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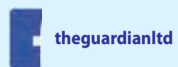
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National Pg 2
TLS ignorance in Human DNA Act



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'CSR activities promote unity'



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Grape research lab in the offing



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Govt commends UPR tripartite relationship



Govt lines up planes to hold back locusts

By Guardian Reporter

THE government will from today start using spray planes to fight off the invasion of desert locusts, which have been attacking crops in Longido and Simanjiro districts in Arusha and Manyara regions respectively.

Agriculture minister Prof Adolf Mkenda has urged residents in the two districts to be patient as the government moves to combat the waves of locusts, noting the fast-moving insects

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President John Magufuli has a word with Fr Dr Alister Makubi of Dar es Salaam's St Peter's Catholic Church shortly after prayers yesterday. Photo: State House.

EAC media regulation overall body unveiled

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE newly launched East African Press Councils Association (EAPCA) is now taking shape with its draft constitution endorsed and interim leadership unveiled.

Kajubi Mukajanga, the Executive Secretary of Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) is the chairman of the umbrella body while David Kyetume Kasanga, the secretary of the Media Council of Uganda is the interim vice chairman. David Omollo from the Media Council of Kenya serves as the provisional secretary and Emmanuel Mugisha of the Rwanda Media Council will be the acting treasurer.

Mukajanga said here at the weekend that the registered offices of EAPCA will be in Nairobi.

"Kenya has volunteered to not only undertake the registration process but the country is also providing an interim secretariat to the East African Press Councils Association," he said, shortly after the virtual

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JPM urges precautions to contain COVID-19

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli yesterday appealed to Tanzanians to observe precautionary measures recommended by health experts against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Addressing worshippers at a church service at Saint Peter's Catholic Church in Dar es Salaam, the president said that

the government does not discourage people from protecting themselves against the viral disease.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, experts recommend cleaning of hands often with soap and water, or an alcohol-based sanitizer; observance of social distancing and wearing of

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Mtera Dam in partial discharge amid rains

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Electric Supply Co. Ltd (TANESCO) will from tomorrow start discharging water from Mtera dam in Dodoma Region to prevent it from crossing the tipping point due ongoing rains.

The public utility firm has therefore appealed to people living near the dam to take all precautionary measures during the exercise, to avoid any damages. Mtera dam station manager Elias Mwalupilo, said that as of Saturday the water level had reached

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JPM urges precautions to contain COVID-19

FROM PAGE 1

masks to cover the virus' entry points into the body namely eyes, nose and mouth.

But the president expressed doubt on the safety of imported face masks, instead advocating the use of those made in Tanzania by the Ministry of Health via its agencies such as the Medical Stores Department.

"Don't misquote me; I am not saying you should not wear masks. All I am saying is that some masks are not safe and that is the truth," he said.

"Better still, you can sew your own masks; I am your leader and I know a lot of things and it is my duty to tell you the truth."

While insisting on using only locally made masks, the president suggested that there is more than meets the eye in the pandemic and recommended response measures.

"Believe me my people, I am your fellow Tanzanian. I know this is war," he told the gathering.

Although the president publicly endorsed adherence to scientific protocols to curb COVID-19, he also continued with his call for Tanzanians to pray and use traditional remedies such as herbal remedies' steam inhalation against the disease.

Underlining his emphasis on prayer, Dr Magufuli said adherence to scientific protocols such as regular hand washing, wearing of masks and social distancing and lockdowns alone does not work.

"Some of the countries that implemented these protocols quite strictly recorded the highest number of COVID-19 infections and fatalities," he pointed out.

He also urged Tanzanians not to allow fear to reign during this period of the pandemic because it has the potential of killing many people more than the disease itself.

He had hammered that message earlier on Friday where he cautioned against fear-mongering, following a series of messages circulated on social media with unsubstantiated information about people suffering from or having died of COVID-19.

At a state funeral service for Chief Secretary John Kijazi at the Karimjee grounds in the city, Dr Magufuli who led the mourners said this was the time for the country to unite. What to fear the most is fear itself, he asserted.



Umy Nderiananga (in headscarf), Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Persons with Disabilities), presents an artificial leg in Iringa municipality yesterday to a person with disability. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

Mtera Dam in partial discharge amid rains

FROM PAGE 1

698.45 metres, with only five centimeters remaining to reach the freeboard level of 698.50m.

Freeboard level is the vertical distance from the normal water surface to the top of the confining wall. When water crosses this level, pumping machines fail to cope and

electricity generation is impaired, he stated.

Engineers are thus forced to reduce the water amount to stabilise the process of generation, where the released water proceeds to Kidatu dam in Morogoro Region, which is close to its tipping point as well, he pointed out, implying that much of this extra water shall flow to the Ju-

lius Nyerere Hydropower reservoir at Rufiji in Coast Region.

Addressing journalists at the Mtera dam site, TANESCO public relations manager Johari Kachwamba, asked residents surrounding the area, among them farmers, pastoralists and fishermen to take precautions on any negative effects that could come up.

TANESCO will continue with periodic updates on the measures, in liaison with local government officials in the Rufiji Basin Development Authority and fisheries officers, she said.

Villagers engaged in various economic activities could then take precautions depending on the situation, she added.

EAC media regulation overall body unveiled

FROM PAGE 1

constitutional meeting which he chaired from Arusha. Currently, EAPCA is made up of Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania press councils or voluntary media regulatory bodies. Mukajanga revealed here that the umbrella body intends to later bring into the fold the other two EAC member states, Burundi and South-Sudan.

The constitution says EAPCA will cover all media councils, press councils and similar bodies in the region, which provide for co-regulatory and self-regulatory mechanisms for the media; print, broadcast or online

Among key objectives of the association is to promote and protect free, independent, professional and responsible media in East Africa, to strengthen independent media regulatory bodies in the region.

It also seeks to create awareness and promote the concept of self-regulation through press councils as a viable option of holding the media accountable in the

region.

The regional media body will also create a forum through which media regulatory bodies may share experiences and exchange information on emerging issues in media regulation, to seek out and raise finance, as appropriate, for these objectives.

It will also undertake all activities as may be determined from time to time in pursuance of objectives of the association, he further noted.

Any media regulatory body in the region that adheres to the objectives of the association can be a member, subject to the approval of the executive council, and if it rejects the request for membership, the decision of the general assembly on that matter shall be final.

Individuals or institutions that are or have been associated with media regulation may be invited by the executive council to become associate members of the association. Such members shall have no voting rights, he added.



Ikungi district commissioner Edward Mpogoro (2nd-R) has a word with members of the district's defence and security committee earlier this week relating to a dispute over land ownership and use involving Ulyampiti and Mwau villages. Photo: Correspondent Jumbo Ismailly

TLS admits ignorance over Human DNA Act

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) has said that some of its members were still ignorant of some of the country's laws including the Human DNA Act no 8 of 2009 affecting them to perform effectively in their day to day duties.

Acting chief executive officer of TLS, Magdalena Mlolele said over the weekend in Dar es Salaam at the capacity building training for advocates.

Organised by the Government Chemist Laboratory Agency (GCLA), the training was attended by more than 100 legal experts. 500 others attended the training through an online platform.

Mlolele said some legal service providers, especially the emerging ones, were not aware of the Act, something which thwarts some of their important duties.

According to her, having enough knowledge of all rules and laws of the country was vital in delivering best services within the community.

"It is unfortunate that some of our members do not know the Act. Today, GCLA has organized the training to build the capacity of the legal services providers including lawyers especially when seeking relevant documents relating to DNA," she said.

"Therefore, it is our hope that the training to build our capacity will be an important tool to members of legal fraternity across the country," she added.

Mlolele said the training will further give them more knowledge which includes knowing the procedures to follow when requesting for relevant documents from the GCLA to be used as evidence in court.

Government lines up planes to hold back locusts

FROM PAGE 1

will be controlled as equipped units the ministry are deployed to control the invasion.

"We are going to use spray planes to kill the desert locusts which have been attacking crops with devastating effect in Longido and Simanjiro districts. Our experts are collaborating with the Tropical Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI), led by Acting Director General Dr Ephraim Njau, he stated.

The minister cautioned residents in the two districts from touching and eating the dead grasshoppers as they are

killed by poison, telling village and ward executive officers to inform the residents on the on-going spraying exercise.

"No one should touch or eat the dead insects," he reiterated, underlining that the government is determined to protect farmers' crops as well as grazing land.

The government has managed to successfully control the fast-moving insects since they were reported to invade some parts of the country earlier last month, he said, acknowledging that desert locusts pose a threat to food security as they devastate broad areas, flying to and eating on areas up to

150 kilometers per day.

He said the grasshoppers' eating capacity differs from one another whereas a single group estimated to have 40 million locusts can destroy crops at an area covering one square kilometer.

Longido district executive director Jumaa Mhina ordered the closure of primary and secondary schools in all the areas where the spraying exercise will be conducted.

The move is meant to protect children from possible poison fallout risks during the four days of the operation, he said.

Longido legislator Dr Steven Kiruswa called upon

the government to speed-up the spraying exercise to save farmers from losing all their crop this season.

"The desert locust invaded our district in the past three days. We appeal for government support to contain them as they are wreaking havoc in our farms," the MP stated, noting also that many of the residents are pastoralists depending on abundant availability of grass to feed the animals.

On Friday, Longido District Commissioner Frank Mwaisumbe was quoted saying the locusts have spread to many parts of the district.

"They were first seen

at the border area near Namanga town and later I got information of these insects being seen in other places" he said.

Last week, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reported immature swarms in Kenya's northern and central counties, and in Kilifi County in upper Coast region. There are a few small immature swarms formed from previous breeding in the Coast region near Lamu and probably in adjacent areas of southern Somalia, the UN agency stated.

Swarms are highly mobile and the same swarm can be sighted several times, thus

some locust concentrations were spotted in parts of the Rift Valley region, Kenya's bread basket.

The swarms of locusts now threaten the livelihoods of millions of people in Kenya as the conflicts in Yemen, Somalia and northern Ethiopia make it difficult for FAO to control the breeding and movement of the pests at the source. FAO attributes the upsurge of locusts to favourable breeding grounds in these countries.

"We are having a second wave because of the favourable breeding weather conditions in Ethiopia and Somalia," said Hamisi Williams, assistant FAO representative in Kenya.

"Yemen seems to be a gateway to the Horn of Africa because when the southerly winds begin to blow, locusts cross over the Red Sea to the Horn of Africa," he said.

"Control measures including aerial spraying and mapping out breeding areas have been hampered by the fighting in Yemen, which is the one of the largest breeding grounds of desert locusts," he pointed out.

Swarms can fly up to 150 kilometres a day with the wind, and a single square kilometre swarm can eat as much food in a day as 35,000 people, experts assert.



Tanzania Livestock Research Institute acting director general Dr Jonas Kizima (in black suit) exchanges views with livestock and fisheries officials during a visit to the institute's centre at Mpwapwa in Dodoma Region at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Mbaraka Kambona

Effect of sunlight on quality, stability of dietary oils is a health risk - TBS

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

EDIBLE oil processors have been advised to improve their selling centers and avoid exposing the products to sunlight because it is against the quality standards set by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

TBS acting director general, Hamis Mwanasala gave the advice over the weekend during special training to cooking oil manufacturers, traders and Mbeya District council executives. He was concerned that exposing the products in the sun affects its quality thus posing health risks to consumers.

He however challenged the edible oil manufacturers to ensure cleanliness throughout the process as the number of consumers increases every day.

"We are also educating on the need to improve packaging of their products as well as putting stickers with all the relevant information including places of production, product owner and contacts," said Mwanasala adding such activities were previously conducted by the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA).

TBS head of communication department, Roida Andusamile said similar training has been conducted in different regions. She said in southern highlands,

they have selected four regions of Mbeya, Iringa, Njombe and Songwe.

She said the training is fully funded by the government, hence participants are not required to pay anything to benefit with the provided education. She said in Mbeya Region, the training will be provided to edible oil manufacturers in Mbeya, Rungwe, Kyela, Chunya and Mbarali Districts. At least 80 participants are expected to attend the training in each of the districts.

"We aim to protect consumers of the products from various health risks likely to be caused by consuming sub-standard products," he added noting that beneficiaries of the training are expected to share the knowledge with their fellows back in the village.

Noah Mkasanga from the Ministry of Industry and Trade said the government is currently encouraging people to increase processing of various crops including sunflower and oil palm seeds. He said participants are also informed on existing laws and policies governing the sector.

"We insist on them to improve the quality to be able to penetrate inside and outside markets," he noted.

Meanwhile, some interviewed processors said the price of edible oil has gone up due to a number of factors including the shortage of sunflower seeds.

Private sector urged to go for CSR activities that promote unity

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

The private sector must include activities that promote national unity in their corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes.

"If the corporate sector could step forward to help civil society on national unity, it would be investing directly in the nation's stability, which was critical for business to flourish and economic activities to grow", said deputy minister Umyy Nderiananga

"The corporate sector has not done much, for example, to promote unity or to help civil society groups to play their role in fostering national unity," she explained.

The corporate sector had made significant contributions in other areas such as the environment, health care education and helping the less privileged, but more could be done for unity.

Speaking here yesterday during an event to distribute artificial limbs to more than 50 PWDs, Deputy Minister

in the Prime Minister's Office responsible for PWDs Umyy Nderiananga called on companies doing business in Tanzania to set aside part of their annual profits to be directed towards PWDs.

Nderiananga noted that government's efforts to ensure that PWDs are closely monitored and provided with essential tools and services cannot reach every needy person in the country hence a need for the private sector to complement the same via various CSR drives.

Currently, the government through councils set aside 10 per cent of total revenue for women (four per cent), youth (four per cent) and PWDs (two per cent).

"It is obvious that government alone cannot do it, neither is the private sector; let's join hands together," she appealed.

The deputy minister said that if adequately empowered, PWDs can be employed or employ themselves and their dependency on family members or donations from

well wishers as main the case.

Yesterday's event was organized by Special Seats MP for Iringa Region (CCM) Dr Ritta Kabati in collaboration with Kamal Group through Empowering People Foundation project.

For her part, Dr Kabati urged PWDs in the region not to be discouraged by their condition since disability is inability or the end of life.

She promised that she will continue to make effort in collaboration with like-minded private sector partners

and individuals to ensure that PWDs in the region are reached and supported so that they can be self-reliant and run their lives.



"I would also like to thank Kamal Group for supporting the community by providing these limbs at no cost. In reality, it is not easy for PWDs to get these artificial legs due to their high prices," she said.

Earlier on, Kamal Group representative Stella Nyaki said that their company has been conducting the exercise of artificial limb distribution

regularly and that in the Iringa Region they reached 51 beneficiaries.

She said that despite enrolling more than 30 needy people at the time of the exercise, the company distributed more than 50 limbs after learning that more PWDs who needed the limbs came up with requests.

"This year we expect to distribute 200 artificial limbs to people with disabilities. These limbs are manufactured here in the country by our Kamal Steel factory in

**REQUEST FOR TENDER
CATERING AND CLEANING SERVICES**

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified and qualified parties to provide catering and cleaning services.

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- Applications should include a covering letter, detailed CV with educational qualifications, a summary of professional experience and a minimum of 2 professional references.

All applications must be physically submitted to the Embassy NOT later than 5th March 2021 with the following address:

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EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
19th Floor, Golden Jubilee Towers, Ohio Street, City Centre, Dar es Salaam**



BOARD MEMBER VACANCIES

CRDB Bank Plc is a leading commercial bank in Tanzania. Established in 1996, the Bank has grown and prospered over the years to become the most innovative and trusted Bank in the country. The Bank attained an important milestone when it was listed on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange on 17th of June, 2009. CRDB Bank Plc owns three subsidiary companies - CRDB Microfinance Services Company Limited, CRDB Bank Burundi S.A. and CRDB Insurance Broker Limited.

The Board of Directors invites applications from suitably qualified candidates to fill two positions of Board Members, one to represent the group of shareholders owning shares below 1% of the share capital of the Bank and one Board Member to represent shareholders owning shares above 1% and below 10% of the share capital of the Bank.

The names of qualified candidates will be submitted to the Annual General Meeting for election.

Requirements

1. A professional banker, insurance professional or accomplished entrepreneur.
2. Management experience and knowledge in either economics, finance, accounting, rural development, agriculture or co operatives.
3. Applicants are required to observe the requirements of Article 77 and Article 91 of the CRDB Bank Memorandum and Articles of Association and Section 70 of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act which, amongst other things, provide for the qualifications that are required for applicants to possess.
4. The applicant should not be a politician, bankrupt, under 21 years of age or more than 70 years of age.

NOTE:

- a. Article 77 of the Bank's MEMARTS states that "Each of the Directors appointed or elected shall be a person with knowledge and experience of either economics or financial matters or of accounting or legal expertise or rural development, agriculture or small scale industries or any other equivalent qualifications. Directors appointed and elected shall be confirmed by the general meeting but such that their appointment shall not be effective until approved by the Bank of Tanzania".
- b. Article 91 of the Bank's MEMARTS states that the Directors shall more specifically:
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 - 91.2 Continuously monitor and evaluate the Bank's strategy to achieve the vision and mission and ensure the Bank survives and thrives.
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 - 91.4 monitor risk identification and its management so as to enhance shareholder value in the long run;
 - 91.5 Select and appoint the Managing Director to whom the responsibility of managing the Bank shall be delegated. The Directors shall review and evaluate the Managing Director's performance regularly".
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Mode of Application

1. Any CRDB Bank shareholder who wishes to be elected as Board member must submit an application letter, curriculum vitae, certified copies of relevant academic and professional certificates and awards, two passport size photographs, certified copies of the last page of their passports, and letters of recommendation from 3 references and declaration of indebtedness to banks.
2. Notification of receipt of application and other details will be sent to all applicants upon receipt of the applications. Applications must be received by 4.00 p.m. on Thursday, 4th March, 2021

The contact for communication is:

The Secretary
CRDB Bank Plc
Office Accommodation Scheme- Azikiwe Street, 4th Floor
P. O. Box 268
Dar-es-Salaam
Tel. no. 022 - 2114237, 2117442 - 7 - Fax or 022 - 2131005
E-mail - John.Rugambo@crdbbank.co.tz or shareholders@crdbbank.co.tz

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

J. B. Rugambo
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Invitation for Tenders

Date: 22/02/20201

1. This Invitation for Tenders follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project which appeared in Zanzibar Leo ISSN 5489 dated 21/08/2021
2. The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar has set aside funds for the operation of the Ministry of Health Social Welfare, Elderly, Gender and Children Zanzibar during the financial year 2020-2021. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the fund will be used to cover eligible payments under the contract for the Supply of Office furniture for Zanzibar Health Research Institute at Binguni (ZAHRI)
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4. Tendering will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding procedures specified in the Public Procurement (Goods, Works and Disposal of Public Assets by Tender) Regulations, 2006 – Government Notice No. 62 and are open to all Tenderers as defined in the Regulations.
5. Interested eligible Tenderers may obtain further information from and inspect the Tendering Documents at the office of the Procurement Management Unit (PMU), Ministry of Health, Social Welfare, Elderly, Gender and Children P.O.BOX 236 Makumbusho Road Mnazi Mmoja Zanzibar from 8:00am up to 3:30pm local time, on Monday to Friday inclusive except on public holidays.
6. A complete set of Tendering Document(s) in English language and additional sets may be purchased by interested Tenderers on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 5 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of 100,000/= . Payment should be by Cash, to the Peoples Bank of Zanzibar (PBZ) account number 0707968000
7. All Tenders must be accompanied by a Tender security in an acceptable form in the amount of 2% of contract price or freely convertible currencies.
8. All tenders in one original with two copies, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the address below PMU office at Ministry of health, Social Welfare, Elderly, Gender and Children Zanzibar at or before 10:00 am 18/03/2021. Tenders will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of Tenderers' representatives who choose to attend in the opening at the Ministry of health Social Welfare, Elderly, Gender and Children Zanzibar at conference room.
9. Late Tenders, Portion of Tenders, Electronic Tenders, Tenders not received, Tenders not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.



TANZANIA-ZAMBIA RAILWAY AUTHORITY Head Office

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) is a Statutory Institution owned by the two Governments of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Zambia on a 50/50 share holding basis. With the registered Head Office being in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, TAZARA has two Regional Administrative Centres – one in Mpika, Zambia and

the other in Dar es Salaam. Some senior management positions (listed below) have fallen vacant at the Head Office and at the Regional Office in Tanzania. Suitably qualified nationals of Tanzania and Zambia are encouraged to apply for the underlisted management positions.

1.0 CHIEF MECHANICAL ENGINEER (CME)

Reporting to : Managing Director
Salary Scale : TSG 14
Location : Head Office, Dar es Salaam
Number of Positions : One (1)
Job Purpose :

The CME is responsible for planning, controlling and coordinating all activities pertaining to the repair, maintenance and operation of locomotives, rolling stock and related mechanical equipment, in order to optimise their availability and reliability as well as enhancing their life span at minimum cost.

Key Responsibilities:

- Directs the design preparation and specifications for rolling stock and related mechanical equipment, including guidelines for performance standards desired in order to ensure conformity to mechanical engineering principles;
- Develops and implements cost effective maintenance and repair plans, and priorities in order to ensure availability of adequate, reliable and efficient rolling stock and related, mechanical equipment and machinery capable of handling TAZARA's present and projected volume of traffic;
- Approves comprehensive schedules for rolling stock operations based on traffic demands, mechanical conditions of locomotives, wagons and coaches etc, ensuring that schedules are not at cross purpose with maintenance plans;
- Recommends approval for purchase of spare parts and materials for maintenance and project work for rolling stock and other equipment and machinery in order to ensure continuity of operations;
- Authorises modifications and conversions of existing rolling stock and other related mechanical equipment, ensuring that such modifications or conversions are economical and conform to appropriate specifications and safety standards;
- Sets performance targets for major mechanical engineering works within TAZARA and continuously monitors actual performance against those targets initiating remedial actions where deviations are noticed in order to maintain acceptable levels of job performance; and
- Evaluates and reviews maintenance procedures, standards and programmes and provides guidance on technical problems, changes etc. to overcome shortfalls.

Core Skills and Competencies:

- Goal-oriented and able to work independently to achieve results, as well as able to collaborate with a diverse team of players;
- Able to write analytical and technical reports;
- Strong interpersonal, communication and leadership skills;
- Ability to manage and prioritize tasks and projects; and
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills.

Qualifications and Experience:

- Form IV/VI Certificate of Tanzania or Grade 12 Certificate of Zambia;
- Bachelor's degree in Mechanical/Electrical Engineering, or its equivalent, from a reputable University;
- Ten (10) years relevant experience, four (4) of which must be at Senior level in the railway industry;
- Not less than 35 years of age;
- A Post Graduate Degree in Business Administration or any related field, will be an added advantage; and
- Full Member of the Engineers Registration Board (ERB) of Tanzania or the Engineering Institute of Zambia (EIZ).

2.0 MARKETING MANAGER (MM)

Reporting to : Managing Director
Salary Scale : TSG 14
Location : Head Office, Dar es Salaam
Number of Positions : One (1)
Job Purpose :

The MM formulates, directs and controls marketing systems in order to sustain operations of the Authority and ensures the Authority meets its profit goals and objectives.

Key Responsibilities:

- Formulates, reviews and controls short and long term marketing plans to meet the needs of customers and the Authority;
- Develops and implements suitable tariff structures in order to enhance the Authority's earnings;
- Reviews marketing policies in order to determine their effectiveness and as a way of responding to the changing marketing situations;
- Directs the development of policies for monitoring the performance of freight and passenger services of the Cost and Profit Centres;
- Motivates and promotes positive attitude to work among employees, particularly those under the marketing umbrella; and
- Prepares annual budgets and ensures that the department operates within the approved allocations.

