year. So, it's quite possible that the outbreak will be at a level where it's manageable without any particular risk. "Or it may be that the vaccine arrives, it may be there's treatment available. So, we just need to think through the options and not jump to too many conclusions too quickly."

McCloskey's wait-and-see approach sounds similar to the one taken by the IOC before it decided to postpone the Games amid mounting criticism.

Athletes were angry at being left in a state of limbo by the IOC and Tokyo organisers and while

the postponement has provided a cushion, the clock is once again ticking.

Sports leagues and federations around the world are preparing to emerge from the outbreak and return to action with most seemingly resigned to the fact they will be played in empty arenas and stadiums until it is safe for fans to come back.

"So, we can run through to this time next year," said McCloskey, looking ahead to a 2021 Summer Games. "After that it gets more problematic because people have spent a lot of money, athletes have to make up their mind whether they can come or not.

"So, it gets more and more difficult the closer you get. But I'd say there's a willingness and an enthusiasm to make sure it happens properly.

"So, people will try hard and I think they'll hang on to the last minute to see whether it's safe to go."

REUTERS

## Premier League clubs discuss options but left in limbo

MANCHESTER, England

PREMIER League clubs on Friday discussed possible models for finishing the current season but did not consider a specific date for play to resume while U.K. government lockdown restrictions remain in place.

Representatives of the 20 teams took part in a conference call to look at various possible options for restarting the season and remain committed to completing the fixtures rather than voiding the season.

But after the government announced on Thursday that the lockdown would remain in place for at least another three weeks, all options remain hypothetical.

A Premier League spokesperson said: "Today's Shareholders' Meeting provided an opportunity to discuss possible scheduling models. It remains our objective to complete the 2019-20 season but at this stage all dates are tentative while the impact of COVID-19 develops."

"In common with other businesses and industries, the Premier League and our clubs are working through complex planning scenarios."

"We are actively engaging with stakeholders, including broadcast partners, and our aim is to ensure

we are in a position to resume playing when it is safe to do so and with the full support of the Government.

"The health and wellbeing of players, coaches, managers, club staff and supporters are our priority and the League will only restart when medical guidance allows."

There was no discussion during the meeting of the possible complications that could be caused by the season running beyond June 30 – when some player and manager contracts run out.

World soccer's governing body FIFA has stated that contracts should be adjusted to reflect the actual end of the season. However, that issue could be open to challenge under English law.

The Football League (EFL), which represents the three divisions below the Premier League, has said that teams should not return to training before May 16 "at the earliest".

Should teams be allowed to train it is expected they would need two-to-three weeks to get prepared for the return to action, making the earliest possible return in June.

But with the ban on mass public gatherings likely to be one of the last restrictions to be removed, rescheduled games could well be held behind closed doors.

REUTERS

## Ex-Italians join Brazilians rivals to combat coronavirus

MILAN

THEY were rivals on the field in one of the greatest World Cup matches of all time but the former stars of Brazil and Italy have come together off it to help the South American nation fight the new coronavirus.

Italy beat Brazil 3-2 in the 1982 World Cup with three goals from Paolo Rossi helping the Azzurri knock out a Brazil team that featured Zico, Socrates, Junior and Leandro.

Brazilian midfielder Paulo Roberto Falcao has raised more than 4.5 million reais (\$859,270) with the help of his former team mates who recorded a video asking people to donate to help fight the spread of the coronavirus in Brazil's densely populated favelas.

Now, players on the Italy team that beat them have recorded

their own video.

Falcao, who played with AS Roma, asked his close friend and former team mate Bruno Conti to get the Italian players to each record a message.

Paulo Rossi, Giuseppe Bergomi and Claudio Gentile were among those who agreed to help.

"Italy and Brazil: rivals on the field but united against the coronavirus," said defender Franco Causio.

The players from both sides have remained close, with Socrates, Zico and Junior among those who played club football in Italy in the years following the 1982 World Cup.

In 1990, players from both sides got together in Pescara to replay the famous game in Junior's farewell match.

REUTERS---

## Spain set to finish soccer season without fans in stadiums

MADRID

SOCCER matches and other sports events in Spain will take place in empty venues at least until the end of the summer, the mayor of Madrid said Saturday.

Jose Luis Martinez-Almeida told the Onda Cero radio station that the coronavirus pandemic likely "won't be under control" by then for events with big crowds to resume normally.

"In the spring and summer there won't be any events with crowds in Spain, and possibly not in the fall either," Martinez-Almeida (pictured) said. "Because obviously the situation will not be fully under control. We will have to change our habits and behaviors even after being allowed to go back on to the streets."

