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### National Pg 3 Be more competitive, minister advises



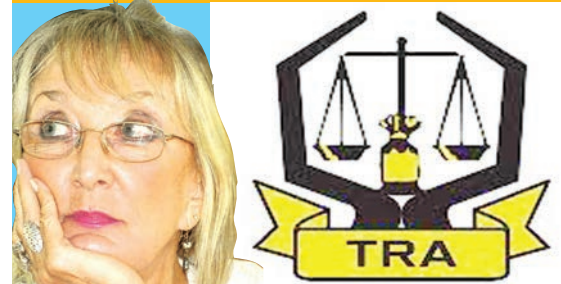
### National Pg 4 Global quality education conference



### National Pg 5 Launch of Uhuru Torch Race



### Opinion Pg 9 Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey



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## STANDARDS AWARENESS Page 6



## PLANTING TREES Page 7



# COSTECH and TCRA want local smartphone factory

By Guardian Reporter

GOVERNMENT agencies are working on plans for setting up a factory to produce low-cost smartphones as part of an ambitious plan to ensure 80 per cent of Tanzanians have access to digital communication services by 2025.

The coming up of the factory will go hand in hand with the expansion of the telecommunications fibre network, also known as broadband backbone, to reach more rural areas not accessed by mobile phone firms.

Dr Amos Nungu, managing director of the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), made this affirmation at a press conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday ahead of the Innovation Week setting off today up to Saturday May 22.

Themed "Innovation for a Resilient and Inclusive Digital Economy," this year's show has been organised by the Human Development Innovation Fund (HDIF) in collaboration with COSTECH and the UN Development Programme (UNDP).

He said the theme reflects the government's targets to attain planned Information and Communication Technology (ICT) development goals, noting that initiatives taken include making ICT issues an independent ministry.

He said that the Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA) had recently advertised a tender



Dar es Salaam residents have a good time along the popular Coco Beach section of the Indian Ocean shores as they celebrated Eid el-Fitr yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

**“ Innovation has created jobs to many youths, using technology to advertise their businesses and to add value**

for various stakeholders ready to establish a smart phone factory and sell the sets at affordable prices.

Such a move has the capacity to ease access to high level digital communication and create a number of job opportunities, he stated.

He referred to government policy to identify and develop various instances of innovation, with the CCM Election Manifesto for 2020/2025 laying emphasis on the development of ICT and making it even more accessible.

"A lot has been learnt during and after the Covid-19 outbreak during which some activities had to stop and many students failing to continue with lessons for lacking digital technology in proximity," he said.

The commission is working to ensure in the coming years the science and technology competitions are conducted right from the district to the national level to identify innovators. The government

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## World Bank says remittance flows by the diaspora defy pandemic

By Guardian Reporter

OFFICIALLY recorded remittance flows to low and middle-income countries reached \$540bn in 2020, just 1.6 percent below the 2019 total of \$548bn, according to the latest report issued by the journal, Migration and Development.

The decline in recorded remittance flows in 2020 was smaller than the one during the 2009 global financial crisis which stood at 4.8 percent, it said.

The main drivers for the steady flow included fiscal stimulus that resulted in better-than-expected economic conditions in host countries, a shift in flows from cash to digital and from informal to formal channels, along with cyclical movements in oil prices and currency exchange rates, it elaborated.

The true size of remittances, spanning

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## 'Development funding in health sector inadequate'

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

MEMBERS of the Parliamentary Committee on Health Services and Community Development say inadequate funding levels for development has affected priority projects endorsed in the country's 2020/21 Development Plan.

Tabling the views of the panel at the weekend, committee chairman Stanislaus Nyongo said the registered effects include levels of availability of drugs, reduction of maternal deaths and control of HIV/Aids.

**“ The committee advised that civil society and the private sector be adequately involved in preparations by giving their views for improving provisions of the bill**

By the end of the first quarter this year, the ministry had received 409bn/- or 45 per cent of approved funds to cater for salaries and other expenditures while development projects had been allocated 23 per cent of approved requirements, he stated.

"The committee has discovered that out of internal funds more than 76.5bn/- or 27.25 per cent of the target was made available while foreign funds disbursement for projects stood at 6.6bn/- or 8.29 per cent of

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## Elephants destroy farms, cause panic

By Guardian Correspondent, Lindi

MORE than 200 elephants have invaded Ngumbu Village, in Kibutula Ward, Liwale District in Lindi Region, destroying over 600 hectares of various crops and creating panic among the villagers.

Village reports confirmed by



local government authorities say a massive herd of jumbos has caused great apprehension among the local population.

Village residents said the jumbo invasion of their areas has instilled great fear regarding their own safety, noting that for one week now, more than 200 elephants camped in the village while destroying crops in their farms, preventing children from going to school.

Kibutuka Ward Councilor Faraji Mnyihira confirmed the dire situation posed by the jumbo herds destroying

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## COSTECH, TCRA want local smart phone factory

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extend sponsorship to develop them, he emphasised.

HDIF Resident Director Joseph Manirakiza said seven years since the establishment of Innovation Week, the show has covered more than nine regions, and presently the government was backing the development of innovation.

UNDP's Head of Cooperative Economy, Emmanuel Nko said innovation is one of the levers to attain fast development and increase employment opportunities, especially among the youth.

"Innovation has created jobs to many youths, using technology to advertise their businesses and to add value," he said, pointing out challenges, including existing legislation.

"But through this platform we shall know what to do to rectify them," he added.

## 'Development funding in health sector inadequate'

FROM PAGE 1

the target," he affirmed.

The Health Department was allocated more than 900bn/- out of which 539.1bn/- or 59.9 per cent was for current expenditure and 360.9bn/- or 40.1 per cent was for development expenditure, he said.

Universal health insurance has been on the agenda of the legislature for many years but has not been implemented. Every time the MPs take up the issue the government responds that the preparatory process was still continuing, he lamented.

Asked what step had been reached, the government told the committee that it will table a bill to that effect during the third sitting of the legislature and already 231bn/- has been allocated to finance Universal Health Insurance preparations including a public education drive, he stated.

The committee advised that civil society and the private sector be adequately involved in preparations by giving their views for improving provisions of the bill, he further noted.

Deputy Minister Dr Godwin Mollel, responding to observations made by the committee, said the government will involve all stakeholders in formulating the bill.



Former Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda pictured at Zuzu on the outskirts of Dodoma city at the weekend watering a tree he had just planted tree at the launch a special campaign aimed at planting 10,000 trees in the national capital. Habari Development Association is coordinating the implementation of the initiative in collaboration with Exim Bank Tanzania through the bank's environmental strategic plan known as Exim Go Green Initiative. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## World Bank: Remittance flows from Diaspora defy pandemic

FROM PAGE 1

formal and informal flows, is believed to be larger than officially reported data, though the extent of the impact of COVID-19 on informal flows is unclear, it stated.

Michal Rutkowski, the global director for social protection and jobs global practice at the World Bank, said that as COVID-19 still devastates families around the world, remittances continue to provide a critical lifeline for the poor and vulnerable. "Supportive policy responses, together with national social protection systems, should continue to be inclusive of all communities, including migrants."

Dilip Ratha, lead author of the report on migration and remittances and head of unit on migration and development said the resilience of remittance flows is remarkable, noting that remittances are helping to meet families' increased need for livelihood support.

"The World Bank has been monitoring migration and remittance flows for nearly two decades, and we are working with governments and partners to produce timely data and make remittance flows even more productive," he stated.

The World Bank is assisting member states in monitoring the flow of remittances through various channels, the costs and convenience of sending money, and regulations to protect financial integrity that affect remittance flows.

It is working with the G20 countries and the global community to reduce remittance costs and improve financial inclusion for the poor.

With global growth expected to rebound further in 2021 and 2022, remittance flows to low and middle-income countries

are expected to increase by 2.6 percent to \$553 billion in 2021 and by 2.2 percent to \$565 billion in 2022.

The global average cost of sending \$200 remained high at 6.5 percent in the fourth quarter of 2020, more than double the Sustainable Development Goal target of 3 percent.

Remittances to Sub-Saharan Africa declined by an estimated 12.5 percent in 2020 to \$42 billion.

The decline was almost entirely due to a 277 percent decline in remittance flows to Nigeria, which alone accounted for over 40 percent of remittance flows to the region.

Excluding Nigeria, remittance flows to Sub-Saharan African increased by 2.3 percent. Remittance growth was reported in Zambia (37 percent), Mozambique (16 percent), Kenya (9 percent) and Ghana (5 percent), the report noted.

In 2021, remittance flows to the region are projected to rise by 2.6 percent, supported by improving prospects for growth in high-income countries. Sub-Saharan Africa remains the most expensive region to send money to, where sending \$200 costs an average of 8.2 percent in the fourth quarter of 2020.

Within the region, which experiences high intra-regional migration, it is expensive to send money from South Africa to Botswana (19.6 percent), Zimbabwe (14 percent to), and to Malawi (16 percent), it added.

*"The World Bank has been monitoring migration and remittance flows for nearly two decades, and we are working with governments and partners to produce timely data and make remittance flows even more productive"*



Alban Kihulla, the Weights and Measures Agency's manager for Coast Region, briefs Industry and Trade minister Prof Kitila Mkumbo (to his right) at Misugusugu yesterday on the use of dipsticks in verifying fuel tank volume. Left is the agency's acting CEO, Stela Kahwa. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## Rogue jumbos destroy farms, causing panic

FROM PAGE 1

maize, peas, rice, cassava, millet and cashewnut farms.

In the circumstance the matter has been reported to Liwale District offices and wildlife agencies, which sent wardens to the area to remove the beasts but without success. They were still roaming about freely in the village mid afternoon yesterday, he said.

Panic from hunger has gripped the villagers following the wanton destruction of food crops, pleading with the government to double efforts in dispatching more wildlife wardens to the village.

Liwale DC Sarah Chiwamba confirmed the report, saying she has already dispatched more wildlife personnel to the village to supplement the efforts.

"The issue of elephants invading people's areas is a routine occurrence, as due to their huge numbers they were even seen not so long ago in the capital, Dodoma.

In February last year, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said the government has started deploying game rangers to areas which suffer from raids by wild animals.

He said the game rangers have already been deployed in Ruvuma, Simiyu and Mara regions trouble spots.

Increasing attacks by wild animals on human settlements were due to a spike in wildlife population in national parks and game reserves following successful anti-poaching campaigns, the premier had indicated.



**The issue of elephants invading people's areas is a routine occurrence, as due to their huge numbers they were even seen not so long ago in the capital, Dodoma**

By Special Correspondent

## AfDB and IFAD commit \$17bn to boost food security in Africa

A coalition of multilateral development banks and development partners have pledged over US\$17 billion in financing, in a bold bid to address rising hunger on the African Continent and to improve food security.

These funds were pledged on the final day of a two-day high-level dialogue - 'Feeding Africa': leadership to scale up successful innovations recently.

The event was hosted by the Africa Development Bank and the UN International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), in partnership with the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) and the CGIAR system organisation.

In addition, 17 African heads of state signed on to the commitment to boost agricultural production by doubling current productivity levels through the scaling up of agro-technologies, investing in access to markets, and promoting agricultural research and development.

The various parties adopted a communiqué outlining these

commitments at the end of the event.

Of the overall amount pledged, more than US\$10 billion came from the African Development Bank, which said it would invest US\$1.57 billion on scaling up 10 selected priority commodities over the next five years. This will help countries achieve self-sufficiency.

Another US\$8.83 billion go towards building strong value chains for these commodities over the next five years. This will include programmes to create opportunities for young people - particularly women.

African Development Bank President Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina said: "Let us now create today, a stronger partnership: a partnership for greater scale; a partnership to take technologies and innovations to hundreds of millions of farmers."

IFAD said it aimed to provide an additional US\$1.5 billion to Africa to support national efforts to transform

food and agricultural systems over the next three years. IFAD will also invest more in creating the pre-conditions for increased agricultural productivity. The organisation is helping to develop a growing pipeline of investments to restore land, create jobs and build resilience to climate change in the Sahel region. This will contribute to the Green Great Wall objectives, and will create 10 million jobs in the region by 2030.

"We praise the African leaders' commitment to increase agricultural productivity and improve food security for millions of Africans," said IFAD President Gilbert F. Houngbo. "By modernising African agriculture, small-scale farmers will be in a better position to bring more affordable food to consumers and create decent livelihoods for millions of young Africans involved in the processing, storage and marketing of food."

The Arab Bank for Economic

Development in Africa (BADEA) committed up to US\$1.5 billion over the period 2020-2024 in agriculture. The Islamic Development Bank Group said it would earmark US\$3.5 billion in developing the agriculture sector in Africa in the next three years. It said these investments will develop commodity value chains for both staple food and cash crops.

In an additional show of solidarity, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, joining a coalition of development partners, declared that it will invest US\$652 million in the next three years. This will support agriculture research and development initiatives in Africa. This funding is expected to empower 300 million farmers with a host of new innovations.

IFAD has invested over \$23.2 billion in 518 million rural people, empowering them to reduce poverty, increase food security, improve nutrition and strengthen resilience since 1978.





Children have a good time "travelling by train" at a popular fun centre at Mnazi grounds in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## 'Bilharzia, stomach worms most prevalent in Lake Victoria zone'

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

BETWEEN 50 to 90 per cent of 22 million bilharzia suffering from bilharzia and stomach worms live in the Lake Victoria zone.

This was revealed at the weekend by the coordinator of non-priority diseases in Mwanza Region, Dr Mabai Leonard.

Dr Leonard said bilharzia and stomach worms were still a challenge in the region.

He said in order to fight the disease, Mwanza Region has prepared a campaign for providing preventive medicines

to school going children of up to 15 years of age in primary schools at the cost of 288.4m/-.

He said all local councils in the region should make sure that all children to be administered with the medicines are given a meal two hours before they take the medicines - albendazole for stomach worms and praziquantel for bilharzia.

He said the challenge of two diseases in Mwanza Region is caused by geographical factors - having ample supply of water in farming activities including rice growing water ponds.

For his part, Prof Humphrey Mazigo from the Catholic University of Health And Allied Sciences (CUHAS) said 17 diseases including bilharzia and stomach worms in tropical zones were affecting poor households in villages, those surviving under two USD dollars for a meal per day.

Giving statistics for the two diseases, Prof Mazigo said Tanzania is among countries that has been greatly affected by bilharzia especially within the Lake Victoria Basin and in particular on farmers, fishermen

and children and that in total 2 billion people have been affected by stomach worms worldwide.

He explained that out of that number 300 million have been adversely affected while 155,000 die from the disease every year from the disease.

For his part the acting coordinator of the national programme for the control of the two diseases Oscar Kaitaba said the diseases affect growth and development of children, curbing their activities thereby causing poverty in the communities.

## Compete internationally, take risks in investment, govt advises Tanzanians

By Guardian Reporter

INDUSTRY and Trade minister Prof Kitila Mkumbo has urged Tanzanians to be bold to compete internationally and take investment risks to develop and expand their businesses.

"Most Tanzanians are not risk takers; we need to change our attitude and start taking investment risks within the East African region and abroad," said the minister.

He was speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during a graduation ceremony for participants of the entrepreneurship programme conducted by 'Kingdom Leadership Institute Tanzania' in collaboration with the Regent University, USA.

According to him, English language literacy is also one of the obstacles that hold back Tanzanians when it comes to grabbing investment opportunities in and outside the country.

"We need to capacitate our people with communication skills so they can communicate with their counterparts in foreign countries. Foreign community requires small and medium scale entrepreneurs (SMEs) to be fluent in English language," he added.

He added that President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been insisting on improving the country's business and investment environment, hence the need for the business community to take advantage of the conducive investment climate to establish projects.

"Risk taking is important when it comes to competing. We need Tanzanians who are willing to go and invest in other countries," said Prof Mkumbo.

Minister Mkumbo promised to consult the ministry of agriculture on possibilities of Tanzanians to directly export maize to South Sudan instead of selling the grains to Kenyans who finally sell them in South Sudan.

Prof Mkumbo underscored the need to bridge the skills gap among graduates, saying most of them lack basic technical skills to prove their professional competences.

He added: "We love Kiswahili and we are going to embrace it forever but English is important to enable Tanzanians to communicate with foreigners. Tanzanians, especially traders need to be fluent in both languages to be able to compete globally."

Recently, when addressing journalists and her host President Uhuru Kenyatta, President Samia said Tanzanians are lagging far behind in the investment portfolio of the neighboring country compared to the vice in the country's economy.

"Kenya is the fifth country among the top ten countries invested in Tanzania at the global level but the first one in the East African Community (EAC). It has so far invested in 513 projects worth US\$1.70 billion generating 51,000 employment opportunities to locals;

The volume of trade is far ahead of Tanzania's investment to Kenya that stands at only 30 companies with projects worth K19.30 billion offering 2,640 employments opportunities for the Kenyans," said Samia.

She however asserted that the trade balance between the two countries in the five past years stood at US\$450 million as the two top leaders embark on new initiatives of increasing trade volumes and investments in either country.



### Request for Proposal Applications For Theatre Group

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) with funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is currently seeking to subcontract a Theatre Group to develop communication contents in the form of live theatre performances to support behavior change campaign for the Landscape Conservation in Western Tanzania (LCWT) project in reduction of farming in riverine forests.

#### About Us:

The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) is a global community conservation organization that advances the vision and work of Dr. Jane Goodall by conserving chimpanzees and inspiring communities to conserve the natural world we all share, we improve the lives of people, animals and the environment, we strongly believe everything is connected and everyone can make a difference.

The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) was founded in 1977 by Dr. Jane Goodall. The JGI with its partners makes a difference through landscape and community-centered conservation, chimpanzees research projects, environmental education to young generation, and the innovative use of science and technology. We work closely with local communities in Tanzania, inspiring hope through a collective power of individual action. JGI-TZ has a longstanding history on community-led integrated conservation in Western Tanzania.

#### Project Overview:

LCWT project is designed to address the primary threats to natural forest cover and the chimpanzee population in the Gombe-Masito-Ugalla (GMU) landscape. It aims to protect chimpanzee populations and their habitat in western Tanzania while improving household income from the sustainable use of natural resources and the establishment of microenterprises and private sector partnerships that reinforce conservation behaviors.

The project enhances natural resources management (NRM) in Gombe-Masito-Ugalla (GMU) landscape through increased local government capacity, state-of-the-art monitoring, integrating family planning (FP) into delivery of NRM interventions, including provision of FP services, and a robust social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) strategy.

SBCC focuses on composting as a powerful, affordable way that families in the landscape can use to improve the health and fertility of their soil, which will support healthier and more abundant crops. More productive crops will mean that farmers will have the ability to better support their family's livelihoods and health, improving the health and wealth of the community as well. When soils on designated farms are more fertile and crops are more productive, communities can produce more crops on less land. This means that people can depend less on farming in forests that communities need for their livelihoods and protection from climate change. SBCC is based on the grounded truth that "When you compost, you are improving the health of your farm, family, community and forests."

#### Deliverables:

The consultant will be required to deliver the following:

- Working with the project to produce SBCC related entertaining contents that will be exhibited during community live events in respective SBCC villages. The contents will be in short entertainments contents such as campaign songs, short dramas, comedies, traditional songs, acrobats, and any other entertaining elements as they will be determined by both the SBCC team and the theatre group.
- Work closely with the project and radio stations teams to produce high quality theatre contents which will be blended with radio programs to facilitate behaviour change in SBCC villages in the landscape.
- Conduct a live event in each of the eight (8) villages and engage in production of theatre contents to be used in radio episodes. Theatre group will be required to accomplish these tasks per village in three days' time frame.
- Production of the SBCC pre-recorded contents for radio episodes.

