



AID
ROTARY CLUB DONATES TEXTBOOKS TO DAR SCHOOL PAGE 2

INFRASTRUCTURE
WATER PROJECT LAUNCHED IN MKINGA PAGE 3

ELECTION
PROVOCATIVE LANGUAGE DURING CAMPAIGNS PAGE 4

VIOLENCE
UNUSUAL ASSAULTS AGAINST CHILDREN IN ZANZIBAR PAGE 6



WTO: Ambassador Mohamed shortlisted in top executive run

GENEVA

THE sole East African candidate in the race for the post of World Trade Organisation (WTO) Director-General, Amina Mohamed from Kenya yesterday qualified for the next round of test after convincing member states of her capabilities.

WTO General Council chairman David Walker announced that Ambassador Mohamed and four other candidates will stay in the race after they secured "the broadest and deepest support from the WTO membership."

The former Kenyan foreign minister is the only East African on the race and her bid has the support of the member states of the East African Community and several regional business organisations.

A two-week consultation between envoys of the 164-member global agency retained Mohamed, Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala of Nigeria, Yoo Myung-hee of South Korea, Mohammad Maziad Al-Tuwaijri of Saudi Arabia and Dr Liam Fox of the United Kingdom.



...I would also like to pay tribute to the dignified manner in which they, their delegations, and their governments have conducted themselves in this process

The four will compete in the next round that starts on September 24 to October 6, to settle on two candidates who move to the final stage.

"Members consider all highly qualified and respected individuals. I would also like to pay tribute to the dignified manner in which they, their delegations, and their governments have conducted themselves in this process," Walker told envoys of member states here yesterday.

Dr Jesús Seade Kuri of Mexico, Abdel-Hamid Mamdouh of Egypt and Tudor Ulianoschi of Moldova were dropped from the race for receiving the least indications of support from member states.

Mohamed had contested against Brazilian trade negotiator Roberto Azevêdo in 2013 but lost on a decision made by consensus among member states.

The director-general of the WTO is appointed through consensus, meaning candidates will have to do lots of horse-trading ahead of the decision making at each stage.

The WTO, formed in 1995 is a rule-making body that guides international trade and tries to resolve disputes. It is based in Geneva and decisions it delivers on cases brought before it are often final, and exercise a moderating diplomatic influence in disputes on world trade, even without being a proper UN agency.

World eyes on Tanzania with lion populations diminishing

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Manyara



It's grief all over with caskets bearing the bodies of ten pupils of Byamungu Islamic Primary School in Kyerwa District, Kagera Region, killed in a fire that gutted a boys' dormitory at the school at dawn on Monday lined up at the school's grounds yesterday shortly before the paying of last respects. Photo: Correspondent Allawi Kaboyo

THE world now depends on Tanzania's conservation efforts to boost the rapidly dwindling lion populations as the country accounts for over 50 per cent of all big cats on earth—the highest number in the world.

However, wildlife experts in the northern zone warn that at the rate the ferocious cats are being killed in ongoing human-wildlife conflicts on reserved corridors, Tanzania too could soon lose these important, but now endangered creatures.

Dr Bernard Kissui, a researcher who studies lions within the Tarangire-Burunge-Manyara eco-system, encompassing Arusha and Manyara regions told The Guardian yesterday that the cats have been suffering attacks from local herders along the adjacent Kvakuchinja wildlife corridor.

As of now it estimated that there are more than 15,000 lions in Tanzania, which essentially means half of total large cat population in the world is hosted in the country.

Wildlife experts here estimate the global population to be clocking at 30,000 leos with the number rapidly dropping. "The figure is just an estimate, but still Tanzania remains the global lion hotspot," he pointed out.

Dr Kissui, the director of the Centre for Wildlife Management Studies, was addressing a group of writers and reporters from the Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) in association with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).



The figure is just an estimate, but still Tanzania remains the global lion hotspot

The scribes' field trip was part of the recently held virtual media training sessions on biodiversity conservation organized by the Journalists Environment Association of Tanzania (JET) in association with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The study was conducted as part of a series of training programs that USAID initiates through Promoting Tanzania's Environment, Conservation and Tourism Project (PROTECT).

The Tarangire Manyara ecosystem is home to around 180 lions, the number having dropped from more than 200 leos that roamed the area in 2003.

Photo slides from the wilderness revealed shocking images of badly mutilated remains of the cats, mostly speared or hacked by angry pastoralists.

The Secretary of Burunge Wildlife Management Area, Benson Mwaise, admitted that herders kill lions in retaliation for the cats' attacks on their livestock.

For his part, the Sangawe Village chairman Mariani Mwansa Mbera said that elephants have also been destroying crops in farms, but the mostly livestock keepers in the area had a bone to pick with lions.

As a highly valuable wildlife species, lions face threats from attacks, diseases and regulated hunting targeting the ferocious animals as trophies.

The 'Panthera' organization, exclusively devoted to the conservation of the world's 40 wild cat species and their ecosystems, reports that it is not clear exactly how many lions

'New ships to end disasters in Lake Tanganyika travel'

By Henry Mwangonde, Kigoma

CCM presidential candidate Dr John Magufuli has pledged to end transportation woes on Lake Tanganyika once he is re-elected to serve another five-year term.

At campaign rally at Lake Tanganyika Stadium here yesterday, Dr Magufuli said his government will buy two brand new ships and renovate another two ships plying in the lake in his final term.

"I am tired of being informed about



I am tired of being informed about frequent boat accidents in the lake

frequent boat accidents in the lake," he told the rally that flocked to the stadium to the brim, to thunderous applause.

In the televised speech, the candidate who is on a marathon tour of regions said one of the two brand new ships will have capacity to ferry 600 passengers and 400 tonnes of cargo, while the other ship will be specifically for cargo, ferrying 4,000 tonnes.

He said 10bn/- will be spent on repairing MV Liemba and another 6bn/- will be spent on

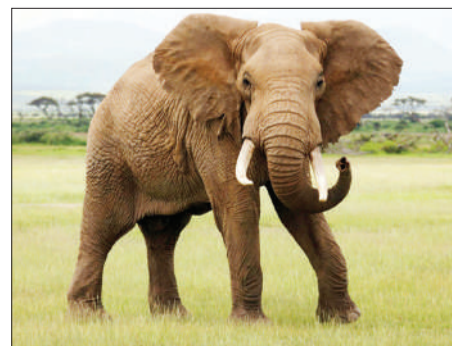
TURN TO PAGE 2

Elephant emerges in city, crushes motorcycle rider

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

JUMBO-SIZED trouble was at hand for a section of Arusha residents yesterday when an adult male elephant made a scene in the city, touching off pandemonium which cost the life of a motorcycle rider apparently out to play hero in the incident.

The elephant, which shocked the city residents with its early morning appearance, later stomped and killed the motorcyclist rider, Long'ida Mollel (35), who reportedly



followed the beast into the bush overlooking the Korongoni gorge. He was overheard bragging that he could control the jumbo, which however lifted the motorcycle rider with its trunk and smashed him onto the ground, killing the victim on the spot.

Previously the huge male elephant was spotted in the early morning in a densely vegetated section of Njiro in Lemara Ward, south of Arusha City, by a young girl. Shayla Said, a form two student, was preparing for school in the early morning at about 6.30 am when she spotted the animal.

She summoned her father, Said Said who contacted the local police as well as wildlife officers. They arrived and realized they forgot to bring along dart guns to tranquilize the elephant

TURN TO PAGE 2



9 770856 542009 >

TURN TO PAGE 2



President John Magufuli, who is seeking re-election in the upcoming General Election on the ruling CCM's ticket, pictured at Kigoma-Ujiji's Lake Tanganyika grounds yesterday presenting his hat to Bongo Flava artiste Linex Sunday in style in appreciation of the musician's performance at the candidate's campaign rally in the municipality. Photo: State House

World eyes on Tanzania with lion populations diminishing

FROM PAGE 1

roam the earth today.

Panthera says that trends in recent decades are alarming and that lions have so far vanished from over 95 percent of their historic range, with only about 20,000 left in the wild in 28 African countries and India. Six protected areas are known to support

more than 1,000 lions.

Lions are currently listed as 'vulnerable' on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) red list of threatened species. In West Africa, the species is now classified as "critically endangered," and local experts fear that any further rapid declines may see lions listed as 'endangered' across their range.

New ships to end disasters In Lake Tanganyika travel

FROM PAGE 1

renovating MV Sangara.

The president noted that the purchase of the new ships and renovations will go in tandem with the construction of a major port in Kigoma.

Dr Magufuli is among 15 presidential candidates from 15 political parties contesting for the country's highest office.

The National Electoral Commission says about 29.2m voters have registered to elect the president, members of legislative bodies and ward councilors. Tanzania has an estimated population of 57m.

In July, at least 10 people were killed and 87 rescued after a boat capsized in the lake, and slightly earlier on June 25 nine people were killed and 51 injured after a boat capsized.

In another development, Dr Magufuli said the government has plans for massive cultivation of oil palm from October to end importation of edible oils.

He said he had sent Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa to the region to inspect oil palm seedlings nursery at the Bulombora National Service camp farm.

The president told oil palm farmers in the region to get prepared for massive cultivation of the crop in the next five years as already 1.8m seedlings have been grown for distribution to farmers.

In February last year premier Majaliwa announced that the government had set aside 4.3m dollars (around 10bn/-) to boost cultivation of oil palm as part of its strategy to end importation of edible oils.

Kigoma region accounts for more than 80 percent of local palm oil produce and has the potential to make Tanzania one of the world's leading producers and exporters of palm oil due to its soils and weather.

Tanzania imports almost half of its edible oils needs despite having a vast and promising production potential in palm oil and sunflower.

In July, at least 10 people were killed and 87 rescued after a boat capsized in the lake, and slightly earlier on June 25 nine people were killed and 51 injured after a boat capsized.

Elephant emerges in city, crushes motorcycle rider

FROM PAGE 1

so as to carry the jumbo back to the Lolikisale Game Reserve of Simanjoro, Manyara Region, where it is supposed to have ventured out of the reserve.

Korongoroni Area chairman Goodluck Lekanyo and Block J chairman Hamza Juma Njiku said the

riders were compulsive in forcing their way to the elephant which presumably felt threatened and eventually killed one of the motorcyclists.

But it was during the brief absence of the police and wildlife officers that a group of irate motorcycle riders stormed into the locality, shouting that they were capable of handling the giant

mammal. One of them even ventured close enough to touch its tail, irking the elephant which later turned against him causing the rider's death.

Michael Msokwa, a wildlife officer from the Anti-Poaching Unit, explained that the jumbo comes from Lolikisale Game Reserve in Simanjoro as by venturing to Arusha it was retracing

their original eco-system.

"In the past these parts of Njiro used to be a Game Controlled Area and later the government decided to downgrade them following mass invasion of people and habitats, but elephants still recognize the area as their habitat," he added.

Dar es Salaam Rotary Club gives various textbooks to Mbuyuni Primary School

By Guardian Reporter

THE Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam Sunset has commemorated this year's Education and Literacy month by providing support to the Mbuyuni Primary School in Kinondoni District so as to reduce challenges facing the school.

The club donated items such as textbooks and exercise books reaching 600.

Speaking during the event held early this month, the club's President Elect Deborah Da Silva said the donation aimed to support smooth teaching and learning and thus raise students' performance.

"To celebrate the special month, members of the club got together with the pupils from Mbuyuni Primary School in Oysterbay for a fun and educational day. The club spent time reading and playing learning games with the pupils and donated exercises books," she said.

She said: "Mbuyuni School is close to our club's heart, it was in this school where our club launched our first educational project."

The president said that during 2019 the club put a lot of efforts to raise funds so that the school pupils could have access to clean drinking water

and in January 2020, following our club's efforts and a generous donation from Rotary Club of Hereford in England, the school was gifted with a brand new water filtration pump. We also painted and donated books for a new library room, which was much needed.

"Basic education is essential for a country's economic growth. Literacy is a key factor of an individual's success and collectively a community's success. A child's early years are the foundation for future development and a strong base for lifelong learning, cognitive and social development," said the club's former president Farhat Lane.

He said that the rotary has seven areas of focus that includes: basic education and literacy, peace and conflict prevention / resolution, disease prevention and treatment, water and sanitation, maternal and child health, economic and community development and the environment.

"With this in mind, our club works hard to support our local communities in these areas of service with the club members who are made up of professionals and friends wanting to make an impact in the community we live in."



Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein swears in George Joseph Kazi (R) as a Zanzibar High Court judge at Zanzibar State House yesterday. Photo: Zanzibar State House

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Registrar of Cooperatives in Mbeya Region, Angela Maganga, has said in the five years of the Phase V government, the region's cooperatives sector was strengthened including the increase of cooperatives and capital thereof.

Speaking to this paper mid this week, Angela said in 2015 the region had 406 cooperatives but now the number is 468 with 68 struck from the register for not performing for long periods.

She said out of the figure there are five main cooperative unions, one joint project, 169 Saving and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOS), 185

Cooperatives in Mbeya increased to 468 in five years, says registrar

Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies, 51 livestock cooperatives, 19 fishing cooperatives and 18 miscellaneous cooperatives.

She named the five cooperative unions as Chunya Tobacco Cooperative Union (CHUTCU), Rungwe Cooperative Union (RCU), Kyela Cooperative Union (KCU), Ileje-Mbeya Cooperative

Union (IMCU), and Dairy Producers Cooperative Union (DPCU).

"Apart from the increase in the number of cooperatives in the last five years, their operating capital also increased from 16.58bn/- in 2015 to more than 82bn," Angela said.

She also said the government has improved the crop selling system

via cooperatives in regard to coffee, tobacco, tea and cashew nuts, the system that is more beneficial to farmers than the former one.

She said the region established the warehouse receipt system for cocoa that helped the increase of price thereof from 1,500/- per kg in 2015 to 5,787/- per kg.

She said apart from these achievements in the cooperatives, the sector still faces some challenges.

She mentioned some of these challenges as including embezzlement of cooperatives funds by unfaithful cooperative officials, the issue that sometimes cause conflicts.

She further said the sector is also

faced with little understanding on cooperative issues by ordinary people, and even officials causing some cooperatives not to perform well.

"Also, some cooperatives are faced with the problem of small operating capital, but we continue to educate them to ensure they look for other income sources," he said.

She said her office was continuing with various strategies to ensure the cooperative are sustainable and assist in the country's economic growth.

She named some of these strategies as frequently auditing to ensure they operate according to the laws and regulations.



Opposition Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT Wazalendo) Leader Zitto Kabwe (L) introduces Riziki Shahali Ngwali, the party's candidate for the Mafia constituency parliamentary seat in the upcoming General Election, at a campaign rally at Kilindoni on Mafia Island on Thursday. Photo: Correspondent Said Powa

Zanzibar to buy cloves for 14,000/- per kilo to boost production

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein yesterday said that the government will continue to buy cloves at 14,000/- per kilo even if the price of the crop drops at the global market.

Dr Shein made the pledge here when speaking at the inauguration of a cloves processing factory in Mgelema area of Chake Chake, South Pemba Region.

The factory has been built by an Indonesian manufacturing company—Indesso in collaboration with Zanzibar State Trading Corporation (ZSTC).

He said that the government through ZSTC has done several efforts to revive and improve the value of clove.

“Among the improvements, the

government increased the price of clove from 3500/- to 14000/-. We will continue paying farmers the same price even if the globe market falls,” he said.

Dr Shein said that in order to ensure the improvement of the clove crop and its products are strengthened the government has deliberately decided to construct a road at tarmac level, a work which is set to begin soon.

“We have already constructed a Ngomeni road and a health centre, we have sent electricity and other social services, in the next two months, the government will also launch construction of Kipapo-Mgelema road so as to stimulate economic growth in the areas,” he said.

According to him, Zanzibar clove has high demand in the global market with the majority of people loving it due to its quality.

“Between 2010 and 2019, a total of 33,549.8 tonnes of clove worth 448.7bn/- were purchased from farmers whereby 32,142.17 tonnes of cloves worth USD 297,707,844 (553.9bn/-) were sold outside the country,” Dr Shein said.

For her part, Ambassador Amina Salum Ali, minister of Trade and Industries said that the new factory will contribute immensely in improving people's income and the country at large.

Earlier, the ministry's Permanent Secretary Juma Hassan Reli said that the factory will have a capacity to

process 250kg of dry clove leaves at a time and produce 21 litres per day.

In his remarks, Indonesian ambassador in Tanzania Dr Ratlan Pardede said that the launch of the factory translates the strong relationship between the two countries.

He said that the factory has already commenced operation and it is now producing clove oil vowing that more factories will be built in the Isles.

A representative from Indesso Feri Augusta thanked the Zanzibar's government for its support vowing the company will supervise the factory to make sure that it benefits the majority of famers in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

USAID hands out 14bn/- for food security in East Africa

By Guardian Reporter

THE United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has released a USD6m (over 13.9bn/-) grant for establishment of a centre for agriculture development and food security in East Africa.

A statement released yesterday by the Paul G. Allen School for Global Animal Health at the Washington State University, the implementer of the project, said the five-year grant has an opportunity to grow to USD16m. It will be used to develop a regional Feed the Future Animal Health Innovation Lab and research programme based in Nairobi.

The lab will identify interventions to address livestock diseases, particularly East Coast Fever (ECF), and develop capacity in-country in both research training and institutional development for long-term impact.

The Allen School's Global Health - Kenya will lead the lab programme, taking an interdisciplinary approach to addressing livestock diseases, working in partnership with scientists from the University of Nairobi, International Livestock Research Institute, Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organization, and the Kenya Medical Research Institute.

“Twelve African countries are affected by East Coast Fever, impacting approximately 20 million small scale livestock holders. With high livestock mortality and morbidity comes lowered household incomes and related degradation of social and nutritional health,” said Dr. Thumbi Mwangi, associate professor at the Allen School and Animal Health Innovation Lab director.

Infectious animal diseases pose critical challenges for livestock health and production, economic growth, food security and safety, and consequently human health and nutrition. Controlling ECF will enhance livestock productivity, household incomes, food security and nutrition, and ultimately human health and

welfare.

The Feed the Future Animal Health Innovation Lab will employ state-of-the-art technologies including CRISPR-Cas to develop pen-side diagnostics and improve ECF vaccines; deploy animal health interventions and track their impact on livelihoods and human health; and train the next generation of animal health scientists in East Africa.

“A small group of animals can sustain many families for many years. On the other hand, their loss to disease can compromise food security for entire communities. As we celebrate the tenth anniversary of Feed the Future, we are reminded that without sustained food security, we risk economic prosperity and the potential for long and healthy lives,” stated Bonnie Glick, deputy administrator, USAID. “The new Animal Health Innovation Lab, in partnership with Washington State University, goes beyond just agriculture or food—through research and innovation, the new Lab will help us work towards a more prosperous and resilient future.”

Improving the control of animal diseases is critical in reducing malnutrition and improving livelihoods of livestock-dependent communities in many settings in low- and middle-income countries with unacceptably high malnutrition levels, disproportionately affecting children under 5 years of age and women of reproductive age.

Thumbi added, “We are honored and eager to work with the U.S. government's Feed the Future initiative to support families and improve their household economies by mitigating poor animal health in the eastern, southern and central Africa regions.”

Feed the Future works hand-in-hand with partner countries to develop their agriculture sectors and break the vicious cycle of poverty and hunger. We are helping people feed themselves and creating important opportunities for a new generation of young people, while building a more stable world.

By Correspondent George Sembony,

Mkinga

Villagers eager to open taps as water project inaugurated

OVER 3,000 villagers in Mkinga District, Tanga Region are set to benefit from a 471m/- water project built by the World Vision Tanzania (WVT) with funds from the government of Japan.

The WVT Project Manager, Damian Sanka told The Guardian at the project site in Duga Maforoni, near the Tanzania-Kenya border yesterday that the project will benefit residents of the fast growing Duga Maforoni village has been executed as part of its mission to ensure that the girl child does not experience limitations that affect her academic performance such as spending a lot of time in fetching water for the family.

Sanka said some of the project activities include improving water

supply services, building a tan and filter and installing solar power o help in operations when normal power is cut off.

Speaking after launching the water supply project which also includes a water trough for livestock keepers, Tanga Regional Commissioner, Martine Shigela directed the Regional Rural Water Agency (RUWASA) to immediately take action to form strong water users committees in all water projects in the region and start training them to operate in accordance with the new water law.

The new law directs that all committees are manned by trained personnel to avoid mismanagement

excuses.

Shigela said that experience has shown that most of the committees that have formed in past were fraught with operators who are not trained and who are appointed due to their relations with the village officials.

“This is why we have heard quite a lot of cases of committee personnel eloping with collected revenues resulting in failure of committees to pay the cost of simple repairs,” said Shigella.

A resident of Duga, Zahoro Jumaa Zahoro called on the government to look for ways to expand and raise the depth of the Duga dam which he said was built in 1971.



It was horrendous news for conservationists and friends of wildlife but joy for these residents of an Arusha suburb yesterday after this hapless elephant succumbed to injuries it sustained reportedly when hit by a motorcyclist yet to be identified. Photo: Correspondent Marc Nkwame

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



EXTENSION FOR SUBMISSION DATE

The notice is hereby given that submission date of “Invitation to Apply (ITA) for hereunder mentioned Public Notice has been extended from 14th September to 5th October, 2020. **INVITATION TO APPLY FOR UPGRADE OF CONTENT SERVICE (COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING-RADIO) LICENCES**

- The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) here is referred to as ‘the Authority’ is a statutory regulatory body responsible for regulating the electronic communications and postal sectors in Tanzania. The Authority was established under the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act No.12 of 2003 to regulate the electronic communications, postal services, and management of the National Radio Frequency spectrum in the United Republic of Tanzania.
- Pursuant to Regulation 28 of the Electronic and Postal Communications (Licensing) Regulations, GN.57, 2018 and the Electronic and Postal Communications (Licence Procedure) Rules, GN.433, 2014, the Authority has identified Spectrum for Licensees who wish to upgrade their Licences for provision of Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio).
- Objective of the Invitation to Apply for Upgrade is to enhance media diversity, extend service coverage including bridging the existing radio broadcasting services gap in the **underserved (rural) and border areas**.
- In view of the above, the Authority hereby invites interested Licensees to apply for extension of provision of Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio) as follows:-

S/N	SERVICE UPGRADE CATEGORY	NUMBER OF REQUIRED UPGRADES
1	District to Regional	2
2	Regional to National	2

- Applicants are required to **propose service areas (excluding Dar Es Salaam, Arusha, Dodoma, Mbeya and Morogoro which have no spectrum)** as per requirements in No.3 above and collect Guidelines for requirements to be included in the applications which are available at the Authority's Head Office, Zonal Offices in Mbeya, Mwanza, Arusha and Dodoma or on our website at www.tcra.go.tz. The Authority shall review applications based on proposed service areas and shall have the right to the final service areas/available spectrum for shortlisted applicants.
- Applications for provision of the above services should be submitted in sealed envelopes, clearly marked **“Application for Upgrade of Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio) Licences from (Insert Current Service Area i.e Regional) to..... (Insert Service Area to be upgraded i.e. national) in (Insert the service areas proposed)”** be delivered to the address below by 16:00 hours, 5th October, 2020.

