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National Pg 3

Issuance of national IDs



National Pg 4

SUZA seals pact with SA firm



National Pg 6

Citi micro entrepreneurship winners



National Pg 7

Curbing cross-border diseases



EAC countries still face threat of Ebola—WHO

By Correspondent Novatus Makunga, Arusha

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that the current Ebola outbreak in the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) remains a major threat to public health and socio-economic wellbeing of people in East Africa.

WHO Country representative Dr Tigst Ketsela Mengestu (pictured) raised the alert yesterday during official opening of a large scale cross border field simulation exercise (FSX)—a fictitious outbreak of Rift Valley Fever at the Namanga border post with Kenya.

Dr Mengestu said the Ebola outbreak in DRC has so far infected over 1,900 people and cause more than 1,300 deaths.

She said the EAC region needs to be prepared and ongoing efforts to operationalize national and regional contingency plans need to be strengthened by involving various sectors in the prevention, response and mitigation of health security risks, noting that using a One Health approach is essential.

"In this light, the regional EAC cross



Dr Mengestu underlined that the exercise will help EAC countries to identify weakness and areas for further improvements in their response system and equally help them identify strengths that need to be sustained

border field simulation exercise is a unique opportunity to test our collective public health preparedness and response capacities, clarify roles and responsibilities between different sectors and agencies and learn from each other," the representative stated.

Dr Mengestu underlined that the exercise will help EAC countries to identify weakness and areas for further improvements in their response system and equally help them identify strengths that need to be sustained.

The Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Umyy Mwalimu, said cross border field simulations would help to assess pandemic preparedness status and to identify existing gaps that compromise their efficiency in prevention, response and mitigation.

The minister said the field simulation exercise is being convened at time when the Ebola epidemic in DRC stands at the threshold of EAC and presents a major challenge to the health and socio-economic wellbeing of the people of East Africa.

"The outcomes will allow us to facilitate

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DPP: Seized assets, property being lost or tampered with



Foreign Affairs, East Africa, Regional and International Cooperation minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi addresses media owners, heads of media houses and journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the countdown to the 39th Southern African Development Community (SADC) Heads of State and Government Summit to be held in Dar es Salaam this August. From right: Media Owners Association of Tanzania (MOAT) executive secretary Henry Muhanika, SADC National Contact Point (organising committee chairperson) Agnes Kayola from the Foreign Affairs ministry, and chief government spokesman Dr Hassan Abbas. Photo: John Badi

After regional tour, JPM set to take over as SADC chair

By Felister Peter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli is set to take over the chairmanship of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in August at the 39th summit of Heads of State and Government slated for Dar es Salaam.

The meeting, to be held from August 17 to 18, will be preceded by a meeting of the SADC Council of Ministers and Permanent Secretaries from August 9 to 16.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and East



The exhibition is being coordinated by the Foreign Affairs ministry in collaboration with Ministry of Industry and Trade

African Cooperation, Prof Palamagamba Kabudi, said yesterday that nearly 1,000 delegates from member countries will attend the meeting, last held here in 2003 during the tenure of President Benjamin Mkapa.

Addressing a press conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday, he said President Magufuli will assume the SADC chairmanship from President Hage Geingob of Namibia.

Prior to the Heads of State meeting, the

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Member states have poor management of assets prior to obtaining the final confiscation order. Many properties are left in the hands of the owners and as a result they continued to lose their value or become totally of no use after the final forfeiture or confiscation order

By Francis Kajubi

THE government is grappling with lack of storage facilities relating to forfeited ill-gotten wealth running into billions of shillings per year, at times leading to losses or criminals tampering with the same, a regional meeting has been told.

The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Biswalo Mganga, made this observation during events to mark 10 years of the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for Southern Africa (ARINSA) in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The DPP, who is the sitting President of ARINSA, said top among challenges facing the organization is where to store and secure properties worth billions that are forfeited every year from criminals.

"Member states have poor management of assets prior to obtaining the final confiscation order. Many properties are left in the hands of the owners and as a result they continued to lose their value or become totally of no use after the final forfeiture or confiscation order," he said.

ARINSA is preparing a manual that can help member states to better manage the assets and will conduct training workshops for the purpose.

Despite the important role of disrupting criminals and their criminal activities, ARINSA depends heavily on donor funds to support its activities, he stated.

"At this stage, we need intervention of policy



Despite the important role of disrupting criminals and their criminal activities, ARINSA depends heavily on donor funds to support its activities

TTB vies to promote organic honey, forest products in Chinese markets

By Beatrice Philemon

TANZANIA will this year seek to woo more Chinese tourists into the country with the allure of unique natural forest products including beekeeping and honey harvesting during the inaugural China-Africa Trade and Economic Expo 2019.

Prior to the event slated for later this month, the Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) in collaboration with various tourism stakeholders will conduct road shows in four strategic cities of China from June 19 to 26 to promote key tourism hotspots in Tanzania.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday, TTB board chairman Judge (rtd) Thomas Mihayo (pictured) said the Tanzanian delegation will this year conduct road shows in the cities of



Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing and Changsha.

Beekeeping and harvesting known as Apri-tourism has been selected as headline product after Tanzania's organic honey drew a lot of interest from Chinese tourists who visited the country last month, and other forest products, he said.

So far the Tanzanian delegation has already obtained a pavilion in Changsha for exhibiting Tanzanian tourism products including Apri-Tourism and forests products, new unique tourism products, he stated.

The purpose of exhibitions was to increase the number of tourist arrivals from China by promoting potentials of Tanzanian tourism, promote investment opportunities and new routes that will be introduced by Air Tanzania

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makers in our respective countries to financially support the network. On our side, through the ARINSA steering committee, we have formed a sub-committee that is working on how to come up with the best funding model," the DPP elaborated.

On the side of achievements, member states have been able to initiate 416 restraint applications and the total value of restraint orders currently stands at US\$594.295 million, and the total value of forfeiture orders is put at US\$1.406 billion, he said.

ARINSA has managed to prepare its own Case Digest for use as a reference book for prosecutions and judicial officers handling forfeiture applications in court, and a source of information and knowledge on matters relating to efforts to curb money laundering and organized crime, plus asset forfeiture.

ARINSA has also prepared an Open Source Manual as a guide on anti-money laundering and asset forfeiture. Both the Case Digest and Open Source Manual were launched yesterday.

Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan who graced the anniversary event, advised participants that to overcome the challenges,

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TTB vies to promote organic honey, forest products in Chinese markets, says board

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so as to ease travel for potential visitors.

"We want to tap the China tourism market as China is the largest market," he said, noting that the World Tourism Organization (WTO) data shows that more than 130m Chinese tourists visit in different countries across the globe.

A head start was recently made with more than 300 tourists from China arriving in Tanzania in a May 12th to 16th tour, concentrated on the northern tourist circuit.

"As TTB we expect to get more tourists from China once Air Tanzania starts operating direct flights from major cities in China and Hong Kong to Dar es Salaam," the board chairman underlined.

Tanzania obtained its first organized batch of tourists from China after TTB signed a memorandum of understanding with Touchroad International Holdings Group to promote DTanzania in Shanghai last November.

The Chinese travel and tour conglomerate has promised to bring 10,000 tourists before the end of 2019 through Ethiopian Airlines as currently there are no direct flights between Beijing and Dar es Salaam.

Highlighting on government institutions and private institutions that will participate in roadshows in those cities, Mihayo said TTB, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA), Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), Tanzania Forest Services (TFS), The National Museum, the Antiquities Department and the Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA) will participate in roadshows in China.

Private companies set to participate in the roadshows are Serena Hotels, Zara Tours, Seamless Adventure, Excellent Guides Co., Masailand Safari Co., Mount Meru Hotel, Melia Hotels, Afriland Tours, Xperience Tours, Kili Promotion Co. and others.

During the weeklong visit, the Tanzanian delegation also featuring Air Tanzania Co. Ltd top management will meet tour operators, business people and conduct Business to Business (B2B) meetings in Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing and Changsha cities.

TFS will get a chance to market what Tanzania has to offer in the forest industry as well as market organic honey produced here, he pointed out.

TTB Managing Director Devota Mdachi affirmed that the Tanzanian delegation will use the 1st China-Africa Trade and Economic Expo 2019 to market Apri-Tourism and forests products following the interest shown by visiting Chinese tourists who were in Tanzania to visit the tourists attractions were very last month. They received organic honey as a gift to show their families and relatives back home.

While in Tanzania, the Chinese were impressed by the massive tourist attractions including world heritage sites, cultural tourism and seashore vacation potential, officials noted.

The Tanzanian delegation will use this opportunity to market Tanzanian tourism potentials as the majority of Chinese people are not aware what Tanzania has to offer in tourism.

Dr Alloyd Nzuki, the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism will lead Tanzanian delegation.



Dr Inmi Patterson (2nd-L), Chargé d'Affaires at the US Embassy in Tanzania, listens to Kagera Regional Medical Officer Marco Mbata (to her left, gesturing) during her official tour to Igabilo fishing community ward in the region on Tuesday. Looking on is Kagera district commissioner Deodatus Kinawiro (R) and ICAP zonal manager Dr Omary Msumi (L). Photo courtesy of US Embassy

DPP: Seized assets, property being lost or tampered with

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ARINSA member states' DPP offices should be provided with a certain percentage of acquired money from sold forfeit assets to help them keep up with their operations.

"From the same money issued to

DPP's offices of a respective country, a certain portion of the money can be further allocated to ARINSA to enable it sustain and operate accordingly," the VP declared.

Tanzania has since 2013 forfeited assets acquired through crimes totalling 93.16bn/- from the mining

sector, forestry, houses and cars, along with illegal businesses, she said.

In a bid to stop the problem, the National Assembly worked to amend the Proceeds of Crimes Act and the Anti-Money Laundering Act.

"However, the DPP office in

partnership with stakeholders is in the process of establishing a Prosecutors Training Institute. At the moment only 17 public prosecutors have gone through the ARINSA Prosecutor Placement Program (PPP) on financial crime," she added.



Polycarp Cardinal Pengo, the Catholic Church Diocese Archbishop of Dar es Salaam, addresses journalists in the city yesterday on celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Church's laity to be held in the city on Sunday (June 16). Left is Lay Persons chairman Gasper Makiluli. The Catholic laity are the ordinary faithful who are neither clergy nor recipients of Holy Orders or vowed to life in a religious order or congregation. The laity forms the majority of the estimated over one billion Catholics in the world. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

'8-year-old patient in respiratory distress discharged from hospital'

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

EIGHT-year-old boy who had suffered from respiratory failure for eight months was yesterday discharged from the Mloganzila Hospital where he received free medical treatment.

Hillary Plasdius, a resident of Dar es Salaam was first admitted at the hospital with the history of upper and lower limb weakness that necessitated caring in the intensive care unit (ICU) for four months and another three months in the respiratory care.

Head of department of Pediatrics and Child Health at the hospital, Dr Mwanaidi Amri told journalists yesterday that respiratory complications weakened the boy's muscles

hence led to paralysis.

Dr Amri was speaking at an event to hand over a wheelchair to the child to help him recover steadily.

She elaborated that such complication occurs when there is a preceding infection in the respiratory system or can be caused by patients presented with diarrhea where the body attacks its own nerve cells and damage it. She said once nerves cells are attacked muscles that are involved in the respiratory systems are also weakened.

"Such conditions can happen to both, children and adults. It is referred to body immune attacks which destroy its own cells", said Dr Amri adding the problem is curable.

According to her the hospital prescribes

specific drugs to boost patient's body immune when cases are reported at early stages. She said that Hillary was treated with the same medication.

She added that a team of occupational therapy, physiotherapy and ICU experts worked together to save Hillary's life.

Julieth Magandi, Deputy Director General of the Mloganzila hospital said they are happy to see the child has recovered from the critical condition he had in the first day he was admitted.

Magandi said the hospital covered all the medical cost for the boy totalling 17m/-. She said the donated wheelchair cost 450,000/-.

"Hillary's medical bills were too high thus we decided to help the family", she noted.

EAC countries still face threat of Ebola – WHO

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practical corrective actions at all levels," she said.

A clear emergency structure for outbreak of an epidemic is targeted, and the exercise will show if it is user friendly in an outbreak scenario and if the standard operating procedures developed between the EAC Secretariat and other stakeholders provide enough information for a targeted response.

She said disease has always been a stumbling block to human progress and continues to foment massive loss of lives and livelihoods, disrupting economic and social activities across the world.

"The EAC region has experienced outbreak of Ebola and several chronic fevers including Rift Valley, Marburg and Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic fever, along with cholera, polio and plague among other health crises in the past few years.

EAC Deputy Secretary General Christopher

Bazivamo said that with support from Germany through the German Development bank (KfW) and the Bernard Notch Institute of Tropical Medicine (BNITM), EAC countries had enhanced the laboratory capacities to diagnose highly pathogenic organisms with 24 experts specially trained for the purpose, also acquiring nine biosafety level three mobile laboratories for sustained response.

"In future, outbreaks should be detected early and a timely response is expected with use of these facilities," he said.

Bazivamo noted that as of last week, more than 2,030 people had been infected and more than 1,360 had died in DRC, making it the second largest outbreak of Ebola the world had seen.

More than 250 people attended the ceremony at the Namanga One Stop border post (OSBP), including active participants from Kenya and Tanzania.

After regional tour, JPM set to take over as SADC chair

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Fourth SADC Industrialisation Week exhibition will be held from July 22 to 26, a crucial event to promote locally made products hoping for a market in the SADC zone.

"The meeting is an opportunity to promote our goods. Tanzania exports more products to SADC countries than other East African Community (EAC) partner states," the minister noted, urging business people to grab networking and business opportunities linked with the meeting.

The exhibition is being coordinated by the Foreign Affairs ministry in collaboration with Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Prof. Kabudi appealed to the media to help promote the meeting through special programs to be aired by television channels, radios as well as in news and feature articles. He said the media can help to identify and educate business stakeholders on available social and economic opportunities.

"Delegates have also requested an opportunity to memorize Tanzania's founding president, Julius Nyerere," he said, noting that Tanzania played

a big role in the liberalization of many African countries, mostly in the SADC region.

Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Paul Makonda emphasized that city residents need to maintain peace and tranquility throughout the meeting. He challenged business people to grab opportunities and establish networks with delegates from various countries.

"There will be many opportunities for the business community from a series of SADC events to be held here during President Magufuli's chairmanship," he stated.

President Magufuli was nominated Vice Chairman for SADC from August last year to the next summit, during the Heads of State meeting in Windhoek where Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan represented the president.

President Geingob assumed the leadership of the regional organization from his South African counterpart Cyril Ramaphosa.

SADC has 16 member states namely the Comoros, Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Seychelles, Eswatini, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



Arusha regional police commander Jonathan Shanna shows journalists yesterday one of the guns he said police impounded recently from suspected bandits in Digodigo ward, Ngorongoro District. Photo: Correspondent Wainde Shizza

Govt urged to chart strategies to empower local contractors

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government plans are in the pipeline to establish a commission to review national construction projects in a bid to empower local contractors to compete with their international counterparts.

Local contractors have always complained that almost all big government tenders are awarded to international contractors, denying infant local companies the opportunities.

Speaking during a meeting with local contractors in the country yesterday, the Permanent Secretary (PS) in the ministry of Works, Transport and Communication, Elius Mwakalinga said the government is determined to empower local contractors.

"It is shameful that 59 years after independence there are no local construction companies that are capable of undertaking big strategic projects being implemented by the government," he said.

Mwakalinga made the statement during the meeting that was aimed to identify challenges facing local contractors in undertaking government projects.

He also used the occasion to explain to the local contractors the government plan and how to work with them.

The PS noted that the government is currently implementing various strategic projects worth a lot of money but unfortunately local contractors are not participating in them simply because they lack technology and financial ability.

He named some of the projects as the Standard Gauge Railwa (SGR), Stieglers Gorge, among others, noting that no local contractors have the ability to undertake such projects, calling on them to conduct self assessment to establish where they fail.

According to Mwakalinga, it is high time local contractors improve financially and technologically in efforts to be able to undertake such government projects.

He explained that when foreign companies work in the country, they export money to their countries, denying the country a lot of revenues.

Kurwa Mayumba, a contractor from Mbeya noted that one of the challenges facing the local contractors is corruption by some incompetent companies that seek tenders.

He also noted that unfavourable conditions in contracts is also another hindrance to local contractors from winning big contracts in the country.

Mayumba called on the government to reduce some of the conditions to enable local contractors compete with their international counterparts.

His comments were also echoed by Oscar Mnsi, a contractor from Mwanza who said the government should chart strategies to empower local contractors to undertake big projects in the country, noting that no country in the world has developed without local contractors.

5 million Tanzanians have been issued with national ID cards - deputy minister

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

DEPUTY Minister for Home Affairs, Hamad Masauni yesterday disclosed that five million Tanzanians have been issued with national identification cards, with 13 million others still in the process.

Masauni was responding to a question by Buyungu MP, Christopher Chiza (CCM), who sought to know the government's plans to speed up the process of issuing the IDs in order to help citizens to avoid inconveniences.

In his response, Masauni said by the end of this year, a total of 22.2 million IDs will have been issued.

"Procedures to provide citizens in marginalized regions don't differ with those in other regions. What is important is abiding by laws, regulations and procedures," he said, adding "Plans are underway to purchase an additional machine that will accelerate the process to produce and distribute the IDs."

Speaking in the august House in April 23, this year, Home Affairs minister Kangi Lugola said that the government will find alternative ways to enable Tanzanians without national identification cards (IDs) or ID numbers register biometrically their Sim cards from May 1, 2019.

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) had last week that announced that all Sim cards will have to be registered biometrically using national IDs (or national IDs numbers) with effect from May 1. But it came to light that many eligible citizens and other residents have no national IDs or national ID numbers.

He categorically stated that only those who have applied for IDs but are yet to receive the IDs or ID numbers will be facilitated. Since the national ID exercise started only a small percentage of applicants received national IDs, many more received national ID numbers without the cards. And yet others received neither the IDs nor the ID numbers. The deadline for the biometric Sim card registration is December 31, 2019.

"I understand that many people do not have national IDs. They can't pay the price for our faults, we will think of how to help those who

are yet to get them," said Lugola.

He was reacting to Special Seats MP Felister Bura (CCM), who sought to know the government's plan to enable all Tanzanians register their Sim cards biometrically despite the fact that the majority were yet to collect national IDs.

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

CHAIRMAN of the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania, Sanjay Rughani has called on Tanzanians to explore opportunities, which are embedded in the natural gas value to boost their income and the country at large.

Rughani made the call yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the meeting organised to discuss available opportunities in the liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects for Tanzania's economic development. The forum was organized by the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania.

Rughani said the natural gas industry is becoming the most lucrative market in Tanzania as most of investors have shown

CEOs chairperson calls on Tanzanians to explore opportunities available in the extractive industry

interest to invest in the sector.

"It is high time now for Tanzanians to get prepared and explore the opportunities available in the sector," he said adding that the local should also go for investment but not to wait the foreigners only.

Rughani who is also the chief executive officer (CEO) for Standard Chartered Bank said there are lot of opportunities in the natural gas that needs to be explored to support the government's move of making Tanzania one of the middle-income nations by 2025.

For her part, Senior Vice President and country manager for Equinor Tanzania Dr Mette Ottoy said that the country's natural gas reserves stand at 57 trillion cubic feet.

The development of LNG project in Tanzania would equate to over 30 years of operational activity and translate into significant socio-economic development for Tanzania including increased gas production for domestic utilization to meet Tanzania's growing energy demand.

"Job creation which will translate to

skills development, capacity building and technology transfer, boosting revenue collections with 60 percent of value creation from the LNG project remaining in Tanzania," she explained.

The CEO round table is a policy dialogue forum bringing together CEOs of leading companies in Tanzania to foster close cooperation between the public and private sector in Tanzania with the view of accelerating expansion and growth of the Tanzanian economy in a sustainable manner.

HALMASHAURI YA MJI WA BABATI

TAARIFA KWA UMMA
UUZAJI WA VIWANJA

MKURUGENZI WA HALMASHAURI YA MJI WA BABATI ANAWATANGAZIA WANANCHI WOTE KWAMBA HALMASHAURI YA MJI WA BABATI INAKARIBISHA MAOMBI YA KUNUNUA VIWANJA 6500 VYA MATUMIZI MBALIMBALI KAMA MAKAZI, MAKAZI NA BIASHARA, VIWANDA, MAJENGO YA UMMA, HOTEL, VITUO VYA MAFUTA (PETROL STATIONS), HOUSING ESTATES, SHULE, ZAHANATI, TAASISI ZA DINI, SHOPPING MALL, NA KADHALIKA VILIVYOPIMWA KA TIKKA ENEO LA SINGU KANDOKANDO MWA BARABARA KUU IENDAYO SINGIDA.

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- MUDA WA KUCHUKUA FOMU HIZI NI KUENZIA SAA MOJA NA NUSU ASUBUHI HADI SAA TISA NA NUSU ALASIRI.
- ATAKAYEPATA KIWANJA ATATAKIWA KULIPA FEDHA YOTE AU ASILIMIA HAMSINI (50%) YA BEI YA KIWANJA NDANI YA KIPINDI CHA WIKI MOJA TANGU ALIPOPEWA KIWANJA NA ASILIMIA HAMSINI (50%) ILIYOBAKI AMALIZIE NDANI YA KIPINDI CHA MIEZI MIWILI TOKEA ALIVYOPEWA KIWANJA.
- MWOMBAJI AWE RAIA WA TANZANIA MWENYE UMRI WA MIAKA 18 AU ZAIDI.
- ATAKAYESHINDWA KULIPIA KIWANJA NA KUKAMILISHA MALIPO KATIKA MUDA WA MIEZI MIWILI ATANYANG'ANYWA NA KUPEWA MWENDELEZAJI MWINGINE BILA TAARIFA NA HATARUDISHIWA FEDHA ILIYOLIPWA.
- BEI YA VIWANJA NI KAMA IFUATAVYO;
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 - MAKAZI NA BIASHARA TSHS 3,500/= KWA MITA MOJA YA MRABA
 - VIWANJA VYA BIASHARA TSHS 5,000/= KWA MITA MOJA YA MRABA
 - SHULE, ZAHANATI, TAASISI ZA DINI, TSHS 3,500/= KWA MITA MOJA YA MRABA
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- A complete set of Tender Documents in English may be purchased by interested Tenderers on submission of written application to the address given above and upon Payment of Non-Refundable fee of Tsh. 100,000/= Payment should be made directly through the Bank Account and copy of the banking pay slip should be attached for acknowledgment of the payment.

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Account Name:	Sale of Tender Documents
Bank Name:	NBC - Retail Banking
Branch Code:	006
Swift Code:	NLCBTZTX
- The Tenders, inclusive of all documents received during purchase of tenders, shall be returned and submitted by hand in 1 Original, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain sealed envelope Marked: **"Tender for Finishes & Fit-Out Works at Kibaha Branch" and dropped off at Tender Box located at NBC Head Office entrance at ground floor, Sokoine Drive/Azikiwe St.**
- The Tenders shall be addressed to Secretary of Tender Committee, NBC (T) Ltd. P. O. Box 1863, Sokoine Drive/ Azikiwe St, Dar es Salaam. The tenders shall be delivered to the above address at or before **1530Hrs local time Wednesday, 26th June, 2019.**
- The Bank shall not be obliged to disclose the reasons behind any decision taken in response to the tenders.

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UNV launches TV, Radio programmes in Zanzibar

By Guardian Reporter

UNITED Nations Volunteers (UNV) Programme in Tanzania has launched rigorous Live TV and Radio Programmes to promote UN Volunteers as a capacity resource and technical assistance to national peace and development programmes.

Head of UN Volunteers (UNV) Programme in Tanzania, Christian Mwamanga, said here yesterday the programme launched in partnership with Zanzibar Broadcasting Television, Zanzibar Cable Television, Spice FM Radio, ZBC Radio, Hits FM Radio and Bahari FM Radio.

Mwamanga is today expected to hold public lectures at the State University of Zanzibar (SUZA) and Institute of Public Administration as part of implementing the outreach programme, which is a response to the call made by Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shain to integrate Zanzibaris as National and International UN Volunteers within UN Programmes, Projects and Operations in the country and globally.

Dr Shein made the call recently when he met with the Executive Coordinator of the United Nations (UN) Volunteers Programme, Olivier Adam and UNV Regional Manager for East and Southern Africa, Njoya Tikum at the State House in Zanzibar.

UNV executive coordinator pledged and promised the President to reactivate and raise awareness of the UN Volunteers programme (UNV) to Zanzibaris with the aim to increase and integrate more Zanzibaris in the Tanzania National Talent Pool.

Speaking to the ZBC and Zanzibar Cable Television, Mwamanga argued that volunteers play a central role in developing resilience of the local communities.

He said volunteers are untapped national resource which contributes

directly in making SDGs relevant and a reality in the country.

As an immediate outcome of the implementation of outreach programme since the call of the President in March 2019, already 13 UN Volunteer positions have been advertised out of which recruitment of 4 UN Volunteers to be based in Zanzibar have been completed and 9 positions are still under recruitments to be based in Tanzania Mainland. The volunteers are expected to start their assignments in July 2019 to support the implementation of programmes, projects and operations of the UN System in the country as part of technical assistance to the government of Tanzania.

Mwamanga further added that these activities will also involve reaching out to out of school graduates through a partnered with Ministry of Youth, Culture, Arts and Sports. Together with the Zanzibar Youth Council and Ministry of Youth, UNV Tanzania will implement public town hall seminars at Unguja Urban West Region, Unguja South West Region, Unguja North Region, Pemba North Region and Pemba South Region.

UNV is a unique United Nations entity established by the United Nations General Assembly in December of 1970 to mobilizes UN Volunteers for other UN entities to support their work in peace, humanitarian and development around the world. UNV is active in around 146 countries globally and operate in 22 countries in East and Southern Africa.