#### Requirements:

- Should have a minimum of 3 to 5 years of experience in the field.
- Experience working with communities in remote areas will be an added advantage.
- Should have commendable track record in any kind of SBCC activities or social marketing.
- The composition of the team should be a gender sensitive and inclusive, the contents designing & delivery should also be gender sensitive.
- Should be a registered and recognized by relevant Government Institution.
- A size of the team should not exceed ten (10) people.

#### Application Procedures:

Please send your Proposal Application (technical and financial) to the following e-mail address: [jgi-tanzania@janegoodall.or.tz](mailto:jgi-tanzania@janegoodall.or.tz). The application deadline is 5 days from the date of this advertisement. Please note that only the shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

For any questions regarding this consultancy, please contact us through the following office general line: +255 28 280 4921.



### TANZANIA-ZAMBIA RAILWAY AUTHORITY

Head Office

TENDER NO: TZR/HQ/CTC/2020/2021/02

#### INVITATION FOR BIDS

### TO DESIGN, SUPPLY, INSTALL, TEST, OPERATE, TRAIN AND COMMISSION A COMPLETE SYSTEM OF TWO (2) TONS MEDIUM FREQUENCY INDUCTION FURNACE ON A TURNKEY-CONTRACT BASIS

- This **Invitation for Bids** follows the desire by the Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) to recapitalize the TAZARA Mpika Workshops in the financial year 2020/2021.
- The Government of the Republic of Zambia has set aside funds for the recapitalization of the TAZARA Mpika Workshops in the financial year 2020/2021 and it is, therefore, intended that part of the proceeds of the funds be used to cover eligible payments for the contract for **Tender No: TZR/HQ/CTC/2020/2021/02 for the Design, Supply, Installation, Testing, Operation, Training and Commissioning of a Complete System of two (2) tons Medium Frequency Induction Furnace on Turnkey-Contract Basis.**
- Bidding will be conducted through an Open International Competitive Method of Bidding, whose procedures are specified in the TAZARA Procurement & Supplies Manual of November, 2011.
- TAZARA now invites sealed bids from eligible potential International suppliers or manufacturers to design, supply, install, test, operate, train and commission a complete system of two (2) tons Medium Frequency Induction Furnace on a Turnkey-Contract basis.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the office of the TAZARA Supplies Manager, Headquarters, Room No.210 Dares Salaam – Tanzania from 08.0 to 16.30 hours E.A.T, Monday to Friday, except during public holidays or Lusaka Area Office, TAZARA House, Dedan Kimathi Road, Lusaka - Zambia from 08.0 to 16.30 hours C.A.T, Monday to Friday, except during public holidays.
- A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested eligible bidders on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 4 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of US\$ 200.00. Payment should either be by Cash or Banker's Draft, payable to the Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid securing declaration in the format provided in the bidding documents.
- All bids in one original plus two copies, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes marked "**Tender No: TZR/HQ/CTC/2020/2021/02 for the Design, Supply, Installation, Testing, Operation, Training and Commissioning of a Complete System of two (2) tons Medium Frequency Induction Furnace on Turnkey-Contract Basis**" must be addressed and delivered to the Office of the Secretary to the Central Tender Committee, Office No. 210, TAZARA Head Office, Nyerere/Mandela Roads Junction, Dar-es-Salaam – Tanzania or the Office of Area Manager, TAZARA House, Dedan Kimathi Road, Lusaka – Zambia at or before 10.00 hours C.A.T or 11.00 E.A.T on **Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.**
- Tenders will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of tenderers or representatives who choose to attend the opening ceremony at TAZARA, Head Office Board Room in Dar es Salaam – Tanzania or TAZARA Area office, Board Room in Lusaka - Zambia.
- Late bids, portion of bids, electronic bids, and bids not received, bids not opened and not read out in public at the bid opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

The Managing Director,  
Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA),  
Head Office, Nyerere/Mandela Roads,  
P.O. Box 2834,  
Dar-es-Salaam - Tanzania



## Kikwete expected to officiate at a three-day international quality education conference

By Getrude Mbagi

FORMER President Jakaya Kikwete is tomorrow expected to officiate the three-day International Quality Education Conference (IQEC) aimed to discuss various challenges facing the education sector including on why majority of university graduates are not employable.

Organised by the Tanzania Education Network (TENMET), the conference is expected to draw over 200 participants including key leaders and officials from public, private sector, and Civil Society Organisations from inside and outside the country.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, TENMET national coordinator Ochola Wayoga said that the fate of higher learning education will be discussed intensively so as to come up with deliberate solutions to help the group.

"This is forum, which will be held from May 18 to 20, this year, will bring together education stakeholders from across the globe to discuss issues that affect the achievement of quality education in Tanzania and collectively chart a way forward on how to address them. For the last eleven years TENMET has been organizing, at national level, the quality education conference and its deliberations have immensely contributed towards improving the education sector in the country," he said.

Wayoga said that every child should have the right to education anywhere in the world citing that there was no way the country could succeed in the race of fighting poverty without investing in education.

"Despite strides made by the government and stakeholders to improve the education sector and increase enrolment, there is still a good number of children who

are not in school due to various reasons including poor learning facilities, long walking distances, early marriages and pregnancies, poverty and poor nutrition," he noted.

He said that the conference will also discuss the importance of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in learning and teaching, contribution of the government in strengthening education during disasters and the role of stakeholders in supporting the improvement of education in the country.

Wayoga said that everyone has a role to contribute to ensure that children receive a quality education. "We still have gaps in the access to quality and inclusive education. Fifteen agendas will be discussed in an aim meant to improve education in the country. The conference will be attended by teachers, parents, envoys, academicians and several others," he added.

He commended stakeholders and development partners for their contribution to enable success of the conference. They include the Swedish embassy, Global Partnership for Education through the Education Out Loud project, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) through Action Aid Tanzania, Pestalozzi and the Human Development Innovation Fund (HDIF) among others.

TENMET envisions a national education system through which every Tanzanian child has the opportunity to engage in quality and inclusive education. This vision is achieved through its mission of 'Coordinating and strengthening vibrant Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Tanzania through networking, capacity building, research and advocacy. The main focus areas for the organization are: Access, Equity and Quality inclusive education.



Ummy Mwalimu (in black headscarf), Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) and Tanga Urban legislator, pictured yesterday listening as Magaoni Councillor Mohamed Juma (to her left, gesturing) airs grievances by residents of the ward on various issues. Photo: Correspondent Boniface Gideon

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

## Local govts tasked to allocate enough livestock grazing land

LOCAL government authorities have been tasked to allocate enough animal grazing areas so as to meet the growing demand of herders and thus increase productivity.

Livestock and Fisheries ministry Permanent secretary Prof Elisante Ole Gabriel made the directives here over the weekend when opening a meeting to review and discuss a draft of the guideline on the availability, testing, development and management of grazing and water areas for livestock in the country.

According to him, majority of villages do not have better land use programmes, something which also affects livestock development. As per statistics from the National Land Use Planning Commission (NLUPC), only 13.4 percent of villages have prepared the programmes for better land use in their areas.

He said the aim is to find a lasting solution to farmers-herders conflicts as well as improve the livestock sector.

According to him, as Tanzania envisages having 6million hectares of grazing areas by 2025, leaders in the villages should work hard to ensure that they have programmes for land use. He said that the draft of the guidelines, once come into operation, will enable various stakeholders to work together and facilitate the allocation of animal grazing areas.

He said the creation of the guideline is meant to facilitate having sustainable land management systems which address issues of land degradation and conflicts and thus improve the livestock sector.

Prof Ole Gabriel said that the government's zeal is to ensure that the sector benefits all people, transforming the livelihoods of herders and the country's economy.

He wanted livestock keepers' community in the country to work together as a team and usually come up with plans which will improve productivity and bring positive impacts in their lives.

He noted that population growth and increase of livestock was leading to a greater need for more grazing areas as well as demand for meat and milk as nutritional meals.

According to the PS, current statistics show that Tanzania has 33.4 million cattle, 21.29 goats, 5.65 sheep and donkeys reaching 657,389.

Dr Asimwe Rwiguza, ministry's director, department of animal pasture and resources said despite having millions of cattle, Tanzania still faces shortage of grazing areas.

He said that data from the National Land Use Planning Commission (NLUPC) show that Tanzania has 2.8 million hectares of grazing areas, which have however been attacked by people for other activities.

Edward Loure one of the pastoralists and supervisor of the Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT) in Simanjiro, Arusha commended the government for coming up with guideline which will give more space livestock keepers themselves to supervise and ensure that the sector's potential is fully utilized.



International School of Tanganyika  
Challenge | Support | Inspire

### Invitation For Bids - Generator and Motorcycles

The International School of Tanganyika is selling used Generator, Motorcycle Honda and Three-Wheeler Bajaj that are to be sold on "As-is, where is basis".

Description of items:

#### A. Generator

No.	Item	Condition	Quantity
1.	PERKINS 150 KVA type 2614/1500, 3 phase volts 415-240V Ac. Sound proof/ (with canopy) Model P150P1, Frequency: 50Hz - Year - 2008	Good running condition	1

#### B. Motorcycles

No.	Item	Condition	Quantity
1.	MOTORCYCLE: Make: TVS, Model: TVS KING. Body type/class: 3 wheeler motor cycle, Registration number MC770ADH, Chassis No: MD6M14PK3D4H12574, Engine No. 0K4HD1013004, PETROL, Year 2013	Needs repairs	1
2.	MOTORCYCLE: Make: Honda, Model: XLR 250, Registration, No: MC978ATE, Chassis No: MD222002772, Body Type: Motorcycle	Needs repairs	1

Inspection can be done during office hours.

1. Generator - Masaki campus

2. Motorcycles - UN Road campus Upanga

Contact person: Gaspar Kimario (mobile no. 0716 626 201)

Offers in writing to be emailed to [bids@istafrica.com](mailto:bids@istafrica.com) latest by 3.00 p.m. on Friday, May 28, 2021

The school reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

## Employment services agency advises universities to improve their curricula

By Guardian Reporter

UNIVERSITIES have been challenged to improve their curricula to ensure they produce graduates who meet employers' requirements.

The call was made recently in Dar es Salaam when 'Restless Development Tanzania' brought together over 500

secondary school students as well as their counterparts from higher learning institutions for capacity building training for a career fair day held at the Institute of Social Work.

Senior labour officer at the Tanzania Employment Services Agency (TaESA) under the Prime Minister's Office Labour, Employment, Youth

and People with Disability, Peter Ugata said: "It is discouraging to see some university graduates failing to make self-introduction during interviews; most of these people lack communication skills."

He said the agency has been conducting regular capacity building training to the university and college students to enable them to secure employment within and outside the country. He said TaESA also looks for job opportunities in and out the country whereas it meets employers with purposes of finding opportunities for youth.

"We advise youth on various issues and provide them with the current situation in the labour market," said Ugata noting they are soon going to meet with private recruitment agencies to see how they can together help the government to achieve its employment goals.

He added: "Youth lack skills; we have recruited a number of graduates who are now working with the agency for purposes of sharpening their skills. They also need to ensure they adhere to their professional ethics and have positive attitudes."

Restless Development Program Manager, Ridhione Juma said participants to the career fair day came from the Institute of Social Work, Ardhi University, St Mary's and Ukwamani secondary schools. He said since the labour market is limited, students need to enhance and sharpen their skills to secure jobs.

He said the organization work with young people so that they can lead in solving those challenges and equipping them to find solutions on matters that affect them.

"We equip them with the right knowledge, skills and attitude for making informed career choices and accessing existing and emerging employment opportunities in the labor market," said Juma noting similar career fair day events were conducted in Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Iringa, Ruvuma and Lindi regions.

Aaliyah Mahmood, a Form Three student at St Mary's secondary school said: "I am a member of Restless Club and I am enjoying the various training provided to us on the importance of knowing our purpose and unlock our full potential."



**We equip them with the right knowledge, skills and attitude for making informed career choices and accessing existing and emerging employment opportunities in the labor market**



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3-5 years teaching experience  
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[recruitment@thelathamschool.com](mailto:recruitment@thelathamschool.com)  
Deadline: May 30, 2021

Preference will be given to qualified Tanzanian candidates, and those already in country  
Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted



# Refer complaints over inflated bills to WMA centres, appeals minister

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

INDUSTRY and Trade minister Prof Kitila Mkumbo has said the government has a good system to ensure the people receive services that have been verified by the Weights and Measure Agency (WMA).

Prof Mkumbo gave the remarks yesterday during his visit at Misugusugi WMA centre in Coast Region to inspect its operations.

He also called on the people who have complaints over inflated service bills by various authorities to use the Centre to solve their problems.

“For those who are near this Centre should not hesitate to come here but for the rest of the country they should use the centres near them located in each region for verification of services,” he said.

WMO Coast Regional manager Alban Kihula said they have purchased equipment to verify electricity meters that can verify 20 meters at a time and will be in operation soon. “We have sat together with meter producers in the country and the exercise was in progress at the moment to verify meter samples before supply them to customers,” Kihula said.

He said currently they have started to measure electric meters samples in a preparations to start the exercise to verify all electric meters from different producers.

He further said the preparations is complete and they expect to start electric meters verification from Tanesco suppliers any time from next week.

“Before WMA intervention there were no body between Tanesco and consumers if there is problem but now people can come to us and submit their complains about electric meters,” he said

He added that currently there is no complaints from electric consumers but they receive some from water authorities.

He said WMA will continue with its mission to make sure all meters are verified before are installed to the last consumers so that they get the right bills and also water authorities get the income they deserve.



**We have sat together with meter producers in the country and the exercise was in progress at the moment to verify meter samples before supply them to customers**

# Dr Mwinyi expected to inaugurate Uhuru Torch Race in Zanzibar today

By Guardian Reporter

THIS year's 'Uhuru Torch Race' will be inaugurated today at Mwehe-Makunduchi grounds in Unguja South Region by Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi.

A statement issued by the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Coordination, Labour, Youth and Employment and People with Disabilities) Jenista Mhagama said the government requests all people in Zanzibar to come in big numbers to participate at the event.

She said the 'Torch' will be raced throughout the country led by six youths from Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) for a period of 150 days and its apex will take place in Chato District, Geita Region on October 14 this year.

The minister said the message for this year's 'Torch Race' is on the correct use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) - "ICT is a Foundation for the Nation's Sustainable Development. Use it Correctly and with Accountability."

She said in addition to the message the 'Torch Race' will continue to remind and mobilise Tanzanians and leaders countrywide to continue the fight against HIV/Aids, malaria, use of illegal drugs, war against corruption and adhere to better nutrition for a healthy society.

She said: "This year's 'Torch Race' will be unique due to various challenges we have faced and continue to face as a nation especially the Covid-19 pandemic and the passing away of various national leaders whilst in office.

"The Torch must be raced throughout the country because it was suspended last year due to the pandemic so as to revive hopes among Tanzanians and to mobilise them to work harder under the sixth phase government of our President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

"In addition, its uniqueness also stems from the fact that it will be raced in the country's 150 administrative districts instead of the 195 local councils as it used to be."

She said during the race, stress will be made to ensure all the country's local councils adopt the electronic system in government revenue collection, to disclose corruption and embezzlement of government funds in development projects in the councils and mobilise for patriotism among Tanzanians.

"In this regard, there will be some changes in the conduct of the 'Torch Race' due to the special intended aims. Regions through their governments have been advised on the better ways to supervise the Torch race," she added.

# WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



## WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY



DR. FAUSTINE NDUGULILE

MESSAGE FROM HON. DR. FAUSTINE NDUGULILE (MP), MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ON THE OCCASION TO COMMEMORATE WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY (WTISD), 2021

THEME: "ACCELERATING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN CHALLENGING TIMES"

Today is an important day, as Tanzania joins different nations of the world in marking and celebrating World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, which has been celebrated annually since 1969 to mark the founding of International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865.

Information Telecommunication and Technology (ICT) has provided means by which people and nations communicate irrespective of the distance separating them, from simple telephone communication to advanced Next Generation Networks. Field of ICT has grown from length to length, providing better communication services among people and societies. Indeed, ICT has made the World a global village where its people are always in touch.

In marking, this year's event International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has issued theme "Accelerating Digital Transformation in challenging times" which demonstrates the power of ICT in the provision of services in challenging times, like COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, natural disaster etc. Despite lock down in some countries during COVID-19 outbreak, Government institutions together with the private companies in the world continued to provide services to their customers and the communities in general through online platforms.

Many countries in the world were able to quickly migrate from their traditional way of service delivery to digital platforms due to the availability ICT infrastructure, legal and regulatory frameworks. Hence such challenges proved a critical role of ICT in the provision of services, and an avenue for the innovators to provide suitable quick solutions to continue with the normal life.

Public and Private sectors in the country were not left behind; this challenge was converted into opportunity; various digital platforms were developed to deliver services to the community e.g education, health, online meetings etc; the practice that has transformed people's life style, working methods and culture that improved the efficiency and effectiveness of people in their daily life and businesses.

To address the growing digital innovation divide, the actions of all stakeholders in the ICT innovation ecosystem in supporting innovation and entrepreneurship need to be understood – from research through to start-up formation and creation of jobs by Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs), culminating in the existence of high growth firms and economy.

In addressing this year's theme "Accelerating Digital Transformation in challenging times", stakeholders need to explore and understand the digital transformation capabilities. When ICT technology is applied to solve community problem, benefits to the country are immense; significantly increase productivity, economic growth and greater employment opportunities. The degree to which these benefits are realised depends on the ICT-centric ecosystem, plan and strategies.

In so doing, the Government through the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology will continue to create conducive environment to promote ICT entrepreneurship, facilitate digital innovation ecosystems and help accelerate Digital transformation. So, stakeholders from the ICT sector are urged to embrace emerging technologies, encourage and support research and innovation projects that will accelerate Digital transformation in the country.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



## STATEMENT ON THE WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021



DR. JABIRI K. BAKARI

FROM, DR. JABIRI K. BAKARI, DIRECTOR GENERAL, TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
THEME: "ACCELERATING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN CHALLENGING TIMES"

Today, 17th May 2021, is the World Telecommunications and Information Society Day (WTISD). We mark the anniversary of signing of the first International Telegraph Convention and the creation of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). ITU is the United Nations specialized agency responsible for Information and Communication Technologies – (ICTs). It was founded to facilitate international connectivity in communications networks, to allocate global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies are seamlessly interconnect, and strive to improve access to ICTs for the benefit of underserved communities worldwide.

This year's theme "Accelerating Digital Transformation in Challenging Times", emphasizes the key role of telecommunication and ICTs in building social resilience, with ITU's membership stepping up to help save lives and sustain economies.

The use of ICT has enabled the country to adapt and harness its power in organising such events as business meetings, business transactions especially during this COVID-19 pandemic. ICT has so much potential to transform the economy of the country especially in improving people's livelihoods and support rural development by increase the resilience of rural families, improve access of farmers to markets and other services that at the end will empower women and youths.

This year's theme calls for the communication sector players to focus more on how to use the power of ICT to provide Digital transformation to move closer in the attainment of the goals of "Connect 2030" Agenda where telecommunications enable and accelerate social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development for everyone.

The licensing framework in Tanzania allows service and technological neutrality hence enabling licensed entities to focus on ensuring innovation and penetration of services. The lessons learnt from COVID-19 pandemic is that people who are networked and connected can work and communicate from any location in the globe, obtain information and learning tools that enhance their business.