Director General,
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority,
Mawasiliano Towers,
20 Sam Nujoma Road,
P.O. Box 474,
14414 DAR ES SALAAM.

Aga Khan hospital appeals for safety of health workers

By Guardian Reporter

THE Aga Khan Hospital, Dar es Salaam (AKH) has promised to continue enforcing health and safety measures across its facilities to ensure access to and delivery of high-quality patient care and thus contribute to the country's health sector development.

This was said yesterday in Dar es Salaam during the commemoration of the World Patient Safety Day under the theme "Health Worker Safety: A Priority for Patient Safety".

Speaking at the event Dr Ahmed Jusabani, medical director of AKH Dar es Salaam said, "September 17, is marked by the World Health Organization (WHO), international partners and all countries to celebrate World Patient Safety Day. The overall objectives of World Patient Safety Day are to enhance global understanding of patient safety, increase public engagement in the safety of health care and promote global actions to enhance patient safety and reduce patient harm."

He said that with over 90 years of excellent health care service delivery across the country, the Aga Khan Health Service, Tanzania prides in implementing best practices and policies to achieve maximum and superior access to Patient-centred care at all its hospitals and outreach health centres.

Dr. Jusabani said Covid-19 pandemic required the hospital to take extraordinary safety and support measures for protection of the staff including; staff health program, special staff medical coverage; staff training in preparation for managing the pandemic; constant supply of Personal Protective Equipment; clinical guidelines for management of Covid-19; psychosocial support

team in response to psychological needs; Work from home policy which provided flexibility to staff during the influx; Public Private Partnership (PPP) in particular with public institutions to support staff safety in government hospitals by providing PPEs and supplies and creative waste management activities.

He added: "The Aga Khan Hospital is eagerly joining hands with WHO and other international partners to celebrate this remarkable initiative which is helping to shape the healthcare delivery system while keeping our staff and patients' safety a Priority".

"Joint Commission International (JCI) re-accreditation is a fundamental role and justification of the hospital's commitment to this day. During the certification process, the hospital was evaluated by international surveyors against more than one thousand measurable elements covering all aspects of healthcare delivery. The accreditation by JCI, USA confirms the credible and satisfactory safety measures undertaken by the Institution at all levels of access care and delivery".

For her part, Aika Mongi, director of nursing at the Aga Khan Hospital, Dar es Salaam said "The Covid-19 pandemic has unveiled the huge challenges health workers are facing globally. Health workers encounter increased risk of healthcare associated infections, violence, accidents, stigma, illness and death.

She said that the objectives of this year's celebration are to raise global awareness about the importance of health worker safety and its interlinkages with patient safety; engage multiple stakeholders and adopt multimodal strategies to improve the safety of health workers and patients.



Nipasha newspaper (weekends) editor Epton Luhwago briefs students from Dar es Salaam's Don Bosco Vocational Education and Training Authority centre on newspaper production. The delegation made a study tour to The Guardian Ltd newsroom in the city yesterday. Photo: Guardian Photographer

'Donkey's vital role in sustainable agricultural development definite'

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

DODOMA-BASED Inades Formation Tanzania (IFTz) has embarked on a special initiative meant to protect donkeys and enable the community to value and recognize their contribution in development.

According to the director of the IFTz, Herman Hishamu, preliminary research showed that donkeys play a very big role in the economic

development of various groups within the community but majority of people do not recognize their value.

"During panning for development in both the government and community, these animals' interests are not prioritized, the situation has led to the animals being raised and used as per local customs and traditions such as abstaining from subjective pastoral care, overloading, overworking and being served with injuries and

diseases," he said.

He said that the preliminary survey found that women and young people are the main users of donkeys; women use them more for household activities such as fetching water, carrying firewood and so on. "Young people also use donkeys to generate income where they earn an average of 5,000/- a day by taking various tenders," he said.

Hishamu added that donkeys are used for transporting produce from

the field, taking goods to the market as well as building materials for the community, adding that rural donkey owners earn an average of 134,000/- to 800,000/- per season for renting a pair of donkeys to transport produce from the field to home and in the marketplace.

Hishamu called on the community to recognize the rights of donkeys as well as to recognize their contribution in social and economic development.



Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein visits a seaweed factory construction site at Mwani Chamanangwe in Wete on Pemba Island yesterday, accompanied by Zanzibar Second Vice President Seif Ali Iddi (L) and Zanzibar Industries and Trade minister Amina Salum Ali (C). Photo: Zanzibar State House

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR'S United Peoples Democratic party (UPDP) presidential candidate Hamad Mohamed Ibrahim has called on Zanzibaris to be careful during the campaign period by disregarding what other people say that could breach the country's peace.

Ibrahim issued the remarks on Wednesday this week at the launching of his party's election campaign at Garagara grounds in Zanzibar West Region.

He called on the people to be extra careful when listening to candidates' policies by dismissing statements that

UPDP presidential candidate warns of candidates' provoking statements

could incite violence.

He said if the citizens will listen to such provocative political statements there could be adverse consequences among the people, hence he called on them to preserve the peace in the country.

He said in case he is elected he will ensure to strengthen the country's natural resources to sustain the Isles'

development.

Party's Union presidential candidate Twalib Ibrahim Kadege said among his priorities will be to ensure corruption is eradicated and to strengthen the health sector.

"This country has a long time problem of corruption and if UPDP comes to power, it will eradicate it and whoever will be arrester for bribery

will receive 100 strokes of the cane and 100-year imprisonment.

Kadege's running mate Ramadhan Ali Abdallah explained that the country has great capability to produce goods hence UPDP government will make Tanzania the hub of trade.

"There is no reason to import goods while we have the capability to produce the goods ourselves," he said.

ORCI to start using 'mammography' to diagnose early signs of breast cancer

By Correspondent James Kandoya

OCEAN Road Cancer institute (ORCI) will soon start deploying 'mammography' - the new digital machine to diagnose early signs of breast cancer anytime this month.

ORCI Director of Cancer Prevention Services Dr Crispin Kahesa said over the phone that the institute is ready to start using the machine after undergoing several tests adding that the doctors use it to look for early signs of breast cancer.

He said the aim was to diagnose the problem at early stages as the statistics from the institute show that it has been diagnosing young women contrary to what it was before.

He said mammograms are the best test doctors have to find breast cancer early, sometimes up to three years before it can be felt.

"As we are now approaching October, the month dedicated to increase breast cancer awareness, the institute will conduct screening to diagnose if they have breast cancer and those found will start using this machine," he insisted.

The director said breast cancer was still a threat although the number of women diagnosed with the problem had dropped from 64 to 56 women in the year 2018/2019 to 2019 respectively.

Last year, the ORCI disclosed its plans to extend the screening coverage of cancers from three to ten leading in killing as in an effort to save the lives of more people.

The Director of Cancer Preventive Services Dr Crispin Kahesa said the move came after a rapid increase of cancers in killing people.

He said initially ORCI used to test and screen three cancers namely breast, cervical and prostate adding that it has extended screen coverage and reached ten cancers.

He named the cancers as colorectal, liver, Lymphoma, bladder, leukaemia, skin to people with albinism, Kaposi Sarcoma and thyroid.

The director hinted that in Tanzania at least 52,000 people are diagnosed with cancer every year adding that 70 percent of those came at a late stage of three or four.

"Cancer is a big problem that the public can be free from if they adhere to regular medical checks. Increased awareness to change people's mind and attitude is also very important," he said.

Dr Kahesa described that out of 100 patients getting treatment at the facility 30 to 40 were new cases while 70 to 80 percent of them were at an advanced stage.

He said out of all cancer cervical was the leading followed by breast and Kaposi Sarcoma noting that lifestyle is attributed to be one of the reasons contributing to it.

For the case of women, cervical cancer was leading followed by breast and Kaposi Sarcoma while in men Kaposi Sarcoma was leading followed by Oesophagus, Prostate and lymphatic.



Cancer is a big problem that the public can be free from if they adhere to regular medical checks. Increased awareness to change people's mind and attitude is also very important

Mshindi MKUBWA
Hassan kutoka
Dar es Salaam



MY PAWA

KUPATA
500% ZA
BONASI ZA
USHINDI

Bashiri kuanzia TSh1 tu
betpawa.co.tz

betPawa



Tafadhali cheza kwa wajibu. 18+. betPawa imeidhinishwa na Bodi ya Michezo ya Kubahatisha ya Tanzania. Leseni SB1000000005.



Youth challenged to be innovative, embark on legitimate income generating activities

By Florida Raymond, TUDARCo

YOUNG Tanzanians have been urged to stop being too selective in jobs but rather work hard, be innovative and embark on any legitimate income generating activities to run their lives.

Grayson Thomas, a 23-year old and resident of Sinza in Dar es Salaam, is one of the youth who decided to promote self-employment by establishing a nail polishing salon which in turn gives him enough funds to cater his needs.

Thomas, who completed his secondary education in 2016, saw it hard to stay home doing nothing and decided to think of a business which he can do to get money.

In an interview with The Guardian, Thomas called on his fellow young people to wake up and think of self-employment as the country has a lot of opportunities which are yet to be grabbed.

"After spending some years without a job, I sat down and thought of something I can do to serve my daily needs, I then decided to venture into the beauty sector, I established a nail polishing salon which is currently doing well, however some youth downgrades this job thinking that it is only meant for women," Thomas said.

Thomas said that with the job, he is earning 50,000/- to 60,000/- a day, an amount which helps him to improve his life by embarking on development projects.

He said that thousands of young people are struggling to find a white collar job but he is no longer thinking of being employed by someone.

"I am now able to take care of

everything on my own without relying on my mother, I have also taken my young brother to a good school," he said.

He said: "I met the opportunity to learn beauty issues, through that opportunity I was able to increase my knowledge of various beauty issues such as applying make-up, painting nails, doing massage, decorating weddings and many other things, and after that training I decided to become self-employed."

He added that despite the success he is also facing some challenges, a situation which sometimes gives him hard time to continue with the business.

Thomas said that as their job involves taking care of women, they sometimes face challenges from the women's spouses or husbands who do not want their wives to be given services by men.

"I was once beaten by my client's husband after he found his wife at my saloon painting her nails but after talking and getting it right he apologized, I only call for the general public to stop thinking negative towards us because we are doing this job professionally and we undergo various training to improve customers service," he said.

He said: "I respect this job because through this my name is growing and many people now know me, when a client comes I serve her well and through her I add more customers, my principle is to fight no matter what life throws at me, so I urge my fellow young people to stop walking around the streets seeking for office jobs and instead they should create jobs."



Finance and Planning ministry deputy permanent secretary Mary Maganga (C) presses a knob to launch a ten-year (2020/2030) Financial Sector Development Master Plan in Dodoma yesterday. With her are Hamisi Mwalimu (R) of Zanzibar's Finance ministry and Charles Mwamaja, a commissioner in the Finance and Planning ministry. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Brewer marks global responsible drinking day

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Breweries Limited (TBL) yesterday joined the international community to commemorate Global Beer Responsible Day, which is celebrated on September 18.

The day of responsible beer consumption is an ambitious initiative where dozens of countries, hundreds of organizations and thousands of

people working for Ab-InBev join brewers' efforts to promote the idea of responsible alcohol consumption.

TBL Plc's Managing Director Philip Redman said: "As a proud part of the AB InBev family, our mission is to take our smart drinking commitments beyond our company walls and out into the communities where we work."

"This year on GBRD, we will be visible in most of our outlets working together

with our customers to champion our smart drinking messages. We all could be champions of smart drinking, whether it is about making sure friends and family plan for a way to get home safely, talking to customers about responsible selling, developing impactful campaigns, there is so much that we can do to make sure our smart drinking dream becomes a reality," he said. "Our work does not end on Global

Beer Responsible Day, our aim is to continue to build the momentum going forward," Redman added.

The brewer's effort to promote responsible drinking is in line with its Pombe Sio Chai, Kunywa Kistaarabu campaign that was launched on September 14, the campaign addresses issues around harmful consumption of alcohol by advocating smart drinking behaviors.



Inspector General of Police Simon Sirro (R), current chairman of the Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation, follows proceedings of the body's video conference held yesterday. Highlights included extending his chairmanship to IGP Sirro by a year. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

Zanzibar govt called on to conduct thorough investigations on bizarre assaults on children

ZANZIBAR government has been urged to carry out a thorough investigation on unusual incident where three children were allegedly injected with unknown substances by unknown people.

Dr Mzuri Issa, director of the Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA)-Zanzibar said in a statement that motives behind such strange incidents are yet to be established.

She said that according to a media report by the Zanzibar Broadcasting Corporation (ZBC) through its current news programme, popularly known as Mawio, aired yesterday three children have been injected by unknown persons.

The media report states that the children, two of them of five years old and one of seven years old were allegedly injected by a person who then fled to an unknown neighborhood

leaving the children crying painfully.

The incident was reported on September 15, this year in Mwanyanya shehia, West A District in Unguja when the children were coming back from school.

She said that TAMWA believes the incident is unusual, thus it is appealing to the law enforcers to take the matter seriously.

A similar incident was reported on January 10, 2020 in the area of Darajabovu where six (6) children aged between four (4) and eight (8) were also injected apparently for no reason by a man known as Salim Ali Malik where his case was filed on 24/8/2020 at Mwanakwerekwe Magistrate's Court of whom the accused was demanded by the court to pay 600,000/- or go to jail

for six months. "As per current living conditions the amount is very small compared to the magnitude of the offense and therefore cannot properly intimidate those who consider committing such acts," she said.

Reports from the parents of the six children who were injected, the needle is suspected to be poisonous, and can cause death.

One of the parents, Rashid Omar, told journalists during the press conference held at the Media Council (MCT) on August 24, that a report by health experts, and government's chief chemist, suspects the needle (injection) was toxic and contains poisonous ingredients. "The doctor's report said the needle was poisoned to kill a human or an animal and the health of

the children was not good," Omar said.

According to him, health experts said that the injections put to the six children in the area of Darajabovu had poison and if the children would not have been rushed to the hospital early it would have affected their health and caused serious harm.

TAMWA Zanzibar is also requesting the Police Force in the country to find the perpetrator involved in this racket in the area of Darajabovu neighborhood and bring them to justice.

"We believe that if special efforts are not taken to arrest and punish these perpetrators then such acts will continue to take place occasionally and will have negative impacts on the physical and psychological well-being of children and victims.

Feeding Africa's urban population hinges on value chain, says the UN

By Special Correspondent, Kigali

AFRICA'S urban population is projected to grow at a rate of 3.5% annually over the 2015 to 2025 period, nearly double the rate in Asia and triple that of Latin America, according to the UN.

There is a need therefore to ensure efficient food value chains to guarantee that food produced by rural farmers is delivered to the growing number of urban consumers, experts say.

In an effort to feed growing urban as well as rural populations, Africa faces challenges posed by "weak links" which affect food delivery on the one hand and the delivery of inputs on the other, according to Kirimi Sindi, a Kenya-based agricultural economist.

"The main challenge is that Africa has very low farm productivity of all the major crops on the continent, being the biggest net importer of maize, beans, rice and wheat," Sindi said.

"So what Africa has to do in order to feed rural and urban populations is to increase productivity. But issues of the agriculture value chain need to be addressed for the farmers to be able to deliver [produced] food to urban areas and in turn access services and inputs such as the best seeds and fertilizers [from urban areas]."

Although Africa has 65% of the remaining arable land in the world, its food import bill during the last five years averaged \$68.5 billion annually, according to the African Development Bank.

And if left unchecked, it is estimated that by 2025, the import bill could surge to \$110 billion.

Africa is the world's fastest urbanizing region, with an urban population of 472 million that is projected to double over the next 25 years.

The increase in urban dwellers greatly contributes to an increase in demand for basic staple foods at a rate of 4.8% per year, which means that every year, it increases by another 4.8%.

Cities shape Africa's agribusiness environment by affecting patterns of agricultural production and bringing about the rapid expansion of food processing and distribution plants.

Sindi said to counter the mounting food imports from overseas, African farmers and traders need to devise means to drive down their production,

storage and distribution costs.

"When we produce, our infrastructure presents a big problem. People produce food, but they are not able to transport it to the market due to poor roads," he said.

Africa's development priorities are outlined in Agenda 2063 -- the blueprint for the African Union's economic development in the coming decades.

Agenda 2063 spells out agricultural development as a high priority, to be accelerated and transformed for shared prosperity and improved livelihoods.

As urbanization rises in Africa, achieving food security and nutrition for all will depend on interventions that transform urban-rural linkages, according to the Africa Agriculture Status Report released last week by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa.

The report underlined the need for farmers' diversification to meet shifting demand for high-value perishables such as poultry, dairy, livestock and horticultural products.

Growing urban food markets imply longer supply lines, expanded wholesale and retail distribution systems, increased warehousing, food preservation and packaging, it said.

Rapid urbanization and population growth are expected to put growing pressure on the global food system as agricultural production comes under more threat from environmental degradation, urban sprawl, climate change, extreme weather conditions and limited arable land for the expansion of agricultural production, according to UN agencies.

Sindi underscored the need to minimize risks induced by natural conditions.

"Climate shocks also affect farming in very many ways. When we expect the rain, it doesn't come at that particular time. We need to improve our weather predictions so that we can be able to advise the farmers much better but also grow new crop varieties which can withstand climate shocks," he said.

"When we produce, our infrastructure presents a big problem. People produce food, but they are not able to transport it to the market due to poor roads"

REPOA promises to support founding of an East African Parliamentary Institute

By Getrude Mbago

THE country's top think-tank-REPOA has promised to provide close support to facilitate the establishment of the East African Parliamentary Institute which is focused on building capacities to Members of Parliament and other stakeholders in the region.

REPOA's Executive Director, Dr Donald Mmari made the pledge this week when the speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Martin Ngoga paid a visit to the institution.

He said the REPOA has been charged by the EALA to prepare curriculum of the institution and they are ready to come up with the best curricular for better results.

"We are currently developing the curriculum and once the training institution commences operation, it will benefit several people including parliamentarians, officials and stakeholders," he said.

Mmari thanked the speaker for visiting the institution saying that they are going to work hard to ensure that it creates more ventures with other research institutions in East Africa and produce more studies which address challenges of the community.

"The speaker came here to witness our operation, to see how our research contributes to the country development and the EA region at large, we are honoured to have him here," he said, adding that the institution has

been working closely with EALA on various development areas.

REPOA was recently ranked as the top think tank in Tanzania for the 6th consecutive year and the number 11 of the 612 leading research organisations in Sub-Saharan Africa in the 2019 Global Go to Think Tank Index (GGTI).

In his remarks, Speaker Ngoga challenged research institutions to invest in innovative and solution-based researches which will be able to address challenges facing communities in the EA region.

According to him, if researchers would focus mostly on solution-based studies, EA community would enable governments to plan better for their people.

"It is high time now for our research institutions to focus more on innovative researches with solutions so as to ensure that the evidence they accumulate is also used in the policy-making process," he said.

He wanted researchers to ensure that their studies shows how they should focus on what the EAC and its leaders should do to ensure that it lasts forever and benefit people of the region.

Ngoga said that REPOA is a very strong institution and they believe that it will continue providing support to the region through research.

"We also emphasise using our local experts in conducting researches instead of those outside the EA region because using experts from outside the

community may not bring clear picture of the challenges that we are facing," Ngoga added.

He urged REPOA to seek partnership with other major research institutions in the region so as to work together and come up with more researches which address challenges and stimulate economic growth.

Ngoga said that the East African Parliamentary Institute which is set to be launched soon will be providing training in short and long term skills-based courses and in that way, help to build careers of the targeted groups.

He said that the training institute targets parliamentarians, parliament staff, civil servants, representatives of the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders.



We are currently developing the curriculum and once the training institution commences operation, it will benefit several people including parliamentarians, officials and stakeholders



Temeke district commissioner Godwin Gondwe (2nd-L, front row) and NMB Bank Plc's eastern zone manager, Donatus Richard (L), in celebratory mood alongside teachers (right) at the district's Twiga Primary School yesterday after the bank presented to the school tables and chairs worth a total of 5m/-. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Public institutions applaud GEL for linking youth with foreign varsities

By Guardian Reporter

PUBLIC Institutions have commended the Global Education Link (GEL) for linking Tanzanian youth to study crucial professions in abroad universities.

The institutes are Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI), Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) and National College of Transportation (NIT), which pledged to attend the second international graduation ceremony which will take place today in Dar es Salaam where they will demonstrate opportunities available in their institutes.

Ahmed Abdi, who is a Lecturer at (NIT) said that there is great need of human resource capital in civil aviation career because the industry has been expanding everyday.

He said there are practical training and various employment opportunities in civil aviation industry apart from perception of some people that civil aviation is all about being a pilot.

He went on saying that in civil aviation industry there are people who deal with security, to handle plane, air hostess, cargo and other careers.

"It is better for students to know exactly what she need to do and it is better to consult institute like Global Education Link to know where to go and get the right professions," he said.

Ahmed said GEL has helped many students to know the right professions which has market because some of them are not aware of the courses available outside the country.

The Head of Human Resource and Administration of (ATCL), Lembris Laanyuni said the company will attend at the second international graduation ceremony to meet graduates and tell them available opportunities in the company.

"I would like to sensitize the graduates and others that they will lose nothing if they select civil aviation profession because there are plenty of opportunities and practical training opportunities also," he said.

Either, he said ATCL is ready to give practical training for graduates of different universities inside and outside the country so that they can benefit from what they have learnt.

"I thank very much GEL for helping young Tanzanians to go abroad where they take different professions and

when they come back we mentor them and some of them become our employees something that we are proud of," he said.

He said GEL has been a good government partner who spot different areas where there are shortage of professions and encourage youth to go and study in that area and eventually come back and help the country in different fields of works.

Dr Tulizo Sanga who is a cardiac specialist at Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI), said there are a lot of heart complications so there is need to increase professionals in that area to save lives of Tanzanians.

He said even JKCI lack cardiac technologist so it is important to encourage more young Tanzanians to study the professions which has a lot of employment opportunities inside and outside the country.