The recent data shows that more than 78 UN Volunteers (both National and International) saved in Tanzania in 2018 with more than 27 Tanzanians nationals saved as International UN Volunteers in South Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Zambia, Sudan, Iraq and Liberia.



Shinyanga resident Sara Nyabuyaga airs her views on the challenges women in Tanzania aspiring for elective posts commonly face. This was at a just-ended workshop organised by the Tanzania Gender Network Programme and meant to sensitise women to take part in the upcoming national elections, including as aspirants. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

By Guardian Reporter

THE State University of Zanzibar (SUZA) and the South African-based Tanzanite Sunset (Pty) Ltd have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to cooperate on academic matters between them. The parties of this collaboration which came into effect from May 28, this year agreed to develop collaborative activities in academic areas of mutual interest specifically in Kiswahili language.

According to a statement issued by SUZA yesterday, the parties agreed to partner in launching of the Kiswahili experience in South Africa which goes hand in hand with the promotion and introduction of Kiswahili language in various institutions in private, government, multinational

Zanzibar university inks pact with SA company to prop up Kiswahili

organizations and individuals in South Africa.

They also agreed to partner in developing centre for Kiswahili language in South Africa, starting with language training, translation and interpretation services, as well as training of trainers program of Kiswahili for communication so that SUZA can have enough facilitators across the country, Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Africa at large.

They also agreed to have a joint

publication of Articles that speak about the origin of Kiswahili and other matters related thereto, promoting teaching of Kiswahili language in higher learning institutions in South Africa through linking SUZA to the interested institutions.

SUZA Vice Chancellor Prof. Idris Rai signed the document on behalf of his university and Fay Shao, the founder of Tanzanite Sunset (Pty) Ltd for her institution will remain valid for five years.

The State University of Zanzibar

(SUZA) was established by Act No. 8 of 1999 of the Zanzibar House of Representatives which became operational in 2001.

This Act has been reamended to suit the needs of the nation in academic issues; this has quickly placed SUZA among the icons of academic quality and excellence in the Eastern Africa region and now spreads its wings to other regions beyond. The Tanzanite Sunset (Pty) Ltd is a company based in Pretoria, South Africa and registered under South African law.

Zimbabwe wants to sell \$300m ivory to fund conservation

HARARE

ZIMBABWE has become the latest Southern African nation to take on elephant conservationists, by demanding it is allowed to sell its stockpile of ivory to raise money for conservation.

Wildlife authorities in the cash-strapped nation estimate the country's decades-old hoard of ivory is worth around \$300 million, which they say would help plug funding gaps for game reserves.

The proposal has put it on a collision course with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), which prohibits the sale of ivory to curb poaching.

Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia have cited the growing number of elephants in some regions in their bid to have the restrictions and the global ban on the trade in tusks to be relaxed.

Spokesman for Zimbabwe's wildlife authority Tinashe Farawo told AFP that the nations had submitted a joint proposal to CITES and warned:

"If we are not allowed to trade we will not take part in CITES discussions on elephants." "Our decision to sell ivory is not an emotional one. It is a scientific one backed by facts. At independence in 1980 we had 40,000 elephants and the number has more than doubled and yet the land is not

expanding," Farawo said.

Zimbabwe has an elephant population of around 84,000 which is nearly double what it can cope with, according to the parks and wildlife authority.

Give us money

But over the past decade, the population of elephants across Africa has fallen by about 111,000 to 415,000, largely due to poaching for ivory, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

In May Zimbabwe sold 100 elephants to China and Dubai in an effort to raise cash. The deal was worth \$27 million over six

years according to wildlife authorities.

Farawo called on critics of the ivory sale proposal to "give us money to run our operations," instead of lambasting it.

Wildlife authorities said if approved, it would help them fund operations, buy radios and vehicles for patrols to curb poaching.

"CITES was meant to regulate trade in endangered species but if there is no trade then CITES is not serving its purpose," Farawo said.

Last month Botswana, which has the largest elephant population in Africa, sparked controversy by lifting its five-year ban on elephant hunting citing "high levels of human-elephant conflict".

Braeburn International School Arusha, Tanzania

JOB VACANCIES

Braeburn International School Arusha is a co-educational day and boarding school catering for both the international and Tanzanian community. Accredited by the Council of International Schools, we have earned a reputation for high academic standards, a rich extra-curricular programme and a supportive, friendly environment.

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- IT/Computer Studies for KS3-A Level

Primary

- Class Teacher
- Music (EYFS to Key Stage 3)

The successful applicants will be a part of a positive teaching and learning environment and an integral part of shaping and developing the school as it continues to strive to provide the very best educational experience for its growing student population.

The school is committed to safeguarding children and young people. Short listed applicants will be asked for an ICPC, or the equivalent police certificate of good conduct from the country of current employment.

Applications should be submitted to the Headteacher by email and include a letter of application, CV, a recent photograph and the email contact details of at least two referees.

Closing date: 02nd July 2019.

Email: hr@braeburn.sc.tz
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21527101



Invitation to Tender

I-TECH Tanzania (an affiliate of the University of Washington) is a not-for-profit Organization locally registered as I-TECH Tanzania (00NGO/00003539) since November 2009. In Tanzania, I-TECH is working in partnership with the Ministry of Health, Community, Development, Gender, Elderly and Children to support HIV/AIDS and TB/HIV programs. I-TECH's activities in Tanzania focus on building the capacity of Healthcare Workers to provide quality HIV and Tuberculosis (TB/HIV) services. I-TECH receives funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the U.S Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC). Most of I-TECH's project work is part of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).

I-TECH Tanzania wishes to appoint a qualified service provider for printing, photocopying and binding services. The appointment for the award will be through a competitive bid which will lead to the signing a framework agreement for a specified period of time.

Interested and qualified bidders should contact bidder@itech-tanzania.org for more information and detailed tender document. The closing date for submission of tenders is **28th June 2019 on or before 01.00pm (EAT)**

21527101

African govts called upon to eliminate non-tariff barriers

By Special Correspondent, Malabo

AFRICAN leaders yesterday underscored the urgent need to fast-track the continent's regional integration process in order to accelerate Africa's economic transformation.

The call was made at the opening ceremony of the Bank's 2019 Annual Meetings, in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, with the theme: "Regional Integration for Africa's Economic Prosperity."

"Apart and divided, Africa is weakened. Together and united, Africa will be unstoppable," the Bank's President Akinwumi Adesina told delegates at the packed Sipopo Conference Center.

Adesina urged African governments to work toward the elimination of non-tariff barriers. "Pulling down non-tariff barriers alone, will spur trade by at least 53%, and potentially double trade," he said.

The opening ceremony was presided over by the host nation's President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo. Also in attendance were King Letsie III of Lesotho; President Félix Antoine Tshisekedi of the Democratic Republic of Congo; and Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini, Prime Minister of eSwatini. High-level government officials from Rwanda, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, and Côte d'Ivoire were also present.

In his opening speech, President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo recalled that Equatorial Guinea, once one of the poorest countries in the world, has since been radically transformed with one of the highest per capita incomes on the continent.

"For me, development is not about per capita income, it is about expanding the

opportunities for the people to live a more dignified life," Obiang Nguema Mbasogo said.

"Equatorial Guinea is open for business. We are committed to regional integration for shared prosperity. We count on the African Development Bank to help us achieve economic diversification and the consolidation of social equality."

Regional integration is one of the Bank's strategic High 5 agendas to rapidly advance Africa's economic transformation.

In the past several years, the African Development Bank (www.afdb.org) has invested over \$13 billion in the central African region. "And for every dollar invested, the region has leveraged \$36, an incredible rate of return of 36 times," Adesina noted.

The Bank's investments include the construction of the Central African fibre optic network that connects the population with faster and less expensive access to the Internet, and is boosting businesses and regional integration.

In his remarks, Equatorial Guinea's Finance Minister Cesar Mba Abogo said: "Progress is the realisation of utopia. This is a country of utopia in Africa, with independence and the ability to control our own destiny. It seemed impossible at first in the last century but it was done. Now our utopia is regional integration."

More than 2,000 participants are attending the Annual Meetings, a unique opportunity to share the Bank's perspectives on the state of Africa's economy. The meetings also provides updates on the Bank's work and serves as a platform for the exchange of views on emerging issues shaping the future of the continent.



PUBLIC NOTICE



Mr. Ramadhan Masoud Ndenge

The Management of **BANK OF AFRICA TANZANIA LIMITED** would like to inform its customers and general public that, **Mr. Ramadhan Masoud Ndenge**, whose picture appears above, and who was serving as Recovery Executive under Recovery Department and he also served before as former Head of Legal Documentation under Credit and Control Department at Head Office in Dar es salaam, ceased to be our employee since **07th May 2019**. With this notice please be informed that the Bank shall not be liable for any business or transactions that will be made by him anyhow in our name.

215271901



PUBLIC NOTICE



MS. PATRICIA D. MINJA

The Management of **BANK OF AFRICA TANZANIA LIMITED** would like to inform its customers and general public that, **Ms. Patricia D. Minja**, whose picture appears above, and who served as our former Head of Credit Analysis under Credit and Control Department and she also Acted as a Head of Recovery Department at Head Office in Dar es salaam, ceased to be our employee since **07th May 2019**. With this notice please be informed that the Bank shall not be liable for any business or transactions that will be made by her anyhow in our name.

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PUBLIC NOTICE



MR. ROBINSON R. MWAKYOMO

The Management of **BANK OF AFRICA TANZANIA LIMITED** would like to inform its customers and general public that, **Mr. Robinson R. Mwakyomo**, whose picture appears above, and who was serving as our Relationship Officer – Tandika Branch in Retail Banking section under Business Development Department, ceased to be our employee since **05th of June 2019**. With this notice please be informed that the Bank shall not be liable for any business or transactions that will be made by him anyhow in our name.

215271901



ADVERTISEMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TENDER TITLE: DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE TANZANIAN MANUFACTURERS INFORMATION PORTAL

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20180868

TMEA is assisting EAC governments (Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda & Tanzania) to set up National Trade Information Portals to help address the challenge of inadequate and inaccurate trade information in the region; and to also enable the EAC countries to enforce key components of the World Trade Organization (commonly referred to as the Bali Agreement) agreement. TMEA shall therefore be providing technical and financial support to Confederation of Tanzanian Industrialists (CTI) to design and develop a Manufacturers' Information Portal that shall enable an aspiring manufacturer to gather information needed to establish and run a successful manufacturing business while complying with all the rules and laws of Tanzania.

Terms of reference for this assignment and the Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be obtained at <http://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>. There will also be a pre-bid meeting on the date, time and place stated in the RFP. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com. The closing date for submissions is **10 July 2019**.

Applications are open only to **firms/consortiums**. Interested firms/consortium MUST submit their proposals via TMEA procurement mailbox at the address procurement@trademarka.com.

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender five days or less prior to the submission deadline

215270701

Women in leadership bring better business performance - report

By Guardian Reporter

BUSINESSES with genuine gender diversity, particularly at senior level, perform better, including seeing significant profit increases, according to a new report from the Bureau for Employers' Activities of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

The report, Women in Business and Management: The business case for change, surveyed almost 13,000 enterprises in 70 countries.

More than 57 per cent of respondents agreed that gender diversity initiatives improved business outcomes. Almost three-quarters of those companies that tracked gender diversity in their management reported profit increases of between 5 and 20 per cent, with the majority seeing increases of between 10 and 15 per cent.

Almost 57 per cent said it was easier to attract and retain talent. More than 54 per cent said they saw improvements in creativity, innovation and openness and a similar proportion said effective gender inclusivity enhanced their company's reputation, while almost 37 per cent felt it enabled them to more effectively gauge customer sentiment.

The report also found that, at national level, an increase in female employment is positively associated with GDP growth. The finding is based on an analysis of data from 186 countries for the period 1991-2017.

"We expected to see a positive correlation between gender diversity and business success, but these results are eye-opening," said Deborah France-Massin, Director of the ILO Bureau for Employers' Activities. "When you consider the efforts companies make in other areas to get just an extra two or three per cent in profits, the significance is clear. Companies should look at gender balance as a bottom line issue, not just a human resource issue."

Gender balance in senior management is defined as 40-60 per cent of either gender, the same as in the general workforce. The report says that the beneficial effects of gender diversity begin to accrue when women hold 30 per cent of senior management and leadership positions. However, almost 60 per cent of enterprises do not meet

this target, meaning they struggle to reap the rewards. In addition, in almost half of companies surveyed, women account for less than one in three of their entry-level management recruits - meaning that the pipeline to senior management may not deliver the talent needed.

Almost three-quarters of the enterprises surveyed had equal opportunity or diversity and inclusion policies, however, the report says more specific actions are needed to ensure that women are visible and promoted to strategic areas of business.

Some key factors preventing women reaching decision-making positions were identified. Enterprise cultures that require "anytime, anywhere" availability disproportionately affect women, relative to their household and family responsibilities, while policies that support inclusivity and work-life balance (for both men and women), such as flexible working hours and paternity leave, need to be improved.

Another factor is the "leaky pipeline", the tendency for the proportion of women to decline as the management grade rises. The "glass wall" describes the incidence of women managers in roles such as HR, finance and administration that are considered less strategic and less likely to lead to chief executive and boardroom positions. Fewer than a third of enterprises surveyed had achieved the critical mass of one third of women board members. Around one in eight reported they still had all-male boardrooms. More than 78 per cent of enterprises who responded had male CEOs, and those with female CEOs were more likely to be small enterprises.

"The business case for getting more women into management is compelling," said France-Massin. "In an era of skill shortages, women represent a formidable talent pool that companies aren't making enough of. Smart companies who want to be successful in the global economy should make genuine gender diversity a key ingredient of their business strategy. Representative business organizations and employer and business membership organizations must take a lead, promoting both effective policies and genuine implementation."



Morogoro Urban legislator AbdulAziz Abood (2nd-L, foreground) seated with Msamvu stand commuter bus touts in Morogoro municipality yesterday. Details on the incident were not immediately available. Photo: Correspondent Ashton Balaigwa

By Guardian Reporter

THE 3rd Citi Micro entrepreneurship Awards (CMA) winners will be announced tomorrow at Hyatt Regency, The Kilimanjaro, in the country's capital, Dar Salaam, organisers said yesterday.

About USD 37,500 prize amount will go to 16 winners in the programme funded by Citi Foundation, through Citibank Tanzania, the only U.S. bank in the country.

Citibank Tanzania CEO, Joseph Carasso, noted the awards recognizes the extraordinary contributions of micro entrepreneurs to the economic stability of their families as well as their communities across Tanzania, as in essence national development.

"The big enterprises of the future are the innovative micro-entrepreneurs of today," he noted.

A statement issued by TAMFI CEO, Winnie Terry said the competition was vital in inspiring innovative Tanzanians to take business loans from

Winners of 3rd Citi micro entrepreneurship Awards to be announced tomorrow in Dar

microfinance institutions for startups or business expansion.

About 250 business owners who started off as micro entrepreneurs from across Tanzania had applied for the awards by presenting their business projects for examination.

Only 27 candidates were shortlisted for the final selection, by independent consultants contracted by TAMFI, the umbrella business association of microfinance institutions.

Those who have been shortlisted include Amiri Juma Amiri (Kisarawe), Asha Alfred Kasililwa (Yombo Vituka-Dar), Azareli Maingu Bwise (Mwanza), Batilda Socias Subiri (Dar), Bazibu Henry Mugisha (Shangarai Arusha), Beatrice Theophil Mmbaga (Musoma), Betty Gerald Mrema (Pasiansi - Mwanza), and Chacha Elias Bange (Nyamagana - Mwanza).

Others are Elizabeth Exuber Moshia (Buyuni CCM), Farouq Hassan Khalifa (Turiani Morogoro), Fausta Thomas Ntara (Nyakato Mwanza), Halima Ally Semsella (Mtongani-Dar), Amisa Yassin Taboba (Kibirizi Kigoma), Hamis Nalid Ndege (Boko Dovyva), Jackson Anderson Massawe (Kikuyu, Dodoma), James John Magwisha (Tegeta Kibaoni), Jonathan Pwacha Mubanga (Mwanga Sokoni), and Lydia Jacob Majoro (Kisarawe).

Others are Mariam Chilufya Mtonga (Tegeta Kwa Ndevu), Marijani Paulo Mmary (Kilala Arusha), Mathias Stephano Milinga (Kigamboni), Mohammed Omari Msumari (Kariakoo), Ngani Abasi Ali (Fuoni Kibonde Mzungu Zanzibar), Rebeka Wilbart Nyanza (Nyakato National Mwanza), Leonia Emmanuel Chukilizo (SIDO Estate Kigoma), Saida Zera

Msuya (Mazimbu, Morogoro) and Vailet Cleopa Kivuyo (Musoma Stand).

The Citi Foundation works to promote economic progress and improve the lives of people in low-income communities around the world. The foundation invests in efforts that increase financial inclusion, catalyze job opportunities for youth, and re-imagine approaches to building economically vibrant cities.

TAMFI is a not-for-profit umbrella organization for micro finance institutions in Tanzania. The association seeks to develop the capability of microfinance institutions and the microfinance sector in general through advocacy, lobbying, research and development, responsible microfinance, capacity building, and information gathering and dissemination.



National Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai (L) bids farewell at Dodoma Airport yesterday to his Rwandan counterpart, Mukabalisa Donatille, who had just concluded an official visit to Tanzania. Photo courtesy of National Assembly

Volunteers raise £70,000 by scaling Mt Kilimanjaro

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

A TEAM of 11 volunteers raised £70,000 for the Chiltern Centre for disabled children in UK's town of Henley by climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania.

The climbers included Henley residents Yvette Kershaw, Nick Steel, Nigel Reading, Ian Gallifant and Shlomo Mannheim.

They followed the Lemosho route to the summit of the mountain, which is Africa's highest peak at 19,340ft, during the 10-day expedition. This included arid lowlands, the Shira Plateau moorlands and the Barranco Wall, an exposed 1,000ft climb.

On the way back down the group passed through lush tropical rainforests crowded with monkeys and butterflies.

Each team member had trained for almost a year, completing walks together on Mount Snowden in north Wales and Box Hill in Surrey.

Kershaw said: "The endurance element of the trek was probably the hardest part and one I underestimated, especially the altitude, but the support provided by our guide, porters and team-mates made it all achievable."

"The mountain and landscape were so beautiful and seeing the sunrise from the summit was something that will be hard to beat. It was an incredible

experience and we were all so proud to raise a huge amount of money."

Fellow climber Veronica Campbell said: "I am so fortunate to have a large family and grandchildren, all of whom are healthy. The challenge that I faced is nothing compared with those of parents caring for a disabled child."

Harriet Barcella, community fundraiser at the Chiltern Centre, said: "Most of the team had never done anything like this before."

"There were so many challenges for them - the culture shock, the temperature extremes, the long days, the camping and the altitude."

"We are so incredibly grateful to each and every one of them for their commitment to taking on all this and for their fund-raising."

The money will support the centre, which gives families with disabled children a chance to have a break while their children receive care. It needs to raise around £200,000 every year to stay open.

The charity is now organising a fund-raising expedition to Petra in Jordan in May next year.

"We are so incredibly grateful to each and every one of them for their commitment to taking on all this and for their fund-raising."

Uganda assures tourists of safety despite Ebola outbreak

By Special Correspondent, Kampala

UGANDA has assured tourists that there is no cause for fear following the Ebola outbreak in the east African country.

Godfrey Kiwanda, minister of state

for tourism said yesterday that the index case in the western district of Kasese is isolated and that all the family members and relatives have been traced.

"The country is safe. There is no cause for alarm or even (to) issue

travel advisories. Our tourists and other guests are welcome to Uganda and we can assure them of safety," he said.

"Whenever such cases arise, we ensure that they are dealt with immediately. We have also been able

to trace all the contacts including the parents and other relatives. They are under surveillance by the health ministry," the minister added.

He said the country has capacity to contain the outbreak.

Uganda's ministry of health on

Tuesday announced that Ebola had broken out in Kasese after tests from a five-year old boy turned positive.

The boy had travelled back from Ebola-hit eastern Democratic Republic of Congo where he had gone with his mother to nurse a relative who had

succumbed to Ebola.

Tour operators in the country have expressed concern that they may suffer losses if tourists cancel their travels following the outbreak.

Ebola last broke out in Uganda in 2012, leaving over 20 people dead.

Minister roots for joint measures to curb cross-border diseases in region

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Ummu Mwalimu has called on the east African nations to come up with collective measures to address outbreaks of diseases, which are cross-border in nature.

"It is important to involve these sectors in prevention, response and mitigation through this multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral disease management approach," Mwalimu said when speaking at the official opening of a large scale cross border field simulation exercise (FSX).

The exercise, which kicked off at Namanga border between Tanzania and Kenya is aimed at assessing coordination mechanisms, command and control systems and information sharing channels between multiple sectors and countries.

Organised by the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat in collaboration with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) through the "Support to Pandemic Preparedness in the EAC Region" (PanPrep), the exercise is also meant to activate the EAC emergency structure, incident management systems and relevant emergency operations centre.

Mwalimu said that the FSX takes into account lessons learned by the East African experts who were deployed to West Africa between 2014 and 2016 to help fight the biggest Ebola Virus Disease outbreak, the world has ever seen.

She reminded audience that the EAC region has experienced various outbreaks of Ebola, Rift Valley, Marburg and Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic fevers, Cholera, Polio and Plague among others, which are cross the border in nature.

Mwalimu informed the meeting that for the first time the concept of risk and crisis communication is also applied in this FSX.

Mwalimu disclosed to the participants that the FSX implements a decision taken by the Sectoral Council of Ministers of Health in 2015. It follows the One Health approach that involves key disciplines and sectors of society which are affected by an outbreak and can contribute to preventing and responding to it.

Up to 75% of infectious diseases of public health concern are transmitted between animals and humans.

She emphasized that the outbreaks affect not only the lives and livelihoods of people, but also agriculture, trade and tourism as important revenue streams in the region.

For his part, the EAC Deputy Secretary General, Christophe Bazivamo informed the meeting that FSX allows participants to identify strengths and weaknesses and can facilitate practical corrective actions at all levels.

"It is also used to assess coordination and collaboration mechanisms, emergency response deployment, logistics and administrative processes, risk and crisis communication as well as emergency management and leadership," he said.

The official said the findings from the FSX will be used to

further enhance preparedness and response capacities in the EAC region and beyond".

He informed the participants that the scenario of FSX is mimicking cross border disease outbreak, aggravated by environmental factors and with impact on humans and animals, agriculture, trade and tourism, and the economy as a whole.

Early warning, infections and deaths in animals and humans prompt the reporting and activation of national and regional preparedness and response mechanisms emphasizing the importance of the One Health approach and of appropriate risk and crisis communication as well as cross border collaboration.

He disclosed to the meeting that around Namanga, selected health facilities, slaughter houses and farms on both sides of the border, military and police, the media and last but not least the public are participating in the FSX. Both, Kenya and Tanzania will activate the mobile laboratories for the first time. The main focus of the exercise will be on the One Stop Border Post as the main crossing point for people and goods between the two countries.

More than 250 people attended the opening ceremony at the Namanga One Stop Border Post (OSBP) including representatives from other EAC Partner States of Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda. Southern African countries of Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and other regional and international institutions were also in attendance.



East African Community deputy secretary general Christophe Bazivamo (L), Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children minister Ummu Mwalimu (C) and Kenyan East African Community & Regional Development cabinet secretary Adan Abdulla Mohammed display EAC's Contingency Plan for 2018-2023. Photo courtesy of EAC Secretariat

Cotton by-products promise opportunities for Africa

By Chanté Hartebeest

COTTON by-products hold valuable opportunities for farmers in Eastern and Southern Africa. Developing these opportunities could make a huge contribution towards diversifying the subcontinents' economies.

This was the take-away message from a workshop recently hosted in Johannesburg by Cotton SA, a body that represents all role-players in the South African cotton industry, and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

The two-day workshop drew 70 attendees, of which 50 were from outside of Mzansi. It was centred around the project Promoting cotton by-products in Eastern and Southern Africa, which is managed by UNCTAD, in partnership with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

(COMESA).

According to Mr. Stephen Karingi, UNECA Director of Regional Integration and Trade, the project is aligned with regional and global efforts to support Africa's economic diversification through value addition. "The importance of the cotton sector to African economies cannot be overemphasised, and it includes the value chain from seed cotton to textiles and other by-products such as cottonseed oil and seedcake."

The three-year programme spans across four African countries namely Zambia, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Uganda. These countries are also known as the 'Cotton-4'.

By-products refers to the waste of cotton production, which is recycled into another product. For instance, fuel briquettes are made from cotton stalks and absorbent cotton from waste fibres.

He added, "Through value addition of cotton by-products such as briquettes and

pellets made from cotton stalks, hygienic cotton products such as absorbent cotton, and utilizing cottonseed oil, new opportunities can be created that can contribute to the profitability of cotton and job creation at farm level."

Amid the discussion, experts at the workshop reflected on the potential for cotton by-products and how it would contribute to sustainable development in African cotton-producing countries. The round table discussions focused on high level topics such as national level challenges, government policies, knowledge and technology required for manufacturing identified cotton by-products. Delegates from the "Cotton-4" also shared some of the lessons they have learnt.

"There was an openness between the parties involved. This openness is very powerful to grow the industry going forwards," says Yanchun Zhang, chief of UNCTAD's commodities branch.



Airtel Tanzania Director of Marketing Isaack Nchunda (L) displays a smartphone model itel P33 during its launch in Dar es Salaam yesterday. With him is itel mobile country operations manager Vanuj Vanuj Khosla. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Policy paper debunks myths about comprehensive sexuality education

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

COMPREHENSIVE sexuality education is an essential part of a good quality education that improves reproductive health and contributes to gender equality, argues Facing the Facts, a new policy paper by the Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report at UNESCO that seeks to dispel social and political resistance to sexuality education in many countries.