TCRA will continue working with stakeholders in considering both the opportunities and challenges of digital transformation to ensure that all citizens take advantage of opportunities provided by internet connectivity and digital revolution. TCRA calls all Service Providers to continue to invest in the ICT infrastructure and provision of related services enabling the country to have resilient infrastructure which is a key requirement for digital transformation.



# WHO tells global leaders, civil society organisations and communities: Help in bolstering safely on roads

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) is calling on leaders, civil society organizations and communities across the globe to increase efforts and advocate safer speed limits to save lives.

In her message to celebrate the 6th United Nations (UN) Global Road Safety Week, slated from today, May 17 to 23, WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr Matshidiso Moeti said to eradicate road traffic deaths, requires urgent action by governments, civil society organizations and international partners.

She said the event aims to mobilize leaders and communities to work together to make roads safer, in the lead up to the launch of the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030.

She said that the weeklong event also aims to highlight how the implementation of 30 km/h speed limits can help attain a number of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This includes achieving SDGs relating to health, education, infrastructure, sustainable cities, climate action and partnerships.

"Speed is a leading risk factor for road traffic deaths and injuries. Evidence shows that lowering speed limits in urban areas reduces the risk of fatalities and keeps vulnerable road users safe, including pedestrians, cyclists, children, elders and people with disabilities. Overall, an increase in average speed of one kilometre per hour translates to a 3 percent higher risk of a crash and a 4 percent to 5 percent increase in fatalities," she noted.

Dr Moeti said most countries have set a default limit of 50 kilometres per hour in urban areas. However on roads with high pedestrian and cyclist traffic, this is inadequate to save lives.

Dr Moeti noted that every year 1.35 million people die from road traffic injuries worldwide. Today it is the leading cause of death for children and young people

between the ages of 5 and 29 years old.

The WHO African Region accounts for only 3 percent of registered vehicles globally, but 20 percent of global road traffic deaths, with nearly 272 000 Africans dying on roads each year - 40 percent of these casualties are pedestrians.

Globally, WHO, the United Nations, philanthropic and civil society organizations supporting local government are leading a movement to reduce speed limits to 30 kilometres per hour in high-density urban settings. Countries in Europe and North America have successfully enforced these limits in selected urban areas leading to fewer crashes and deaths.

In African countries such as Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and Zambia, the advocacy of local leaders has led to legislation to implement 30 kilometre per hour speed limits around schools. These are positive steps to protect children and I urge other countries to take similar measures.

She pointed out that many challenges remain, including building adequate infrastructure to support policies, strengthening multi-sectoral collaboration, gaining political commitment and awareness-raising to make sure members of the public know, understand and act in line with new regulations. "As WHO we are supporting countries to overcome these challenges, to build capacities to implement evidence-based solutions and to enhance data quality for better monitoring and planning. We are also collaborating with partners to mobilize financial and human resources to make our roads safer," she said.

Dr Moeti added; "Over the past 10 years, the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020, has garnered political commitment and led to the development of evidence-based interventions to save lives and prevent injuries. Building on this success, the UN General Assembly has called for a second Decade of Action for Global Road Safety 2021-2030 with a goal to halve road traffic deaths."



Azania Bank's Geita District branch manager Rhoda Baluhya (L), and Geita District sheikh Alhaj Yusufu Kabaju (2nd-L) pictured at the weekend with leaders of orphanages after presenting foodstuffs for Eid El-Fitr. The bank extended similar assistance in Dar es Salaam, Kilimanjaro and Morogoro regions. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

MORE than 15,000 students from primary and secondary schools who conduct their activities in public areas such as at bus terminals, markets, auctions in Kilosa District, Morogoro Region, Bagamoyo District - Coast Region and Mkinga District in Tanga Region have attended awareness campaign on the use of certified products for the past one week, it has learnt.

The campaign which was conducted by officials of Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) also benefited the community where as a total of 12,250 people attended. It was conducted between May 4 to 10 this year.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam the TBS public relations officer Neema Mtemvu said they have sensitised students in primary and secondary schools on the roles of use of certified products and they were given the free telephone

## Standards awareness campaign attracts more students, elders in three regions

numbers for communication in case they encounter any challenge

She said they delivered such education to students because they will be good ambassadors to their parents and the community regarding certified goods by TBS. A total of 15,526 primary and secondary school students were reached during the campaign.

Regarding public areas, she said such awareness education was provided in Mkinga District at Horohoro stands, Duga auction mart while in Kilosa similar event was carried in Uhindini, Sabasaba and Kimamba areas

She said a good number of people (12,250) who attended during the event were happy and requested the organisation to make it sustainable.

"Many people thanked our organisation for the decision to impart knowledge on standards because they have been encountering challenges without knowing what to do," she said.

She said so far they have understood and pledged to engage into war against substandard goods because they can contact directly with officials of TBS

The campaign enabled the students and public to understand the roles of organisation, importance of looking at expiry dates on every product and buying certified goods for the benefits of their health and money value.

According to her, at the moment officials of the Standards watchdog have been conducting a similar campaign in Bagamoyo District, Coast Region.

## Dodoma SMEs launch association to source local and foreign markets

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

ENTREPRENEURIAL groups in Dodoma Region have launched an association that would assist them to look for local and foreign markets for their products.

The association to be known as "KijijiKipya" (New Village) will also benefit them with training programmes to be provided by the South Korean government.

Speaking here during the launch at the weekend, the Secretary of the association Christopher Dioniz said "KijijiKipya" is a network as well as a mother institution called Saemoul from South Korea.

"Here in Tanzania "KijijiKipya" is made up of community's entrepreneurial groups incorporating women, youth and people with disabilities that access to 10 per cent loans set aside by the government

through local councils," said Dioniz.

He said the association aims to bring together individuals for their own development in various fields, economically, socially, culturally and environmentally.

He said it is hoped the association will build up the impetus among the people to be courageous and offer themselves to work together for their own wellbeing. "The association will be an information bank for the groups to access markets' information, exchange of experience among groups to improve their activities in general facilitated from various training programmes to be provided local and foreign," he added.

He said so far the association has opened branches in Dar es salaam, Coast, Ruvuma, Morogoro and Dodoma regions and the aim is to reach all regions countrywide.

For his part, the association's coordinator Henry Mbwambo said training programmes to be provided by the government of South Korea will involve members of the groups and government officials. "The association's concept comes from South Korean phrase 'SAEMOUL UNDONG' - meaning 'to work hard' to attain achievements and do away with dependency," he said.

Launching the association, Dodoma City Mayor Prof Davis Mwamfupe called on group members to work together in order to attain the set aims through exchange of experience.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, GENDER, ELDERLY AND CHILDREN  
TMDA  
Tanzania Medicines & Medical Devices Authority

TANZANIA MEDICINES AND MEDICAL DEVICES AUTHORITY  
ISO 9001: 2015 CERTIFIED  
13<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**DESIGNATION OF TMDA AS REGULATOR OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

- Pursuant to Section 18 of the Tobacco Products (Regulations) Act, Cap 121, the Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children has designated the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) as the regulator of tobacco products.
- This designation has been delineated in the Tobacco Products (Regulations) (Designation of Inspectors) Notice, GN 360, published on 30/4/2021.
- In accordance with this designation, the TMDA will now assume the roles of inspection, enforcement and regulation of tobacco products.
- It should be noted that, prior to this directive, there was no regulator of such products in Tanzania and this has unequivocally contributed to upsurge of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) related to tobacco use.
- In connection to this, the TMDA is currently consolidating a framework for regulation of such products and all dealers and stakeholders will be notified on the next steps to streamline the process.
- The Tobacco Products (Regulations) (Designation of Inspectors) GN No. 360 published on 30/4/2021 can be accessed through the TMDA website [www.tmda.go.tz](http://www.tmda.go.tz).

Issued by  
Director General  
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THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE  
UNION AND ENVIRONMENT  
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
(NEMC)  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The National Environment Management Council (NEMC) wishes to inform the Public that any investor who wishes to develop a project in Tanzania Mainland after he/she has acquired a land for a designated project, he/she is required to register with NEMC for carrying out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and obtain an Environmental Certificate before implementing the project. **This requirement is in accordance with Section 81 of the Environmental Management Act, 2004.**

The Council is aware that there are investors who established their projects before the Environmental Management Act, 2004 came into force. Furthermore, there are those who continued to establish projects after the enactment of the Environmental Management Act, 2004 without conducting EIA which is contrary to the Law. Such investors/Project developers are required **under Regulation 46 of the Environmental Impact Assessment and Audit Regulations, 2005 as amended in 2018** to register their projects with NEMC and carry out Environmental Audit to obtain Environmental (Audit) Certificates.

To enable such investors to comply with the Environmental Management Act, 2004 and its Regulations as aforementioned, NEMC is giving a grace period of two (2) months effective from the date of this notice to register their projects for carrying out an Environmental Audit and obtain Environmental Certificates for their projects without paying any penalty. Registration is done online through any of NEMC offices (**Headquarters-Dar es Salaam, Eastern Zone South-Dar es Salaam, Eastern Zone North-Dar es Salaam, Morogoro-Rufiji Zone – Morogoro, Central Zone-Dodoma, Southern Zone-Mtwara, Western Zone-Kigoma, Northern Zone-Arusha, Southern Highlands Zone-Mbeya and Lake Victoria Zone-Mwanza**).

After the expiry of the given grace period (Two months), NEMC will conduct a countrywide intensive compliance inspection and monitoring to identify and prepare an inventory of all projects that do not have Environmental Certificates. Stern measures will be taken against owners of such projects including heavy penalties or being taken to court.

We encourage all investors to register their projects for Environmental Audits Voluntarily.

**For further clarification please contact us via telephone Numbers;**  
Headquarters Dar es Salaam: +255 784506267 or +255 754366968.  
Eastern Zone South- Dar es Salaam: +255 789330498  
Eastern Zone North-Dar es Salaam: +255 784279542  
Morogoro-Rufiji Zone – Morogoro: +255 655391978  
Central Zone-Dodoma: +255 786912391  
Southern Zone-Mtwara: +255 784684189  
Western Zone-Kigoma: +255 746303539  
Northern Zone-Arusha: +255 784333538  
Southern Highlands Zone-Mbeya: +255 782370155  
Lake Victoria Zone-Mwanza: +255 713296112

Issued by:  
Eng. Dr. Samuel G. Mafwenga  
DIRECTOR GENERAL





Mgeni Hassan Juma (L), Deputy Speaker of the Zanzibar House of Representatives, presents various Eid El-Fitr items to children cared for at a children's home at Fuoni Mambosasa in suburban Zanzibar at the weekend. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

# 'Preserve environment to fight climate change'

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

ENVIRONMENTAL stakeholders in the country have advised Tanzanians to control destruction of the environment in their areas to combat climate change.

The advice was given late last week by environmental stakeholders from Tanzania environmental preservation for development (SMT) during a training seminar on environmental issues to various primary and secondary schools in Mbeya City.

Speaking during the training at Nzovwe and Nzondahaki Primary and Secondary schools respectively, SMT Director Paulo Masasi said environmental destruction in Tanzania continues to be a huge challenge.

He said environmental degradation has been caused by human activities including tree cutting for firewood, charcoal as well as for farming and construction activities.

In the circumstances, he said that is why they decided to start giving education to various community groups including primary and secondary schools' students to boost the culture of environmental

preservation. "We educate on tree planting and their preservation to make the environment become friendly to human beings, but also we provide education against gender based violence and child abuse in our communities," he said.

He said apart from providing this knowledge to students, they also train various public institutions in Mbeya who, in turn will provide similar training to various districts of Mbeya Region.

SMT's environmental mobiliser Sani Kaloloma said the production of carbon dioxide in the world has been increasing, the situation that destroys the atmosphere's ozone layer thereby creating global warming.

He said apart from conducting training, they also participate in planting of various trees, including fruits trees and for shade as well in the protection of water sources in various areas.

SMT's Chairman Nestory Malembo said it is much easier to teach students who in turn would convey the message to the community than to educate the grownups alone.

## EXIM Bank Tanzania launches campaign to plant 10,000 trees

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

EXIM Bank Tanzania has teamed up with former Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda for a special campaign to plant 10,000 trees in Zuzu ward in Dodoma to support the government's efforts in conserving the environment.

The bank's effort is a continuation of its strategic environmental conservation plan known as the 'Exim Go Green Initiative'.

In a bid to facilitate the campaign coordinated by the Habari Development Association, the bank also contributed funds to facilitate the purchase of trees in the important exercise which was also attended by senior government officials who came out in support of the retired Prime Minister's efforts.

The event was also attended by the former Dodoma Regional Commissioner Dr Binilith Mahenge, the bank's staff, teachers and the people of the ward.

Speaking at the event, Pinda commended Exim Bank for funding the important exercise, highlighting the importance of caring for the environment while noting some of the challenges posed by environmental degradation including drought and climate change.

"That is why I have personally been at the forefront of ensuring that I cooperate fully with various stakeholders including institutions such as Exim Bank so that together we can ensure that we create a green Tanzania," said the retired PM.

Speaking at the event, the head of marketing and communications, Stanley Kafu said environmental preservation is one of the bank's priorities and that is why it has been at the forefront in designing and supporting various environmental conservation initiatives, including the planting of trees and keeping gardens in various towns and cities all around the country.


"Climate change is caused by environmental degradation and it has a devastating effect on the economy and has also undermined various activities including agriculture, animal husbandry and social welfare as a whole. It is clear that we cannot separate these effects from the effectiveness of the banking business, and that is why we are fully involved in tackling these challenges," he explained.

He also said that the bank has prioritized projects that focus on environmental conservation and the use of modern communication technology and record keeping services to reduce paper usage by extending credit facilities to them.

In addition, he urged the people especially those around Zuzu ward to observe and respect laws that govern and protect the environment so that they can benefit from the necessary resources.



**That is why I have personally been at the forefront of ensuring that I cooperate fully with various stakeholders including institutions such as Exim Bank so that together we can ensure that we create a green Tanzania**



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MONDAY 17 MAY 2021

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Reviewing taxation of dates could prove vital in dialogue

**P**RESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan faced a testing moment on Friday, appearing before the city Idd Baraza for the first time since taking over the leadership, with a number of vexing issues yesterday. There were a number of demands put across especially by Chief Sheikh Abubakar Zubeir and BAKWATA Secretary General Sheikh Nuhu Mruma, and more or less to both sets of demands the president affirmed readiness to dialogue on the issues. It appears there are fairly easy matters raised, in a fiscal or policy sense, and more difficult issues that require extensive consultations within various pillars of the state.

Mufti Zubeir who led thousands of believers for Eid prayers at Mnazi Mmoja, in his remarks to the Eid assembly requested the government to remove tax on dates to facilitate fasting for Muslims as it proved to be a challenge this year. He pointed out that dates are imported and those who bring them to us complained of high taxes, since the special fruit is especially needed during the fasting month.

As we have historical links with date exporting countries and we seek to export livestock and such products to those countries, we could cut down taxes above retain excise duties for dates, enhancing proximity between Tanzanians and the Gulf zone. As we don't farm dates locally, it wouldn't be too difficult.

The president emphasised that the government was open for discussion with religious leaders and institutions on burning issues to promote peace and unity in the country, on the basis of respect for civil liberties, upholding democracy and the right to worship. She also pointed out that religious leaders have a big

following and enjoy the trust of believers, which wasn't far from the key problem raised during the event by Secretary General Mruma.

He urged that the president abrogates existing detention orders and release Zanzibar sheikhs who have for years been held in custody. It is an issue leaders face with anguish.

Sheikh Mruma pleaded that staying in custody for a long time without trial denies the detainees the right to timely access to justice. All this can be understood, as well as the government's reticence on the issue, namely that it raises weaknesses in our psychological makeup as a nation, which some quarters, risking all, cross the limits of sustaining peace and harmony with a singular agenda, expecting an outpouring of popularity. So there is a difficulty in addressing the matter as it can scarcely foster unity at all levels.

That is why the government could begin with some goodwill gestures for instance easing availability of dates not just during Ramadhan but the whole year round, as there are all sorts of fasting periods, lasting several days, for various reasons. Another potential gesture of goodwill would be to extend offers of long residential permits for fluent speakers of Kiswahili living in the Gulf zone as many have historical roots with Zanzibar, by placing a threshold of capital that one is ready to deposit into the banks, as they do in the United States and elsewhere.

This way, fires will no longer be lit by those who hanker after a certain kind of identity, which can be ethnic proximity and can also be dressed up as common religious values. Opening up can change Zanzibar to a metropolitan destination, not a poor backwater for radicals to fester.

## What of reports that avocados are Africa's new green gold?

**D**UE to high global demand, the avocado has become a lucrative export product for Africa. Its consumption per capita increased by 406 per cent between 1990 and 2017 in the US alone. Export revenues in the East African countries surged by a third between 2019 and 2020. Farmers are hailing the crop as an antidote to poverty in rural areas.

Data revealed by Tanzania's private sector horticultural apex body shows that avocado has become the country's latest green gold, generating revenue of at least \$12 million (Sh27.6 billion) annually, up from zero five years ago.

The Tanzania Horticultural Association (Taha), and the Avocado Catalogue 2020 report, show that avocado exports jumped from 1,877 tonnes in 2014 to 9,000 tonnes in 2019.

Tanzanian agricultural workers are made up of 80 per cent of the country's population. They engage in a wide variety of crops ranging from staple crops such as maize, cassava and rice, to exports such as coffee, cotton, tobacco, tea and sugar.

Based on the report, over 10,000 farmers in the country are involved in avocado production, increasing its export by 380 per cent in a span of five years.

"Again, driven by dynamics in a global surge in prices and demand, the cultivation and trading of avocados is rapidly gaining traction among the local farmers, replacing coffee production in

some areas," the report says.

Taking account that less than 10 years ago, avocado exports never existed in the country, Tanzania is now the second largest producer of avocado fruit in Africa after Kenya.

The EU market represented 85 per cent of Tanzanian avocado exports in 2018. Majority of the avocados are exported to Europe as it consumes one million tonnes a year.

Data from China Customs indicates that China's avocado imports are valued at \$105 million per annum, presenting a huge potential market for Tanzanian growers.

In East Africa and Nigeria, avocado farmers want to enter the insatiable export market. Environmental concerns cast a shadow over the crop in other parts of the world. What will African farmers do differently?

The so-called green gold is rapidly gaining popularity on the African continent. Both Nigeria and Uganda aim to drastically increase their avocado production and become top exporters in the next decade. Kenya is already among the global top 10.

But the sought-after fruit has been making negative headlines around the world. Water shortages and the destruction of biodiversity have been linked to its production. The environmental issues have cast a dark shadow over the commercial farming of avocados in Latin America's top exporting countries, such as Mexico and Chile.