Spain has been one of the hardest-hit countries with more than 190,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19, only behind the United States. More than 20,000 have died in the European nation.

The Spanish league is not expecting to resume at least until the end of May. It is working on several scenarios, including playing without fans through the fall.

"Soccer matches without fans in the summer is a possibility, as long as health and safety conditions are observed," Martinez-Almeida said.

The soccer federation said this week that if the league can't resume it will use the current standings to decide the four clubs to play in the Champions League, which would

mean giving the spots to Barcelona, Real Madrid, Sevilla and Real Sociedad.

The league has said the total losses for not finishing the season because of the pandemic could reach nearly 1 billion euros (\$1.1 billion). The losses if the league resumes with matches in empty stadiums would be about 300 million euros (\$325 million), and if it restarts with fans it would be nearly 150 million euros (\$163 million).

Martinez-Almeida also said it was a "mistake" for Atletico Madrid fans to play its Champions League game against Liverpool. Nearly 3,000 Atletico fans attended the game on March 11, just days before the Spanish government declared a state of emergency and established lockdown measures that are expected to remain in place at least until April 26.

AP



# Here's how many people are needed to play 'behind closed doors'

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

FOOTBALL behind closed doors sounds simple: Get the teams in, keep the fans out and limit the other attendees to those people who simply have to be there. But with the sporting world as a whole facing the reality of returning to action without spectators – once coronavirus lockdown measures are sufficiently relaxed – even playing in empty stadiums will be a complex issue.

In England, while a resumption date for the Premier League has not been mooted, the Football League is planning to return on June 6, which would be 12 weeks after football in the country was suspended. If, as has been suggested, the aim is to finish the season within 56 days of that date, we are talking about 541 games across the top five tiers – including the National League – of the English pyramid.

There is no expectation within the game that supporters will be allowed inside stadiums to watch their team play, but even though the stands will be empty, a professional football match requires people to do certain jobs and fulfill key roles. Up to 200, in fact.

"People don't realise just how many essential staff must be at a football match in order for it to go ahead," a senior figure at a leading EFL club told ESPN. "If, or when, football returns, you are looking at between 150 to 200 people inside a stadium, so it won't simply be a case of 22 players and the match officials."

"For example, we would need six safety officers, even for a closed-doors game. At a bigger Premier League stadium, you would need to multiply that five times, just to cover all the basic requirements. So when football does return, social distancing measures and numbers allowed for public gatherings will have to be much less stringent than they are right now."

One Championship club has given ESPN a full rundown of the minimum number of people it would expect at a game behind closed doors, and it amounts to 166. In the Premier League, rights-holder media alone would see that number leap toward 300.

A top-flight club source told ESPN that an average of 120 broadcast media are accredited for home games. The people you don't see – riggers, electricians, technicians, producers, camera crew and sound engineers – are just as important, if not more so, as the reporter or commentator; they will all need to be inside a stadium once football gets the green light to resume.

As for the teams, the modern-day game means we



For an event as big as a Premier League game, the concept of playing behind closed doors has a few caveats. (Agencies)

are talking about a lot more than two teams of 11, plus two managers and three match officials. To start, the two squads have 18 players, including substitutes, while the manager has an assistant and other coaches. The refereeing crew, meanwhile, comprises a referee and two assistants, plus a fourth official and refereeing assessor in the stands.

You cannot play a game without a physiotherapist, and no Premier League team has just one anyway. The kitman is another essential backroom staff member. And there also is a team of analysts that produces video data for clubs; as many as six members occupy seats in the Manchester City press box due to a lack of space on the bench.

Every club has a doctor; although if efforts are made to cut attendees to an absolute minimum, one on duty might suffice. Legally, though, there would be a necessity for at least four paramedics and an ambulance driver. With police also required, emergency services could be stretched.

Ball boys and ball girls might seem like an extravagance, but if the match ball ends up in Row Z of an empty stand, can you imagine David De Gea or Andy Robertson climbing the stairs to retrieve it? A medium-sized ground would require a team of 12 on the sidelines, with more needed at arenas the size of Old Trafford, the London Stadium or Tottenham's new ground.

Similarly, ground staff are required to ensure playing surfaces are in peak condition before, during and after games. Championship clubs can get by with four, but Premier League teams might employ as many as 20 people, armed with pitchforks and rollers.

Off the pitch, the list goes on: A club secretary liaises with match officials and oversees all matchday operations, and then there are electricians, maintenance workers, cleaners and catering staff. Digital advertising boards are used for televised games, and a technician must ensure they are running properly. A trivial job? Not when the

game is on television and sponsors are paying for the right to be seen.