Globally, each year, 15 million girls marry before the age of 18, some 16 million 15-19 year olds and one million girls under 15 give birth. Young people moreover account for a third of new HIV infections among adults and across 37 low and middle-income countries, yet only approximately one third of people aged 15-24 years have comprehensive knowledge of HIV prevention and transmission. "It's time to face the facts," argues Director of the GEM Report, Manos Antoninis.

"More than one in ten births are among girls between 15 and 19 years old. This not only spells the end of their education, but is often fatal, with pregnancy and childbirth the leading cause of death among this age group."

The new policy paper presents the evidence of the benefits of age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education. Even children at the age of five need to understand basic facts about their body, think about family and social relationships and recognize inappropriate behaviour and identify abuse. Otherwise, many will grow up with inaccurate beliefs, like roughly half the girls in the Islamic Republic of Iran, who believe menstruation to be a disease and 82% of girls in Malawi, who know nothing about menstruation before experiencing it themselves.

Children and young people should receive comprehensive sexuality education before they become sexually active. This helps them protect themselves from unwanted pregnancy, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, and promotes values of tolerance, mutual respect and non-violence in relationships.

Nevertheless, vocal resistance to comprehensive sexuality education by some groups in a number of countries has been rising. In Uganda, a public backlash led the Ministry of Education to withdraw the national sexuality

education curriculum, which was subsequently revised.

Antoninis continued: "Comprehensive sexuality education is part and parcel of a good quality education, the achievement of good health outcomes and progress towards gender equality. Yet in many parts of the world, opposition to comprehensive sexuality education has not only halted progress in sexual and reproductive health and rights, but reversed it."

Introducing comprehensive sexuality education in the curriculum is insufficient without adequate teacher training to bolster instructors' motivation and confidence in addressing the full range of topics concerned. In Kenya, a study of 78 public and private secondary schools showed that while 75% of teachers reported teaching all topics of a comprehensive sexuality education programme, only 2% of students reported learning them all. Only 20% learned about types of contraception and even fewer learned how to use and where to get them. In some cases, incomplete and sometimes inaccurate information was taught. Almost 60% of teachers incorrectly taught that condoms alone were not effective in pregnancy prevention. Moreover, 71% of teachers emphasized abstinence as the best or only method for preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, and most depicted sex as dangerous or immoral for young people. Namibia has tackled this by creating scripted lesson plans for teachers, while Tanzania has created online resources that teachers can turn to when in doubt.

Another problem for teachers may be a lack of lesson plans or teaching materials that are gender and human rights sensitive and reflect contemporary realities. In Ghana, Guatemala and Peru, around three-quarters of teachers reported a lack of lesson plans, learning activities and other teaching materials. Indeed, curriculum content is found to be the weak point of comprehensive sexuality education in many African countries.

Data collection on comprehensive sexuality education is also a challenge. There is now one simple question on the number of schools providing life-skills based HIV and sexuality education being used in 165 countries since 2017.

EUR 50million scheme to transform long-term investment in agriculture

NAIROBI

ECONOMIC opportunities for thousands of small holders across Kenya are to be transformed under a new Sh5.7 billion agriculture sector financing programme, the Kenya Agriculture Value Chain Facility, launched by the European Investment Bank in Nairobi and supported by the European Union.

The new initiative represents the first dedicated support for long-term investment by agriculture companies in Africa backed by the European Investment Bank, the world's largest international public bank.

The scheme is designed to tackle specific investment gaps currently hindering expansion in the sector.

"The European Investment Bank is pleased to launch our first dedicated support for long-term investment in African agriculture here in Nairobi.

Working with Equity Bank across country the new Kenya Agriculture Value Chain Facility will help agriculture companies to modernize and harness the full economic, employment and export potential of agriculture as well as expand business with local smallholders. As the EU Bank, the EIB is pleased to strengthen our close cooperation with Kenyan partners and the European Union Delegation to ensure that agricultural investment can increase under an exciting new scheme that acts as a model for our engagement across Africa," said Catherine Collin, European Investment Bank regional representative for East Africa.

Equity Bank is the first Kenyan partner to participate in the Kenya Agriculture Value Chain Facility and other financial institutions are expected to join later. Equity Bank is one of the key financial institutions supporting the agricultural sector

in Kenya and is a leading provider of financial services to rural communities and smallholders.

"The Kenya National Government's Big 4 Agenda includes Manufacturing and Food Security. Equity Bank has aligned its strategy with this national agenda, to focus on growing the Agribusiness portfolio through servicing all segments from retail, to SME to large enterprises and corporate banking customers," said Polycarp Igathe, Equity Bank Kenya Managing Director.

Equity Bank has identified the potential for growth, by adding medium size and large commercial farmers to the Agriculture portfolio as well as focusing on financing of the Agri-Food processing companies.

"This credit facility will be used for on-lending of up to 50% of project costs to beneficiaries who are eligible. The enterprises we are targeting include

Value Chain SMEs in agribusinesses that are supporting a smallholder farmer base," added Igathe.

The new agriculture financing initiative will address the gap of long-term funding in the sector identified as a key barrier to growth.

Agriculture is the leading source of economic activity, employment and exports in Kenya. Agriculture contributes directly and indirectly to 51% of Kenyan GDP and accounts for 60% of jobs in the country.

Under the new financing programme agricultural companies across Kenya will be able to access Kenya Shilling loans with maturities of up to 7 years, longer than commonly available in the market. This is expected to help companies to expand, upgrade and modernise their equipment thereby improving productivity, and strengthening integration of smallholders into the agricultural value chain.

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Let us make International Day of the African Child live up to expectations

THE Day of the African Child has been celebrated on June 16 every year since 1991, when it was first initiated by the OAU Organisation of African Unity. It honours those who participated in the Soweto Uprising in 1976 on that day. It also raises awareness of the continuing need for improvement of the education provided to African children.

In Soweto, South Africa, on June 16, 1976, about ten thousand black school children marched in a column more than half a mile long, protesting the poor quality of their education and demanding their right to be taught in their own language.

Hundreds of young students were shot, the most famous of which being Hector Pieteron. More than a hundred people were killed in the protests of the following two weeks, and more than a thousand were injured.

On June 16 every year, governments, NGOs, international organisations and other stakeholders gather to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the full realisation of the rights of children Africa. For 2014, the theme chosen returns to the roots of the movement: A child-friendly, quality, free, and compulsory education for all children in Africa.

Biologically, a child is a human being between the stages of birth and puberty, or between the developmental period of infancy and puberty. The legal definition of child generally refers to a minor, otherwise known as a person younger than the age of majority.

Child may also describe a relationship with a parent (such as sons and daughters of any age) or, metaphorically, an authority figure, or signify group membership in a clan,

tribe, or religion; it can also signify being strongly affected by a specific time, place, or circumstance, as in a child of nature or a child of the Sixties.

Legally, the term child may also refer to anyone below the age of majority or some other age limit. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child defines child as a human being below the age of 18 years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier. This is ratified by 192 of 194 member countries. The term child may also refer to someone below another legally defined age limit unconnected to the age of majority.

In many cultures, a child is considered an adult after undergoing a rite of passage, which may or may not correspond to the time of puberty.

Children generally have fewer rights than adults and are classed as unable to make serious decisions, and legally must always be under the care of a responsible adult or child custody, whether their parents divorce or not.

Recognition of childhood as a state different from adulthood began to emerge in the 16th and 17th centuries. Society began to relate to the child not as a miniature adult but as a person of a lower level of maturity needing adult protection, love and nurturing.

This change can be traced in paintings: In the Middle Ages, children were portrayed in art as miniature adults with no childlike characteristics.

In the 16th century, images of children began to acquire a distinct childlike appearance. From the late 17th century onwards, children were shown playing with toys and later literature for children also began to develop at this time.



When will the central bank of Liberia learn its lesson?

By Special Correspondent

THE law establishing the Central Bank of Liberia gave the banking institution the authority to among other things, issue legal tender, banknotes and coins, administer the currency laws, regulate the supply of money, provide credit to bank-financial institutions on a discretionary basis, act as a fiscal agent for government and administer the New Financial Institutions Act of 1999 and regulate banking.

In the past year alone, a series of missteps and scandals including the missing 1d 16 billion, and mysterious and still questionable disbursement of us\$25 million dollars mop-up money has created credibility issues for the CBL even as the government of Liberia struggles to explain its way out of the saga engulfing the nation.

The never-ending dilemma has created a sea of distrust with majority of Liberians finding it difficult to believe that the bank and the government's hands are clean.

Two reports, one sanctioned and financed by the United States aid for international development and another from a special presidential investigative team, both have concluded that there were serious discrepancies and simply put, transactions just did not add up.

Regarding the US\$25 million, Kroll reported that the process was undertaken by the cbl without a clearly documented strategy.

The US aid-backed Kroll and associates reported that it reviewed documentation that showed an order was placed on July 10, 2018 to draw down funds totaling USD 20.0 million from the CBL's federal reserve bank of new york account to fund the USD mop-up exercise, the date of the order (July 10, 2018) was made several days in advance of the board of governors decree (July 16, 2018). Kroll however reported that it is not clear if the draw down was made earlier than approval was provided for the USD mop-up exercise.

Said Kroll: "kroll's analysis of information provided by the cbl identified that lrd banknotes totaling lrd 2.3 billion (USD 15.0 million) were purchased for the usd mop-up exercise between July 2018 and October 2018. kroll was informed by the CBL that the remaining USD 5.0 million was

put into circulation as part of normal banking operations, and not retained for continuance of the usd mop-up exercise."

Separately, the special presidential task force recommended that given the many discrepancies noted in the manner in which the mop-up exercise was conducted in relation to the infusion of the US\$25 million into the liberian economy; and the scope, time and financial resource limitations encountered by the pit-tc, the tent and the central bank of Liberia put a halt to the exercise, and that a forensic investigation of the entire mop-up exercise be conducted without any delay.

Added Pitt: "given the many discrepancies observed throughout the investigation in relation to the operations of the central bank of liberia in executing its statutory mandate, there is a need to review the standard operational procedures (sop), banking supervision and internal controls of the central bank of Liberia to curb the possibility of abuse of the money supply of the nation; as well as, enhancing efficiency and productivity. 37 to further protect currency banknotes in reserve, the central bank of Liberia should consider discontinuing the use of the vault at the erstwhile national housing and saving bank."

It is in this light, that president george manneh weah told Liberians last week, in his address to the nation, that he will no longer borrow from the central bank of Liberia for its short-term liquidity needs.

The president also announced that governor Nathaniel Patray is on his last leg as governor: "to provide the opportunity for the central bank to have a new direction, i have accepted the resignation of the deputy governor for economic policy, the executive governor is scheduled for age-related mandatory retirement in the next three months. during that period, we will work to transition the bank to a new management."

In the wake of all that has happened over the past year, one would think that the cbl would have at least by now be doing all it can to erase the perception of corruption and lack of transparency and accountability.

Henry costa, host of the popular breakfast show on roots FM 92.1 recently revealed that he had a bombshell to drop. that bombshell came just days

before Liberians from all walks of life under the banner of the council of patriots prepare to take to the streets in protest against widespread corruption and a host of other issues.

On monday, Costa displayed photographs and videos of what appeared to be several boxes of cash which came on a kenya airways flight on may 10, 2019, the same date Costa announced that he had a bombshell to release. mr. costa claims that the monies were taken to the home of President Weah.

To the surprise of many listening Monday, Charles f. Kaizal, internal security coordinator in the governance office at the CBL walked into the roots fm's studio to counter that there were in fact, two shipments of money, one arriving on May 10 and another on May 27, 2019.

According to Kaizal, both shipments were taken to the CBL and not the home of the president.

Where the discrepancy sets in is when Kaizal provided two letters claiming that the boxes of money were brought in the presence of a twelve-man escort team comprising of ten emergency response unit (eru) and two traffic officers plus six cbl staffers with five CBL vehicles and a police marked traffic escort, at approximately 2:00pm we boarded the vehicles and departed from the Roberts international airport (ria) to Monrovia. . William Dargbeh, assistant director of banking, prince bull, senior auditor and edwina edet - cashment officer department via Kenya airways-kq501/sky team.

However, the actual photos and videos do not appear to show only mr. kaizal and none of the 20 persons Kaizal claims were present when the monies arrived at the RIA.

The CBL has a lot of explanation to make, if two shipments came into the country on May 10 and May 27 respectively, why is the currency consuming market still struggling to find clean us and local currency bills on the streets? furthermore, why are commercial banks still complaining that there is not enough local and foreign currency on the market and why is the rate of the us to Liberian dollar continuing to climb, as high as 194:1 in some areas of the country.

It is our hope that in reconfiguring the CBL, president weah will ensure that the new cbl leadership will be recruited by a vetting committee to

be established, as he pledged in his speech.

The president must deliver on his promise that an independent team of professional liberians will be given the chance to vet quality personnel to fill the void and incompetence at the CBL.

If Liberians are to redevelop confidence in the banking sector, the CBL must be transparent and accountable in all its dealings moving forward.

The consuming public must be made aware when new consignments of money are being brought in the public and whatever new policy initiatives the president is embarking on will really increase the confidence of Liberians in the Liberian dollar.

No Liberian will have confidence in a banking sector lacking transparency and accountability, especially when monies are being ordered under the cloud of darkness or the secrecy and lackluster processing that continue to raise more questions than answers, even more troubling, did the bank receive legislative approval to bring in new bills into the country.

Sadly, we may once again be witnessing a case of the more things change, the more they remain the same.



Kroll's analysis of information provided by the cbl identified that lrd banknotes totaling lrd 2.3 billion (USD 15.0 million) were purchased for the usd mop-up exercise between July 2018 and October 2018. kroll was informed by the CBL that the remaining USD 5.0 million was put into circulation as part of normal banking operations, and not retained for continuance of the usd mop-up exercise

We may have little regard for voluntary blood donations, which would be wrong

BLOOD is a body fluid in humans and other animals that delivers necessary substances such as nutrients and oxygen to the cells and transports metabolic waste products away from those same cells.

In vertebrates, it is composed of blood cells suspended in blood plasma. Plasma, which constitutes 55 per cent of blood fluid, is mostly water (92 per cent by volume), and contains proteins, glucose, mineral ions, hormones, carbon dioxide (plasma being the main medium for excretory product transportation), and blood cells themselves. Albumin is the main protein in plasma, and it functions to regulate the colloidal osmotic pressure of blood.

The blood cells are mainly red blood cells (also called RBCs or erythrocytes), white blood cells (also called WBCs or leukocytes) and platelets (also called thrombocytes). The most abundant cells in vertebrate blood are red blood cells.

These contain haemoglobin, an iron-containing protein, which facilitates oxygen transport by reversibly binding to this respiratory gas and greatly increasing its solubility in blood. In contrast, carbon dioxide is mostly transported extracellularly as bicarbonate ion transported in plasma.

Every year on 14 June, countries around the world celebrate World Blood Donor Day. The event, established in 2004, serves to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products, and to thank blood donors for their voluntary, life-saving gifts of blood.

World Blood Donor Day is one of eight official global public health campaigns marked by the World Health Organization (WHO), along with World Health Day, World Tuberculosis

Day, World Immunisation Week, World Malaria Day, World No Tobacco Day, World Hepatitis Day, and World AIDS Day.

Transfusion of blood and blood products helps and save millions of lives every year. It can help patients suffering from life-threatening conditions live longer and with higher quality of life, and supports complex medical and surgical procedures. It also has an essential, life-saving role in maternal and perinatal care. Access to safe and sufficient blood and blood products can help reduce rates of death and disability due to severe bleeding during delivery and after childbirth.

In many countries, there is not an adequate supply of safe blood, and blood services face the challenge of making sufficient blood available, while also ensuring its quality and safety.

An adequate supply can only be assured through regular donations by voluntary unpaid blood donors. The WHO's goal is for all countries to obtain all their blood supplies from voluntary unpaid donors by 2020. In 2014, 60 countries have their national blood supplies based on 99-100 per cent voluntary unpaid blood donations, with 73 countries still largely dependent on family and paid donors.

World Blood Donor Day is celebrated every year by people in many countries around the world on 14 June. World Blood Donor Day is celebrated every year on the day of birthday anniversary of Karl Landsteiner on 14 June 1868.

World Blood Donor Day celebration brings a precious opportunity to all donors for celebrating it on national and global level as well as to commemorate the birthday anniversary of the Karl Landsteiner (a great scientist who won the Nobel Prize for his great discovery of the ABO blood group system).

For most of us, we find ourselves living in existence or is it surviving?

Choosing not to choose

We are caught in between no choice but to make important choices of all sorts that serve our survival techniques and then stick to them.

We juggle between multiple career choices for self-existence and the satisfaction that our basic needs are met.

If you think about it, we're reared and socialized in a completely monogamous society!

From the time that we start school (usually around four or five years old), we're conditioned that it's time for us to start thinking about one of the most important choices we'll make with our lives: What do we want to be when we grow up?

Children usually answer this question with a mixture of practical and outlandish responses. After all, their minds and their hearts are free! They haven't learned how to place restrictions on their outcomes, yet.

But society takes care of that issue soon enough. Before we know it, we're conditioned to choose the right (one) career path, which means selecting the right (one) university and focusing in the right (one) degree course.

After we supposedly make the right career choice and we suitably prepare for a host of right choices for our future, we're then expected to select the right life partner, marry them, then reside in the right neighborhood, located in the right geographic location.

With all of the singularly right choices we're supposed to make with our lives, it's no wonder that the concept of options either feels overwhelming or in-

spires fear and loathing in most people's minds!

Regarding your future, are you certain that the industry that you're working within now is the right choice for you, for the rest of your working years? Will your industry even exist in five-ten years?

And is it wrong to explore your career options, even now? Personally, I feel that choosing not to choose is the right choice for your career, and many others do as well!

As we look into the reasons why committing to one career choice isn't viable, along with reasons why choosing not to choose is okay too this could ultimately become beneficial for us either professional people or business owners.

Making one Career Choice Is old fashioned

Where did the stigma of selecting one career field come from? The idea of se-

lecting a lifetime career has always been in play, but it has created a firm meaning in the society. People particularly men were expected to select a career path and stay on that path for as long as they were able to work, because men were expected to be the breadwinners for their families. Selecting one career path allowed them to generate a stable income to buy a house, a car, and provide for their families.

At the same time, single women were entering the workforce, and since many single women who worked were either poor or hadn't found a husband, the path for her life was bound in career fields that society set aside for single women, such as teaching or nursing. However, if a single woman lived in a large city, then she often had the option of working as a secretary.

Not only did this serve societal roles for women at the time, but this also served

women who hoped to marry out of their condition by connecting with a prosperous business man. Or at least, an employee who could afford to support her and take her out of her normal job.

As you can see, people choose singular career paths because they live in a world filled with harsher societal expectations. There are a lot fewer options for their lives!

The economy was a lot more stable!

From the mid-20th century through the end, when a prospective employee applied for a job or when a small business owner started a venture, it was almost certain that they'd generate income for the long haul.

But now, with so much uncertainty in the air, it's not wise to rely upon skills from one industry in order to provide for one's self. In a world where jobs and entire industries are created and then disappear in the blink of an eye, the entire country has

seemingly being tuned into a survivalist mentality!

And since the key marker of a survivalist is to hustle and prepare themselves for hard times, then becoming professionally diverse is the best step that today's employee and business owner can take to endure for the long haul.

But all in all, you and me can still make the choosing not to choose work for us...

The truth is, we've already seen the concept of choosing not to choose at work. Some would refer to a person who chooses not to choose a single profession as a multitasker literary!

Some with an old-fashioned mentality refer to such a person as an unfocused individual who isn't excited by results and building from scratch but that aren't the case.

This is because a single fixed identity is a liability today. It only makes people more vulnerable to sudden



THE CAREER MIRROR

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changes in economic conditions like what we've seen from the redundancy actions from the government a year ago and also alot of companies and institutions that are still doing the same.

Nevertheless the most successful and healthy among us now ought to develop multiple identities, even as human personalities it's also possible to develop multiple career choices too.

Recent research also suggests that developing multiple identities is one of the best therapy we can nurture to prevent mental and physical illness, wow!

The skills that can develop within one industry can transfer, grow and polish a second career choice which opens doors of opportunities and success as well.

A friend of mine opted to pursue business studies as a career and was able to nurture those skills and the education she had to erect a successful photography business.

Then, there was the friend who was able to combine her love for music and the respectability of the medical field by becoming a music therapist.

And speaking to a point that I love, certain career choices enjoy various levels of prestige, internationally. So if a person is thinking about a certain country

to immigrate to, then they might find that their wide variety of skills and talents will play well in their new living environment.

We live in a world where we can run a startup, have a day job, and work remotely at night if we want to—so why not take advantage of it?

Don't get me wrong, doing many things can be stressful and tiresome but it can also be exceptionally gratifying and rewarding.

It equally helps us to have a busy mind putting the devils workshop out.

If you can find the right balance, doing what helps you bring in a paycheck and also pursuing your interests will enable you to feel like you're pursuing the career of your dreams, even if it's an informal job.

But What If You Just Can't Decide?

After reading all of this, you might have come to the conclusion that your problem isn't your ability to choose between one or more options—your problem is your lack of ability to make any choices at all!

You especially might feel this anxiety if you're currently working in a field (or have started a small business in a field) that pays the bills and allows you to work location independently, but you have no idea of what you

really want to do with your future then pick a career, stick with it, and build your person brand around it.

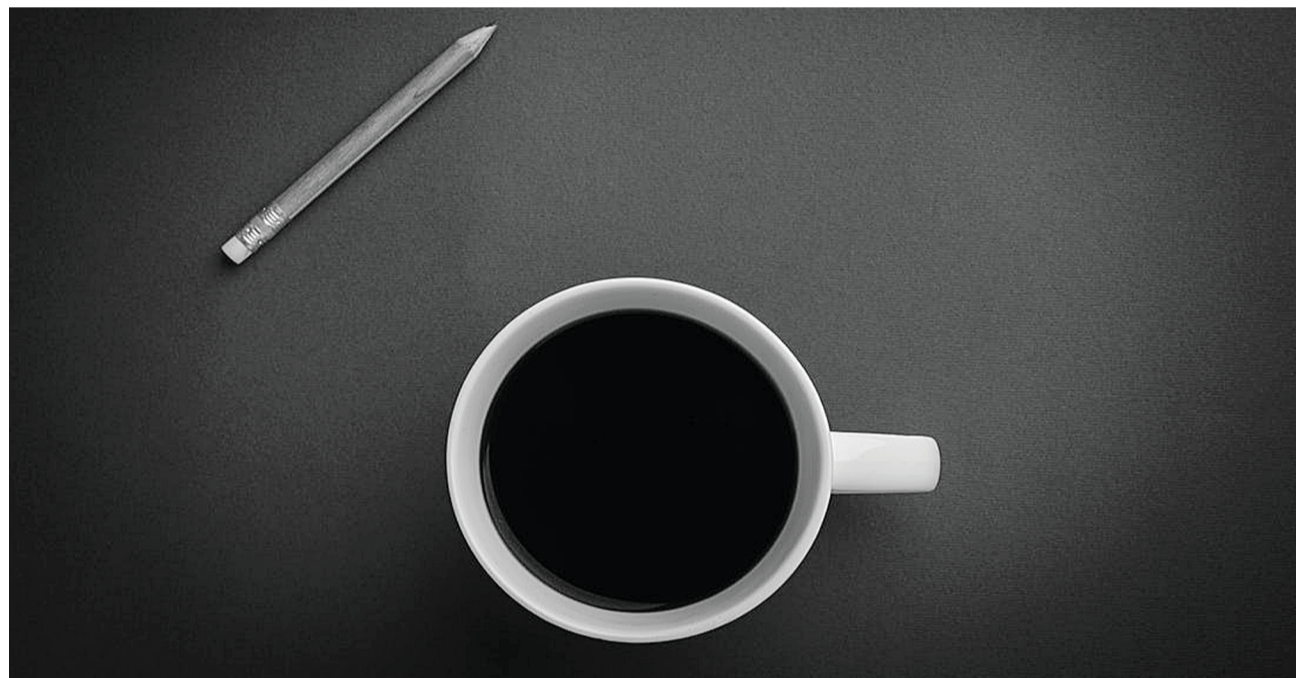
But you might not be in a personal place of making this happen. Or maybe, you don't want to build your life or your personal brand around your current career, and that's okay, too.

You don't get to control everything. You can wake up at 5 a.m. every day until you're tired and broken, but if the words or the painting or the ideas don't want to come to fruition, they won't...

Sometimes the novel is not ready to be written because you haven't met the inspiration for your main character yet. Sometimes you need two more years of life experience before you can make your masterpiece into something that will feel real and true and raw to other people...

You don't get to game the system of your life. You just don't. You don't get to control every outcome and aspect as a way to never give in to the uncertainty and unpredictability of something that's beyond what you understand. It's the basis of presence: to show up as you are in this moment and let that be enough.

And with all of this said, sometimes, the best choice is to choose not to choose.



'Evidence of crimes in Darfur shows drawdown of peacekeepers reckless'

DARFUR

Amnesty International has disturbing new evidence, including satellite imagery, showing that Sudanese government forces, including the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and allied militias, have continued to commit war crimes and other serious human rights violations in Darfur.

In the past year these have included the complete or partial destruction of at least 45 villages, unlawful killings, and sexual violence.

Tens of thousands of civilians currently protected by United Nations (UN)/African Union (AU) peacekeepers (UNAMID) in Jebel Marra, Darfur, must not be placed at the mercy of the RSF, a Sudanese security force that has committed crimes against humanity and war crimes, the organisation warned ahead of a crucial vote on the mission's future this June 27.

If the UN Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council authorise UNAMID's closure, it would effectively give the RSF control over civilian areas. Formed from the former "Janjaweed" militia, the RSF are responsible for crimes against humanity in Darfur's Jebel Marra region as well as the ongoing bloody crackdown on protesters in Khartoum since June 3.