Core Skills and Competencies:

- Strong interpersonal, communication and leadership skills;
- Ability to manage and prioritize tasks and projects;
- Good understanding of applicable tax, pension and other statutory obligations;
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills; and
- Must be a team player.

Qualifications and experience:

- Form IV/VI Certificate of Tanzania or Grade 12 Certificate of Zambia;
- A Degree in Marketing or Business Administration;
- A Post-Graduate Degree in Business Administration, MSc Economics or related fields, will be an added advantage;
- Ten (10) years of relevant experience at senior level;
- Registered member of an appropriate professional body; and
- Not less than 35 years of age.

3.0 HEAD INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (HIT)

Reporting to : Managing Director
Salary Scale : TSG 13
Location : Head Office, Dar es Salaam
Number of Positions : One (1)
Job Purpose :

The HIT develops, implements and reviews the Information Communication Technology (ICT) policies and procedures, to monitor their effectiveness in the organisation through the provision of reliable IT infrastructure and application systems that are responsive to the needs and demands of the Authority.

Key Responsibilities:

- Develops and implements the ICT strategic and operational plans aligned with the organisation's

strategic direction;

- Develops, implements and oversees the organization's ICT security structure, Risk Assessment, strategy, Disaster Recovery Plan, and business continuity plans in order to secure information and records;
- Ensures that all necessary ICT tools, processes and systems are in place to meet the requirements of the business and contribute to the achievement of the organisation's short, medium and long term goals;
- Manages all ICT related projects within the organisation, ensuring that they are delivered to required standards and on time in order to provide high quality ICT systems and services;
- Develops and manages the planning and budgeting for the ICT services to ensure that appropriate resources are made available for the provision of best ICT services that are in line with organizational growth;
- Supervises the ICT staff and conducts annual staff appraisals, ensuring that any training and development needs within the department are identified and implemented; and
- Participates in core strategic plans of the organisation.

Core Skills and Competencies:

- Sound understanding of computer systems, networks, security, telecommunications, databases and storage systems;
- Strong interpersonal, communication and leadership skills;
- Ability to manage and prioritize tasks and projects;
- Solid working knowledge of all relevant coding languages and security protocols;
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills; and
- Must be a team player.

Qualifications and experience:

- Form IV/VI Certificate of Tanzania or Grade 12 Certificate of Zambia;
- Degree in Computer Sciences/Information Management System or its equivalent;
- A post graduate qualification will be an added advantage;
- Eight years of relevant experience, five of which should be at Senior Management level;
- Not less than 35 years of age;
- Registered member of the Information Communication Technology Commission (ICTC) in Tanzania or Computer Society of Zambia (CSZ) in Zambia.

4.0 HEAD FINANCE (HF)

Reporting to : Regional General Manager
Salary Scale : TSG 13
Location : Regional Office (Tanzania), Dar es Salaam
Number of Positions : One (1)
Job Purpose :

The HF is responsible for managing and controlling accounting functions for the Regional Office with a view to monitoring and advising the Regional General Manager on the utilisation of finances and maximisation of Revenue/Income.

Key Responsibilities:

- Coordinates and controls the accounting functions in the Region ensuring that works being performed are in accordance with acceptable financial and management accounting practices, procedures, principals and policies of the Authority;
- Advises the Regional General Manager on the liquidity position, financial commitments/obligations and general management of funds;
- Coordinates and authorises all payments for the Cost and Profit Centre;
- Prepares and submits monthly, quarterly and annual financial reports, including Trading Accounts, Profit and Loss Accounts, Balance Sheets, Liquidity Statements, Bank Balances and Debtors/Creditors Reports;
- Prepares Internal Accounts and Cash Flow Statements;
- Prepares adhoc reports for the Regional General Manager reflecting the liquidity position;
- Liaises constantly with colleagues in other units and the Head Office and participates in inter unit reconciliation exercises;
- Sources for funds through contacts with the Head Office and Banks; and
- Confers and participates in all regional management meetings aimed at reviewing strategies and charting new courses of action.

Core Competencies:

- Proficiency in Pastel Accounting Package, Macro Payroll and Microsoft office applications;
- Strong interpersonal, communication and leadership skills;
- Ability to manage and prioritize tasks and projects;
- Good understanding of applicable tax, pension and other statutory obligations;
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Must be a team player.

Qualifications and experience:

- Form IV/VI Secondary School Certificate;
- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting plus be a Qualified Chartered Accountant with a recognized global body e.g. CPA, ACCA, CIMA;
- Eight years, three of which should be at Senior Accountant/Auditor, as relevant experience;
- Not more than 45 years of age;
- Post Graduate Degree in Business Administration or related field, will be an added advantage; and
- Full member of the National Board of Accountant and Auditors (NBAA) in Tanzania.

Conditions of Service:

TAZARA conditions of service will apply. All the above appointments are on permanent and pensionable basis.

Mode of Application:

Only candidates who meet the specified requirements need apply to the address indicated below, enclosing their detailed curriculum vitae, certified copies of educational certificates, names and addresses of three traceable referees. Closing date for receiving application letters is 19 March 2021.

Notes:

- Female applicants are encouraged to apply.
- Only short-listed candidates will be communicated to.
- Faxed or electronic applications will NOT be accepted.

The Human Resources Manager
Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA)
Head Office, Julius Nyerere Road
P.O. Box 2834
DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA



Students of Morogoro Region's Lupanga and Kihonda secondary schools pictured at the weekend moving desks and tables donated by NMB Bank Plc. The bank also donated equipment and supplies to education and health institutions in Dodoma, Morogoro and Singida worth 50m/-. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Local investors out to counter dependency on mining sector

By Correspondent Ambrose

Wantaiwa, Tarime

TANZANIAN investors have ventured into sunflower growing and processing alongside dairy farming in the outskirts of Nyamongo township next to Mara Gold Mine to provide alternative jobs for youth in an area dependent on mining.

The investment involves the establishment of a 1,200-acre land known as Murito Farm set for sunflower farming and processing as well as the cattle ranch section for both dairy and beef rearing.

Executive Director of the indigenous-owned company from the small town of Nyamongo, Mwita Isaack, said during the launch of the ranch at the weekend that the main purpose of establishing the project was to enable people, especially young people, to become economically self-suf-

ficient. "Every now and then, there are stories of clashed—some violent—over works at the mine. We hope that alternative job opportunities provided by a project like this is the best solution," he said.

He said in recent days people living near the North Mara gold mine have been raiding the mine in search of gold and risking their lives on a regular basis due to the lack of alternative economic alternatives to mining.

He said the sunflower project with more than 300 head of cattle will enable more than 1,500 young people to be employed in informal employment as well as be trained in good farming techniques in collaboration with Tarime Council agricultural experts.

"In the past, some people living near the Nyamongo mine, especially young people, have lost their income after many areas were taken over for large investments and forced to en-

ter the mine reserve regularly, thus risking their lives to mine guards for no reason". Said Mwita.

He said the aim of establishing a livestock project in those areas includes the high demand for cattle products including meat and dairy where the mine uses the commodities more on daily basis.

Citing some of the challenges facing the indigenous people to set up small industries include the existence of demands of pre-investment taxes as well as the lack of raw materials needed to withstand production activities thus causing many industries to collapse.

Kemambo ward Councilor Rashid Bogomba said many people from the ward's villages, especially in the North Mara mine area, must learn to set up agricultural and entrepreneurship projects to build their economy once the mining is completed in the next few years.

Mbeya City Council to collect 74.9bn/- in 2021/22 fiscal year

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MBEYA City Council is planning to collect a total of 74.9bn/- in the 2021/22 fiscal year from internal revenue sources including tax collections, the city's executive director Amede Ng'wanidako has said.

The director said here during the councilors meeting at the weekend to discuss the budget proposals and estimates for the forthcoming fiscal year.

He said among the funds, 16.6bn/ will be from internal revenue, 49.5bn/-, a grant from the central government for staff salaries, 1.6bn/- is for recurrent expenditure and 3.5bn/- is the implementation of several projects.

"The council expects to receive 2.8bn/- to finance free education programme. We also expect to collect 1.2bn/- from the community to support implementation of various development projects," he said.

The city's director called on the councilors to support the council and enable it to achieve its goals so as to facilitate the implementation of development projects in various wards in the city.

Some of the councilors urged the city's management to supervise and ensure that the budget plan is implemented well so as to transform the city.

Humphrey Ngalawa, Iwambi councillor said the council's executives and staff have to work hard to achieve the revenue collection target so as to build trust to the public.

"We have to ensure that we implement what we promised during the 2020 General Elections, people are just waiting to see if we will do what we said during our campaigns, so let us work hard to bring changes in the city," he said.

Mary Malema, Special Seats councilor said the budget proposal has prioritized improvement in the education sector which includes construction of enough classrooms and toilets in primary and secondary schools.

"Education is one of the essential and sensitive areas which needs intensive investments as it carries the future of our children and the nation at large, unfortunately, the sector is facing several challenges which have been affecting development of the sector," she said.

Mbeya city Mayor Sheikh Douk Issa Mohammed urged the councilors to support the government in educating the public on the importance of taking preventive measures to fight respiratory diseases.

TARI set to establish grape research lab in Makutupora

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) is implementing a project for 297m/- state-of-the art training laboratory at Makutupora centre, which upon completion will help to train researchers in grapes industry.

TARI director at Makutupora Centre, Dr Cornel Massawe said that the lab was yet another milestone in agricultural research in the country.

Dr Massawe was speaking recently during a media tour organised by the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), to inspect various research projects funded by the government.

COSTECH is funding many projects across the country which target at helping policy makers to plan for the country's development.

According to Dr Massawe, about 297m/- was provided by the government via the commission, adding that with the modern lab, farmers would be able to get seedlings that will bring positive end products which in turn will help the country in realizing its ambitious industrialization agenda.

Speaking at the same occasion, TARI researcher in the department of Agriculture and Economy, Devotha Mchau, said that the government was highly concerned in investing in grapes farming, which she insisted, a farmer could have an increase of up to 50per cent in grapes farming if he/she could maintain the farm according to researches undertaken by her institution.

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Agnes Makono (R) of Bukondamoyo village in Kahama District, who is one of the beneficiaries of financial support from the Tanzania Social Action Fund (Tasaf), shows the agency's information officer, Estom Sanga, around her sugarcane farm at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Ensure customers are reimbursed on time, TIRA tells insurance companies

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

TANZANIA Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) has challenged insurance companies to ensure timely customers claim reimbursement.

TIRA acting director for planning, research and marketing development, Zakaria Muyengi made the statement in Arusha over the weekend when speaking at an event to launch the new insurance scheme that targets maize farmers. He said there are some insurance companies which have been delaying repayment of customer claims and sometimes they don't pay them at all.

"May I call upon insurance companies to ensure timely customers claim repayment; We will now start inspecting each of the companies to ensure all the customers' claims are paid in accordance with the laws," he noted.

He urged the firms to also assist farmers to add value to their agricultural produce as well as searching for markets outside the country. He said apart from covered by insurance services, farmers require a reliable market for the crops.

Muyengi challenged the insurance companies to also provide education to farmers across the country on the importance of registering for crop

insurance since it would protect them against the loss of their crops due to natural disasters, such as climate change, drought, floods, uncontrollable pests and theft.

Jubilee Insurance Manager for Service Development, Hussein Nassoro said they have launched the new insurance scheme for maize farmers to protect them against losses caused by natural disasters. He said the company will pay farmers in case they incur losses in certain agricultural seasons.

He said to register for the service, farmers are required to submit their details electronically whereas they will be provided with various agricultural information including crop prices, weather and conditions.

"With the electronic registration system, we can easily get farmers information and be able to process their claims on time as we will be aware of all the loss incurred in a specific agricultural season."

According to Nassoro, the company will also assist farmers to get quality certified seeds and modern agricultural inputs.

Jubilee Insurance Executive Director, Dipankar Acharya said the new insurance scheme will be applicable for all maize farmers across the country.

Tanzania commends tripartite relationship relating to Universal Periodical Review

By Correspondent Kenneth

Simbaya

THE government has commended the tripartite relationship on working on Universal Periodical Review (UPR) recommendations given to Tanzania at a second country circle review circle in 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland.

UPR is a Human Right Council mechanism to review on periodical basis, the fulfillment by each of the 193 United Nations Member States of their human rights obligations and

commitments.

Opening the Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) UPR report validation workshop held recently in Morogoro Region, Amon Mpanju, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs, said he has been impressed by the cooperation between government, CSOs and Tanzania Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRGG) on addressing UPR recommendation as given to Tanzania by the United Nations in Geneva in 2016.

"Unlike the previous circle, this time around am very impressed on how you are working together to come up with your CSO report that you aim to present to the UN soon," Mpanju said.

"I urge you to reflect the reality, and make sure that your report is supported by evidence, and not hearsays as am aware that the government has done a lot," he said, noting that since the last review the government has addressed, a lot of the recommendations, therefore CSOs thematic groups should

reach government ministries to gather data for reporting so that the CSOs report reflect what has actually been done since the last review.

Tanzania is fully committed and promises that Tanzania shall not waver in her commitments towards human rights as enshrined in the country's Constitution and human rights instruments ratified by the State, challenges will be there but through working together like this challenges will be surmounted, according to Mpanju.

The thematic areas present

at the workshop, according to Legal and Human Rights Center (LHRC) Executive Director Anna Henga were: Freedom of expression and the right to information, women's rights, civil society and human rights defenders, general human rights and political rights, pastoralist and indigenous communities, social and economic rights, women's rights, and child rights among others.

According to Henga, the activity aims at ensuring that recommendations and decisions by human rights mech-

anisms and bodies are implemented so as to improve respect, protection, and fulfillment of all human rights for all in the country.

Speaking at the workshop Fatuma Khalfan one of the commissioners from Tanzania Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance, said that UPR process is important and everyone is a stakeholder.

"The Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance is proud to be working with SCOs and other stakeholders to make sure

that the country fulfills its human rights obligations," Fatuma said.

On behalf of CHRGG, Fatuma pledged continued collaboration with CSOs and other stakeholders on monitoring the fulfillment of human rights obligations by the government.

"As we all know the objective of UPR is to strengthen human rights in respective UN Member States countries, but human rights issues are cross-cutting everyone has a responsibility to ensure that human rights are promoted and protected," Fatuma intoned.

Govt hails NGOs' euro 100 million agriculture boost

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has expressed gratitude to four non governmental organisations (NGOs) undertaking projects costing more than Euro 100 million (over 200bn/-) meant to unlock tea, coffee and horticulture farming in the country.

Deputy minister for Agriculture, Hussein Bashe, appreciated the Agri-Connect, Solidaridad, IDF-Tanzania and Markup plans after their presentations on how they are going to carry out their programmes scheduled to take place in four years, that have also components of establishing tea auction in the country related to government plans to start the market in March this year.

"The auction market will help tea farmers to use the eternal facilities to export their products instead of using the old style of transporting all the way to Mombasa market which was underpaying Tanzanian products even if it was in the same quality like Kenya," he said.

Bashe (pictured) asked the organisation leaders to support another move of the government scheduled to establish Kurasini Trade Centre Project of which is to be a One Stop Centre to assist producers of many products to acquire certification to meet inter-



national standards before they are exported to the world market as competitive products.

The deputy minister told journalists that the discussion between the ministry and the organization was still underway to know the modality on how they were going to support the government move to establish auction and Kurasini One Stop Centre targeting to harmonize the direct transportations of their product to the international market.

He directed the Agriculture Permanent Secretary to prepare the catalogue of activities, programmes and plans available in the ministry for all investors coming to have in their fingertips all the details to avoid duplicate of resources, time and brain to the same project previously implemented by other organizations.

He further asked all organisation leaders who presented their projects and plans to think on how they would reduce administration costs and meeting funds, and instead direct those resources to essential activities which directly affect the farmer's sustainability.

Presenting his project Agro Connect Project, Colin Scott said the project facilitated by European Union (EU) targets to use Euro 100 million for numerous activities supporting 22,000 Southern Highland smallholder's tea farmers from Mufindi, Njombe and Rungwe to unlock their product, improve their income and nutrition's as to reach fast in the European

Union Market.

The presenter from IDF-Tz Mtemi Miya told the deputy minister their plan to support farmers improving the quality and innovation of tea to more than 150,000 villages by preparing demo plots for coffee plants and producing 6,000 seedlings to transplant to their farms.

During his presentation, the director of Solidaridad Organization, Godlove Nderingo told the deputy minister that their plan was to support farmers 7,000 from Unguja na Pemba, Mbeya, Ruvuma, Songwe and Ruvuma through their cooperatives to acquire buyers of their products and then providing certifications of the product to meet international standards as to be accepted by users in Europe and other continents.

Information Technology officer from Markup, Safari Fungo said their organization deals with several of products from East African countries Tanzania inclusive, said their strategy is to support Tanzanian farmers cultivating avocado, cocoa, coffee, species and horticulture and tea to know their fellow countries in the block as to improve their products, uproot blocks and other stumbling blocks as the county product to be competitive in the international market.

CONDOLENCES

R.I.P

Hon. Maalim Seif Sharif Hamad
1943 2021

Hon. Ambassador John William Kijazi
1956 2021

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of **National Housing Corporation (NHC)** have received with great sadness news of the deaths of the First Vice President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, **Hon Maalim Seif Sharif Hamad** and Chief Secretary **Hon. Ambassador John William Kijazi**. We offer our condolences to the President of the United Republic of Tanzania **H.E. Dr John Pombe Magufuli** and President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar. **H.E. Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi**. Family, relatives, friends and all Tanzanians following the deaths of the two leaders.

May GOD rest the souls of the deceased in Peace. AMEN

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The Guardian

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MONDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2021

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

Let's make adaptive approach arrest stunting among children

MALNUTRITION prevalence remains alarming as stunting is declining too slowly while wasting still impacts the lives of far too many young children. Nearly half of all deaths in children under 5 are attributable to undernutrition. Undernutrition puts children at greater risk of dying from common infections, increases the frequency and severity of such infections, and delays recovery. Poor nutrition in the first 1,000 days of a child's life can also lead to stunted growth, which is associated with impaired cognitive ability and reduced school and work performance.

The Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) was established under the Seed Act No. 18 of 2003 as a successor to Tanzania Official Seed Certification Agency (TOSCA), which is a government entity under the Ministry of Agriculture. TOSCI is responsible for verification of new crop varieties for official release and certification of seeds produced for sale in the country. The Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute Uyoile Centre (TARI-Uyoile) in Mbeya Region has embarked on the reduction of malnutrition in the country by producing quality seeds for the cultivation of maize, beans and potatoes that are nutritious especially to children. Such production of seeds will surely reduce stunting among our children.

Stunted growth is a reduced growth rate in human development. It is a primary manifestation of malnutrition (or more precisely undernutrition) and

recurrent infections, such as diarrhoea and helminthiasis, in early childhood and even before birth, due to malnutrition during fetal development brought on by a malnourished mother. The definition of stunting according to the World Health Organization (WHO) is for the height for age value to be less than two standard deviations of the WHO Child Growth Standards median.

As of 2012 an estimated 162 million children under 5 years of age, or 25 per cent, were stunted. More than 90 per cent of the world's stunted children live in Africa and Asia, where respectively 36 per cent and 56 per cent of children are affected. Once established, stunting and its effects typically become permanent. Stunted children may never regain the height lost as a result of stunting, and most children will never gain the corresponding body weight. Living in an environment where many people defecate in the open due to lack of sanitation, is an important cause of stunted growth in children, for example in India. We commend TARI-Uyoile for the decision to come up with the strategy due to the malnutrition problem in the country hence through these foods the problem of stunting will be reduced to a great extent.

According to TARI-Uyoile will continue producing seeds from modern technology that withstand drought and pests as well as increasing farmers yields. TARI-Uyoile is conducting research on beans seeds of various types including those with nutrient content and have already come up with 42 types since research began.

Shift to digital economy should leave no country, person behind

IT is crucial to ensure that any transition to a digital economy has mechanisms in place that are non-digital to avoid double exclusion, according to the social protection department at the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

ILO panel addressed the issue of social protection and the transition to a green and digital economy - a side-event of the ongoing United Nations 59th session of the Commission for Social Development. An important topic during the panel was how social protection systems could have helped societies cope better with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Social protection floors can reduce vulnerabilities and it can protect those impacted by a digital and green transformation. There has been a massive rise of social protection responses under the pandemic. More specifically, 209 countries implemented or announced 1,596 social protection measures by end of November 2020. It's critical now more than ever to invest in social protection systems. We must globally highlight the importance of taking into account the most vulnerable communities when discussing social protection systems - especially those affected by climate change.

Global commitment is really around reaching those furthest behind and those who are most vulnerable are also vulnerable to the impact of climate change. So it's really critical to ensure that social protections are effectively designed to take into account mitigating climate impact and supporting adaptations.

The momentum is really behind social protection systems, so it's really about - how do countries take this further and sustain

this momentum to build much more resilient communities? But questions remain about the possibility of a successful transition to a digital economy in a world where there's a glaring digital divide - one that has become even more pronounced under the pandemic.

The digital gaps are concerning and if social protection transfers rely entirely on digital mechanisms then they are likely to exclude those without adequate access to such technologies. It is important therefore that non-digital mechanisms are also available for those who would otherwise face a double exclusion.

There is need for a human-centred approach to the future of the world - one that would prioritise investing in job skills and social protection, and making sure all workers are protected and can benefit from changes in the labour market. It means investing in the institutions of the labour market and adopting policies that promote an enabling environment for sustainable enterprises, economic growth and decent work for all. The main objective is to ensure the highest possible participation in the workforce and a good quality of employment, including in the digital age.

The importance of designing a social safety net that would be accessible to everyone, and flexible labour market regulation, well-functioning social partnership, and active labour market policies would be crucial for structural change. But some challenges remain to be addressed. Going forward, a big question is how effectively they can turn these temporary measures into proper programmes anchored in policies and laws and backed by adequate financing.

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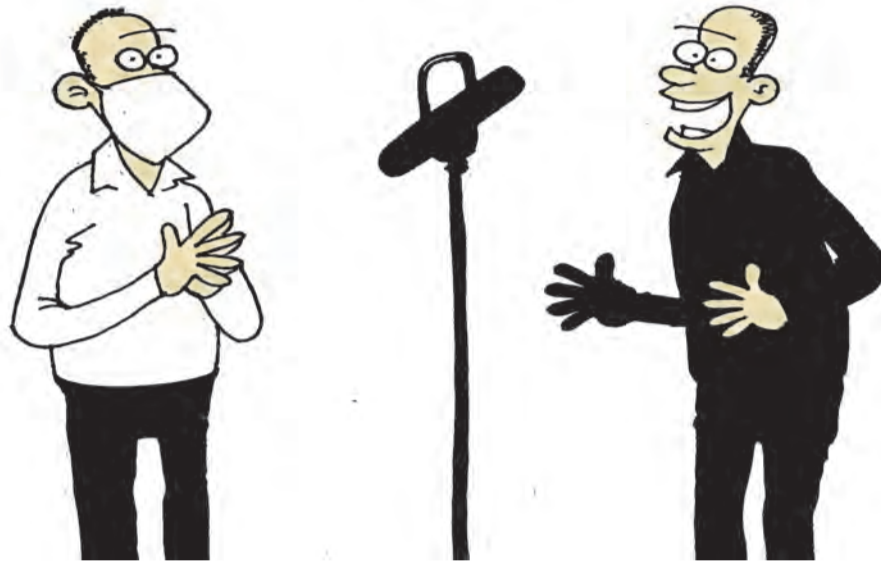
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The DEBATE

Masks against No Masks



Africa's indigenous languages vs colonial tongues

By Harrison Mwilima

AFRICAN nations need to cut their reliance on colonial languages and invest in local ones. This will remove barriers to education and help the continent keep its diverse identities, says DW's Harrison Mwilima.