Saimon Mbita who study cardiac technologies in New Delhi India, said he is confident to secure employment after completion of his career because there are many hospitals in the country which have shortage of people of that career like JKCI, Aga Khan and Benjamin Mkapa Hospital in Dodoma.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



EXTENSION FOR SUBMISSION DATE

The notice is hereby given that submission date of "Invitation to Apply (ITA) for hereunder mentioned Public Notice has been extended from 14th September to 5th October, 2020. INVITATION TO APPLY FOR CONTENT SERVICES (COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING-RADIO) LICENCES

- The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) here is referred to as 'the Authority' is a statutory regulatory body responsible for regulating the electronic communications and postal sectors in Tanzania. The Authority was established under the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act No.12 of 2003 to regulate the electronic communications, postal services, and management of the National Radio Frequency spectrum in the United Republic of Tanzania.
- Pursuant to the Electronic and Postal Communications (Licence Procedure) Rules, GN.433, 2014, the Authority has identified Spectrum for provision of Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio) and hereby invites interested companies to apply for provision of Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio) in the following District Market segments for:-

Regional	Service Area	Number of Stations
Mbeya	Kyela	1
Songwe	Momba- Tunduma	1
	Mbozi	1
Morogoro	Gairo	1
	Ulanga	1
Kilimanjaro	Moshi	1
	Same	1
	Marangu	1
	Siha	1
	Mwanga	1
Arusha	Arusha	1
	Ngorongoro	1
Kagera	Karagwe	1
	Bukoba	1
	Biharamulo	1
	Kyerwa	1
	Ngara	1
	Missenyi (Mutukula)	1
	Muleba	1
Kigoma	Kigoma Municipal	2
	Kibondo	1
	Buhigwe	1
	Kasulu	1
	Kakonko	1
	Uvinza	1
Geita,	Geita Township	2
	Chato	1
Shinyanga	Bukombe	1
	Kahama Township	1
	Kishapu	2
Simiyu	Shinyanga Municipal	1
	Bariadi	2
	Busega	1
	Meatu	1
Mtwara	Masasi	1
	Mtwara Township	2
	Tandahimba	1
	Newala	1
	Nanyumbu	1
Singida	Singida municipal	1
	Manyoni	1
	Iramba	1
	Ikungi	1
	Mkalama	1
	Itigi	1
	Dodoma	Mpwapa
Rukwa	Sumbawanga Municipal	2
	Kalambo	1
	Nkasi	1
Manyara	Babati	1
	Kiteto	1
	Hanang	1
	Mbulu	1
	Simanjiro	1
Ruvuma	Mbinga	1
	Songea	1
	Nyasa	1
	Tunduru	1
	Namtumbo	1
Lindi	Nachingwea	1
	Kilwa	1
	Mtama	1
	Liwale	1
	Lindi Town	2
	Ruangwa	1
	Njombe	2
Mara	Makambako	1
	Ludewa	1
	Makete	1
	Musoma Town	1
	Mugumu- Serengeti	2
Tabora	Tarime	1
	Tabora Municipal	1
	Igunga	1
	Urambo	1
	Nzega	1
Katavi	Sikonge	1
	Kaliua	1
	Mpanda	2
Iringa	Mlele	1
	Nsimbo	1
	Iringa municipal	2
Mwanza	Mafinga	2
	Kilolo	1
	Ukerewe	1
Magu	1	

- Applicants are required to collect Guidelines for requirements to be included in the applications which are available at the Authority's Head Office, Zonal Offices in Mbeya, Mwanza, Arusha and Dodoma or on our website at www.tcra.go.tz.

- Applications for provision of the above services should be submitted in sealed envelopes, clearly marked "Application for Provision of Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio) in (Insert the service area)" be delivered to the address below by **16:00 hours, 5th October, 2020.**

**Director General,
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority,
Mwasiliano Towers,
20 Sam Nujoma Road,
P.O. Box 474,
14414 DAR ES SALAAM.**

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757154767
General line: 0745700710
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Mobile: 0782253676
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com

TIC consultations for SGR zone investments can be upgraded

A BRAND new idea is floating in the planning section of the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC), and it has lately been consulting other public sector investment-related institutions with a view to jointly identifying investment opportunities along the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) line. It is an idea that brings back memories of the sort of expectations that radical strategists at the University of Dar es Salaam developed about the Tanzania-Zambia rail line started being built. But industrialisation didn't follow.

At the time that TAZARA was being constructed, there were no corporate entities like TIC to think out how the zone the railway passes could be economically used in view of its new asset and strategic location. This is what TIC is seeking to do at present, and to facilitate the plan, TIC held a meeting with heads of public institutions to forge a strategy on how investment opportunities could be utilized. It is clear that it isn't these institutions that would invest in the 1,000km economic zone, but facilitate this.

The meeting in Dodoma involved top officials of Tanzania Railways (TRC), Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA), Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), the Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) and the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlement. No particular strategy was aired or settled upon, but they see the TIC idea as vital and workable, in which case more has to be explored. It is something that can be done after the polls, as to workable investment strategies.

Welfare consideration of local communities was aired on the issue, targeting jobs, that investors ought to recruit labour from particular zones

instead of importing from outside the country, or being indifferent as to where (what region) the laborers come from. Yet what is more important in relation to investment isn't the welfare of those who live near the railway but the market for whatever goods we expect investors can produce. Investment strategies shall falter if they can't show how say in five to ten years the level of consumption would have changed a great deal.

At the time that TAZARA was being constructed, the singular intention was to wriggle the two countries from diktats of settler colonial regimes in southern Africa and their western allies, and thus its objectives were met. That isn't the case with SGR but admittedly there is too much of transit goods element in its strategic planning, as a revenue earner for a long time to come, when border countries turn to use it as it is closer than the rival port north of Tanga, in particular. Not much work was done or options examined on its capacity utilization, the size and frequency of goods carried or its relationship to industrialization, etc.

These are the issues that TIC is now likely to meet and having to solve them so that its newly-fangled strategy actually works, as it isn't the public sector bodies that will invest but the private sector. And they will not invest in order to create jobs in those areas or provide revenue sources for the government, but only if they consider the projects to be viable and sustainable in the long run. That means TIC and other facilitating public organizations should work to see how this is done, that is, put up an investment strategy that enables the local market to grow rapidly, meaning one that rapidly cuts poverty, widens purchasing.

We need to boost impact investment for financing the growth of SMEs

IMPACT investing refers to investments made into companies, organisations, and funds with the intention to generate a measurable, beneficial social or environmental impact alongside a financial return. Impact investments provide capital to address social and or environmental issues.

Impact investors actively seek to place capital in businesses, nonprofits, and funds in industries such as renewable energy, basic services including housing, healthcare, and education, micro-finance, and sustainable agriculture. Institutional investors, notably North American and European development finance institutions, pension funds and endowments have played a leading role in the development of impact investing. Under Pope Francis, the Catholic Church has witnessed an increased interest in impact investing.

Impact investing occurs across asset classes; for example, private equity/venture capital, debt, and fixed income. Impact investments can be made in either emerging or developed markets, and depending on the goals of the investors, can target a range of returns from below-market to above-market rates.

Impact investing is the key to creating sustainable jobs, advancing education, improving healthcare and funding the expansion of non-profit organisations that support the most vulnerable.

We must therefore increase impact investment to combat unemployment, reduce social inequalities and preserve the environment.

Historically, regulation and to a lesser extent, philanthropy was an attempt to minimise the negative social consequences (unintended consequences, externalities) of business activities. However, a history of individual investors using socially responsible investing to express their values exists, and such investing behaviour is usually defined by the avoidance of investments in specific companies or activities with negative

effects. Simultaneously, approaches such as pollution prevention, corporate social responsibility, and triple bottom line began as measurements of non-financial effects, both inside and outside of corporations.

In 2007, the term impact investing emerged. A commitment to measuring social and environmental performance, with the same rigor as that applied to financial performance, is a critical component of impact investing.

In developing countries, we need to boost impact investment to finance the growth of small and medium-sized impact-driven businesses. SMEs make up 90 per cent of businesses and 80 per cent of jobs in Africa, but they are struggling to keep afloat. Impact investing provides them with a critical lifeline, protecting lives and livelihoods.

We must demand that companies publish audited financial accounts that reflect their social and environmental impact. Impact accounting will provide the transparency needed to hold businesses accountable for any harm they cause, and reward them for the positive impact they create.

To emerge from this crisis sooner and in a better position to meet difficult challenges, we must shift our economies from profit alone to both profit and impact. We can help transform our economies by requiring company directors and trustees of pension funds and charitable endowments to consider both profit and impact in their decision-making.

We are at an historic crossroad. There has never been a greater need or a better time to bring impact to the centre of our economies and build the kind of world we want to live in. And this idea has already started gaining momentum.

UBS which is a global firm providing financial services in over 50 countries. UBS, which manages \$2.6 trillion in assets, is now advising private clients to opt for sustainable investments over more traditional options.

Alcohol is Not Tea. Drink Responsibly



@Msamba

By James Blignaut

WHILE the change in South Africa's GDP because of Covid-19 tells us that we're a fifth poorer compared with this time in 2019, we are confronted by the question: What are the potential long-term system-wide ramifications of the way in which the virus has been managed? What are the feedback loops?

The streets fell eerily quiet in March. While few ventured a number as to the price tag associated with this ill-surprised stillness, we all knew that it was going to be big, but how big? Now we know. The South African GDP in real terms for the second quarter of 2020 is estimated at R654-billion compared to R762-billion in the first quarter and R788-billion in the second quarter of 2019. This implies a decline of R135-billion, or 17.1% on a second-quarter to second-quarter basis.

When averaging it out for the country it means that we are almost a fifth poorer, financially that is, than we were last year this time. This 17.1% is in contrast with the well publicised 51% decline, a subject of much debate. While technically and factually correct on an annualised basis, the figure of 51% does overinflate and distort the actual case by some margin. It is not that the country's GDP is currently half the size it was in the first quarter. The annualised figure means that if the current trajectory and decline continues for another three consecutive quarters, we will then, and only then, have sacrificed half of the GDP. While knowing that we are "only" a fifth poorer than last year and not 50% as generally perceived is some measure of good news, the rot sadly continues.

The GDP is a measure of the change in the country's income. In short and simplified terms, it is the sum of the country's payrolls, or earnings. It answers the question: how much money did the residents of the country earn during a specific period? It is therefore an important and valuable economic indicator of a change in welfare and partly also of wellbeing.

Display Adverts

Often neglected is to realise that such a number is static and narrow. This is no critique against either the use or the estimation of the GDP, rather a caution as to its interpretation. First, it only reflects monetary income earned. It does not say anything about how the income is earned, neither about the consequences of the income earned (either now or in the future) nor about what the income is used for. It is also not saying anything about anything non-monetary, such as pain, anxiety or environmental degradation. Neither does it comprehensively account for illicit trade or any form of barter.

Secondly, it only reflects the income earned during a specific ring-fenced period. It stands neutral to any other period. This leads us to an especially

COVID-19 has taught us critical lessons about feedback in systems



important matter, something about which the GDP as an indicator of income is silent, namely system feedback.

System feedback loops can either be positive, or reinforcing, thus they are patterns that grow a certain stock, like births that lead to a population increase. Feedback loops can also be negative, which are patterns that deplete the stock, such as deaths depleting the number of people in the population.

Let us consider two extremes of an example to illustrate. In 2019 agriculture, forestry and fishing contributed 2.2% to the national GDP. Let us assume a natural disaster strikes and destroys all production. Under a hypothetical Scenario One, let us assume no system feedback. Under such a scenario the economic contraction would only be 2.2% and thus 97.8% of the GDP would still be intact and we should be able to survive such a tragedy.

Under Scenario Two, a scenario with system feedback, we all die because of hunger and the entire economy collapses. While the truth is likely to be somewhere in between the two scenarios since some people might survive due to changes in technology, behavioural patterns and trade, the realised impact will be disproportionate to the size of the actual impact itself. This disproportionate impact is the result of feedback loops.

Looking at the GDP in isolation, without considering the system in which it operates and the associated feedback loops, both positive and negative, is thus nonsensical and it is

clearly an error to omit such feedback in any analysis. Sadly though, ignoring feedback and system thresholds can lead to erroneous analyses and policy advice, as discussed herein with reference to the climate crisis.

While there are many reasons to lament the past and grieve the emotional and financial losses while being anxious about the future, a silver lining does exist. Harnessing the power of reconstructive feedback loops can have an equally strong, yet beneficial, impact.

By considering the impact of the climate crisis as a linear benefit cost analysis within the context of how much it will cost to adapt to change vis-à-vis the benefits of adaptation without acknowledging biophysical feedback is potentially disastrous.

While the change in the GDP informs us that we're a fifth poorer compared with this time last year, we are confronted by the question: what are the potential long-term system-wide ramifications of the way in which the Covid-19 virus has been managed? We note the increased disillusionment of a deceived citizenry. The strong realisation that we cannot trust the government to manage a crisis, a sad reality compounded by the revealed brutality of government's corruption and heartless incapability, the strengthening of the agricultural sector as the "growth sector in last resort" (a rather dangerous realisation given the political economy within which the sector finds itself), the increase of mass hunger, and malnutrition, as well as society-wide polarisation and nervousness of a people traumatised.

This is but part of the unfolding disproportionate impact of management decisions taken in isolation of systems thinking.

While there are many reasons to lament the past and grieve the emotional and financial losses while being anxious about the future, a silver lining does exist. Harnessing the power of reconstructive feedback loops can have an equally strong, yet beneficial, impact.

Consider a simple example. A motorbike is stranded due to a malfunctioning part. A small expense of R1,000 rectifies the problem. While paying for and fixing the individual part, the disproportionate but positive impact is the restored functionality of the entire bike and all the mobility, service and opportunity that renders. That is why restoration is more than an act, it is a lifestyle of care, be it for a motorbike, the environment, the economy, or for fellow human beings.

As a society, we will have to dig deep and garner the strength, from each household and community, and deploy a restorative lifestyle of care. The system-wide impacts thereof are vast. Because of the power of system feedback, let us not discard or despise small beginnings. A farmer who starts to produce regeneratively, a community that organises itself to buy locally, a firm that invests in production while strengthening the local value chain, the neighbour who bakes a loaf of bread or a cake for a friend.

Let us learn that from Covid-19 - feedbacks matter - and there are myriad ways to regenerate our way to the future.

Smallholder farmers engaging in biofortified crops stand good chance of becoming commercial farming

BY GERALD KITABU

Smallholder farmers growing and engaging in biofortified crops particularly Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP) stand a better chance to graduate from subsistence to commercial farming.

This follows deliberate and concerted efforts made by the government of Tanzania in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), which included, training and provision of modern graters and slicers equipment for processing their agricultural products. The move aimed at enhancing availability of nutritious food products in the country and especially in the central regions. OFSPs have a potential of providing a sustainable and cost-effective solution to persistent micronutrient deficiencies observed in children under 5 years of age, pregnant and lactating mothers.

Current interventions are focus on strengthening community capacity to produce, consume and trade in OFSP. To that effect, FAO has donated a total of fourteen cassava, sweet potatoes graters and slicers that were produced by local engineering company - Intermtech Engineering Co. Ltd in Morogoro town.

The machines were given for free to the OFSP processors under the supervision of the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) and Small Industrial Development Organization (SIDO) which will continue to provide backstopping and monitoring of their business in order to adhere to processing quality and standards.

To catalyze sustainable investment for the production and utilization of OFSP through comprehensive plans and strategies pioneered by FAO, the farmers will now shift from back bench to a driving seat, that is, be part of the solution to the micronutrient deficiency challenge. The capacity building intervention will enable the farmers not only do their activities at a commercial level but also process OFSP into value chain and engage in bigger trade opportunities.

This move by FAO and other partners empowers small holder farmers, entrepreneurs, individuals and coop-



Deputy Minister for Industries and Trade Eng. Stella Manyanya presenting OFSP processing machines to entrepreneurs in Dodoma recently. Photo by Gerald Kitabu

eratives to expand, add value to their products and move up the value chain across the country with a special focus on youth and women.

Earlier on, TARI had conducted training to key stakeholders in Dodoma along the OFSP Potato value chain to build their capacity on Good agricultural practices and appropriate processing technologies. These include seed multiplication, good agronomic practices, seed preservation, root processing, utilization and marketing of OFSP.

When presenting OFSP processing machines to entrepreneurs at the Nane Nane (Farmers' Day) agricultural shows in Dodoma, Deputy Minister for Industries and Trade Eng. Stella Manyanya, commended efforts being made by FAO and other partners for facilitating the training which was in line with the 2005 National Entrepreneurship Policy. The Policy recognizes the contribution of small scale industries as a major source of employment, creation of market for value added products.

"This is like the seed, we

want it to grow more into large scale industries, we want to see you owning more machines and opening more industries to trigger further growth to our economy," she said.

FAO's Food Security and Nutrition Officer in Tanzania, Stella Kimambo, disclosed that about 1.3 tones billion of food produced annually is lost due to poor post-harvest handling before reaching the consumers worldwide. In Tanzania, the Ministry estimates that there is a loss of between 30 to 40 percent of cereal crops before getting to the consumers. The loss is even higher for horticultural crops and roots.

"TARI through United Nations Development Programme, Agricultural Sector Development Programme II, the National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan are implementing the nutrition sensitive intervention by training farmers on how to address this loss," she said.

So, we have funded these equipment so that they can process farm products into

value chain such as flour, juice, biscuits, and cakes for more profit, she added.

TARI Hombolo Centre Manager, Dr. Lameck Makoye said the machines will help roots and tubers processors to produce more conduct business and access markets in and outside the country. This will enable them improve their income, expand their business and make significant contribution to industrialization in the country. "I advise them to form cooperatives that they should formally register so that they can access bigger markets," he said.

The farmer entrepreneurs speak out

A farmer Sylvester Mahanze from Ntyuka village who is also a member of ELCT- SAC-COS in Dodoma says he was unable to process OFSP in large quantities but with new modern equipment, he will now expand his business and trade.

According to the results of the Tanzania National Nutrition Survey 2018, more than 2,700,000 children under five years of age are estimated to

be stunted in Tanzania. Between 2014 and 2018, a significant decrease of the prevalence of stunting (37.9 percent) was observed in Dodoma, however, the region still has the highest number of stunted children in the country (150,237 cases). This means that Dodoma is one of the regions where nutrition interventions should be prioritized due to higher number of stunted children.

OFSP farmer Hamad Mamu from Chamkoroma village, Kongwa district in Dodoma explains that he started the business with OFSP seeds from TARI and planted before venturing into processing of different types of foods.

Promotion and expansion of processing factories is the main agenda for the Government of Tanzania, he pointed out adding: I call upon the Government and other partners like FAO to continue empowering food processors and if possible these support should go hand in hand with financial support," he added. Agro extension officer from Mpwapwa district, Anna Msenduki, received the training on OFSP before becoming a trainer on nutritional foods. In 2015 Anna ventured in production and processing of OFSP. In 2019, TARI and FAO supplied seeds to Mpwapwa farmers including Anna to increase their production. This is when she started processing OFSP into different value chains such as flour.

"My goal is to establish a factory and register my company to be able to conduct successful business and start supplying to different local and international markets. I want to address the problem of stunting, obesity and malnutrition," she said.

Rudia Hamudu from Bicha village in Kondoa district was one of the beneficiaries of the TARI training in collaboration with FAO. She engaged in OFSP value chain and so far she has managed to build a house and pay her daughter' school fees from selling juice, baking cake and selling flour.

She called on other entrepreneurs to be role models for other ordinary farmers. "I call on the government to provide continuous education on OFSP to prevent disease causing by malnutrition.

Jumanne Mhina, a farmer from Tungufu village received OFSP seeds

and started growing them. Since 2017 to date he has been doing business and so far he built a house covered by green iron sheets, bought in furniture. Last year he sold the OFSP worth five hundred thousand shillings. He also pocketed Tshs. 2 million from selling OFSP vines.

According to TARI Tumbi centre Director, Dr. Kiddo Mtunda, in Tanzania, nutrition is an issue of national importance because good nutrition is both a desired outcome for ensuring optimal human health, as well as a key determinant of development, for the individual and for society in general. Obviously, malnourished people are not as productive as they could otherwise be. For example, a malnourished child does not have the same attention in school as a well-nourished peer and will not gain the same education; and malnourished adults cannot work as productively as well-nourished peers, with consequences for their incomes and, in turn, the national income.

According to TDHS, 2015-2016; more than one third (34 percent) of children under age 5 years are stunted (short for their age); 5 percent are wasted (low weight for height) and 14 percent are underweight (low weight for age). About 57 percent of children under 5 (age 6-59 months) and 45 percent of women of reproductive age (age 15-49 years) are anemic.

Micronutrient deficiency also called hidden hunger falls in the category of undernutrition. Micronutrient deficiency is caused by inadequate intake of essential minerals and vitamins. The main essential vitamins and mineral deficiencies in Tanzania are Vitamin A, folic acid, vitamin B12, iodine, iron and zinc. Micronutrient malnutrition is problem of public health significance affecting a large number of children and women of child bearing age in Tanzania. To address micronutrient deficiency, nutrition education to promote consumption of a diversified diet, supplementation, and food fortification are some of the classical strategies employed in Tanzania.

FAO's move to support farmers and change them from subsistence to commercial farming is a clear testimony and commitment to addressing the unacceptably high levels of malnutrition in Tanzania.

BY GREG DOOL

What future for the newsroom in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic?

After nearly six months away, staffers at the Capital Gazette - based in Annapolis, Maryland, in the US - came back to the office on Labour Day (the first Monday in September).

However, they weren't there to return to their desks. Instead, they came to reclaim their belongings, bidding farewell to their newsroom and vowing to continue covering the local community despite the loss of a local office space.

The Capital is one of five papers owned by Tribune Publishing whose newsrooms will soon be permanently closed. The company is evaluating its real estate needs "in the light of health and economic conditions brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic," a Tribune spokesperson told the paper last month, noting the high levels of audience engagement the Capital has achieved since March.

In lieu of a replacement office, Tribune will provide Capital employees with workspace at sister title The Baltimore Sun, about 50 kilometres north of Annapolis, when that paper's offices reopen next year.

Lost without newsrooms

While news typically doesn't happen in newsrooms, offices still play a vital role in news organisations. This lesson has only been underscored in recent months, said Pamela Wood, a Maryland state politics reporter at The Baltimore Sun who previously spent 13 years at the Capital Gazette.

"I find that the biggest problem is coordination among reporters and editors. You can't just shout across



the newsroom," she said.

In a constant stream of phone calls and emails, communication is slower and prone to challenges. Further, Wood says that the loss of the newsroom has a particularly adverse impact on young reporters, who benefit from simply sharing workspaces with highly experienced colleagues.

"I'm worried for our young journalists," Wood noted, adding: "There's a lot of learning that goes on just by observation. It's so much easier just to ask a question of somebody. When you're alone in your kitchen you lose a lot of that. And I think that's to the detriment of the news organisation."

Adapting to the times

Media companies across the board have been forced to adapt

to remote operations. At the same time, they are faced with a historic economic crisis that has gutted advertising revenues. So it's not a surprise that Tribune is not the only one to consider reducing its real estate costs.

Just last month, Condé Nast CEO Roger Lynch informed staffers that "remote work will be a larger part of our future workforce strategy", as the company seeks to renegotiate its lease at One World Trade Centre.

Skift, a B2B (business to business) media company covering the travel and hospitality space, opted not to renew its lease on its Manhattan headquarters in July. CEO Rafat Ali estimated that the move would save the company \$600,000 annually.

The Charlotte Observer, a McClatchy-owned newspaper, fully vacated its headquarters

over the summer and won't be finding a new office until at least next year.

President and executive editor Sherry Chisenhall said that, while there will never be a replacement for a physical newsroom, the Covid-19 pandemic will likely prompt the organisation to take a more flexible approach to workspace moving forward.

Permanent displacement

"I know that there are some companies or newsrooms that are rethinking whether they ever need an office again," Chisenhall said.

She elaborated: "I don't think Zoom calls can fully replace what it means to work together. But I think the time where the office is the home base is probably over.