"In Darfur, as in Khartoum, we've witnessed the Rapid Support Forces' despicable brutality against Sudanese civilians - the only difference being, in Darfur they have committed



Kumi Naidoo, head of Amnesty International. File photo

atrocities with impunity for years," said Amnesty International Secretary General Kumi Naidoo, adding: "Sudan's Transitional Military Council (TMC) must immediately withdraw the RSF from any policing and law enforcement operations, especially in Khartoum and Darfur, and confine them to their barracks in the interests of public safety."

"As for the UN and the AU, they must not turn their backs on people in Darfur who rely on peacekeepers for protection. A decision to close UNAMID would recklessly and needlessly place tens of thousands of lives at risk by removing their only safeguard against the government's scorched earth campaign," he pleaded.

In 2017 and 2018, the UN and AU decided to dramatically reduce the number of UNAMID troops, close the majority of its bases and reconfigure the remainder of the mission to

focus on the protection of civilians in the Jebel Marra region of Darfur, where the human rights and protection concerns were greatest.

At the end of this month, the AU and UN are considering voting to withdraw all the remaining peacekeepers from Darfur by June 2020, including the majority of the remaining team sites by December 2019.

The closed UNAMID bases were supposed to be handed over to the government to use for civilian purposes but are, in fact, nearly all being used by the RSF.

This same Sudanese government security force carried out crimes against humanity in North and South Darfur in 2014, in Jebel Marra in 2015 and 2016. It also continues to carry out war crimes and other serious human rights violations in Jebel Marra and was chiefly responsible for killing scores of protesters in the

Sudanese capital of Khartoum since 3 June 2019.

Moreover, Sudan's current governing body - the TMC - has demanded that the remaining UNAMID bases be handed over directly to the RSF.

"Given the RSF's history of brutality in Jebel Marra, North Darfur, South Darfur, Southern Kordofan, and Blue Nile, and the shocking violence the very same forces have been meting out against protesters in Khartoum in recent days, it is bewildering that the UN and AU would even consider removing the last peacekeepers from Darfur, effectively handing over control of civilian areas in Jebel Marra to them at this time," said Amnesty International Senior Crisis Adviser Jonathan Loeb.

"The logic behind the drawdown was premised on the idea that peacekeepers should withdraw once conditions on the ground had sufficiently improved," he said, adding:

"This arguably made sense in certain parts of Darfur, but it is not the case in Jebel Marra. Perversely, the UN is using its own failure to document the violence in Jebel Marra as the basis for it argument that the mission should close."

Hundreds of thousands of people have died from direct violence and conflict-related disease and starvation during the conflict in Darfur. According to the UN, approximately 2 million people remain displaced by violence in Darfur, many of whom remain refugees in neighbouring Chad.

Despite severe government restrictions on access to Jebel Marra for journalists, independent human rights monitors and UNAMID, Amnesty International has been able to confirm recent attacks against the region's civilians, much of which have gone unreported by the mission.

Satellite evidence and testimonies confirm that government forces and associated militias damaged or destroyed at least 45 villages in Jebel Marra between July 2018 and February 2019. Amnesty International has also documented other abuses by security forces, including unlawful killings, sexual violence, systematic looting and forced displacement.

Closing the mission could have a devastating impact on the displaced population in and around Jebel Marra, many of whom rely on UNAMID bases for protection.

UNAMID's Sortoni base in northern Jebel Marra is one example of where UNAMID's

presence is still vital. In 2016, tens of thousands of civilians fled to the area immediately around the base after the Sudanese government forces destroyed their villages.

Many remain there today, unable to go home because of fear of ongoing attacks by security forces against people who attempt to return to their areas to farm. Closing the base will leave people exposed to attacks by the very same fighters who destroyed their villages and still continued to carry out attacks in the area during the past year.

Amnesty International interviewed people living around Sortoni and other UNAMID bases in Jebel Marra, nearly all of whom said they feared a return to large-scale violence if UNAMID left, and that they would be forced to flee again if this happens.

Adam, a 54-year-old man who was displaced to Sortoni by violence in 2016 told Amnesty International that his brother was killed in late 2018 when he tried to return to his farm in northern Jebel Marra.

Adam said he is fearful of UNAMID leaving: "UNAMID, even though they are not doing much... their existence is a threat to the security forces who want to mistreat people... That is why those forces don't commit atrocities. If UNAMID is not there then they will have nothing to fear... If no one is protecting then there will be unimaginable behaviour. Anyone who is armed can do anything."

"Although UNAMID has consistently failed to

prevent attacks on villages, it has been able to provide protection for civilians displaced by violence who manage to get themselves to safety near UNAMID bases," said AI adviser Loeb.

He added: "In certain parts of Darfur this protection is still urgently needed and UNAMID's mere presence in these areas justifies the mission's continued existence in Jebel Marra."

The case against closing UNAMID has been made even stronger by events in Khartoum on June 3, when the RSF swept into protest sites and opened fire on unarmed people, killing more than 100 and injuring many more. Senior commanders in charge of the TMC - which includes the RSF - are the same individuals responsible for carrying out atrocities in Darfur.

"It's hard to imagine a worse time to decide to close UNAMID. Sudan is in the middle of a political crisis," said AI's Loeb.

He elaborated: "And given that the men who have retained political and military power are the architects of many of the most violent campaigns during the Darfur conflict, it would be dangerously naive for the UN Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council to dismiss the possibility of an escalation of violence against civilians in Darfur."

He said a decision to remove the last remaining peacekeepers from Darfur at this time would reveal "a shocking lack of understanding about the current reality in Sudan".

By Correspondent Gerald

Kitabu

The government has directed the National Irrigation Commission (NIRC) to ensure water is taken to Mkongo Agricultural Youth Camp located in Rufiji district, Coast Region to enable smooth operations and running of training activities at the centre.

The Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Omary Mgumba made the directive recently when closing the youth hands-on agribusiness training course for 58 youth from different districts in the country held at the youth camp.

"I understand that you need safe and clean water for different purposes. You also need water for irrigation purposes. I take this opportunity to direct the engineering manager for Eastern zone irrigation office to make sure that he follows up this directive to connect water from the nearby water sources," he said.

The camp is surrounded with Ruwe Lake and also proximate to the Rufiji River, which surrounds fertile land suitable for irrigation projects and agricultural development.

About lack of power at the camp, the Deputy Minister Omary Mgumba said: "As the government we have issued directive that wherever the electricity pole passes, the priority should be given to community services such as colleges, schools, churches, Mosque and training camps.

"I promise you that we are going to discuss with the Ministry of Energy to see how they can bring electricity at Mkongo Agricultural Youth Camp as soon as possible," he stressed.

The Deputy Minister challenged the government executives across the country to establish hands-on agribusiness incubation centres like Mkongo centre to equip

Govt directs NIRC to connect Mkongo Agricultural Youth Camp with water to improve productivity



Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Omary Mgumba (left) and other guests admire tomatoes, one of the crops being grown by youth at Mkongo Agricultural Youth Camp. Photo by Gerald Kitabu

graduates with knowledge and skills on agribusiness and entrepreneurship to be able to employ themselves and create jobs for others.

"I advice government officials across the country to create youth platforms and put in practice plan and strategies that would attract youth in agriculture," he said.

SUGECO Executive Director Revocatus Kimario said that the centre has the capacity to accommodate 80 youth but due to infrastructure challenges, it is currently accommodating 60 youth only. Mkongo Agricultural Youth Camp is carrying out training programmes very successfully. For example from 2015 to date a total of 850 youth from different places in the country have been trained in life skills, nutrition, health, mindset change, entrepreneurship skills, Marketing and agriculture related value

chains.

"We have tried to put in place some agricultural infrastructures and different technologies to enable the youth hands-on agribusiness training for example, we have built eight green houses, we have established demonstration farms, modern irrigation system, and trained beekeeping and poultry projects, he said.

He named some challenges facing the centre as lack of transport facilities, lack of water, lack of power and poor infrastructures for young mothers.

"Our dream as SUGECO is to make this centre a youth agribusiness vocation training centre to produce professional farmers. If improved and given required weight, we believe that the centre will produce competent human capital in agribusiness sub-sector," he said.

Mkongo Agricultural Youth Camp is a project supported by Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and implemented collaboratively by SUGECO, Ministry of Agriculture, the district council and Local government to ensure development in the agriculture value chain.

Development of agribusiness value chain also involves poultry, beekeeping, and horticulture. The collaboration goes further to involve other stakeholders such as agricultural input suppliers, financial institutions and crop buyers.

The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Tanzania Fred Kafero said currently the youth population is on the increase in developing countries especially those living in rural areas but the employment and entrepreneurship op-

portunities are shrinking.

"FAO would like to ensure firm and conducive environment where the youth benefits and uses their knowledge and skills to employ themselves and create job opportunities in their respective villages," he said.

The youth have the capacity to capture these opportunities and contribute positively to agricultural development in rural areas. FAO supports the government to implement strategies that aims at developing the youth's innovation ideas in rural areas. It also works with the government of Tanzania by providing policy advice, credible, up-to-date information and technical expertise on food security and natural resource management. FAO support for the youth in agriculture started long time ago during review of the agricultural policy. "We have

opportunities in agribusiness," he said.

The youth graduates said through the training, they have gained enough skills and knowledge on agribusiness and entrepreneurship on horticulture such as drip irrigation kind of agriculture, poultry projects, soap making and other products. They said these skills are important for them to engage in productive and profitable agribusiness.

The youth named the challenges as lack of power at the Camp, lack of reliable transport to and from the centre, lack of friendly infrastructures for people with special needs such as people with disability and the short period of the training.

The village Chairman of Mkongo North village Musa Sungu and Ramadhan Malinda of Mkongo South commended the efforts being done by SUGECO, the government and FAO to provide the surrounding youth different opportunities on agribusiness.

Representatives of the Coast Regional Commissioner, Shange Twamala, Vedasto Lusekelo and Rashid Salum also called for the government to address the challenges of lack of power, water, infrastructures and repair of the centre vehicles.

"I advise you to be good ambassadors. Go and transmit this knowledge and skills on agribusiness and spread to others in your respective areas," they said.

According to the youth, SUGECO encourages and promotes agribusiness innovation and enhancement in order to facilitate creative mindsets, ingenuity and inspirational success in the field.

The "Hands-on" outreach programme trains out-of-school and out-of-work youth, the majority of whom are standard seven and secondary school leavers who represent young farmers from poor and disadvantaged backgrounds and vulnerable youth and girls from rural communities. The project receives support from the Food and Agriculture Organizations (FAO)

By Ana Prieto

Five journalists were murdered in Mexico during the first five months of 2019 - a tragic and, sadly, unsurprising number in one of the deadliest countries in the world to practise journalism.

The power of the drug cartels, state and police corruption as well as an inefficient justice system all contribute to a lethal combination that has turned Mexico into a land of impunity for those who seek to silence critical voices.

In order to address this desperate situation, which also takes a high toll among human rights activists, the government of then-President Felipe Calderón established the Mechanism to Protect Human Rights Defenders and Journalists in 2012.

The initiative seeks to guarantee "the life, integrity, freedom and security of those who are at risk as a result of the defence or promotion of human rights, and the exercise of freedom of expression and journalism".

It offers activists, journalists, media and NGOs under threat immediate protection measures, such as escorts or bodyguards, security cameras and equipment, including bulletproof vests and satellite phones.

Seven years after the creation of the programme, Peace Brigades International (PBI) and the Washington Office for Latin American Affairs (WOLA)

Report details shortcomings in system of enhancing safety of journalists in Mexico



published a report entitled "Turning the Tide of Impunity. Protection and Access to Justice for Human Rights Defenders and Journalists in Mexico".

The report analyses the mechanism's work since its establishment until 2018, a period that coincides with the full term in office of former President Enrique Peña Nieto, whose administration "was marred by a marked increase in hostility towards critical and dissident voices and a demonstrated failure to protect their spaces of action", according to the study.

To gather data providing an accurate picture of the results of the mechanism's implementation so far, interviews were conducted with victims, Mexican authorities, national and international human rights or-

ganisations and members of Espacio OSC, a group of organisations representing victims and presenting cases before the mechanism.

In addition, more than 40 access-to-information requests were submitted to the Attorney General's Office and to prosecutors' offices in the ten Mexican states where the programme has accepted the largest number of applications.

It wasn't easy for authors Gina Hinojosa, Verry Schaafsma and Maureen Meyer to access the requested data.

"Few prosecutors' offices gave us all the information we asked for within the period of time stipulated in Mexican transparency laws," Gina Hinojosa, WOLA's Programme Associate, told IJNet.

"We had to send several requests

and make several calls to receive the data," she noted, adding: "In the case of Coahuila, the state prosecutor's office did not provide us with a complete response in the seven months between the presentation of our first application and the report's release. That's why the document does not include data from Coahuila."

The authors also found that the statistics from several prosecutors' offices did not present a disaggregated record of crimes against journalists and human rights defenders, thus preventing the identification of patterns and possible connections between cases.

"We see this as a serious disregard for the high levels of violence faced by human rights defenders in Mexico and a disinterest on the part of the

Mexican government to understand the risks they deal with," Hinojosa said.

The creation and permanence of the mechanism is good news in and of itself. As of January, 2019, the programme had accepted 644 of the 766 requests for protection it received, with a total of 1,144 people receiving some form of protection since 2012.

The overall picture is, however, bleak: since August 2017, six beneficiaries of the programme have been murdered, and the new administration of President Andrés Manuel López Obrador has cut the mechanism's already limited budget, in turn hindering its capacity.

Among the other findings of the report are that the protection measures offered by the mechanism are usually insufficient. There are no risk analysis protocols that identify the different needs of journalists when granting protection measures.

Also, these measures are often unreliable, not adequately implemented, and do not take into account realities on the ground in different regions of the country.

The mechanism suffers from a serious lack of adequate staffing and budget levels. There are only 35 mechanism

personnel overseeing the protection of 831 journalists and human rights defenders.

Despite this context, Mexico's 2019 budget cut funds to the Interior ministry's Human Rights Unit - which finances the mechanism's staff salaries - by more than US\$610,500, meaning that additional staff will likely not be hired this year.

The Mexican government's failure to properly investigate and sanction crimes against journalists and human rights defenders has left these groups open to attack. Between 2012 and June, 2018, just three per cent of investigations opened by the state prosecutor's offices analysed by WOLA and PBI made it to the courts.

Furthermore, some law enforcement institutions often devote time and resources towards discrediting and criminalising the work of journalists. The report reveals that in the state of Chihuahua, for example, the number of cases in which authorities deemed journalists to be the alleged aggressors was more than double the number of cases opened into crimes committed against them.

The report makes several recommendations to the Mexican government, one

being to ensure that the mechanism has the necessary human and financial resources to adequately perform its functions.

Special emphasis is also given to the investigative work of prosecutors and personnel within prosecutors' offices across the country, proposing that they receive specialised training on how to analyse crimes within the context of victims' journalism or advocacy activities. They should also be familiar with the recently-passed Standardised Protocol for the Investigation of Crimes against Freedom of Expression.

"We believe that prosecutors should have systematised records that track the frequency and types of crimes suffered by human rights defenders and reporters so that they can determine possible patterns and modus operandi," said Hinojosa.

"This information would not only help in the investigations, but could be shared with the mechanism so that its officials understand the specific risks faced by activists and journalists in different areas of the country, and thus develop better prevention strategies," she added.

• A dispatch by International Journalists' Network IJNet, a project of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists (ICJ).

Innovation and creativity are the driving force behind Olam Cocoa

Guardian Reporter and Agencies

IN 2018, global chocolate consumption was recorded by the Innova Market research at 6 million metric tonnes, a 2.5 per cent increase over the past five years, and there are no signs of this slowing down.

Although Africa is typically the continent most associated with the cocoa industry as it produces the majority of the world's cocoa supply, recent years have shown a huge increase in demand for cocoa in Asia.

In fact, Asia has become the second largest consumer of cocoa ingredients in the world and in particular, Indonesia has become the sixth largest producer of cocoa.

Olam Cocoa has been operating in Indonesia since 1996 and is the country's largest exporter of cocoa beans, establishing the company's first cocoa sustainability initiative there in 2004. Since that time, US\$20 million in premiums have been paid to cocoa farmers and 5 million cocoa tree seedlings distributed.

Today Olam Cocoa has 65,500 Indonesian cocoa farmers across 6 provinces in sustainability programmes. Supplying resources for the best cocoa growing techniques based on leading plant science R&D, programmes aim to support livelihoods comparable to the farming of competing crops. Olam Cocoa also owns one of the largest cocoa plantations in Indonesia, located on Seram Island.

As a fully integrated cocoa business, the company is the leading originator of cocoa beans and a globally leading processor of cocoa powders, cocoa masses and cocoa butters.

Their 11 processing facilities (plus powder milling, blending and refining) have a capacity of 700,000 metric tonnes and are

strategically based either in the main producing countries or in primary consumption markets to optimise transportation and environmental efficiencies. The European and North American markets are served by processing facilities in Germany, Spain, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States. The cocoa factory in Singapore serves the increasing demand for cocoa flavoured products in Asia.

Innovation and creativity are the driving forces behind each new cocoa ingredient the company brings to market. The six Cocoa Innovation Centres (CIC), with R&D professionals in Brazil, the Netherlands, Singapore, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States, develop tailor-made cocoa ingredient solutions for chocolate, confectionery, dairy, biscuit and bakery, beverage, ice cream and dessert applications supported by comprehensive quality testing and precision processing.

The cocoa industry faces a number of complex challenges from poverty and child labour to deforestation. While these problems are deep-rooted, there is an opportunity for technology to have a positive impact and that is why we have developed a suite of digital solutions. One example is AtSource, our sustainable sourcing solution, which connects our customers directly to the source of supply at each stage of their product's journey and tracks its social and environmental profile. This helps customers shape change on the ground and meet multiple sustainability targets, increasing resilience in supply chains.

Another example is the Olam and Farmers Information System (OFIS) which is a tool for cocoa farmers to optimise their yields and get the most from their farm. Using GPS mapping,

it records data like size and age of trees and distance to social infrastructure. Farmers are issued with a personalised Farmer Development Plan (FDP), and can also receive payment through a mobile money wallet. To date 143,000 farms and 180,000 hectares of cocoa farmland have been mapped and 57,396 cocoa farmers have been issued with FDPs.

Olam Cocoa has been running cocoa sustainability programmes for over 15 years and it is an integral part of business. One example of their commitment to sustainability is the 'One Farmer, One Acre' project in Ghana. Many cocoa farmers are hesitant to do essential pruning to their farms as despite seeing demonstrations of the correct technique on Olam Cocoa demo plots, they still fear that they might get it wrong and risk their income. In order to build confidence and further skills, the project involves 'pruning teams' of young people helping their farming communities by pruning one corner (an acre) of the cocoa farm with the labour costs covered by Olam Cocoa.

Other sustainability efforts include the Living Landscape Policy (LLP). This supports a net-positive impact on the environment, meaning that we put in more into the food system than we take out. As part of the policy, they have developed the Forest Loss Risk Index (FLRI) which GPS maps our entire cocoa supplier network and highlights deforestation risk hotspots. We use this data to intervene and take action before deforestation happens. 100 per cent of the network in Ghana Indonesia, Brazil and Cameroon has already been mapped, which has the second largest intact dense tropical rainforest in the world but is at a high risk of deforestation.



A customer makes "special treatment" shopping at a Dar es Salaam mall yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Subsidise solar mini-grids to power rural Africa, investors urge

BARCELONA

LOCAL renewable-energy grids can provide electric power to hundreds of millions of people in developing nations, especially in Africa, but will not attract enough financial backing unless they are subsidised, a group of investors said on Monday.

Twelve energy and impact investors - with more than \$2 billion under management and about 100 mini-grids built or in development - urged donors to reduce financial risks for them.

"The capital is there and waiting to invest, but there is a missing piece," said Nico Tyabji, director of strategic partnerships with SunFunder, which provides debt financing for solar

enterprises.

That is using public money to pay mini-grid developers and operators according to the number of connections they make.

Taxpayer funding has long backed expansion of national power grid systems around the world - and the new subsidies would be in line with that, Tyabji told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

In a position paper, released to coincide with the Africa Energy Forum in Lisbon, the investors said mini-grids - which are self-sufficient grids serving households and businesses - had "immense potential" to accelerate electrification in Africa.

Around the world, the number of people without access to electricity dropped to about 840 million in 2017 from 1.2 billion in 2010, said a global tracking report last month.

But sub-Saharan Africa lags behind, with 573 million people - more than one in two - still living without electric power, in part because of the cost of extending national grids in remote or rural areas.

Analysis from the International Energy Agency showed that to achieve universal electrification - a global goal by 2030 - mini-grids would be the cheapest technology to connect 290 million people, according to the investors' paper.

"However, mini-grids have not yet attracted the private

investment required to achieve this outcome," it said.

According to a report from McKinsey, the benchmark cost for national grid connections in rural areas is \$2,300 per connection, compared with about \$1,000 for mini-grids, it noted.

Pilot projects to test the model of paying mini-grid developers for the connections they make have been launched in East Africa using funds from government development agencies, including those in Britain and Sweden, said SunFunder's Tyabji.

Another, bigger \$75-million effort is now getting underway in Nigeria, involving the state electrification agency and the World Bank.



Mwita Waitara (in red tie), Deputy Minister in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), poses for a photo at Parliament grounds in Dodoma on Monday with students of Dar es Salaam's St Anne Marie Academy students who got Division One and Division Two passes in last year's National Form Four examinations - and their teachers. He is flanked by Bukoba Rural legislator Jasson Rweikiza (to his right) and his Mikumi counterpart, Joseph Haule. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Mopa is a bad law borrowed from apartheid South Africa's statutes'

By Douglas Togaraseyi Mwonzora

Recently, the government of Zimbabwe, through the Minister of Home Affairs, introduced the Maintenance of Peace and Order Bill to Parliament (MOPA). This Bill, that will replace the reviled Public Order and Security Act (POSA), inter alia seeks to govern public demonstrations and gatherings. It is therefore a very important factor in Zimbabwe's march towards democracy.

What is striking is that out of the 23 in POSA the Bill retains a

whopping 20 Clauses as they are word for word. It makes minor amendments to 2 Clauses and repeals only a single provision of POSA. Further key provisions of this Bill are duplicated word for word from the Regulation of Public Gatherings Act No. 205 of 1993 of South Africa enacted before that country attained its independence. This Bill is therefore simply POSA by another name and appears not to have been made with any democratic design in mind.

The Bill completely repeals section 27 of POSA which gave

the police power to temporarily ban demonstrations in certain geographical districts. This provision had already been successfully challenged in the Constitutional Court anyway. The other change is that whereas under POSA, the Minister of Defense had the power to authorise the deployment of the army to assist the police during public demonstrations, this power is now vested with the President. The third change is that while under POSA the police had the power to detain any person who failed to produce

identity documents, the bill now allows those persons seven days to produce same without the need to detain them.

The Bill still contains a provision for the police to ban possession of certain items which could be used as weapons for a period of three months in any police district. These items include knives, machetes, axes and any "traditional weapon whatsoever". Anybody who is found in possession of these items during the ban is liable to up to six months imprisonment. What the government failed to realise is

that some of these items are tools of trade in poorer communities. The bans therefore effectively interferes with the livelihoods of these communities.

The Bill enjoins organisations who want to embark on public processions, demonstrations and public meetings to appoint conveners and deputy conveners for these events. These people are supposed to write and sign all correspondence regarding these events as well as hold necessary consultative meetings with the police.

Donors pledge US\$17m for food security, war on poverty in Africa

By Special Correspondent,

Malabo

AFRICAN and non-regional donors have pledged US\$17 million to replenish the Africa Solidarity Trust Fund, an initiative which aims to provide food security and eliminate rural poverty on the continent.

The pledges were made at a high-level donor round table convened by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and Equatorial Guinea President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, on the sidelines of the African Development Bank's 2019 Annual Meetings currently underway in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.

Opening the conference at the Sipopo conference center Equatorial Guinea President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo said the Fund illustrated "a turning point in the fight against food insecurity" and said his tiny oil-rich nation had donated generously out of its oil revenues to show solidarity to African countries.

The Fund, an initiative of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, received its start-up contribution of \$30 million from Equatorial Guinea, the host nation of this year's meetings and Angola, which gave \$10 million. Its projects have been lauded for providing innovative solutions for Af-

rican agriculture and food systems.

Speaking on behalf of African Development Bank President Akinwumi Adesina, Bank Vice President Agriculture, Human and Social Development, Jennifer Blanke said Africa faced challenges in the area of agriculture and food production, relying heavily on food imports.

"It's so important that ASTF is showing that African countries are contributing to Africa...that links very closely to what we are doing," Blanke said, adding that the Bank's commitment to providing farmers with technologies to help improve their yields.

The donor conference was attended by the presidents of Mauritania, Guinea Bissau, the prime minister of Eswatini and several high-ranking diplomats, ministers and development and banking institutions.

The theme of the Bank's meetings this year is "Regional Integration for Africa's Economic Prosperity." The push for regional integration has gained momentum with the ratification of the agreement on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in March 2018, which is now at the threshold of its launch in July.

"You can count on us that we will be very involved," she said.

Real-life story of a victim whose husband is in jail

By Correspondent Zuwena

Shame

“I am a mother of three children whose father is in prison, my husband is only a suspect but it is now more than two years since he was arrested. My kids are psychologically affected since they haven't meet or even talk to their father for the years he has been imprisoned. My children are not as they used to be”.

Devotha (not her real name) is one of hundreds or even thousands of mothers whose husbands are in prisons for various cases, others already sentenced to death or life imprisonment. Her husband is in one of the prisons found in Dar es Salaam Region.

Devotha, living with her three children - two boys and one girl in Tegeta in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam said that since her children haven't been able to meet their father (especially the older ones) their lives have changed completely.

United Nations Human Rights Council calls upon states to provide children whose parents are sentenced to the death penalty, or where appropriate, giving due consideration to the best interests of the child, another member of the family, with access to their parents and to all relevant information about the situation of their parents.