The International Mother Tongue Day on February 21, we should remind fellow Africans that the threat of language disappearance is extremely high on the continent.

Africa is estimated to have 2,140 distinct languages or one third of all languages in the world despite only having one seventh of the global population.

Some 100 of these are endangered. With the death of each language, a well of knowledge is lost.

Rich in languages, but poor in using them

Those countries with a particularly high number of mother tongues include Nigeria with 515, Cameroon with 274, the Democratic Republic of Congo with 212 and Tanzania with 125.

Despite its linguistic richness, most African countries use ex-colonial tongues or Arabic as their official languages.

One reason for this is the artificial borders imposed by colonialism that many African nations have.

In some cases, these lock disparate languages and communities together and in other cases, the borders separate linguistically and culturally similar groups.

When independence finally came, African leaders had to decide how to unite dif-

ferent peoples inside these inherited colonial borders.

Most chose to adopt a colonial language - French, English or Portuguese - for purposes of unity, even though this is an ironical choice given that these languages are symbolical of so much division, separation and pain.

Tanzania tried a different path

Few countries have an African language as their official language. Rwanda has Kinyarwanda, Lesotho has Sotho but one of the best known examples is probably Tanzania, which chose Kiswahili as a national language.

Kiswahili, a major Bantu language spoken in East Africa, is the most widely spoken language on the African continent.

Tanzania also adopted English as the formal language for international communication and its common for someone in Tanzania to speak two or three languages - their mother tongue, or home language spoken in their village, then Kiswahili and English.

The adoption of both Kiswahili and

English also influences Tanzania's education system.

English as a barrier to education Learning in primary public schools takes place in Kiswahili whereas from secondary school to university, the education system suddenly switches to English.

This can seriously impair learning for those who have little English exposure. With the rise of Kiswahili as a lingua franca in Tanzania, English levels in general are falling. But people living in rural areas or from poorer backgrounds who have even less exposure to English are especially disadvantaged - leading to worse marks and, in turn, less chance of a good job.

Because of these challenges, the use of English has long been a source of debate in Tanzania.

Saving African mother languages The case of Tanzania highlights the challenges faced by major African languages.

On the one hand, using African languages in education systems could improve educational outcomes.

On the other hand, this would require countries investing in quality educational materials and research that would allow Africans to learn in their own languages at post-primary level.

I am not saying Africans shouldn't learn European languages or Arabic.

But I believe it is vital to invest in one's own tongues before understanding others.

Language is not only a tool of communication, but also part and parcel of our identity.

To recover our African special identity, nations need to ensure that people can learn and communicate effectively in their own languages.

Up to now, more than 60 years after the first African nation gained independence, our countries are still defined according to their ex-colonial languages: they are referred to as Anglophone, Francophone or Portuguese speaking Lusophone nations.

One day, I look forward to rather seeing an Afrophone Africa that effectively uses its richness and diversity of languages.

A deluge of private universities

By Special Correspondent

THE recent approval by the federal government of additional 20 private universities ordinarily should be a welcome development since it brings the total number of such institutions to 99.

But there are genuine concerns by critical stakeholders on the implications of proliferation of these institutions of higher learning in our country.

There are also several pertinent questions particularly about private universities and they include: What are the standards required to establish one? Who is accrediting the courses? What are the minimum infrastructure requirements?

While the federal government can continue to license any qualified person or group to run a uni-

versity, it is more important to pay attention to the worrisome state of these academic institutions.

The proliferation of private universities, according to the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), bodes ill for the system because standard is being compromised.

"Most of these private universities are unleashed on Nigerians without concrete and realistic human resource development plans," said ASUU president, Biodun Ogunyemi. "So, they poach on academics in older universities to attract them mostly as visiting, part-time and adjunct lecturers. The few permanent lecturers in most of these private universities are employed under conditions that are not labour friendly."

In as much as we are not opposed

to the idea of private universities, we agree with the summation of ASUU about standard. We abhor the current cynical approach to education in Nigeria and that explains why we have been calling for a total overhaul of the sector. That of course will go beyond the universities, private or public.

There are many more questions to pose but the main worry stems from the fact that the sheer incompetence in tackling the problems in the existing public universities is being waived by this reckless recourse to all manner of low-standard private universities. Lecturers who can't hold their own as senior lecturers in respectable universities are being hired as professors and even vice chancellors in some of these universities. The same thing that happened with

the banks when we had close to a hundred of them is now happening with universities.

Ordinarily, the increase in the numbers of universities need not be a matter for alarm if several other questions are posed and answered satisfactorily, namely: Are there adequate and equal numbers of high quality technical colleges? Are there competitive 'community colleges' supported by, and relevant to, needs of local authorities for training locally required personnel? Are local communities involved in monitoring the quality of the culture of learning, quality of favourably remunerated teaching and administrative staff? Are local primary and secondary schools endowed with quality staff, infrastructure, teaching material and innovative teachers?

World needs need skilful humble leaders to create an order with sustainable solutions

By Piyushi Kotecha

It is time for a new kind of leadership to emerge – leadership that thinks globally and locally, tenaciously guided by both a pragmatic and visionary *modus operandi*, leadership that blends strength with humility, leadership that does not amass power for the sake of power.

It is traditional at the start of any year to seek lessons from the prior year and use them to plan for the 12 months ahead. As we set out to do so, the world was confronted with the implications of the storming of the US Capitol in Washington, DC, by people intent on overturning the results of a democratic election.

The breach of the Capitol, and the subsequent and ongoing revelations that suggest insurrection through the heavy-handed hubris among protesters, signify yet another example of a rise in intolerance across the world, and the diminishing sense of unity and purpose for just and open societies.

Wherever we live, we may disagree. That is part and parcel of human society. But we should never lose sight of the values of democracy. Integral to democracy is a solemn pact to abide by the will of the majority. This is not what we are witnessing in the US. Yet, we are clearly seeing deeply politicised and localised responses to other global challenges, including Covid-19 and climate change.

It is time for a new kind of leadership to emerge in the world and we all have a personal responsibility to ensure this happens. We call for leadership that thinks globally and locally, tenaciously guided by both a pragmatic and visionary *modus operandi*, leadership that blends strength with humility, leadership that does not seek to amass power for the sake of power.

In short, leadership that creates a world order in which solutions are generated, as advocated by founder of the Desmond & Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation, Archbishop Desmond Tutu. In his own words, “do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world”.

To overcome the many challenges we face, collectively and individually, we need skilful, dexterous leadership. Without humility, leaders can embody none of these attributes. Humble leaders listen more effectively, appreciating and welcoming others’ informed opinions and contributions.

Leadership with humility acknowledges that the world is too complex for any one person to know everything, and is open to new ideas and learning from mistakes. Humility requires a strong sense of self and results in a focus on a goal outside one’s own success. Without the attributes that humility brings, leaders often revert to authoritarianism and fearmongering, neither of which will enable us to overcome complex adversaries such as pandemics and climate change.

We must urge our leaders to think nimbly, act selflessly and find sustainable solutions to current challenges.



When social and political systems are unjust, deep fractures will always surface starkly. They are showing again, in our responses to Covid-19, in our responses to injustice, in our responses to climate change. We exhort humility, guided by selfless action and purposeful solutions to address public good in this perilous phase of our lifetime.

The year 2020 revealed deep chasms

in all our societies globally. However, we have never been in a better position to work together to ensure that tomorrow is a better place.

We have had our collective vulnerability emphatically demonstrated to us. We have no choice. We can no longer continue doing the same things we have always done.

We call for a peaceful transition of

power and an end to violence in the US. We call on the leaders of that country to overcome division, selfishness, discontent and arrogance. We call for truth, justice and meaningful reconciliation.

We, again, urge the world to heed the words of Archbishop Tutu: “Forgiving and being reconciled to our enemies or our loved ones is not about pretending that things are other than they are. It is

not about patting one another on the back and turning a blind eye to the wrong.

“True reconciliation exposes the awfulness, the abuse, the hurt, the truth. It could even sometimes make things worse. It is a risky undertaking, but in the end, it is worthwhile, because only an honest confrontation with reality can bring real healing. Superficial reconciliation can bring only superficial healing.”

The formal process of truth and reconciliation we went through in South Africa, as well as our ongoing societal processes, mean that we know the importance of uncovering the truth before we can be reconciled and that a process of restorative justice must be undertaken to heal the rift in a divided society.

Leaders and civil society should not continue to foster division – we must uncover the ugly excesses driven by selfish arrogance, root them out and ensure that we make reparation to those affected. Those responsible for division, greed and injustice must be held accountable.

We must all heed the lessons from both South Africa and the US. A society that is divided profoundly will fracture.

In August last year, we wrote about the shame of Covid-19 corruption in South Africa and warned then that “it is incumbent on all of us to drag the corrupt from the dark corners they hide in, into the light”. We reiterate this warning and call for our leaders to act fearlessly and swiftly in creating a South Africa in which the voiceless are given voices and the divided are united.

We call upon the leaders of the world to heed the lessons from the US and to act with integrity and courage, humbly acknowledging the great faith we have put in them when we elected them and entrusted them with power.

How are Nigerians surviving?

By Olanrewaju Osho

As if these pains are not enough, the suffering masses still remain the major targets of all the arms of government and their agencies in most of their efforts to raise internally generated revenue. The masses are bleeding profusely after they have been over-squeezed, but no one in government and government service cares to know how they are surviving.

The spiraling inflation being foisted on the nation almost weekly by the policies of President Muhammadu Buhari and his All Progressives Congress (APC) government is seriously succeeding in ensuring that over 90 per cent of Nigerians are now finding things very tough in their lives.

Although the ‘suffering and smiling’ and enduring nature of Nigerians helps the pains to settle in without causing any uprising amongst the population, the leaders ought to be asking the question: “How are Nigerians surviving?” daily, if they have any modicum of human feelings and conscience in them.

Asking this kind of question sincerely and honestly is what anyone in government should be doing now. Doing so may stir the people in power to think harder on how to ameliorate the crushing pains of the Nigerian masses.

The economic hardship in Nigeria is so pervasive at this austere time that one does not need to look too far to find the victims of the policies of this government. Apart from the families of politicians, top government functionaries, connected contractors and members of the inner caucus of this administration, almost every family in Nigeria is feeling the biting economic hardship that is rooting Nigeria and Nigerians deeper in the poverty club. The statistics that the government rolls out regularly to justify its ‘performance’ do not align with the realities on ground. The hardships Nigerians face is real.

One of such suffering families is that of Yusuf Mukhtar a retired director in one of the agencies of government in the Presidency. Yusuf served Nigeria meritoriously as an upright civil servant. His N300,000 (three hundred thousand naira) monthly salary as a director was never enough to sustain his family of five. The government knew this but refused to address the problem. It rather chose to allow people to exploit the system to increase their income, while shouting the anti-corruption slogan.

Yusuf refused to be part of this open corruption that had been the order of the day since his time in the service. He rather preferred to manage what he had than get involved in any act of corrupt practice. He was despised by many of his superiors, colleagues and subordinates for his principle of doing things right and doing the right things always. But he remained unshakable in his commitment to righteous ways.

He managed to survive on that meagre income because he was very frugal in his financial management.



With the help of the little allowances he received from regular official trips, he was able to keep his family going and acquire a small plot of land to build a three-bedroom bungalow in a middle class estate in one of the satellite communities in Abuja.

Yusuf’s retirement from service coincided with General Buhari’s election as president. His pension every month after serving Nigeria with utmost integrity for 35 years is N80,000 (eighty thousand naira) only.

With the N7 million gratuity he was given at retirement, he paid the outstanding mortgage he took to complete his house and set up an automobile service centre in one of the numerous petrol stations in the nation’s capital.

He was struggling to get along just fine with the N180,000 monthly revenue from the service centre and his N80,000 monthly pension, augmented by his wife’s N120,000 monthly salary as a top teacher in one of the government secondary schools in town, until Buharinomics began to drag him down faster into a harsher reality of serious lack.

When Muhammadu Buhari was sworn in as president, the monthly gross income of Yusuf’s family was N380,000. It was the equivalent of \$2000 then. Five years later, the income remains largely the same in naira, but it is only worth around \$700 or \$800 as the

naira rises and falls in the exchange markets.

Previously, the energy bill of Yusuf’s family was N15,000 on electricity, N8,000 to fuel the generator and N18,000 for the fuelling of their two cars. Today, he spends N45,000 on electricity that is still very far from regular, N16,000 on fuel for the generator and N32,000 to fuel their vehicles.

The family’s allocation for feeding has gone up by 100 per cent. The cost of a loaf of the bread consumed in Yusuf’s household has moved from N300 to N450 within 12 months.

Through the past five years, his family’s income has almost remained the same, despite all his hard work and relentless efforts to improve their living condition by seeking out other streams of income. The opportunities to earn a decent income are either simply not there or they have been cornered by the big people in government for their families.

Now Yusuf’s entire family’s income can hardly sustain them for more than three weeks in a month.

At the age of sixty-two, he finds himself struggling endlessly to cope with paying the school fees of his last two children who are in the university and secondary school respectively.

The roof of his house is leaking but he’s found it hard to spare any money to fix this and also address the oth-

er urgent repairs to be done in the house. Whenever he sees some of his colleagues who cheated the system and helped themselves with monies budgeted for projects in their offices living large in the midst of the invading poverty around him, tears fill up his eyes and regrets overwhelm his heart. But he always quickly seeks solace in his faith in the just God and resigns to hope.

Yusuf is not alone in the harrowing experience of Nigerians in these trying times. He represents every ordinary Nigerian beaten into poverty and hopelessness by the policies of this government.

As if these pains are not enough, the suffering masses still remain the major targets of all the arms of government and their agencies in most of their efforts to raise internally generated revenue. The masses are bleeding profusely after they have been over-squeezed, but no one in government and government service cares to know how they are surviving. Nigeria remain a haven of everyone for himself, God for us all. May this sad narrative change one day in this lifetime.

Olanrewaju Osho is a development advocate, change architect, UN road safety advocate, author and international relations specialist. He was a senatorial candidate for FCT in the 2019 elections on the ticket of ANRP.

Foreign direct investment as local indirect divestment

By Alex Otti

“ON the whole, China depends more on domestic investment and consumption than on exports to generate its growth.” -Cambridge Dictionary

The word Foreign Investment has dominated the economic space dialogue for a long time. It has been packaged in such a way that many people believe that without it, a developing country like Nigeria stands little chance of becoming a first world economy. The two major types of foreign investment are Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI). The former refers to foreign capital that is remitted from one country to the beneficiary country usually to set up businesses in the local economy. The foreign capital, therefore, must be invested either in an existing business or in a new one (green field). On the other hand, Foreign Portfolio Investment refers to foreign funds remitted solely for the purpose of acquiring stocks and government bonds.

This kind of foreign capital is also referred to as “hot money”. The reason for referring to it as hot money is that Foreign Portfolio Investment has a pattern of behaviour. It votes with its feet at the slightest provocation. If it senses that some unfavourable conditions are going to occur, before you say Jack Robinson, the funds would have left the country. Recently, we have had a preponderance of this kind of money dominating foreign currency inflows in Nigeria. Because of its volatility, it is very difficult for a country to plan on the back of foreign portfolio investment.

Recent reports have decried the drastic drop in foreign direct investment flows into the country. The decline had started much earlier before the pandemic worsened the situation last year. With specific reference to the numbers, net FDI into Nigeria dropped from \$4.45b in 2016 to \$3.50b in 2017. It further went down to \$2.0b in 2018 and then rose to \$3.3b in 2019, before dipping again to \$2.6b in 2020. With all the talk, and even though FDI has witnessed a declining trend, it is doubtful that it has in recent times, been a significant contributor to investment in the Nigerian economy.

In relation to GDP, for the year 2020, Nigeria's FDI to GDP ratio was 0.6%. This shows the insignificance of this category of investment to the economy. Hardly would you see in the literature any negative comment about FDI. In fact, the narrative has been that the country and in fact states must prepare themselves as beautiful brides for FDI. In fact, some Governors have wasted a lot of taxpayers' money traveling from one country to another, ostensibly in search of FDI. The result, or more appropriately futility, of such trips, is all captured in the numbers posted above. But then, states should pay attention to those factors like, ease of doing business, corruption perception indices, and global competitiveness indices; if they are to attract significant foreign capital.

May I add quickly that one should not get me wrong, because all those indices are necessary for any country including Nigeria, to attract, not just foreign investment, but for local competitiveness also. In the whole narrative, scant attention is paid to some of the challenges with FDI. All we are made to understand are such well-worn arguments like: FDI helps in the transfer of technology, it creates jobs, it helps to maintain a healthy balance of payments for a country and that it encourages competition. While all these arguments may not necessarily be untrue, not a whole lot is said about the big risks associated with potential net capital



outflows from host country, stifling competition given the strength of foreign capital, disruption in the healthy development of research and development in the country, culture and sometimes the interference in the political process of the recipient country.

Many people tend to confuse foreign investments with foreign remittances. The difference is that while foreign investment could form part of foreign remittances if the investment is in cash, foreign remittances are not necessarily foreign investment. A lion share of foreign remittances is meant for consumption and other expenses which are not investments. For instance, many Nigerian families are dependent on relatives who send money from outside the country, periodically for their upkeep. Much of the frenzy about declining foreign capital has to do with the sharp drop in foreign remittances occasioned by the Covid-19 Pandemic. Again, the phenomenon of foreign remittances is not our major concern today.

Foreign (investment) Capital, just like its local counterpart, seeks out markets that are conducive to it. It does not go where it is not welcomed. It feels welcome, not when seekers mouth platitudes and hyperbolic statements about how open they are for business.

They do not respond when leaders take flights to organise dress rehearsals and beauty parades or road shows, making promises that are sometimes far from reality. In

fact, foreign capital tends to have more up-to-date information about local markets than the local market players themselves. It has a way of hearing what local markets are not saying instead of listening to what they are saying.

The interesting thing is that it is also good in leading the markets to believe what they want to believe and will only realise that they were not convincing only when it would have been too late to do anything about it.

While we are not despising road shows and marketing, our argument is that foreign capital has one major purpose: profit. Once it feels that the purpose would not be safely realised, it will take flight. Ever wondered why some countries would be at war and major oil companies would still make their way into the oil fields to drill oil despite the war? The answer is that investors are known to be rational and would only invest in a market that guarantees maximum returns on investment. That is the number one rule in investment.

The so-called benefits wittingly or unwittingly, occur along with the investment. It is like saying that associated gas is a benefit that comes with oil production. That statement could be true if the country knows how to and has capacity to utilise associated gas. Where neither the knowledge nor capacity exist, the gas could either be flared or reinjected. In like manner, where technology is required for production and somehow, the economy is able

to copy or steal it, such benefit is described as “transfer of technology”.

While this column does not argue that foreign investment should be ignored or discouraged, it is our considered opinion that the promotion of foreign investment should not take such priority that local investment would be relegated to the background, as a result. In fact, we dare say that there is no evidence that any country has genuinely developed primarily on the back of FDI. This is because of the interest of foreign capital which would hardly be in tandem with local interests. The job of developing local economies should firmly, be the responsibility of local investors.

The search for foreign capital is only useful to the extent that consumption has been patterned to be import oriented. An export-oriented market would be exchanging local products with foreign currency and therefore would not necessarily be dependent on foreign capital to survive.

Therefore, the first impetus to local investment is that the economy encourages local consumption and discourages foreign consumption. How to achieve this should not be by legislation or fiat, but by the effective use of the market forces and moral suasion to move economic agents to the desired objectives. Experience has shown that economic agents are almost always resistant to force but respond rationally to market forces.

Governments must also lead the way by investing appropriately in

the economy. Government's investment should not be in business but in its enablers. Government should concentrate on those factors that support and boost business.

One of the major enablers of business is education. Education is important to expose the majority of the populace to rational and critical thinking. It also helps in building skills. A situation where a majority of the populace is either poorly educated or not educated at all, makes it difficult for them to understand arguments like the ones we are making now, talk-less of implementing them.

So, we need to hit the reset button on education from primary to tertiary level, rejig the curricula to be in tandem with modernity, ensure adequate provision of teaching skills and facilities and retain excellence in our educational institutions. And I dare challenge us that this is not rocket science. We have the required skills and financial resources to do it, if we agree that it is a priority.

Another area of investment that is as important as education is infrastructure. Clearly, this cannot be over-emphasised. A major reason why things do not seem to work in Nigeria is our criminal neglect of infrastructure over the years. We seem to have adopted a culture of refusing to maintain anything. Our penchant for awarding contracts has been elevated to such a level that our roads would start with potholes and graduate to craters and we would all ignore them waiting for a time to award contracts for the rehabilitation and resurfacing of the roads where large amount of money would be disbursed to ensure that pockets of corrupt officials are lined while the rest of the populace would be left to pay the price.

Failed, failing or outright lack of infrastructure is a disincentive to investment, be they local or foreign. Access is one of the major challenges of both agriculture and industry. Aside the risk that it poses to economic agents, there is the additional challenge of increasing the production cost which makes output uncompetitive. Infrastructural deficit is largely responsible for a situation where the cost of a product imported from China comes out cheaper than a similar product made in Nigeria. The outcome is that our product, which by the way, may be of inferior quality than the one made in China, may be produced at a much higher cost, and in a perfect market, would stand no chance of competing with its counterparts from other economies. When we factor in the cost of inefficient power supply, water supply and insecurity, what we would have is a net divestment from the economy.

The Coronavirus Pandemic has further exposed the very poor state of Nigeria's healthcare delivery system. Public health, which is so important and has been taken for granted elsewhere, remains a major challenge in Nigeria. There is no doubt that this is a major disincentive to investment.

We had dwelt on this in a previous column and will not want to go back to it, except to highlight that despite our outcry, not much seems to have been done about it and there is nothing to show that governments at both the Centre and states, see this as a priority even as more deaths are being recorded daily.

The reason why we spent some time on the disincentives to investments or better still, incentives to divestment is that the economy will only do well on the alter of the gross capital formation of the country. Our economy which still prides itself as the largest in Africa with the largest population cannot be said to be growing.

Chinese satellite explores mysterious signals in universe

BEIJING,

CHINA'S Hard X-ray Modulation Telescope (HXMT), the country's space science satellite also known as Insight, has found that a fast radio burst (FRB) signal detected last year came from a magnetar in the Milky Way, Chinese scientists announced Friday.

The discovery marked a milestone in understanding the nature of the mysterious signal emanating from the universe, the scientists said.

The research was conducted jointly by scientists from the Institute of High Energy Physics (IHEP) under the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing Normal University, University of Nevada Las Vegas, Tsinghua University and other institutions.