And let us not forget VAR, which is a necessity for all Premier League games. A source told that ESPN that, under normal circumstances for a seven-match day, approximately 40 people would be needed. Beyond that, the smart technology behind the Hawkeye system that is used for goal-line reviews requires monitoring to ensure seven cameras in each goal work properly.

All of the aforementioned people will be monitored and guided by the stewards and officials, whose job it will be to keep the stadium secure – internally and externally – from fans who might try to sneak in.

So while the away team's bus driver might have to accept sitting outside, many staff cannot realistically be stood down for a closed-doors game. Even when football returns and the stands are empty, hundreds must be on hand for games to go ahead.

## No relegation if no more Premier League play, says Brighton owner

By Tim Vickery, ESPN South America correspondent

THERE is unlikely to be any relegation from the English Premier League if the season ends with no more play possible because of the coronavirus outbreak, Brighton and Hove Albion owner Tony Bloom has told British media.

Premier League clubs met on Friday to discuss possible models for finishing the season but all options remained hypothetical after the U.K. government extended lockdown restrictions for another three weeks.

Brighton were two points clear of the relegation zone with nine matches remaining when the league was brought to a halt on March 13.

If the season ended with no more play possible, Liverpool would claim the title and Norwich City, Aston Villa and Bournemouth would be for the drop.

Relegation means a financial hit somewhere in the region of \$100 million and Bloom thought it unlikely that the required 70% of clubs would vote to send the three teams down.

"It would be very difficult to relegate somebody, particularly from the Premier League, if the season hasn't played out," Bloom said.

"You may get a title winner, obviously Liverpool deserve it, you may use that criteria for European qualification, but I do not see how anyone can vote for that, certainly the percent needed for teams to get relegated."

With some teams having more matches remaining than others, another proposal is that a club's final position be decided by the average number of points they have won per game.

Bloom thought that option even less likely to succeed.

"I don't foresee a situation, if the season's not played out, that teams will get relegated on a points-per-game basis," he said.

"I just don't think it's fathomable that a team which is not allowed to play out the season may lose out on 0.2 points based on this system, and also it does not take into account the strength of the team you have not played."

Meanwhile, Arsenal's psychologist has been in constant communication with the Premier League club's players to offer any help they may need during the lockdown due to the novel coronavirus outbreak, manager Mikel Arteta has said.

Soccer in England has been suspended since March 13 because of the virus that has infected more than 2.23 million people globally causing over 151,000 deaths.

Arsenal's players have been self isolating since March 12 when Arteta tested positive for the virus – before the lockdown in Britain – and the Spaniard said that all efforts were being made to ensure the players were in good spirits.



Tony Bloom

"We have our psychologist that is looking after the players and is always in constant communication with them," Arteta told the club's website.

"But as well we're having feedback from different people and we're constantly sending information and videos and keeping them busy... keeping them close to their job and the people that are

related to their job, which is us and my coaching staff."

Arteta, who took over as manager in December after compatriot Unai Emery was sacked, said he was using the lockdown to understand his players better.

"We've been having some really good conversations," the former Manchester City assistant added.

"This time has been really helpful from my side, at least, to get to know the players better... we're trying to improve our relationship, the communication and understanding between us."

Arsenal are ninth in the league with 40 points from 28 matches.

REUTERS

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

Here's how many people are needed to play 'behind closed doors'

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Simba players take part in training in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for the Vodacom Premier League. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## BFT waiting for govt directive on Coronavirus curfew to host 2020 National Boxing Championship

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

BOXING Federation of Tanzania (BFT) has said it is waiting for the government's directive on lifting suspension of sporting events because of the Coronavirus disease to host the National Club Championships in Katavi in June.

The federation's secretary general Lukelo Wililo said it has planned to host the event in Katavi from June 25-30.

He disclosed the federation is though waiting for the government directive on lifting suspension on all sporting activities.

The government recently announced an indefinite suspension of all gatherings as a measure to control spread of Coronavirus disease in the country.

"The plan is to have National Club Championships take part in June, but all will depend on the government directive, as you know the government suspended indefinitely all gatherings which include sporting activities, but for now we are just waiting for the government's say on it," he said.

He said 15 clubs have confirmed to compete at the championships and JKT Boxing Club are the defending champions. They won the showpiece in Iringa last year.

Due the suspension of sporting activities, BFT also did not host the National Open Championships which was to be held in Tanga last February.

Meanwhile, Wililo said national boxing team's head coach David Yomba Yomba is monitoring the boxers who were earmarked for Tokyo Olympics' qualifiers, slated to be held in France.