In the United Kingdom, after a parent being sentenced, it takes just 12 hours for a child to get permission to meet his/her parent in prison.

The law in the country doesn't allow children under the age of 18 years to meet their parents in prisons and therefore she is urging the government to see the importance of children to meet their parents in prisons because it is affecting children they are living behind and the whole family at large.

Attachment theory states that a strong emotional and physical attachment to at least one primary caregiver is critical to personal development. Attachment theory is psychological model attempting to describe the dynamics of long-term and short-term interpersonal relationships between humans.

According to Ross A. Thomson (prominent schol-

ar of parent-child relationships) Children's attachment relationships and contact with parents are considered part of the child's Microsystems.

Previous research has found that early attachment quality is an important predictor of children's later social and emotional functioning”.

When a parent is imprisoned the child is separated from his/her and this presents great disruptions in their relationship.

Also according to Ainsworth (psychological scholar) A child who has developed a secure attachment derived comfort from contact with the attachment figure when distressing or threatening situations arise and uses the attachment figure as a base from which to explore the environment with increasing confidence over time.

Why children should visit their parents in prison

It's a right, an incarcerated parent or prisoner whoever doesn't stop being a parent (someone should be treated with justice and respect) and a child has both parents it has been found that a single visit to their parent in a prison can reassure children that their parents are alive and well and not being mistreated or neglected, surely, this knowledge is beneficial to the child's well-being and development.

It has also been found that children who visit their parents in jail show better emotional adjustment and are able to deal with the situation in a positive way that those who don't visit. In order to foster this emotional adjustment, prisons should be equipped to welcome children visits with child-friendly play areas, appropriate and sensitive security search techniques as well as longer child-centered visits to allow children to settle and feel comfortable in a very unfamiliar situation. That is prison. Encouraging and maintaining the child-parent bond reduces the negative effects of imprisonment and allows for the child's health development. Therefore children's experience of visiting their imprisoned parents can have beneficial effects on children in a sense that, they continue to have parents and that their parents continue to love them.

She also urged other non-



government organization dealing with human rights to intervene in this issue so that the government can amend the said law or make arrangements to enable children visit prisons.

Devotha gave an example of her two children, one was in ordinary lever and was about to do his form four final examination when he was told by his friends at school that his father was suspected of theft and was published in the newspapers.

“When my son got the news of his father, he was shocked and I had to take actions by going to his school and tell him myself. Since he was studying in a mission school, it was easier for me to talk to bishops so that they could counsel him after hearing the news from me. At first he didn't believe, he kept asking me if it was true, but at the end he understood,” said Devotha.

Her son did well in his form four final examination, the results came-out and he passed by scoring division one of 15 points but he told his mother that he wanted to do better and score division one of 7 points.

She said that after graduating his ordinary level education, his son wanted to visit his father in prison and tell him good news of passing ordinary lever and move to advanced le-

ver by himself but his heart was broken after reaching at the prison's gate and stopped from entering inside, he was then approaching 17 years old. He even went to the prison with his graduation photos to show his father so that he could feel proud of his son despite being in prison.

“My son was eager to meet his father after so many months. We prepared ourselves well. It was like a dream to him to meet his father and tell him that he has passed his ordinary level exams, but he ended up crying and grieving when he was told that he was under the age of 18 years,” narrated Devotha.

Devotha added that after his son joined advanced level, his behavior changed at school where teachers had to call her to talk to her son because he lost concentrations into his studies, he was staying alone and quiet most of the time and while in class he used to bend on his chair.

She said that because she didn't tell teachers about his father case and the whole issue of being denied visits to his father, teachers didn't know how to help him.

She had to tell them everything and they decided to talk to bishops to do prayers and counsel his son.

“Another problem am facing is from my last born who is four years, she normally asks me where is her father, I tell her he has gone for work and he will come back but days are passing without seeing his father, I wish I could take her and meet her father at least once so that she can stop asking about him,” said Devotha while weeping.

She added that even her second born also asks her about his father whenever she goes to the court for hearing. He asks her if she will return back home with their father but their father is only a suspect and investigations are still ongoing.

She said that she has also been telling lies to her mother-in-law because she has been asking about her son and it's hard to tell the news to the mother. She added that even the society surrounding her family are pointing fingers on them because they don't know the truth, they are taking the negative side of the case and hence stigmatizing us.

“I am not happy at all. This issue doesn't affect children only but also my family. My mother-in-law is in upcountry region, she doesn't normally come to Dar es Salaam because she is sick, I lie to her that her son is out of the country for

official assignment, but for how long will I tell this lie. I don't know how I will tell her such bad news,” said Devotha adding that her financial situation is tough because her children need funds to sustain their school fees and other necessities.

She therefore said that “The government should amend this law to allow children of 18 years to visit prisons and meet their parents or guardians, we know that some prisons are not friendly but they can arrange for the meeting in a safe and good place inside the prisons, my kids are dying to meet their father now.”

In helping the children who are affected by parents in prison for life sentence or death penalty, Children Education Society (CHESO) in collaboration with Wells of Hope have started a campaign to help them.

CHESO provides school fees, school items like books, bags and exercise books, shoes, legal assistance to the children in the country.

CHESO Executive Officer, Richard Shilamba said that so far CHESO has got involved in two cases where children have been affected simply because their parents are sentenced for life imprisonment.

Chilamba said that when parents are in prisons, children are the ones to suffer most because they don't have access to meet them in prisons unlike other relatives.

He said that children sometimes lose hope after knowing that their dependants are in prisons, some even stop going to school therefore they need psychological support as well as financial support to continue with their studies.

“It real hurts to know that you are in prison and you miss your family especially your children back at home, getting access to meet them sometimes can make prisoners feel bad and not repeat the mistakes they made before,” said Shilamba.

Francis Nsuubi from Wells of Hope (Uganda) said that they have decided to help the children because they have a long way to go to achieve their educations dreams.

Nsuubi said that children are like most of us, they are influenced by the exaggeration and dreadful depictions or images of prison settings seen on television, in films or online and therefore because of this a single visit to their parents may show them that this is not necessary the case.

He cited an example of Uganda whereby children are facilitated to visit their parents in prison three times a year.

“Before visiting their parents in prison they tend to have moods of unhappiness, irritability and stress but after the visit it's like they are more free, there is that unspeakable relaxation, freedom and untold joy. Before each visit the children are anxious to visit, they plan, pray and prepare for the visit,” said Nsuubi.

He said that the visits are also great communication avenue between the parents in prison and their families, the people in prison have to wait for the children to visit so that they give them messages to take back home and also receive a feedback.

He added that people who are visited in prison upon their release are more likely to return home and become law abiding citizens and this contributes to low rates of recidivism, and lowers the cost of imprisonment on government.

By Dr Eleanor Nwadinobi

Nigeria: Our girls need you!

Five years ago, in April 2014, the world gaped in horror at the news that Boko Haram insurgents had swarmed out of the Sambisa Forest in northeastern Nigeria's Borno State to kidnap some 200 girls in the village of Chibok.

As you may recall, the #BringBackOurGirls hashtag trended worldwide in protest of this crime against humanity. For the moment, it seemed the whole world embraced the hostages as “our girls” in recognition that we humans are all in a sense one family. The whole world rallied. Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai visited Nigeria and called the girls “my sisters.” In the U.S., First Lady Michelle Obama participated in the Bring Back Our Girls social media campaign.

Boko Haram has released about 90 of the Chibok girls. But while the international headlines have stopped, the abductions continue. In Nigeria, we have learned that a global outcry on behalf of our girls – without effective interventions and financial resources – is not enough. That is the great lesson of the Chibok kidnappings.

In February 2016, the terrorist group—ranked as the world's deadliest by the Global Terrorism Index—abducted 106 more girls from their school dormitory in the village of Dapchi, in Yabo State. The Nigerian government negotiated for the return of all but one of the Dapchi girls: Leah Sharibu, who refused to renounce her Christian faith in exchange for release. Activists commemorated her 16th birthday in absentia on

the 14th of May.

Since 2014, the Nigerian army has routed the insurgents from several forest bases where they had dug air raid shelters and tunnels. The region's security forces, assisted by international allies, had an impact in reducing the size and effectiveness of Boko Haram. As a result, the terrorist group has splintered into factions, the largest of which is the Islamic State West African Province (ISWAP).

However, after these initial successes, the international community has largely looked away. But now, there are no more international headlines or campaigns to bring home our girls.

Sharibu and 112 of the Chibok girls remain in captivity. Tukur Buratai, Nigeria's Chief of Army Staff, recently said, “The threat of Boko Haram is quite real; they have been dealt with but they are still much around.”

Boko Haram kidnappings continue today. On the night of March 10, 2019, Boko Haram stormed out of the Sambisa Forest again, in Toyota Hilux pickup trucks, motorbikes, and bicycles to raid three villages in southern Borno State for food and supplies. They also kidnapped two young sisters—and shot a third girl in the leg as she fled—just 25 kilometers south of the forest.

I heard about the kidnappings from a few

local newspaper accounts with differing information, not through international media. Through a contact, I learned that the two kidnapped sisters are Stella Ibrahim, 14, and Dagulaya Ibrahim, 10. Their entire village (less than an hour's drive from Chibok) has evacuated; the girls' family has fled to another state far away. The mother is so heartbroken that she has fallen ill and had to be hospitalized. Every waking moment, she prays for the return of her girls—and all of our girls.

What needs to be done?

First, the international community needs to help provide the kinds of resources needed for Nigeria to address the root causes of the Boko Haram insurgency and its resulting violence against women and girls. Women's rights advocates worldwide cannot afford to forget about Boko Haram's sexual violence, including the mass kidnappings and enslavement of girls. Boko Haram is a non-state actor waging war against four nations—creating regional insecurity and instability in West Africa—and women and girls face the brunt of the brutality.

This dynamic of women and girls being the most vulnerable in violent conflict is true all over the world. According to the UN Office of Drugs and Crime, 79 percent of human trafficking victims worldwide are women and girls. Globally, at least one in three women

has experienced gender-based violence in the forms of beatings, rapes, or other brutality.

Second, the United Nations should reopen its dialogue about the international community's responsibility to protect survivors of crimes against humanity, such as mass abductions of women and girls, mass killings, and the displacement of tens of thousands of people. Boko Haram is not just a regional issue; it is a global problem that requires the international community to provide assistance and capacity building to states that are under stress and unable to protect their civilian populations from mass atrocity crimes.

Third, we need to implement legal standards to hold nations accountable for meeting measurable standards on violence against women. A global treaty can help with this and drive commitments of vital funding and resources from the international community.

The campaign for a global treaty. The international community should support the global campaign launched in March by the international nonprofit Every Woman Treaty for a global treaty to end violence against women and girls. Every Woman Treaty convened global experts on sexual violence and gender equality in 128 countries, of which I am one. We studied recommendations from the United Nations, the World Health Organi-

zation, and scholarly research on how to solve the problem of violence against women and girls and found that a global treaty provides is the most powerful step the global community can take to address an issue of this magnitude.

The tools that are in place, such as the 1993 UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and the General Recommendations to the 1979 women's equality treaty (the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, or CEDAW) and regional treaties, have brought the issue into the global conversation and made addressing violence against women urgent and necessary. The next step is ending it with a global treaty.

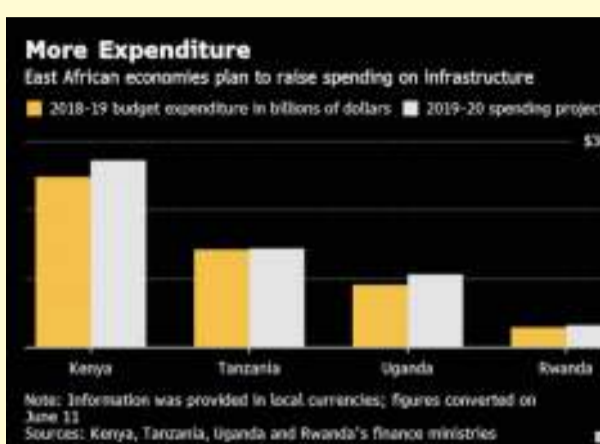
Unlike declarations and recommendations, a treaty will create a legal mandate requiring nations to enact tested, proven, and measurable interventions. The treaty will generate the enormous political will that gets nations to act, and will catalyze an increase in funding (as the Landmine Treaty and the Global Tobacco Treaty have done), bringing more resources for all to prevent violence against women and girls.

When we pledge to “bring back our girls,” what we're really saying is that these girls are our sisters. And only as a global family can we make the world safer for every woman, and every girl, everywhere.

Dr Eleanor Nwadinobi of Nigeria is a medical doctor and expert on gender, health, and human rights. She co-chairs the Every Woman Treaty Steering Committee.



Thursday 13 June 2019



Fastest-growing African region banks on more spending for growth

NAIROBI

East African countries plan to increase spending dramatically on infrastructure projects in budgets to be released Thursday. It's not clear they can afford it.

Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi will unveil plans to fund the building of more roads, railways and power plants, as well as expand services such as health care and education, for the year starting July 1. In most cases, this will raise budget gaps as a percentage of gross domestic product, and increase borrowing requirements.

"There is a risk of rising fiscal deficits coming from the fact that many have ambitious revenue targets they may fail to meet," said Tony Watima, a Nairobi-based independent economist.

Spending will probably climb about 10% in Kenya in the next fiscal year, 17% in Uganda and 11% in Rwanda, while it will be broadly flat in Tanzania, the nations' respective governments have said in forecasts.

While the governments forecast that revenue will increase by double digits next year, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania all have plans to approach the debt markets to help raise the funds to finance their deficits. In Kenya's case, the nation will borrow about 607 billion shillings (\$6 billion) locally and internationally in 2019-20, according to Treasury Secretary Henry Rotich.

GDP in East Africa will probably expand 5.9% in 2019 and 6.1% in 2020, according to the African Development Bank, making it the fastest-growing region on the continent.

Infrastructure boost
Kenya is implementing its so-called Big Four agenda, which will see the region's largest economy hand over no less than 500,000 houses to first-time homeowners by June 2022, and develop more manufacturing, food production and health care to create jobs in a nation where unemployment is a sticking electoral issue. The projects will cost 405 billion shillings (\$4 billion) in the coming year, budget estimates show.

If approved by lawmakers, about 7.5% of Tanzania's 33.1 trillion-shilling (\$14 billion) budget will go toward building a standard-gauge railway line that will link the East African nation's commercial city of Dar es Salaam with the town of Mwanza along Lake Victoria, through the capital, Dodoma. The country is due this month to start building the 2.115-megawatt Rufiji hydropower project.

The International Monetary Fund in April said that Tanzania's economy is being harmed by the "unpredictable and interventionist policies" of President John Magufuli's government. It said this in a report whose release the East African country has blocked.

"The Magufuli administration hasn't done a good job in enticing investors to enter the country, and erratic policy making will in fact continue to have the opposite effect," said Jacques Nel, the chief economist for southern and eastern Africa at NKC African Economics.

Postal Bank, Savings at Frontier bring M-Koba group savings, credit platform

By The Banker Reporter

In a bid to advance financial inclusion and encourage a culture of credit and savings, TPB Bank Plc has partnered with Savings at the Frontier (SatF) programme to introduce M-Koba platform in the market.

TPB's Chief Executive Officer, Sabasaba Moshingi said the mobile phone based product which was launched last January, has been well received by the market especially saving interest groups because it provides solutions to many challenges currently facing such formal and informal units.

"We will continue to address any emerging challenges for the rural saving communities in order to enable the estimated 4.4 million Tanzanians who use ISMs to truly benefit from TPB Bank's partnership," Moshingi said in Dar es Salaam earlier this week.

Under the agreement, the bank receives support for the development and delivery of financial products to members of Informal Savings Mechanisms (ISMs) in rural and peri-urban areas of the country.

"We aim at pushing the financial inclusion agenda through this product, our long term goal is to reach majority low-income earners who are at the centre of the whole process," Moshingi added.

He said among other advantages, M-Koba also helps informal credit



Project Manager from SatF programme, Steve Peachey (L), addresses a press conference with TPB Bank Plc's CEO Sabasaba Moshingi in Dar es Salaam recently. Photo: courtesy of TPB

and savings groups enhance security, transparency, cost effective and accessibility of funds by members. "It is a fact that banking through this mobile account means the security of customer funds is high, compared to the traditional way of saving mechanisms through physical banks visits," Moshingi said.

He said TPB's long term interest in reaching out to low-income earners at the bottom of the pyramid was given a boost in 2018 when it partnered Savings

at the Frontier (SatF) programme for a period of three-years.

The idea is the first and to date only group savings platform that links the digital finance platforms that work for ISM users in their day to day transactional lives with a digital group savings product that can support a range of ISMs.

According to him with SatF support, the bank acquired a mobile gateway, developed a capability to link individual mobile wallets to their group account and created a cadre of

trained field officers who engage directly with groups and their members to facilitate collective savings and ensure the products functions are understood to users.

"M-Koba is accessible anytime and anywhere, through the customer's mobile phone," the TPB CEO added while noting that the platform can be used by Vicosas, village savings and loan agents and also self-organized groups (family groups, church groups, trade groups, etc.)

"As we noted prior, M-Koba

product enhances efficiency and transparency of group operations and improves the security of saved funds but it's important distinguishing feature is that it does this as much, directly, for the users of ISMs as for the ISMs themselves," Moshingi pointed out.

The M-Koba product design is based on the revealed needs of the population, collated through customer surveys and direct feedback, and is powered by its capability to address issues of proximity, affordability and convenience to the millions of ISM users in peri-urban and rural areas who still do not have access to formal financial services.

TPB Bank's offer to groups and their members is premised on finding a scalable and sustainable delivery model that will ensure that the financial services made available to bottom of the pyramid savers keep improving and that they address the pressing needs that customers face on a daily basis.

"We are confident that M-Koba represents a solution that is both answering a need (for safe and easy storing of savings) but also represents a gateway to offering an increasing range of services so that customers can enjoy the full benefits of accessing financial services," he added.

According to Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA), there are about 40 million mobile phone users and almost 24 million internet users in the country as of December 2018. Such a base is an important niche market for digital banking which SatF facilitates.

Tour operators salute JPM after State House meet, urge more reforms to spur growth

By The Banker Reporter

TOUR operators have joined groups of business people commending President John Magufuli for summoning them to a free of diplomat etiquette meeting at Ikulu last week saying major reforms are urgently needed in the tourism industry.

Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO) Chairman, Wilbard Chambulo told media shortly after the meeting with President Magufuli that tour operators want to see proposed major reforms are put in practice.

"I just wanted to know from the President what should the business community do to support the government since most of our pressing issues are clearly articulated on the blueprint," Chambulo said saying TATO has since handed over the blue print to authorities.

He added, "My attendance at the President, Dr Magufuli's meeting was all about reminding him of the need to fast-track the implementation of key issues mentioned in the blue print."

He said in order for the government to achieve its target of attracting two million foreign tourists by 2020, there is need to relieve the private sector from unnecessary time-consuming compliance issues.

For instance, the TATO leader pointed out on multiplicity of taxes and overlapping roles of regulatory bodies related to the tourism industry as the biggest headache to the private sector hence needs urgent action by the government to spur growth.

Representing over 300 tour

operators, TATO is a leading lobby group for the tourism industry that earns the country about \$2.43 billion per annum or an equivalent of 17 percent of gross domestic product.

Chambulo said multiple taxes and regulatory fees frustrate consumers who spend a lot of time and money and thus could encourage evasion.

"The contentious issue here is not only how to pay a myriad of taxes and make profits, but also the modality and time spent in complying with such intricate taxes," he lamented pointing out that tour operators need a streamlined tax and regulatory regime that encourages voluntary compliance by lowering cost.

A recent study on Tanzanian tourism sector indicated that the administrative burden of completing licensing, taxation and levy paperwork place a heavy cost on businesses in terms of time and money. For instance, tour operator spends over four months to complete regulatory paperwork, whereas tax and license paperwork consume a total of 745 hours per year.

Tanzania is estimated to have 1,401 tour companies, but Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) data shows that there are as few as 517 only complying with tax payment, which is likely caused by the complexities of compliance. This means that there could be 884 briefcase tour firms operating in Tanzania.

Chambulo wants such illegal tour firms to join the formal channel by paying taxes, fees and loyalty to government agencies which will further lead to rapid growth of both the economy and industry.



TATO Chairman, Wilbard Chambulo (L) greets President John Magufuli during a tour by the president in Arusha Region earlier this year. File photo.

India seeks bans for Deloitte, KPMG arm for alleged lapses in auditing

NEW DELHI

The companies did not fulfil auditing duties for a unit of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services, India's corporate affairs ministry alleges.

India is seeking to ban Deloitte Haskins Sells and KPMG affiliate BSR & Associates for five years, alleging lapses in their audits of a unit of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS), which the government took control of last year.

India's corporate affairs ministry told a company law tribunal that the companies "miserably failed" to fulfil their duties as auditors for IL&FS Financial Services (IFIN), a

filing seen by Reuters shows. Both auditing firms denied any wrongdoing on Tuesday.

Deloitte said it "is confident that it has been thorough and diligent in the performance of its duties as an auditor. The firm stands fully for its audit work which has been conducted in full compliance with the professional standards in India." It said it would cooperate fully with authorities.

BSR said that its "audit of IFIN was performed in accordance with the applicable auditing standards and legal framework", adding it would defend itself "in accordance with the law." The Indian government took control of IL&FS in October after it defaulted on several debt

obligations, saying it stepped in to insulate the financial system from contagion. The group has a debt of more than 910 billion rupees (\$13.1 billion).

Last month government investigators filed fraud charges against IFIN, its former management as well as the auditors. Deloitte audited IFIN from 2008-09 to 2017-18 and BSR started auditing it from 2017-18, the petition says. Both Deloitte and BSR audited IFIN in 2017-18.

Reuters reported in March that an interim report by Grant Thornton, appointed by a new IL&FS board to conduct a forensic audit, had found a third of the total outstanding loans by IFIN were either unsecured or had inadequate collateral.

FCC advises brand owners to report copycat presence in local market

By Francis Kajubi

BRAND owners of counterfeited products should officially communicate with Fair Competitions Commission regarding presence of copycats in the market. Head of the FCC Anti-counterfeit Enforcement Department, Hadija Ngasongwa said both local manufacturers and importers of original products have a responsibility to inform the regulatory so that legal action can be taken against the culprits.

"The Merchandized Marks Act 1963 gives us power to cease and destroy any product produced illegally but only if there are documented claims from brand owners that shows infringement of ownership rights," Ngasongwa said while responding to questions as to why FCC has left copycats rule the market.

According to her, individuals should demand receipts and warrants when they purchase product so that such documents will help FCC when following up cases relating to copycats which often end up in courts of law where solid evidence is necessary.

"As FCC we are constrained in as far as resources are concerned which include

manpower to adequately cover the whole country. But we are working closely with the police force, ports and revenue authorities and also neighboring countries to control illicit products entering the market," she asserted.

The FCC Head of Anti-counterfeits further noted that copycats are a serious problem in the local market and that the Commission has been taking measures to address the problem. "We have so far disposed of counterfeits and substandard goods worth 660.87m/- last month during a special ten days operation across the country," Ngasongwa added.

She warned local manufacturers and importers of counterfeits and substandard goods of the risk of losing their products plus possible penalty payments to brand owners and government revenue which is often evaded in such cases.

During the 10 days special operation period, goods which were arrested and destroyed included handbags and wallets worth 235.56m/-, toothbrush cartons worth 226.8m/-, photocopy machine ink valued at 62.55m/- and detergents worth 21.31m/-. Other goods were fishing nets, body lotion, helmets, pistons and mosquito nets.

"Any business or trader associated with

counterfeits is considered as violating the Anti-money laundering Act, known as predicate offence that helps in easing the practice of money laundering. However, the Merchandized Marks Act 1963 poses an imprisonment punishment to counterfeiters of between 5 and 14 years if found guilty," she warned.