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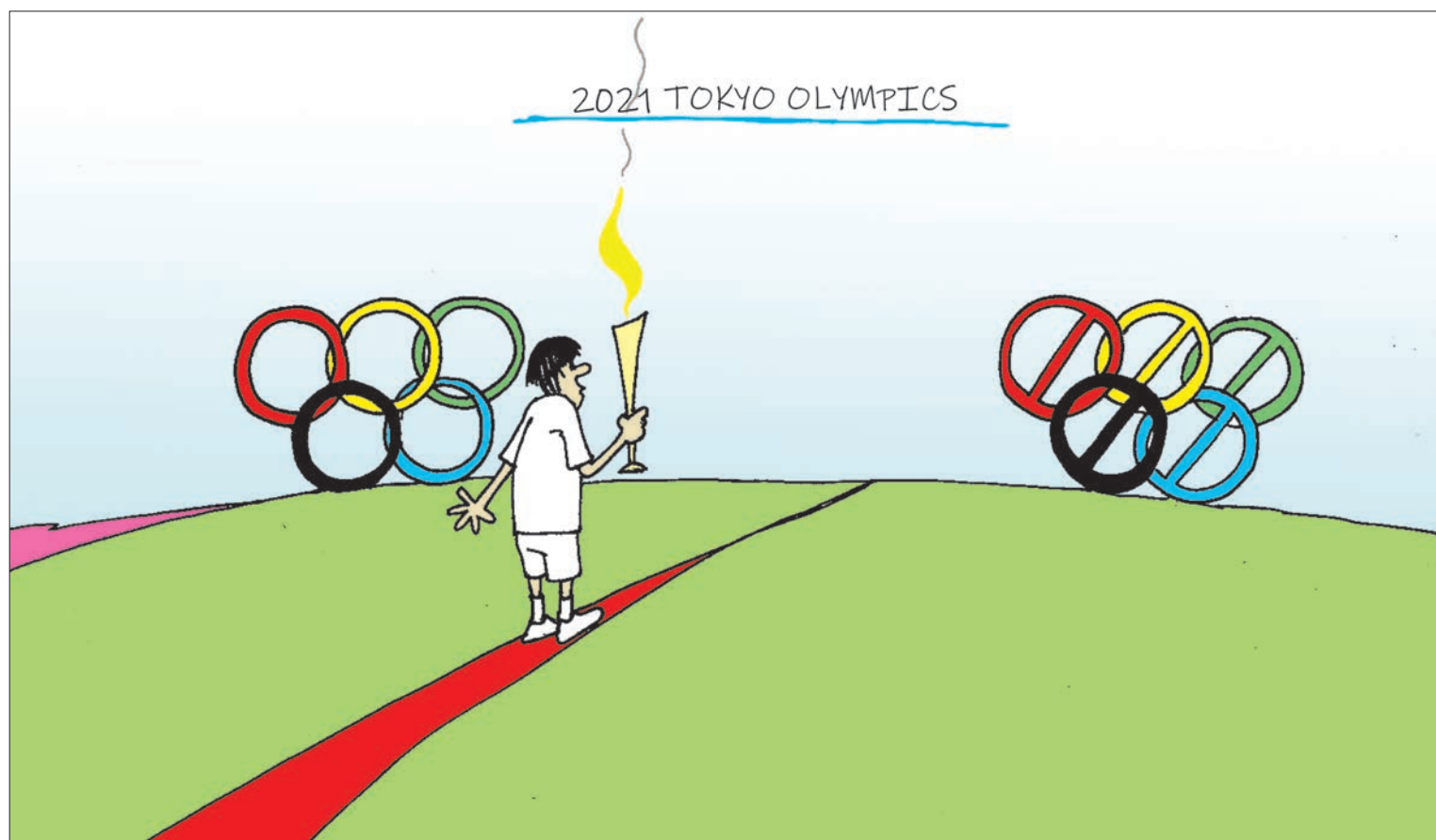
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## Side-marketing bans needed and workable

By Special Correspondent

**S**IDE marketing has been the bane of contract farming for some years with middlemen going around buying crops for cash at well under market prices, cheating the farmers, and then selling either directly to final users, even the GMB or another marketing company, or illegally exporting the produce and thus cheating the contractors and the country.

The only people who are enriched by this process are these middlemen and their profits come out of the money that should be going to the growers and those who financed the growers. At the same time they damage the whole agricultural finance system, in that the companies that put up money to provide inputs to farmers do not get paid back when the harvest comes in.

Maize is already a controlled crop, with in any case almost the entire harvest grown from inputs provided through the Grain Marketing Board through the Presidential Inputs Scheme and Command Agriculture and funded by the Government or the commercial banks.

Tobacco, with the well-established contract schemes policed by the Tobacco Industry and Marketing Board providing most of the crop and the auctions for the self-financed producers, has been largely immune from side-marketing since merchants have agreements, enforced by the TIMB, that they will only buy from their own farmers or on the auction floors. In any case there is no ready market for raw leaf outside the system.

There were worrying reports that middlemen were trying to buy tobacco from farmers under contract, at well under the contract prices, and were presumably trying to make a profit by selling this at auction under a bogus farm delivery although the possibility exists that they were trying to smuggle it out, although there is no international market for raw unprocessed leaf. Farmers who succumb are likely to be black-listed by the contractors, so the system is self-correcting.

Cotton has been badly hit by side-marketing in the past, with even companies prepared to buy direct from farmers under contract to someone else, and farmers selling at the back gate to avoid refunding the cost of their inputs. And now there are dangers



that soya beans, either grown under contract from a major cooking oil company or under contract from the GMB, could be hit.

The move at the end of last week by the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Resettlement to criminalise side marketing of raw cotton yet to be ginned and/or of soya beans was necessary and has come just in time as the harvests start being collected.

The measures gazetted by Lands and Agriculture Minister Dr Anxious Masuka also make it far more difficult for middlemen to sell the crops they buy, since the large local companies that are the eventual buyers are forbidden to buy outside the system, and there are sufficiently few that these can be checked in a quick audit. Closing off the local market for side-marketed crops may in the end be more effective than just a ban on side-marketing.

Potential cheating for exports was blocked, as exports of raw cotton or soya beans now need written permission from the GMB or, with cotton, from an authorised agency. To make sense such exports would have to go by truck through a border post, and that can be monitored effectively. Commercial smuggling by backpack is not a viable option for raw unprocessed crops.

The regulations are careful not to ban exports of processed crops. Once cotton has been ginned the fibre can be exported, and with the dearth of our own textile industries still, most will be exported; but such exports have been monitored for years under Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe rules. Technically cooking oil, the main product from processed

soya beans, can also be exported and hopefully one day will be once we grow a surplus. But that is not yet the position so just about everyone will be selling locally and our oil expressers will be happy to buy local soya beans in local currency from their contracted farmers or from the GMB to make as much cooking oil as possible before hitting the foreign currency auctions.

Even self-financed producers of both crops have for all practical purposes can only sell to the authorised buyers of these crops. But in any case such farmers produce these days only a tiny percentage of the harvest, since farmers do need finance and the contract schemes offer a much better deal considering the appalling interest rates demanded by banks making pure unguaranteed commercial loans.

Even transport of soya beans and retention on farms of soya beans is controlled for contract farmers. These farmers are just able to move 100kg or less across districts or keep on their farms. Any quantity can be taken to the nearest delivery point set up by the contractor.

Enforcement will need to be monitored. The authorities, basically the police, can investigate where there are reasonable grounds for suspicion and then can impound both the crops being moved and the vehicles being used until the criminal proceedings are concluded. If there are convictions the crops can be declared forfeit to the State.

This might well mean check points to monitor dubious lorries and regrettably, despite strenuous efforts being made by

the Zimbabwe Republic Police to root out corruption, some police still accept bribes.

As the major penalty is a fine of three times the value of the seized crops, using the top local price for the best grades, buyers in side marketing deals are certainly going to be tempted to offer cash if caught.

One way to minimise the problem is to make it crystal clear that offering a bribe is as serious a criminal offence as accepting a bribe. We have tended, in our anti-corruption drives, to hammer those who take illegal payments.

We need to have a few well-publicised arrests, trials and convictions of those who pay or, more precisely offer to pay, since we all now expect the police and other authorities to be more resistant to corruption.

The evils of corruption can be tackled at both ends.

The new regulations already hammer the buyers in side-marketing as well as the sellers. In fact the buyers are more likely to be hit since they will have already paid the cheating farmer before they are caught, although since thieves are notorious for falling out many will not want to suffer alone.

In the end all Minister Masuka wants is everyone to follow the civil contracts they have signed. He has criminalised breaches of those contracts, and made it very difficult for anyone to profit by tempting farmers to breach their contracts, but basically there will be no arrests, no trials, no convictions, no crops forfeited and no illegal exports if everyone is honest.

The Minister has just made honesty pay better than dishonesty.



Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey

# What's working in Tanzania?... Is everything in order?... Just checking!

Well, big greetings to you 'Guardian gurus', as I've been away about 18 months, and don't really know what's happened here, and I certainly have missed my readers and Tanzania!

But I was lucky to be back during the moving funeral of John Pombe Magafuli. In life, he was a controversial and unique leader, and in death, was still a figure of contention. But being loved or loathed, often in equal measure, he really put his country on the map. Sadly, he died too soon, but never have I seen so much western press coverage on the demise of an African president. It was really heartening.

Another very special happening was the investiture of Zanzibari Samia Suluhu Hassan, who became, as the world watched, the very first female President of Tanzania...magical!

So, Bravo to the lady...and as one local media headline put it; "Samia is now pressing the democracy button"... and long may she do so on behalf of her people.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Anyway, whenever I return here, I try to follow up on issues I'd left, and the last time the talk had been about tax reform, but whilst there'd been plenty of blah blah, I'm not sure there'd been much reform.

Well I'm guilty of blah blah myself, but didn't get a chance on this



issue. However, a press story in September last year said, "Following amendments to the Finance Act of 2016, the government has collected more than 3 billion /- from two telecommunication firms for the month of June alone". A spokesman of the Tanzania Revenue Authority said this was made possible by the installation of the Telecommunication Traffic Monitoring System (TTMS).

...and added, that "this is a compliance monitoring tool, and because the telecom companies here know it's in place, they're now providing the correct data, which has helped us a lot". Citing an example, it was noted that Vodacom used to pay around 360m/- per month in excise duty on money transfers, but in July 2016, they paid around 1.9bn/-...while Tigo, who used to pay around 250m/- per month, then paid 1.48bn/- for the same period.

This issue seems more interesting for what couldn't have been

said, than what was diplomatically explained in the remark of "the companies are providing the correct data now that the monitoring system is in place." Well it seems they all came to an agreement, are compliant, and settling the debts like honest corporations. So let's say well done all round!

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Joking apart, we know that however sophisticated the technology, it can eventually be subverted. Remember the so-called 'foolproof' bus speedometers, designed to stop deaths caused by speeding and accidents, but which were quickly 'adapted' or 'disabled' for illicit use.

But I'm not suggesting this could happen with the Telecommunications Traffic Monitoring System, or am I?

After I checked last year, the phone companies were diligently still paying... the system had improved, the effects of the TCRA being 'cleaned up' were still being felt, and the Magafulian magic had worked!

It's interesting to speculate what else in the country could be technologically monitored in the interests of increased revenue, but surely the list could be lengthy and state coffers overflowing...So just imagine, for the first time in decades, every child could have a school desk and, if the phone companies sustain their 'improved' tax levels, a chair as well. And if other firms have been

successfully targeted and monitored...enough for an exercise book and a pencil....So Halleluja .... God bless the tax agency...and the Treasury!

At the same time the monitoring systems were being discussed here, the Oxfam inequality report was published, and in response to a question on the well known 'trickle down effect', of wealth, the response was, "there is no trickle down effect".

This was a surprising turnaround, as it's long been the perceived wisdom in developed nations, and has been a theory praised and endorsed

like a biblical treatise to third world nations by the bossy western powers so often, it surely must have had policy changing consequences for some of the converts.

The questioner then asked "...what would work instead", to which the answer was "a crackdown on tax dodging would help... and shutting down tax havens".

This is an area, that citizens in Britain have long complained about, and asked why should mega wealthy multinationals like Amazon, Google and Starbucks, the US coffee chain with over eight

hundred UK outlets, have cleverly avoided taxes, whilst small defaulters are punished and penalised.

In January 2016 in Britain, Google agreed to pay 200 million dollars in back taxes, owed since 2005. This 'peanut' payment followed a six-year enquiry by her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, who estimate they should have been paying around 200 million pound per year, based on declared profit margins of four to five billion pounds...so why weren't they?

As readers might know, tax evasion is illegal, but tax avoidance isn't, and a

consultant described the latter as "defining the law in your own interests". This definitely sounds dodgy, plus you've got to be well off to hire the guys who'll create your very own ultra-clean untruths... those shadowy wealth managers who'll "cook the books" big time, making fraudulent fiscal falsehoods...legal!

...So keep a lookout for the 'book cookers', and don't forget, only consider paying your taxes, when the TRA keep up the Magafulian magic, and nail ALL the Big-Bongo landers who still DON'T!

## Institute of Rural Development promoting students' innovations for rural development

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma.

STATISTICS at the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) depict a grim revelation that in Tanzania out of at least 100 graduate youths who apply for formal job slots, it is always one who manages to see the light of the day.

Dwelling on the data that an estimated 800,000 youth are annually graduating at diverse universities and other high learning colleges, a need to impart the graduate youth with key entrepreneurship skills become prudent.

Existence of a fallacy of reasoning, as well as a populous -negative syndrome among parents and the graduate themselves that education means the path to 'white color jobs' has unfortunately placed most of the elite youths in the country into a second childhood (the situation of staying home depending on parents after graduation).

As the sixth phase government is working out serious interventions to industrialise the country's economy there's a need to ensure provision of the high learning education sails on the same boat with the government's concerted efforts on industrial drive.

The Dodoma-based Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDP) stands tall among few varsities within the country that has successfully managed to treat its students with a gloved-hand through motivating, but also, mentoring them to develop their key innovations and skills.

The focus has always been to ensure the students who graduate at the state-owned institution manage to employ themselves in numerous income generating sector, but with the focus to develop communities in rural areas.

The college's success story in assisting the students so that to have their innovations grow to a red-carpet level can be traced from 2019 when it decided to initiate a so called Mipango Entrepreneurship and Innovation (MEI) Centre, a professional hub for the development of skills and innovations.

"Apart from just guiding the students to improve their diverse talents, the center (MEI), is also playing a vital role to help others youth to deter from a poor notion that after graduating one must be



employed."

"What we're generally focusing is to communicate to the societies that education should be associated with a knowledge to realise and mobilize available natural resources for the development of the communities," said Dr. Canute Hyandye, MEI coordinator at IRDP.

Dr. Hyandye detailed that at the timely center they often receive the talented students who have already with their business ideas, and those who have gone beyond to have started producing some items through their innovations.

"To start with, our role at the Center is to diagnose the students' business idea, to determine their impact and to what extent implementation of the business ideas will have something to reward back to the communities (basically rural)," he expressed.

At the hands of high profile pundits on business and innovations, he said the students are being trained on key areas, including how professional to develop business plans, business marketing and branding, labeling and packaging as well as on customer care.

"The general focus of the MEI Center is to speed-up rural development through encouraging the beneficiary students to venture into production of items and goods whose resources will be sourced from rural areas. We're challenging them to realise the vast economic opportunities available in rural areas, such as arable land, plenty of water resources, fertile valleys and forests in order make full use of such opportunities," he elaborated.

Since the inception of the helpful initiative, in 2019 he said at least 40 students have so far benefited from the Centre's services, added that they are currently doing good businesses at different parts of the country and have appeared to become attractive role models to hundreds youth from across the country.

"They're producing different

items, including food products ranging from cookies and cakes and peanut butter," he expressed.

Dr. Hyandye said others are producing attractive pictures through recycling waste materials while others are making flower pots.

With a general focus on poverty reduction and promote development at grassroots, he informed that MEI program was also assisting other members within the communities, not only the IRDP's students.

"As the college with a prime mission and vision to push for rural development, we have always been at forefront to research over diverse challenges that upsetting the communities and the same writing project proposals with an eye to undertake projects that provides answers for the challenges," he briefed.

Besides undertaking community-helpful projects, he said the College, through MEI center was being used by numerous individual traders as a useful hub for acquiring insight business skills.

"For instance, during last year we received at the center one among high profile architecture from a reputable construction company. He came seeking to increase visibility of his business, so we trained him on business plan as well as marketing strategy," he stated.

On the same vein, the College at its Mwanza-based branch has also initiated a similar project dubbed EQWIP under the financial patronage from Canada.

"EQWIP is an ambitious innovation and entrepreneurship hub which has not only been designated for nurturing students' innovations, but also conducting different outreach program to empower the youths and women over key areas on business and entrepreneurship skills," said Gemma Mafwolo, coordinator of EQWIP-IRDP in Mwanza.



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# As cities grow across Africa, they must plan for water security

By Rogier van den Berg, Betsy Otto and Aklilu Fikresilassie

Here's a startling figure: 1.5 billion people will live in African cities by 2050, more than double the number today. African cities - including unplanned urban areas and informal settlements - are already facing staggering challenges: poverty, the need for more and better jobs, and a lack of housing and basic infrastructure, all of which will be compounded by rapid urban growth.

Yet, in our experience, one of the biggest risks facing cities across Africa is not well understood: water insecurity.

Inequitable access to basic water services, loss of natural water systems, unplanned urban expansion, and more frequent and intense droughts and floods will undermine the security, well-being and development prospects of Africa's urban dwellers - 60% of whom live in slums.

Take for example the city of Dire Dawa in Ethiopia, which is frequently hit by floods claiming the lives of hundreds, while most of its inhabitants have no access to clean water. And the drought in 2020 in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, that pushed some families to sleep overnight in water queues, making it hard to adhere to pandemic guidelines for not only handwashing but also social distancing.

On this rapidly urbanizing continent, cities are unplanned, expanding outward into watersheds and cropland, depleting water resources and natural assets in the periphery. Local authorities lack capacity to manage the rapid growth of cities, minimize its adverse effects, and, at the same time, provide basic services to citizens in need.

The loss of natural soils, streams, wetlands and forests impact



water replenishment and drainage, making it difficult - if not impossible - for city-regions to cope with water security and other risks like flooding and landslides. Climate change will adversely impact an already challenging situation.

But with the right vision and support, cities can play a lead role addressing these problems. As engines of economic growth, they can stir action among adjacent regions, national governments and a wide range of other partners; 143 cities in sub-Saharan Africa generate 50% of the region's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and are expected to contribute more than two-thirds of GDP growth by 2025. City leaders are also closest to where water insecurity hits hardest: the poor and vulnerable

communities who make up more than half of the urban population.

And, crucially, most cities in Africa are yet to be built. This opens the potential to bypass traditional, inflexible approaches and instead adapt more flexible and circular water-sensitive designs that respond better to climate extremes.

In short, African cities are at a unique moment: they can succumb to chaotic, unplanned expansion and outmoded water management or chart a more sustainable approach that lays a foundation for prosperity by "getting water right." Now is the moment for a pan-African urban water resilience agenda to offer an integrated approach to the water challenges they face.

The Chance to Get Water

Right

Water crises create vulnerabilities across multiple systems vital for human well-being and development - from food and energy production, to hygiene and health. At its core, water resilience means ensuring communities have access to safe, reliable and affordable water, and that water resources are protected through disaster preparedness and water-sensitive infrastructure designs.

As rapid urbanization continues, the challenge and opportunity to implement best practices of water-sensitive designs are closely related.

To get water right is now a matter of urgency across Africa, where the number of water-insecure urban residents is rising - even when dams are full and aquifers are replenished by the wet season. Nearly 63% of urban areas in sub-Saharan Africa lack access to basic water and sanitation.

A 2019 WRI analysis of five cities in sub-Saharan Africa illustrated

that less than 25% of the urban population has access to safely managed water, while only 42% have access to safely managed sanitation services. The service gap between the provision of water and the growing urban population is widening.