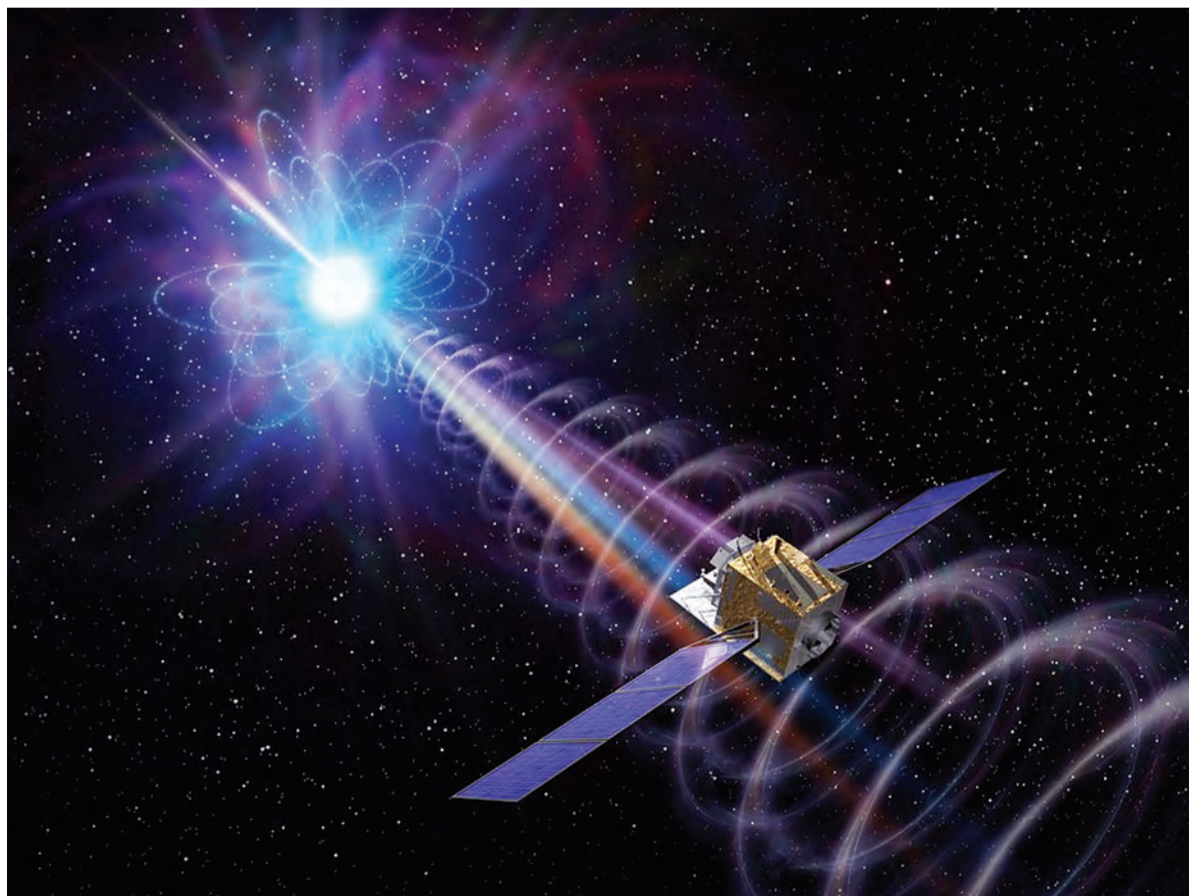
The findings have been published in the latest issue of Nature Astronomy. In 2007, scientists detected bursts of extremely powerful radio waves in the sky lasting no more than a few milliseconds.

The mysterious signal became known as FRBs. Dozens of FRBs have been detected in the following decade, and astronomers have been trying to figure out what causes FRBs. Some reports even speculated that alien civilization could have been beaming FRBs to Earth.

One theory is that FRBs may come from magnetars, a type of neutron star. All neutron stars are the collapsed core of a dead star, not massive enough to become a black hole, while magnetars also have a shockingly powerful magnetic field.

Simulated image shows China's Hard X-ray Modulation Telescope, the country's space science satellite also known as Insight, detects a fast radio burst (FRB) signal from a magnetar in the Milky Way. (Image provided by the Institute of High Energy Physics under the Chinese Academy of Sciences)(PHOTO)

Until last April, every known FRB came from outside the Milky Way, making them near impossible to study. On April 28, 2020, two telescopes in North America, namely the Canadian Hydrogen Intensity Mapping Experiment (CHIME) and the U.S. Survey for Transient Astronomical Radio Emission 2 (STARE2) picked up a powerful millisec-



Simulated image shows China's Hard X-ray Modulation Telescope, the country's space science satellite also known as Insight, detects a fast radio burst (FRB) signal from a magnetar in the Milky Way.

ond-duration burst in our Milky Way.

It has since been named FRB 200428, and was listed as the top 10 breakthroughs of 2020 by both Science and Nature.

FRB 200428 was located about 30,000 light-years away, roughly the same direction as magnetar SGR J1935+2154. The magnetar was acting up when the FRB 200428 was detected, emitting bursts of x-rays and gamma rays.

Although scientists believe that they had pinpointed the origin of FRB 200428, a final piece of the puzzle is still missing, which is needed to confirm SGR J1935+2154 produced the radio bursts. "It is pure luck that China's space telescope caught the significant signal," said Zhang Shuangnan, lead scientist of HXMT, in an interview with Xinhua.

Zhang added that China's HXMT temporarily changed

its observation plan last April to focus on SGR J1935+2154. Seven hours after the ground control sent the observation command, HXMT detected a very bright x-ray burst from SGR J1935+2154 which was about 8.6 seconds before FRB 200428.

Zhang said the time difference is consistent with the time delay of the radio signal due to the interstellar medium, indicating that the x-ray and radio bursts are from the same explosion, and it found that two spikes of the X-ray burst are the high energy counterpart of FRB 200428. Compared with other space telescopes,

HXMT provided the most detailed temporal and spectral information in understanding FRBs and magnetars, Zhang noted. "The discovery is not the end of FRB stories, but the start of a new era," said Zhang.

The enhanced X-ray Timing and Polarimetry (eXTP) satellite developed by IHEP and many other domestic and international partner institutions, has entered phase-B (design phase), after more than 10 years of preliminary study and key technology development, he added. It will enable scientists to study FRBs, neutron stars and black holes from other galaxies.

"The universe is much stranger than we think," said Shrinivas R. (Shri) Kulkarni, George Ellery Hale Professor of Astronomy and Planetary Science at California Institute of Technology, in an interview with Xinhua via Zoom.

He called on scientists to keep on exploring. Kulkarni added that building astronomy telescopes is very expensive and no country can do astronomy all by itself, noting that China's telescopes like FAST and HXMT have become driving engines for new discoveries.

"I am very happy for my Chinese colleagues that your government is supporting basic science. This is very exciting that a large country like China is contributing enormously to modern science," he said.

Since its launch on June 15, 2017, HXMT has achieved a series of important scientific results on black holes, neutron stars and other objects or phenomena. The calibration of the detectors on board was supported by the National Institute of Metrology, Ferrara University in Italy and the Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics.

Xinhua

COMESA, EAC and SADC states urged to fast-track ratification of TFTA to facilitate implementation

By Guardian Reporter

THE extraordinary virtual meeting of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Tripartite Council of Ministers has called upon members and partner states of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC) and SADC to rapidly conclude processes and procedures towards ratification and implementation of the Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA).

During their meeting early this week, the ministers also

discussed the status of signature and ratification of the TFTA and Guidelines for Management and Monitoring of Safe Cross Border Movement of Persons and Personal Goods while Mitigating the Spread of the Coronavirus.

Currently 10 members and partner states, namely Botswana, Burundi, Egypt, Kenya, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda, Eswatini and Zambia have ratified the TFTA agreement, which falls short of the 14 tripartite member and partner states required for the TFTA to enter into force in accordance

with Article 39 (3) of the TFTA agreement.

Soraya Hakuziyaremye, Minister of Trade and Industry of the Republic of Rwanda and Vice Chairperson of the Tripartite Council of Ministers, urged countries to fast-track all the necessary processes and procedures to rapidly ratify and implement the TFTA, noting that the TFTA is important to the economic integration of the Tripartite region.

Chairperson of the Tripartite Task Force, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, the Executive Secretary of SADC,

underscored the urgency for the implementation of the TFTA, saying the agreement is now needed more than ever as a critical step towards the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Responding to COVID-19 within the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite area, Dr Tax noted that under the prevailing environment of COVID-19, reopening of borders and economies needs to be done under a harmonised framework in line with the set national, regional and international protocols on COVID-19.

The TFTA Agreement was launched in June, 2015 with the aim of promoting economic and social development of the region, create a large market with free movement of goods and services to promote intra-regional trade and enhance the regional and continental integration and build a strong TFTA for the benefit of the people of the Tripartite region.

Together, the COMESA, EAC and SADC members and partner states represent 53 percent of the African Union membership, constitute over \$1.4 trillion Gross Domestic

Product (GDP) which is roughly 60 percent of African continental GDP and a combined estimated population of 800 million, making the COMESA-EAC-SADC TFTA an important building block for the implementation of the AfCFTA.

The Tripartite Council of Ministers adopted Guidelines for Management and Monitoring of Safe Cross Border Movement of Persons and Personal Goods while Mitigating the Spread of the Coronavirus. The guidelines are aimed at ensuring safe mass movement of persons and

personal goods across the region while mitigating the spread of the corona virus and the harmonising national guidelines for the re-opening of air, land and sea borders while preventing the spread of COVID-19 across borders.

The Tripartite Council of Ministers meeting was attended by, among others, Ministers and Senior Officials from the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Member and Partner States, Ambassador Liberat Mfumukeko, Secretary General of EAC, Chileshe Kapwepwe, Secretary General of COMESA and Dr Tax.

Kariakoo Market Corp unveils plans to bring services closer to Dar es Salaam city residents

By Guardian Reporter

THE Kariakoo Markets Corporation (KMC) has unveiled plans to implement more mega projects in the city of Dar es Salaam so as to expand trade and bring services closer to the people.

KMC is the biggest and busiest food-items market serving traders from Tanzania and other countries like Comoros, Zambia, Malawi, Mauritius, and Kenya.

Corporation's general manager Heston Msalale, says that the corporation has recorded a number of achievements in the past five years, something which has also expanded revenue collections.

In its strategies, the corporation plans to implement three major projects which include the construction of a new big and state-of-the-art commercial building worth 23bn/- at Kariakoo area.

"We want to see our traders working in a conducive environment but also attract more customers from inside and outside the city," Msalale says, unveiling that a modern market will be constructed at Mbezi Beach area in Kinondoni District at the tune of 500m/-.

"KMC will also construct another market at Tabata Bima area in Ilala District, all these projects are meant to support the government's efforts of bringing essential services closer to the community," he adds, noting that KMC management, board, and staff recognized the Fifth-Phase government for its massive investments which have in turn transformed several sectors including trade and markets.

According to him, in the past five years, the corporation has recorded an increase of income from 2.1bn/- in 2015/16 to 4.01/- in the 2020/21 fiscal year which is an increase of 47.4 percent due to strong improvement measures taken by the government.

The corporation has managed to improve cleanliness especially in waste management which is a good step towards fighting epidemic diseases, he says.

"The corporation has also financed the installment of CCTV cameras so as to strengthen security in the area. We want our traders and customers to work and shop freely while we guarantee their safety."

The corporation has installed CCTV cameras with the aim of enhancing the protection and security of the market and traders' properties as well as customers visiting the facility for various needs, the official reveals.

Another achievement is to improve the business environment with the aim of increasing the corporation's revenues by building various infrastructure such as 94 business stalls around the main building of the market, 19 shops at Tandamti Street



He says that the number of shops increased in these five years is 132 stores. The increase in these stores has resulted in an increase in average revenue of 66m/- per month which is equivalent to 792m/- per annum.

Along with the construction of shops, the corporation has improved various business areas, including the construction of roofs in the open market area, as part of the strengthening of revenue collections from traders.

Other successes include funding for the preparation of a 24-hour business at the market, where various areas around the facility have been installed with 24 CCTV Cameras with the aim of strengthening security and safety.

The corporation has succeeded in improving the working environment of employees by adding equipment such as computers and office furniture, purchasing a new car, and building their capacity to perform their duties effectively and provide employment to young people.

The manager said that the corporation has managed to pay a contribution to the Central Government whereby in the 2018/2019 to 2019/2020 Financial Year, it has paid a total of 90m/-.

The corporation has successfully drafted an amendment to the corporate law so that goes in line with the current situation whereby the two shareholders—Dar es Salaam City Council and

Treasury Registrar have provided their opinions. The next step, he said is to gather the views of other stakeholders to finalize the draft and submit it to the President's Office, Regional Administration, and Local Government (PO-RALG).

He clarifies that KMC continues to streamline the boundaries of the areas owned by the corporation through the Surveying and Mapping Department of the Ministry of Lands, Housing, and Human Settlements Development, to ensure those areas are protected in the interests of the corporation and avoid encroachment.

Other issues include the restoration of ownership of the corporation's apartment building located in the

Tabata BIMA area which was sold through a court auction. In addition, the corporation has also successfully restored its encroached area of Mbezi Beach Makonde (Plots No. 2002 to 2003) with a size of 6,119 square meters.

He also said that for the past five years (2015/2016 to 2019/2020), KMC has successfully provided employment to 45 new employees of whom, 29 are permanent employees and 16 are contract employees.

Msalale says KMC, the Fifth-Phase has given its full leadership in accordance with Parliamentary Act No. 36 of 1974, which established the corporation by facilitating the formation of the Board of Directors by appointing the Chairman of the Board and also the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer of the corporation who is the General Manager.

It is important to note that KMC from 1999 to 2015 December, did not have the leadership and administration defined in its Act used to establish the corporation, he says, noting that leadership vacuum poses a number of challenges to the market.

In addition, during the 16 years of lack of leadership, the corporation entered into huge debts including PAYEE, SDL, and Land Tax to the government, which amounted to 1.3bn/-.

Msalale says that KMC during this period has managed to have a budget increase of 47.38 percent from 2.11bn/- for the 2015/2016 financial year to 4.11bn/- in this financial year 2020/2021.

"This growth of the corporation's budget has been an average of 8.1 percent annually."

One of the traders at the market Ali Shija lauded the market's management for the new transformation, saying: "At the moment the hygiene and security situation has improved significantly and we can do our business more comfortably."

He advises KMC management to invest in similar market facilities in other parts of Dar es Salaam to bring services closer to city dwellers.

Judith Magoto, a Dar es Salaam resident commends KMC for expanding its services but advised it to continue improving its buildings including cleanliness so as to fight diseases.

"We hail the efforts but we are also calling for the corporation to conduct more improvements especially in the area of cleanliness so as to attract more traders and customers," she says.

Tour operators up in arms over salt mining project in SANAPA

By Guardian Correspondent, Pangani

TOUR operators in the Saadani National Park (SANAPA) are up in arms over the introduction of a salt extraction project near the conservancy, saying the venture poses a serious threat to wildlife.

The salt mining project has been established in Buyuni village in Pangani District, Tanga Region.

Buyuni village leaders have given an investor more than 20 hectares of land for the project, which in turn threatens wild animals in the sanctuary, which is the only in East Africa to boast an Indian Ocean beachfront, it possesses all the attributes that make Tanzania's tropical coastline and islands so popular with European sun-worshippers.

They were speaking to journalists who visited the project and witnessed environmental degradation along the coast of the Indian Ocean as among issues of the project include construction of canals, which endangered wildlife habitat.

On behalf of his fellow investors, Mpalangwe Ansyle said: "We're surprised by the decision made by village leaders to provide the land for salt mining project while they are aware that the area is one of the wildlife corridors. Putting such a project would endanger wild animals and in a long run they will completely disappear."

He said that the area where the project is located is a wildlife habitat in the national park as there are times when wildlife spends the entire night in the village.

Ansyle said: "Our fear is that this project would lead to environmental degradation particularly indiscriminate deforestation of mangroves and even loss of wild animals. That's why we're calling for government intervention." Pangani District Environment Officer, Daudi Mlahagwa said: "I'm aware of this project, but I cannot talk about it, because I have no such mandate. District Council Executive Director will be in a better position to do so."

When contacted, Pandani District Council



Executive Director, Isaya Mbenje said that the investor who is in the village of Buyuni had followed all the procedures to invest in the area and he had been paying taxes on time.

However, he said, there are mangroves in the area that continue to grow well and the project has nothing to do with the tropical coastal vegetation.

Regarding wild animals, Mbenje said animals cannot be restricted to where they should go and where they should not go so often they reach the investor's area and in the residential areas.

He also said that since the village of Buyuni with a population of about 280 is sur-

rounded by the park, asking the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) to look at how they will be able to relocate them by giving them another area. "The whole village of Buyuni is surrounded by the park, a situation that puts the lives of villagers in danger because wild animals invade their homes. There are times when people are forced to sleep as early as 6 pm due to the fear of wild animals, as government we're working hard to ensure the existing community can live well," he said.

The official added: "In collaboration with TANAPA, we'll look at how we can empower citizens especially by finding them another place to live so that conservation activities can continue." SANAPA Acting Chief Conser-

vator Priscalyimo denied to comment on the project because she has no mandate to do so. Buyuni village chairman, Diwani Waziri said, that the salt mining project started in 2016 and has been a great help to them, noting that the investor has been assisting the village in different aspects—social services such as the construction of rainwater harvesting dams.

"In our area, it is very difficult to get fresh water, but this investor has successfully made a rainwater harvesting dam, which has been helpful to us," the village leader said.

He further said: "The investor has started building a dispensary in our village, something that will end our long-time challenge as we're forced to travel long distances looking for healthcare services."

Salt mining project's investor, Nasil Salehe said that he has followed all the procedures to acquire the area with all permits including mining, the National Council for Conservation and Environmental Management (NEMC) while paying all taxes in the council. "I have followed all the procedures in allocating this area and as you have seen this is a huge investment we are making you will provide more jobs when you start," he said.

On the issue of wildlife in the area, Salehe said that this could not be a reason to prevent the project from taking place as the area is a village but is close to the park, which is home to four of the Big Five—lions, African bush elephants, Cape buffaloes, and leopards. Masai giraffes, Lichtenstein's hartebeest, waterbucks, blue wildebeests, bohor reedbucks, common and red duikers, Dik-Diks, yellow baboons, vervet monkeys, blue monkeys, Colobus monkeys, mongooses, genets, porcupines, sable antelopes, warthogs, hippopotamuses, crocodiles, Nile monitors are also found in the park.

Regarding deforestation and mangroves, he said they are a short distance from the sea area so they aren't endangered.

He said the project is environmentally friendly so he is surprised by the complainants.

Z'bar reports facing big shortage of sand

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Minister for Water and Energy Suleiman Makame has said that the Island is currently facing acute shortage of sand, which has forced the government to bar traders from selling the resource to mega construction companies.

He made the remarks yesterday here when issuing a report on the status of sand availability in the Indian Ocean Archipelago.

Makame said that the government has come up with an alternative solution which requires all companies with high demand of sand to first write a letter to the ministry detailing their needs.

"The ministry has also opened a new site where people can harvest sand but it will be there to conduct close monitoring to ensure that the material is well used," he said.

"We are facing acute shortage of sand here in the Isles, and what we are doing as the government is to control and ensure that what we have is distributed fairly to all people in need," he said.

The minister said that those needing less than 30 tonnes are also required to fill a special application form and the sand will be delivered at their workplaces.

According to him, from now on, no one will be allowed to store sand in their areas including in the factories to produce bricks.

He however acknowledged that the scarcity of sand and the new procedures of getting the resource could largely lead to an increase in construction costs, including the price of bricks.

We can't all be xenophobes

By Olanekan Adigun

THE famous Mayflower School, Ikenne was founded on strong principles of problem-solving, self-sufficiency, and humanism. Its founder, Dr. Tai Solarin, is a renowned humanist and educationist established in 1956. The ex-Mays (as the Mayflower alumni are called) who were around either when late Solarin was actively teaching (at a time when William F. Kumuyi attended in the 1970s) or in his lifetime when he just patrolled the expansive school compound in his signature brown shirt, short pants, and hat to match (in the 1990s) will readily testify to the quality of education the school had to offer.

What many do not know is the fact that at the time, Mayflower boasts of one of the largest community of Ghanaians (and other Africans mostly refugees from war-torn Liberia, Sierra Leone, South Africa etc) which made it unique for its rigorous teaching, discipline, and moral aptitude.

The Ghanaians teachers (and other non-teaching staff) found refuge and home in Solarin's Mayflower after the popular "Ghana-Must-Go" actions by Nigerians against their West African neighbours in the early 1980s. Truly, we all can't be xenophobes.

Like most Nigerians, I watched with dismay how some misguided South Africans destroy properties belonging to Nigerians and other African brothers under the pretense that they are criminals, drug peddlers, or "taking our jobs". This was the belief of Nigerians in the 1980s too. They hoped the "jobs" these foreigners have taken will be enough to sustain them after they've left.

What were Ghanaians doing in Nigeria at the time in terms of occupation? Teaching, barbing, hawking "puff puff", shoemaking and in some cases, prostitution and minor crimes. With the nation's economy experiencing recession due to slump in international oil prices, the Shehu Shagari administration undertook some desperate economic measures including the National

Economic Emergency Act (Austerity Measures) in 1982.

When the situation did not immediately improve and facing possible election defeat in the face of formidable opposition in 1983, Shagari hurriedly signed the Expulsion Order for Ghanaians and other African nationals to leave the country in ninety days. Even the desperate appeals from the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and other international organisations should not persuade Lagos to change its mind.

Nigerians need Ghanaians jobs. Like President Trump who thinks Mexicans and nationals of other countries are "bringing drugs, crimes" or that "they do not send their best", Xenophobes are adept at baseless generalizations. After all, foreigners are "sh*thole" countries.

In 2019 or thereabouts, I watched a video depicting a young South African in an ANC-inscribed shirt ordering other African nations to "leave my country and go back to wherever you came from." This man, by my estimation, should be in his 30s. If my estimation is correct, it means he was either a kid in the heat of apartheid (in the '80s or early '90s) or wasn't born at all. He may never have really known that apartheid regime was actually xenophobic.

With Apartheid History barely taught in High Schools, nobody informed him about how his parents were forbidden from visiting certain places in South Africa by their privileged Afrikaans or Boers. Also, nobody probably told the poor dude that the Africans he was fighting were not the reason he has no job or means of livelihood.

But, who will tell him when he's been made to believe the menial jobs or small businesses fellow Africans were doing were the best he could do in a country his forefathers proudly called theirs? Logic, details, and rational reasoning are too expensive for xenophobes. They are dictators who will tolerate no opposition. If anyone dares caution them about the needlessness of xenophobia, s/he is immediately seen as a betrayer who must be destroyed too.

Xenophobes derive joy from collective, unchallenged, unregulated display of madness towards others by appealing to people's worst fears or emotions, creating enmity where there's none, seeing the strange in the familiar, and encouraging people to see how different they are from others as their basis for power. Since xenophobes prey on bandwagon and human vulnerabilities for violence, xenophobes demand that everyone must either agree with them, be silent, or be destroyed alongside foreigners.

I normally see Nigerians expressing outrage whenever xenophobes in other countries attack our citizens. Sure, it's politically correct to condemn xenophobia in other countries. Nobody wants to be classified as a "Nigerian fraudster" or "terrorist" just because some Nigerians have made crimes their means of livelihoods abroad.

Nobody likes xenophobes in South Africa classifying all Nigerians as "drug dealers" even though many Nigerians are into this illicit trade. But for xenophobes all over the principle is simple: if one (or a few of you) is



bad, everyone else is bad and must be made to "go back to wherever you came from." It sounds familiar, right?

Only recently did some Nigerians show how much of xenophobes they are. This time, the victims of the xenophobia aren't citizens of others countries but Nigerians like themselves. The Governor of Ondo State, Barrister Rotimi Akeredolu, set the tone by ordering all unregistered herders (who are ethnic Fulanis) to vacate forest reserves within the state. He also issued a seven-day ultimatum to the herdsmen.