"We know that our job is to publish stories that are relevant to the community and to grow an audience that sees enough value in our journalism to pay for it. I think we can actually do that really well without saying that people have to work 40 hours a week in an office."

Like Wood, Chisenhall said communication has proved a challenge. In particular, newsroom leaders need to be more conscious than ever of their employees' wellbeing.

"We have to look out for each other in ways that we never had to consciously do before," Chisenhall noted, adding: "It's not as easy to know who needs to take a break. It just always feels like we need to do more to make sure that we're staying in touch with people."

The future of the workplace

The non-profit ProPublica, a national outlet by nature, has long operated a network of reporters based around the country in addition to more formal offices in New York and Chicago. That set-up, coupled with the occasional need to publish stories on weekends, meant that the editorial side of the company was already well suited for remote work, according to president Richard Tofel. For him, it remains unclear what a large-scale return to in-person work might look like.

"My personal hunch is that

we'll end up with a smaller office with many more conference rooms, a lot of hot desking and a configuration that permits that. But that's just a guess," Tofel said.

He added: "Our business depends on attracting talent, and part of attracting talent is giving people an environment that maximizes their chances of doing good work. I think we're going to have to learn about what that means as we go."

The ease of the transition from an office to remote work varies from person to person, Tofel said, acknowledging that work-life balance is a concern. But he added that feelings of being overburdened are more likely the result of covering multiple relentless news cycles than an inherent symptom of operating remotely.

"The result is that people are working unbelievably hard, and harder in many cases than is sustainable," he said, adding: "We try to emphasize to people the importance of taking time. Where we can slow things down, we do."

Flexing flexibility

Despite the challenges, rethinking the function of the office and perhaps adopting a more relaxed approach to attendance could benefit employees in the long run, Chisenhall said.

She elaborated: "It would be great to be back in a situation where we could have space for a weekly staff meeting and to do the things that are easier and better to do in person, but not have this expectation that this is where you are by 8:30 every morning. "If untethering from an office helps people in this business improve their work-life balance, that could be a big plus that we come out the other side with."

• **Greg Dool is an Independent Media Journalist.**

Lessons from the Covid-19 frontlines through the eyes of a medical expert

By Wudan Yan

This story is part of Six Months In, a special weeklong Elemental series reflecting on experience with, lessons learned from and what the future could be holding for the Covid-19 pandemic.

Around six months ago, New York City was seeing its highest caseload of Covid-19 cases yet. Emergency rooms in the city were packed.

There was a shortage of personal protective equipment for physicians, not to mention the fear of running out of ventilators for patients with cases so severe that they required supplemental oxygen. But, about half a year out, things in are slowly making a change.

Craig Spencer, MD, is the director of global health in emergency medicine at New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Centre. Before the coronavirus hit, he spent between three and six months each year helping with humanitarian crises around the world. But since February, he's been grounded in New York City, working three days a week at the hospital's emergency department; each shift about 12 hours long.

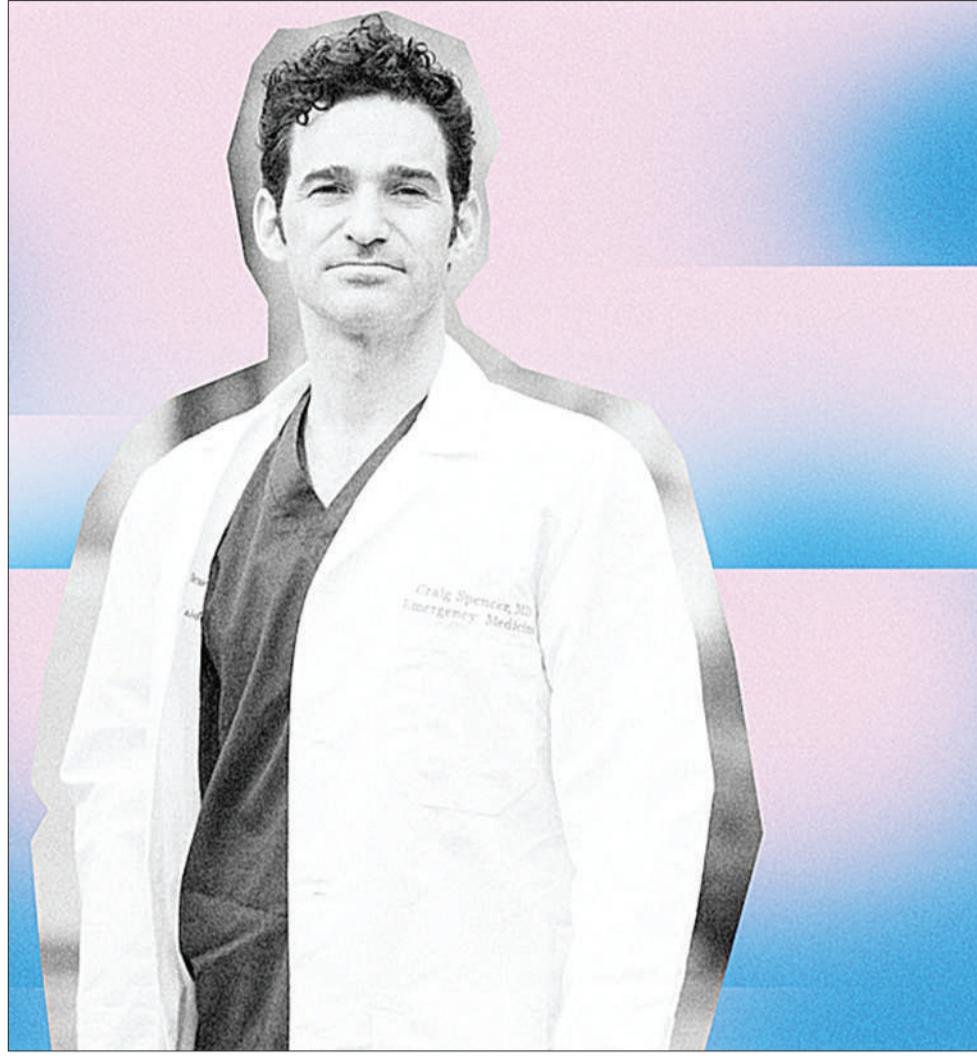
During the thick of the coronavirus spread in New York City, Spencer tweeted about how his days in the emergency room were spent attending to one Covid-19 patient who needed supplemental oxygen then moving to the next - nearly non-stop.

Today, as Spencer winds his way through NYC streets on his way to work, listening to a podcast or some music, he's watching the energy of the city start to come back. Whereas hardly anyone was outside during the peak of the pandemic in late March and early April, more residents are walking around, mostly masked.

Restaurants and cafes have offered outdoor seating for their patrons, spilling human life into the streets and sidewalks. "People are trying to retain some sense of normalcy while continuing to remain safe," he says.

Spencer enters the hospital and puts on an N95 mask underneath his surgical mask. There's quite a bit of activity around 8 a.m. as the day shift takes over from the evening one.

"Every computer is surrounded by



Dr Craig Spencer. Photo: Marc Goldberg

two people talking about vital signs, different patients and treatment plans, and consults," says Spencer. He catches up with his colleagues while being mindful of their time. "You don't want to linger too long. You want them to get out of there and go home," he says.

He looks at the patients that he will take on first and talks with his colleagues about how each of them will be treated. As he attends to his patients during the first half of his shift, he gets the occasional notification on his work phone that there's a patient who is really sick or a patient whose blood pressure has dropped significantly or someone who has just had a stroke.

"We drop everything, and we'll go and evaluate them. That can

happen as much as once every hour," he says.

In March and April, Spencer and his colleagues were seeing predominantly patients with the coronavirus. "It was Covid-19 all the time, and when we saw someone who didn't have Covid-19, it was like, 'What the hell were you doing here?' Not because we didn't want them to be here; it was just so surprising for us," he says.

Now, Spencer and other emergency room physicians at Columbia are still seeing Covid-19 patients, but it's becoming increasingly common to see folks with diabetes, heart attacks or sepsis - their "bread-and-butter patients", as Spencer calls it.

"We've had a nearly complete return to that. The difference has

been that we're still in goggles and masks and hypervigilant about Covid in every single patient that we see," he notes.

Spencer attributes the turnaround in Covid-19 cases in New York City and the emergency department in his hospital to a number of factors. For one, the city "got hit on the head" so early and fast that people quickly recognized how bad catching the virus could be.

"People started listening to the public health guidance" - such as practising good hygiene, wearing a mask, and staying at home - "and that quickly changed once we started worrying about our hospitals getting overwhelmed," he says.

He adds: "People in a lot of communities saw what was happening with their friends and family and made that switch in their behaviour. I think we got things under control, but only after we let things get out of control."

Hospitals, like New York-Presbyterian and many others in the NYC metropolitan region, had to adapt. Physicians from other specialties like urology and cardiology, who would rarely visit the emergency department, started staffing the emergency room daily to provide support and expertise.

Dealing with a pandemic isn't something that hospitals are prepared for, Spencer says, and it took some time for the hospital to get the necessary protective equipment and ventilators and for physicians to come together in providing expertise and psychosocial support to each other.

"There was an adaptive process that took some time, but once it got going, I think we individually as providers and we as institutions learned pretty quick about what we needed to be doing to better respond," he says.

There's also the mental resilience and support system that has naturally developed out of everyone working together, he notes, adding: "It's really remarkable."

Spencer knew that collaboration was necessary from working on infectious disease outbreaks across the world, and his experiences in West Africa fighting Ebola and hepatitis E in Chad.

"It's not just the physical exhaustion, but also the mental exhaustion that's going to build up every day," he says, adding: "That's one thing I was able to bring from my previous international work, where there were limited resources for dealing with diseases that we didn't know as much about. That really prepared me well for the early phases of Covid."

On one trip from West Africa, Spencer ended up getting Ebola - an experience that brought him significant stigma at the time and has primed him to be more hypervigilant in taking the precautionary measures to avoid exposure to possible pathogens, Covid-19 included.

At the end of his shift, Spencer signs out, disinfects his phone and other medical equipment that he'll take home with bleach, removes his N95 as he heads out of the door, and begins the walk home.

He has been walking to and from work for over a year - even in March and April when he would finish a shift exhausted. "It certainly would have been easier to get on the bus or subway, but I didn't want to be in an enclosed space," he says, adding: "I did need that outlet to come down and process the shift, and that 20- to 25-minute walk was the perfect way to do it."

Once he gets home, he strips in the hallway. His scrubs and mask go in a bag, he disinfects everything with a container of Lysol wipes he keeps immediately inside his apartment.

"I try not to bring it any further than my apartment doorstep," he says. Once inside, he immediately beelines for the shower; his family's safety comes first.

At home, his wife is happy to see him after a long day of balancing work with parenting their two-year-old daughter. He then helps with dinner, has a beer, and catches up on coronavirus developments.

Moving forward, one of Spencer's worst fears is that people will continue to spread misinformation about the virus. He may treat a patient with coronavirus who literally is trusting him with his or her life. "But as soon as they leave, they may flip through Facebook and say, 'You know what? The doctors are all wrong.'"

Although he's hopeful that scientists will learn more about the coronavirus and how it affects human health in the coming months, Spencer is less optimistic that there will be big structural and political changes that will profoundly alter the course of the pandemic.

"The US will continue to be an outlier in terms of how poorly we have responded to this, and the magnitude of how much we're impacted by this," he says.

He adds: "We're going to continue to have case numbers that certainly are not going to magically disappear. We don't know who is going to be infected and what area is going to be infected next, but it's inevitable that this virus is going to continue to infect communities throughout this country."

In New York City specifically, Spencer is both hopeful and cautious. "New York City, despite its slow start, has been really cautious in re-opening, which has helped keep numbers low," he says.

"But as schools and colleges reopen, and things like indoor dining resume later this month, it's hard to not be worried that we could see more cases in our ERs soon," he notes further, with caution: "I don't suspect that we will get to anything like we saw in March and April, but I am bracing for more cases in the coming months."

The rapidly evolving situation will invariably stretch Dr Spencer and his physician colleagues all over the US - a challenge that, by then, they will no longer be strangers to.

A piece first published in Elemental, a Medium publication about health and wellness. Wudan Yan is a journalist based in Seattle.

By Norimitsu Onishi in Paris

Even as cases rise, Europe is learning to live with Covid-19

In the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic, French President Emmanuel Macron exhorted his people to wage "war" against the coronavirus. Today, his message is to "learn how to live with the virus".

From full-fledged conflict to cold war containment, France and much of the rest of Europe have opted for coexistence as infections keep rising, summer recedes into a risk-filled autumn and the possibility of a second wave haunts the continent.

Having abandoned hopes of eradicating the virus or developing a vaccine within weeks, Europeans have largely gone back to work and school, leading lives as normally as possible amid an enduring pandemic that has already killed nearly 215,000 in Europe.

The approach contrasts sharply to the United States, where restrictions meant to ensure protection against the virus have been politically divisive and where many regions have pushed ahead with reopening schools, shops and restaurants without having baseline protocols in place.

The result there has been nearly as many deaths as in Europe, though among a far smaller population.

Europeans, for the most part, are putting to use the hard-won lessons from the pandemic's initial phase: the need to wear masks and practise social distancing, the importance of testing and tracing, and the critical advantages of reacting nimbly and locally.

All of those measures, tightened or loosened as needed, are intended to prevent the kind of national lockdowns that paralysed the continent and crippled economies early this year.

"It's not possible to stop the virus," said Emmanuel André, a leading virologist in Belgium and former spokesman for the government's Covid-19 task force, adding: "It's about maintaining equilibrium. And we only have a few tools available to do that."

"People are tired. They don't want to go to war anymore," noted André.



Checking temperatures outside a cinema in Málaga, Spain, last month. New infections have soared in recent weeks in the country. Photo: Samuel Aranda for The New York Times

Martial language has given way to more measured assurances. "We are in a living-with-the-virus phase," said Roberto Speranza, the Health minister of Italy, the first country in Europe to impose a national lockdown.

In an interview with La Stampa newspaper, Speranza said that though a "zero infection rate does not exist", Italy was now far better equipped to handle a surge in infections. "There is not going to be another lockdown," Speranza said. Still, risks remain.

New infections have soared in recent weeks, especially in France and in Spain. France recorded more than 10,000 cases on a single day last week. The jump is not surprising since the overall number of tests being performed - now about 1 million a week - has increased steadily and is now more than ten times what it was in the spring.

The death rate of about 30 people a day is a small fraction of what it was at its peak when hundreds

and sometimes more than 1,000 died every day in France.

William Dab, an epidemiologist and a French former national health director, said that is because those infected now tend to be younger and health officials have learned how to treat Covid-19 better.

"The virus is still circulating freely, we're controlling poorly the chain of infections, and inevitably high-risk people - the elderly, the obese, the diabetic - will end up being affected," he said.

In Germany, too, young people are overrepresented among the rising cases of infections. While German health authorities are testing over 1 million people a week, a debate has started over the relevance of infection rates in providing a snapshot of the pandemic.

At the beginning of September, only 5 per cent of confirmed cases had to go to hospital for treatment, according to data from the country's health authority. At the height

of the pandemic in April, as many as 22 per cent of those infected ended up in hospital care.

Hendrik Streeck, head of virology at a research hospital in Bonn, cautioned that the pandemic should not be judged merely by infection numbers but instead by deaths and hospitalisations.

"We've reached a phase where the number of infections alone is no longer as meaningful," he said. Much of Europe was unprepared for the arrival of the coronavirus - lacking masks, test kits and other basic equipment. Even nations that came out better than others, like Germany, registered far greater death tolls than Asian countries that were much closer to the source of the outbreak in Wuhan, China, but that reacted more quickly.

National lockdowns helped get the pandemic under control across Europe. But infection rates began rising again over the summer after countries opened up and people,

especially the young, resumed socialising, often without adhering to social-distancing guidelines.

Even as infections have been rising, Europeans have returned to work and to school this month, creating more opportunity for the virus to spread.

"We control infection chains better compared to March or April when we were completely powerless," said Dab, the former French national health director, adding: "Now the challenge for the government is to find a balance between reviving the economy and protecting people's health."

"And it's not an easy balance," he noted, adding: "They want to reassure people so that they'll go back to work, but at the same time we have to make them worried so that they'll keep respecting preventive measures."

Among those measures, masks are now widely available across Europe and governments, for the most part, agree on the need to wear them. Early this year, faced with shortages, the French government discouraged people from wearing masks, saying they did not protect wearers and could even be harmful.

Wearing a face covering has become part of the lives of Europeans, most of whom last March still regarded with suspicion and incomprehension mask-wearing tourists from Asia, where the practice has been widespread for the past two decades.

Instead of applying national lockdowns with little regard to regional differences, authorities - even in a highly centralised nation like France - have begun responding more rapidly to local hot spots with specific measures.

Last Monday, for example, Bordeaux officials announced that, faced with a surge in infections, they would limit private gatherings to ten people, restrict visits to retirement homes and forbid stand-

ing in bars.

In Germany, while the new school year has started with mandatory physical classes around the country, the authorities have warned that traditional events like carnival or Christmas markets may have to be curtailed or even cancelled. Soccer games in the Bundesliga will meanwhile continue to be played without fans until at least the end of October.

In Britain, where mask wearing is not especially widespread or strictly enforced, the authorities have tightened the rules on family gatherings in Birmingham, where infections have been rising. In Belgium, meanwhile, people are restricted to limiting their social activity to a bubble of six people.

In Italy, the government has sealed off villages, hospitals or even migrant shelters to contain emerging clusters. Antonio Miglietta, an epidemiologist who conducted contact tracing in a quarantined building in Rome in June, said that months of battling the virus had helped officials extinguish outbreaks before they got out of control, the way they did in northern Italy this year. "We got better at it," he said.

But governments still need to get better at other things. At the peak of the epidemic, France, like many other European nations, was so desperately short of test kits that many sick people were never able to get tested.

Today, although France carries out 1 million tests a week, the widespread testing has created delays in getting appointments and results - up to a week in Paris.

People can get tested regardless of their symptoms or the history of their contacts, and officials have not established priority tests that would speed up results for the people at highest risk to themselves and others.

A joint New York Times News Service dispatch contributed by Constant Méheut and Antonella Francini from Paris, Matt Apuzzo from Brussels, Gaia Pianigiani and Emma Bubola from Rome, and Christopher F. Schuetz from Berlin.

Value addition, branding: Giving smallholder farmers competitive edge

BY GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT, IRINGA

SMALLHOLDER farmers in Pawaga village of Iringa District in Iringa Region are miles ahead of their counterparts in other villages when it comes to reducing loss and waste in the rice value chain. And it is not about storing the crop in modern warehouses; the farmers don't sell unprocessed rice and they have acquired their own brand for their products.

Currently smallholder rice farmers in 12 irrigation schemes in Iringa District strive to reduce loss and waste before the crop is harvested and when it is transported for storage by using improved agriculture technology in the preparation of farms as well as during planting. Warehouse system is a new development that enables farmers to reduce postharvest losses.

With training and awareness raising campaigns, the farmers are able to manage water for irrigation, ensuring that they use only that amount of water needed for the crops to grow well. Rational use of water goes a long way towards adaptation to impacts of climate change.

Thanks to the RICE Project farmers have recorded significant success in reducing postharvest losses and, through the warehousing system, their crop remains safe and secure while they negotiate good prices with buyers. The RICE project is funded by the European Union and implemented by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Tanzania (FAO Tz) in partnership with the government of Tanzania and smallholder rice farmers.

The goal is to improve competitiveness and increase postharvest management capacity of smallholder farmers in the rice value chain so as to reduce poverty among farmers, among other things, building their capacity to reduce postharvest losses and withstand competition in production and marketing.

It also aims at strengthening the managerial capacities of smallholder farmers' cooperative associations and enhancing innovative, sustainable and inclusive market systems.

"In order to get easy access and fetch good prices in the market, we sell processed rice. But we have gone an extra mile and branded our product, Pawaga Organic Rice. Branding has helped us gain access to markets which would otherwise be difficult to penetrate into and, as such, we secure good prices for our products," explains Twalib Abdallah Ubwa, the CEO of Tuungane Pawaga Enterprises.

The association was established in 2014 well before the RICE project began implementation in 2017. "At that time production was low, ranging from 17 to 18 bags per hectare. We also incurred losses before and after



Twalib Ubwa of Tuungane Pawaga Enterprises displays one of their branded products, a 5kg pack of Pawaga organic rice.

harvesting the crop. However, the project built the capacity of farmers in the use of modern agriculture technologies and leaders of the association were trained in collective bargaining in buying inputs and selling the crop, marketing, record keeping and branding," explains Ubwa. "Since then farmers have increased production to between 35 and 40 bags during project implementation. This is an increase of more than 100 percent," he adds.

The association comprises 100 members all of whom are smallholder farmers but it provides services such as warehousing and milling to all farmers who require them. Members and non-members alike have also stopped selling their crop individually, the enterprise looks for markets and negotiates good prices for the products. Of course individuals are free to look for buyers for their crops but experience has shown that without collective bargaining, many farmers are easily tricked into selling their crop at prices lower than those which prevail in the market at the time. The association has also linked farmers to banks

including the Tanzania Postal Bank where they can acquire loans for meeting various expenses related to rice production while leaders of the association act as guarantors.

The aspect of value addition is better achieved when smallholder farmers work in groups instead of individuals because groups can easily access loans or purchase inputs on credit from credible suppliers. They can also purchase machinery for various purposes and thus not only reduce costs but also reduce waste and postharvest losses.

"Value addition and avoiding losses is a value chain issue and not a matter of one single activity," says Reuben Faustin, Field Officer at Rural and Urban Development Initiative (RUDI) attached to the RICE Project. "Farmers have to prepare their farms according to advice given by experts and to use quality seeds. Weeding according to instructions is also important in order to avoid destroying some of the rice plants as well as ensuring that no weeds are left to choke the crop and farmers must be careful when harvesting so that no crop is lost. Perhaps packag-

ing and branding is the icing on the cake as this makes the association's rice stand out from the crowd of products sold by other farmers," he explains, adding that branded rice has a wide and ready market and fetches good prices because buyers often want something different and which can be traced back to the producers.

Farmers now store their crops in warehouses where managers trained by the RICE project ensure that everyone's crop is safe and secure and keep up-to-date records of the rice stock.

Over the years the association has gained confidence and won the trust of suppliers of agricultural inputs, banks, buyers of the rice crop and a range of partners. This is evidenced by the rising sales of branded rice from 400 tons before implementation of the project began to 800 tons this season even when harvesting of the crop is not over.

It is the intension of the association to see that rice stored in its warehouse is all sold in good time so that farmers get money and spend it on other needs. Currently

buyers come from Dar es Salaam, Mbeya Dodoma and other regions, "but we are also exploring the market in neighbouring countries and I am sure we will find good market because we offer quality products. We stand a better chance of selling our quality products because smallholder farmers are united and speak with one voice; that is the only way to survive," explains Ubwa.