An Emerging Role for Cities to Drive Water Resilience

Though the political, regulatory and fiscal powers of local governments vary across the continent, we believe cities are uniquely situated to drive change at the local level. For cities to galvanize action - both within their boundaries and across multiple stakeholders and levels of government - requires a systemic approach that brings the urban water supply in sync with regional water resource management, while addressing urban growth and climate adaptation. This would not only be useful for water but could form the bedrock for building resilience against all future challenges that transcend boundaries.

Take water management, which in most cities is scattered across different authorities with varying mandates: Water supply may be managed by the water utility, source water management may sit within national agencies, while management of water assets may sit with the environmental authorities. Greater integration and coordination across agencies is essential, and city leaders can harness new ways of working, bringing together actors vertically and horizontally, building local partnerships within cities and fostering integrated solutions across the entire watershed region.

Yet while cities can drive ambition, they cannot build resilience alone. National or provincial governments have a significant role to play, with cities expanding across subnational government borders. Urban water

resilience requires a multi-level, city-regional approach, addressing the larger basin area and the functional urban region.

Three Pathways for Building Urban Water Resilience in Africa

There are many elements to building water-resilient cities, but here are three pathways critical for African cities:

1. Urban Infrastructure Matters: How Cities Plan Water Has to Change

To increase water resilience, we need to change how cities are being built. Cities should be planned to meet water needs, using approaches that extend beyond the city limits and consider systems change throughout entire city-regions.


First, urban planning and management experts need to be informed of the risks to the natural water cycle and flow regimes, placing the right incentives and regulations to manage city expansion. Cities contain extensive built-up infrastructure and impermeable surfaces, such as buildings and roads, leaving flood waters with nowhere to go but into the streets. This can then mix with raw sewage or flood pit latrines, creating the perfect setup for dangerous disease outbreaks such as cholera.


There are multiple benefits to redirecting expansion so that it avoids green spaces and other areas important for flood control. Ecologically-sensitive land use planning and management will support the health of surrounding bodies of water, key areas for buffering storms, support peri-urban agriculture and provide regional food security.


Planning within the regional context can generate immense cost savings. It requires working with regional land authorities and ensuring that land-use plans are enforced to prevent indiscriminate development.



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For more information, please contact Ms. Concesa Shubira  
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# Villages in Namtumbo District to gain from forestry value chains programme

By Beatrice Philemon



**F**IVE villages in Namtumbo District, Ruvuma Region have set aside 22,900 hectares of forests to benefit from the Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM). They are Limamu, Kumbara, Kilangalanga, Chengena and Ngalamatata villages.

Forestry and Value Chains Development Programme (FORVAC)'s southern zone project coordinator Shabani Hamis unveiled this recently when speaking at a one-day workshop that involved different forest stakeholders in the district.

Organised by Tanzania Forest Management Community Network (MJUMITA) in Namtumbo District, the forum was meant to inform villagers and local government authorities LGAs leaders on a four-year programme—FORVAC, good governance, financial management and government's contribution on CBFM.

According to Hamis, in Namtumbo District, FORVAC project is being executed by MJUMITA in five villages with support from the governments of Finland and Tanzania.

In the project, the Tanzanian government has injected 200,000 Euros (over 500m/-) while the Finland government donate 9.95million Euros (over 25bn/-) to MJUMITA for the implementation of the programme which has changed people's mindsets and villagers were now volunteering to protect the village forest reserve and aware on how they can benefit from forests they have.

So far, village executive officers, village chairmen, ward councilors, ward executive officers, village natural resources committee (VNRC)'s members from Chengena, Kilangalanga, Masuguru and Limamu villages have been trained on forest management, good governance and financial management by MJUMITA.

"We train them to manage all the funds generated from selling forest product value chain in a careful manner, improve good governance and involve villagers in all decision making process and not just informed about decisions already made," he said.

Also they want them to protect the overuse

funds, improve transparency to make sure all decisions taken and their enforcement are done in a manner that follows rules and regulations.

Namtumbo forest officer, Maulid Fusi noted that so far Limamu village has been able to allocate 17841.43 hectares of village land forest reserve (VRFR). Kilangalanga village 937.96 hectares, Chengena village 840.1 hectares, and Kumbara village has been able to allocate a total of 750 hectares of village land forest reserve.

Since MJUMITA in collaboration with Namtumbo District team up and train village leaders and people on forest conservation and advice them to take part in the community-based forest management (CBFM), things started changing to better now.

"People are well informed on the effect of deforestation while Limamu village had formulated by-laws which prohibited anyone from cutting trees inside the village forest reserve for agricultural activities or

timber," he said, calling villages that are not formalizing their village land forest reserve to talk to Namtumbo district council to see how it will help them to formalize it.

"For villages that have already carried out forest management plan in their localities in July they will begin sustainable harvesting process," he said. He said since 2018 to date, a total of 10 groups have been established for forest product trade.

He however said lack of knowledge on the benefit of forest conservation and land dispute between villages are the main reasons for delays in implementing the activities of FORVAC programme in other villages.

Since the programme started in 2018 in Namtumbo district, so far seven villages that include Limamu, Ligunga, Kumbara, Kilangalanga, Chengena, Masuguru and Njalamatata have been benefited through this programme.

He said forest ecology at Likuyu general land and Mchomoro village have been

destroyed due to overgrazing in those areas.

Although villagers have been trained on forest management and conservation, cattle grazing is quite high, there are so many livestock keepers who invade the forest in both general land and village reserve land for cattle grazing.

The livestock keepers are from Morogoro, Manyara, and Mbeya regions they just cut trees for agricultural activities and cattle grazing. They do shifting agriculture they cause deforestation in our areas.

After discovering this challenge, Namtumbo District Council has begun to educate villagers living close to the forests on forest resources management as well as allocate special areas for cattle grazing to keep forest safe and prevent conflicts between farmers and livestock keepers.

MJUMITA's Chairman, Revocatus Njau noted: "Through the knowledge gained from MJUMITA, Limamu village has been able to open bank account for CBFM activities,

establish six producer groups engaged in carpentry activities and beekeeping project."

Also has been able to prepare land-use planning and allocate a total of 17841.43 hectares of village land forest reserve for CBFM in their localities as well as formulated by-laws for forest management.

He called on village executive officers, ward executive officers, village chairmen, and ward councilors who were attending the workshop to make use of the skills acquired during the workshop to engage in successful CBFM activities and disseminate knowledge to their villagers.

"You need to be accountable for people you leading, give them the right information about what is required in forest management as well as involve them in the decision-making process so that can benefit from forest resources they have within their village land," he said

Also, the village chairmen and village executive officers should make sure they provide reports on income and expenses during village meetings.

Make sure you allocate cattle grazing plots for livestock keepers and show them those areas because in other villages they just allocate land, but they didn't show livestock keepers that in turn causes conflict between farmers and them.

Also VEO and Chairmen should make sure the village natural resources committee (VNRC)'s members they get an identity card for forest patrols inside the forest reserve.

The workshop was attended by workshop involve village Executive Officers, villages Chairmen, village executive officers, ward councilors, ward executive officers, village natural resources committee (VNRC)'s members from Kilangalanga, Masuguru, Chengena and Limamu villages, Namtumbo district executive director (DED), Forest officer and chairman of Namtumbo District Council.

## FIRST HOUSING FINANCE (TANZANIA) LIMITED PUBLICATION OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Issued pursuant to Regulation 58 of The Banking and Financial Institutions (Mortgage Finance) Regulations, 2015.

### CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020

(Amounts in Thousand shillings)	Current Year 31st Dec. 2020	Previous Year 31st Dec. 2019
<b>A. ASSETS</b>		
1. Cash	2	1,502
2. Balances with Bank of Tanzania	-	-
3. Investments in Government Securities	2,542,147	-
4. Balances with Other Banks and Financial Institutions	8,921,407	14,892,541
5. Cheques and Items for Clearing	-	-
6. Inter-branch Float Items	-	-
7. Bills Negotiated	-	-
8. Customers' Liabilities for Acceptances	-	-
9. Interbank Loans Receivables	-	-
10. Investments in Other Securities	-	-
11. Loans, Advances and Overdrafts (Net of Allowances for Expected Losses)	6,254,136	2,040,750
12. Other Assets	585,857	565,412
13. Equity Investments	1,622,000	1,622,000
14. Underwriting Accounts	-	-
15. Property, Plant and Equipment	247,025	745,176
<b>16. TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>20,172,574</b>	<b>19,867,386</b>
<b>B. LIABILITIES</b>		
17. Deposits from Other Banks and Financial Institutions	-	-
18. Customer Deposits	413,087	413,087
19. Cash Letters of Credit	-	-
20. Special Deposits	-	-
21. Payment Orders/ Transfers Payable	-	-
22. Bankers' Cheques and Drafts Issued	-	-
23. Accrued Taxes and Expenses Payable	723,747	784,678
24. Acceptances Outstanding	-	-
25. Inter-branch Float Items	-	-
26. Unearned Income, Other Deferred Charges & Taxes	41,070	41,071
27. Other Liabilities	-	156,788
28. Borrowings	1,010,479	-
<b>29. TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,188,383</b>	<b>1,395,624</b>
<b>30. NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES) (16 minus 29)</b>	<b>17,984,191</b>	<b>18,471,762</b>
<b>C. SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS</b>		
31. Paid up Share Capital	21,800,000	21,800,000
32. Share premium	-	-
33. Capital Reserve	-	-
34. Retained Earnings	(3,424,069)	(2,311,866)
35. Profit/(Loss) Account	(487,571)	(1,112,203)
36. Fair Value Reserve	95,831	95,831
37. Minority Interest	-	-
<b>38. TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS</b>	<b>17,984,191</b>	<b>18,471,762</b>
39. Contingent Liabilities	-	-
40. Non-Performing Loans & Advances	135,854	-
41. Allowance for Expected Losses	55,828	86,131
42. Other Non-Performing Assets	-	-
<b>D. SELECTED FINANCIAL CONDITION INDICATORS</b>		
(i). Shareholders' Funds to Total Assets	89.15%	92.98%
(ii). Non-Performing Loans to Total Gross Loans	2.16%	-
(iii). Gross Loans & Advances to Total Deposits	1523.46%	497.12%
(iv). Loans & Advances to Total Assets	31.00%	10.27%
(v). Earning Assets to Total Assets	82.06%	86.59%
(vi). Deposits Growth	0.00%	15.10%
(vii). Assets Growth	1.54%	-5.62%

### CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

(Amounts in Thousand shillings)	Current Year 31st Dec. 2020	Previous Year 31st Dec. 2019
1. Interest Income	1,611,080	908,437
2. Interest Expense	(35,911)	(60,413)
<b>3. Net Interest Income</b>	<b>1,575,169</b>	<b>848,022</b>
4. Bad Debts Written-Off	-	-
5. Impairment Reversal / (Losses)	47,524	18,539
<b>6. Non Interest Income :</b>	<b>24,001</b>	<b>63,497</b>
6.1 Foreign Currency Dealings and Translation Gains/ (Loss)	(2,622)	(3,719)
6.2 Fees and Commissions	7,650	7,850
6.3 Dividend Income	10,333	11,807
6.4 Other Operating Income	8,640	47,559
<b>7. Non Interest Expenses :</b>	<b>(2,125,095)</b>	<b>(2,036,474)</b>
7.1 Salaries and Benefit	(947,092)	(861,881)
7.2 Fees and Commissions	-	-
7.3 Other Operating Expenses	(1,178,003)	(1,174,593)
<b>8. Operating income/ (Loss)</b>	<b>(478,401)</b>	<b>(1,106,416)</b>
9. Income Tax Provision	(9,170)	(5,787)
<b>10. Net Income/ (Loss) after Income Tax</b>	<b>(487,571)</b>	<b>(1,112,203)</b>
<b>11. Other Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>95,831</b>
<b>12. Total Comprehensive Income/ (Loss)</b>	<b>(487,571)</b>	<b>(1,016,372)</b>
13. Number of Employees	12	11
14. Basic Earnings Per Share	(2.24)	(5.10)
15. Number of Branches	1	1
<b>SELECTED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS</b>		
(i). Return on Average Total Assets	-2.44%	-4.97%
(ii). Return on Average Shareholder's Fund	-2.67%	-5.35%
(iii). Non Interest Expense to Gross Income	129.97%	209.53%
(iv). Net Interest Income to Average Earning Assets	9.33%	8.86%

### CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2020

(Amounts in Thousand shillings)	Share Capital	Share premium	Retained Earnings	Regulatory reserve	General Provision Reserve	Others (Fair Value Reserve)	Total
<b>Current Year (2020)</b>							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	21,800,000	-	(3,424,069)	-	-	95,831	18,471,762
Profit/(Loss) for the year	-	-	(487,571)	-	-	-	(487,571)
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Provision	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the year	21,800,000	-	(3,911,640)	-	-	95,831	17,984,191
<b>Previous Year (2019)</b>							
Balance as at the beginning of the Year	21,800,000	-	(2,321,223)	-	9,357	-	19,488,134
Profit/(Loss) for the year	-	-	(1,112,203)	-	-	-	(1,112,203)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	95,831	95,831
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Provision	-	-	9,357	-	(9,357)	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the year	21,800,000	-	(3,424,069)	-	-	95,831	18,471,762

### CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

(Amounts in Thousand shillings)	Current Year 31st Dec. 2020	Previous Year 31st Dec. 2019
<b>I. Cash Flow from Operating Activities:</b>		
Net Income/ (Loss) before tax	(478,401)	(1,106,416)
<b>Adjustments for</b>		
- Impairment/ Amortization/ Depreciation & Non-cash items	517,159	549,318
- Net Change in Loans and Advances	(4,213,845)	(1,105,208)
- Gain/Loss from Sale of Assets	-	-
- Net Change in Deposits	-	54,203
- Net Change in Short Term Negotiable Securities	-	(100,774)
- Net Change in Other Liabilities	(60,932)	(100,774)
- Net Change in Other Assets	(73,121)	(60,771)
- Tax Paid	(8,137)	(4,606)
- Others (Interest paid & Adjustments for previous items)	20,157	(334,206)
<b>Net Cash (Used)/ Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>(4,297,120)</b>	<b>(2,108,460)</b>
<b>II. Cash Flow from Investing Activities</b>		
- Dividend Received	10,627	10,627
- Purchase of Fixed Assets	(11,828)	(68,140)
- Proceeds from Sale of Fixed Assets	-	-
- Purchase of TMRC Securities	-	(485,098)
- Investment in Govt Securities	(2,720,274)	-
- Purchase of Intangibles	(2,028)	-
<b>Net Cash (Used) by Investing Activities</b>	<b>(2,723,503)</b>	<b>(542,611)</b>
<b>III. Cash Flow from Financing Activities</b>		
- Repayment of Long-Term Debt	-	-
- Proceeds from Issuance of Long Term Debt	-	-
- Proceeds from Issuance of Share Capital	-	-
- Payment of Cash Dividends	-	-
- Net Change in Other Borrowings	-	-
- Others (New Loan from TMRC)	1,000,000	(142,239)
<b>Net Cash Provided by Financing Activities</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>(142,239)</b>
<b>IV. Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash and Cash equivalents	(6,020,623)	(2,793,310)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the period	14,894,048	17,668,720
ECL on bank balances	47,983	18,638
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the period	<b>8,921,408</b>	<b>14,894,048</b>

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The above extracts are from the Financial Statements of the Financial Institution for the year ended 31st December 2020, which have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The Financial Statements were audited by Ernst & Young - Certified Public Accountants and received an unqualified audit report.

Name and Title	Signature	Date
Sasa M. Chonza (Chief Executive Officer)	(Signed) .....	13.05.2021
Amulike Kamwela (Head of Finance)	(Signed) .....	13.05.2021
Ally Kimbulaga (Ag. Internal Audit Manager)	(Signed) .....	13.05.2021

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

Name	Signature	Date
Sanjay Suchak (Chairperson)	(Signed) .....	13.05.2021
Charles Itembe (Director)	(Signed) .....	13.05.2021



# Africa medical supplies platform: A model for the world?

By Zachary Donnenfeld

Central to Africa's COVID-19 response, the life-saving intervention is significantly more agile and responsive than governments.

In March 2020, the world was in a mad scramble for N95 masks, gloves and other personal protective equipment (PPE). Leaders were in frantic negotiations with medical suppliers trying to cut last-minute deals at exorbitant prices.

By April 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) noted that the price of surgical masks had increased sixfold. In Africa, N95 masks cost well over US\$20 and counterfeit PPE was rampant. The global market for medical supplies was a free for all, complete with widespread manipulation and items 'frequently sold to the highest bidder,' said WHO.

Partially in response to this, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, Gavi (a health provider), WHO and the United Nations (UN) Children's Fund launched COVAX. This was to 'accelerate the development and manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines, and to guarantee fair and equitable access for every country in the world.'

The COVAX project aims to vaccinate 20% of the population in eligible countries 'as soon as [vaccinations] are available' and introduce supports to buffer the pandemic's economic impact. While COVAX is a necessary and laudable effort, its ambitions and timelines were always going to fall short of what the developing world needed, including much of Africa.

So while leaders around the world were glued to their phones, Zimbabwean businessman and philanthropist Strive Masiyiwa was on video calls setting up something a little different. He and



about 30 African colleagues established the non-profit Africa Medical Supplies Platform (AMSP).

AMSP has been working relatively quietly in Africa, but other regions of the world are taking notice.

The AMSP is funded by the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) and run by the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through the African Union (AU), with support from the UN Economic Commission for Africa.

In a true sign of the times, AMSP members have never assembled in person. The entire platform has been constructed virtually out of an appreciation for the risks posed by in-person meetings and international travel.

The AMSP is a relatively straightforward e-commerce platform that has revolutionised Africa's response to the pandemic - think Amazon or Alibaba for hospitals. The idea is to connect medical suppliers with medical providers and eliminate middlemen. Purchasing through the AMSP is restricted to governments, national health systems, NGOs and donor organisations.

On the AMSP website you can find N95 masks, hand sanitiser, surgical gowns, test kits, even ventilators. There's also a 'made in Africa' section so governments can support local manufacturers of medical supplies.

The AMSP's goal is to leverage Africa's bulk purchasing power to secure supplies and

stabilise prices. It does this by pooling orders and ensuring transparency so that African countries can compete for goods with the world's most dynamic economies. As Masiyiwa puts it, 'The service we provide is the fact that we aggregate the purchases, so that suppliers are not dealing with so many countries.'

A change in COVID-19 vaccine intellectual property rights could bolster Africa's industrial capacity.

By May 2021, countries across Africa are paying market rates for high-quality PPE. N95 masks are approximately US\$2, and everything on the website comes directly from the manufacturer to minimise fraud. Although the AMSP has been working relatively quietly in Africa,

other regions of the world are taking notice.

The 15 nations that make up the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) were granted access to the platform late last year. Other countries in Latin America and the Pacific Islands have enquired about borrowing some of the underlying code to develop their own platforms.

However, the AMSP is not content to limit itself to PPE and testing kits. If nothing else, COVID-19 has been a moving target and Masiyiwa expects that to continue. In an interview with The Hill he said 'at one time, it was all about ventilators ... then it was all about test kits and therapeutics. Today it's about vaccines.'

Indeed, the next phase of the AMSP includes an aggressive vaccine procurement effort to help the African Vaccine Acquisition Task Team (AVATT) established in January by then AU chairperson, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Afreximbank is prepared to commit a further US\$2 billion to ensure that African states are able to rapidly access COVID-19 vaccines, at competitive prices and in a timely manner. The AMSP also launched a new category on its website for vaccine accessories. This will help member states secure items like ultra-low temperature freezers, needles, and syringes needed to effectively store and administer the vaccine.