As if that was not enough, a political thug, Sunday Adeyemo (aka Sunday Igboho), who holds no office or authority under the Nigerian Constitution, issued an order for all "Fulanis to leave my father's state" and other states in the South Western part of Nigeria. I watched with dismay how those who should know better supported and rallied support for this motor park miscreant. Soon after, the so-called Eastern Security Network - a creation of the banned Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) - soon issued a similar notice to leave the South East.

Like typical xenophobes, they carried out these threats unchecked (perhaps with tactic political support from some quarters) raiding settlements (some of which date back over four/five decades ago), burning, looting, killing, and maiming people in the process just for the crime of looking like Fulani or herdsmen. If this isn't xenophobic enough, nothing will!

Admittedly, the age long farmer-herder conflicts need to stop but the problem has been how to stop it. Virtually all solutions put forward have been rejected by either party mainly for political reasons. That said, the xenophobic arguments of driving away people "from our lands" for just being Fulani or herdsmen remains ridiculous to me - and will always be. That sounds to me more like deporting all Nigerians from South Africa as the solution to drug abuse or other crimes. I am equally not persuaded by the arguments of herdsmen on the continuous practice of open grazing which is one of the contentious matters in the farmer-herder conflicts. This sounds archaic. It's like the tell-

ing countries like Denmark or Norway to go back to the "golden age of Vikings".

While it's true that these countries founded by the Norsemen tribes, technology has fast eroded the culture of the Vikings.

The statements of some leaders of the Mayetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria (MACBAN) sounds misplaced and dubious. I agree at this point with the Governor of Kano state, Umar Ganduje, on the need to restrict movements of inter-state or trans-border herdsmen since it appears they account for most of the cases of disputes

and criminalities.

If Apartheid was terrible and xenophobia is condemnable, we have no moral justifications to profile whole ethnic groups or occupations as criminals even to the extent to choosing for them where to live and work.

As a Nigerian citizen, nobody can choose for me where I should live or work just because of my tribe or occupation. Under the international migration laws, there are no "settlers" especially if you've lived or worked in a place for over a decade. Burning down settlements, properties, or even outright killings under any guise is condemnable.

If we condemn South African xenophobes and their actions against fellow Africans, will our own inherent xenophobic spirits allow us to condemn our own xenophobia? What would have been our reactions if white racists in US or South Africa did this to blacks and telling them to "go back to wherever you came from"?

Yet, black neighbourhoods have unenviable and annoying records of gun violence, drug abuse, sexual violence and other crimes, but will that be enough to profile all blacks and people of colour as "criminals"? except you're a hypocrite, you can't tell me there are no criminals in your community.

Teachers are key to reimagining and rebuilding education in South Africa

By Andisiwe Hlungwane and Mienke Steytler

THE impact of Covid-19 on the South African education system is indisputable and, as schools reopen on Monday, 15 February, the Teachers' Change Agent Network (Teachers CAN) believes that the opportunity for change lies with teachers.

Teachers have always held the future of children in their hands, but never has this been more true than in 2020, when all of us had to adapt to a new way of living and learning, including teachers.

Before the Covid-19 pandemic, most teachers in South Africa had no technology training. As the lockdown continued, they simply had to adjust and innovate to support learners, parents and caregivers so that learning could continue, despite the turmoil caused by the virus.

We heard of a teacher who taught learners at night since data was cheaper during night-time hours, and learners could afford to tune in. Others sent voice notes to students describing topics and connected young people to organisations that provided free data.

There were reports of teachers pasting pieces of paper to the walls in their homes and using these as whiteboards, recording themselves on their phones, and then sharing these videos with parents and learners via WhatsApp or Facebook.

And these were the teachers who could reach their learners via digital means. Others physically dropped helpful documents to learners as often as possible or called learners, parents and caregivers to check in on them.

While the pandemic has highlighted some teachers' tenacity, leadership and agility, as illustrated above, it has also underlined the complex realities that teachers in South Africa face in their classrooms every day.

Teachers do much more than simply deliver lessons. Many are tasked with the near impossible - to deliver on an inflexible curriculum for targeted outcomes, while navigating socio-economic challenges in under-resourced schools where issues such as hunger have only increased during the pandemic. Furthermore, teaching can feel like a solitary act - one teacher in their classroom teaching their subject. While there is recognition for collaboration between teachers in schools, when a teacher enters their classroom, they are often left to navigate challenges on their own, and can feel isolated and unmotivated.



The Department of Basic Education, provincial departments of education, district managers, senior management teams at schools, school governing bodies, teachers themselves, parents and communities must unite to strengthen teachers' roles if South Africa is to rebuild its education system.

•It is crucial that peer-to-peer support is established and mentoring is provided - particularly for young teachers as they enter the workplace. South Africa has an ageing teaching workforce with the average age of teachers being 47. While state initiatives like the Funza Lushaka bursary have driven up the supply of new graduate teachers, it is important to note that South Africa has a low retention of young beginner teachers, citing a lack of support as one of the major contributing factors. Teachers have always been frontline workers with regard to children but even more so during the pandemic. They should be treated, supported and valued as such; with strong collaboration between school senior management teams, principals and the teachers themselves.

•Teachers must be included in government decisions, and not only as members of a union. As Stellenbosch University's Professor

Michael le Cordeur wrote recently, the unions have smart voices but these are seldom heard on issues such as sanitation in schools, pertinent during a pandemic that requires one to wash one's hands. Teachers must be supported and encouraged to engage with government constructively to bring policy decisions closer to the reality of teaching, classrooms and, ultimately, learners.

•Teachers must be included in shaping curriculum. Consideration must be given to whether an inflexible curriculum for targeted outcomes is to the benefit or detriment of teachers and learners. Educational inequality is a reality that South Africa has been grappling with prior to and since the fall of apartheid, and with wealthier children twice as likely to attend school compared to children in no-fee schools, either due to access to online learning or to private schooling, the Covid-19 pandemic is likely to have increased educational inequality even further. Teachers must have the freedom to adapt the curriculum to ensure that every child in their classroom is given an opportunity to master key skills and competencies that allow for the maximum chance at fulfilling their potential post-pandemic.

RADIO ONE PROGRAMME SCHEDULE



MONDAY

TIME

05.00 AM

06.00 AM

06.30 AM

06.50 AM

07.00 AM

7:10 AM

07.15 AM

07.25 AM

07.40 AM

08.00 AM

08.10 AM

09.00 AM

09.10 AM

09.20 AM

10.00 AM

10.03 AM

10.10 AM

10.10 AM

13.00 HRS

13.10 HRS

13.30 HRS

16.00 HRS

16.03 HRS

16.30 HRS

18.30 HRS

19.30 HRS

20.00 HRS

20.10 HRS

21.00 HRS

21.05 HRS

22.00 HRS

22.15 HRS

23.00 HRS

23.03 HRS

01:00 -05:00HRS

PROGRAMME

HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I

AMKA NA BBC

NIPASHE

MATANGAZO

NEWS BULLETIN

MATANGAZO

TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI

UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI

KUMEPAMBAZUKA II

HABARI NYEPESI

KUMEPAMBAZUKA III

HABARI ZA BIASHARA

MATANGAZO

BRAND TALK

NEWS BRIEF

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

YALIYOMO YAMO

NEWS BULLETIN

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

DJ SHOW

NEWS BRIEF

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOJA YA LEO

DIRA YA DUNIA BBC

SPOTI LEO

NEWS BULLETIN

RADIO ONE DOCTOR

NEWS BRIEF

DAKIKKA 45

NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS)

AFRO TIZII

NEWS BRIEF

AFRO TIZII

MUZIKI MCHGANGANYIKO)

FAHARI YA MSIKILIZAJI // THE LISTENERS PRIDE



FAHARI YA MSIKILIZAJI//THE LISTENERS PRIDI

JUMATATU	
05:00-09:00HRS	MORNING JAM
09:00-13:00HRS	LETE RAHA
13:00-14:00HRS	DW-RADIO
14:00-16:00HRS	CLUB 101
16:00-18:00HRS	DALA DALA
18:00-18:10HRS	HABARI
18:10-20:00HRS	BOZOUK TIME
20:00-21:00HRS	HALI HALISI
21:00-22:00HRS	SPORTS
22:00-00:00HRS	DALA DALA (marudio)
00:00-04:00 HRS	LETE RAHA (marudio)
04:00-05:00 HRS	SPOTI (marudio)

BUSINESS

Ulanga moving into farming of macadamia, as chief cash crop

Stanbic Bank donates equipments worth 9.1 million/- to ORCI in Dar, Lemara school

By Guardian Reporter

STANBIC Bank Tanzania has donated equipment worth 9.1m/- to Lemara primary school in Arusha and Ocean Road Cancer Institute in Dar es Salaam.

4.4m/- worth of equipment has gone to support the renovation of key facilities at Lemara Primary School, while 4.7m/- was for equipment and supplies to Ocean Road Cancer Institute. The donations are part of the bank's programmes to support the dispensation of quality health services to cancer patients and support the government in its efforts to continue providing quality education to Tanzanians.

The donations made by the bank are a reflection of Stanbic's commitment to being one of the drivers towards economic development by investing in improving the livelihood of Tanzanians through various social investments.

Stanbic Bank's Arusha Branch Manager, Arnold Moshi said that the

availability of good quality sanitation facilities in schools is important for a healthy learning environment and should be made a priority in all schools around the country. "The donation will help restore the toilets at the school ensuring comfort, functionality and a healthy environment preventing any outbreak of diseases," said, Moshi

Commenting on the equipment and supplies donated to the Ocean Road Cancer Institute, Stanbic Bank's Industrial Branch Manager Mabula Kikuli, said: "As a bank, we are committed to ensuring long positive change in the fight against cancer. We believe that continuous investment in Tanzania's health sector will lead to stronger, more sustainable and healthier communities."

The Executive Director of the Ocean Road Cancer Institute, Dr. Julius Mwaeselage, hailed the bank for its contribution and commitment to improving the quality of healthcare cancer patients receive.



By Guardian Reporter

AUTHORITIES in Ulanga District have allocated 9,025 acres of land for macadamia farming, which has proved to be a drought and disease-resistant crop that can compete with cashew nuts when it comes to profitable agricultural exports.

Ulanga District Commissioner, Ngollo Malenya revealed this over the weekend when he received a delegation from the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB).

Lead by the bank's managing director, Japhet Justine, the delegation was meant to see how the district will invest and benefit from the macadamia farming venture.

Macadamia produces nuts that have a good nutrient profile comprising antioxidants, dietary fiber, vitamins, and minerals. Ulanga District has fertile soil and good climatic conditions which is suitable for the crop.

"As the government has put agriculture as one of the key priorities, and every district should have its strategic crop, macadamia is our main crop, that's why we're investing heavily on it. We want our district to be recognized by macadamia farming," the DC told the TADB delegation.

According to him, macadamia farming is expected to be the leading project in the east and central African region.

"People in this district are very encouraged with macadamia farming. We've empowered them with agronomic practices of the crop and the importance of cooperative union in scaling up the new farming venture in this district," said Charles Iman, a cooperative officer in the

district.

"Through the cooperative union, farmers have joined into small groups and they are ready to take part in the project," said Cosmas Misinzo, Land Surveyor for the Ulanga District Council.

He said: "We're well prepared to realize our mission. Out of 9,025 acres of land, 8,900 acres will be used as a macadamia farm. So, far we've 107 nurseries equivalent to 60 acres."

For his part, TADB managing director Justine said: "This bank is responsible for shaping agriculture in the country. Here in Ulanga, we are ready to invest in our farmers. We'll provide a sustainable loan. Our farmers will start to recover after they start harvesting macadamia nuts. We understand that this is a crop that bears fruit after three to four years."

Recognizing this, TADB aims at empowering farmers in Ulanga District not only with capital but also by appointing an agricultural officer to supervise and advise farmers on productive agriculture, Justine said.

After the meeting, DC Malenya and TADB delegation visited the macadamia tree farm owned by Tanzania Nuts Limited.

Speaking at the farm, Justine said: "This crop can compete with cashew nuts when it comes to profitable agricultural exports, hence offers investment opportunities for Tanzania youth."

"I'm interested to see some of the graduates from Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) being employed here and they are happy with what they do. To me, this is inspiring as it encourages other youth to venture into farming. It is high time for the youth to change their mindsets on white-collar jobs and venture into farming," he stressed.

Acting district council executive director Andreas Whero said: "We're encouraging more farmers to venture into this cash crop rather than relying on food crops such as rice and maize which hasn't relieved them from the poverty trap."

Macadamia trees can grow along with other crops such as maize and legumes which means local growers can have the best of both worlds. The nuts prefer altitudes of between 500 to 1800 Meters above sea level.

Macadamia nuts are tree nuts that have a subtle, butter-like flavor and creamy texture. Native to Australia, macadamia trees are now grown in various places around the world, but mostly in Brazil, Costa Rica, Hawaii, and New Zealand. As of late Tanzania also plans to join the fold as a future exporter of the nuts.

Like most other nuts, macadamia nuts are rich in nutrients and beneficial plant compounds but also linked to several added health benefits, including improved digestion, heart health, weight management, and blood sugar control.

Macadamia Nuts command high prices in international markets, especially in Europe and USA where one kilogram of processed nuts reportedly cost US\$54 (125,000/-).

Reports have it that grade one of nuts will shell US\$ 54 per kilogram, compared to cashew nuts that cost US\$ 24.

Macadamia nuts take up to three years from initial planting to final harvest ready for export and it was advised that even the local youth who currently seem to prefer the relatively cleaner horticultural type of farming may find the nuts profitable as well.



Impose ban on wildlife trafficked for traditional medicine -WAP

By Francis Kajubi

AFRICAN governments are urged to tighten their wildlife protection rules as Pangolins become the most trafficked mammals in the world surpassing elephants and rhinos mainly for medicinal purposes.

The global animal protection body has revealed that pangolins are poached for their scales and meat for use in traditional medicines even though there is no scientific proof that their body parts have any medicinal value.

According to a report by the World Animal Protection titled 'Suffering at scale pangolin poaching for the traditional medicine trade,' more than a million pangolins are believed to have been killed in the last decade alone and traded primarily for traditional medicine.

Revealing results of the report over the weekend, Edith Kabesime, Campaigns Manager at World Animal protection said that between 2010 and 2015 there were 1,270 pangolin seizures in 67 countries and territories across the world. This involved 120 tons of body parts, whole animals, plus an additional 46,000 individual carcasses.

According to her, the report



documents the cruel and gruesome ways pangolins are poached and slaughtered; they are hunted and cruelly slaughtered for their scales

and meat. "Pangolins endure unimaginable suffering as they are smoked and dragged out of their trees and burrows,

bludgeoned with clubs and arrows and then boiled, sometimes alive for their scales. The process of digging out can last hours, subjecting

the animals to many hours of stress and terror," said Edith.

To combat the global trade in their bodies and scales, and to protect pangolins from the

unimaginable suffering they endure, World Animal Protection is calling for strong enforcement of national and international laws to protect them and good investment in and promotion of herbal and synthetic medicine.

"We are calling upon combined and coordinated efforts by Governments, NGOs and the traditional Asian Medicine practitioners particularly in China and Vietnam;

Support for alternative livelihoods and education within communities where Pangolins exist and removal of pangolins from the definitive traditional medicine handbook for everyone working in the industry" asserted Edith.

Pangolins are nocturnal animals found in Africa and Asia. They are shy, burrowing mammals that are covered in tough, overlapping scales. They

are very important in controlling the ecosystem. It is estimated that an adult pangolin can consume more than 70 million insects annually. Their constant burrowing habit also aids in the decomposition cycle and vegetation growth and their burrows are also occupied by many other species.

They are particularly vulnerable to over exploitation due to their very low reproductive output, giving birth to one, and rarely two, offspring annually, and have a generation length of between seven and nine years, depending on the species.

This, of course, means their ability to recover from such high levels of poaching is almost impossible. Their ability to quickly roll into a tight ball when under threat also makes them more vulnerable to poachers.

Tigo manager hails partnership with Infinix set to offer brand smartphones

By Guardian Reporter

THE partnership between Tigo and Infinix announced end last week will enable customers in the local market get genuine smartphones from the manufacturer.

Mkumbo Myonga, Tigo Device Manager,

Mkumbo Myonga said in Dar es Salaam on Friday that the strategic partnership between Tigo and Infinix, is a forward-looking project, where the Tanzanian market is now in need of 4G enabled phones.

"The introduction of the Infinix Hot 10 play

will ensure our customers across the country are able to experience the 4G network," Myonga said adding that the introduction of the Infinix Hot 10 play to the market will add value to the business environment and improve quality of life for all Tanzanians

"In addition to providing our customers with a superior customer experience at an incredibly affordable price, the Infinix Hot 10 play will bridge the digital divide by increasing the smartphone adoption in the country," he noted. According to Myonga, the

smartphone is available in all Tigo shops countrywide and comes with a 78 gigabytes complimentary data bundle upon purchase for a whole year.

In remarks during the event, Infinix Public Relations Manager, Aisha Karupa, said the new smartphone comes with

Helio G35 Chip to enable playing of games, 6000 mAh 24 hours non-stop playing time and also has 6.82 cinematic display which gives more viewing positioning of videos and images. The Infinix Hot 10 play is available in all Infinix and Tigo shops countrywide," Karupa

said.

By bringing the latest smartphone in the market, Tigo Tanzania is leading other telecommunications companies in bringing the market 4G enabled handsets. Through its distinctive and diverse product portfolio in voice, text messaging,

high-speed internet and mobile financial services, Tigo has pioneered digital innovations such as the first smartphone in Kiswahili, free Facebook also in Kiswahili, TigoPesa application and Tigo mobile application among others.

MPs review bill seeking M-Pesa, Safaricom split

NAIROBI

MEMBERS of parliament are set to commence debate on a Bill that seeks to compel Safaricom, Airtel and Telkom Kenya to split their telecommunications business from the mobile money transfer and lending units.

Safaricom, which dominates in the various business lines, faces the biggest threat from the new effort to break up telcos.

The Bill seeks to address concerns that Safaricom has become too big through its dominant market share in voice, mobile data and mobile money.

Currently, Safaricom controls about 65 percent market share in voice while its mobile money business has virtually no challenger.

The push to force Safaricom to be split has previously failed.

The Kenya Information and Communications (Amendment) Bill sponsored by Gem MP Elisha Odhiambo is among 50 that have been given priority for debate and approval in the current session of the National Assembly.

The Bill has been distributed to MPs ahead of formal introduction on the floor of the House once the House Business Committee slots it in the Order Paper.

If approved, telecommunication firms with existing businesses will within six months of the law coming into force ensure that the business is compliant.

The mobile phone companies will be required to form separate entities to manage any other business they engage in outside telecommunications services.

The telecommunications firms will then be licensed to offer voice, data and SMS services while mobile money services will be licensed as banks.

In developed markets, anti-trust enforcement has gone further to require a conglomerate to sell some of its divisions



Safaricom headquarters on Nairobi's Waiyaki Way. File photo.

or subsidiaries.

The Bill seeks to amend Section 25 of the Kenya Information and Communications Act to require any person operating a telecommunications service to "obtain the relevant licences from the respective regulators of any industry or sector ventured into."

The proposed law will also compel telecommunications firms' owners to provide separate accounts and reports in respect of all businesses carried out.

Those who will provide any service without the relevant licence will be liable on conviction to a fine not

exceeding Sh10 million or an imprisonment term not exceeding two years or to both.

Past attempts by MPs to push Safaricom to split its telecommunications services business from its mobile money transfer platform, M-Pesa have failed. M-Pesa currently accounts for 34 percent of Safaricom's sales, up from 24 percent in 2016.

Revenues from the mobile money payment doubled over the period from Sh41.5 billion in 2016 to Sh84.4 billion last year.

The committee on Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) chaired by Marakwet West MP William

Kisang in 2018 opened an inquiry into telcos' mobile money, service charges and alleged dominance by some players but its report has not seen the light of day.

The investigations focused on mobile money services and rates, including transaction charges, transfer fees, loans and interest levied by telecommunications companies.

The inquiry also looked into mobile airtime and data rates, including airtime loans and services. Further, the committee set to establish legislative and regulatory gaps affecting competition in the sector and recom-

mend measures to address shortcomings that lead to anti-competitive behaviour or restrictive growth within the sector.

The inquiry looked at the market share of telecommunications service providers, broadband services and rates as well as call and short message service termination fees.

Mr Odhiambo, who sat on the ICT committee during the inquiry, said the Bill further seeks to control anti-competitive practices by the large industries in the sector.

The Bill proposes compensation for call drops by holding a licensee liable.

Sasol fuelling supply chain efficiency with Deployment of SAP Ariba

CAPE TOWN

SUCCESSFULLY navigating a business through uncertain times requires that decision-makers have full visibility over every aspect of the business in order to make accurate, informed decisions.

For one of South Africa's largest global organisations, decentralised and siloed procurement systems and processes across multiple business units left it blind and lacking the visibility it needed to better serve the business.

"We had, at the time (2012), 15 business units within the Southern Africa region, each using different procurement processes and different systems," says Hendrik Steynberg, Vice President of Supply Chain Operations and Systems at Sasol.

"This left us with disparate master data and no end-to-end visibility over our supply chain. We wanted a single integrated procure-to-pay platform that provided us with a clear view into spend and the ability to quickly onboard, engage and manage suppliers."

Sasol is a global integrated chemicals and energy company that sources, produces and markets a range of high-value product streams in 31 countries. The company employs more than 30 000 people and generates revenue of more than \$21.7-billion. Sasol manages more than R50-billion in spend across 12 000 global suppliers.

To centralise and standardise its procure-to-pay processes, Sasol chose SAP Ariba, the world's largest procurement platform that facilitates \$3.2-trillion in commerce transacted annually across 190 countries.

"SAP Ariba's reliability and versatility were the two key ingredients that improved our service level to the organisation," says Steynberg. "By standardising our procurement processes, it enabled us to have better visibility into our spend while improving efficiencies and significantly lower costs."

Sasol implemented SAP Ariba Sourcing, Ariba Supplier Information and Performance, Ariba Contracts, and Ariba Network. One of the key advantages of choosing SAP Ariba was its integration with SAP enterprise resource planning solutions.

The implementation was designed to help Sasol standardise its South African procurement operations. Ariba Sourcing has also been implemented within its Eurasian operations.

Since implementing SAP Ariba, Sasol has enjoyed better visibility over the end-to-end procurement process. "We have achieved a 50 percent cost reduction on accounts payable within the Southern Africa region, and a 95 percent rate on on-time supplier payments using electronic invoicing" says Steynberg.

He adds that 75% of total procurement transactions within the Southern African region are now performed through the Ariba Network. "Our automated processes have also reduced the time it takes the supply chain to action purchase requisitions and issue purchase orders."

This has contributed to a higher supplier satisfaction score as we can provide streamlined communication and greater transparency over the status of procurement processes."

Cameron Beveridge, Regional Director for Southern Africa at SAP, commends the work achieved by the implementation team. "Sasol has elevated its procurement processes to better match modern demands, and achieved outstanding gains in efficiency, cost-reduction and transparency."

The new digital procurement platform has also empowered Sasol with accurate, real-time information over its total procurement spend, and will continue supporting the business as it scales its operations around the world."

HAVAIC expects bumper year for African tech startups

AS one of South Africa's most active Venture Capital investors, HAVAIC says 2020 saw the commercial adoption of technology increase at unprecedented rates, as illustrated by the performance of HAVAIC and its portfolio companies.