The warehouse system has played a big role raising production among smallholder farmers. Besides reducing postharvest losses through proper storage, the system gives individual farmers the freedom to sell their crops as and when they want. The system also enables a farmer to acquire loans from financial institutions using the crop stored in the warehouse as collateral. "The decision to sell or not to sell remains with the farmers, they own the goods and they are the ones who will be held accountable for loans or credits they take and not the association," explains Ubwa.

Speaking about the RICE Project in general, Faustin says it has managed to change the mindset of

smallholder farmers in managing the crop throughout the value chain and reducing postharvest losses. Before the project rarely did farmers take rice production as a value chain the activities of which were interrelated. "The fragmented activities led to huge losses that were further compounded by poor storage. Farmers worked as individuals and this left them vulnerable to the tricks of suppliers of inputs and middlemen who bought their crops at very low prices. Farmers now work together through schemes and associations and treat rice production as a value chain. Most importantly, they acknowledge the warehouse system as the solution to postharvest losses and a link to credible buyers of their crop," says the Field Officer.

The project has also enabled schemes to acquire farm machinery for various activities, a situation that has created employment opportunities for the youth who have been trained in assembling, servicing and operating them.

"Generally, smallholder rice farmers are economically better now than they were before the project. Reducing postharvest losses and waste goes beyond proper storage and requires change of mindset among farmers in the way they manage all the activities in the rice value chain," says Faustin.

The curtain is set to fall on the RICE project by December this year. Records show that a total of about 10,000 people including smallholder women, men and youth have benefited from the project. "About 3,000 farmers can apply proper postharvest management methods and significantly reduce postharvest losses. Various groups are also undertaking income generating activities along the rice value chain," explains Annaviola Walter who works with RUDI as Business advisor to the RICE Project.

There is also significant improvement in record keeping of activities in the rice value chain both at family and scheme level.

"There is no doubt about sustainability of the project; farmers have seen tangible changes that have improved their lives and they won't let these gains slip away," says Faustin.

He argues that since Iringa District Council officials have taken part in implementation of the project, they will help smallholder farmers to increase rice production and further reduce losses throughout the value chain in order to raise their incomes.

"We have been working closely with village extension officers who will have to shoulder the burden of further reducing waste and postharvest losses in the rice value chain in order to reduce poverty among smallholder farmers. It is a job they have been doing all these years" says Faustin.

Zanzibar women use social media to get into election amid COVID-19

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

PAVU Abdallah is one of the women in Zanzibar who are taking part in this year's General Election using social media despite the outbreak of COVID-19.

"It wasn't an easy task to get this chance, says Pavu, who is vying for the Donge Constituency in Unguja North Region through ACT-Wazalendo.

She admits that the effects of COVID-19 are being felt across the spectrum of the key areas of democracy foci in Zanzibar, where women are the hardest hit.

"As women, we had no room to take part in this year's election process due to a number of restrictions imposed by the government to contain the pandemic," she says, noting that COVID-19 denied women in the Indian Ocean archipelago from social gatherings as well as election campaigns.

According to her, there were many women in Zanzibar who were interested to take part in this year's election, but their ambitions vanished in a thin air due to the pandemic.

Pavu opted to use social media to relay her messages to some of the key members and leaders of the opposition party.

"I decided to form a WhatsApp group, where I met with some of the key members of the party and this made me reach where I'm now," she says.

She adds that through social media, the woman candidate reached 75 percent of party members, something that made her to easily win in the party primaries.

The use of social media has reduced cost in terms of time and money, according to Pavu.

"If I had to take a bus to Donge, I would pay 10,000/- per day as fare, but through Whatsapp,

I used to spend 1,000/- per day."

Asha Said Suleiman says the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic discouraged many women to get into the election as there was no room for them to mingle with their fellows. "But, for me, I jumped into social media where I was connected with party members and leaders and this is the secret behind," says Asha, who is contesting for Mtambile Constituency in Pemba South Region through Civic United Front (CUF).

Asha describes social media as a key tool for women to get into this year's general election.

"So, when we get into party primaries, it was easy for me to win as many members were familiar with me and they know what I can deliver and they elected me," Asha says, lauding the role of social media in election amid COVID-19.

Riziki Pembe Juma, a Special Seats House of Representatives attests that the outbreak of the pandemic posed fear to her as everything was paralyzed.

Riziki, who is the former Zanzibar minister for Education and Vocational Training recounts that it was a hard time for her as gatherings were prohibited, but she used social media as a solution to the challenge.

This, according to Riziki, has worked and she was able to convince members and she won.

Vice-chancellor of State University of Zanzibar (SUZA) Prof Idrissa Ahmada describes the use of social media as an effective tool for people to realize their dream as it reaches as many people as possible and within short time.

"It is also easy for people to get feedback," he says, adding that there many people who used social media during the pandemic and their businesses grew.

Dr Mzuri Issa, Director of Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA) Zanzibar said that many women were reached with education on political leadership before the outbreak

of the COVID-19.

"The challenge remained to the beneficiaries themselves...some weren't able to translate what they have learned into practice."

According to her, those training bore fruit as the number of women contesting in different political posts has gone up as compared to the past, where it was impossible for women getting into podiums and asks for votes.

Most of the women who were getting to politics were through Special Seats, but now things have changed, she says, encouraging d Zanzibar women to continue joining the race for various electoral posts as it's their constitutional right and they have to prove that women can also make good leaders.

According to the 2012 population census, Zanzibar had 1,303,569 inhabitants, projected to grow to 1,671,598 by 2020, with women comprising over 50 per cent.

Unfortunately, female majority is hardly reflected in the decision-making organs and in most cases, the group is deliberately discouraged from contesting in the electoral posts.

Amid the strained situation, an average of 200 women were nominated by their political parties in Zanzibar to run for the political posts in the five level posts in the 2015 general elections but without a woman presidential candidate.

Traditionally, women had been encouraged to go for special seats, which according to Dr Issa, "doesn't at all exhibit gender equality and unity of women but rather end up dividing the female community."

During the 2015 elections, only three women were elected in parliament, making six per cent; seven representatives or 14 per cent; and 23 councillors, equal to 20 per cent, while only men contested in the presidential post.



Migrant disaster in Libya stoked by EU strategy

BY AIMÉE-NOËL MBIYOZO

Libya is labelled a migration 'black hole' where refugees and migrants face 'unacceptable and extreme' forms of violence. Migrants - mainly from East and West Africa - who pass through or are returned from failed boat crossings to Europe endure indefinite detention, extortion, torture, sexual violence, conscription and forced labour.

The European Union's (EU) forthcoming New Pact on Migration and Asylum offers an opportunity to recognise the severe humanitarian costs to its externalisation strategies and refocus on more holistic migration management.

On 28 July, three Sudanese teenagers were shot dead by members of a militia linked to the Libyan Coast Guard while trying to flee from a disembarkation point. They were among 73 Europe-bound migrants intercepted by the guard and returned to the coastal town of al-Khoms.

On 17 August, 45 people - including five children - died off the coast of Zwara when their boat engine exploded after bandits fired at them. It is the worst shipwreck of 2020. The 37 survivors, mostly from Senegal, Mali, Chad and Ghana, were detained on disembarkation. Earlier a group of migrants killed a smuggler who had imprisoned them in a warehouse and then tortured and extorted them. The smuggler's family then massacred more than 30 people at once.

Armed groups use Libya's unofficial detention facilities as lucrative trafficking and smuggling hubs.

Migration from Libya to Europe has dropped substantially since its peak in 2015. However, boats continue to depart and attempted sea crossings to Europe have increased throughout the European summer, despite COVID-19 and Libya's ongoing conflict.

The International Organization for



Detention centres and corrupt coast guards prey on migrants, but the EU continues to support Libyan border authorities. File photo

Migration (IOM) estimates that at least 600 000 migrants of 46 nationalities are currently in Libya. Many are trying to reach Europe. As of 2 September, over 7 500 have been intercepted on the Central Mediterranean route this year and returned to Libya; 398 have died.

Up to half of those taken back to Libya by the Libyan Coast Guard are unaccounted for after passing through 'disembarkation' centres. Returned migrants should be sent to official disembarkation and detention centres that have some government and international oversight by agencies including the IOM and United Nations Refugee Agency.

Instead, many are disappearing - believed to be taken to unofficial detention centres. These facilities are run by

armed groups who use them as lucrative trafficking and smuggling hubs. Migrants are instructed to call their families in their home countries to extort money. Conditions are inhumane, including torture for ransom, illness, death by starvation and thirst.

Europe's approach prioritises reducing arrival numbers regardless of the immense humanitarian costs.

Formal detention and disembarkation centres have also been linked to smuggling, trafficking, sexual violence and torture. Procurement fraud and kickbacks make the system profitable for corrupt officials.

The Directorate for Combating Illegal Migration leadership is - with varying degrees of effort - trying to respond and provide oversight. However, multiple

reports link officials to severe violations.

The EU and its member states enable these circumstances. Since 2015, the EU Trust Fund for Africa has given Libya €435 million, including €57.2 million for border management. They provide direct funding, training and equipment to the Libyan Coast Guard, whose members are implicated in smuggling and sustaining informal detention centres. The EU has also been accused of turning a blind eye and enabling violations occurring in Greece.

Despite pressure from humanitarian groups and some political constituencies, there is no dedicated EU-led search and rescue programme in the Mediterranean. In late 2019, a European Parliament resolution to step up such operations

was narrowly rejected by two votes. Opponents say they provide incentives for irregular migration.

Italy and Malta have failed to respond to distress calls within search and rescue zones, turned boats back and impounded civilian rescue vessels, claiming they enable illegal migration. Malta is accused of hiring private ships to act as spotters for the Libyan Coast Guard, which has returned boats to Libya despite being in European zones. The coast guard has also been accused of ignoring distress calls and allowing boats to disappear.

Claims that the EU strategy saves lives and improves treatment of those rescued can no longer be accepted.

The EU has confirmed the abhorrent conditions in Libya

and that the Libyan government isn't working towards improving conditions. A September 2019 letter from the EU Council president raised questions about its involvement: 'The reluctance of officials to cooperate is closely linked to the widely reported human rights violations that take place in the detention centres and to the fact that the facilities form a profitable business model for the current Libyan government.'

Europe's approach has prioritised reducing the number of migrants and asylum seekers arriving on the continent, regardless of the immense humanitarian costs. Claims that the EU strategy is 'saving the lives of those making dangerous journeys by sea or land,' or 'strengthening the Libyan search and rescue capacities' and 'improving treatment of those rescued' can no longer be accepted.

In 2019, the European Commission announced plans to introduce a New Pact on Migration and Asylum that will lay out a vision to reform the bloc's approach. It was meant to be unveiled in February but was delayed due to COVID-19. Migration experts and advocates eagerly anticipate the details that are expected to be released this month.

Before the 2015 migration 'crisis', EU policy frameworks emphasised the need to increase safe and legal migration routes to Europe, maximise the development impacts of migration and mobility, and promote international protection. It has subsequently all but abandoned these objectives and prioritised stopping migration flows, regardless of the human and security costs.

The New Pact presents an opportunity to revisit these objectives and reform the system. It should recognise that the measures taken to stop migration are at best stop-gap solutions and that sound migration management is still needed. The New Pact should restore its efforts to properly manage migration.

Agencies

BY PETER FABRICIUS

When the Pentagon sought to locate its newly formed Africa Command (AFRICOM) somewhere in Africa in 2007, Botswana and Liberia were reportedly eager to host it. But then South African president Thabo Mbeki and his defence minister Mosiuoa Lekota mobilised the continent to oppose the move. They said it would constitute an unacceptable violation of Africa's sovereignty.

The United States (US) eventually backed down and opted instead for Stuttgart, where its Europe Command was already installed. Now AFRICOM is looking for a new home and the question arises again, in a different political and military context, would it be to Africa's advantage if it moved to the continent?

In July this year AFRICOM commander General Stephen Townsend announced that: 'US Africa Command has been told to plan to move.' This would be part of the Pentagon's plan to withdraw 12 000 troops from Germany after President Donald Trump decided to cut back on America's military presence in that country. Trump's position was that Berlin wasn't meeting its North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) collective defence commitment to spend at least 2% of its GDP on its military.

Townsend said AFRICOM was looking for a new location either in Europe or the US. Officials reportedly said privately that the command wasn't looking for a new headquarters in Africa. This was apparently to avoid the impression that the US was militarising its relations with the continent.

Keeping AFRICOM offshore has not kept the US military presence in Africa at bay.

Judd Devermont, Africa programme head at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, said: 'If AFRICOM is moved, it seems more likely that it will relocate to Europe or to the United States than to an African country. There were few African takers when AFRICOM was established, and I suspect there remains limited interest in hosting a large number of US personnel. If it remains in Europe, Belgium, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom have been raised as potential candidates.'

But if there were any African takers,

AFRICOM may be looking for a new home



Given the large US military presence in Africa, could the continent benefit from having the command based locally? File photo

moving to the continent would presumably make sense from a purely operational point of view. Perhaps, though, the Pentagon is recalling the huge controversy back in 2007.

There is considerable irony though, in the ensuing history. If Mbeki, Lekota and others thought that keeping the command offshore would keep the US military presence at bay, they were mistaken. On the contrary, US - and other foreign - military activity in Africa has proliferated.

According to the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), 13 foreign countries now have a known military presence in Africa, mostly concentrated in the Horn where

they maintain 11 military bases. The ISS says the US and France have the greatest number of troops. It quotes the French Ministry of Defence as saying France has an estimated 7 550 military personnel spread across the continent (excluding United Nations operations).

Other sources estimate that the US has about 7 000 special forces on rotation in Africa, carrying out joint operations with national militaries against jihadists. Another 2 000 soldiers are conducting training missions in some 40 African countries.

AFRICOM has 15 'enduring' bases and 12 less permanent 'non-enduring'

or 'contingency' bases in Africa.

Djibouti, with its strategic location on the Red Sea and commanding the el-Mandeb Strait, is the epicentre of this foreign military presence. It hosts seven armies and most of the Horn's 11 military bases. The Intercept says AFRICOM now has 15 'enduring' bases and 12 less permanent 'non-enduring' or 'contingency' bases in Africa.

Foreign militaries have various motives for coming to Africa. Some have nothing to do with the continent - such as the US supposedly using Djibouti or the United Arab Emirates using Eritrea as launching pads for operations against Yemen. Much of the growing foreign military presence

is about advancing global superpower rivalries. Some foreign forces are however trying to help keep violent extremists at bay.

Africa's motives are equally varied. Some insecure leaders are perhaps still using foreign armies to prop them up - France in Chad and Russia in the Central African Republic for example - or simply to make money. But again, some need the foreign soldiers to help curb violent extremism; a goal that potentially benefits all.

Continually the attitude towards foreign military presence seems rather tentative. The African Union (AU) is formally opposed to foreign military bases. But its Peace and

Security Council issued a mild statement in April 2016 calling on member states to be 'circumspect' when 'entering into agreements' that would lead to the establishment of foreign bases in their countries. Not a strong deterrent, at least judging by its effect.

Inadequate national militaries and a continental standby force that still exists largely only on paper are clearly contributing to the growing foreign military presence.

Moving AFRICOM to Africa may be in the continent's interests and would acknowledge the reality on the ground.

Given the reality of a large dependence on outside support, one can't help asking if moving AFRICOM to Africa would be more in the continent's interests than having it operate out of Europe or the US. It would certainly acknowledge the reality on the ground. Apart from shortening reaction times, it would also presumably enable the AU and African countries to manage and monitor America's sprawling military presence better if they had one contact point.

Others believe though that such a move would be little more than symbolic. With such a large de facto US military presence in Africa anyway, AFRICOM headquarters are really no more than an administrative centre that could be located anywhere.

One AU watcher says AFRICOM is deeply embedded in the AU. It has an attaché to the Peace and Security Department. It has a unit in the embassy specifically focusing on the AU that has been heavily involved in enunciating a number of AU policies particularly on maritime security, Sahel security, and deployment of a number of missions. It has also embedded staff in the AU early warning unit and Peace Support Operations Division.'

And so if the presence of an AFRICOM HQ in Africa would be mostly symbolic anyway, keeping it offshore would perhaps be better. The symbolism would probably be mostly negative - likely of occupation - and symbolism, it seems, is more powerful than reality.

And then there is the possibility that AFRICOM won't move from Germany after all. Such a move would be motivated entirely, it seems, by Trump's own private bugbear about Germany not paying its dues in NATO. So if he is defeated in the 3 November presidential election, perhaps it won't happen at all.

Agencies

BUSINESS

CONTROVERSY

Clicks hair advert: Senior exec resigns, TRESemmé to be removed from shelves



Managing Director Beverley Spencer-Obatoyinbo

INCENTIVE

BAT eyes tax holiday for nicotine pouches

NAIROBI

British American Tobacco (BAT) Kenya is pushing for a three-year tax holiday on local production of nicotine pouches and similar products at its \$25 million (Sh2.7 billion) plant which is close to completion.

The firm says it has opened talks with the Treasury and the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) to have the non-combustible pouches to be initially exempted from excise duty for two to three years, and subsequently lower taxation than prevailing rates on cigarettes.

Managing Director Beverley Spencer-Obatoyinbo said the tax holiday will help it start manufacturing and set up distribution networks for local sales and exports in six-nation East African Community and 21-member Comesa markets.

She argued that the oral nicotine pouches - consumed by being placed between upper lip and gum and seen as alternative to smoking - are "new-to-world" products which should not be slapped with punitive taxes as those on cigarettes.

"My expectation is that there would be no excise on this category due to the size of foreign direct investment. We are looking at holiday of two-three years

in order to start the manufacturing, distribution and sales of this category, and also give us chance to establish exports," Ms Spencer-Obatoyinbo told the Business Daily on Thursday. "We believe that based on its reduced harm profile, excise tax paid should be significantly lower than cigarettes."

BAT started importing the new tobacco-free category into Kenya in third quarter of last year, and plans to begin local production of the oral nicotine pouches when it opens its new factory in Nairobi targeting the African market. The gradual switch from tobacco to nicotine pouches will likely hit Kenyan leaf farmers - who have for decades depended on the cigarette industry for livelihood - hardest in the medium- to long-term.

"We have a very long and stable relationship with farmers. Our objective over the short-term is to continue that relationship," Ms Spencer-Obatoyinbo. "Looking forward, there will definitely need to be discussions with leaf farmers in terms of how all these categories all come together. The nicotine that is currently utilised in pouches is produced in Switzerland ... and is obviously drawn from tobacco leaves, and the Kenyan leaf fits in the global leaf that BAT purchases."

JOHANNESBURG

The Clicks retail group said on Tuesday that it would delist the TRESemmé brand, expand its range of local haircare products and work with the government to develop the local beauty market.

It has also suspended all the employees involved in the advertising campaign that infuriated the EFF and led to nationwide protests on Monday. On Monday, the EFF targeted Clicks stores nationwide to protest against the hair advertisement that described the hair of the two black women as "dry and damaged" and "frizzy and dull", but the hair of two white women as "fine and flat" and "normal."

Clicks said 425 stores in the country had been affected by the protests but that it was too early to assess the nature of the damage caused by vandalism. Some stores were torched. On Tuesday, the Gauteng High Court in Johannesburg granted an interdict, preventing the EFF from intimidating Clicks staff or customers, but said peaceful protests could continue.

Employees suspended

In a statement on Tuesday, Clicks CEO Vikesh Ramsunder said all employees responsible for publishing the offensive advertisement had been suspended.

The EFF has forced several Clicks stores across the country to close. Clicks triggered a massive backlash after posting images which most people viewed as showing prejudice against black women. But there are concerns about the safety of the company.

"Clicks has also accepted the resignation of the senior executive



Clicks CEO Vikesh Ramsunder.

responsible. Clicks is implementing a number of proactive measures to drive diversity and inclusivity, while helping to develop and expand the local beauty market, in partnership with the government."

Ramsunder said all suspended employees would go through a fair and unbiased disciplinary hearing, overseen by an independent, outside chairperson. He added that Clicks would delist and remove all TRESemmé products from its shelves with immediate effect and would replace them with locally sourced haircare brands of which Clicks "has an extensive range already".

Significant

"Furthermore, Clicks will be engaging with all suppliers to enforce their ethical code of conduct. In addition, Clicks has been involved in extensive discussions with the Departments of Labour and Trade and Industry over the past few days and will be working closely with them to help develop the local beauty market in South Africa.

"We recognise this event has had a significant impact on our people and our customers and we have taken a decision to close our stores for a day on Wednesday, 9 September. We will use this opportunity to engage directly with all our store staff across the country, to provide counselling and support. We will be supported by the ICAS Employee Health and Wellness Programme.

"We are prioritising our diversity and inclusion training programme for our head office staff. We will be reviewing its content, extending it wider and implementing with more urgency and focus. We are working with the [police] to ensure the safety of our staff, customers and members of the public, and thank them for continuing to shop with us," Ramsunder said.

WARNING

Every time you wash your clothes, you are polluting the environment with plastic fluff

CALIFORNIA

Over the past few years, there has been an increasing awareness on the impact microplastics have on oceans and the environment. But they are not the only tiny particles that are having a devastating environmental effect.

As we wash our clothes, tiny fibres from synthetic fabrics are released and leaked into the environment. And scientists have now revealed just how much of this 'fluff' has contaminated land, oceans and rivers around the world.

Since the popularisation of fabrics like nylon and polyester in the 1950s, around 5.6 million tonnes of fibres have been released into the environment, scientists in the US estimate - the equivalent of seven billion fleece jackets. Around 2.9 million tonnes of these fibres - less than 5mm in length - have made their way into the world's oceans.

However, the problem with this fluff is that it is having an increasing impact on land. According to the team at the University of California, Santa Barbara, which carried out the study, the number of fibres remaining on land has overtaken those being leaked into oceans thanks to advances in wastewater treatment works, which have made plants extremely good at catching the particles.

But once it has been captured,



Every time we wash our clothes, microfibres are released into the environment.

this fluff is being applied to cropland alongside biosolid sludge, or simply being buried in landfills. The researchers say their findings, published in the journal Plos One, indicate yearly microfibre emissions

to landfill and other terrestrial environments exceeding 167,000 metric tonnes each year.

The true numbers are, however, extremely difficult for researchers to calculate. The team at USCB looked at

data on how plastic is made, consumed, and then shed around the world. They also needed to look at the impact of both machine and hand washing, and estimate the number of people who do each and at what frequency,

as well as looking at the effect different detergents can have on the shedding of microfibres.

The results estimated that, between 1950 and 2016, 5.6 million tonnes of this fluff was released from clothes washed, with around half of these emissions occurring in the past 10 years. This is, in part, down to the rise in fast fashion and our growing collection of clothes. In 1990, researchers say the global average stock of garments per head was 8kg. By 2016, it was 26kg per capita. With emissions growing by 12.9 per cent each year, researchers say more needs to be done to reduce plastic fibre pollution.

"Large-scale removal of microfibres from the environment is unlikely to be technically feasible or economically viable, so the focus needs to be on emission prevention," the study's lead author Jenna Gavigan said. "Since wastewater treatment plants don't necessarily reduce emissions to the environment, our focus needs to be on reducing emissions before they enter the wastewater stream."