AMSP acts with a sense of urgency that COVAX was never able to summon.

If the AMSP can bring the same level of transparency and stability to vaccine distribution as it did to procuring PPE, people in Africa may not have to wait until 2022 to receive their jabs.

AVATT has already secured 270 million doses from Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson and AstraZeneca, along with 300 million doses of the Sputnik V vaccine from Russia. This is enough for roughly a third of Africa's population over the age of

15. Countries can also pre-order any of the four vaccines listed above for when more become available.

There's a long way to go in the vaccine race. Rollout hasn't been equitable. Wealthier countries are hoarding supplies much like PPE in 2020 and even buying more doses than they need. The production delays stemming from clotting issues in the Johnson & Johnson vaccine have cost precious time and lives. The crisis within a crisis in India will cost more time still.

But as dire as the situation is, there are glimmers of hope. In a reversal of its historical position on international trade, the Biden administration announced on 5 May that the United States (US) would support waiving intellectual property rights surrounding the development of COVID-19 vaccines. While there are still hurdles to overcome - the US pharmaceutical industry is strongly opposed, as is the European Union - this is an essential first step towards scaling up vaccine production globally.

If the change in intellectual property rights is accompanied by a technology transfer initiative, as some experts recommend, it could help bolster Africa's industrial capacity. While building Africa's manufacturing base is beyond the AMSP's mandate, it doesn't mean the possibility should be ignored. That said, the AMSP has proven to be agile and responsive, so there should be optimism that the idea won't be overlooked.

What is crucial is that the AMSP acts with a sense of urgency that COVAX would always struggle to summon. It's also bringing ideas from the private sector which, for its shortcomings, is significantly more nimble than government. More importantly, because it is run entirely by people from Africa, AMSP understands the challenges ahead and will be better suited to meet them.

## Survivors' testimony: Rescue attempts in Mozambique jeopardised by racial discrimination following Palma Attack

By Special Correspondent

Survivors of an attack by the armed group known locally as 'Al-Shabaab' in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado told Amnesty International that white contractors were prioritized for evacuation ahead of Black locals, in disturbing testimony that points to blatant racism.

An estimated 220 civilians sought refuge in the Amarula Palma Hotel in Palma, during an attack that started on 24 March. Of these, around 200 were Black nationals, and about 20 were white contractors. In the days that followed, South African private military company Dyck Advisory Group (DAG) rescued some from the hotel.

While the white contractors were prioritized to be airlifted to safety, the Black nationals were left to fend for themselves. After the majority of the white contractors and a few well-off Black nationals - among them the Administrator for Palma - were rescued, those left behind attempted to flee by ground convoy but were ambushed by 'Al-Shabaab'.

"Witnesses told us of racial discrimination in decisions about who to evacuate from the Amarula hotel," said Deprose Muchena, Amnesty International's Regional Director for East and Southern Africa.

"These are alarming allegations that the rescue plan was racially segregated, with white contractors obviously receiving preferential treatment.

"The total lack of co-ordination between the Mozambique security forces and Dyck Advisory Group resulted in evacuations that were racist, and must be thoroughly investigated."

### Palma attack

The fighting in the port town of Palma followed a pattern similar to previous 'Al-Shabaab' attacks investigated by Amnesty International: following the initial assault, the Mozambique security forces failed to



protect civilians and fled, leaving DAG operatives to operate independently.

Amnesty International interviewed 11 people who sought refuge in the Amarula hotel, including five who later survived the convoy attack. They all said that the hotel manager and DAG operatives, who were in charge of the rescue attempt, prioritized the safety of white contractors over local Black people.

Initially, survivors understood there was a plan to prioritize the helicopter evacuation of women, children, and people with disabilities. However, that plan was apparently abandoned in the days that followed.

One survivor told Amnesty Inter-

national: "We were about 220 people trapped there in the hotel - we [local Black people] were the majority, and the whites were supposed to be about 20. After the rescue and escape, we were about 170 people still alive. Most of the whites were rescued by helicopters, before we left the hotel by car."

Another survivor said: "We didn't want all white people to be rescued, because we knew that if all the whites left, we would be left there to die. We heard them talking about the plan to take all the whites and leave the Blacks."

Several witnesses said the manager of the Amarula hotel took advantage of the chaotic situation to take his two German Shepherd dogs to safety via helicopter, leaving people

behind.

One survivor said: "If the dogs hadn't gone, about two or three more people could have gone on the helicopter. That dismayed people because some women didn't get in the helicopter because of the dogs."

The helicopters could only transport six people at a time, and made a total of four trips.

"Terrified locals knew that the rescue of white people first would mean they were abandoned to face 'Al-Shabaab' by themselves," said Deprose Muchena.

"The fact that the hotel manager chose to rescue his dogs instead of people is also extremely shocking, and further proof of the lack of respect for human life that has charac-

terized the Cabo Delgado conflict."

Convoy ambushed

After the helicopters had departed, those left behind decided to risk leaving the hotel in a convoy of cars. They aimed to travel to Quelimbe beach, where they hoped to catch a boat to Afungi. However, they were almost immediately ambushed by 'Al-Shabaab' fighters who had been lying in wait.

One survivor told Amnesty International: "The insurgents - when they saw the cars coming out in the backyard - started shooting. The road was full of holes that the insurgents had dug to prevent the cars from passing."

Another survivor added: "They shot at our car; [it] flipped over. I was injured, the bazooka almost hit my head. We left the road and stayed in the woods for six days, without eating or drinking water. We managed to get to the beach and catch a boat to go to Afungi, where we got help."

Two boat trips then transported survivors from Quelimbe to Afungi. The first trip took about 60 people, including all the remaining white contractors; the second trip on the following day took about 70 Black local people.

Survivors told Amnesty International that there was a disagreement between the Mozambique security forces and DAG regarding who was responsible for rescuing people. The breakdown in communication meant the civilian survivors were essentially abandoned to flee for their lives, having been left at the mercy of 'Al-Shabaab'.

"Once again during the Cabo Delgado conflict, the inhumane approach taken by both the Mozambique authorities and DAG has caused untold harm," said Deprose Muchena.

"Despite similar previous attacks by 'Al-Shabaab', this is the first instance we are aware of a rescue mission being attempted - and it was only when white contractors were deemed to be at risk.

"Abandoning people during an

armed assault simply because of the colour of their skin is racism, and violates the obligation to protect civilians. This cannot go unanswered."

Ministry of Defence response

In a meeting with Amnesty International on 7 May, the Mozambique Ministry of Defence said they could only speak about rescue missions that their own forces had conducted in Cabo Delgado, and that race was not a factor in their response.

Exclusive satellite imagery obtained by Amnesty International from 1 April revealed the extent of damage caused by the attack on Palma, that lasted until 31 March. The assault concentrated on public infrastructure and government facilities, rather than homes.

On 9 April, satellite imagery showed 33 more structures - likely homes - had been destroyed since 1 April when the Mozambique security forces had reportedly regained control of the region. In total, 85 structures were visibly damaged, most likely by fire.

This aligns with previous Amnesty International research that indicated the Mozambique security forces have conducted reprisals against the civilian population once 'Al-Shabaab' have retreated.

### Cabo Delgado conflict

Cabo Delgado has suffered neglect and under-investment for decades, a problem exacerbated by natural disasters and the spread of COVID-19 across the region. The area is rich in natural gas, rubies, graphite and timber, leading international companies to compete for access to the region. Fighting has intensified since 'Al-Shabaab' attacked the northern port town of Mocimboa da Praia in October 2017.

In a recent report, Amnesty International highlighted how hundreds of civilians in Cabo Delgado have been unlawfully killed by 'Al-Shabaab', government security forces and DAG. The organization is calling for an urgent investigation into these killings, which may amount to war crimes.



## BUSINESS



Ousmane Dione, World Bank country director for Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan and Eritrea.

## FINANCING

## World Bank to invest US\$200m in Ethiopia's telecommunications

## ADDIS ABABA

The World Bank plans to invest US\$200-million in Ethiopia's telecommunications industry but wants the country's government to open this market up to competition.

Ousmane Dione, World Bank country director for Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan and Eritrea said the organisation will invest in Ethiopia's digital economy and drive a new Digital Ethiopia Foundations project.

He said the project will provide funds to strengthen the regulator (the Ethiopia Communications Authority) and to prepare the legal and regulatory building blocks for the digital ecosystem. Part of the plan is to pre-purchase capacity from Ethio Telecom and new operators, through competitive bidding, Dione added.

However, the World Bank has also expressed concern over a decision by the government to limit investment by independent cellular tower companies. The financial institution argues that the decision compels telecommunication companies to use infrastructure provided by Ethio Telecom, and

restricts infrastructure roll out - particularly in rural areas. It advised that new entrants be allowed to negotiate commercial arrangements and decide to either build their own infrastructure or purchase capacity from Ethio Telecom.

Dione warned that policies which seek to protect Ethio Telecom's infrastructure by allowing it to charge high prices for interconnections will end up harming the company. He said Ethio Telecom will need to both collaborate and compete with the new entrants who will be the telco's biggest customers if prices are set fairly, and that Ethio Telecom has the potential to become a regional powerhouse - but only if it is well-prepared for the competitive environment.

"Ethiopians will benefit greatly from the opening up of the telecom market and Ethiopians firms will be better able to compete internationally if they pay lower prices for digital services at home. But to benefit fully from competition does not mean offering preferential treatment to Ethio Telecom but rather creating a level playing field on which it can compete fairly with its new rivals," said Dione.

## TECH SAVVY

## NIT students 'invent' bus sensor to help passengers track routes

By Guardian Reporter

**S**TUDENTS at National Institute of Transport have come up with an innovation of a tracking sensor that can inform passengers at commuter bus stations where the bus is heading.

Speaking at the climax of National Competition of Science, Technology, and Innovation in Dodoma last week, NIT Rector, Prof Zacharia Mganilwa said the students who attended this year's competition which also featured an exhibition, displayed their sensor to the public for the first time.

"They have invented this sensor to help passengers in Tanzania's major cities to identify destinations and routes of buses they want to board. This technology can also be used by Dar Bus Rapid Transport," Prof Mganilwa said.

"The device can be fixed on any public or private bus. When the bus arrives at the commuter station, it indicates its destination and the route that it will take," the NIT Rector said adding that NIT students have also invented a mask that can be used by passengers aboard planes which allows them to get oxygen when the plane is airborne.

"When the plane goes above 20 feet high, passengers can use our masks to get oxygen supply be-



NIT rector Prof. Zacharia Mganilwa briefs journalists at the National Competition of Science, Technology, and Innovation held in City of Dodoma last week. Photo courtesy of NIT.

cause some people need fresh air when the plane is airborne," he said while noting that the mask can also help people who climb higher mountains where oxygen supply dwindles.

Meanwhile, the NIT chief has called on authorities to put in place a system that recognizes and patents innovations made Tanzanians. "Local innovators like these NIT students need government support to develop and protect

their innovations," Prof Mganilwa argued.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa who closed the weeklong MAKI-SATU 2021's exhibition in Dodoma, instructed institutions and authorities to ensure that young innovators are recognised and protected.

"Scientific and technological institutions; universities, research and development institutions and related agencies as SIDO and

VETA which in one way or another are involved in nurturing young innovators, should help them showcase their products to the market," Majaliwa said.

Majaliwa said that it is equally important for the institutions to promote and protect intellectual property of local researchers and innovators so that they can benefit from their work when utilised by consumers.

He further said that innovations must be protected through intellectual property (IP) rights. "Unfortunately statistics show that last year, only eight patent applications from Tanzania were submitted to World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), while South Africa submitted 1,514 applications," he said.

UNDP Representative, Godfrey Mulisa said innovation provides solutions that will help speed up the country's journey towards industrialization. In collaboration with Commission for Science and Technology and Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, the UNDP will launch a 'Funguo' Project this month.

According to Mulisa, the project will focus on supporting innovation, access to finance from the private sector and other stakeholders in order to widen the scope of participation by innovators in the country.

## ECO-FRIENDLY

## Solar minibuses for Africa?

## OXFORD

As emissions from African transport surge, governments need to find ways to encourage a shift to cleaner, healthier electric vehicles, especially among the minibus and motorcycle taxis that dominate transport in many cities, researchers said on

Thursday.

Investment in generating more solar-powered electricity to charge electric vehicles (EVs) could encourage their use, cut pollution and costs for passengers, and help stabilise unreliable energy systems, they said in a commentary published in Nature Sustainability.

But most African governments lack the data on privately run mass transport systems needed to make the case for financial institutions and development banks to put money into building electric charging infrastructure, they added.

Co-author Katherine Collett, a fellow with the Oxford Martin Programme on Integrating Renewable Energy, described it as a "chicken and egg" problem. "Nobody wants to invest in electric vehicle charging before there are enough EVs to make it profitable. But nobody wants to buy an EV that they are unable to charge," she said in a statement.

The University of Oxford researchers noted that in 2018, carbon dioxide emissions from sub-Saharan Africa contributed only 2.3% of global emissions. Less than 12% of those African emissions came from transport. But with populations growing, migration to cities from rural areas accelerating and the continent's middle class expanding, demand for road transport in the region will increase, they said.

"Unless there is disruption to business-as-usual,

the related emissions will also increase," the commentary said, calling for "urgent action" to find ways of decarbonising of transport in sub-Saharan Africa. Transport emissions in Africa grew by 84% between 2010 and 2016, the researchers noted, citing data from the Belgium-based Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport.

From Kenya to South Africa, where both ownership of private family cars and official public transport is limited, the majority of urban journeys are undertaken using informal private transport - often old and imported second-hand minibus taxis or two- and three-wheeled vehicles.

Mostly, the drivers do not follow formal, fixed routes and many vehicles are not properly registered, making for poorly documented systems and a "drastic lack" of data, the paper said. At the same time, many poorer areas have limited access to electricity or struggle with frequent grid power outages, which would make reliable electric vehicle charging a challenge.

The best solution in

many places would be to install off-grid solar panels alongside charging points, said the researchers, noting Africa's abundant sunshine, the need to curb planet-warming emissions and the falling price of technology.

They also recommended mandatory vehicle registration and insurance, along with GPS tracking for informal transport operators. Governments, meanwhile, should promote the use of cashless payments and mobile apps to better track and understand transport user behaviour.

Such changes would generate data to demonstrate the market size and business opportunities for electricity companies, EV manufacturers and other firms that could, for instance, retrofit existing vehicles with batteries, the researchers added.

"Cleaner air, cheaper transport and stable access to electricity is within grasp for sub-Saharan Africa - we just need to mobilise the data and investment to make it happen," said co-author Stephanie Hirmer of the University of Oxford's Energy and Power Group.



Co-author Katherine Collett, a fellow with the Oxford Martin Programme on Integrating renewable energy.

## WINDFALL

## Jumia Q1 2021 report shows increase in gross profit

## PARIS

Jumia has released its 2021 quarter one report (Q1 2021), recording 11% year-on-year gross profit increase, as adjusted EBITDA loss decreased by 24% year-over-year.

The report by the company also showed a sixth consecutive quarter of positive Gross Profit After Fulfillment Expense, which reached €6.2 million, more than doubling YoY. According to Jumia, the Q1 2021 report is a reflection of a solid

progress towards profitability, with gradual monetization and cost discipline as major drivers.

"Our first-quarter results reflect solid progress towards profitability. The drivers remain consistent: selective and disciplined usage growth, gradual monetization, and continued cost discipline. The first quarter of 2021 was the sixth consecutive quarter of positive gross profit after fulfillment expense, which reached €6.2million, more

than doubling year-over-year, while Adjusted EBITDA loss contracted by 24% year-over-year, reaching €27.0 million. Our strategy to increase our exposure to everyday product categories continues to yield positive results, enhancing the relevance of our marketplace for consumers", commented the Co-Chief Executive Officers of Jumia, Jeremy Hodara and Sacha Poignon.

Jumia also disclosed that it made significant steps towards the \$10billion market capitali-

zation. "We have raised over \$570m over the past 6 months, strengthening our balance sheet & increasing our strategic flexibility. We are confident we have all the right ingredients to continue to build a growing business across both our e-commerce and fintech activities." As contained in the report, Jumia is making significant inroads in payment and fintech, with 37% of Orders in the Q1 of 2021 completed using JumiaPay.

The report revealed that To-

tal Payment Volume on JumiaPay increased by 21% from €35.5million in the first quarter of 2020 to €42.9million in the first quarter of 2021. On a constant currency basis, TPV increased by 35% year-over-year. On-platform penetration of JumiaPay as a percentage of GMV increased to 26.0% in the first quarter of 2021 from 18.7% in the first quarter of 2020. JumiaPay Transactions increased by 7% from 2.3 million in the first quarter of 2020 to 2.4million in the first quarter

of 2021.

Overall, 36.7% of Orders placed on the Jumia platform in the first quarter of 2021 were completed using JumiaPay, compared to 35.5% in the first quarter of 2020. Jumia Food and on-demand services accounted for 22% of orders and 9% of GMV in the first quarter of 2021. Likewise, annual active consumers reached 6.9 million in the first quarter of 2021, up 7% year-over-year, as the platform continued to acquire new consumers and engage exist-

ing ones.

Orders reached 6.6 million, up 3% year-over-year, a reversal of the declining trend observed over the prior two quarters. Jumia also recorded operating loss of €33.7million in the first quarter of 2021 decreasing by 23% on a year-over-year basis demonstrating meaningful progress on the brand's path to profitability. GMV was €165.0 million, down 13% on a year-over-year basis and 5% on a constant currency basis.



## ADVICE

# Leaders of SMEs urged to regularly attend upgrading courses to grow their businesses

By Francis Kajubi

**S**MALL and Medium Enterprise owners and managers have been encouraged to take part in business training programmes regularly so that they get exposed to new skills and knowledge that will enable them attract lenders to inject capital in their businesses.

Speaking at the first graduation ceremony of 20 students who undertook a five months training course on entrepreneurship and business leadership organized by the Kingdom Leadership Institute (KLI) in collaboration with the Regent University of Virginia USA, KLI CEO and Founder, Isaac Mpatwa said striving businesses have an opportunity of attracting big investors.

He said Business Development Center of Regent University is working with KLI in equipping undergraduates who are already part of the business class of entrepreneurs with fresh skills to tap opportunities in local and global markets.

"The core mandate of KLI is to develop African leaders in business, government and politics. Leaders who are capable of transforming national leadership and economies through in-



Industrie Trade minister, Prof. Kitila Mkumbo.

novation and entrepreneurship," Mpatwa said.

According to him, the programme provides entrepreneurs and business leaders with unique opportunities to influence, in-

spire and impact others while also learning from the growth of interactive baseline experience.

Minister of Trade and Industries, Professor Kitila Mkumbo who graced the graduation said

the Five Year Development Plan 2020/25 has put emphasis on promoting businesses. Prof Mkumbo said the government is not happy that in the doing business index published by World Bank annu-

ally, Tanzania with its big population and vast resources ranks position 141 out of 190 countries.

"This is not acceptable, it makes us feel ashamed. We should not be fooling ourselves that we are progressing. We have moved from 144 to 141 and some of us are happy with such poor ranking," he charged adding that business owners and regulators need to work together to address the challenge. He asserted that the government of President Samia Suluhu Hassan is setting a new dawn with private sector and is open for business and welcomes foreign investments.