2020 saw HAVAIC's portfolio companies grow their revenue by a staggering 93%, and in the coming months, Ian Lessem, Managing Partner at HAVAIC, believes the economic, social and commercial prospects for investing in the African technology sector looks promising, especially as the acceleration of technology adoption continues.

According to the recent African Tech Startups Funding Report 2020, published by Disrupt Africa, the year produced a record for funding activity in the African tech startup ecosystem, owing to the increased number of active investors on the continent that continued to grow in tandem with additional investment opportunities across more geographies in an increasing number of verticals.

In line with this, last year, the Cape Town-based early-stage, high-growth technology investor concluded eight investments in technology companies located in South Africa, Kenya and Nigeria.

HAVAIC says its track record for investing in diversified African technologies, and niche for unlocking the potential of globally relevant companies in sectors in need of real-world solutions is especially relevant as demand for technology enabled cloud-based solutions crosses over from early adopters' changing personal needs, as we saw in 2020, to their business needs, as we continue to see today.

"It's an exciting time for the continent's startup and investor communities. Fintech, e-commerce and e-health show immense promise for further growth both in terms of funded ventures as well as for their local and international adoption and revenue growth," notes Lessem.



DTB to shut down six branches in Nairobi, Eldoret and Malindi

NAIROBI

DIAMOND Trust Bank Kenya will shut down six branches countrywide from July as it seeks to cut operational costs.

In a notice issued last Friday to the press, the listed lender said the branches targeted for closure are within proximity to others, which will be merged with alternative ones in their respective areas.

In Nairobi, the Oval Digital Lobby and 9 West units close

down on June 30 and merge with the Westlands Branch at the Westgate Mall.

Operations at the Garden City Mall, where the loss of anchor tenant South African retailer Shoprite led to reduced foot-traffic to the shopping complex, move to the Thika Road Mall branch from October.

The Eastleigh branch will shut down on October 30 and merge with the one at Madina Mall.

At the coast, DTB Jamhuri Street merges with the

Malindi branch, while in North Rift, its unit on Kago Street moves operations to the Eldoret branch from July.

The Central Bank of Kenya has approved an application by Diamond Trust Bank to consolidate its branches in certain locations within the country," DTB said.

"The staff in the affected branches will be redeployed appropriately to support other branches or business units within our network," the Nairobi Securities Exchange-listed lender said.

The lender urged customers to use alternative channels including mobile and online banking.

In the wake of Covid-19-induced economic difficulties and restrictions, banks have been forced to cut down on costs by closing branches and ATM machines.

Most of the lenders have issued profit warnings including Standard Chartered Bank Kenya, Absa Kenya, Cooperative Bank of Kenya, DTB, I&M Holdings



A Diamond Trust Bank ATM lobby at Garden City Mall in Nairobi. File photo.



Airbus Chief Executive Guillaume Faury

Airbus CEO urges trade war ceasefire and easing of COVID travel bans

PARIS

THE head of European planemaker Airbus called on Saturday for a "ceasefire" in a transatlantic trade war over aircraft subsidies, saying tit-for-tat tariffs on planes and other goods had aggravated damage from the COVID-19 crisis.

Washington progressively imposed import duties of 15% on Airbus jets from 2019 after a prolonged dispute at the World Trade Organization, and the EU responded with matching tariffs on Boeing jets a year later. Wine, whisky and other goods are also affected.

"This dispute, which is now an old dispute, has put us in a lose-lose situation," Airbus Chief Executive Guillaume Faury said in a radio interview.

"We have ended up in a situation where wisdom would normally dictate that we have a ceasefire and resolve this conflict," he told France Inter.

Boeing was not immediately available for comment.

Brazil, which has waged separate battles with Canada over subsidies for smaller regional jets, on Thursday dropped its own complaint against Ottawa and called for a global peace deal between producing nations on support for aerospace.

Faury said the dispute with Bo-

eing was particularly damaging during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has badly hit air travel and led to travel restrictions or border closures. He expressed particular concern about widening bans within Europe.

"We are extremely frustrated by the barriers that restrict personal movement and it is almost impossible today to travel in Europe by plane, even domestically," he said.

"The priority no. 1 for countries in general is to reopen frontiers and allow people to travel on the basis of tests and then eventually vaccinations."

The comments come as businesses increase pressure on governments to reopen economies as coronavirus vaccine roll-outs gather pace across Europe.

France has defended recently introduced border restrictions, saying they will help the government avoid a new lockdown and stay in force until at least the end of February.

Germany installed border controls with the Czech Republic and Austria last Sunday, drawing protest from Austria and concerns about supply-chain disruptions.

Berlin calls the move a temporary measure of last resort.

Poland said on Saturday it had not ruled out imposing restrictions at the country's borders with Slovakia and the Czech Republic due to rising COVID-19 cases.

Carmakers wake up to new pecking order, with chip crunch intensifying

BERLIN

THE semiconductor crunch that has battered the auto sector leaves carmakers with a stark choice: pay up, stock up or risk getting stuck on the sidelines as chipmakers focus on more lucrative business elsewhere.

Car manufacturers including Volkswagen, Ford and General Motors have cut output as the chip market was swept clean by makers of consumer electronics such as smartphones - the chip industry's preferred customers because they buy more advanced, higher-margin chips.

The semiconductor shortage - over \$800 worth of silicon is packed into a modern electric vehicle - has exposed the disconnect between an auto industry spoilt by decades of just-in-time deliveries and an electronics industry supply chain it can no longer bend to its will.

"The car sector has been used to the fact that the whole supply chain is centred around cars," said McKinsey partner Ondrej Burkacky. "What has been overlooked is that semiconductor makers actually do have an alternative."

Automakers are responding to the shortage by lobbying governments to subsidize the construction of more chip-making capacity.

In Germany, Volkswagen has pointed the finger at suppliers, saying it gave them timely warning last April - when much global

car production was idled due to the coronavirus pandemic - that it expected demand to recover strongly in the second half of the year.

That complaint by the world's No.2 volume carmaker cuts little ice with chipmakers, who say the auto industry is both quick to cancel orders in a slump and to demand investment in new production in a recovery.

"Last year we had to furlough staff and bear the cost of carrying idle capacity," said a source at one European semiconductor maker, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"If the carmakers are asking us to invest in new capacity, can they please tell us who will pay for that idle capacity in the next downturn?"

The auto industry spends around \$40 billion a year on chips - about a tenth of the global market. By comparison, Apple spends more on chips just to make its iPhones. Mirabaud tech analyst Neil Campling reckons.

Moreover, the chips used in cars tend to be basic products such as micro controllers made under contract at older foundries - hardly the leading-edge production technology in which chipmakers would be willing to invest.

"The suppliers are saying: 'If we continue to produce this stuff there is nowhere else for it to go. Sony isn't going to use it for a PlayStation 5 or Apple for its next iPhone,'" said Asif Anwar at Strategy Analytics.

Australia not out to advertise COVID-19 vaccine on Facebook but vows publicity

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA'S government pledged a publicity campaign for its rollout of COVID-19 vaccine on Sunday - but not in Facebook advertisements, as a feud continues over the social media giant blocking news content from its platform in the country.

Facebook Inc's abrupt decision on Thursday to stop Australians from sharing news on its platform and strip the pages of domestic and foreign media outlets also blacked out several state government and emergency department accounts, drawing furious responses from lawmakers around the world.

Hours before Australia began inoculations with the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine, Health Minister Greg Hunt said the government would embark on a wide-ranging communication campaign, including online, to ensure vulnerable people turned up for a shot.

But a ban on health department spending to advertise on Facebook would remain in place until the dispute between the Big Tech company and Australia - over a new law to make Facebook pay for news content - was resolved.

"On my watch, until this issue is resolved, there will not be Facebook advertising," Hunt told the Australian Broadcasting Corp. "There has been none commissioned or instituted since this dispute arose. Basically you have corporate titans acting as sovereign bullies and they won't get away with it."

Since the news blackout, Treasurer Josh Frydenberg has said he would talk with Facebook about its move over the weekend. On Saturday, Prime Minister Scott Morrison said Facebook had "tentatively friended us again" without giving further details.

Morrison got an injection on Sunday to publicise the programme, saying the country would use "all the communication



mechanisms available to us to reach people" without commenting specifically about Facebook advertising.

Hunt said the authorities would use every channel to encourage Australians to get vaccinated, including messages on foreign language broadcaster SBS, but "there is the capacity to do paid advertising (on Facebook) and that element is not on the cards ... for now". Frydenberg's office did not

immediately respond to Reuters requests for comment on Sunday.

A Facebook representative said in an email that the company was "engaging with the Australian Government to outline our ongoing concerns with the proposed law (and would) continue to work with the government on amendments to the law, with the aim of achieving a stable, fair path for both Facebook and publishers".

ISIDINGO MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

ITV

WEDNESDAY 6 Jan

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo
8:55	Habari za saa
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Isidingo
9:55	Habari za saa
10:00	Watoto Wetu rpt
10:30	Uchumi na biashara rpt
10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	The Base rpt
11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Jarida la wanawake rpt
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Dakika 45 rpt
13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
14:55	Habari za saa
15:00	Meza huru
16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Korean drama rpt: Hwarang
19:00	Ijue Sheria
19:30	Isidingo
20:00	Habari
21:00	Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
21:30	Kipindi Maalum: Ripoti Maalum
22:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
23:00	The Base
00:00	Al Jazeera
2:00	DWTV

20:00	Habari
21:00	Malumbano ya hoja
23:00	The Base
00:30	DWTV

FRIDAY 8 Jan

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo
9:30	Habari za saa
9:55	Habari za saa
10:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Isidingo
9:55	Habari za saa
10:00	Watoto wetu rpt
10:30	Usafiri wako rpt
10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	The Base
11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Jagina rpt
13:30	Chetu ni chetu rpt
13:55	Habari za saa
14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
15:00	Meza Huru
16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base (DJ Show)
17:30	Kiislami
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Mjue Zaidi rpt
19:00	Shamba lulu
19:30	Isidingo
20:00	Habari
21:05	Kipima Joto
23:00	The Base
00:00	DWTV

09:00	Watoto Wetu
10:00	Isidingo
11:40	Igizo: Mizengwe rpt
12:00	Movie rpt: Funzo
14:00	Tamasha la Michezo
15:30	Mwanga
16:30	ITV Top 10
17:30	Kipindi cha kikristo
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Mapishi
18:30	Matukio ya wiki
19:30	Igizo: Mtego
20:00	Habari
21:00	Kipindi maalum: Biko
21:05	Mizengwe
21:30	Mjue Zaidi
22:14	Bongo Movie: Huba
00:05	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin

CAPITAL

Wed 06 Jan

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Series rpt: Itohan
16:30	Culinary delight rpt
17:00	Innovation rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Sports Gazette
19:30	Chetu ni chetu
20:00	Series: Itohan
20:45	Telenovela: Lover her to death
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Dakika 45:
22:45	The Décor
23:15	Al Jazeera

Thurs 07 Jan

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Series rpt: Itohan
16:30	Business edition rpt
17:00	In good shape
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Turning the spotlight
19:30	Tanzania yetu
20:00	Series: Itohan
20:45	Telenovela: Lover her to death
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Capchat rpt
23:00	Al Jazeera

Frid 08 Jan

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
12:00	Shamba Lulu rpt
12:30	Eco@Africa rpt
13:00	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Series rpt: Itohan
16:30	The Monday Agenda rpt
17:30	17:30 Meza huru
19:00	Rev
19:30	Eco@Africa

20:00	Aibu Yako
20:15	Local Pgm: Business Edition
20:45	Telenovela: Lover her to death
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Malumbano ya hoja rpt
00:00	Al Jazeera

Sat 09 Jan

08:00	Al Jazeera
09:00	Rev rpt
09:30	Turning the Spotlight rpt
10:00	Culinary delight rpt
10:30	Innovation rpt
11:00	Out n' about rpt
11:30	Sports Gazette rpt
12:00	Usafiri wako rpt
12:30	Eco@Africa rpt
13:00	Business edition rpt
13:30	Korean Drama rpt: The slave hunter
14:30	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
17:15	Tanzania Yetu rpt
17:45	Bundesliga kick off
18:15	Capchat rpt
19:15	Mizengwe
19:30	The Decor
20:00	Korean Drama: The Slave hunter
21:00	Out n' About
21:30	Movie: Street Kings
23:00	Series rpt: Itohan
01:00	Al Jazeera

Sun 10 Jan

08:00	Al Jazeera
09:00	In good shape
10:00	Capchat rpt
11:00	Sports Gazette rpt
11:30	Korean Drama rpt: The slave hunter
12:00	Jagina rpt
12:30	Bundesliga Kick Off rpt
13:00	In good shape rpt
13:30	Series rpt: Itohan
15:15	Aibu yako
15:30	Rev rpt
16:00	Dakika 45 rpt
16:45	Mizengwe rpt
17:00	The Decor rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Turning the Spotlight rpt
19:30	Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights
20:00	Korean Drama: The Slave hunter
21:00	Shift
21:15	Capchat live
22:15	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
00:00	Al Jazeera

08.10 AM	KUMEPAMBAZUKA III
09.00 AM	HABARI ZA BIASHARA
09.10 AM	MATANGAZO
09.20 AM	BRAND TALK
09.30 AM	KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHEZO
10.00 AM	NEWS BRIEF
10.03 AM	DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS
10.10 AM	YALIYOMO YAMO
13.00 HRS	NEWS BULLETIN
13.10 HRS	DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS
13.30 HRS	DJ SHOW
16.00 HRS	NEWS BRIEF
16.03 HRS	DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS
16.30 HRS	HOJA YA LEO
18.30 HRS	DIRA YA DUNIA BBC
19.30 HRS	SPOTI LEO
20.00 HRS	NEWS BULLETIN
20.10 HRS	UCHUNGUZI KAMILI
21.00 HRS	NEWS BRIEF
21.05 HRS	DURU ZETU
22.00 HRS	NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS)
22.15 HRS	AFRO TZIZI
23.00 HRS	NEWS BRIEF
23.03 HRS	AFRO TZIZI
01:00-05:00HRS	HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO)

Capital Radio

JUMATU

05:00-09:00HRS	MORNING JAM
09:00-13:00HRS	LETE RAHA
13:00-14:00HRS	DW-RADIO
14:00-16:00HRS	CLUB 101
16:00-18:00HRS	DALA DALA
18:00-18:10HRS	HABARI
18:10-20:00HRS	BOZOUK TIME
20:00-21:00HRS	HALI HALISI
21:00-22:00HRS	SPORTS
22:00-00:00HRS	DALA DALA (marudio)
00:00-04:00 HRS	LETE RAHA (marudio)
04:00-05:00 HRS	SPOTI (marudio)

TUESDAY

05:00-09:00HRS	MORNING JAM
09:00-13:00HRS	LETE RAHA
13:00-14:00HRS	DW-RADIO
14:00-16:00HRS	CLUB 101
16:00-18:00HRS	DALA DALA
18:00-18:10HRS	HABARI
18:10-21:00HRS	BOZOUK TIME
21:00-22:00HRS	SPORTS
22:00-00:00HRS	DALA DALA (marudio)
00:00-04:00HRS	LETE RAHA (marudio)
04:00-05:00HRS	SPOTI (marudio)

WEDNESDAY

05:00-09:00HRS	MORNING JAM
09:00-13:00HRS	LETE RAHA
13:00-14:00HRS	DW-RADIO
14:00-16:00HRS	CLUB 101
16:00-18:00HRS	DALA DALA
18:00-18:10HRS	HABARI
18:10-21:00HRS	BOZOUK TIME
21:00-22:00HRS	SPORTS
22:00-00:00HRS	DALA DALA (marudio)
00:00-04:00HRS	LETE RAHA (marudio)
04:00-05:00HRS	SPOTI(marudio)

Radio one

Monday

05.00 AM	HALI YA HEWA / KUME-PAMBAZUKA I
06.00 AM	AMKA NA BBC
06.30 AM	NIPASHE
06.50 AM	MATANGAZO
07.00 AM	NEWS BULLETIN
7:10 AM	MATANGAZO
07.15 AM	TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI
07.25 AM	UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI
07.40 AM	KUMEPAMBAZUKA II
08.00 AM	HABARI NYEPESI

WORLD

Donald Trump seeks return to spotlight with address to conservatives

WASHINGTON

FORMER US President Donald Trump will seek to return to the political spotlight in an address to a major meeting of conservatives, a source familiar with his plans said on Saturday, as the Republican plots his post-White House moves.

Trump plans to speak to the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) in Orlando, Florida, on Feb 28, the last day of their meeting, the source told Reuters on condition of anonymity.

"He'll be talking about the future of the Republican Party and the conservative movement. Also look for the 45th President to take on President (Joe) Biden's disastrous amnesty and border policies," the source said.

Trump's tumultuous four years in the White House ended shortly after he was impeached on a charge of inciting his supporters' deadly Jan 6 attack on the

US Capitol, where lawmakers were gathering to certify Biden's victory in the Nov 3 election.

After spending two months falsely claiming his election loss was the result of widespread fraud, Trump was acquitted in an impeachment trial held in the Senate after he left office. The 57-43 vote fell short of the two-thirds majority needed for a conviction.

Trump has expressed anger at the 17 Republicans in the House of Representatives and Senate who voted to impeach or convict him, and on Tuesday he aimed his rhetorical fire at Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, the nation's most senior elected Republican.

The loss of both the White House to Biden and control of the Senate - which Democrats picked up in a pair of upset Georgia election runoff victories last month - has left Republicans on edge as they plot how to win back control of



Donald Trump

Congress in 2022.

Trump and McConnell parted ways in the weeks after the November election, with Trump irked that the Kentucky Republican had recognized Biden as the winner in mid-December. They have not spoken since, a former White House official said this week.

Trump called McConnell "a dour, sullen, and unsmiling political hack" this week and warned that if Republican senators stayed with him "they will not win again."

The gap between Trump and McConnell widened when the latter declared after the Senate's acquittal of the former president that Trump was "practically and morally responsible

for the Capitol siege.

A number of top Republicans who are considered possible candidates for the party's 2024 presidential nomination are also due to speak at CPAC, including Trump's secretary of state, Mike Pompeo, and Kristi Noem, the governor of South Dakota.

Two notable Republicans from the Trump administration not on the CPAC speaker list are former U.N. ambassador Nikki Haley and former Vice-President Mike Pence.

Another source told Reuters that Trump had rebuffed a request by Haley to meet with him recently after she was critical of him in a Politico article.

Agencies

Israel starts reopening as number of COVID vaccinees nears 50%

SYDNEY / WELLINGTON

ISRAEL reopened swathes of its economy including malls and leisure facilities yesterday, with the government saying the start of a return to routine was enabled by COVID-19 vaccines administered to almost half the population.

Shops were open to all. But access to gyms, hotels and theatres was limited to people with a "Green Pass": those who have had both doses of the vaccine more than a week prior, or recovered from the disease with presumed immunity.

Pass-holders could prove their status by presenting a vaccination certificate or downloading a Health Ministry app linked to their medical files.

Coming exactly a year after Israel's first documented coronavirus case, Sunday's easing of curbs was part of a government plan to open the economy more widely next month, when Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is up for reelection.

"We are the first country in the world that is reviving itself thanks to the millions of vaccinees we brought in," he tweeted. "Vaccinated? Get the Green Pass and get back to life."

Mask-wearing and social-distancing were still in force. Dancing was barred at banquet halls. Synagogues, mosques or churches were required to halve their normal congregation sizes.

Elementary schoolchildren and pupils in the last two years of high school resumed classes in towns with contagion rates under control. Middle-school pupils were still home-learning, however, prompting some to stage a sit-down protest in a mall.

"I haven't been in school in a year," said 14-year-old demonstrator Rotem Bachar. "How does it make sense to open malls up to crowds, while we can't attend class if even they are capped at 15 to 20 pupils and have other precautions?"

Israel has administered at least one dose of the Pfizer Inc vaccine to more than 46% of its 9 million population, the Health Ministry says. The ministry said on Saturday that the risk of illness from COVID-19 dropped 95.8% among people who received both shots.

Israel has logged more than 740,000 cases and 5,500 deaths from COVID-19, drawing criticism of Netanyahu's sometimes patchy enforcement of three national lockdowns. The government has pledged that there will not be a fourth.

But Nachman Ash, a physician in charge of the country's pandemic response, told Army Radio that another lockdown "is still possible ... Half of the population is still not immune."

Agencies

The sheer hypocrisy of Britain's double standard on press freedom

BEIJING

BY banning China's law-abiding television network in Britain and blasting Beijing for pulling BBC World News off the air over regulation violation, London has laid bare its true colors of playing a hypocritical double-standard game on press freedom.

London's ban on China Global Television Network (CGTN) is political oppression based on blunt ideological bias.

Over the past 18 years, the Chinese broadcaster has been strictly observing British laws, regulations as well as professional ethics, and has made positive contributions to enhancing mutual understanding and cultural and people-to-people exchanges between the Chinese and British people.

Nevertheless, Britain's communications regulator Ofcom launched an investigation early last year of the Chinese TV broadcaster, citing the so-

called CGTN's "editorial control" and "political nature," and then blatantly revoked CGTN's license earlier this month despite CGTN's full cooperation in the probe.

Britain's ploy to portray itself as a defender of press freedom imploded when it attacked Beijing for punishing BBC for biased reporting and sometimes even making fake news.

In contrast to CGTN's upholding the principles of objectivity and accuracy, BBC has many a time produced and broadcast fake news with strong ideological bias against China, and spread disinformation on Xinjiang.

Hong Kong and the COVID-19 pandemic to smear and attack China.

On Hong Kong, BBC reporters turned a blind eye to the rioters' savagery and described Hong Kong police's normal law-enforcement measures as acts of brutality; on Xinjiang, based only on several non-photorealistic sat-



The U.K. flags are seen during a protest outside the Houses of Parliament in London, Britain, on March 29, 2019. (Xinhua)

ellite images and reports fabricated by anti-China activists, BBC journalists concocted fake news to slander China's Xinjiang policy; and on the pandemic, BBC even exploited a counter-terrorism drill video as a so-called proof of China's violence in epidemic prevention.

What the British government and BBC have done once again proved that the freedom of press, if left abused, can only lead to freedom of disinformation.

The hypocritical double standard also attests to those China bashers' lack of pluck to learn about China.

"Fear of hearing the truth about China is why Ofcom banned CGTN," John Ross, former director of Economic and Business Policy of London, wrote in an opinion piece.

As China has taken enormous strides in economic development, and "has just had such great success in dealing with COVID-19 and in economic recovery compared to

the situation in Britain," "it is crucial for those who favor a 'new Cold War' that people in Britain do not understand the reality about China," he said.

A more deep-seated problem is their obsession with the western-centric mentality. Martin Jacques, a British scholar and political commentator, once warned, "we think of ourselves as open-minded, but our sense of superiority has closed our minds."

With such a closed and overweening mindset, it is unlikely for those zero-summers in Britain and elsewhere in the Western world to take an objective view of the progress made in the non-Western world.

Worse still, the Cold-War style thinking pattern will propel them towards choosing confrontation over cooperation at a time when the world community desperately needs to build up mutual understanding and cement unity in the face of mounting global challenges. *Xinhua*

Russia wants more predictability from US, says ambassador

MOSCOW

RUSSIA wants the United States' foreign policy to be more predictable, Russian Ambassador to the United States Anatoly Antonov said on Saturday.

"All we want is predictability, confidence in future, confidence in the United States' actions. We want to live peacefully so that, excuse me for such lofty words, our foreign policy could help encourage the country's internal development.

As a matter of fact, this is

what we are doing," he said in an interview with the Solovov Live YouTube channel.