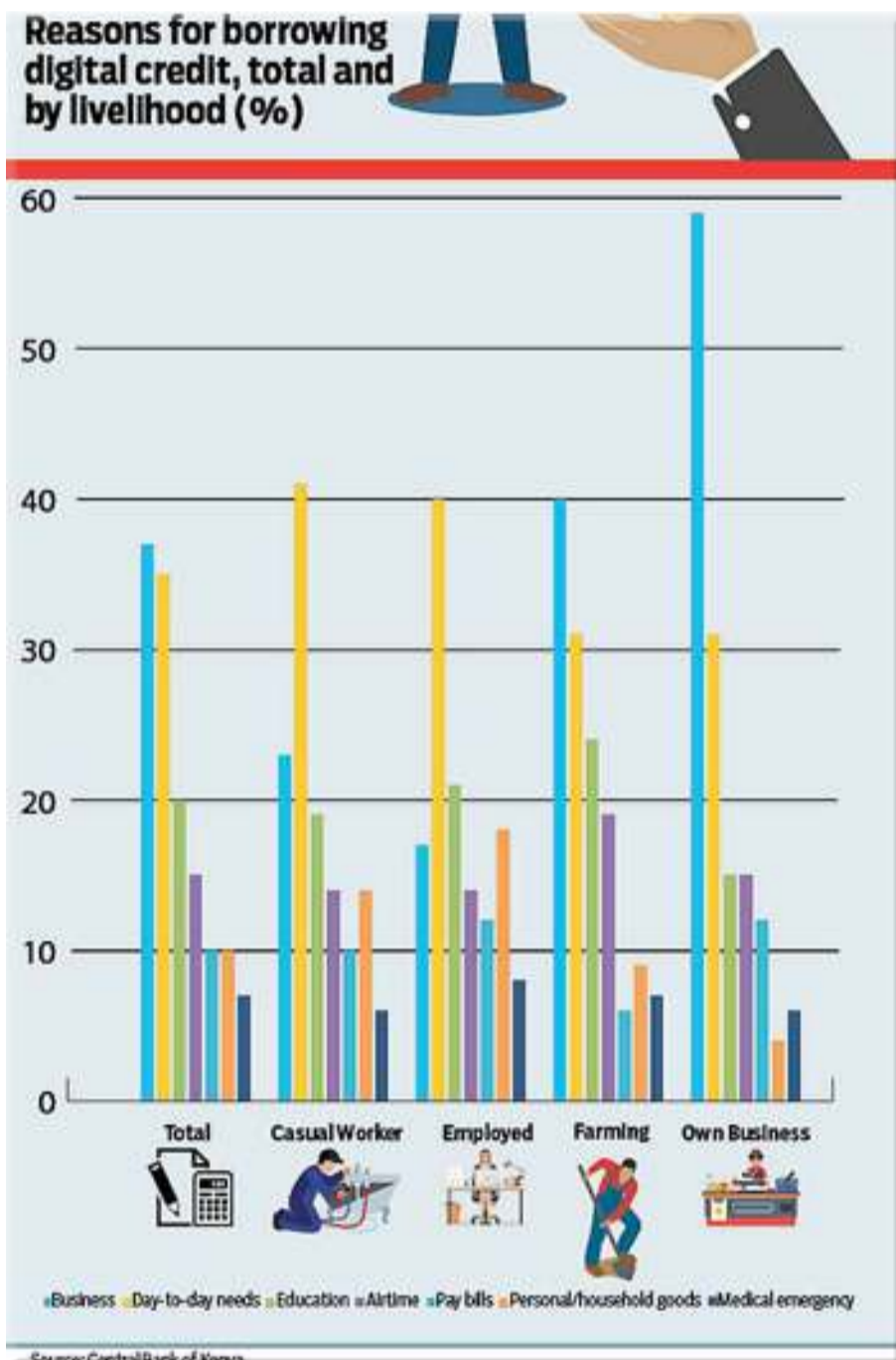
According to FCC figures, in the period covering 2013 to December 2018 the commission carried out routine surveillance at the ports and inland container depots where 160 raids were conducted countrywide and led to the seizure of 1,131 containers loaded with an assortment of counterfeit goods. During the period, the commission disposed of condemned counterfeit goods worth 15.6bn/-.

In a bid to contain the problem whose masterminds have developed complicated buffers through use of modern technology, the FCC plans to lobby parliament to review the Merchandise Marks Act of 1963 and its regulations by 2021, to meet current demand.

The commission also wants to see amendment of its own Fair Competitions Act of 2003 to accommodate new dynamics in proliferation of counterfeits and penalty imposed on culprits.



FCC director general Dr John Mduma speaks at a past event.



Digital borrowers are the worst defaulters, as depicted by the graphic image.

Kenya's bad bank loans hit an all-time high Sh345bn

NAIROBI

The value of bad loans in the banking sector hit a new high of Sh345 billion at the end of March, raising questions on the health of the economy even as the lenders booked double-digit profit growth in the first three months of the year.

Banking sector data compiled from the lenders' financial reports shows that gross non-performing loans increased by Sh27.5 billion or 8.7 percent in the first quarter of 2019. The non-performing loans piled up even as banks reported a 22 percent year-on-year rise in first quarter net profit to Sh33.6 billion.

The rise in non-performing loans points to the difficulties businesses are facing to stay afloat in the economy, and the reduced spending power of ordinary Kenyans. The banks have in the meantime grown their lending to government, which analysts say is helping to shield them from the negative effects of non-performing loans. They are also tapping non-interest earnings, which include fees and commissions charged on customers to boost their top line.

"The effect of the tough environment their customers are facing is, in the short-term, manifested in the rising gross NPLs and not necessarily in the top-line. However, in the long-run, if the current situation persists, we could see declines in the bank's revenue," said Harrison Gitau, the head of research at stockbrokerage firm Apex Africa.

A rising number of borrowers have seen their properties go under the hammer after finding it difficult to service their loans, with the most

commonly auctioned sectors being real estate property and motor vehicles.

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics data shows that the economy grew by 6.3 percent last year, up from 4.9 percent in 2017. The Treasury attributed this growth to strong performance of the agriculture, manufacturing, transport and services sectors. There have been questions, however, as to how much this growth is being felt across the economy.

Lack of access to credit by the private sector, which is necessary to fuel real economic growth, has been cited as a drag on the economy. Central Bank of Kenya data shows that credit to the private sector expanded by 4.9 percent in the 12 months to April 2019, well below the 12 to 15 percent considered optimal to fuel healthy economic growth.

The banks' loan books grew by six percent (Sh143 billion) to Sh2.55 trillion in the 12 months to March, while their holdings of government securities rose by 12 percent or Sh164 billion to Sh1.22 trillion. Interest income from customer loans was up by just 0.7 percent to Sh72 billion, while interest earnings from government securities rose by 11.4 percent to Sh32.7 billion in the period. Non-funded income went up by an even larger margin of 13.6 percent, from Sh35.1 billion to Sh40 billion.

Banks were also able to grow their bottom-line by cutting provisioning for bad loans (by 18 percent to Sh6.1 billion), in spite of the sharp growth in their non-performing loan portfolio. They were allowed a one-off opportunity in 2018 to move some of their provisions to capital

reserves during the transition to the IFRS 9 accounting standards. The expectation was that this year they would make higher provisions thus eat into their profits, hence the view among some analysts that the quarter one cut is not likely to be sustained going forward.

"A juxtaposition of loan book growth against NPL growth, NPL coverage and the cost of risk ratio suggests that some banks may not be making sufficient provisioning thus their quarterly earnings may not be reflective of what to expect in the full year audited financials," said the head of research at Dyer & Blair Investment Bank, Edwin Chui.

Lower yields on government securities are also pushing lenders back to customer lending, which is set to increase their exposure to risky loans.

Equity Bank said in a briefing last month that it would look to push up to Sh150 billion from its government loans portfolio of Sh169.7 billion to SME loans as these securities mature, marking a major shift in the lending strategy for Kenya's second-largest lender by assets. CBK has on its part set up an SME loans plan dubbed Stawi, where it will offer backing to five banks to lend micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) unsecured loans of between Sh30,000 and Sh250,000 through their mobile platforms. The facility that was announced mid-last month will initially be managed by Commercial Bank of Africa (CBA), Cooperative Bank of Kenya, Diamond Trust Bank Kenya (DTB), KCB and NIC Bank.

Meanwhile the Central Bank of Kenya has instructed commercial

banks to file weekly reports on persons exchanging old currency notes in a bid to curb circulation of illicit money in the economy.

The weekly reports will be submitted to CBK at the beginning of the following week by 9am. In a report by the Business Daily, the financial institutions will be required to obtain identification documents of every person involved in the transaction and establish the source and purpose of the funds.

"Commercial banks shall submit to the CBK periodic weekly reports in the returns attached to the banking circular. These returns should reach the CBK by 9am of first working days of the following week," read a circular dated Monday, June 10.

Further the CBK shall take appropriate enforcement action against any commercial bank which fails, neglects or omits to comply with anti-money laundering laws including submission of returns on time.

The regulations come barely two days after Bank of Tanzania and Uganda stopped the use of the Kenyan currency in an effort to curb its banks from being used to launder stolen money back into Kenya. The Bank of Uganda said the move was necessitated after the CBK informed it that it had issued a new series of banknotes effective May 31.

The money regulator also suspended conversion and repatriation of the Kenyan currency and anyone who needs to exchange money between KSh 1 million and KSh 5 million will be required to exchange the money at their banks. Those who do not have bank accounts will need to contact the CBK to endorse the exchange.

Ecobank hosted by LSE after successful issuance of \$500 million Eurobond

LONDON

Following its successful \$500 million Eurobond issuance, Ecobank Transnational Incorporated (ETI), the Lomé-based parent company of the Ecobank Group, was hosted by the London Stock Exchange to a market opening ceremony to celebrate the successful listing of the Eurobond on the London Stock Exchange (LSE) main market.

The bond was oversubscribed with strong demand from international investors in the United Kingdom, United States, Europe, Middle East, Asia and Africa. It follows on from Ecobank's 2017 convertible bond issuance on the International Securities Market.

The five-year senior unsecured notes, which mature in April 2024, were launched with a coupon interest rate of 9.50 percent per annum payable semi-annually in arrears.

Ade Ayeyemi, Group CEO of Ecobank said: "The successful issuance of our inaugural Eurobond on the main London market demonstrates international investors' approval and confidence in Ecobank's long-term strategy and prospects as a strong and sustainable pan-African

financial services institution. It also demonstrates the ability of African corporates to access international capital markets."

Ayo Adepoju, Acting Group CFO of Ecobank commented: "Ecobank places great emphasis on constantly reviewing our capital allocation strategies to ensure that we have the right strategic positioning, competitive advantages, products and resources to increase efficiency and profitability. Our access to international capital markets are part of the mix and enable us to boost our liquidity profile, refinance maturing facilities and strengthen our foundations to ensure long-term sustainable growth and profitability for all our stakeholders."

ETI will use the net proceeds of the placement for general corporate purposes including the refinancing of maturing debt facilities. Members of the ETI board and management attended the London Stock Exchange on 7 June to celebrate the successful issuance of the bond.

Incorporated in Lomé, Togo in 1988, Ecobank Transnational Incorporated is the parent company of the leading independent pan-African banking group, Ecobank. It currently has a presence in 36 African countries.

MARKETTRENDS



NMB Bank Plc Head of Consumer Banking, Omari Mtiga (C) listens to Senior Manager Consumer Liabilities Isaac Mgwassa (R) during the unveiling of NMB retail bonds in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Left is Senior Manager Advisory Services Sigifrida Joseph. Photo courtesy of NMB.

Advancing human capital for shared prosperity, industrialisation

Recent data from Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment cites that Tanzania's burgeoning population comprises a workforce of 25.8 million people out of which eight million are based in Dar es Salaam and other rapidly growing urban areas.

According to the National Bureau of Statistics, the annual population growth is 1.6 million people and the country is projected to have 77.5 million people by 2030, with at least 50 percent of the population under 18 years of age. With the forecasted youth bulge, it becomes imperative for investments to be made in the area of education as a pillar that is critical to the transformation of the economy into a middle-income cum semi industrialized as underscored in the Second Five Year Development Plan (FYDPII).

In order to develop human capital of the rising population, tailored programs in entrepreneurship, vocational training and general courses on up-skilling will help young people diver-

sify their employment options.

Similarly, focused internships and graduate trainee programs provide young people with the exposure and experience at the beginning of their careers. As young professionals enter the world of employment, it is vital for companies to envision and create a path for employees to grow their jobs into careers.

When companies strategically invest in their workforce, they build a robust culture that progresses and empowers the growth of its people resulting in compounded transformative benefits to the business and economy at large. On the job training and up-skilling programs, are some of the initiatives corporations are investing in to ensure employees are well rounded from a professional and personal development perspective.

The banking sector is at the forefront of Tanzania's growth and development, playing a key role in fostering the country's industrialization ambition. This requires employees of

financial institutions to have professional qualifications and training that is critical for a career in banking. Stanbic Bank has a number of programs and opportunities for their employees

that cut across disciplines and include mentorship for leadership positions to encourage high level growth of its workforce.

Additionally, the bank's pan Afri-

can footprint spanning over 155 years in 20 countries on the continent and presence in other global key markets, provides local talent with the exposure through attachment to other

markets' ways of conducting business. It also gives them the opportunity to strengthen their skills in key sectors that are forecasted to propel Tanzania's growth.

These programs allow the banks' employees to visualize a bigger picture for their careers that includes personal growth and an opportunity to play a part in the country's development in various sectors such as education, transport and oil and gas, among others.

Financial institutions are a vital component in attaining the country's economic aspirations and the capabilities of the workforce are the foundation of sustaining the envisioned achievements.

Continued investment in people will generate a critical mass of exceptional and talented employees to become leaders in the banking industry. Human capital is therefore the key ingredient that will advance the country's development ambitions to become a middle-income country by 2025.

EMPOWERING YOUR FINANCIAL SUCCESS

Eutropia Vegula, Head of Human Capital, Stanbic Bank Tanzania



From Barclays Plc to Absa: world of possibilities as an independent African bank



By Aron Luhanga

"There is nothing permanent except change," said Greek philosopher Heraclitus, and how true this is Change - and fast-paced change - is a hallmark of today's society.

Change can be unsettling at times. But it can also be exciting, filled with new beginnings. It marks the start of a new journey, a new page in the history books. This is where Absa Group Limited found itself after separating from Barclays PLC, in one of the largest corporate separation projects in commercial history: at the beginning of a new era, with endless possibilities.

This shift in the Group's stakeholders freed us to chart our path as an African Bank, run by Africans, with global recognition and scalability. Importantly, it gave birth to one of the largest independent African Banks.

As part of this shift the Group renamed our listed entity to Absa Group Limited last year, choosing Absa as our brand across our 10 operations and two affiliates in Africa, pending regulatory approvals.

As we move forward, we will become Absa across all our operations, leveraging the impressive brand equity and home-grown success of our South African subsidiary, while building on the Barclays' pedigree in Africa.

Absa has been one of the "big five banks" in South Africa for more than 30 years, winning a multitude of awards for its commercial success, social commitment, and innovation. As a Group, we are listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, with a

balance sheet of around US\$100-billion.

And we do not dare underestimate the task ahead of us. The banking sector in Africa is rapidly evolving, and only those who can challenge business as usual, offer deep insights into the continent and its demands, and make innovation a cornerstone of delivery will be able to achieve the kind of success that a continent with much potential for growth offers.

We will use every resource to embrace a digital future that enhances easy and better banking for all. This has profound implications for the future of banking in Africa. While our new brand is grounded in the traditional and trusted banking paradigm, our independence enables us to be more responsive to new economies and shifting market conditions.

Our separation from Barclays PLC provided us with an opportunity to make a step change in investment in new technology to move with these changes, and to lead. We are building on the strong foundations that have been laid in our operations across Africa over more than 100 years. People in Africa have banked with us for generations - and at our core, we are the same bank millions of customers have trusted over generations in Africa.

Our new strategy in Africa reflects our autonomy, our ambition and our passion. It is marked by two changes: firstly, our new strategy encourages boldness, whereas in the past, we were arguably overly cautious.

NB: Aron Luhanga is Barclays Tanzania Head of Marketing and Corporate Relations.

Financial emigration is the new way out

JOHANNESBURG

Financial emigration is on the rise - by 30% over the last two years, according to Claudia Apicella, head of Financial Emigration, a specialist advisory group targeting financial emigres.

The main reason? The imminent change in the law requiring South Africans working abroad to pay tax of up to 45% on any earnings above R1 million. The new rules come into effect in March 2020.

"In 2017 the National Treasury and SA Revenue Services (Sars) announced that they would be introducing major changes in the tax exemption on South African expatriates," says Apicella. Many South Africans working abroad earning more than R1 million have decided to cut their financial ties with the country as a pure tax relief mechanism.

"Taxing South Africans working abroad is the wrong move," says economist Mike Schüssler of Economists.co.za. "It may provide a bit of a boost in tax collections in the short term, but at what cost to the country? We are taxing ourselves into poverty and this move aimed at taxing expatriates' income is going to encourage more people to leave the country."

South Africans are already over-taxed, handing over 41% of annual earnings above R700 000 (not counting Vat, local government taxes, and pension and medical aid contributions), compared to the US where a marginal tax rate of 38% kicks in at the equivalent annual

earnings of R6 million.

We know that roughly one million South Africans live and work abroad, and the number of South Africans applying for foreign citizenship soared 53% in the second half of last year.

This latest move by Sars and National Treasury to pull South African expats into the tax net is accelerating a brain drain that has been going on for decades. Johannes Wessels, director of the Enterprise Observatory of SA (Eosa), pointed out in a recent Moneyweb article that as high-skilled emigration continues, SA will continue its slide from middle to lower income country rankings.

We've already slipped by more than half over the last 20 years. With more skilled South Africans headed for the exit door, an already over-burdened pool of taxpayers will have to shoulder more of the tax burden. The only way out of this quagmire is massive job creation.

Financial emigration requires a declaration that you intend to permanently reside outside of SA, with the formalisation of your non-resident status with the South African Reserve Bank and Sars. "The financial emigration process is predominantly pursued by individuals earning a surplus of R1 million in foreign income and we find most individuals are between the ages of 25 to 55," says Apicella.

"Hundreds of thousands of South Africans have left South Africa to pursue a better future. The definition

of what a better future entails is relative to one's circumstances. This has resulted in shortage of skills within SA and will continue to have an impact on the economy."

The most favourable countries for emigration include New Zealand, the UK, Mauritius, the UAE (notably Dubai), various countries in Asia, Portugal and the US. Treasury and Sars decided to change the rules governing expat earnings after realising that most SA passport holders and permanent residents who left the country did so without formalising their financial affairs.

Sars now asking 'innocent' questions

Sars also stepped up tax audits on those expatriates who left the country and simply decided to ignore their taxes. Says Apicella: "While some did not consider it necessary to submit tax returns in South Africa, others submitted zero tax returns to Sars. In some cases, individuals even indicated that they were unemployed on their tax returns while earning expatriate salaries."

"While many expatriates may hope that Sars will drag its feet, the 2017/18 South African tax return already included targeted questions dealing with expatriate tax status. The questions may appear innocent enough, but we have seen this trigger an automatic verification or audit process. Where the question is marked false, this is a criminal offense, thus creating an even more serious problem."

South Sudan needs lasting peace to maintain fiscal stability, says IMF

JUBA

South Sudan, the world's youngest country, will need "lasting peace" to restore fiscal stability, according to the International Monetary Fund, which forecast a 6.6 per cent increase in annual economic growth next year if it can maintain an agreement to cease conflict.

The peace agreement signed last year between the South Sudanese government and a rival faction has "improved prospects for lasting peace and economic recovery", the organisation noted.

Inflation declined to around 40 per cent by year-end from 550 per cent at the height of the conflict in September 2016, with oil production rising by a fifth in the first quarter of the year.

"Without peace and security, the outlook remains extremely difficult, with continuing threats to macro-economic and financial stability, declining income and deteriorating humanitarian conditions," the IMF said. A sustainable medium-term outlook requires improvements in the political and security situation, robust economic adjustment and reforms, budgetary discipline as well as enhanced oil revenue management, it added.

South Sudan's economy is heavily

reliant on crude revenues, with oil set to account for 28 per cent of total government receipts in the current fiscal year.

The nation of 12.6 million people, which broke away from Sudan in 2011, has Africa's third-largest oil reserves at an estimated 7 billion barrels. It currently produces below capacity at 165,000 barrels per day after a two-year civil war devastated oil facilities. Crude accounts for nearly all of the country's export revenues and efforts are underway to modernise South Sudan's oil infrastructure.

In an interview with The National, Awow Daniel Chuang, South Sudan's director general for petroleum authority said the country looked to attract \$3 billion across its energy sector over the next five years.

Around \$1.5bn will be spent upstream in exploration and production, with the remainder to be spent developing downstream assets, particularly building refineries. The country currently has no refineries and exports all of its crude to neighbouring countries. A capacity of at least 80,000 bpd is required, with the products targeted for export to neighbours such as Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda.

The IMF expressed concern

however, over a "lack of transparency" in the financial operations of state oil company Nilepet, and called for an open audit to ensure that its planned investments in oil production and related activities are "cost-effective and growth-enhancing."

The fund also cautioned that South Sudan's fiscal policy has been weakened by lack of fiscal discipline, deteriorating public financial management as well as contracting of non-transparent oil advances, which it said has added to the country's "corruption vulnerabilities."

The country's banking sector has yet to revive from the civil war, which began not long after independence, leading to high inflation and strong depreciation in currency. Most banks were heavily under-capitalised and faced rising non-performing loans, noted the IMF.

South Sudan's plans to pursue a tight monetary policy, with the objective of lowering inflation further and replenishing international reserves would help long-term, it said. The country's plans to float its exchange rate was a positive move that would help address "external imbalances" and improve the economy's resilience to shocks, added the IMF.

WORLD

The media has a big problem, Reuters Institute says

LONDON

NEWS organisations are being challenged by technology giants and unsettled by a broader lack of trust but they have a much deeper problem: Most people don't want to pay for online news, the Reuters Institute found.

Swiftly accelerating mobile internet and smartphones have revolutionised the delivery of news and destroyed the business models of many news organisations over the past 20 years, leading to falling revenues, layoffs and takeovers.

The mass migration of advertising to US technology giants such as Facebook, Google and Amazon has hammered revenues while more than half the world's population now has access to news via an internet connection.

But will people actually pay for news?

The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism said in its annual Digital News Report that most people would not pay for online news and that there had been only a small increase in the proportion of people willing to do so in

the last six years.

Even among those who do pay, there is "subscription fatigue" - many are tired of being asked to pay for so many different subscriptions. Many will opt for films or music rather than pay for news. So some media companies will fail.

"There is no sign that the majority of people are about to pay for online news, although many recognise that information on the internet is often overwhelming and confusing," said Nic Newman, a senior research associate at the Reuters Institute.

"Some of the biggest brands have already shown they are able to attract a large number of paying subscribers, but the road ahead will be more challenging for other publishers," he added.

While many news organisations add paywalls and some see increases in digital subscriptions, there has been little change in the proportion of people paying for online news, apart from the "Trump bump" rise in the United States in 2016/2017.

In the United States, those paying for



news online were likely to have a university degree and be wealthy: The New York Times, Wall Street Journal and Washington Post did well on digital.

Still, almost 40 percent of new digital subscriptions at the New York Times are for crosswords and cooking, the Reuters Institute said, citing an article by Vox.

In Britain, around a third of those surveyed said they avoided the news due to Brexit. Leave voters said they avoided the news as it made them sad and said they could not rely on the news being true. There has been no Brexit bounce.

Netflix, Apple and Amazon

As they fight for revenue, news organisations are facing a growing threat from entertainment providers such as Netflix, Spotify, Apple Music and Amazon Prime.

"In some countries, subscription fatigue may also be setting in, with the majority preferring to spend their limited budget on entertainment (Netflix/Spotify) rather than news," Newman said in the report.

"Not surprisingly, news comes low down the list

when compared with other services such as Netflix and Spotify - especially for the younger half of the population," he said.

When asked what media subscription they would pick if they had only one for the next year, just 7% of under 45-year-olds picked news. The report showed 37% would opt for online video and 15% for online music.

Aggregators are also waiting in the wings: Apple News+ offers a single priced subscription for some access to premium titles including TIME, The Atlantic, The New Yorker, Vogue, The Wall Street Journal and Los Angeles Times.

That could deny publishers a direct link with consumers, limiting the information they have to make targeted advertising more effective, and valuable.

"Despite the greater opportunities for paid content, it is likely that most commercial news provision will remain free at the point of use, dependent on low-margin advertising, a market where big tech platforms hold most of the cards," Newman said.

Agencies

China-Kyrgyzstan cooperation to go deeper

BEIJING

PEOPLE from all walks of life in Kyrgyzstan are looking forward to President Xi Jinping's state visit, which is believed to promote the cooperation between the two countries, said Mahabat Mavlyanova, a member of the Kyrgyz Parliament.

Mavlyanova made the remarks in an interview with People's Daily ahead of President Xi's state visit to Kyrgyzstan and attendance at the 19th meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

Kyrgyzstan and China are friendly neighbors linked by mountains and rivers. The two countries share a border of about 1,100 kilometers in length, and a history of friendly exchanges

that has lasted for centuries, said the former entrepreneur, who pays close attention to economic and social development and are enthusiastic about advancing cooperation between China and Kyrgyzstan. Now, the relationship between the two countries has become closer because of the joint construction of the Belt and Road, said Mavlyanova.

In recent years, cooperation between the two countries has entered a full swing. A series of large-scale projects that are vital to the economic development of Kyrgyzstan are being implemented, covering transportation, construction, energy, mining, education, and culture.

In April, China delivered a hospital built in Kyrgyzstan's southern capital city Osh to the Kyrgyz



side. The hospital will provide high-quality and comprehensive medical services to the local community. The trade volume between the two countries increased from \$1.489 billion in 2013 to \$2.003 billion in 2018. In June 2018, the two countries established a comprehensive strategic partnership.

In addition to economic and trade cooperation, cultural ex-

changes between China and Kyrgyzstan are also a highlight of bilateral exchanges, said Mavlyanova. The two governments have signed a series of cooperation documents in the fields of culture, education, literature and art.

The enthusiasm of young people in Kyrgyzstan to learn Chinese is growing, and studying in China has gradually become trendy in Kyrgyzstan.

The cultural and people-to-people exchanges between the two countries will become increasingly frequent. Such cooperation will not only be carried out on bilateral platforms, but also on multilateral platforms such as the SCO, said Mavlyanova.

In recent years, the two countries have strengthened the alignment between the Belt and Road

Initiative and regional cooperation mechanisms such as the Eurasian Economic Union, bringing valuable opportunities for the development of Kyrgyzstan, Mavlyanova noted.

Thanks to the road rehabilitation project carried out by China Road & Bridge Corporation under the Belt and Road framework, Balykchy, a major port on Issyk-Kul Lake in northern Kyrgyzstan will be able to embrace a broader foreign trade market.

As the world's second largest economy, China has always taken an active part in regional and international affairs and played an important and constructive role in promoting regional peace and development and safeguarding international fairness and justice.

People's Daily

First Ebola case confirmed in Uganda, prompting rapid response

KAMPALA

UGANDA announced on Tuesday night that Ebola had broken out in the western district of Kasese with the index case being a five-year-old boy back from his recent visit to the neighboring Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Jane Ruth Aceng, Ugandan health minister, told reporters that a rapid response team comprising members from the ministry of health, World Health Organization (WHO) and the Center for Disease Control is in Kasese to beef up efforts by medical teams already in the area.

Aceng said the team will continue with various activities including con-

tact tracing and case management.

According to the ministry of health, the boy returned to Uganda on June 10 with his mother who had gone to the DRC to nurse her father who had succumbed to Ebola.