The Executive Secretary of Tanzania National Business Council, Dr Godwill Wanga, also attended the event. He said that competent entrepreneurs need only an idea to start a business and not big capital. "The other aspects that an entrepreneur needs, is integrity and disciplined in handling finances. Many businesses struggle due to lack of integrity, trust and determination in finding and keeping business partners," Dr Wanga said while challenging the graduates to be honest and innovative to survive.

## GLUT

## New ride-hailing player debuts in SA amid fierce competition

JOHANNESBURG

South African ride-hailing company NextNow has entered the local market, promising that its competitive pricing model will set it apart from established international rivals in the market.

The e-hailing app makes its debut amid increasing competition in the local market, with dominant players Uber, Bolt and InDriver lowering their pricing in recent months, in a bid to gain a larger share of SA's e-hailing market.

In April, Chinese-based ride-hailing service DiDi Chuxing entered the local market, setting up offices in in Gqeberha, Eastern Cape, with plans to expand to Cape Town next week. NextNow, which has been piloting its service in Johannesburg, says as a home-grown firm, it aims to firmly put the continent on the ride-sharing map, after officially launching in Johannesburg this week. The company says it plans to expand nationally and eventually to African countries.

It has stringent verification processes in place before on-boarding drivers and provides a 24-hour support assistance service to customers. "Our strong point is that we are more affordable than other international e-hailing services and we can do this by being smaller and leaner," says Mlungisi Ntombela, NextNow head of operations South Africa.

"We are aware of the unemployment challenge the country is facing and realise that in the post-pandemic economy, we can make a huge difference in the lives of cash-strapped customers, as well as our drivers." The company says its mission is to accelerate the shift to efficient and autonomous mobility and e-commerce, with driver and passenger safety being a priority.

NextNow is launching the following category options, offering customers up to 50% less than market prices on the first five rides: NextGo - an entry-level service for cost-conscious customers where small and hatchback vehicles are used; NextRide - an affordable service that makes use of entry-level sedans; NextPro and NextPro Woman - this service features luxury sedans with male or female drivers; and NextWoman - a service for women that is safe and secure and makes use of sedans.

The company takes 10% of the driver's commission per trip, with a booking fee of 4%. It also offers drivers weekly data valued at R50. The company says it has taken a number of measures to ensure utmost safety: Firstly, a one-time-PIN is sent to the customer upon request of the service, which needs to be verified by the driver - this ensures the driver is authenticated and legitimate.

All trips are geo-localised, and details of the driver and vehicle are shared with the passenger, which can also be shared with the passenger's contacts, such as family and friends. Furthermore, its vehicles are verified and inspected to ensure they are roadworthy and meet its standards.

NextNow business development director Babatunde Orimoloye points out the firm plans to be part of the push to help move Africa beyond being a natural resources continent to one that is fast adopting the fourth industrial revolution.

The company will use its local experience to launch in other African countries. "As with many other African 'children', NextNow will be raised in SA before expanding into the rest of the continent. We are launching in Johannesburg and Tshwane before expanding to Cape Town and then Durban, followed by the rest of the country," Orimoloye notes. "At the moment, we are focusing on building momentum in the South African market and want to ensure we are well-established and positioned in the 'city of gold'. But the ultimate goal is to put Africa on the global mobility solutions map."

## RELIEF

## Court saves SportPesa from assets seizures in KRA fight

NAIROBI

SportPesa, its owners and executives have been spared asset seizures, bank accounts freeze and travel bans after a tribunal ruled that betting firms are partially exempted from the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) enforcement actions. The Tax Appeals Tribunal (TAT) has ruled that the taxman cannot apply the enforcement actions on betting firms like SportPesa while pursuing withholding taxes.

The KRA had sought to freeze the bank accounts of SportPesa after it issued agency notices to its lenders while pursuing a claim of Sh1.66 billion withholding tax, penalties and interest accrued for 2018, prompting the betting firm to file an appeal at TAT.

The tribunal ruled that agency notices and other enforcement actions contained in the Tax Procedures Act, 2015 can only be used to recover money related to excise duty, value-added tax (VAT) and income tax.

"A plain reading of the provision indicates that the Tax Procedures Act does not apply to the Betting Lotteries and Gaming Act (BLGA). As such, the respondent cannot apply



Sportpesa CEO Ronald Karauri.

enforcement mechanisms set out under the TPA to enforce collection of taxes owed under the BLGA," the tribunal said. The Tax Procedures Act of 2015 allows the taxman to issue travel bans on suspected tax cheats and collect duty directly from suppliers and bankers of defaulters and prosecute those in arrears.

Taxpayers in breach could also see their assets seized and auctioned and their personal identification numbers (PINs) disabled. Deregistration of PINs has the effect of cutting off individuals and businesses from making transactions that require proof of active registration as a taxpayer.

The list of transactions

that requires proof of an active PIN certificate includes registration of land titles, approval of development plans, registration, transfer and licensing of motor vehicles and registration of business names and companies. The KRA collects taxes from third parties like banks and suppliers through the agency notices.

"The respondent's (KRA) agency notices issued on August 25, 2020 and any other enforcement notice issued in enforcement of payment of betting tax are hereby set aside," the tribunal said in its ruling on the SportPesa suit.

SportPesa was halting operations due to a drastic hike in taxes on betting stakes amid mounting demand from the KRA, which was initially demanding Sh10.3 billion in withholding tax from betting game winners for the period between 2015 and 2016.

**Nothing to pay**

The tax assessment covering 2015 and 2016 indicated SportPesa disbursed Sh80 billion to winners, an amount that attracted Sh76 billion in tax. The KRA, in addition, imposed Sh1.5 billion penalties and interest of Sh1.1 billion, bringing the total tax due to Sh10.3 billion. SportPesa says it has nothing to pay to the taxman, as it already disbursed the money to the winners without deducting any withholding tax as per the court order.

Online sports betting companies such as SportPesa had grown rapidly, riding a wave of enthusiasm for sports, with the government saying the gaming industry achieved a combined revenue of Sh204 billion last year. That sparked government concern about the social impact of betting, and in May Kenya introduced new gambling regulations, including a ban on advertising outdoors and on social media.

## CONCERN

## Soaring feed prices suffocate poultry breeders

MAPUTO

The rise in the price of feed may compromise poultry farming in the city and province of Maputo, locations which register the highest demand for chicken in the country. Until the beginning of this year, a 50 kg bag of feed was selling for between 2,350 and 2,400 meticals. Now, it costs 2,900 meticals in some outlets in the country's capital.

The president of the Maputo Poultry Association (ADAM), Fátima Mussagy, maintains that vendors are speculating on the price at an inap-

propriate time, when the business is unprofitable due to the lack of customers, who are feeling the impact of Covid-19.

"Some restaurants, potential customers, have closed, and others have cut back on purchases," she said. Mussagy added that the chicken currently being produced is not of good quality, in terms of growth, a situation that leads members of the association to suspect bird flu.

Natércia Massingue, a poultry farmer in Albasine, says that the price of the feed could go even higher in coming days, due to the ban on

imports of poultry and derivatives from South Africa, the only supplier of raw material in the region. 'Noticias' contacted some establishments dedicated to the production and sale of feed, who confirmed the new price range.

Francisco, responsible for sales at one of the HIGEST establishments, said that, unlike the other centres, his establishment had increased the price of feed by only 200 meticals. "Corn, soybeans and concentrate are scarce again, which is why prices are fluctuating," he explained.



Mlungisi Ntombela, NextNow head of operations South Africa.







## WORLD

# Israel air strikes kill 26 Palestinians, rockets fired from Gaza

GAZA/JERUSALEM

ISRAELI air strikes killed 26 Palestinians, including eight children, in Gaza early yesterday, Gaza health officials said, and rockets were fired into Israel as hostilities stretched into a seventh day.

The pre-dawn attacks in the centre of Gaza City brought the death toll in Gaza to 174, including 47 children, health officials said. Israel has reported 10 dead, including two children.

The United Nations Security Council was due to meet later on Sunday to discuss the worst outbreak of Israeli-Palestinian violence in years.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres reminded all sides "that any indiscriminate targeting of civilian and media structures violates international law and must be avoided at all costs." U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said in a statement on Saturday.

Both Israel and Hamas, the Islamist group that runs the enclave, insisted they would continue their cross-border

fire after Israel destroyed a 12-storey building in Gaza City that housed the U.S. Associated Press and Qatar-based Al Jazeera media operations.

The Israel military said the al-Jala building was a legitimate military target, containing Hamas military offices, and that it had given advance warnings to civilians to get out of the building.

The AP condemned the attack, and asked Israel to put forward evidence. "We have had no indication Hamas was in the building or active in the building," it said in a statement.

In what Hamas called a reprisal for Israel's destruction of the al-Jala building, Hamas fired 120 rockets overnight, the Israeli military said, with many intercepted and around a dozen falling short and landing in Gaza.

Israelis dashed for bomb shelters as sirens warning of incoming rocket fire blared in Tel Aviv and the southern city of Beersheba. Around 10 people were injured while running for shelters, medics said.

In a burst of air strikes early yesterday,



day, the Israeli military said it struck the home of Yehya Al-Sinwar in the southern Gaza City of Khan Younis. Sinwar, who was released from an Israeli prison in 2011, heads the political and military wings of Hamas in Gaza.

Israel's security cabinet was due to meet later Sunday to discuss the hostilities. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a televised address late on Saturday that Israel was "still in the midst of this operation, it is still not over and this operation will continue as long as necessary".

Palestinians working to clear rubble from a building wrecked in yesterday's air strikes recovered the bodies of a woman and man.

"These are moments of horror that no one can describe. Like an earthquake hit the area," said Mahmoud Hmaid, a father of seven who has been helping with the rescue efforts.

Across the border in the Israeli city of Ashkelon, Zvi Daphna, a physician, whose neighborhood has been struck by several rockets, described a feeling of "fear and horror."

## TRUCE EFFORTS

Hamas began its rocket assault on Monday after weeks of tensions over a court case to evict several Palestinian families in East Jerusalem, and in retaliation for Israeli police clashes with Palestinians near the city's Al-Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third holiest site, during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Israel claims all of Jerusalem as its capital, a status not generally recognised internationally. Palestinians want East Jerusalem - captured by Israel in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war - as the capital of a future state.

Hamas, Islamic Jihad and other militant groups have fired more than 2,000 rockets from Gaza since Monday, the Israeli military said on Saturday.

Israel has launched more than 1,000 air and artillery strikes into the densely populated coastal strip, saying they were aimed at Hamas and other militant targets.

There has been a flurry of U.S. diplomacy in recent days to try to quell the violence.

President Joe Biden's envoy, Hady Amr, arrived in Israel on Friday for talks. Biden spoke with both Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas late on Saturday, the White House said.

But any mediation is complicated by the fact that the United States and most Western powers do not talk to Hamas, which they regard as a terrorist organisation.

In Israel, the conflict has been accompanied by violence among the country's mixed communities of Jews and Arabs, with synagogues attacked and Arab-owned shops vandalised.

There has also been an upsurge in deadly clashes in the occupied West Bank. At least 12 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli troops in the West Bank since Friday, most of them during clashes.

## Use of Sputnik Light vaccine approved in Venezuela - RDIF

MOSCOW

THE use of the one-component Sputnik V vaccine has been approved in Venezuela, according to the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF).

"The RDIF announces the certification of the Russian Sputnik Light one-component vaccine against the coronavirus infection by the Health Ministry of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. The Sputnik Light vaccine is the first component of the Sputnik V vaccine," the statement said.

According to the fund, the efficacy of the one-component Sputnik Light jab amounts to 79.4% since Day 28 after its administration. It is noted that the efficacy was calculated based on the data on Russians who received only one shot within the mass vaccination campaign without receiving the second one during the period from December 5, 2020 through April 15, 2021. The efficacy indicator at the level of about 80% surpasses those of many two-component vaccines, the RDIF specified.

In January, Venezuela also certified the two-component Sputnik V jab. This vaccine was approved under the emergency use authorization (EUA).

The Sputnik V vaccine has been approved for use in 65 countries with the total population surpassing 3.2 bln people.

## Iraqi party leader says China's miraculous development an opportunity for world economy

BAGHDAD

CHINA'S miraculous development, achieved essentially by practising socialism with Chinese characteristics, has greatly promoted global economic growth, and should be seen as an opportunity rather than a threat, an Iraqi party leader has said.

"They start to see it as a challenge, as a threat which it shouldn't be... We think the development of China should not be perceived as a threat. Rather, it's an opportunity," said Raed Fahmi, secretary of the Central Committee of the Iraqi Communist Party, rejecting the depiction of China by some Western media outlets.

China has made tremendous strides in various fields under the leadership of the CPC, Fahmi told Xinhua in a recent interview on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

"China has become the second largest economy in the world. With its own potentials, I think nobody can ignore that China is a major economic power in the world, and it can determine the growth of the world economy," Fahmi said, adding that the Chinese people's living conditions have also been continuously improved.

China provides a new path for other countries that wish to accelerate development, Fahmi said.

Socialism with Chinese characteristics, he said, is a huge historical experience, which his party is keen to study and follow up.

As for China's success in eradicating absolute poverty, Fahmi said for a country with a population of more than 1.4 billion, "this is a historical achievement."

"For us and other countries, we look at this experience with extreme interest," he said, adding that the CPC's people-centered philosophy has also been a factor behind China's effective containment of COVID-19.

Fahmi noted that humanity is now facing huge challenges, not only the pandemic, but also hunger, unemployment and a gap between developed and under-developed countries.

In the face of the challenges, China has been actively advancing global multilateral cooperation and promoting the building of a community with a shared future for mankind, which has "put together the capacities and energies" of like-minded countries. **Xinhua**



## CPC 'has traveled a colossal path' in 100 years - former Belarusian deputy

MINSK

THE Communist Party of China (CPC) has enormous intellectual potential, enjoys the greatest possible support from the Chinese society, and is the political force capable of ensuring China's development and prosperity, former Belarusian Deputy Prime Minister Anatoly Tozik has said.

"In 100 years, the party, created by a small group of young people, has traveled a colossal path, which has no analogues in world history," Tozik, also a former ambassador to China, told Xinhua in a recent interview.

The CPC has led China from "a peasant, industrially backward country" into "one of the most powerful and dynam-

ically developing countries of the planet," he said. "These are results that no one in the world has ever achieved."

"I am absolutely convinced that the CPC is the only political force capable of ensuring the development and prosperity of the Chinese people. It has the necessary intellectual and organizational potential for this," Tozik said.

Tozik, who has a long relationship with China, served as co-chairman of the Belarusian-Chinese Intergovernmental Commission for Trade and Economic Cooperation from 2004 to 2006, and from 2011 to 2014 he served as deputy prime minister of Belarus. He stayed in China as ambassador between 2006 and 2011, during which he visited almost all



Chinese provinces.

After 2016, Tozik has worked as director of the Republican Confucius Institute of Sinology at Belarusian State University, and has paid more attention to studying China and made more efforts to better the mutual understanding between the people of the two countries.

Under the leadership of the CPC, China showed outstand-

ing results in three areas in 2020, demonstrating the colossal capabilities of the country and its people, Tozik said.

First, China achieved unique results in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, setting an example for the whole world. Second, China moved away from absolute poverty, solving for the first time in the world a problem that previously seemed insurmountable. Third, China is the only major economy on the planet to see GDP growth in 2020. "All of these three outstanding achievements are directly related to the CPC," he said.

"China, led by the CPC, is an example of creating the maximum possible conditions for the self-realization of the potential of every citizen and the

conflict-free development of the society as a whole," Tozik said.

He said that China's reform and opening-up is important experience for other countries, including Belarus. "There are a lot of interesting things in the socio-economic development of China, which today I see as very relevant for our country," he said.

Tozik is deeply convinced that the stronger China is, the more opportunities mankind has. "The growth of China's power and its economic strength is not a threat to humanity, but an additional chance for everyone to overcome today's terribly difficult time and terribly difficult period in the life of human civilization," he said. **Xinhua**

## Biden's massive spending package tough sell to Republicans

WASHINGTON

U.S. President Joe Biden intends to pass two spending plans worth over 4 trillion U.S. dollars, but Republicans are blasting the package as wasteful and overpriced.

Biden is proposing a massive package that includes infrastructure and a slew of other items, at a cost of around 4.1 trillion dollars. Republicans have balked at the huge price tag, and are comparing it to the nearly 2-trillion-dollar stimulus plan signed in March.

Critics said over half of that stimulus, dubbed the Rescue Plan, was a progressive wish list that had nothing to do with helping Americans offset the damage done by the lockdowns that devastated the economy.

Biden's package is divided into two plans, one called the American Families Plan, with a 1.8-trillion-dollar price tag, and the other billed as the American jobs plan,

at a cost of 2.3 trillion dollars. The latter purports to invest in transportation infrastructure, water systems and electricity, as well as building homes that are more energy efficient.

Brookings Institution Senior Fellow Barry Bosworth noted that the two new plans are of roughly equal size and are complementary in goals.

However, coming on the heels of the prior economic rescue plan, they need to be fully paid for in what will soon be a highly employed economy. Since most of the two plans have no bipartisan support and there is little enthusiasm for tax increases, passage will require a large scaling back or delay of the two plans, Bosworth told Xinhua.

Bosworth noted that the Jobs Plan is split among traditional physical infrastructure, non-transportation investment (housing and broadband), caregivers, and



various subsidies for manufacturing.

It appears that the first of those items are popular and will have significant support, but the arguments for manufacturing and caregivers are weaker and unlikely to pass.

The bill will cost around 1 trillion dollars if they can agree on

financing, Bosworth said. The Family Plan is also proposed at about 2 trillion dollars, with most of the money going to child care and education, the education portion of which is not "well thought out at this point" and would "undergo considerable modification in the future," Bosworth said.

"I don't think there'll be any Republican senators, none, zero, for the 4.1 trillion (dollar) grab bag, which has infrastructure in it, but a whole lot of other stuff," said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, speaking of Biden's latest package. But the White House has indicated that the president is hungry for a deal, and is willing to compromise.

Last month, a group of Senate Republicans introduced a 568-billion-dollar infrastructure plan, largely focused on rebuilding the country's physical infrastructure and funded

without any tax hikes. Biden said on Thursday that Senate Republicans will give him a revised infrastructure offer next week after a meeting with a group of six Republican senators at the White House.

One key figure who has grabbed headlines in recent weeks is Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin, who has said he is "very uncomfortable" with what would amount to Biden's total 6-trillion-dollar spending packages, should the latest round be signed into law.

Some experts said because Congress is so tightly divided, Manchin's siding with the GOP could bring difficulties in the bill's passage.

Clay Ramsay, a researcher at the center for international and security studies at the University of Maryland, told Xinhua that Manchin is doing a complicated tap dance.

Manchin wants to appear as a

thoughtful, prudent steward of the taxpayer's money, but once the money goes out, he doesn't want to be on the wrong side of that, Ramsay said. The odds that Manchin will actually vote no on the Families Plan "are something like 3 in 10," Ramsay said.

"I think it's more likely that he will get some modifications here and there, plus something for his state, and then vote yes," Ramsay said.

Brookings Institution Senior Fellow Darrell West noted that there is considerable support for Biden's infrastructure plan, "so I expect it to pass," he told Xinhua.

"Many legislators like the idea of bringing money back to their states to repair highways, bridges, and dams. Manchin likes to play the two parties off against each other but he has said he supports infrastructure investment and wants to make sure it is paid for," West said. **Xinhua**



## US embassy says Russian authorities postpone ban on hiring foreign employees

MOSCOW

The US embassy in Moscow said on Friday it has been notified by the Russian authorities that the ban on hiring Russian employees has been temporarily postponed.