STUDY

Paracetamol, most common pain reliever worldwide, induces risky behaviour

OHIO

Paracetamol, most common pain reliever worldwide, induces risky behaviour, new study says This 'harmless' headache tablet does more than ease pain, researchers say.

These OTC pain relievers work in slightly different ways. Acetaminophen, also known as paracetamol, and sold under the brand name Panadol, is a common painkiller taken by many

people. But, according to a new study that measured changes in people's behaviour while under the influence of the drug, this medication can increase risk-taking.

Risk-taking tested in experiments These new findings were published in the journal Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience. The researchers performed a series of experiments on more than 500 study participants to see how a 1,000 mg dose of acetaminophen

affected their risk-taking behaviour compared to placebos.

Participants all had to pump up an uninflated balloon on a computer screen, where they earned imaginary money with each pump. The participants were given instructions to earn as much imaginary money as possible without popping the balloon. Study results showed that those who took the 1,000 mg of acetaminophen as opposed to the placebo became less

cautious in their actions, which led to bursting the imaginary balloon.

Participants also had to fill out surveys to rate their perceived level of risk-taking during several hypothetical scenarios, such as bungee jumping or driving a car without a seat belt. Once again, those on acetaminophen gave answers indicating they felt more comfortable taking risks.

Effects on the choices we make "Acetaminophen seems to make

people feel less negative emotion when they consider risky activities - they just don't feel as scared," stated neuroscientist Baldwin Way from The Ohio State University. "If you're risk-averse, you may pump a few times and then decide to cash out because you don't want the balloon to burst and lose your money," Way says.

According to the research team, the investigation of the psychological mechanisms behind findings should be

addressed in future research to address the role of pain relief in acetaminophen, and whether it is actually effective.

"Perhaps someone with mild Covid-19 symptoms may not think it is as risky to leave their house and meet with people if they're taking acetaminophen," Way stated. "We really need more research on the effects of acetaminophen and other over-the-counter drugs on the choices and risks we take."

EGGHEADS

Anzisha Prize 2020 reveals finalists

KAMPALA

The Anzisha Prize has revealed its top 20 finalists for 2020. Winners will be announced at this year's Anzisha Prize Conference on the 27 October 2020, where the programme will be celebrating 10 years of supporting very young entrepreneurs.

This year's application season saw a record number of 1,200 applicants vying for a chance to join the Anzisha Prize fellowship. From these applications, 20 businesses emerged that were 45% female-owned and represented sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing and education.

Anzisha Prize 2020 reveals finalists

Young entrepreneurs from Morocco, South Africa and Tanzania displayed impressive ventures that are tackling critical issues within their communities while also turning a profit. Through their businesses and entrepreneurial leadership skills, these job starters are paving a way for other young Africans to pursue entrepreneurship.

Selected as a top 20 finalist is 21-year-old Alaa Moatamed who is the co-founder of Presto, a company she describes as one of the leading delivery management platforms in Egypt. The venture provides business owners with an affordable and convenient delivery service for their customers. Joining Alaa is 20-year-old Benjamin Mushayija Gisa from Rwanda who manufactures and packages natural organic products for consumption and for cosmetic purposes in the form of lotions and coconut soap.



Peter Materu, chief program officer at Mastercard Foundation.

"2020 has seen a global shift in the future of work. This year's applicants have personified the resilience and innovation that Africa needs as we navigate our way into a post-COVID-19 future," says Melissa Mbazo-Ekepenyong, deputy director of the Anzisha Prize.

For the past decade, the Anzisha Prize, which is a partnership between African Leadership Academy and Mastercard Foundation, has

championed and supported very young African entrepreneurs such as Alaa and Benjamin. The programme has supported 122 entrepreneurs and 77 of those businesses have created over 2 000 jobs, with 56% of those being employment provided for young Africans under 25.

Peter Materu, chief program officer, Mastercard Foundation says, "The success of the Anzisha Prize over the last decade stands as a re-

sounding testament to the creativity and entrepreneurial potential of Africa's very young people – a hugely under-tapped resource. Through Anzisha, we're reminded of what they can achieve when challenged and enabled to own and solve the problems they see around them. Now, as ever, the innovations that have emerged through the Anzisha Prize inspire and renew our faith in and commitment to their promise."

This year, the top 20 will gather virtually from their various countries to share knowledge and learn from expert coaches and mentors as they prepare for their final pitches to a panel of external judges. All the entrepreneurs will receive a cash prize of \$2,500. The grand prize winner will receive \$25,000, while the 1st runner and 2nd runner receive \$15,000 and \$12,500 respectively.

IMPRESSIVE

Two African authors get shortlisted for the 2020 Booker Prize

LONDON

Two African authors including Zimbabwean Tsitsi Dangarembga and Ethiopian-American Maaza Mengiste have both made the six-book shortlist for the prestigious Booker Prize.

The development was announced on Tuesday, September 15, via the organisation's Twitter account. According to the announcement, the winner, who will receive \$64,000 (£50,000), will be announced on 17 November.

Dangarembga's novel, *This Mournable Body* is a sequel to her 1988 book *Nervous Conditions*, which has since become a classic, and continues the story of Tambu. Goodreads describes this book as a searing novel about the obstacles facing women in Zimbabwe, by one of the country's most notable authors.

Anxious about her prospects after leaving a stagnant job, Tambudzai finds herself living in a run-down youth hostel in downtown Harare. For reasons that include her grim financial prospects and her age, she moves to a widow's boarding house and eventually finds work as a biology teacher.

But at every turn in her attempt to make a life for herself, she is faced with a fresh humiliation, until the painful contrast between the future she imagined and her daily reality ultimately drives her to a breaking point. In the wake of the noble recognition, Dangarembga, on her Twitter page said she was "overwhelmed and delighted" by the nomination:

Also shortlisted is Mengiste's *The Shadow King* which focuses on the life of an orphan as Italy's wartime fascist dictator Benito Mussolini's forces threaten to invade Ethiopia. "I don't know what to say. OH MY GOD!" she tweeted in response to the news that she was shortlisted.

Last year, British-Nigerian writer Bernadine Evaristo became the first black woman to win the prize for her book *Girl, Woman, Other*. Previous African winners include Nadine Gordimer, JM Coetzee and Ben Okri.

The other books shortlisted for this year's award are: *The New Wilderness* by Diane Cook, *Burnt Sugar* by Avni Doshi, *Shuggie Bain* by Douglas Stuart, *Real Life* by Brandon Taylor. Any book written in English and published in Britain is eligible for the award.



Zimbabwean author Tsitsi Dangarembga.

ENDORSEMENT

Kenyan comedian Elsa Majimbo joins the Fenty family

NAIROBI

Elsa Majimbo has taken social media by storm as she provides bursts of energy and laughter for her fans during what would have otherwise been a very sombre time, considering the ongoing pandemic.

Now, the social media star features in a luxury fashion campaign, courtesy of Fenty Corp. The fashion brand posted a video of Elsa sporting what her fans dubbed "Majimbo hair" - which has now formed part of her signature look - wearing a variety of its sunglasses styles.

In an interview with W24 earlier this year, Elsa said: "People just used to make fun of my hairstyle in videos and some started posting it and calling it 'the Majimbo hair' ... "People just constantly posted about it and tagging me so it caught my attention," Elsa said. In jest, Elsa reposts the video giving a shout to Fenty and her "childhood friend" Rihanna, who "doesn't necessarily know that [they] are bff's, but that's okay."

Since commanding multiple social media platforms with her skits, Elsa has made a number of international headlines for her comedy with a signature many seem to not get enough of. Her style is characterised by her infectious laughter, occasional munching of potato chips and a demeanour so at ease



Elsa Majimbo does a campaign video for Fenty.

you want to have her perspective on life's challenges.

But the 19-year-old comedian said: "I like that my followers and fans are able to do things that make me feel more in touch with myself. Con-

necting with them really warms my heart," she added.

Since going viral and landing the status of a social media sensation, Elsa has spoken about working with MAC cosmetics in Kenya, being on

Comedy Central, now she adds Fenty to her list of collaborations. It seems her career will continue to skyrocket but she keeps a special place for the support of her followers.

"I LOVE MY FOLLOWERS! They

are so amazing and have really supported me with everything. They're helping me grow and love to see me win and that kind of love is something you can never buy at any store," she told W24.

CONFESSION

Jo Malone says cutting black actor John Boyega from ad was misstep

LONDON

British perfume brand Jo Malone has apologised to black actor John Boyega of *Star Wars* fame after cutting him out of the Chinese version of a cologne commercial he helped to create.

Jo Malone London said in a statement to *The Hollywood Reporter* that the advertisement designed for Chinese

audiences was a misstep and has been removed. The recreated advertisement replaced Boyega with Chinese star Liu Haoran.

"The concept for the film was based on John's personal experiences and should not have been replicated," it said. Jo Malone and its parent company, Estee Lauder, didn't respond to requests for comment on Sunday. Boyega

and his representatives also couldn't be reached for comment.

The original advertisement starring Boyega was broadcast last year and was called *The London Gent*. It feels deeply personal to Boyega's experience and features the London-born actor walking around the district where he grew up and riding a horse in a park. It also makes reference to his Nigerian herit-

age in a scene featuring West African attire.

It's not the first time Boyega has been deleted from a China-based advertisement. He played a leading role as Finn in 2015's *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, but he and other non-white characters were removed or diminished from a Chinese poster for the movie. Boyega has spoken out about Hollywood rac-

ism, recently telling *GQ* that black characters had been "pushed to the side" in Disney's *Star Wars* franchise.

The actor was also very outspoken on social media after George Floyd was killed in the US, and was seen protesting in London. He gave an impassioned speech on a megaphone during one protest that went viral. During the speech, as tears streamed down his

face, he said: "Look, I don't know if I'm going to have a career after this, but [...] that."

When he got backlash from some fans for his words he replied that anyone who didn't like his opinion could stop following him. "You lot can't rattle me. I'm not the guy to be rattled. I wasn't raised by no weak people."

WORLD

Trump 'plans executive order to punish' arms trade with Iran

WASHINGTON/UNITED NATIONS

US President Donald Trump plans to issue an executive order allowing him to impose US sanctions on anyone who violates a conventional arms embargo against Iran, four sources familiar with the matter said on Thursday.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the executive order was expected to be issued in the coming days and would allow the president to punish violators with secondary sanctions, depriving them of access to the US market.

The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The proximate cause for the US action is the impending expiry of a UN arms embargo on Iran and to warn foreign actors - US entities are already barred from such trade - that if they buy or sell arms to Iran they will face US sanctions.

Under the 2015 nuclear deal that

Iran struck with six major powers - Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States - the UN conventional arms embargo is to set to expire on Oct 18, shortly before the Nov 3 US election.

The United States, which abandoned the nuclear deal in May 2018, says it has triggered a "snap back," or resumption, of all UN sanctions on Iran, including the arms embargo, which would take effect at 8 pm on Saturday night or 0000 GMT on Sunday.

Other parties to the nuclear deal and most of the UN Security Council have said they do not believe the United States has the right to reimpose the UN sanctions and that the US move at the United Nations has no legal effect.

"It is obvious that none of the Security Council members have accepted the eligibility of US claims," said Alireza Miryousefi, spokesman for Iran's mission to the United Nations, adding that the nuclear deal remains



US President Donald Trump

in place and all sanctions on Iran will be lifted as per timelines agreed in 2015.

Trump's executive order is intended to show that the United States will not be deterred despite failing to win broader UN Security Council backing "snap back," said one of the four sources.

Another of the sources, a European diplomat, said the new executive order would put teeth behind Washington's assertion that the UN arms embargo would remain in place beyond October by giving the president secondary sanctions authority to punish arms transfers to or from Iran with US sanctions.

Secondary sanctions are those where one country seeks to punish a second country for trading with a third by barring access to its own market, a particularly powerful tool for the United States because of the size of its economy.

Most foreign companies do not wish to risk being excluded from the vast US market in order to trade with smaller countries such as Iran.

The new executive order may be more symbolic than practical because so many Iranian entities and individuals are already subject to secondary sanctions, said one sanctions lawyer, Doug Jacobson.

"It's essentially piling on," Jacobson said. "It's designed to send a message on this particular issue ... that the US is unhappy that the other parties (to the Iran nuclear deal) did not agree to a snap back of arms sanctions."

Speaking on Wednesday, US Special Representative for Venezuela and Iran, Elliott Abrams, said Washington planned to impose sanctions on those who violated the UN arms embargo, though he did not say it would do so with an executive order.

Also on Wednesday, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo obliquely hinted at the upcoming US action by stressing the power of US sanctions restored since it abandoned the Iran nuclear deal two years ago to deter foreign trade with Iran.

"We'll do all the things we need to do to ensure that those sanctions are enforced," Pompeo said of the UN arms embargo, recalling many experts argued US unilateral sanctions imposed after it abandoned the nuclear deal would fail.

"We've been very successful in spite of what the world said would happen," he added, saying US sanctions had drastically reduced Iran's financial resources.

Agencies

China's COVID-19 vaccine could be ready for public in November

ORDINARY Chinese residents could start receiving COVID-19 vaccines as early as November, an expert from the Chinese Center for Disease Prevention and Control revealed.

Wu Guizhen, the chief biosecurity expert from China's CDC, said that China has been leading the world in research and development of a vaccine against COVID-19. Nine vaccines have entered Phase III of clinical trials around the world, and five of them are being developed by China.

Ordinary Chinese could get the vaccines as early as November or December, as the current Phase III clinical trials have been going smoothly, Wu said.

"I was injected with the vaccine in April as a trial volunteer. I feel good right now."

The vaccine could remain effective for one to three years, Wu revealed.

Wu said that the novel coronavirus is a high-risk virus and needs to be produced in a negative pressure environment. Experts from the health commission departments are now intensively reviewing production workshops. Two have passed examination and approval, and a third is being evaluated.

More than 30 novel coronavirus vaccines worldwide have entered the clinical trial stage, nine of which have entered the Phase III clinical trial stage.

China officially launched the urgent use of its vaccine on July 22.

Global Times

COVID-19 expanding risks to peace everywhere, warns UN chief

UNITED NATIONS

UNITED Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned on Thursday that the COVID-19 pandemic is expanding risks to peace everywhere.

"It poses an enormous threat to people caught up in conflict, which is why I made an immediate appeal for a global ceasefire," the UN chief said at the UN peace bell ceremony on the occasion of the 39th anniversary of the International Day of Peace, which is observed around the world each year on Sept. 21.

"I will repeat the call during the General Debate next week. We need to silence the guns and focus on our common enemy: the virus," said the secretary-general.

The annual meeting of world leaders at the UN is going virtual this year for the first time in its 75-year history because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The first day of the General Debate is on Sept. 22.

Noting that peace is never a given, the UN chief said that "it is an aspiration that is only as strong as our conviction, and only as durable as our hope."

"It can take decades, even centuries, to build peaceful, stable societies. But peace can be squandered in an instant by reckless, divisive policies and approaches," the UN chief noted.

"Beyond war zones, the pandemic is highlighting and exploiting inequalities of all kinds, setting communities and countries against each other," Guterres said.

He called for efforts to "push for peace wherever conflict is raging and wherever there are diplomatic opportunities to silence the guns."

The peace bell ceremony was beamed globally via live feed, with the UN chief and the new UN General Assembly president, Volkan Bozkir, standing at appropriately distanced podiums, in line with COVID-19 measures.

Bozkir said the pandemic has threatened health, security and the way of life of people everywhere.

"Today we stand separated and masked. The pandemic has brought unexpected levels of misery and hardship to many. But it is the most vulnerable who suffer most, and are still suffering, both in conflict, and at the hands of this disease," he said.

Under normal conditions, UN messengers of peace, such as renowned American cellist Yo-Yo Ma, would travel to New York to take part in the peace bell ceremony.

Ma participated virtually in this year's commemoration, as did Jane Goodall, the British primatologist famous for her pioneering research on chimpanzees.

Prior to the official ceremony, the two UN messengers of peace participated in a student observance of the international day, held online. Their colleagues -- violinist Midori, conductor Daniel Barenboim, and Paulo Coelho, author of "The Alchemist" -- provided inspirational video messages.

Goodall was adamant that the world will get through the pandemic. "But when we get through it, we must get together as a human family," she said. "We must set aside differences between nations, religions, cultures, to tackle a far greater threat, which is the climate crisis."

Ma spoke of the need to build trust between various generations as a means to achieve peace.

Xinhua

China, US expected to collaborate on global challenges- Chinese ambassador

WASHINGTON

China-U.S. relations have changed a great deal, and the international community expects that China and the United States should work together on global challenges, Chinese Ambassador to the United States Cui Tiankai has said.

"It has expanded, it has deepened, and it has gotten more complicated, more comprehensive and more complex. We have opened up many new areas for cooperation, areas which we may not have imagined about early on," he said in a recent interview with former US Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson.

"So we have opened up many areas for cooperation, and we have also handled the differences in a constructive and pragmatic way,"

he said during the podcast program "Straight Talk with Hank Paulson."

Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a good degree of cooperation between China's provinces and cities and American states and cities, between companies and institutions of the two countries, and the two countries have also handled issues like climate change, international terrorism and epidemics like Ebola in Africa, Cui said.

"To be fair, some of the differences will remain with us for many years to come. We have to recognize that there will always be differences between us because we are two different countries with very different historical heritages, different cultures, and different political and economic systems," he said.



"But we have to manage the differences in a constructive way. We have to keep in mind that our common interests and mutual needs always outweigh whatever differences we have. We are faced with so many global challenges. Neither China nor the United States can handle them all by itself, whether the pandemic or climate change or

natural disasters," he said.

"But we do have a very complex relationship. Sometimes we have disputes over these issues. Fortunately, so far we have managed them quite well," Cui said.

"But now the current situation is making us very concerned and even alarmed. There are some clear attempts in this country to cross what people call the red line with very serious consequences. So I hope people can really draw experience and good lessons from the past few decades," he said.

China's foreign policy is "very much based on our perception of our national interests, how to advance and promote our national interests in today's world and how to manage our relations with other countries for the national interests

or what is needed by our people," Cui said.

"So in this sense, there is a clear continuity and consistency in China's policy toward the United States ... It has been clear from the very beginning that we want to have a constructive and cooperative rather than confrontational relationship with the United States," he said.

"We want to base ourselves on mutual respect, mutual understanding, and hopefully mutual accommodation with the aim of mutual benefit. That has been the essence of our policy all along, ever since President Nixon and Dr. Kissinger visited China. I don't think there is a fundamental change with regard to this basic approach," he said.

Xinhua

UK nuclear's future left in limbo as investors walk away

By Bloomberg

THE cancellation of a British nuclear project heaped yet more pressure on the government to find a way to build the low-carbon power source that's seen as a crucial part of the nation's future energy mix.

Hitachi Ltd's decision to pull the plug on its long planned Wylfa project leaves Electricite de France SA alone in building new reactors in Britain. Whether any more are built hinges on the British government finding a finance model that's palatable to investors.

How to pay for these costly pieces of infrastructure remains the biggest unanswered question for the sector. At the same time renewable energy costs have plunged and wind and solar farms can be built

much quicker.

"Nuclear power stations are very large projects with lead times of over a decade before any revenues flow," said Professor Rob Gross, director of the UK Energy Research Centre. "If an individual project costs 15 billion pounds (US\$19.5 billion) or more then it is not surprising that the pool of private investors is quite small."

The government is reluctant to put taxpayer money on the line for companies that reap generous payouts, and executives find it difficult to put so much of their capital into single projects that may be delayed by years and run massively over budget.

For its part, the UK says it is still committed to large-scale new nuclear, beyond EDF's Hinkley Point



C. That project will now cost as much as 22.5 billion pounds, taking into account inflation, and the guaranteed price of power is significantly higher than the latest round of offshore wind projects.

Just three years ago, the government anticipated building 18 gigawatts of nuclear power stations to replace the old plants. Now EDF's

Sizewell C is left as the sole project most likely to be built.

As for the rest of the nuclear fleet, they're aging and facing early closures that will see four plants disappear by March 2024. That will leave a generation gap that needs to be filled. Losing nuclear probably wouldn't pose a threat to the UK's ability to generate enough power.

The gap could be filled by gas, batteries or small modular reactors that can provide back-up to renewable energy and keep the lights on.

New nuclear was until a few years ago seen as a low-carbon way of supplementing renewables -- and as such a key part of the future energy mix envisioned in a net zero world. "The UK cannot realistically reach its target of net zero emissions without nuclear power," said Peter Bird, Managing Director at Berkeley Research Group.

What the UK does next on nuclear should become clear when the long-awaited government white paper is published next month that'll spell out future plans for the sector. Separately, the results of a consultation looking at finance options are expected.

Agencies

Can Japan's new PM Suga offer new prescription for economic recovery?

TOKYO

AS Japan remains in deep economic recession, whether the country's new Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga's administration can provide a new prescription for the country's economic recovery has come under spotlight.

Suga (pictured), president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), was elected Japan's new prime minister on Wednesday to succeed Shinzo Abe.

Since announcing his candidacy for LDP president, Suga has reiterated that he will carry forward the "Abenomics," continue to fight the COVID-19 epidemic and promote economic recovery, and also safeguard employment and promote recovery.

He also said while doing his best to overcome the immediate crisis, he will

continue to challenge structural problems such as the issues of aging population and falling birthrate.

However, "Abenomics," a mix of measures including monetary easing and fiscal stimulus aimed at easing deflation and stimulating growth in the Japanese economy, has been running for nearly eight years.

Although it led Japan's economy to recover quickly, the ultra-long and low-speed recovery cycle brought by the policy ended in October 2018. "Abenomics" has already become a spent force and left too many unanswered questions for Abe's successor.

To pull Japan out of its deep recession and restart recovery, inheriting "Abenomics" is clearly not enough.

On Sept. 8, the Cabinet Office decreased Japan's real economic growth



in the second quarter to an annualized rate of minus 28.1 percent from minus 27.8 percent, as the latest statistics showed a sharp fall in the contribution of equipment investment to growth.

On the same day, a report from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications also showed that Japanese

household consumption fell again in July after picking up in June, showing negative growth both on a monthly basis and year-on-year basis.

Japan's economy is facing a severe situation of internal and external difficulties, on the one hand, equipment investment was sluggish and household consumption has been decreasing for 10 consecutive months on a year-on-year basis, on the other hand, exports have been falling for 21 consecutive months on a year-on-year basis, while inbound tourism is difficult to recover.

Economists here have said the economy is expected to grow at an annual rate of more than 10 percent in the third quarter, but the rebound will not be strong enough to pull the economy out of recession, and recovery may slow sharply after the third quarter.

At the same time, the Japanese economy still faces the threat of a wider COVID-19 epidemic, and the possibility of a "double dip" in the autumn remains. It could take three to four years for Japan's economy to recover to pre-epidemic levels.

In addition to inheriting "Abenomics" to revive the economy, Suga has expressed determination to reform the rigid rules and bureaucratic sectionalism to improve Japan's competitiveness and lead the country back to recovery.

He has said that Japan's underdeveloped e-government has been highlighted in the epidemic, however, the lag in digital administration will become a restricting factor of economic development.