When the child sought medical care, he was transferred to Uganda's Bwera Ebola Treatment Unit for management.

"The child is under care and receiving supportive treatment at Bwera Ebola Treatment Unit, and contacts are being monitored," WHO said in a separate statement issued in the capital, Kampala.

Aceng said starting June 14, the contacts to the index case and other non-vaccinated frontline health

workers would be vaccinated against the disease.

"The ministry would like to assure the public that the vaccine that will be given is very safe and effective. Contacts and frontline workers should willingly take the vaccine for their own and family protection," she said.

She said the country's preparedness has been switched to a response mode, urging the public to cooperate with officials to prevent further spread of Ebola to other parts of the country.

"With the experience and expertise available in the country and the over 10 months of preparedness, the disease will be contained," Aceng

said. "We appeal to the public to remain calm and report any suspected cases to the nearest health facility."

According to WHO, Uganda has previous experience in managing Ebola outbreaks. Ebola and Marburg virus last broke out in the east African country in 2012.

Ebola left over 20 people dead while Marburg killed at least nine people. In preparation for a possible imported case during the current outbreak in DRC, Uganda has vaccinated nearly 4,700 health workers in 165 health facilities; disease monitoring has been intensified; and health workers trained on recognizing symptoms of the disease.

Ebola Treatment Units are in

place," the global health body said in a statement issued shortly after the Uganda outbreak was announced. The country has been on high alert since the deadly disease broke out in eastern DRC.

Ebola is a highly infectious disease spread through body contact with an infected person. It presents symptoms including high fever, bleeding, diarrhea and red eyes, among others, according to the WHO.

Mortality rates of Ebola fever, according to the health body are extremely high, with the human case fatality rate ranging from 50 percent to 89 percent, depending on viral subtype.

Agencies

ROK Blue House 'aware of' DPRK leader's letter to Trump in advance

SEOUL

THE Republic of Korea's presidential Blue House said yesterday that it had been aware of the letter sent by Kim Jong-un, top leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), to US President Donald Trump in advance.

The Blue House "was aware" of the letter in advance, Yoon Do-han, senior press secretary for ROK's President Moon Jae-in, said in a short text message to local reporters. He declined to comment further.

Trump said Tuesday that he had received a "beautiful" letter from Kim, calling the letter "very warm" and "very nice."

The US president was scheduled to visit Japan and the ROK in late June to discuss the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula with leaders of the two countries, according to the US State Department.

The denuclearization negotiations between Pyongyang and Washington has been stalled since the second summit between Kim and Trump ended with no agreement in late February in the Vietnamese capital of Hanoi.

Moon Chung-in, a special adviser for the ROK president on unification, security and foreign affairs, said in a forum in Seoul that the letter seemed to have opened up a new possibility in relations between Pyongyang and Washington, according to local media reports.

Describing the letter as "significantly encouraging," the special adviser forecast that there could be talks in the near future between the ROK and the United States, between the two Koreas, and between the DPRK and the United States.



US President Donald Trump and DPRK leader Kim Jong-un take a walk after their first meeting at the Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi hotel, in Hanoi. (File photo)

Macron wants to give new impetus to strategic dialogue with Russia

PARIS

G7.

IT is important to give a new impetus to strategic dialogue with Russia, French President Emmanuel Macron told RTS TV channel on Tuesday.

"We need a strategic discussion. That's why we will hold new comprehensive and substantive talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin in the near future," Macron said. He added that he would want to exchange opinions with Putin not only as a French president, but also as a chairman of

"Europe needs a new dialogue on issues of trust and security in relations with Russia," Macron stressed. "We have disagreements but we continue working together," he noted.

The French president also reminded that Europe and Russia share common history. "Russia is a great country that has overcome the tragedy together with us. No one should ever forget about what Russia went through in the Second World War," he concluded.

Agencies

Beijing urges US not to interfere in Hong Kong affairs

HONG KONG

THE central government opposed irresponsible comments from the US side on Hong Kong's amendments of the extradition law, and urged foreign countries not to interfere in the special administrative regions' affairs, Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said on Tuesday.

Geng made the remarks when asked at a press briefing about US' concerns over the amendments, saying such a move could jeopardize the special status of Hong Kong.

"China deplores and firmly opposes the irresponsible and erroneous comments on the amendments and other Hong Kong affairs made by the US side," Geng said.

He urged the US to view the relevant amendments in a fair and just manner, exercise caution in its words and deeds, and stop in whatever form interfering in Hong Kong affairs and China's domestic affairs.

The spokesman said the central government will continue to support the SAR government in advancing the amendments.

Lam warns public of danger of radicalism

He said the SAR government has been gathering opinions on the amendment from all sectors in Hong Kong, and had modified the draft twice in response to the views and suggestions.

Xinhua

US exposes double-dealer essence by adopting double standards on contract spirit

By Zhong Sheng

SOME U.S. politicians, demanding others to keep promises while constantly backtracking themselves, are revealing their double-dealer essence to the world.

They orally worship the so-called spirit of contract, but have no idea that their arrogant and bossy practices are actually against it. While they are setting traps for other countries, they are also exposing their true intentions that have long been in disguise.

It is a usual practice of the U.S. to blame others for the lack of contract spirit and demand them to abide by

contracts.

Last year, the U.S. issued multiple reports to accuse China of non-compliance with WTO rules, which was used as an excuse to take unilateral trade measures against China. Last month, it claimed that it had already reached an agreement with China, but the agreement was broken by the latter.

However, facts don't lie.

In a white paper titled "China and the World Trade Organization" released by China in June 2018, China set the record straight with undeniable facts, which prove to the world that the country has earnestly fulfilled its WTO commit-

ments.

And by another white paper published recently titled "China's Position on the Economic and Trade Consultations", China uncovered the truth, saying that China-US consultations have not been free of setbacks, each of them being the result of a US breach of consensus and commitments, and backtracking.

WTO rules, which are agreements reached based on the common consensus of each party concerned, should be strictly abided by. However, the U.S., by arbitrarily placing its domestic law above WTO rules, have unilaterally provoked trade disputes with other coun-

tries and trampled on the multilateral trading system.

As a member of the WTO, the U.S. has made public statement that "we will not allow the WTO Appellate Body and dispute settlement system to force the United States into a straitjacket of obligations to which we never agreed" and even threatened to withdraw from the organization.

Can anyone see the spirit of contract in such bald-faced threat?

As proven by facts, the U.S. has been the largest troublemaker for the international law and rules.

The U.S. exited the Paris Agreement on climate change which was signed by

more than 190 countries and withdrew from the Iran nuclear deal (Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action) endorsed and approved by the UN Security Council. It has also quit international organizations including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and UN Human Rights Council.

The true face of the US using whatever that suits its interests and abandoning whatever that does not has been well exposed.

Rule consciousness and the spirit of contract are the bedrock of market economy as well as important pillars of the modern international order. Follow-

ing rules and abiding by contracts enable individuals, groups, and countries to carry out wide cooperation, which represents an important feature of mankind's entry into a civilized society.

By wantonly withdrawing from agreements and trampling on international rules, the U.S. is actually damaging its own credibility while sabotaging international order.

The international community believes that it's hardly possible for the U.S. to win the trust of other trade partners that it is under negotiation with, as the country has reneged on its own promises during the bilateral trade talks with China.

People's Daily



Russia offers software ecosystem for smartphones to Huawei – source

MOSCOW

RUSSIA has offered Huawei to consider an option of using a Russian software ecosystem at various devices of the Chinese corporation, a source familiar of details of the meeting between Russian Telecom Minister Konstantin Noskov and Deputy Chairman of Huawei Board Guo Ping told TASS on Tuesday.

Further to the domestic Aurora Operating System (OS), social media, search engine and antiviruses were also discussed, according to the source.

"Aurora was not the only item for discussion. An ecosystem of Russian

software was offered to Huawei at large: social media, search engine, antiviruses, and so on," the source said.

The Russian Telecom Ministry neither confirmed nor denied this information.

The Ministry noted at the same time that it is working on promotion of Russian producers on international markets on a going basis. Huawei were not available for comment.

The US Department of Commerce blacklisted Huawei and about seventy companies associated with it in May. Companies included into the list are banned from buying products from the US suppliers without a permit given by Washington. **Agencies**

Ambassador anticipates Putin's Italian visit to give boost to bilateral cooperation

ROME

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin, who will visit Italy in July, will meet with President Sergio Mattarella and Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte, Russian Ambassador to Italy Sergey Razov told a reception ahead of Russia Day, marked yesterday.

"Relations with Italy, our priority partner and a traditionally friendly state, are developing stably along different trajectories," the ambassador said. "Together with Italian colleagues, we are actively paving the way for an official visit of Russian



President Vladimir Putin that will take place in July," Razov added. "I am confident that Russian president's meetings and negotiations with

the president and prime minister of Italy and with other officials will give a new powerful impetus to the development of bilateral cooperation, will make it possible to exchange views on key international issues," the diplomat added.

"Understandably, this visit is also important within a broader European and global context, showing the importance of maintaining an equitable dialogue based on mutual respect and mutually advantageous cooperation that meets the interests of the citizens," Razov added.

Agencies



UNICEF chief voices concern over fate of children in Sudan unrest

UNITED NATIONS,

HENRIETTA Fore, executive director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), on Tuesday voiced grave concern over the fate of children in Sudan amid violence following the ousting of former President Omar al-Bashir in April.

At least 19 children have reportedly been killed and 49 others have been injured since June 3, said Fore. "I am gravely concerned at the impact of the continuing violence and unrest in the country on children and young people, especially the reported use of excessive force against peaceful protesters."

UNICEF has received information that children are being detained, recruited to join the fighting and sexually abused. Schools, hospitals and health centers have been targeted, looted and destroyed.

Health workers have been attacked simply for doing their job, she said in a statement. Many parents are too scared to let their children leave the house, fearful of violence, harassment and lawlessness.

Water, food and medicine shortages have been reported across the country, putting children's health and well-being at risk, she said.

Children throughout Sudan are already bearing the brunt of decades of conflict, chronic underdevelopment and poor governance.

The current violence is making a critical situation even worse, she noted. Fore called for an end to violence in the country and for the protection of children at all times.

Any attack on children, schools or hospitals is a grave violation of children's rights, she said.

"I join the (UN) secretary-general in urging the parties to pursue peaceful dialogue and resume negotiations over the transfer of power to a civilian-led transitional authority."

The children of Sudan want peace, the international community needs to take a firm stand in support of their aspirations, she said.

Xinhua

Envoy says Sudan talks to resume as strike suspended

KHARTOUM

SUDAN'S military and opposition groups have agreed to resume talks on the formation of a transitional council, an Ethiopian envoy said on Tuesday, as an opposition alliance said it was suspending its campaign of civil disobedience and strikes.

Sudan's Transitional Military Council also agreed to release political prisoners as a confidence-building measure, special envoy Mahmoud Dirir told reporters in Khartoum.

The steps appeared to show a softening of positions after talks between the two sides collapsed following the violent dispersal of a protest sit-in on June 3.

The crackdown, in which dozens of people were killed, dealt a big setback to hopes of a transition towards democratic elections following the overthrow of veteran leader Omar al-Bashir in April.

The Declaration of Freedom and Change Forces (DFCF) alliance on Sunday began an open-ended strike that brought much activity in Khartoum to a standstill.

The alliance said in a statement it would suspend the strike from Wednesday until further notice, though it encouraged people to remain mobilised for possible further action.

Opposition leader Khaled Omar struck a cautious note, saying in comments to Al Hadath TV that the suspension of the campaign was "not tied to any specific political developments".

Yasir Arman, one of three officials from the southern SPLM-N rebel movement who were detained and then deported to South Sudan after the breakdown of talks, said the military council did not want to cede power.

"My experience in Khartoum is that



Special envoy of the Ethiopian Prime Minister Ambassador Mahmoud Dirir speaks to the press at the Ethiopian embassy, Khartoum, Sudan on Tuesday on the agreement to end the civil disobedience of the country between the forces of freedom and change and the military council. (AP)

the military council wanted to divide the oppositions, to have a deal with them that will keep them in power," Arman told Reuters in Juba a day after saying he had been tied up and flown out of Khartoum on a military helicopter.

In a statement on Tuesday, the United Nations Security Council called on all parties "to continue working together towards a consensual solution to the current crisis."

Meditation mission

After the military ousted and arrested Bashir on April 11, following months of protests, talks became deadlocked over who would control a sovereign council that would oversee a three-year transition towards elections.

Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed flew to Sudan to mediate when the talks broke down last week.

Opposition sources said Abiy had proposed a 15-member transitional council comprising eight civilians and seven military officers with a rotating presidency.

A leader of the DFCF opposition alliance said on Monday night that

the group had decided to name eight members to the council and nominate Abdullah Hamdouk, a former executive secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, as prime minister.

The bloodshed in Sudan has prompted concern from world powers including the United States, which announced on Monday it was sending its senior diplomat for Africa to Khartoum this week to push for a resumption of talks.

The African Union has suspended Sudan's membership.

Stability in the nation of 40 million is crucial for a volatile region struggling with conflict and insurgencies from the Horn of Africa to Egypt and Libya.

The military council has been bolstered by support from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt. The UAE's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs said on Tuesday his country was in contact with both sides and was seeking "a smooth organised political transition".

Agencies

Israeli PM's wife signs plea deal over meal fraud case

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI prime minister's wife Sara Netanyahu signed a plea bargain yesterday over allegedly misusing state funds to order gourmet meals, the State Attorney's Office said.

Under the deal, Sara Netanyahu (pictured) will admit lesser charges and be convicted of receiving something by intentionally exploiting another person's mistake. She will repay 45,000 shekels (12,573 US dollars) and pay a fine of 10,000 shekels (2,794 dollars), Israel Radio reported.

The deal will be presented before judge on Sunday at the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court.

A spokesman for the Netanyahu family was not immediately to comment.

Sara Netanyahu, 60 years old, was originally charged with fraud, aggravated fraud and breach of trust.

According to her original charge sheet, she fraudulently obtaining some 100,000 dollars of public funds for hundreds of meals supplied by well-known restaurants and chefs to



the official prime minister's residency in Jerusalem while falsely stating that there were no cooks or staffs at home.

Her lawyers said that she was unaware of the regulations that forbid her to do so and the meals were ordered by an aide to serve visiting officials.

Her trail has drawn public attention to the long trail of criminal investigations and scandals involving the Netanyahus.

The long-time prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu is entangled in a series of criminal corruption investigations while he denies any wrongdoing and charges "the investigations are part of witch hunt orchestrated by the leftist media and his political enemies."

Two senior al-Shabab leaders surrender to Somali govt forces

MOGADISHU

TWO senior leaders of militant group al-Shabab surrendered on Monday to the Somali government forces in the country's southern region of Gedo, officials said on Tuesday.

Ali Mohamed Hassan, commander of Somali forces unit 49 section 43 in Bardhere town told journalists that Mustafa Ibrahim Isaq and Mohamed Hassan Madhaley, have joined the government forces following intensified military operation on the militants in recent days.

"The two militants defected from al-Shabab extremists in Sakow town in Middle Juba region, one of them represents the militants in intelligence while the other represents prison guarding," Hassan said. He called on the other remaining cells in al-Shabab extremists to follow suit.

The two senior al-Shabab leaders who spoke to the journalists said they were misled into joining the terrorists.

"The militants misguided and preoccupied us to believe that the government members are apostates, but we don't believe that now," Isaq said.

Meanwhile, the government confirmed that the allied forces have recaptured the strategic town of Bardhere in Gedo region following intensified military operations in the area. The ministry of information said the towns near Bardhere town in Gedo region were recaptured on Sunday in a fierce fight that also saw three al-Shabab militants killed.

EIB launches project to transform agriculture in Kenya

NAIROBI

EUROPEAN Investment Bank (EIB) yesterday launched a 5.7 billion shillings (57 million U.S. dollars) program to help boost economic opportunities for thousands of small holders across Kenya.

Catherine Collin, European Investment Bank regional representative for East Africa said the Kenya Agriculture Value Chain Facility will seek to transform long-term investments in agriculture in Africa.

"Working with Equity Bank across country, the new Kenya Agriculture Value Chain Facility will help agriculture companies to modernize and harness the full economic, employment and export potential of agriculture as well as expand business with local smallholders," Collin said in Nairobi.

Under the new financing program,



agricultural companies across Kenya will be able to access loans with maturities of up to seven years, longer

than commonly available in the market. This, the EIB said, is expected to help companies to expand, upgrade and modernize their equipment thereby improving productivity, and strengthening integration of small-holders into the agricultural value chain.

Collin said the new initiative represents the first dedicated support for long-term investment by agriculture companies in Africa backed by the EIB designed to tackle specific investment gaps currently hindering expansion in the sector.

She said the EIB will strengthen its close cooperation with Kenyan partners to ensure that agricultural investment can increase under an exciting new scheme that acts as a model for EIB engagement across Africa.

Equity Bank is one of the key financial institutions supporting the agricultural sector in Kenya and is a

leading provider of financial services to rural communities and smallholders.

Polycarp Igathe, Equity Bank Kenya Managing Director said the bank has aligned its strategy with Kenya's development agenda to focus on growing the agribusiness portfolio through servicing all segments from retail, to SME to large enterprises and corporate banking customers.

He said the new agriculture financing initiative will address the gap of long-term funding in the sector identified as a key barrier to growth.

Agriculture which is the leading source of economic activity, employment and exports in Kenya contributes directly and indirectly to 51 percent of Kenyan GDP and accounts for 60 percent of jobs in the country, according to government statistics.

Xinhua

US going against trend of time won't be supported

By Wu Yuehe

WHY should China and the US choose to cooperate, and why should economic globalization be advocated and protected? These are two questions that urgently need to be answered amid the economic and trade tensions between the two largest economies of the world.

The US administration reiterated that many enterprises had moved from China to other coun-

tries including the US to avoid hiked tariffs, but the tariff rise has been strongly opposed by US citizens on social media platforms.

Besides, letters have been sent to the US government from all walks of US society, demanding an end to the trade dispute, and US research institutions also issued warnings based on polls.

How people think matters, as the trade issue concerns "everybody". It has long been emphasized in China since ancient times

that governance shall be enhanced if it is in accordance with people's aspiration. In the current time of economic globalization, people's aspiration should be attached with more importance.

As participants of the China-US cooperation, the people can feel and benefit from the relationship, and their voices should be heard.

Peter Verbrugge is an American cherry farmer who helped ring the opening bell of a Chinese

company at the New York Stock Exchange five years ago. He said then that the expectation for the best cherries on the planet from the people and children from halfway around the world made him work hard every day, and he wanted to make them happy.

At that time, he was immersed in the huge surprise he received from a Chinese e-commerce platform. It only took 48 to 72 hours to deliver his cherries that had just been picked from his Wash-

ington-based farm to Chinese consumers. The grower sold 108 tons of cherries to 55,000 consumers in a dozen-day presale activity alone, an equivalent to the sales of 1,000 medium- to large-scale supermarkets in China.

Verbrugge's story about economic globalization proved that the global value chain, supported by the application of new technologies, is able to create fortune and opportunities in a magical way, and of course, this can only

be achieved with cooperation.

According to the latest statistics of the US-China Business Council, over the past decade, Kentucky's goods exports to China have grown by 157%, more than doubling the overall growth rate of that to other countries. Its services exports to China have increased by 250%, over ten times the overall growth rate of that to other countries.

China is Tennessee's third largest market for both goods

and services exports and ranks among the top five for Colorado, Michigan and Washington State.

Facts once again indicate that in the era of economic globalization, China and the US see frequent exchanges and integrated interests, and cooperation remains the only right choice.

The people from both countries hope to take each other as sincere friends and win-win partners.

People's Daily

SPORT

Even being injured Durant leads free-agent pack

OAKLAND, CALIF.

THIS was already going to be a summer filled with fireworks in the NBA.

Nothing has changed.

Kevin Durant's Achilles injury, the severity of which isn't yet confirmed, means he probably won't be able to play much – if any – next season. But this is a testament to how much he overshadows much of the NBA landscape: Durant will still likely dictate how the free-agency dominoes fall this summer.

Durant could exercise his \$31.5 million player option and stay with the Warriors, and that's likely going to be his worst-case financial scenario. He could opt out and sign a longer deal to stay in the Bay. Or he could opt out, sign elsewhere and start collecting massive checks from either the New York Knicks or Brooklyn Nets or Los Angeles Clippers or someone else.

Kyrie Irving's decision could hinge on what Durant does. Kawhi Leonard's decision could be affected by what Durant does. How the Knicks, Nets, Clippers, Dallas Mavericks, Los Angeles Lakers, Atlanta Hawks and all the other teams who have cap space will start spending their money on June 30 ... it all will be determined, at least on some level, by what Durant does.

If he stays in Golden State, that's more money for everyone else.

If he hits the open market, it'll be about what team wants to gamble.

Here's a tip to those teams that wanted Durant before he got hurt again in Game 5 of the NBA Finals.

If the opportunity presents itself, sign him.

Free agency usually isn't about just one year. It's about the long haul. Durant is only 30 years old. He's not a high-flyer who plays above the rim all the time. He's not a plodding big man. He's not someone with a lot of gray in the goatee. He's a world-class scorer and jump-shooter in his prime. A year from now, if the recovery from the Achilles injury indeed takes that long, he'll be far from over the hill.

"This is a devastating injury for a basketball player, but Durant can return to be the same or very close," Dr. David Chao, a longtime NFL team physician, practicing orthopedic surgeon and now a sports medical analyst with a large following wrote Tuesday. "This does not mark his downfall as an elite player."

In the short term, it just means Durant's NBA Finals are over. Game 6 is Thursday night, and the Warriors trail the Toronto Raptors 3-2 in the title series.

In the long term, it might mean so much more – including the possibility that his time playing for Golden State is over.

Achilles recoveries for basketball players have typically taken about a full year. Even if it turns out to be a partial tear, it's still a tear. Some team was going to pay Durant



Kevin Durant

a lot of money in 2019-20 and some team still will, probably without the immediate on-court services of perhaps the best player in the world in return.

The first decision is the medical course of action.

The financial course of action will be decided soon after.

All will not be lost next season for the team that has Durant on its roster. That team will apply for, and get, a disabled player exception that will allow them to sign someone else for probably about \$9 million and not have that count toward the team's cap.

That player won't be of Durant's caliber, because so few players are. But a year or so later, the team would have Durant.

There's risk with any signing. And signing any player that will command so much of a team's salary cap while facing a grueling rehab would seem particularly risky.

"He's going to come back stronger though," Warriors guard Klay Thompson said. "That's the kind of fighter he is."

The Nets swung a trade earlier this month to clear enough cap space for two max contracts this summer – and there's no doubt that they would love Durant to take one of those spots, possibly alongside Irving. The Knicks have been mentioned as a hopeful in the Durant sweepstakes for months. The Clippers were expected to make a pitch for him as well. The Warriors surely want to keep him.

The chatter about Durant's injury indicates it's all a mystery now, although it really shouldn't be.

Players have made comebacks off Achilles surgery, with relative levels of success.

DeMarcus Cousins, Kobe Bryant, and Rudy Gay all came back; Cousins hasn't regained past form yet. Dominique Wilkins had an Achilles tear happen to him at the peak of his career and he arguably was good as ever afterward. Elton Brand, now leading the Philadelphia 76ers' front office, had it as a player and said he was never the same. Christian Laettner went from a star to a role player when his Achilles ripped.

AP

Much at stake in a last NBA Finals trip to Oracle Arena

TORONTO

THE NBA Finals are making one last trip to Oracle Arena.

For the Toronto Raptors, it's a second shot at a first championship.

For the Golden State Warriors, it'll be a night to play for a fallen teammate and the fans they're leaving behind.

Game 6 is Thursday and the stakes could hardly be higher.

"We owe our fans one more game in Oracle," Warriors guard Klay Thompson said.

There have been so many already during Golden State's stretch of five straight trips to the NBA Finals, the second-longest run in NBA history. But few had all the drama and emotion that will fill the Oakland air Thursday.

Toronto will bring a 3-2 lead into the building and try again to win a title that seemed so close in Game 5. The Raptors had a six-point lead with less than 3 minutes remaining Monday, poised to put an end to a Golden era in the NBA. Then Thompson and Stephen Curry rallied Golden State to a 106-105 victory, fueled by three straight 3-pointers.

Now the Raptors have to do things a little bit better, for a little bit longer.

"Come out and do the same thing. Just be mentally focused, try to limit our mistakes, and be the aggressor," Kawhi Leonard said. "Just play hard 48 minutes and see what happens."

It's the last game in the arena before the Warriors move to the new Chase Center in San Francisco, and the first one for Golden State with the knowledge that Kevin Durant won't be back this season. The two-time defending champions began the series hoping he could return from a strained right calf, but not long after he did he was lost in the second quarter of Game 5 with an Achilles tendon injury.

Center Kevon Looney also went out again, so the Warriors are nowhere near full strength as they make their final stand.

They can't worry about that now.

"It's not like we're the only team



Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry (30) shoots between Toronto Raptors' Norman Powell (24) and Serge Ibaka (9) during Game 5 of the NBA Finals in Toronto on Monday, June 10, 2019. (AP)

battling," Draymond Green said. "They're battling as well. Everybody is facing fatigue at this point. No one cares who is tired or if you're facing a little fatigue. You've got to do what you came here to do anyway."

The Warriors are trying to become the 12th team to come back from a 3-1 deficit and only the second in the NBA Finals, after the Cleveland Cavaliers did it against them in 2016. Being back home Thursday is a luxury but certainly no guarantee, not after Toronto won Games 3 and 4 at Oracle Arena to go along with its

victory there in the regular season.

So the Raptors won't be rattled by having to go back there, even though they nearly avoided it.

"We came into this series expecting a long series and we put ourselves in a good position," guard Fred VanVleet said.