He said the head coach is giving the boxers instructions through online on weekly basis.



Players who have been selected for senior national soccer team, Taifa Stars, take part in training session at National Stadium in Dar es Salaam recently to prepare for continental assignments. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## Taifa Stars' AFCON qualifier against Equatorial Guinea postponed

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA senior national football team, Taifa Stars, will have at least three catch up matches to play when the football world gets the go-ahead from world governing body, FIFA, to resume their international calendar that has been suspended because of the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic.

All international matches that were scheduled to be played between June 1 and 7 were canceled by FIFA last week.

The rest of the international games scheduled for later this year are also under serious threat of being postponed.

FIFA are considering scrapping international football until 2021 in order to allow the 2019/20 season to be completed with domestic

football seen as the priority over international fixtures.

FIFA vice-president Victor Montagliani has hinted that the traditional international fixtures scheduled during September, October and November could be postponed with a view to ensuring the domestic campaigns in members associations are completed.

When asked by Associated Press whether international fixtures were likely to be played before 2021, Montagliani said: "I personally think that might be a bit of a challenge, not so much because of just the health issues around the world and the various degrees of preparedness, but also committing to international travel as soon as we come back."

"I think that domestic football is a priority. September is still in the books, but I would garner to say that I'm not sure it's there on solid ground the way things are trending right now."

The move would allow three weekends

available for the domestic game whether that be outstanding 2019/20 fixtures or a delayed 2020/21 campaign.

Taifa Stars, who were polled together with Tunisia, Libya and Equatorial Guinea, were scheduled to play Equatorial Guinea in a third Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifier on June 5. The development follows the suspension of the back-to-back qualifiers against Tunisia last month.

In their opening AFCON qualifier, Taifa Stars came from behind to beat visitors Equatorial Guinea 2-1 late last year before losing 2-1 to hosts Libya.

They need to win at least two matches to qualify for the AFCON finals for the second consecutive time.

Having eliminated Burundi in the preliminary rounds, Taifa Stars qualified for the 2022 World Cup Group Stage Qualifiers and were drawn in Group J with DR Congo, Benin and Madagascar.

Taifa Stars were set to play two matches in October and November.

## Simba SC 'have no financial fears' over coronavirus shutdown- Manara

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE uncertainty around the Coronavirus disease (Covid-19) crisis will likely lead to a reduction in players' salaries and transfer fees in the Vodacom Premier League (VPL) following the pandemic.

The financial repercussions due to the ongoing Covid-19 crisis are becoming apparent with each passing day as many clubs are forced to slash off a part of the wages of their employees.

Various less popular teams in the league who are run on tight budgets and financial margins have already admitted to feeling the effects of the suspension of the league in terms of the loss of income that is generated from gate collections.

However, Simba who are reportedly to have the highest budget in the league, said they have not taken a big financial hit because their sponsors are still fully committed to their obligations.

The outfit's spokesman, Haji Manara, has revealed to Sowetan they are not financially distressed and will continue paying full salaries.

"We have not faced the harsh financial repercussions of the Coronavirus pandemic, we are more worried of the loss of momentum when the league resumes."

"We are fortunate the commitments of our multiple sponsors remain the same, and all our players will continue receiving their full salaries on time," he said.

Manara added that they had won two of their last matches before the season was halted and were building momentum but they will now have to restart all over again.

In their bid to keep the players fit during these tough times of inactivity the players have been given individual programs to work on under the supervision of the assistant coach, Selemani Matola.

Until the league was suspended, Simba were a mammoth 17 points clear of the second placed Azam FC.

Azam FC can now reach a maximum of 84 from their 10 remaining games, so Simba, also known as 'Msimbazi Reds', just need another four wins to seal the title.

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) and the Tanzania Premier League Board officials have said that doubts remain over when football can return as the country battles the coronavirus pandemic.

All sport in Tanzania was initially suspended for 30 days before being extended indefinitely as a result of Coronavirus pandemic which has killed four people and over 100 positive cases confirmed in the country.

**5 EATV Sports MONDAY**

**TONIGHT @ 9:30**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
14:00 Wanawake Live (r)  
14:30 Bongo Hits  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)  
16:00 Akili & Me (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 S5ELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music/Soap  
19:00 EATV SAA I  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 UJENZI  
21:30 5SPORTS LIVE  
22:30 Bongo Hits

**5Sports**  
The week's local and international sporting events as well as in-depth analysis of the biggest sporting highlights of the week are covered on 5sports.

**eastAfrica 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 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



"We have not faced the harsh financial repercussions of the Coronavirus pandemic, we are more worried of the loss of momentum when the league resumes"