In order to promote the develop-

ment of digital administration, Suga said he will devote himself to breaking bureaucratic sectionalism and studying the establishment of a "digital ministry", which will be considered as a top priority.

Therefore, Suga, a former minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, said he would continue to push for competition among telecom operators.

Japan's three largest telecom operators now dominate about 90 percent of the market and constitute 20 percent of operating profits. The high level of communication expense of mobile phones in Japan will not only become a heavy burden on household expenditure, but also an obstacle to the development of digital economy.

Xinhua



Photo taken on Sept. 5, 2020, shows the construction site of the second phase of the China National Convention Center project in Chaoyang district of Beijing. The main steel structure of the second phase of the China National Convention Center has been completed. (Photo: People's Daily Online)

Beijing to complete construction of 10 venues for 2022 Winter Olympic Games by year end

WITH eight projects entering final stage and the construction of two venues being completed already, ten of the 13 construction projects for competition and training venues in the Beijing competition area for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games are expected to be finished by the end of this year, according to a conference held on Sept. 10.

Eight projects involving the construction, transformation, or expansion of venues including National Speed Skating Hall, Capital Indoor Stadium, National Aquatics Center, Wukesong Indoor Stadium, and National Indoor Stadium are in their final stages, as revealed at the conference on tackling tough issues and winding up this year's projects for venues for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics.

The construction of the Shougang Ski Jumping Platform and the "Ice Jar" comprehensive training center were completed in 2019 and May 2020 respectively.

All 15 ice rinks for competition and training for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics will be ready to produce ice before the end of this year.

Among the 13 projects, four are construction projects for new venues, seven are transformation projects for existing venues, and two are about construction of temporary venues.

While ten of these projects are expected to be completed within this year, another three will be finished in 2021, including the transformation of the National Stadium, or the Bird's Nest, which will stage the opening and closing ceremonies of the Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, the second phase of the China National Convention Center project

which will serve as the main press center and the international broadcasting center of the Beijing Winter Olympics, as well as the Medals Plaza, a temporary facility for the event.

Relevant parties involved in these projects aim at holding a series of test events at the end of the year and ensuring that the construction and transformation of all the competition venues are completed within this year, said the Beijing Major Projects Construction Headquarters Office.

Efforts have been made to strengthen overall planning and adjust and optimize relevant procedures in various projects, said the office, adding that multi-faceted measures have been taken to ensure the realization of the annual goal for the construction and transformation projects.

Two test events for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games, the 2020 International Skating Union (ISU) Grand Prix Final of Figure Skating and the 2020-2021 ISU Short Track Speed Skating World Cup, have been scheduled for this December at the Capital Indoor Stadium. The transformation of the venue is going to be completed by the end of September.

So far, construction and transformation projects in the Beijing competition area and the Yanqing competition area have entered a final sprint stage.

Relevant projects are picking up speed while ensuring high quality and high standard of construction according to various requirements and goals set by the various test events for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games, the Beijing municipal committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), and the Beijing municipal government.

People's Daily

President Putin to instruct government to appoint Gazprom as single gas programme operator

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin announced that he would instruct the government to deliver on the idea of appointing Gazprom as the single operator of gas supply and gasification programs, he said on Wednesday at a meeting with the head of Gazprom, Alexei Miller.

"Okay, let me instruct the government to work it out, we will work it out with you," Putin said. Miller said that the government is currently discussing a proposal to appoint Gazprom in charge of the construction of inter-settlement and intra-settlement gas pipelines, so that the company can supply gas directly to consumers' land plots.

"Without a doubt, this would accelerate the pace of gasification in the first place. Secondly, it would allow the constituent entities of the Russian Federation to earmark a greater amount of funding within their budget to heat power engineering and boiler houses," he said.

Earlier it was reported that the Russian Ministry of Energy intends to reduce the average period of connecting the population to gas from 240-280 days to 120-130 days by creating a single operator responsible for the procedure in each region. In most constituent entities of the Russian Federation, Gazprom can become such an operator. At present the authorities are looking for a funding source to accelerate the gasification process.

Kremlin alarmed at actions by foreign powers along Russia's Eastern Strategic Direction

MOSCOW

RUSSIA is raising red flags about the tense situation along its Eastern Strategic Direction that stem from the military activities of non-regional powers, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on Thursday,

commenting on a statement by Sergei Shoigu, the nation's defense chief.

"The intensified military activities of non-regional powers do not contribute to regional stability, this regards the stepped-up military activities of many countries," Peskov noted.

At the ministry's board meeting ear-

lier on Thursday, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said that the military and political situation along Russia's Eastern Strategic Direction remained tense compelling the nation's military to reinforce troops deployed to the most vital areas.

Agencies

China to increase involvement in UN peacekeeping - White paper

BEIJING

CHINA will continue to firmly support and participate in the United Nations' (UN) peacekeeping operations, according to a white paper released by the State Council Information Office yesterday.

China will continue to fulfill its responsibilities as a major country, scale up support for and involvement in the peacekeeping operations, and join forces with other countries to promote a sound and reasonable UN peacekeeping reform, according to the white paper titled China's Armed Forces: 30 Years of UN Peacekeeping Operations.

China's armed forces will endeavor to play a stronger role in the peacekeeping operations, comprehensively improve peacekeeping capability, faithfully fulfill their responsibilities, and contribute more to world peace.

Serving on the UN missions for world peace, China's armed forces have become a key force in UN peacekeeping operations over the past three decades, according to the document.

China's peacekeepers have left their footprints in over 20 countries and regions, making a tremendous contribution to facilitating the peaceful settlement of disputes, safeguarding regional security and stability, and promoting economic and social development in host nations, according to the white paper.

China's armed forces have also cooperated on peacekeeping with over 90 countries and 10 international and regional organizations.

China backs refining UNSC mandates on peacekeeping

China said in the white paper it supports the UN efforts to refine the Security Council's mandates on peacekeeping.

The Security Council mandates are the basis and guidelines for UN peacekeeping missions, and a decisive factor in the legitimacy and effectiveness of the UN peacekeeping operations.

China also supports the UN in improving the peacekeeping system.

With a focus on the primary tasks of the UN peacekeeping operations, a big-



Chinese peacekeepers to Lebanon march in a parade at a medal-awarding ceremony held at a camp in southern Lebanon, April 6, 2018. XINHUA

ger share of limited resources should be allocated to development, China said in the white paper. Only by giving equal attention to development and security and by addressing both the symptoms and root causes of conflict can sustainable peace be assured, it added.

Peacekeeping partnerships

This apart, China said it backs the UN's efforts to improve peacekeeping partnerships.

China's armed forces will actively respond to the triangular cooperation initiated by the UN, and provide all possible support to other troop-contributing countries and regional and sub-regional organizations in terms of technology, equipment, personnel and funding.

China said in the white paper that it will continue to build the 8,000-troop peacekeeping standby force and maintain a high level of preparedness.

Surface ships, rapid response units and other capabilities can be provided to the UN peacekeeping operations if needed, according to the white paper.

Funding for peacekeeping operations

China has established a China-UN Peace and Development Fund to support the UN efforts for peace and advance multilateral cooperation, according to the white paper.

From 2016 to 2019, the fund financed 52 peace and security projects to a total value of US\$33.62 million, and 23 of

these projects were in support of the UN peacekeeping operations, which cost US\$10.38 million, according to the document.

Ensuring peacekeepers' safety

With a view to fully protecting the safety, security and health of peacekeepers, China advocates a systematic approach to addressing the increasing traditional and non-traditional security threats, according to the white paper.

China stands for comprehensive UN solutions to strengthen information collection and sharing, reinforce early warning and risk awareness, upgrade security equipment and facilities, improve medical services, and enhance the prevention and control of infectious diseases.

China's peacekeeping helicopter unit

A peacekeeping helicopter unit deployed by China's armed forces adapted itself to the unknown complexities of overseas missions and fulfilled multiple high-risk tasks, according to the white paper. The Chinese People's Liberation Army sent its first peacekeeping helicopter unit of 140 troops to the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) in August 2017. The unit, comprising four medium multipurpose helicopters, has become an essential airborne arm of UNAMID and a pillar of the UN peacekeeping operations in Darfur, according to the document.

Xinhua

Former Pence aide who helped organise White House coronavirus response backs Biden

WASHINGTON

A former White House aide who helped coordinate the Trump administration's response to the coronavirus pandemic sharply criticized President Donald Trump in a video released on Thursday and said she planned to vote for Democrat Joe Biden.

Olivia Troye, who was an aide to Vice President Mike Pence, served as a top organizer for the White House Coronavirus Task Force that Pence leads.

A lifelong Republican, Troye, who left the White House in July, said in a video released by the group Republican Voters Against Trump that the ad-

ministration knew around mid-February that COVID-19 would become a big pandemic in the United States.

"But the president didn't want to hear that because his biggest concern was that we were in an election year and how was this going to affect what he considered to be his record of success," she said.

Troye said it was shocking to see Trump, who downplayed the virus in its early stages, referring to it as a hoax and saying everything would be OK.

"The truth is he doesn't actually care about anyone else but himself," she said in the video. "If the president had taken this virus seriously he would

have slowed the virus spread, he would have saved lives."

Trump told reporters he never met Troye. He said she was let go but wrote a "beautiful letter" praising the administration on her way out.

In that letter, released by the White House, Troye said it has been an "absolute honor" to work on the coronavirus task force but did not offer praise for Trump or Pence.

Pence, in comments to reporters, described Troye's words as sounding like those of a disgruntled employee who was playing politics during an election year.

Agencies

Sally weakens to tropical storm, brings 'historic flooding' to US Coast

PENSACOLA

HURRICANE Sally uprooted trees, flooded streets and cut power to hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses on Wednesday as it brought what the US National Hurricane Center called "historic and catastrophic" flooding to the Alabama-Florida coast.

Sally, which made landfall early on Wednesday near Gulf Shores, Alabama, as a Category 2 storm on the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale of intensity, was downgraded in the afternoon to a tropical storm as maximum sustained winds dropped to 113 kph.

The storm is believed to have killed one person in Alabama.

"We had a body wash up, we believe it was hurricane-relat-

ed, but we have no definitive proof of that right now," said Trent Johnson, a police lieutenant in Orange Beach, Alabama.

Some parts of the Gulf Coast had been inundated with more than 46 cm of rain over the previous 24 hours, with more precipitation expected as the storm's winds slow further, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) said.

The coastal community of Pensacola, Florida, experienced up to 1.5 m of flooding, and travel was cut by damaged roads and bridges. More than 500,000 homes and businesses across the area were without power as the storm knocked over stately oak trees and tore power lines from poles.

Several residents along the

Alabama and Florida coasts said damage from the slow-moving storm caught them off guard.

Jordan Muse, 35, was working the 3-11 a.m. shift at the downtown Holiday Inn in Pensacola, Florida, when flooding peaked at about 8 a.m. The hotel was without power and water.

"Our manager didn't think it was gonna be this bad. It was just so much rain and the winds were tremendous," she said. The hotel had some supplies, but Muse said people quickly took everything that was available.

A section of the Pensacola Bay Bridge, known also as the "Three Mile Bridge," was missing a "significant section," Florida Governor Ron DeSantis told a news conference.

"The rain is what stands out with this one: It's unreal," said Cavin Hollyhand, 50, who left his home on a barrier island and took shelter in Mobile, Alabama, where he viewed the damage on Wednesday. Some isolated areas could see up to 89 cm of rain before Sally is done, the NHC said.

'We got it for 12 hours'

On landfall at Gulf Shores, Sally's winds were clocked at 169 kph. Along the coast, piers were ripped away by the storm surge and winds.

Alabama Governor Kay Ivey told residents not to go outside to check on damage unless necessary, and to stay away from live power lines and fallen trees.

"We had strong winds for a long period of time," said

38-year-old Grant Saltz as he took a break from clearing debris outside his Mobile restaurant. "Instead of a few hours, we got it for 12 hours."

In Pensacola, where wind gusts were clocked at 124 kph at one point, images on social media showed major floods. One witness reported hailstorms in the city as well and the NHC warned of possible tornados.

Pensacola police warned of high winds and urged residents not to drive around looking at damage.

Electrical crews from other states arrived in Pensacola as utilities began restoring power to about 570,000 homes and businesses in Alabama and Florida, according to local utilities.

"This year we've just got hurricane after hurricane," said

Matt Lane, 23, a member of a crew from New Hampshire Electric Coop, who arrived late on Tuesday directly from Hurricane Laura recovery efforts in Texas.

Sally was the 18th named storm in the Atlantic this year and the eighth of tropical storm or hurricane strength to hit the United States. There are currently three other named storms in the Atlantic, highlighting one of the most active Atlantic hurricane seasons on record.

"We've only got one name left," said Jim Foerster, chief meteorologist at DTN, an energy, agriculture and weather data provider, referencing the procedure to name storms and the prospect of running out of letters. "That's going to happen here soon, Wilfred, and then

Washington warned over diplomat's visit to Taiwan

BY ZHOU JIN

CHINA urged the United States on Thursday to immediately stop all forms of official exchanges with Taiwan ahead of the arrival on the island of US Undersecretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment Keith Krach, saying it will take necessary measures as the situation develops.

Krach arrived in Taiwan late Thursday afternoon for a memorial service on Saturday for former Taiwan leader Lee Teng-hui. He was expected to meet Taiwan leader Tsai Ing-wen on Friday. He also was to attend an economic and commercial dialogue with Taiwan authorities, local media reported.

His visit follows a trip last month by US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar, the highest-level US official to travel to the island in four decades.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said China firmly opposes any official exchange between the US and Taiwan, which is a consistent and clear policy.

China lodged stern representations with the US over Krach's trip, which would embolden "Taiwan independence" forces, damage Sino-US ties and harm cross-Straits stability and peace, the spokesman said.

"We urge the US to fully recognize the extreme sensitivity of the Taiwan question," he said, adding that the US should stop expanding relations with the island in any substantive way.

He demanded the US abide by the one-China principle as well as the three Sino-US joint communiques and properly handle Taiwan-related issues.

Speaking of Krach's trip, Ma Xiaoguang, a spokesman for the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council, said on Wednesday that the Taiwan question is China's internal affair, and no external forces are allowed to interfere.

"We firmly oppose any form of official exchanges between Taiwan and countries that have established diplomatic relations with China. This kind of behavior interferes with China's internal affairs, hurts the feelings of the Chinese people and violates the norms of international relations," he said.

China lodged stern representations with the US over Krach's trip, which would embolden "Taiwan independence" forces, damage Sino-US ties and harm cross-Straits stability and peace



Agencies



Yanga midfielder, Mukoko Tonombe (R), celebrates with team mate, Carlos Fernandes 'Carlinhos', after the former had netted for the squad in a friendly clash with Zanzibar's Mlandege FC, which took place in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Yanga new players come under spotlight in Kagera Sugar clash

BY ISMAIL TANO, FLORIDA RAYMOND AND LYDIA SOSPETER, TUDARCO

YANGA's newly recruited players, Michael Sarpong, Tuisila Kisinda, Mukoko Tonombe and Carlos Fernandes 'Carlinhos', are expected to come under the spotlight when their outfit confronts Kagera Sugar in a Vodacom Premier League clash in Bukoba today.

The quartet was some of the players who performed well for the domestic soccer big guns in their previous two games in the top flight, which ended with Yanga collecting four points.

Yanga had a stuttering start to their campaign in the top flight, given they were held to 1-1 draw by Prisons in Dar es Salaam.

In the second match, also played in the city, Yanga edged Mbeya City FC 1-0.

Today's match against Kagera Sugar will be another chance for Yanga supporters to assess the newly recruited players' performance.

Yanga have two tough away matches against Kagera Sugar and Mtibwa Sugar, the games will be a chance for the new players to prove their worth.

Impressive performance by the new players in the two outings will be a good measure of the players' quality.

The newly recruited players' performance in the away games will be put to test, given football pitches in other parts of Tanzania are not as good as the ones located in Dar es Salaam, namely Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, Azam Complex and Uhuru Stadium.

Below par performance showcased by Mtibwa Sugar and Kagera Sugar in their respective previous two outings is, further, expected to turn the outfits' games against Yanga into much tougher encounters.

Mtibwa Sugar and Kagera Sugar will

equally be in pursuit of wins when the squads come up against Yanga.

The two upcountry sides need maximum points so they can scale to good positions in the league's standing.

Yanga might nevertheless not have much trouble playing on the Kaitaba Stadium's pitch, when they take on Kagera Sugar, as the venue's playing area is made up of artificial grass.

Morogoro's Jamhuri Stadium, which will host the game pitting Yanga against Mtibwa sugar, though, does not have good playing field, a situation which can affect the Yanga new players' performance.

The Jamhuri Stadium has widely been criticized by soccer enthusiasts for having a poor playing field, which could affect coaches' tactics and, consequently, have outfits getting results they did not expect.

There are, as well as, possibilities of players sustaining injuries when they play at the venue because of poor condition of the playing area.

Although Yanga boast of a better head-to-head record in their games against Kagera Sugar, last season had the former struggling to get good results against the latter.

In the previous season's first phase match between Yanga and Kagera Sugar, which was held in Dar es Salaam, the latter posted a comprehensive 3-0 victory over the former.

The top flight's second phase clash, which took place in Bukoba, had Yanga revenging for the first phase defeat, winning 1-0.

If Yanga will get good results against both Mtibwa Sugar and Kagera Sugar, the former will scale to good position in the top flight table.

The results will moreover have Yanga followers building trust in the squad's newly recruited players.

Gymkhana A cricketers seek to maintain hold on 2020 Kazim Nasser League top spot

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

THE quest for the top honour in the 2020 Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML)'s Division A is set to gather pace this weekend, as two ties will take place in Dar es Salaam tomorrow.

The KNML top tier's leaders, Gymkhana A outfit, will confront Aga Khan A side in what stands to be a pulsating top of the table clash, to be played at the Dar es Salaam Club's oval.

The Gymkhana A cricketers are, on the one hand, expected to give their all in the tie in search of victory, which will see them keep on leading the rest of the pack in the KNML Division A.

They are lately placed at the top of the tournament's standing with six points, having come out victorious in three outings and suffered loss in one game.

They have a win percentage of 75, they have amassed 519 runs and leaked 485 runs, settling for a net run rate of 1.5520.

Should Gymkhana A squad get the better of Aga Khan A squad in tomorrow's tie, the league leaders will set up a two-point margin with their closest challengers, as well as boost their chances of lifting the top honour.

In-form all rounders, Vishal Patel, Zamoyoni Ramadhan, Nassor Zahoro, and skipper Abhik Patwa are some of the players that are expected to play pivotal role in Gymkhana A team's pursuit of victory tomorrow.

Tomorrow's game will moreover be a chance for Gymkhana A team to bounce back after conceding one-wicket loss to Aces A squad in



Ismaili Community cricket team's skipper, Ayzaz Jasani, in action against Kutchi Leva squad when the outfits locked horns in the previous season's GP Gymkhana Shield competition's game, which took place in Dar es Salaam. Jasani also skips Aga Khan SC A team, which participates in this season's Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML)'s Division A that takes place the city. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NIKHIL PUJARA

their previous clash.

Posting victory over Aga Khan A squad could turn out to be the most challenging task for Gymkhana A squad, given their opponents are, on the other hand, set to come out with all guns blazing, seeking to maintain their impressive showing.

Victory in the past two games

has given Aga Khan A squad morale boost and the side's players are set to put spirited showing in tomorrow's clash in an effort to step up their pursuit of the trophy.

Aga Khan A team, who got off to a slow start, are seemingly eager to turn into the competition's favourites, given they displayed scintillating

showing in their previous two outings.

They played their hearts out to record seven-wicket victory over Aces A side early this month. Aga Khan A team then thumped lowly GP Pak Stars A team by 45 runs.

Aga Khan A team that boast of an impressive blend of gifted youthful players and well-drilled experienced players, are expected to depend on their in-form players Riziki Kiseto, Arslaan Premji, Issa Kikasi and John Zablon to keep Gymkhana A team in check.

Aga Khan A cricketers have recorded victory in three outings and lost one game to tie Gymkhana A team on six points but the two squads are separated by net run rate.

With Aga Khan A team having amassed 545 runs and leaked 512 runs, the squad has settled for net run rate of 0.5307.

Aces A side will lock horns with Strikers A squad in the day's other clash in the KNML's top tier, to be played at Leaders Club venue.

It will be a chance for Aces A squad that has been placed fourth to reorganize and seek to prove they are determined to successfully contest for the trophy.

Fifth placed Strikers A team are also in contention for silverware, which means they will net let Aces A cricketers walk all over them.

Third placed Caravans A outfit and GP Pak Stars A team that still languish at the bottom of the KNML top tier will not be in action on Sunday.



Stone Town basketball side's players pose for a photo prior to taking part in a past Zanzibar's National League clash. PHOTO: COURTESY OF STONE TOWN BASKETBALL CLUB

Zanzibar basketball clubs set for open tourney

BY FLORIDA RAYMOND, TUDARCO

THE Zanzibar Basketball Association (BAZA) has, in collaboration with the Police Force, organized an open tournament, which is set to tip off in the Isles on Tuesday next week.

According to Isles basketball body's vice-chairman, Rashid Hamza Khamis, the tournament, known as 'Kamishna Mohamed Cup', is sponsored by the World of Sports, a sports equipment

shop.

He disclosed the competition, bringing together men and women sides, will see 10 teams battle it out in the men's event, with the outfits being divided into two groups.

Two teams from either group, he disclosed, will meet in semi-finals before the stage's winners face each other in the final.

Khamis said the tournament will also involve six women's sides that will play in league format.

The tournament, according to him, aims at encouraging the community to live peacefully during the general election so that youths can have opportunity to play freely and peacefully.

He pointed that during the tournament, different officers from the Police Force and other security forces will have the opportunity to educate and encourage the youths and the rest of the community to obey the law.

He noted that Zanzibar Police Commissioner, Mohamed Haji Hassan, is expected to grace the opening of the tournament. The competition's winners, he said, will receive trophies.

He mentioned men's teams that will participate in the tournament as Polisi, Stone Town, A. Magic, Nyuki, New West, J.K.U. Usolo, Sixers, Millennium and Beit El Ras.

Women's teams are JKU, KVZ, A. Magic, Zimamoto, New West and Mafunzo.

Comeback Heat do it again, rally past Celtics for 2-0 lead

LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLA.

DOWN by 14 in Game 1, the Miami Heat found a way.

Down by 17 in Game 2, they did it again Thursday night. And after making the Boston Celtics lose another big lead on the court – as well as their cool in the postgame locker room – the unheralded Heat are two wins away from the NBA Finals.

Goran Dragic scored 25 points, Bam Adebayo led a big third-quarter rally to finish with 21, and the Heat pulled off another comeback to beat the Celtics 106-101 and take a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference finals.

"We got grit," Adebayo said. "That's

about all I can tell you. We got grit, man."

Duncan Robinson scored 18 points, Jimmy Butler had 14, Jae Crowder 12 and Tyler Herro 11. The Heat were down by 17 in the second quarter and trailed by 13 at halftime.

They had been 0-21 in playoff games when trailing by at least that many at intermission. They're 1-21 now, and two wins away from their first NBA Finals since 2014 – and the team said the 17-point comeback matched the biggest in Heat postseason history.