He thinks that Washington will apparently continue pressure on Moscow. "All I can see for the foreseeable future is that pressure on us will be continued.

A couple of days ago, I met with diplomats from former Soviet republics and agreed that everything the current US administration is doing is continuing pressure on us all around," he said.

The Russian side has already

requested first contacts with the US President Joe Biden administration to outline possible spheres of cooperation, Antonov (pictured) said.

He hoped for "pragmatic cooperation" with Washington in a number of areas. "The people who are now working in the Department of State and in the White House, - we have

already sent them requests to arrange first contacts and begin to see what we can do together," he said. He recalled the recent statement by the US European Command that the US side was first deploying B-1B Lancer bombers in Norway.

"My question is: what for, who are they going to bomb there? NATO is building up its military presence along the line of contact with Russia. Is there anything good about it?" he noted. "My American friends in the Council on For-

eign Relations asked me yesterday: 'Mr. Ambassador, what can Russia do to mitigate irritations in bilateral relations, in particular between Russia and NATO?' I asked them: 'What do you want from me? Do you really want me to approach our Chief of General Staff Gerasimov, say, when I am on leave in Russia, and say well, NATO is looming over our border, but take it easy, withdraw troops? I ask these rhetoric questions to ambassador of Western nations I maintain contacts with,'" Antonov said.



West discussing global issues without Russia is puzzling, says diplomat

MOSCOW

THE intention of Western countries to resolve global issues within a private circle without inviting Russia and China is baffling, spokeswoman for the Russian Foreign Ministry, Maria Zakharova noted in a statement Saturday following a special online session of the Munich Security Conference held on Friday.

"Considering that the announced agenda had such global items as 'Priorities for Global Action,' 'Fighting the Pandemic' and 'Tackling the Climate Crisis,' the list of participants is at the very least puzzling," she underlined.

"Essentially, the problems faced by the whole humanity are planned to be discussed in a very narrowed format.

The organizers invited the US and EU leadership as well as the UN secretary general and the WHO director general to join the discussion.

There was no mention of inviting other countries, including Russia and China. On the contrary, they were viewed by the discussions as threats and opponents who need to be countered."

"We once again are forced to note the trend of the past few years when our Western partners seek to resolve issues in a narrow circle and advance decisions that they are comfortable with, which will later be imposed on other members of the international community through the prism of the 'rule-based world order'," she added.

Zakharova emphasized that Russia does not share this approach and urges broader international cooperation on a common agenda in the framework of the universal democratic agencies of the UN.

Agencies



China's recovery remarkable, important contributor to global economy - IMF official

THE International Monetary Fund, in its latest World Economic Outlook, said that China—with effective epidemic containment measures, a forceful public investment response, and central bank liquidity support have facilitated a strong recovery.

Helger Berger, the IMF's China mission chief and Assistant Director in the IMF's Asia and Pacific Department, said in a written interview with People's Daily that China's economic recovery is progressing well and there needs to be more focus on rebalancing in the future.

He appreciated a series of measures taken by China to safeguard multilateralism.

In terms of growth this year, Chi-

na's recovery is well on its way, but still lacks balance. The recovery has been helped by a strong containment effort and swift policy actions early on to mitigate the crisis and support the recovery, including ramping up public investment. However, the recovery of private consumption has been lagging, Berger said.

The IMF expects China's economy to gain momentum this year as labor market conditions continue to improve and incomes and consumption gather strength.

To consolidate growth, China should avoid premature withdrawal of fiscal support, and should phase out special financial support and strengthen regulation once growth

is on a firm footing, Berger suggested.

China's overall growth performance over the last 40 years has been truly remarkable, said Berger. He spoke highly of the significant progress China has made in financial opening-up.

He said that China has made significant progress in the opening up of the financial sector, where reforms have continued despite the crisis, with the government adopting a new foreign investment law and streamlining the negative list for foreign investment, for example.

He expressed optimism that China would continue to make progress in this area in the future. "As China continues its reform agenda

to rebalance the economy, implementing structural reforms to further open up its markets and increase competition will strengthen the resilience of China's domestic economy and keep it attractive for foreign investment."

"China has also been an important contributor to the recovery in global trade. Higher growth in China has also brought higher imports as firms are importing raw material and other inputs and consumers order goods from abroad.

This has bolstered demand in China's trading partners and beyond", Berger said. On China's growth prospects, Berger said reforms could be implemented in key areas to improve productivity and

ensure high-quality growth.

Berger said the impact of the outbreak is global and called on all countries to work together to uphold multilateralism.

"On the vaccine front, it is good to see that China is contributing to the very important task of making affordable and effective vaccines available to low-income countries, including through the Covax initiative", he said.

On the urgent need to counter the climate crisis, He also said the IMF welcomed China's recent announcement that China will strive for CO2 emissions to peak before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060. "This is an urgent task that the world can only shoulder

together".

As for China's ongoing digital RMB (or eCNY) efforts, Berger said the IMF is closely following the rollout, adding that the progress China has made is exciting and that "it will be important to learn from the pilots that are underway."

He believes that the PBOC's digital currency has the potential to promote financial inclusion and improve payment efficiency, expand the coverage of payment services to unbanked households and lower transaction costs for households and small firms.

The eCNY could also help the targeted delivery of fiscal support and improve transparency in public finances. *People's Daily*

UK speeds vaccine push to offer all adults shot by July 31

DAKAR / BUENOS AIRES / SANTIAGO



THE UK will significantly accelerate its COVID-19 vaccination program, offering shots to all adults by the end of July and everyone over 50 by mid-April as the government beefs up efforts to contain one of the world's worst outbreaks of the coronavirus.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson will set out the new targets today when he reveals his "roadmap" to easing lockdowns. It is the first time the government has given a firm target for offering all adults their initial dose, having previously said it hoped to do so by autumn.

The previous goal set for over-50s was the end of May. Health Secretary Matt Hancock told Sky TV Sunday the UK had enough supply to meet the new targets.

So far, more than 17 million people have been inoculated, around 30 percent of the adult population, making Britain a world leader in COVID vaccinations.

The success of the program contrasts with the government's failure to contain the initial outbreak and spread of COVID-19. The UK now has Europe's highest death toll with more than 120,000 victims of the pandemic.

The UK is now more than a month into its third national lockdown with schools closed and most businesses shuttered. With the economy suffering its worst recession in more than 300 years and cases and deaths falling rapidly, the prime minister is under growing pressure to lift lockdown curbs.

Johnson, who was hospitalized with Covid-19 in April of last year, insists he will proceed with caution to make sure the current lockdown is the country's last.

Cases surged to record levels in the UK early this year as an easing of social distancing during the holiday period coincided with the spread of the highly-infectious UK variant.

The latest lockdown, coupled with the vaccine program, has reversed that trend. Health authorities reported 10,406 new cases on Saturday, down from the peak week in January when cases averaged almost 60,000 a day.

Biden tells Europe 'America is back'

BERLIN



US President Joe Biden said on Friday that the United States is returning to the transatlantic partnership and will address global challenges like climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I'm sending a clear message to the world: America is back. The transatlantic alliance is back. And we are not looking backward," Biden said in a video message to attendees at the Munich Security Conference, which was held virtually this year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

As the first sitting US president attending this event, Biden said that his administration will work closely with its European Union (EU) partners and the capitals across the continent, stressing that the United States is fully committed to its alliance with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

"I know the past few years have strained and tested the transatlantic relationship... The United States is determined to re-engage with Europe," Biden said, referring to the worsened U.S.-Europe relations during the previous administration of President Donald Trump. Washington will work closely with its EU partners to meet the shared challenges and will continue to support the goals of Europe, he said.

Biden also urged the United States' European allies to double down on commitments to fight climate change, warning of a "global existential crisis."

"We can no longer delay or do the bare minimum to address climate change," Biden said, only hours after Washington formally returned to the Paris Accord.

Agencies

India dam disaster toll rises to 67 as search for missing continues

NEW DELHI

AUTHORITIES in the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand yesterday said the death toll in the dam disaster has risen to 67 and the search for missing people was underway.

"As of now, a total of 67 bodies and 28 human body parts have been retrieved from different places," reads a statement issued by police.

"Out of these 37 bodies and one body part has been identified." Police said DNA profiling of the unidentified bodies have been carried out. According to police, missing reports of 204 persons have been filed so far at Joshimath police station.

"So far DNA samples of 96 relatives and 73 bodies have been sent for matching to forensic science laboratory (FSL) Dehradun," the statement said.

Meanwhile, the search operation in the area is underway. On Feb. 7, a glacier is believed to have crashed into a dam in Uttarakhand, triggering a huge flood.

The floodwaters burst open a dam and a deluge of water hurtled down flooding the area in its course, damaging two hydropower projects and leading to numerous deaths, besides endangering hundreds of others.

Majority of the missing in the disaster are believed to be workers from two hydropower plants. Immediately after the incident, rescuers rushed to carry out efforts on several sites, including a tunnel more than 200 metres long to save the trapped ones.

Xinhua

Complicated future for Trump, GOP after impeachment

WASHINGTON

FORMER U.S. President Donald Trump and the Grand Old Party (GOP) are at a crossroads after he was acquitted in his second impeachment.

The impeachment came as a result of the Jan. 6 riot in which dozens of Trump supporters entered the U.S. Capitol Building, threatened lawmakers and broke windows.

One police officer was killed by a mob and one U.S. military veteran was shot dead by police during the riot. Democrats accused Trump of causing the riot, when he gave a speech and told protesters to march to the Capitol Building.

Supporters of U.S. President Donald Trump gather at Freedom Plaza in Washington, D.C., the United States, Jan. 5, 2021. (PHOTO)

The Senate acquitted Trump on charges of inciting an insurrection, with some lawmakers in Trump's own party voting against him.

The Senate voted 57-43 to convict, but the vote fell short of the required two-thirds. This was the first time in U.S. history that a president was impeached twice, once while in office and again after Trump left the White House.

It remains unknown what impact the impeachment will have on the Republican Party and Trump's ability to run for president in 2024.

Christopher Galdieri, assistant professor at Saint Anselm College, told Xinhua that the second impeachment deepened the fissures in the GOP. GOP committees in the states of North Carolina and Louisiana censured



Supporters of U.S. President Donald Trump gathered at Freedom Plaza in Washington, D.C.

two of their own senators for voting against Trump during the impeachment.

Photo taken on Feb. 9, 2021 shows the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C., the United States.

Trump put out a statement Tuesday attacking Senate minority leader Sen. Mitch McConnell, arguing that if "Republican senators are going to stay with him, they will not win again."

The impeachment does not appear to have hurt Trump with his base, which

remains loyal to him as a result of sharp divisions that reflect the persistent partisan fissures within the country, experts said. "In the short term it doesn't appear to have hurt him much with Republican rank-and-file voters yet," Galdieri said.

Clay Ramsay, a researcher at the center for international and security studies at the University of Maryland, told Xinhua that perhaps the most important impact of the impeachment is to "create a clear divide in Congress between those who

will stay loyal to Trump, and the other Republicans."

A supporter of Donald Trump (R, front) yells at a rally in Madison, Wisconsin, the United States, on Nov. 7, 2020. (PHOTO)

What this really means is that Congress essentially now has a three-party system, Ramsay said, there is Trump's own party, a small conservative grouping, and the Democratic Party.

Trump's acquittal does not turn the page yet on the riot at the Capitol on Jan. 6. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has announced that lawmakers would establish a commission to investigate the causes of the Capitol riot. In a letter to fellow Democrats,

Pelosi said the commission would be modeled on the terror attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

Xinhua

Sudan slams Ethiopia's statement over border conflict

KHARTOUM

SUDAN'S Foreign Ministry on Saturday criticized a recent statement by the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry, describing it as an "unforgivable insult".

On Feb 18, the Ethiopian foreign ministry issued a statement accusing Sudan of serving interests of a third party at the expense of the Sudanese people. "The Ethiopian government strongly believes that the conflict being trumpeted by the Sudanese government's military wing could only serve the interests of a third party at the expense of the Sudanese people," reads the statement.

The Sudanese foreign ministry, in its statement, accused Ethiopia of attempting to cripple the African Union's efforts to reduce the tension between the two countries.

"The Ethiopian foreign ministry came out with an unfortunate statement that betrays the history of Ethiopia's relations with Sudan and denies the mutual appreciation between the two peoples," the statement said.

The Sudanese foreign ministry statement also hinted Sudan's determination to reject the Ethiopian forces within the peacekeeping mission in the disputed Abyei region between Sudan and South Sudan. "Sudan cannot trust Ethiopia and the Ethiopian forces to help establish peace in it as the Ethiopian forces come as aggressors across the border," it noted.

The United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) was established in 2011 by the UN Security Council to monitor the Abyei border. It is



In this file photo, peacekeeper troops from Ethiopia and deployed in the UN Interim Security Force for Abyei patrol outside Abyei town, in Abyei state. (AFP)

mainly composed of Ethiopian military forces of around 4,200 military personnel and 50 police personnel. Later the force was increased to be composed of 5,326, all of them from Ethiopia.

Meanwhile, Abdul-Rahim Al-Sunni, a Sudanese political analyst, told Xinhua that "the Sudanese foreign ministry's statement was very sharp, which opens

the door to all possibilities."

Al-Sunni believed that the African Union efforts have not yet succeeded in reducing the tension between the two countries. Since September 2020, the border between Sudan and Ethiopia has been witnessing rising tensions and skirmishes between the two sides.

Sudan accuses Ethiopian farmers,

backed by armed forces, of seizing Sudanese border lands in Sudan's Fashaga area and cultivating them since 1995.

The border area of Fashaga between Sudan and Ethiopia, one of the five localities of Sudan's Gadaref State, often witnesses deadly attacks by Ethiopian militias during the preparation for agricultural season.

Xinhua

Fruit industry leads Xinjiang's Aksu to prosperity

AKSU Prefecture, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, produced over 2.44 million tonnes of fruits last year which generated revenue of nearly 14.18 billion yuan (\$2.19 billion). The income from the industry accounted for 30 percent of local per capita net income, making fruit planting one of the pillar industries of the local community.

Nurmemet Yassen from Egerchi Township, Aksu is one of the beneficiaries of the industry. His family earned 180,000 yuan last year by selling apples alone.

Besides, farmer Abibula Dawut, who grows red dates in Aksu's Topluq Township also received a bumper harvest last year. Thanks to the technical support offered by a local cooperative, the yield per mu (666.7 square meters) of the farmer surged 200 to 300 kilograms.

Immediately after Abibula picked the dates, the fruits were purchased by the cooperative. "We literally rushed to purchase them as they were really of high quality," said Guo Yanchao, head of the cooperative.

"Mean on investing, the farmers suffered both low production and low quality of the fruits in the past," said Li Zhigang, deputy head of Aksu's forestry and grassland bureau.

Since 2019, the bureau has started exploring a new mode, in which the bureau offers farmers fertilizers and purchases services from cooperatives, and the cooperatives provide technical support for the farmers, Li introduced.



A farmer presents the apples he has just picked in an orchard in Qizil Township, Onsu County, Aksu Prefecture, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Nov. 4, 2020. (File photo)

Kelimurat Tunyaz is an employee of a fruit processing company in Aksu. His competence has made him the chief of a workshop that manages over 70 employees.

The company provides him 4,000 yuan per month, as well as food and accommodation.

"Many couples work here, and each couple can save 50,000 to 60,000 yuan each year," said Zhao Wenge, general manager of the company. According to him, the company employs more than

350 local residents, and the number will further rise after a new plant completes construction.

At present, Aksu Prefecture is home to over 140 processing enterprises that screen and package fruits, and they also make fruit jam, juice, fruit wine and freeze-dried fruits. "We have established an industrial chain that not only increases the value of farm produce, but also creates jobs," said Li Xinbin, Party chief of Aksu's forestry and grassland bureau.

Over 3,000 jobs are offered during peak seasons of production by only 10 enterprises above designated size, he added. Today, Aksu has built multiple renowned brands for red dates, walnuts and apples, known as a great source of fruits.

What the fruit industry brings is also thriving eco-tourism. Gan Yongjun, who runs an agritainment facility in Kekeya, Aksu knows it well.

After a harvest of apples, Gan will soon embrace a large inflow of visitors during the upcoming Spring Festival. "The development of the fruit industry is making local ecology better and better," the man told People's Daily, who was the first one in Aksu to start an agritainment facility where he has a 20-mu apple orchard and four gers.

He started making profits in the third year running the facility, and his annual income always stays above 100,000 yuan. Last November, his second agritainment facility started operation.

Today, Gan has bought not only a house in downtown Aksu, but also a car. In addition, he has also expanded the figure in his bank account.

Inspired by him, many local farmers opened agritainment facilities. Now Kekeya is home to over 130 such facilities that received more than 1.5 million visits last year and generated 758 million yuan of tourism revenue. They create jobs for thousands of local households.

People's Daily



Dar es Salaam residents, who will participate in this year's Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon, collect their race numbers at Mlimani City Mall ready for participating in the event slated for Moshi next Sunday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Kili Marathon race number collection slated for Arusha

By Guardian Reporter

AFTER a huge turn out by Dar es Salaam residents at Mlimani City Mall to collect their race numbers for participation in this year's Kilimanjaro Marathon, the exercise is expected to commence in Arusha on Tuesday for two days running.

Speaking while winding up the exercise in Dar es Salaam, the Kilimanjaro Marathon Company representative, Rajon Dato, said the exercise ran smoothly and that the number of those who collected their race numbers was encouraging.

"We received a lot of cooperation from the participants hence the exercise moved faster and we were able to serve many participants," he said.

He noted those who were not able to collect their numbers in Dar es Salaam can do so in either Arusha or Moshi.

"We are calling on all participants for the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager 42km event, Tigo Half Marathon and Grand Malt 5km Fun Run who indicated that they will collect their points in Arusha to turn up on Tuesday and Wednesday from 2pm to 7pm at the Kibo Palace Hotel in the city," he said.

Participants are required to carry their identification cards or passports and the confirmation messages they received upon payment.

After Arusha the exercise will move to Moshi on February 25 (12pm-5pm), February 26 (10am-8pm) and February 27 (9am-5pm).

According to a statement by the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon organizers, registration for the 42km race and 5km Fun Run is still on but it will take place on cash basis at the race's number collection points but the 21km race is already full and registration for the race is closed.

This year's event, slated for February 28 at the Moshi Cooperative University venue, is sponsored by Kilimanjaro Premium Lager-42km, Tigo-21km race, Grand Malt-5km, water table sponsors, Unilever Tanzania, Simba Cement, TPC Sugar, Kilimanjaro International Leather Company Limited, Kibo Palace Hotel.

The race's official suppliers include Garda World Security, Keys Hotel and CMC Automobile.

The event is organized by Kilimanjaro Marathon Company Limited and nationally coordinated by Executive Solutions Limited.

Olympics preparations: Vaccination will be part of travel requirements by midyear

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

WHILE African countries are still in early stages of even thinking of a country-wide vaccination strategy, efforts will have to be made to enhance such provisions as part of wider international links.

The first aspect has usually been how senior government officials can develop links with other countries in the absence of travel provision, and here the use of video conferencing has helped out.

There is another sphere where this is likely to be impracticable when rules are altered, that is, in competitive international sport, where our participation is so far governed by rules of prior testing.

There was a disturbing event of late where a Tanzanian club side was unceremoniously detained on arrival at the Luanda International Airport and put on military vehicles to what was described on international media as quarantine, but as that provision didn't exist at the time of departure, but was cooked up on arrival it was definitely a detention on pretext of coronavirus infection risk, fuelled by an impression across the continent that Tanzania denies reality of the pandemic. The gambit failed.

A big idea came to the Angolan soccer federation, to place in distressful condition the visiting side and then thrash them in a fitting manner when they take to the pitch three days later or sometimes at that point.

This was all too obvious in appearance and thus right-thinking authorities saw through it, but at first it appeared they were acquiescing with the situation, as all reference to the coronavirus is scary, and thus one can push anything - or as the adage goes, get away with murder.

It nearly came off but a dilemma exists as to how far national authorities can invoke Covid-19 to move such action.

One line of solution which is increasingly being noticed in Europe and North America is what is being identified as 'vaccination passports' where it becomes compulsory for a person to show a vaccination certificate to be accorded any welcome outside.

With mass infections starting in secluded places like seafaring luxury ships, quarantine is no lon-



Judo players participate in a recent National Championships which took place in Zanzibar.

ger a prized idea as it merely makes it easy for inmates, if they don't sufficiently distance within closed spaces, to infect one another assuming that the risk is high enough. So one will have to be vaccinated to gain right of entry into international sports activity.

That implies the likelihood in the not so distant future that African sports federations will improve their travel conditions to include vaccination passports or visa condition, unlike at present where each country conducts its own testing procedures.

The good thing about vaccines is that they are just a few, accepted by global health authorities including the World Health Organisation (WHO), and where there is a global vaccine alliance (GAVI) whose eminent chairperson, the former Nigerian Finance Minister Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala now leads the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

This link at the top ex-

ecutive level should make it somewhat easier to add Covid-19 vaccines on WTO table, and the UN.

That means existing national arrangements and regional protocols on Covid-19 tests will have to be further streamlined to be consonant with international demands and standards generally, where the issue isn't testing to find out whether one has the virus, but being vaccinated.

As more African countries roll out vaccination programs, such a condition may soon be adopted, not by expecting that the breadth of the continent will be vaccinated anytime soon, or in two or three years to come, but specialised vaccination facilities ought to take off for those in need of vaccination passports.

Out of this number sports people will be under intense pressure, for the video link replacement can't work.

So far this problem isn't being discussed at the sports federations level as it isn't a

requirement in the regional sporting events to which we are a part.

But there is a possibility that the Olympic Games get ahead at midyear, not quite the mass Olympic Games of old even with the far reaching vaccination rollout in most of Global North as they call the rich countries.

It will be possible that delegations of vaccinated individuals arrive in the city of Tokyo and other host cities in Japan and close neighbours, whether or not the Games are held conjointly the way the two held the World Cup finals in 2002.

But since then trade spats and traditional animosities have been reignited, diminishing joint Games option.

With the intensity or depth of Covid-19 apparent infections locally rising, even domestically the usual confidence we have been exhibiting with preventive mechanisms and local first aid or quick reaction formulas to the pandemic begins to wane.

Fatigue cost Kagera Sugar in VPL defeat to KMC FC, says coach

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona



Kagera Sugar

KAGERA Sugar's head coach, Mecky Mexime, has stated the outfit's 3-0 defeat to Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC in a Vodacom Premier League (VPL) fixture, played in Dar es Salaam last weekend, came about because of fatigue his players experienced.

Mexime pointed out his club's players had played a tough game two days earlier. The team locked horns with Yanga in a clash, which had the two teams locked to a 3-3 draw.

"We were a little bit sluggish and you could understand because my players used all their energy in the game against Yanga on Thursday where it ended 3-3, it was a game which had my charges playing their lungs out," Mexime revealed.

"We also generally didn't play good football though we tried to come up in the second half," he added.

He said his team were a little bit shaky but he pointed out he believes those are some of the jitters that come after playing a tough game.

He noted he is confident the team will do well in the coming games.

"I'm sure we will bounce back in our coming games, I'm saying so given all my players are determined to fight for the team," he said.

Dodoma Jiji FC will be Kagera Sugar's next opponents in a VPL match, slated to take place at the former's home ground, Jamhuri Stadium, on Wednesday.

The KMC FC netted the opening goal on the 16th minute via midfielder Abdul Hillary when Kagera Sugar defenders failed to contain him.