A loss Thursday sends the Warriors into a summer they won't be eager to face. Durant can become a free agent and will have to decide where he wants to play – whenever he can play. Thompson's contract

also expires, so these could be the final days of a dynasty.

But until then, the Warriors are showing they can win with skill or will. They've beaten teams for so long just because of their talent advantages, but getting this title would require much more than that.

"We made a lot of different statements over the course of these five years," Curry said. "Win or lose, I don't feel like we need to prove anything anymore. It's just about can we get the job done or not."

AP

ICC defends no-reserve-day decision, blames 'unseasonable weather'

NOTTINGHAM, ENGLAND

THE International Cricket Council (ICC) on Tuesday defended not scheduling reserve days for group matches at the rain-marred World Cup and blamed the disruptions on "extremely unseasonable weather".

A record three matches have already been either abandoned or called off in the weather-hit tournament and the forecast is for further washouts this week.

The organisers have been criticised for not allotting reserve days in the group stage and outgoing ICC chief executive David Richardson said it was not a feasible idea.

"Factoring in a reserve day for every match ... would significantly increase the length of the tournament and practically would be extremely complex to deliver," he said in a statement.

The knockout stage of the six-week tournament includes

reserve days but it would post a massive logistical challenge at the group phase and inconvenience everyone, Richardson said.

"There is also no guarantee that the reserve day would be free from rain either," he said.

Bangladesh coach Steve Rhodes criticised the organisers after his team's match against Sri Lanka was abandoned on Tuesday without a ball bowled in Bristol.

"We put men on the moon, so why can't we have a reserve day,

when actually this tournament is a long tournament?" Rhodes quipped.

"I know logistically, it would have been a big headache for the tournament organisers... but we have got quite a lot of time in between games, and if we have got to travel a day later, then so be it."

Sri Lanka captain Dimuth Karunaratne acknowledged the logistical challenge but still felt result days suited everyone.

REUTERS

Woods takes stroll down Pebble memory lane before work

PEBBLE BEACH, CALIF.

MUCH has changed since Tiger Woods romped to a record 15-stroke victory at the 2000 U.S. Open at scenic Pebble Beach.

In the ensuing 19 years, Woods' body has been battered and surgically repaired, equipment has improved and his hairline is receding. However, the Pebble Beach Golf Links has remained pretty much unchanged and so has Woods' strategy as the U.S. Open returns to the breath-taking coastal California course.

"That part really hasn't changed that much," said Woods during his pre-tournament press conference on Tuesday. Because of the golf ball is going further than it did back in 2000, I'm slower than I was in 2000.

"I am about the same distance, so the golf course really doesn't play that much differently for me.

"It's just a matter of putting the ball in the right spots."

Before things turn serious with start of first round play on Thursday, Woods allowed himself a pleasant stroll down memory lane as he recalled what is arguably the greatest

performance in the game's history.

At the height of his powers, a then 24-year-old Woods demolished the field with a tournament for the ages. He won his first U.S. Open by what remains the biggest winning margin in major championship golf.

"It's crazy. It's been 19 years," reminisced Woods. "I still remember most of the shots I hit that week.

"It was just one of those weeks where I don't know how I pulled it off, but on seaside poa annua, I never missed a putt inside 10 feet for a week.

"It happened to be a very special week. I made everything.

"And not only that, I was hitting it well. And when I did miss it, I missed it in all the correct spots."

Now 43, Woods has reached the stage of his career where each victory carries more significance.

In April, the former-number one completed one of sport's great all-time comebacks when he ended an 11-year major title drought with an inspiring win at the Masters.

A win on Sunday would give Woods his 82nd PGA Tour title and leave him two shy of Jack Nicklaus' major



Tiger Woods on the ninth green during a practice round of the 2019 U.S. Open golf tournament at Pebble Beach Golf, California, USA on Monday. (Agencies)

record of 18.

Even if he fails to achieve either of those milestones this week, a buoyant Woods reckons time is still on his side with 10 years and 40 majors left to achieve his Holy Grail.

"If I keep progressing how I am physically and how I'm getting

better and better physically the last couple of years, I just need to give myself chances," said Woods. "Hypothetically, let's say I give myself 10 years.

"That's 40 major championships. That's a lot of majors."

Meanwhile, knowing all too well

what it is like to be struck down by injury Tiger Woods spared a thought for Kevin Durant on Tuesday, after watching the Golden State Warriors forward crumple to the floor during a game against the Toronto Raptors.

"It was sad," said Woods, during his U.S. Open pre-tournament media conference. "As athletes we've all been there, to that spot when you just know it, that something just went, and can't move, can't do much of anything.

"You can see it on his face. You just know."

Sidelined by a calf injury since the second round of the post-season, Durant made his long-awaited return to the Golden State lineup on Monday for a must win Game Five of the NBA Finals only to go down suddenly in the opening minutes of the second quarter with a suspected Achilles injury.

The sight of Durant on the floor clutching at his leg brought back all too painful memories for Woods who battled career threatening back issues until undergoing surgery just over two years ago.

"I've been there. I've had it to my

own Achilles," said Woods. "I've had it to my own back.

"I know what it feels like. It's an awful feeling. And no one can help you.

"That's the hard part."

If Durant has suffered an Achilles injury Woods knows what awaits the NBA all-star.

The 15-time major winner injured his left Achilles during the 2011 Masters and missed three months of action. He was diagnosed with a mild Achilles tendon strain the following year.

"If he popped it, then that's six to nine months of rehabbing," said Woods. "That's what people don't see, is all those long hours that really do suck.

"Why do we do it? Because we're competitors.

"As athletes our job is to make the human body do something it was never meant to do and to do it efficiently and better than anybody who is doing it at the same time.

"Well, sometimes things go awry. And we saw it last night with Kevin."

Messi now beats Mayweather, Ronaldo in 2019 Forbes rich list

LONDON

LIONEL Messi has topped Forbes' list of the world's highest-paid athletes as soccer players dominated the podium in 2019.

The Barcelona forward earned \$127 million this past year in a combination of his salary and endorsements – \$18 million more than second-place Cristiano Ronaldo, who pocketed a total of \$109m.

Neymar was the third-highest on the list, having earned \$105m this past year. The Brazil international took in \$75m in salary, which was \$10m more than Ronaldo, while Messi's income of \$92m dwarfed both.

However, the Juventus forward made \$44m in endorsements, which was higher than Messi's \$35m and Neymar's \$30m.

Messi saw his earnings increase by \$16m over the past 12 months. The \$111m he made in 2018 saw him finish second to Floyd Mayweather (\$285m). Ronaldo (\$108m) was third with Neymar (\$90m) in fifth. Conor McGregor (\$99m) had finished fourth.

Boxer Saul "Canelo" Alvarez was the highest-earning non-footballer

on the 2019 list, with \$94m in total – just \$2m of which came through endorsements, meaning he had the same salary as Messi.

Tennis player Roger Federer was the fifth highest-earner, at \$93.4m. He was No. 1 in terms of endorsements, though, with \$86m.

Football stars Russell Wilson (\$89.5m) and Aaron Rodgers (\$89.3m) were sixth and seventh, respectively, on the list, as three NBA players came in next.

LeBron James earned \$89m in total with Stephen Curry having made \$79.8m and Kevin Durant \$65.4m.

Top-10 highest-paid athletes of 2019

1. Lionel Messi, soccer: \$127m
2. Cristiano Ronaldo, soccer: \$109m
3. Neymar, soccer: \$105m
4. Saul "Canelo" Alvarez, boxer: \$94m
5. Roger Federer, tennis: \$93.4m
6. Russell Wilson, football: \$89.5m
7. Aaron Rodgers, football: \$89.3m
8. LeBron James, basketball: \$89m
9. Stephen Curry, basketball: \$79.8m
10. Kevin Durant, basketball: \$65.4m

(AGENCIES)

Brazil model accusing Neymar of rape parts with 3rd lawyer

SAO PAULO

THE 26-year-old model who has accused soccer star Neymar of raping her in a Paris hotel parted on Tuesday from her third lawyer in less than three weeks.

Attorney Danilo Garcia de Andrade confirmed to The Associated Press that he no longer represents Najila Trindade in her rape case.

De Andrade didn't say why, but he told journalists Monday that he would drop the case if the accuser didn't give authorities a seven-minute video that she has described as key evidence. The model said Monday night in a television interview that the images were in a tablet that was stolen after she brought her charges against Neymar. Police said they are investigating her theft report.

Neymar denies the rape accusation. Police officials have said he is expected to meet with investigators Thursday, but no final agreement on the date was announced.

The AP doesn't name alleged sexual assault victims unless they make their identities public, which Trindade did in interviews with Brazilian television.

Lawyer Jose Edgard Bueno withdrew from the case after the accuser

on her own filed a rape complaint with Sao Paulo police May 31. Bueno said he had wanted to seek a settlement with the player.

Attorney Yasmin Abdalla then took over, but left the case to her partner de Andrade before Trindade testified to police Friday.

Trindade has yet to pick a new attorney.

Also on Tuesday an aide of Neymar's was interviewed by investigators. Rodrigo Gallo was reported by Trindade as the person who booked her ticket to Paris and a hotel room so she could meet with the player. His testimony lasted two hours. Gallo did not talk to journalists after he left.

In her interview with SBT television Monday night, Trindade raised questions about how police are investigating her rape allegation, and appeared to imply that investigators had been paid off. "Police are sold, aren't they?" she said.

The association of Sao Paulo state police investigators issued a statement Tuesday denouncing her comments.

"We can't tolerate statements that without any basis stain the honor of police and the image of a whole institution," the group said.

(AGENCIES)

United States World Cup goal celebrations polarises opinion

PARIS

THE United States' record 13-0 drubbing of Thailand at the Women's World Cup on Tuesday did not sit well with everybody, with opinion divided on whether the team should have so mercilessly punished a hapless opponent.

Striker Alex Morgan scored five times as the holders began their World Cup campaign with the largest margin of victory in either the men's or women's World Cup.

Former American international Taylor Twellman however criticised the team on social media, believing the side's goal celebrations in Reims were excessive.

"Celebrating goals (like #9) leaves a sour taste in my mouth like many of you. Curious to see if anyone apologises for this postgame," Twellman tweeted to his 327,000 followers.

He was also critical of the U.S. women for showing their hand ahead of games against more formidable opponents.

"Not sure why the #USWNT is 'wasting' any of their set plays when the score is 3-0. Bury (Thailand) then move on but don't use anything that could be needed in future games," he wrote.

U.S. coach Jill Ellis defended her team's approach and said it would have been disrespectful to Thailand to ease up despite the huge lead.

"To be respectful to opponents is to play hard against them," Ellis told reporters. "It's a tournament where goal differential is a criteria.

"A lot of this is about building momentum and so as a coach I don't find it my job to rein my players in.

"I respect Thailand, I spoke to some of them afterwards and they should keep their heads up. This is part of the growth of the game."

Record international goalscorer Abby Wambach also defended her former team mates.

"For all that have issue with many goals: for some players this is their first World Cup goal, and they should be excited," the scorer of a record 184 international goals tweeted to her 679,000 followers.

She also questioned whether there was an element of sexism in the criticism.

"Imagine it being you out there," she added.

"This is your dream of playing and then scoring in a World Cup. Celebrate. Would you tell a men's team to not score or celebrate?"

REUTERS

Despite FIFA ticket boast, most World Cup games not sold out

NICE, FRANCE

FIFA's attempt to hype Women's World Cup ticket sales didn't go exactly as planned.

The sport's governing body gave the impression that tickets for the tournament in France were hard to come by when it boasted to the public a month ago: "You can still buy tickets for a few matches."

But with the opening weekend taking place against the backdrop of many empty seats, FIFA came clean on Tuesday after providing misleading information.

FIFA President Gianni Infantino said in Paris last week that 20 of the 52 matches had been sold out. FIFA revised that number to 14 on Tuesday, meaning 70% of games will not be at capacity as it stands.

Of the nine games in the opening four days of the tournament, the only capacity crowds were at host France's victory over South Korea in Paris on Friday and at Brazil's win over Jamaica in Grenoble.

While providing details of ticket sales to The Associated Press, FIFA did not respond to questions about why it implied on Twitter on May 7 that there was little availability nor why Infantino inflated ticket sales.

Some fans stopped looking for tickets after FIFA hinted that they were hard to come by.

When neighbors England and Scotland played in Nice on Sunday, almost two-thirds of the stadium in Nice was empty. FIFA had said 16,000 tickets were sold, but the attendance given during England's 2-1 win was 13,188. The British derby did attract a record domestic audience for women's soccer, with a peak of more than six million viewers.

"I was impressed and excited about seeing the announcement that the majority of games had sold out," England supporter Sean Cottrell said. "I



Cameroon fans cheer on their team during the Women's World Cup Group E soccer match between Canada and Cameroon in Montpellier, France, Monday, June 10, 2019. (AP Photo)

was also disappointed as I was planning to take my family to see a few of the games.

"But we changed our plans when we saw that we unlikely would be able to get tickets. It was probably something lost in translation in the communications and now I regret not double-checking."

The choice of stadiums isn't always helpful for fans, either, even for those a short distance away.

England's next game against Argentina is in the northwestern city of Le Havre, which has no scheduled flights to anywhere in the world. Fans face a journey of about three hours from Paris by road or rail. There are ferries from Portsmouth in southern England to Le Havre, and they take about five hours.

"If the fans don't come out, they are missing out," said Nikita Parris,

who scored England's opening goal against Scotland on Sunday. "It's going to be a special World Cup."

FIFA pointed to a "competitive pricing policy" with a 25 euro (\$28) package allowing fans to go to three matches.

France's three games in the group stage have no tickets left, with the final ones for the second game against Norway in Nice on Wednesday snapped up after the host's impressive 4-0 victory over South Korea.

"Some people were waiting to see what France could do in the opening match," France coach Corinne Diacre said Tuesday. "We did what was expected of us. We now have six more steps to come."

The semifinals and final in Lyon in early July are already sure to be full, according to FIFA.

FIFA said last week it had "allocat-

ed" the majority of tickets – 460,748 – to French people. After that, more tickets have been allocated to Americans – 130,905 – than the rest of the world combined. Britons rank third with 29,307 tickets, up a third from figures provided to the AP in April.

The group games involving the defending champion United States are listed by FIFA as sold out, starting Tuesday against Thailand in Reims.

"It's been quite incredible to be a part of this World Cup," U.S. forward Alex Morgan said, "because every single World Cup I think has had some sort of progression in the amount of eyes on this tournament, the amount of support of the host country, the amount of stadiums and the fact that every single game is an individual game and that it's not a doubleheader."

AP

From Nottingham to the Nile, Darikwa dreams big with Zimbabwe

CAPE TOWN

NOTTINGHAM Forest right back Tendayi Darikwa's long wait to represent Zimbabwe at the Africa Cup of Nations will end this month when he competes in Egypt and he is hopeful of helping the team run deep into the tournament.

Nottingham-born Darikwa, who spent much of his club career at Chesterfield and Burnley before joining Forest in 2017, has a Zimbabwean father, Timothy, and a long-held ambition to wear the national team jersey.

Local media reported six years ago that the 27-year-old was approached as a teenager by the Zimbabwe Football Association (Zifa), but asked to pay a \$5,000 'processing fee' in order to be eligible, which scuppered that opportunity and put his participation on ice for years.

He would not be drawn on the incident, and says he is simply now looking to make up for lost time.

"It has been something I wanted to do for many years. I had the opportunity a few years ago but the circumstances weren't right in my career. Now I find myself here and I'm very happy about it," he told Reuters.

"There has always been some sort of contact (with Zifa), a lot of it was informal over the years. But as soon as I got the opportunity I jumped at it.

"It was just a bit of a process with my paperwork because I held a British passport before."

Darikwa made his competitive debut in the vital Nations Cup double-header qualifiers against Democratic Republic of Congo last October, and played 45 minutes in Saturday's 0-0 friendly draw with Nigeria.

"It has always been a part of my life. I grew up on the other side of the water as they say, but I have had strong ties with my family back in Zimbabwe, and through my father in England, so I am very happy to be here.

"All of the players and staff have welcomed me well. I feel like I am one of the senior members in the group. We have a really good bond together and hopefully we can go to the Nations Cup and perform well."

Zimbabwe have been drawn in Group A at the finals and will play in the tournament opener against hosts



Tendayi Darikwa,

Egypt on June 21. They take on Uganda five days later and DR Congo once again on June 30.

"We want to try and get out of the group first and foremost. We don't know how far we can go in the tournament, but the main aim is to go there and perform well, and if we do that I believe we can go into the latter stages.

"It's a huge tournament, some of the greatest-ever players have played in the Nations Cup in previous years and they still do so today.

"It is a huge opportunity for all of us players and staff, so we want to go there and just see how far we can get."

Meanwhile, in Casablanca, defender Medhi Benatia, who joined Qatari club Al Duhail from Juventus in January, was on Tuesday named captain

of Morocco's 23-man squad for the African Cup of Nations finals in Egypt this month.

Coach Herve Renard cut four players from a preliminary list named last



Gwiji by David Chikoko



Amunike unveils Taifa Stars squad

SPORT

Despite FIFA ticket boast, most World Cup games not sold out

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Taifa Stars players attend training session in Cairo to shape up for the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations tournament, which is slated for later this month.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SENIOR national soccer team, Taifa Stars, regulars, Shiza Kichuya and Abdi Banda, have been dropped from the squad which will compete at the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) slated to kick off in Egypt next week.

According to the final squad made up of 23 players released by head coach, Emmanuel Amunike, through Tanzania Football Federation (TFF), the tactician has dropped nine players.

Notable ones are Kichuya, Banda and Shaban Chilunda, who play professional football in Egypt, South Africa and

Spain respectively.

Others, who were dropped, are keepers, Claryo Boniface and Suleiman Salula, defender David Mwantika, midfielders Fred Tangalu and Miraji Athuman, and forward Kelvin John.

Players making Taifa Stars squad for the AFCON finals are keepers Aishi Manula, Metacha Mnata and Aron Kalambo.

Defenders are Hassan Ramadhan, Mohamed Hussein, Aggrey Morris, Kelvin Yondani, Ally Mtoni, Gadiel Michael, Erasto Nyoni and Vincent Mayombya.

The midfielders are Frank Domayo, Feisal Abdallah, Yahya Zayd, Mudathir Yahya, Farid Mussa and Himid Mao. Strikers named by coach

Amunike are John Bocco, Thomas Ulimwengu, Mbwana Samatta, Rashid Mandawa, Simon Msuva and Abdillahi Mussa.

While departing for Egypt, Amunike said he will drop some of the players from the squad at its base in the North African country in order to remain with the required 23 players.

Taifa Stars are in Group C of the continental showdown alongside Algeria, Senegal and Kenya.

The national team will kick-start the group stage campaign on June 23 against Senegal and will, two days later, play Kenya before finishing with Algeria on June 27.

The team will today face

Egypt in an international friendly match and later this week play Zimbabwe in another friendly match.

This is not the first time that coach Amunike has dropped some of the players regarded by most of domestic soccer followers as the best.

Before the team departure for Egypt, the Nigerian tactician dropped midfielders Jonas Mkude, Ibrahim Ajibu and fullback Shomari Kapombe.

Amunike said he has dropped the three players on different grounds.

Kapombe is recovering from an injury he sustained while on duty with the national team while the rest were dropped on the basis of discipline.

Amunike, however, assured Tanzanians that the players he has in his squad are the best and he is confident they will play well for the country.

"I have dropped some players because they are not disciplined while others are not fit, but I am sure those who are making the trip are good enough," he said.

Meanwhile, TFF on Tuesday announced that it has beefed up Taifa Stars technical bench with Egyptians Abdelrahman Essa and Adel Zram, who are physical education coach and fitness coach respectively.

The TFF said the two will help the national team players a lot and the coaches previously worked with coach Amunike.

5 EATV TODAY @ 18:00

THURSDAY

11:00 DADAJ (live)
12:00 Mpya
13:00 FUNGUA
14:00 Songo His
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELERT
17:35 KURUGU
18:00 #NEWS
18:30 MUSIC
19:00 SATY SAA 1
19:30 MUADALA
21:00 Songo His

eastafrica RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipanga Xtra
13:00 Planet Songo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipanga
21:00 The Cruise

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England relish 'fear' factor provided by Archer and Wood

LONDON

MARK Wood believes England have a fast-bowling attack at the World Cup that "ruffles feathers" and creates fear in the opposition.

Wood, who has sent down the fastest delivery of the tournament so far, is one of four England bowlers to have recorded bowling speeds of 90mph in and one of two to have recorded a speed of 95mph. As a result, he believes "opposition batsmen don't get a break".

"When real pace bowling is on show it definitely ruffles a few feathers and changes the momentum of the game," Wood said. "It wasn't long ago that everyone was looking round for quick bowlers while Australia had Mitchell Johnson, Mitchell Starc and Pat Cummins. It is nice to have guys who will fear our team now."

"The opposition batsmen don't get a break if there is pace from both ends. There is no respite from us. It is great that we can pose that threat."

Wood admitted there is rivalry between him and Jofra Archer - the other England bowler to have hit 95mph - over who can bowl quicker, but insists it is friendly and positive.

Wood has edged ahead, bowling a ball timed at 95.69mph/154kph against Bangladesh, though he concedes Archer appears to find it much easier to hit the high speeds.

"It is friendly competition, but with a point to it," Wood said. "It pushes us for sure. You're pushing each other to be the best you can be and to as quick as you can be."

"I'm trying to bowl 0.1 mph quicker than Jofra and he's trying to bowl 0.1 faster than me. When you come off the analyst says 'oh, Jofra was quicker today' and you think, right I've got to put the throttle down here, and then the next time he says 'you were quickest' you get a little buzz."

"But all the while though I'm thinking, 'but Jofra's just flicking his wrist and it is coming out like a rocket!'"

"I think there might be a bit more in the tank if he really wants it. I think he's just toying with me at the minute. You have banter about it for sure, but you're helping each other."

"Jof keeps saying that my speeds come up on the big screen and his don't. I just tell him they are putting mine up to tell me to bowl a bit quicker to catch up to him. It is a good competition between us, a friendly one."

"Jofra helps me get wickets, too. In the past I was probably the guy that England were looking for to produce those speeds. Having Jof there takes a bit of pressure off."

"It's exciting and frustrating because he makes it look so easy. I have to nearly break my back to get it as fast as him and he's got no problems cranking it up. It looks like effortless pace and it surprises people how quick he is."

Wood suggested there is a good chance that Friday's match against West Indies will turn into a battle of the fast bowlers. Certainly the hostility of West Indies' attack has been a feature of this World Cup to date and, with the Southampton surface expected to offer some bounce, Wood felt there may be a fair amount of short-pitched bowling on display.

Mkwawa Trail Run 2019 pushed back

By Beatrice Philemon

THE Mkwawa Trail Run 2019, which had been slated for June 16 in Iringa, has been pushed back to August 4.

More than 1000 runners from several countries across the world are expected to participate in the race, which will take place at Kalenga ground.

The race targets to promote the tourists attractions existing in the southern circuit, boost

economic growth and trade, as well as lobbying for environmental conservation in the area.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Mkwawa Trail Run 2019, Amani Mkwawa, disclosed the details during his visit to Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

He was accompanied by Alex Kajumulo, a Tanzanian entrepreneur that owns the Kajumulo World Soccer Company

based in USA.

Kajumulo handed over modern jerseys and medals, which will be presented to the race's winners, to the event's organizers.

"Among the runners, 100 will come from overseas because TTB will help us market Mkwawa Trail Run 2019 through the board's website and other social networks," Mkwawa noted.

"This will encourage more foreigners from

different countries across the world to participate in this event."

The race aims at honouring the great Chief Mkwawa Mwanjika, who fought the German colonial forces.

It also aims at promoting tourism potentials existing in Iringa, attract local and international visitors to visit, apart from motivating Tanzanians to do exercises.

The registration for the race, as noted by Mkwawa,

is open for all Tanzanians and foreigners who are keen on participating in the race.

Organizers, he added, are encouraging children to participate but the latter should get permission from their parents.

Mkwawa Trail Run 2019, he noted, include 5km Fun Run, 12km and 38km races for professional runners that will pass through Kalenga Museum, Ruaha River, as well as Ganglonga Rock site to see the tourists attractions existing in the areas.

People willing to participate in the race, he disclosed, can register online and at registration centers.

Organizers have set registration centers at Double Tree Hotel in Dar es Salaam and in Iringa.

The Mkwawa Trail Run 2019 winners will receive medals and jerseys. The first winner in the 5km race will be awarded gold medal, the 12km run winner will get silver medal and the 38km race winner will get gold medal.

The TTB Managing Director, Devotha Mdachi, expressed sincere regards to Kajumulo World Soccer for sponsoring the race,

which will in turn help to promote the tourists attractions existing in the southern circuit.

Through Mkwawa Trail Run 2019, Devotha added, more people from different countries will be aware of what Iringa has to offer in the tourism sector in terms of Mkwawa history, the region's culture and other issues related to cultural tourism.

"We expect to put Mkwawa Trail Run 2019 in our website so that more people from different countries across the world can be aware of this event for two months," she noted.

Kajumulo noted he has decided to sponsor the race event to honour Chief Mkwawa for what the latter did, as well as promote tourism potentials in Tanzania.

"We need to honour people, who have been forgotten, to see to it they are treasured for what they did," he noted.

He said he will work in partnership with TTB to market Tanzania's tourism potentials in USA, Canada and other countries because right now he is doing business in 94 countries.



Kajumulo World Soccer Company's Chief Executive Officer, Alex Kajumulo (2nd L), hands over jerseys to Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) Chairman of Board of Directors, Thomas Mihayo, at the board's office in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The jerseys are part of prizes the firm has presented for the Mkwawa Trail Run 2019 winners. Others are TTB Managing Director, Devotha Mdachi (L), and Mkwawa Trail Run Chief Executive Officer, Amani Mkwawa. PHOTO: BEATRICE PHILEMON

Flexibles by David Chikoko