"We like to make it hard on ourselves," Butler said. "We like being down double-digits and being the

comeback kids."

Kemba Walker had 23 points for Boston, which got 21 apiece from Jaylen Brown and Jayson Tatum. Brown missed a corner 3 that would have tied it with 15 seconds left, and Butler sealed it with two free throws with 7.4 seconds remaining.

The Celtics had a loud, animated conversation in their locker room postgame, the walls unable to hold in the sound. They tried to downplay whatever was happening afterward.

"It was nothing," Walker said. "It was nothing."

Added Tatum: "We're frustrated. But that's team sports. Not supposed to be happy we're down 0-2. But

that's nothing out of the ordinary. Just talking about the game. It's cool."

Dragic – playing on the third anniversary of his fondest basketball moment, that being when he led Slovenia to the EuroBasket Championship – scored nine points in the fourth quarter.

"Feels exactly the same," Dragic said, when asked to compare Slovenia's golden moment to the Heat win Thursday. "A great day."

The Heat took a 2-0 series lead for the 11th time in coach Erik Spoelstra's tenure. They've won all previous 10 instances.

Game 3 is Saturday.

The Heat got in big trouble in the

series opener by scoring 18 points in the first quarter and 16 points in the third. In Game 2, another 18-point quarter – the second – sent Boston into the half up comfortably, 60-47.

And then it all changed.

Miami outscored Boston 37-17 in the third quarter, with Adebayo – the defensive hero of Game 1 – outshooting and nearly outscoring the Celtics by himself. Boston went 4 for 12 from the floor in the quarter, Adebayo went 7 for 8 on his way to a 15-point period and the Heat led 84-77 when it was over.

"We pulled apart and we didn't play well," Celtics coach Brad Stevens said. "And they did a good job.

We're not beating this team if we're not completely connected on both ends of the court. So, got to get back to being that, which we've been at times. But right now, they're a better team. We're going to have to fight to get back in this series."

They showed some fight in the fourth. The Celtics went on a 15-2 run, silencing the Heat for nearly seven minutes and going up 94-89 on a 3-pointer by Walker with 4:25 left.

That only set the stage for another Heat rally: Miami finished the game on a 17-7 run.

"Team effort," Butler said.

Conte's Inter on a 'mission' to kill off Juventus domination

MILAN

ANTONIO Conte begins his second season as Inter Milan coach with a mission to stop his former club Juventus winning a 10th consecutive Serie A title.

Conte led Juve to the first three of their current run of nine straight league crowns starting in 2012 before moving on to coach Italy and Chelsea, taking over Inter in May last year.

The 51-year-old's turbulent first season with Inter was played out against a backdrop of the coronavirus pandemic which caused havoc in northern Italy before spreading across Europe.

The fiery Italian looked poised to leave after a dramatic outburst following Inter's Europa League final loss to Sevilla, despite finishing just one point behind Juve in the league. "I'm not going backwards. I don't want another year like that," he said, blasting lack of support from team management.

Clear the air talks persuaded him the club's Chinese owners shared his burning ambitions to lift a first Serie A title since 2010, the year of their historic treble under Jose Mourinho.

"I have never seen someone who works so hard, with such intensity, like Conte, this characteristic also unites us," said Inter president Steven Zhang.

"Reflection was necessary, I found our coach serene, constructive, far from the moods we were told by the media.

"Inter have a mission, a plan, strategies aimed naturally towards victory... I really believe that the path taken is the right one."

As Serie A returns behind closed doors this weekend, both Inter and Atalanta have been given a one-week delay because of their European exertions last month.

Inter's first match will be against Fiorentina on September 26, fol-

lowed by a trip to newly-promoted Benevento in their rescheduled opening day fixture four days later.

Gian Piero Gasperini's Atalanta meanwhile start at Torino a few hours before Inter begin their season and then travel to Lazio in their postponed first round match.

Juventus kick off their campaign at home against Sampdoria on Sunday, the team against which they claimed their 36th title in July.

Coaching novice Andrea Pirlo, a former Italy and Juventus star, took over from Maurizio Sarri who lasted just one season on the Bianconeri's bench.

The upheaval could give Juve's rivals hopes of a changing of the guard.

There have also been changes in Juve squad with veterans Blaise Matuidi, Miralem Pjanic and Gonzalo Higuain making way for promising youngsters Arthur, Dejan Kulusevski and Weston McKennie.

A new centre forward is expected with Barcelona's Uruguayan striker Luis Suarez reported to be set to arrive if he obtains an Italian passport, and possibly Roma's Edin Dzeko.

Conte, meanwhile, will be counting on the attacking duo of Romelu Lukaku and Lautaro Martinez who so effectively powered Inter attack last season.

The other two Italian representatives in the Champions League, Lazio and Atalanta, have opted for continuity.

European Golden Shoe winner Ciro Immobile renewed his contract with Lazio until 2025 after banging in 36 goals last season, with Kosovo's Vedat Muriqi arriving from Fenerbahce to support the Italy forward.

Atalanta's Slovenian striker Josip Ilicic has returned to training after missing last season's Champions League knockout stage in Lisbon due to personal problems.

AFP

Manchester Utd's Solskjaer under pressure to dispel 'nearly man' tag

LONDON

MANCHESTER United made undoubted progress in Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's first full season in charge with a third-placed finish in the Premier League and runs to three semi-finals in cup competitions.

But with United still languishing well behind rivals Liverpool and Manchester City in the table, the Norwegian is now under the spotlight to mount a serious challenge for the Red Devils first Premier League title since Alex Ferguson retired in 2013.

Solskjaer's men begin their league campaign at home to Crystal Palace on Saturday on the back of a 14-game unbeaten run in the English top-flight since the signing of Bruno Fernandes transformed their fortunes in January.

United's midfield has been bolstered again by the arrival of the Netherlands Donny Van de Beek, but Solskjaer's squad remains threadbare in other areas of the field.

Three victories over both City and Chelsea last season proved United can beat the Premier League's top sides on their day, but a weary end to their campaign little over a month ago in the Europa League semi-finals to Sevilla exposed the failings of a squad lacking in depth.

Solskjaer chose against making a substitution against the Spaniards until the 87th minute with little on the bench he felt he could turn to.

Van de Beek's arrival apart, that problem has not been solved.

After a long summer of speculation, Jadon Sancho remains at Borussia Dortmund with United refusing to meet the Germans' 120 million euros (\$140 million, £110 million) asking price, while there have been no reinforcements in defence ahead of a gruelling campaign that will see the English giants return to the Champions League among four competitions

over the next eight months.

Questions also remain over whether United can ever fully bridge the gap to Liverpool and City with Solskjaer in charge compared with the world-class coaching of Jurgen Klopp and Pep Guardiola.

Will De Gea be dropped? Solskjaer has made one big decision before the campaign gets started by keeping faith with Harry Maguire as club captain despite the England international being handed a 21-month suspended sentence by a Greek court, which he has appealed, for a brawl on holiday in Mykonos days after United's Europa League exit.

Another big call awaits on Saturday on who to start in goal with Dean Henderson returning to the club after an impressive loan spell at Sheffield United and signing a new contract until 2025.

United handed David de Gea a huge new deal just a year ago to make the Spain goalkeeper the club's highest paid player, but an error-strewn season has put his place at risk.

At the other end of the field, United have an attacking trident that could terrorise the Premier League for years to come, even if they fail to land Sancho.

Marcus Rashford, Anthony Martial and Mason Greenwood combined for 63 goals last season.

At 24, Martial is the senior figure and should all three continue to improve and stay fit, United do have the firepower if fatigue does not get in the way after a tight turnaround from one season to the next.

"We have just had 15 days of vacation but it was enough to enjoy time with the family, to relax a little bit and to come focused and fresh for the new season," said Fernandes.

"It is not about the days we had off or not. I think the most important thing now is to focus on our ambitions and the goal we want to achieve."

AFP

Liverpool face Chelsea test as Manchester clubs enter fray

LONDON

LIVERPOOL face an early test of their Premier League title defence against Chelsea this weekend as Manchester City and Manchester United launch their quest to be champions.

Arsenal, Everton and Leicester hope to build on encouraging opening wins while Jose Mourinho needs a morale-boosting victory for Tottenham.

AFP Sport looks at some of the main talking points ahead of the action.

Will big-spending Chelsea make Liverpool pay?

Chelsea's meeting with Liverpool at Stamford Bridge on Sunday has added edge after a feisty exchange between the managers over transfer spending.

The London club finished 33 points behind the champions last season but have splashed out around £200 million (\$259 million) on new players.

By contrast, Liverpool have been relatively quiet, adding just Greece left-back Kostas Tsimikas so far, with Spain midfielder Thiago Alcantara likely to follow.

Jurgen Klopp pointedly said Liverpool could not spend in the same way as clubs owned by "countries" and "oligarchs" such as City and Chelsea during the coronavirus pandemic.

But Frank Lampard, who also became embroiled in a spat with Liverpool's bench in July, pointed out the Anfield side had spent big in previous seasons as they built their title-winning side.

Liverpool will be keen to cut out the defensive errors they committed in the 4-3 win against newly-promoted Leeds, but Mohamed Salah looked in fine early season form as he scored



a hat-trick on the opening weekend.

Chelsea were also unconvincing winners against Brighton in their opening match, but Timo Werner, who chose to join the Blues despite interest from Liverpool, did impress in winning a penalty against the Seagulls.

Manchester City's tough task Manchester City are the bookmakers' favourites to land a third Premier League trophy in four seasons but face a tough opener against Wolves.

City boss Pep Guardiola has shored up his defence by signing Netherlands international Nathan Ake and has added to his rich attacking options, landing Ferran Torres from Valencia.

City scored 102 goals last season as they finished second, but lost nine matches as they surrendered their crown to Liverpool.

Both Manchester clubs are starting a week later than other sides due to their European commitments last

season.

Guardiola will be painfully aware that his team must be more consistent this campaign and he cannot afford to let Klopp's men open up an early lead.

But he will feel nervous as he travels to face Wolves, who beat City twice last season, after a disrupted pre-season.

City duo Aymeric Laporte and Riyad Mahrez tested positive for coronavirus earlier this month, while Phil Foden was sent home by England after breaking coronavirus protocols while on international duty.

Can Man Utd progress? The challenge facing Ole Gunnar Solskjaer ahead of a match against Crystal Palace is how to improve on last season's third-place finish.

Midfielder Bruno Fernandes was the catalyst as United put together a long unbeaten run, with a front three of Anthony Martial, Marcus Rashford and Mason Greenwood providing the

firepower.

But United have been relatively quiet in the transfer window, so far adding just midfielder Donny van de Beek from Ajax, despite persistent speculation linking them with Borussia Dortmund's Jadon Sancho.

"When we signed Bruno Fernandes, we knew we needed that kind of player -- now we've signed Donny and he's a type of player I felt we needed in the squad," said Solskjaer.

Arsenal's feel-good factor

Arsenal are buoyant after launching their season with a 3-0 win at newly promoted Fulham and tying down captain Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang for three more years.

Mikel Arteta's men, who host West Ham on Saturday, finished down in eighth place last season but ended their campaign on a high, winning the FA Cup for a record 14th time.

They followed that up by beating Liverpool on penalties in the season-opening Community Shield before the announcement on Aubameyang this week that fans had craved.

"I want to become an Arsenal legend just like Thierry (Henry), Wrighty (Ian Wright), (Tony) Adams and (Dennis) Bergkamp," he said.

Fixtures

Today

Everton v West Brom (1130 GMT), Leeds v Fulham (1400), Manchester United v Crystal Palace (1630), Arsenal v West Ham (1900)

Tomorrow

Southampton v Tottenham (1100), Newcastle v Brighton (1300), Chelsea v Liverpool (1530), Leicester v Burnley (1800)

Monday

Aston Villa v Sheffield United (1700), Wolves v Manchester City (1915)

AFP

If Chelsea and Liverpool battle like their managers, the Premier League is in for a treat

BY JAMES OLLEY, SENIOR WRITER, ESPN FC

FRANK Lampard and Jurgen Klopp have been on a collision course long before Sunday's Premier League meeting between Chelsea and Liverpool. There are few benefits to fans being exiled from stadiums as the coronavirus pandemic continues, but one of them is the touchline exchanges hitherto the preserve of lip readers and rumour mongers, now being audible to all.

Lampard and Klopp were captured in heated dialogue at Anfield on the late July night when the Blues' head coach bristled at having to play a supporting role in the story of Liverpool's first title celebration in 30 years, their exchange going viral on social media.

"My feeling was, I want to be there where they are," Lampard explained afterward, citing an accompanying lack of respect from the Liverpool bench that proved the catalyst for a series of verbal digs, which are still going on even to this day.

Klopp suggested earlier last week that Liverpool have a different approach to the transfer market amid the coronavirus pandemic compared with clubs "owned by countries and oligarchs," a thinly veiled reference to Manchester City and Chelsea.

Lampard rejected that claim by pointing out the cost of the individual component parts in Liverpool's title-winning team, and despite some attempts to frame the narrative around Sunday's game as big-spending Chelsea tackling modestly maintained Liverpool, there are in fact some parallels that run particularly deep.

Among Klopp's biggest achievements to date was navigating the departure of his team's best player yet still improving his team to win the Premier League title. With Philippe Coutinho's stock now so low that he's being offered around Europe for a fresh start, it's perhaps easy to forget how seismic the blow felt when Barcelona prised him away from Merseyside in January 2018. The hole he left was not as large as the one vacated by Eden Hazard at Chelsea when he joined Real Madrid last summer, but the two-part challenge is the same now for Lampard as it was then for Klopp: stabilise, and then elevate the team to win the Premier League.

Klopp managed both brilliantly.



Jurgen Klopp and Frank Lampard have a budding rivalry forming on the touchline. (Agencies)

Lampard has negotiated the first; now for the second.

Coutinho's Liverpool exit was not as protracted as Hazard's move to Madrid, but nevertheless speculation persisted for months. Liverpool managed to keep the wantaway Brazilian through a difficult summer of 2017 but by the following January, Klopp admitted defeat.

"Barcelona is his dream, and I am now convinced there is nothing left at our disposal to change his mind," Klopp said upon confirmation of the £142 million transfer. Liverpool already had their plans in place, acquiring Mohamed Salah, Dominic Solanke, Andrew Robertson, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and, later, Virgil van Dijk

for a sum largely offset by return on Coutinho. They secured Champions League qualification at the end of the 2017-18 season as Klopp moulded his new signings, developing a team that would push a record-breaking Manchester City side all the way in 2018-19, before finally surpassing them last year.

Lampard guided Chelsea into the top four in Chelsea's first season without Hazard, with the Blues following Liverpool's example in defying the inevitability of his move by securing a satisfactory fee. Chelsea were nowhere near as prepared as the Reds given last summer's FIFA transfer ban, but they had already signed a replacement in Christian Pulisic and ultimately chose not to enter the

market last January, preferring instead to keep their powder dry for this summer's explosive activity.

The Blues' £220m outlay -- assuming Edouard Mendy completes his move from Stade Rennes as expected -- makes them Europe's biggest spenders so far this summer. It is the second-highest amount Chelsea have ever spent in one window, yet since February 2019, they are estimated to have still made a net profit of £4.5m, chiefly due to the money received for Hazard from Real and Alvaro Morata from Atletico Madrid.

With Liverpool turning a slightly bigger profit in their Coutinho-related business, the comparison is clear. But Lampard now has to bind his team together to achieve the blend of quality and consistency that took Liverpool from the top four mix to the top of the pile.

Perhaps Klopp's sly dig in Chelsea's direction originates from the fact that Liverpool have not reinforced from their position of strength, as the adage dictates. He is keen in mentality to attack the title rather than defend it, but the Reds have not

adopted that aggression in the transfer market, only signing Kostas Tsimikas, a backup left-back, for £11.7m from Olympiakos. (The equation changes slightly if Liverpool complete the move for Bayern Munich midfielder Thiago; which sources confirmed to ESPN on Thursday that he would soon sign a four-year deal with the Premier League champions.)

There will be an early test of this fiscal discipline when Timo Werner lines up against Liverpool at Stamford Bridge. The 24-year-old was keen on moving to Anfield, but Liverpool declined to follow up their interest with a formal offer. In a sliding-doors moment, Chelsea switched their attention from Lyon striker Moussa Dembele once they sensed an opportunity to sign Werner and moved quickly to get their man.

The German international looked lively in Chelsea's opening Premier League win at Brighton on Monday night, and Lampard's decision to shift to a 4-2-3-1 formation seems to offer the best chance of accommodating the German, Pulisic, Kai Havertz and Hakim Ziyech in the same lineup when all four are fit.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Liverpool face Chelsea test as Manchester clubs enter fray

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

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 SSELKOT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 SPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hits

TONIGHT on EATV
Find out how using glass blocks from Canghui 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 Planef Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Choki; I have no plan to form new band

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

TANZANIA's prominent musician, Ally Choki, has disclosed he has no plan to form a new band, claiming he does not want to come into conflict with musicians.

Choki stated a section of domestic musicians are difficult characters and, for that matter, he hardly wants to get into trouble with them.

He was adamant that forming a new band amounts to getting himself into trouble.

Choki had worked for several bands in the past and he had gone as far as forming his band, known as Extra Bongo, which later plunged into oblivion.

He disclosed that he will keep on focusing on solo projects, as well as performing for troupes on temporary basis, in an effort to avoid unnecessary chaos.

"You might find out that some of musicians simply stir up trouble in a band, targeting to frustrate efforts by the troupe to achieve success," he disclosed.

"I have faced such kind of chaos in bands, therefore, I don't see a need for setting up a new band," he said.

He said such circumstances have prompted him to keep on working on solo projects, insisting he will do so until he finds better means for developing his talent.

Choki had worked for Dar es Salaam-based African Stars Band 'Twanga Pepeta', TOT-Plus Band, Mwanza's Kamanyola band and his Extra Bongo Band.

According to him, some of domestic music followers are calling on him to bring his band back.

The artiste, though, claims he has no plan to do so for what he termed as his efforts to avoid chaos with some of musicians.

He is lately getting invitations to take part in shows organized by various bands across the country and his presence in the shows has seen the bands enjoy huge turnout of fans.

Some of the shows, which have Choki tarking part in, are the ones organized by Morogoro's Waluguru Original Band, which is led by vocalist, Deogratius David 'Killer Man'.

The Waluguru Original Band is now a quite popular music troupe in the region and its surrounding environment.



Tanzanian dance musician, Ally Choki, in action at a show staged by Waluguru Original Band in Morogoro recently. PHOTO: SABATO KASIKA

Yanga, Kagera Sugar renew rivalry in VPL



Yanga forward, Waziri Junior (C), attempts a shot whilst under pressure from Mlandege FC defenders when the clubs locked horns in a friendly clash, which took place in Dar es Salaam recently. Yanga won 2-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

KAGERA Sugar have been one of the major outfits in the Vodacom Premier League for the past 15 years and, with some new signings this season, they have made clear of their objective to be counted amongst the best in the league.

After failing to win any of their first two league games this season, Kagera Sugar will, on the one

hand, be aiming to end their winless run this Saturday against Yanga when the two teams lock horns at the Kaitaba Stadium in Bukoba.

Not only are coach Mecky Mexime's men struggling at the moment to show consistency, but they also have a troubling head-to-head record against their opponents.

Kagera Sugar and Yanga have

met in 20 league matches since the 2010/11 season.

Yanga have claimed 16 wins compared to four for Kagera Sugar, while no match has ended in draw.

Whatever Kagera Sugar have to do, now is the time, their performance at home in the opening round against JKT Tanzania was one step short of 'zombie' football.

On the other hand, Yanga have made some great signings this season, and they have set some ambitious targets for this campaign.

After age old rivals, Simba SC, had won their third successive league title in a menacing manner last season by a 14-point difference, the feat must have really stung hard for Yanga and they have vowed to claim back

the glory.

Having settled for a 1-1 draw with Tanzania Prisons in their first game, Yanga managed to respond with a 1-0 win against Mbeya City FC.

Yanga's head coach, Zlatko Krmpotic, however, will probably feel as though his side should be two for two.

They have a great opportunity to pick up another win against a Kagera Sugar team that is still looking for its first victory of the season and has a tendency of struggling at home.

When the teams met earlier this year, at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, Kagera Sugar racked up an emphatic 3-0 away win, thanks to goals netted by Yusuph Mhili, Ally Ramadhan and Peter Mwalyanzi.

In the reverse fixture, Yanga claimed a 1-0 away win, thanks to a goal netted by winger Bernard Morrison, who has since crossed over to their rivals, Simba.

There was also a controversial Federation Cup quarterfinal tie, which saw Yanga triumph 2-1 following the sending off of Kagera Sugar midfielder Awesu Ally and a ghost penalty which forced referee, Shomari Lawi, to apologize for his incorrect calls.

In another game on Saturday, Tanzania Prisons will host Namungo FC at Mandela Stadium in Rukwa.

Namungo have not played away this season, so this trip will be fresh for them while Prisons will be at home for the first time after two opening games on the road.

AT urged to embrace athletics reforms

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE government has asked Athletics Tanzania (AT) to embrace reforms for the sport to grow in the country.

Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Harrison Mwakymbe, issued the call on Tuesday when he received AT's draft constitution from Henry Tandau, who was the secretary of a special constitutional review committee for the association.

Mwakymbe stated the draft constitution carries many positive ways of improving the sport.

He said the constitutional review committee was formed after many athletics stakeholders had complained to him at the recent Kilimanjaro Marathon.

Mwakymbe disclosed he is of the view that the contents of the draft will bring positive changes to athletics in the country.

He as well hailed the review committee's members for carrying out their duties voluntarily and asked AT leadership to align to the amended statutes.

"This amended constitution will bring positive changes to athletics in the country," he disclosed.

"I'm asking AT leadership to work together with the National Sports Council (NSC) to host a general meeting which will pass the draft constitution and register it with the registrar of sports associa-



Domestic athletes take part in men's 1500m race of the 2020 National Championships, which was held in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

tions and clubs," he said.

Prior to the presentation to the minister, Tandau said his committee worked on many areas, specifically the composition of the AT executive committee.

In the draft constitution, Tandau said, the executive committee will have a president, one vice-president, employed secretary

and treasurer generals.

The association's current statutes provide for two vice-presidents.

The draft has as well recommended that there should be six executive committee members, who will represent each of the country's six zones.

Tandau also said the draft constitution has included the formation of

a disciplinary committee, disciplinary appeals committee, elections committee and sponsors' board.

He moreover said the draft has proposed minimum requirements for those vying for the president's and vice-president's posts, which stipulates that the contestants should have a diploma and must not be

beyond 70 years of age.

Hamed Ndee, AT's vice-president responsible for technical affairs, hailed the committee for the draft constitution and promised Mwakymbe that the association and stakeholders will work on it.

In an interview, Ndee said the aim of the draft constitution is to

ensure that athletics has administrators that are capable of steering the industry to a path of success on the field and economically.

He further said they targeted the top positions because officials holding the positions are the ones entrusted with setting the association's agenda.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