The Dar es Salaam team put much pressure on the visitors throughout the first half but failed to notch more goals.

By the time the teams went for recess, the hosts were 1-0 up and in the second half KMC FC continued from where they stopped and goal getter Hassan Kabuda scored a brace on the 78th and 89th minutes of the game.

The tie's eventual winners are placed eighth in VPL table with 31 from 21 games, while Kagera Sugar are placed 10th with 24 points from the same number of games.

KMC FC will play its next two games away to Polisi Tanzania and Coastal Union.

The side will take on Polisi Tanzania in Kilimanjaro on March 4 and the former will later on lock horns with Coastal Union in Tanga on Marh 7.

Yanga's coach revels in team's victory over Mtibwa Sugar

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimi

YANGA's head coach, Cedric Kaze, says that his side's 1-0 win over Mtibwa Sugar in a Vodacom Premier League (VPL) game, held in Dar es Salaam last Saturday, was due to his ability to read his opponents' tactics for a

long time inside and outside the stadium.

Midfielder Carlos Fernandes 'Carlinhos' netted the all-important goal for the VPL leaders in the tie, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

On a match which seemed extremely tough for Yanga,

the side's players found it difficult to open up Mtibwa Sugar's defense.

The hosts resorted to shooting from outside the visitors' penalty box, the shots nevertheless went way off target.

Carlinhos, who came off the bench, notched the goal

on the 72nd minute, betting Mtibwa Sugar keeper with a low shot.

Yanga still lead the VPL table with a total of 49 points after featuring in a total of 21 matches.

The domestic top flight leaders had, in the process, ended their four-game win-

less run.

The team settled for draw in their past three outings. They had faced Prisons, Mbeya City FC and Kagera Sugar.

Kaze said: "I started reading my opponents since they took part in this year's Mapinduzi Cup in Zanzibar,

where, I had known I would be able to get the victory over the squad."

"I told my players that they must fight and use their minds to seek victory," he insisted.

"In that we have succeeded and won so it is our duty to pursue success within the

field," he said.

Mtibwa Sugar's previous game ended with the squad managing 1-1 draw with Ifhefu FC in Morogoro.

In the VPL's first phase fixture between Yanga and Mtibwa Sugar, which took place in Morogoro, the latter conceded 1-0 defeat.

Everton send Liverpool into full-blown crisis

LIVERPOOL, England

JURGEN Klopp has grown accustomed to making history as Liverpool manager, but he and his team are now creating it for all the wrong reasons. Times have been bad in recent weeks at Anfield, but the reigning Premier League champions are now in a full-blown crisis after losing 2-0 at home to Everton for the first time this century.

That's not a misprint. Everton had not won at the home of their Merseyside neighbours since September 1999 and had not tasted victory of any kind against Liverpool, in any competition, since a 2-0 league win at Goodison Park in October 2010.

No major big-city derby anywhere in the world has been so one-sided. Espanyol have beaten Barcelona and Torino have been victorious against Juventus in the years since Everton last beat Liverpool, but that long, agonising wait is now over thanks to Richarlison's third-minute opener and an 82nd-minute Gylfi Sigurdsson penalty.

"I am very pleased for the club and the supporters," Everton manager Carlo Ancelotti said. "I hope for sure that they are going to celebrate tonight. It was a good performance. A lot of fight and spirit. I am really happy."

Everton deserved their victory, which triggered the release of celebratory fireworks in nearby Stanley Park and the sounding of car horns in the streets, but the defeat merely compounded what has already been an awful 2021 so far for Liverpool. From being an outstanding team of champions, Liverpool are now locked in a battle simply to qualify for the Champions League next season. Everton, Chelsea and West Ham United all are capable of finishing above them now.

"It's tough to take," Klopp said. "I don't like to talk today about the good stuff because we lose the game and we feel that deeply. I just have to use it tomorrow, and it is our lifeline to keep going."

"We have to improve on the finishing stuff and then we will win football games."

Last season, every time Klopp's team set a new record, it was a positive one. Whether it was consecutive wins, points tally or the end of the club's 30-year wait to be crowned champions of England again, it was all good news.

But there is now no end to the bad news for Liverpool. Aside from the pain of finally losing to Everton, this defeat marked the first time since 1923 that Liverpool have lost four successive home games.

Little less than a month ago, Klopp's team were 68 games unbeaten at home in the league -- a sequence stretching back to April 2017 -- but since losing to Burnley on Jan. 21, they have lost to Brighton & Hove Albion, Manchester City and now Everton. Previously an impregnable fortress, Anfield has now witnessed four defeats and two draws in its past six league games, with only two Liverpool goals in those fixtures.

But the grim statistics don't end there. This was also Liverpool's fourth successive league defeat, home and away, having also lost at Leicester City last week, and on a personal level Klopp has lost his unbeaten record against Everton in his 13th derby.

So there is plenty for Klopp to unpack when he next sits at his desk and attempts to find a way out of this dismal run. It is hard to find a suitable adjective to describe it because it has now gone beyond a slump and a malaise. Meltdown is perhaps the most accurate.

Injuries have unquestionably been a central factor in Liverpool's woeful defence of their title, and the problems began when Virgil van Dijk suffered a cruciate ligament injury against Everton at Goodison in October. Since losing their defensive talisman, Liverpool's injuries haven't stopped. Van Dijk's defensive partner Joe Gomez is also out with a serious knee injury, with Joel Matip sidelined and midfielder Fabinho, who has filled in at the back throughout the campaign, also out.

And the situation deteriorated further in this game when captain Jordan Henderson, once against playing as a makeshift centre-half, limped off on 30 minutes after suffering a groin injury. So when substitute Nathaniel Phillips replaced Henderson to play alongside Ozan Kabak, it was the 18th central defensive pairing that Liverpool had all season. Eighteen!

Those defensive injuries, and the ripple effect they have had on the midfield, have been well documented. There is nothing new to say about the overcrowded treatment room, other than to say that Kabak, signed on loan from Schalke 04 in January, looked well short of the required quality during a torrid 90 minutes against Everton.

The uncertainty at the back and in midfield has impacted on Liverpool's goal threat, with Mohamed Salah, Roberto Firmino and Sadio Mane all having chances, but missing them, in this game. Two goals in six home games tells its own story, though. Liverpool possess great forwards, but when they snatch at sporadic chances, they won't score goals.

The Anfield effect is also worth noting. Due to absence of supporters because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Anfield is no longer the noisy cauldron that urged Liverpool to the title last season. Klopp has built a team that rides the wave of noise from the supporters, but that extra ingredient has been missing this season, and we are now seeing just how important it is to this team.

ESPN

Should Messi stay at Barca or join Man City, PSG? - I

LONDON

LIONEL Messi needs little introduction: he'll go down in history as one of the best to ever play soccer, with six Ballons d'Or to his name, countless individual awards and team trophies in his cabinet and all of them earned while playing for Barcelona. And yet, this summer he has a very real choice. After trying to leave Barca last summer -- remember we all learned the word "burofax"? -- he'll be able to walk out the door for free this summer once his contract expires on June 30.

What will he do? He's got three realistic options in front of him: join former boss Pep Guardiola at all-conquering Manchester City, reunite with former teammate Neymar at Paris Saint-Germain, or succumb to the sentimental and sign a new deal at Barcelona. More importantly, what about the clubs themselves? ESPN's Mark Ogden (Man City), Julien Laurens (PSG) and Graham Hunter (Barcelona) unpack the pros and cons for the three teams vying for Messi's signature this summer.

How smoothly would he fit? What would have to change around him? How will the financial aspect work given the cost-cutting needs of the coronavirus pandemic? Jump to: Manchester City | PSG | Barcelona

MANCHESTER CITY
The case for: Manchester City are still on course for a domestic treble and could also win the Champions League this season, so adding (arguably) the best player in the world to one of the strongest squads on the planet, under one of the best managers, Pep Guardiola, would be an emphatic statement of the club's determination to remain at the top of the game.

Messi would bring goals, creativity and star quality, and his presence in and around the team would surely only help accelerate the progress of City's Phil Foden, the 20-year-old midfielder who is regarded as the best English player of his generation.

The football logic of signing Messi is clear. Despite his age (he will be 34 in June), he will only make City more formidable. But it is off the pitch that Messi could do most for City. Ever since the Abu Dhabi takeover in 2008, City have wanted a megastar signing, but moves for Kaka, Wayne Rooney, Neymar and Kylian Mbappe all failed to come off. From a commercial and branding perspective, City need Messi to help close the gap on traditional super-teams such as Liverpool, Manchester United, Real Madrid, Barcelona and Bayern Munich, whose respective histories and illustrious former players give them an edge on a club that still falls short in terms of global appeal.

Signing Messi would further increase City's profile and make them more attractive to



Lionel Messi is one of the best to ever play the game, and he has three clubs to choose from when his contract expires this summer. (Agencies)

sponsors, who would happily pump money into the club to be associated with the Messi brand. Even if Messi failed to deliver on the pitch, City know he would transform their brand off it and that's why they are so keen to sign him.

The case against: From a football perspective, there's a point to be made that City don't need Messi. Indeed, signing him could actually disrupt the team Guardiola has built. City have done pretty well without Messi in recent seasons, and the suggestion that signing him would unlock the door to winning the Champions League doesn't stack up when you consider that Barcelona haven't won it since 2015, despite having Messi in his prime in their lineup for each of the past six years.

If Messi moves to the Etihad, so many players would have to sacrifice themselves to accommodate him in the team. Is it really worth the risk of disrupting Kevin De Bruyne, Raheem Sterling, Bernardo Silva and Phil Foden, and diminishing their status in the team, simply to put a 34-year-old vanity signing in the side? Messi is still an exceptional player, but his performances and goals/assists over the past 12 to 18 months point to a decline in his output, and one thing that has defined City's recruitment over the past decade is their refusal to lavish big money on players who are past their peak. Instead, City have identified young, emerging talent and invested in their future. Sergio Aguero, David Silva, Sterling, De Bruyne and Ederson all fit that profile, and they have been hugely successful.

Rather than commit as much as £100m a year on Messi's salary, surely City would be better served by following their own blueprint by signing Erling Haaland or trying again for Mbappe. They would give more long-term value than Messi, though Messi might be the statement signing that City just cannot let go.

What should Man City do? If City sign Messi, it will be because the commercial benefits are irresistible to the club's owners. Yes, he can still have an impact on the pitch, but City don't need Messi to win trophies.

They want to be seen as the No. 1 destination for the world's top players and having Messi on board would encourage others to follow in the future.

Despite the costs involved, City would get a short-term kick on the pitch and a long-term boost off it. On that basis, it would be a win-win for City to sign Messi. -- Mark Ogden

PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN

The case for: Since the Qataris bought PSG in the summer of 2011, they had one dream -- bring either Lionel Messi or Cristiano Ronaldo to the Parc des Princes. They tried many times, especially with the Portuguese superstar, and they always failed. Now that there's a chance to get the GOAT from Argentina, they won't give up.

PSG say it would obviously give them an even bigger chance to finally win the Champions League, the one prize they've craved for almost a decade. Even if Messi is turning 34 in June and has not won the biggest club competition since 2015, he would make PSG a better team and a bigger contender. Messi can win games on his own, whatever the opposition or the level. And if you have Neymar, Kylian Mbappe, Marquinhos or Marco Verratti around him, you could build something long lasting.

More than on-field performance, signing Messi would give PSG and their owners a credibility they've craved every bit as much as that elusive trophy. For critics who don't really take the Parisians seriously, Messi would offer some validation to their project.

Regarding the PSG brand, it's growing day by day and the Messi factor would propel it

so much further, and so much faster. Marketing-wise, it would be the coup of the century -- far bigger than attracting Zlatan Ibrahimovic, David Beckham or Neymar in the past.

Finally, in the constant rivalry between Doha and Abu Dhabi, having Messi choosing Paris over Manchester City would be a sweet feeling. They have at times fought for the same players in the past, but winning the battle for Messi would be something else, even at their level.

The case against: Messi will be 34 in June and you can argue that, even if Mbappe ends up leaving, the Argentine genius is not really what PSG need. They could use the summer (with or without the revenue generated by Mbappe leaving) to make their squad more balanced around Neymar.

At his age, Messi would cost a lot of money in wages, signing-on fees and other bonuses. In the current context, the club would have to make a really significant effort to put this money on the table, money that they don't really have considering they're projecting losses of around 200m euros this year. PSG have been hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic, maybe even more than other big European clubs, given that the 2019-20 Ligue 1 season was halted during the pandemic and didn't resume.

If Messi arrives, how can PSG possibly retain Mbappe? Replacing the French star with Messi, essentially using the money from selling the Paris-born prodigy to fund the biggest transfer of the club's history, is risky. Furthermore, any deal with Messi would be strictly short term. At his age, and the things he'd hope to achieve before retiring -- perhaps a stint in MLS or back at his

first club, Newell's Old Boys -- there would not be much time for him in Paris. Maybe two years at most? Just one? Would it really be worth it?

What should PSG do? PSG are waiting for Messi to make a decision. Right now, the priority is to keep Neymar and Mbappe, extending their current deals -- which expire in June 2022 -- while preparing a plan to be able to welcome Messi. Financially, it would be a nightmare, but they say it is possible. They will try everything they can to court the Barca No. 10, and Neymar is already lobbying Messi with the aim of recruiting him. Neymar's pitch is easy: Come and play with me again and let's win the Champions League together. PSG are all for it. -- Julien Laurens

BARCELONA

The case for keeping him: There was a point, beginning last August, that the prospect of Messi staying at Barcelona -- and it being a sound decision for any of the parties involved -- would have seemed ludicrous.

Not so in 2021. The vast majority of Messi's anger was directed at a now-departed club president who he says repeatedly misled and betrayed him. Josep Maria Bartomeu is history and, with something close to certainty, the Big Boss going forward from the March 7 presidential elections will be Joan Laporta, someone with whom Messi, and the family members who represent him, have always had friendly relations.

The other part of Messi's (understandable) fury was that the twilight years of his sublime career were being besmirched by FC Barcelona's moribund -- you'd almost say self-destructive -- approach

to squad renewal and the building of an ultra-competitive XI. Again, things have rebooted on that front too. This season, Barca are distinct from the desperate months under Quique Setien & Co. that threatened to tear the club apart. They're incomplete and occasionally vulnerable, true, but hugely improved in playing style, flair and competitive ability, and they boast the threat of much more to come.

But to continue this line of argument any further without mentioning Pedri -- born Pedro Gonzalez Lopez -- would be a huge error.

The 18-year-old is utterly exceptional -- he's the best Under-20 footballer anywhere in the world (including Ansu Fati) by miles. If you've not had the benefit of watching Pedri and Messi frolicking around Spanish pitches together, then don't simply take my word for it. Seek them out.

Messi adores the kid from the Canary Islands. It should be the other way round, but Barcelona's No. 10 acts as if he's suddenly got another son. Instinctively, they think identically about football -- about seven or eight beats ahead of almost everyone else in their team or in the opposition. It's a little bit like what we were all deprived of when the Ronaldinho-Messi symbiosis of 2005-06 was cruelly curtailed -- first by the Brazilian's fondness for nightlife and then by Guardiola's "clear the decks" arrival.

Suddenly, Pedri -- and to some extent Antoine Griezmann, Ousmane Dembele, Ronald Araujo, Francisco Trincao and Frenkie de Jong -- have all changed Messi's understanding of what might be achieved with this squad if there are one or two well-judged additions, even amid the club's horrible financial crisis. No informed opinion on Messi's future can ignore the fact that to some teammates, he's an intimidating and sometimes off-putting figure around the training ground.

But if he's renewed in his commitment to the club, if he's energised and if he's desperate to win important trophies, there's no question that, even if less regularly than in his peerless era, Messi can still put in performances that not only make him look like the best, most exciting player in the world -- he can also make Barcelona irresistible again.

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To be Continued

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Everton send Liverpool into full-blown crisis

PAGE 19



Tanzania's national U-20 football squad 'Ngorongoro Heroes'.

Dor or die for Ngorongoro Heroes against Morocco

Gambia, Gambia and Tanzania follow with one point each.

Morocco can afford to get a point and secure their quarterfinal spot, while nothing but victory can see Tanzania go through to the second round.

Ngorongoro Heroes will take all the risks to get the much needed three points, with an eye on the other Group C game between Ghana and Gambia, played simultaneously at Stade Olympique de Nouakchott.

Jamhuri Kihwelo 'Julio', Ngorongoro Heroes' head coach, will have his work cut out against the North Africans who won the tournament in 1997 and raring to repeat the feat despite the gigantic task awaiting them.

Kihwelo will be banking on the breath of several foreign-based youngsters to cause an upset in the crucial game.

The tactician's squad will look for inspiration from Kelvin John, Ally Msengi, Novatus Dismas, Ben Starkie, Ibrahimshah Faisal, Nassor Saadun and Alphonse Mabula, who are playing abroad and exposed to better facilities like their counterparts from Morocco.

chott, Mauritania today.

Midfielder Novatus Dismas scored with two minutes left on the clock as Tanzania rallied from a goal down to hold Gambia to a 1-1 draw in their second Group C match in Nouadhibou on Friday.

Dismas' goal from a free kick ensured that Ngorongoro Heroes kept their belief until the final day of the group stage.

Meanwhile, Morocco played out to

a goalless draw against Ghana in their second group match in Nouadhibou on Friday.

In a lively and entertaining match, both sides had chances to score, but could not find the net.

The results see both teams move to four points, but Ghana remains top of the group on goal difference, having beaten Tanzania 4-0 in their opening encounter.

Morocco were 1-0 winners over

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA's national U-20 soccer side, Ngorongoro Heroes, take on Morocco's U-20 squad when the curtain draws on Group C of the 2021 U-20 Africa Cup of Nations tournament at Cheikha Ould Boidiya Stadium in Nouak-

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:00 Wanawake Live (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:00 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 S5ELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 5SPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hits

TONIGHT on EATV
Find out how using glass blocks from Canghul Traders Limited can improve your home decor.

And Tanlix Quality Choice has an innovative solution for wall fungus.

It's all on Ujenzi at 9PM

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Mwadui FC will fight to avoid relegation-coach

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

VODACOM Premier League (VPL)'s Mwadui FC's head coach, Amri Said, has stated despite his team's continued dip in form, the squad would do its utmost to avoid relegation.

The team are anchoring the VPL table with 15 points from 21 matches. They, last Saturday, suffered their 14th defeat of the season when they went down 3-2 to Ihefu FC at Highlands Estate venue in Mbeya.

The defeat saw Mwadui FC remain within the relegation places after getting only 15 points from possible 63, had they won all of their games played so far this season.

Once a force to be reckoned with, Mwadui FC is in serious danger of battling in an unfamiliar territory, the relegation zone, following their poor form in the ongoing VPL.

Said said it is now time for his players to fight hard as the going in the VPL this season is getting tough for them.

"We have a good squad which has potential to fight to avoid relegation from the league, there are a few areas we need to work on. We are struggling a lot in attack, therefore, we will work on that to ensure that we start getting the desired results," he said.

The Shinyanga team have only managed four wins and three draws in 21 matches.

Mwadui FC's players, who will later take on Namungo FC in the VPL, have showed a lack of confidence in their performance and most of them have performed below par this season.

The Saturday's 3-2 defeat to Ihefu FC saw Mwadui FC lose three games in a row, they earlier lost 2-1 to Biashara United, and conceded defeat to Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC.

Mwadui FC gave false hopes when they scored on the 12th minute of the clash via veteran attacker, Uhuru Selemani, but the hosts equalized nine minutes later through Andrew Simchimba.

In the second half Dennis Richard scored for Mwadui FC on the 56th minute of the game but poor defending by the visitors saw Ihefu FC's Omary Hassan score a brace on 59th and 72nd minutes of the game.

Ihefu FC's head coach Zubeir Katwila hailed his players for playing according to his game plan.

"We have won today and I must thank all my players for the fighting spirit, our opponents played well and were first to score. My players did all they could and won the game," he said.

The win saw Ihefu FC still placed 16th with 20 points from 21 games played and their next game will be against fellow Premier League new entrants Gwambin FC at the former's backyard.

Athletes enter camp for Olympic qualifiers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's athletes seeking Tokyo Olympics qualification will enter camp early next month, Athletics Tanzania (AT) disclosed.

The Tokyo Olympics are scheduled to run from July 23 to August 8, with the Tokyo Paralympics due to follow from August 24 to September 5.

John Bayo, AT vice-president, said the aim of the camp is to see to it that the country is represented by many athletes at the Games.

Currently only two athletes Alponce Simbu and Failuna Matanga qualified for the Games.

"We plan to have an early camp so that our athletes can earn qualification for the Games. We want to have many athletes at the Games. The camp will prepare them for qualification events," he said.

The AT official, however, conceded that with the second phase of coronavirus hitting hard around the world, many qualifying events have either been cancelled or postponed.

He, however, expressed optimism that there will be some Olympic qualifiers soon.



Athletics Tanzania (AT)'s vice-president, John Bayo.

"Of course many qualifying events have been suspended and others cancelled, but we are optimistic that soon there will be some events which will be used as qualifying competitions for the Tokyo Olympics,

all we want to do is to keep our athletes ready for qualifying tournaments," he said.

Bayo was reported in the media as saying that the team will camp for four months at two venues, West Kilimanjaro

for marathoners while track and field athletes will camp at Sheikh Amri Abeid KaStadium in Arusha.

In a related development, Tanzania's Open Boxing Federation (OBFT) said prepara-

tions for this weekend's East Africa Olympic Trials are going on smoothly.

Lukelo Willilo, OBFT secretary general, said all 17 boxers who are attending training ahead of the trials are performing well.

Zimbabwe, Burundi and hosts Tanzania will attend the trials slated to start in Dar es Salaam yesterday and climax on March 4.

"The preparations and training for the East Africa Olympic Trials are going on very well, I'm happy that boxers who are in camp are doing very well," he said.

The trials are organized with the aim of giving boxers international exposure ahead of Tokyo Olympic Games and AIBA World Boxing Championships which will be held in Belgrade, Serbia.

Tanzania is expected to compete in such disciplines like athletics, judo, boxing, swimming and beach volleyball in Tokyo Olympics.

Simba SC set to miss eight players in Al Ahly clash

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC's head coach, Didier Gomes Da Rosa, is likely to miss his eight players in the first team heading into the CAF Champions League's Group A match against Egyptian giants, Al Ahly, at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday.

The players include keeper Ally Salim, defenders, Kenedy Juma, Erasto Nyoni and

Ibrahim Ame, midfielders, Larry Bwalya and Jonas Mkude, and attackers, Perfect Chikwende and John Bocco.

Bocco, Simba's leading forward, has eight goals and two assists for the team in the domestic top flight.

He is not fit as he is suffering from injuries despite resuming training with the team.

Zimbabwean Chikwende, a new entry into Simba from

Zimbabwe's FC Platinum, has not been listed for the continental tournament as he had featured for his former side in the tournament's previous rounds.

Six of Simba's performers were left in DR Congo by the team due to what is said to be the Congolese authorities' directive that they were supposed to remain there under special care on grounds that they have coronavirus.

The Tanzania club took on AS Vita Club of DR Congo in the Group A's opening clash in Kinshasa, which ended with the visitors notching 1-0 victory.

The players also remained there with the team's manager, Abbas Seleman. They were later given green light to make their way back to Dar e Salaam.

Simba's information officer Haji Manara said that

the results from DR Congo's National Laboratory showed that some of the squad's players have coronavirus but when they tested at other laboratories they were found to have not contracted the disease.

The Simba official stated they have already returned and they immediately went into the team's camp to feature in training.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