"The Russian government has informed U.S. Embassy Moscow of its intent to postpone the prohibition of U.S. Mission Russia's employment of foreign nationals.

Consequently, through July 16, U.S. Embassy Moscow will temporarily resume routine U.S. citizen services, including passport services, Consular Reports of Birth Abroad, and limited notarial services," it said on its website.

It also said it would continue to provide immigrant visa processing for priority and urgent cases. Apart from that, the embassy warned that those US nationals whose visas had expired needed to leave Russia before June 15, a deadline set by the Russian authorities amid the coronavirus pandemic, or visit a local office of the Russian interior ministry to extend their visas.

The US embassy said on April 30 it was reducing the spectrum of its services from May 12. Thus, it said it would suspend then issuance of visas other than for diplomatic trips. According to the embassy, the move stemmed from Russia's decision to ban hiring foreign employees.

## Wang Yi presses for ceasefire in Palestinian-Israeli conflict

BEIJING

CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Saturday expounded on China's position on the current Palestinian-Israeli conflict during a phone talk with Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi.

In recent days, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has continuously escalated, causing huge casualties, which is distressing, said Wang, before presenting China's views and proposals on the issue.

First, Wang said, the root cause of the deterioration of the situation is that for a long time there has not been a just solution to the Palestinian issue.

Especially, in recent years, the Middle East peace process has deviated from its original track, the UN Security Council resolutions have not been earnestly implemented and, in particular, the Palestinian right to build an independent state has been continuously violated, adding to the plight of the Palestinian people, which has led to the intensification of the Palestinian-Israeli confrontation and repeated conflicts, Wang said.

As has been proven, Wang noted, without a just settlement of the Palestinian issue, Palestine and Israel as well as the Middle East will not be able to achieve true peace.

Second, Wang said, what is pressing now is the ceasefire and cessation of violence, and the Security Council has the responsibility to seek early de-escalation.

China, as the president of the Security Council for May, has pushed the Council to hold two emergency consultations on the Palestine-Israel conflict, and has drafted a press statement, in a bid to guide the Council to take actions, he added.

But regrettably, the Council has so far failed to reach an agreement, with the United States standing on the opposite side of international justice, Wang said, urging all members of the Council to shoulder their due responsibilities and make effective efforts to maintain regional peace and security.

Third, Wang said, an ultimate way out of the Palestinian issue lies in the implementation of the two-state solution. China will host an open debate on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict at the UN Security Council yesterday, and expects all parties to make a unified voice on this issue.

China holds the opinion that the Security Council should reconfirm the two-state solution and urge Palestine and Israel to resume peace talks on the basis of the two-state solution as soon as possible, Wang added.

China will continue to firmly support the just cause of the Palestinian people to strive for the restoration of their legitimate national rights, support a just solution to the current issue through political dialogue, and support the UN, the League of Arab States and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in playing a constructive role in this regard, Wang said.

For his part, Qureshi said that Pakistan agrees with China's position on the current Palestinian-Israeli conflict, supports the two-state solution and the just cause of the Palestinian people, and advocates promoting a solution through dialogue and negotiation between the Palestinian and Israeli sides.

Noting Pakistan highly appreciates China for upholding justice in the Security Council, Qureshi said his country is willing to strengthen communication and coordination with China to find ways to achieve a ceasefire and cessation of violence as well as to cool down the situation.

Xinhua



**An ultimate way out of the Palestinian issue lies in the implementation of the two-state solution. China will host an open debate on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict at the UN Security Council yesterday, and expects all parties to make a unified voice on this issue**

## EU confident about economic recovery amid easing of curbs

VALLETTA

BACKED by the accelerated vaccination drive, easing of anti-COVID-19 restrictions and a wide array of fiscal stimulus, the 27-member European Union (EU) has forecast a faster economic rebound for this year and beyond.

The bloc believes that the pick-up of consumption, investment and exports would power its economic recovery, while it remains vigilant against uncertainties ahead.

String Rebound

The European Commission, the EU's executive arm, revealed its Spring 2021 Economic Forecast report on Wednesday, projecting the EU economy to grow by 4.2 percent in 2021 and 4.4 percent in 2022, both higher than previous estimates, as the bloc is regaining confidence amid a faster COVID-19 vaccine rollout.

European Commissioner for Economy Paolo Gentiloni told a press conference that a massive recovery package would help the EU economy return to its pre-pandemic levels in the fourth quarter of 2021, and the eurozone would reach that point in the first quarter of 2022.

Among the major EU economies, Spain and France – heavily stricken by the pandemic last year – will report the highest growth rates in 2021, both approaching 6 percent, according to the EU's forecast.

It predicts a modest 3.4 percent growth for Germany, and 2.3 percent for the Netherlands.

The EU's economic recovery ties closely with the resilience of the global economy. The spring forecast report showed the global GDP excluding the EU is expected to expand by 5.9 percent in 2021 and 4.2 percent in 2022.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF), in the meantime, also gave an optimistic forecast for the global economy, issuing a report in April projecting the world economy to grow by 6 percent in 2021, and 4.4 percent in 2022.

ALSO READ: EU faces bumpy road to



A couple of tourists looks at the Balos beach and its lagoon in the north west of the island of Crete, on May 13, 2021. Greece started welcoming international tourists on May 14. (AFP)

economic recovery

"As long as there are no negative surprises, the European forecasts seem very reasonable," Carsten Brzeski, chief economist for Germany at investment bank ING headquartered in the Netherlands, told Xinhua.

"The overall situation now looks much stronger than it did a few months ago. I think the potential near-term problems are factors that at worst would delay the recovery and not derail it," he said.

Growth Engines

The three engines, namely private consumption, investment and exports, will drive the resumed growth of the EU economy, according to the spring forecast report.

According to the report, private consumption is expected to rebound to take up 1.5 percent of EU's GDP in 2021 and up to 3 percent in 2022. The public investment-to-GDP ratio is forecast to rise to almost 3.5 percent in 2022, driven by the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the key instrument of the EU stimulus funds.

Nils Jannsen, a senior researcher at the Germany-based Kiel Institute for the World Economy, took Germany for instance and said that as the vac-

ination campaign progresses and infection control measures are eased, consumer spending is likely to surge again and the economic recovery in Germany will start a second run.

"With the good order situation in the German industry, which is responsible for a significant part of investments, business investments should also pick up quickly, especially as the uncertainty in sales prospects is expected to decrease further due to the increasing availability of effective vaccines," he added.

The EU also pinned hope on the recovery of the global economy to stimulate its exports, predicting that EU export markets are set to increase by 8.3 percent in 2021 and 6.4 percent in 2022.

Experts expressed confidence in the rebound of industrial sectors across Europe, especially in major EU members like Germany, Italy and France. The Federation of German Industries expected a rapid economic recovery in all major EU economies, with this year's industrial output predicted to grow by 8 percent in Germany, 10 percent in Italy, 7 percent in France and 6 percent in Spain.

Improving economic performance in China and the United States will

also have a ripple effect across the world and help raise European exports, said Brzeski.

Uncertainties Remain

Despite its robust GDP growth forecast, the EU is well aware of the risks surrounding the outlook as long as the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic still hangs over the economy.

In its spring forecast, the bloc acknowledged there were risks associated with record-high debt and deficit spending aimed at staving off the worst impacts of the pandemic.

The IMF also warned that global prospects remain highly uncertain one year into the pandemic and said the outlook depends not just on the outcome of the battle between the virus and vaccines, but also on how effectively the economic policies can limit lasting damage from this unprecedented crisis.

Gentiloni cautioned that "the risk of scarring, with a worsening of poverty, social exclusion and inequality, is very real." He also pointed out that "we must avoid mistakes that could undermine it: namely, a premature withdrawal of policy support."

Another risk could lie in a new coronavirus strain that might have a negative impact if it proves resistant to the main vaccines being used in Europe, said Lorenzo Codogno, founder and chief economist of LC Macro Advisors Ltd and a visiting professor at the London School of Economics. **Agencies**

## Huawei calls for closer public-private sector cooperation to restore trust in technology

BERN, Switzerland

THE St. Gallen Symposium, an annual gathering of current and future leaders from across the globe, celebrated its 50th anniversary this year.

At the event, 1,000 participants took part in the three-day cross-generational dialogue, joining from the University of St. Gallen campus, an international hub in Singapore, ten Swiss Embassies around the world, and elsewhere online.

Catherine Chen, Corporate Senior Vice President and BOD Member at Huawei, addressed the student-led initiative on the morning of May 7. Other top speakers from the private sector include Christophe Franz, BOD Chairman at Roche, Ola Källenius, chairman of the Board of Management at Daimler, Satya Nadella, Chief Executive Officer of Microsoft, and Roshni Nadar Malhotra, Chief Executive Officer of HCL Corporation.

The participants, which also included political leaders, such as Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz, and representatives of transnational organizations, like Chairwoman of the Swiss Digital Initiative Doris Leuthard, gathered to exchange



Catherine Chen

their views on the theme of this year's symposium, "Trust Matters", something to which Huawei is deeply committed.

Chen believes this will require the joint efforts of policymakers, regulators, and the private sector.

"As more devices feature connectivity, more services go online, and more critical infrastructures rely on real-time data exchanges, so must governments worldwide ensure that everyone is protected by the highest security standards.

Only a common set of rules can guarantee a level of security that creates trust in technology," she said. This year's St. Gallen Symposium kicked off on May 5.

The event's participants agreed that trust is inherently built on openness and transparency, and that it is time to take concrete, actionable steps to address the common challenges and risks that have emerged in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Public trust in political and economic institutions, emerging

technologies, and the media has recently been eroded, especially among the younger generations; and this has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We, as members of the younger generation, are connected to a greater number of people through social media, but this does not correspond to a circle of people we can trust," said Simon Zulliger, a member of the team of 35 students from the University of St. Gallen that organized this year's symposium.

The team expressed their view that finding ways to preserve and strengthen trust is critical for a sustainable recovery.

Chen hoped that the next generation of leaders would build trust and shape a world of pervasive connectivity.

"I urge them to continue developing the positive relationships between communities, individuals, and their environments. We must build strong trust in technology, enabled by a common set of rules, innovations, and progress. Only then can we commit to the sustainable and trustworthy use of technology," she said. **Agencies**

## India's west coast braces for cyclone amid virus woes

By Bloomberg

A CYCLONE is set to hit the western coast of India – the country's industrialized belt with big refineries and ports – tomorrow morning, prompting authorities already grappling with a deadly second virus wave to start preparations for evacuating citizens.

Cyclone "Tauktae," which lay about 500 kilometers (310 miles) away from the financial hub of Mumbai, is expected to make landfall in the southern districts of Gujarat, with wind speeds touching 175 kilometers per hour, according to the India Meteorological Department.

It has intensified into a "very severe cyclonic storm," the national weather fore-

caster said in a tweet yesterday.

Local authorities in Mumbai have already moved hundreds of COVID-19 patients to other facilities. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi told his senior government officials to ensure "maintenance of all essential services such as power, telecommunications, health and drinking water," according to a May 15 statement from Press Information Bureau.

India is currently the global epicenter of the coronavirus pandemic, where hospitals and crematoriums are getting overwhelmed amid the world's fastest-surging outbreak.

Any disruption from the cyclone threatens to worsen the



Police and rescue personnel evacuate local residents from a flooded house in a coastal area after heavy rains under the influence of cyclone 'Tauktae' in Kochi on May 14, 2021. (AFP)

already-existing shortages of medical supplies from oxygen cylinders to vaccines.

Modi also said that special care needs to be taken to ensure that there is the least

possible disruption in oxygen supply from Jamnagar in Gujarat – the site of Reliance Industries Ltd.'s massive refinery complex that is currently India's largest medical-grade

oxygen provider from one location.

Storm Surge

The IMD has warned of a storm surge of as much as 3 meters that can inundate

coastal areas including the Jamnagar district.

Modi also sought special preparations for COVID-19 hospitals, essential medicines, cold storage facilities for vaccines and for the unhindered movement of oxygen tankers, according to the statement.

The Navy and the coast guard have deployed ships and helicopters for relief operations, it said, along with the Air Force and the engineering units of the Army on standby. India's National Disaster Response Force has deployed 42 teams which are equipped with boats, tree-cutters, telecom equipment in six states and has kept 26 teams on standby. **Agencies**

**Local authorities in Mumbai have already moved hundreds of COVID-19 patients to other facilities. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi told his senior government officials**



The Guardian

## SPORT

## Johnnie Walker TM Lugalo Cross Country 2021 tourney attracts more golfers



Serengeti Breweries Limited Managing Director, Mark Ocitti (L), presents a trophy to the Johnnie Walker TM Cross Country golf tournament 2021's gross ladies' winner, Angel Eaton (R) at Lugalo Golf Club's course in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Looking on (2nd L) is Terence Mwakaliku, the founder of the tournament, and James Mwambona from Simba Courier, co-sponsors of the event. Johnnie Walker brand was the main sponsor of the tournament. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

By Guardian Reporter

ABOUT 100 golfers from various parts of Tanzania have participated in this year's Johnnie Walker TM Cross Country golf tournament sponsored by Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL), through Johnnie Walker Whisky brand.

Running in fourth year in a row, the one-day contest was held at the Lugalo Club's golf course in Dar es Salaam over the weekend and it was spiced up by a prize giving ceremony where the winners received their trophies.

In an interview with the media, the tournament's founder Terence Mwakaliku said the tournament has been designed to offer a different experience in playing golf as opposed to ordinary golf playing.

He said, instead of playing one pitch after another, Cross Country tournament involved mixing pitches and holes which offer a different feeling and new experience of playing golf to players.

"With Cross Country Challenge golfers are offered with different experience and taste of playing the game the same as when you drink Johnnie

Walker Whisky which also offers different taste and experience," he said.

Mwakaliku thanked Johnnie Walker for supporting the tournament and noted that the sponsorship has helped to make better organization and as a result the number of participants has increased.

Serengeti Breweries Limited Managing Director, Mark Ocitti, said Johnnie Walker was honoured to be part of the tournament which offer a different experience in playing golf just like what the whisky has to offer.

"In this tournament what we are doing is the re configuration of golf the course made for us to play and enjoy the game in a completely different way. Johnnie as a brand is proud to sponsor this great event since it's a brand that offers different experience and taste," Ocitti said.

Johnnie Walker blended Scotch whisky is one of the first truly global brands.

The Johnnie Walker portfolio features 5 award-winning whiskeys, namely Red Label, Black Label, Green Label, Gold Label, and Blue Label each with its own distinct personality, history and a story to tell.

## Prisons' defender opens up on ban

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

TANZANIA Prisons' skipper, Benjamin Asukile, has opened up on the suspension Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) has imposed on him, saying he has no objection to the decision.

The TFF Competitions Committee issued a five-match ban on Asukile, as well as asking the player to pay 500,000/- in fine, following his allegations against Yanga.

Asukile faced the punishment for making derogatory statements against Yanga, when the latter faced Prisons in Federation Cup round of 16 clash, held in Rukwa.

He was moreover banned for issuing offensive comments on Yanga's foreign players, the federation and the clash's referee.

Asukile made the remarks shortly after the Federation Cup's tie, which culminated with Yanga posting 1-0 victory over Prisons.

The defender said: "I have received reports of my punishment from the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Competitions Committee, and I have no objection to their decisions."

"The main thing I can say is that I still insist that these rules and regulations of football are for all teams, so they should be fully considered because when there are shortcomings then I don't understand what happens."

The ban came after the TFF committee reviewed the tie's reports and found that Asukile had committed offenses of making derogatory remarks, scandals, insults and accusations against the opposing team, their foreign players as well as the referee and TFF.

Following the offense, the TFF issued the ban in accordance with articles 38: 2, 39: 5-3 of the Premier League regulations, which are read in conjunction with the Federation Cup's rules.

The committee also reviewed newspaper reports on Asukile's allegations of corruption against opposing team and the matter has been referred to the TFF Disciplinary Committee for further action.

The statement, signed by the federation's information officer, Clifford Ndimbo, went further, warning players, officials and fans to follow the rules of the competition.

## Simba SC first leg fiasco restores old register in CAF tournaments

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

ISSUES as to how far local club champions Simba Sports Club can maintain a winning streak in continental tournaments have been given a resounding if baffling response in the wake of a first leg encounter with Kaizer Chiefs in away game.

Analysts will take some time to sort out what was usual and what was unusual in the way the local champions took the match and how the home side tames their capacity, but it appears that old fashioned explanations still ring true.

It can't be said that the results were predictable as they definitely weren't, not to any analysts on the local scene, but surprisingly, not unusual.

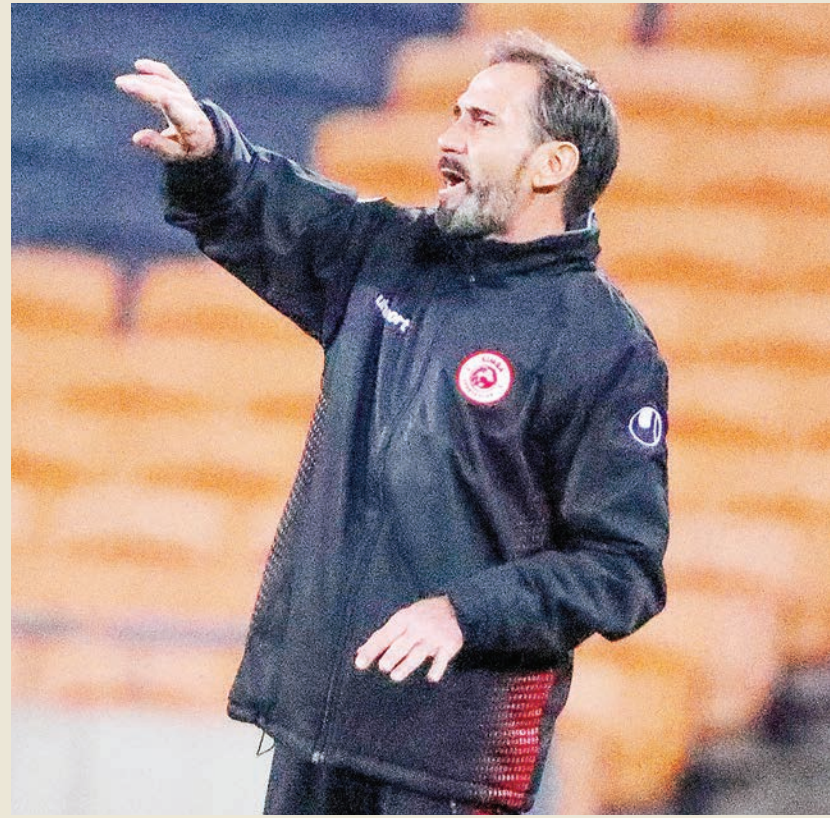
The first impression that one gets from the match is that Simba has been returned to its normal image in major tournaments at the continental stage, of likelihood of a heavy loss in its away encounter, and a more solid performance in the return match - or in the first encounter.

The trick is usually how results of the first encounter influence performance in the follow up match, which must now be placed on the old register as the recent streak of high class performance appears to have run out of steam.

The convincing win by the home side has to do with structural reasons in how the visiting side approached the game, first.

In that case it can be predicted that in the next game the visitors will not be as well armed psychologically as they were in home ground encounter, and at the same time the local champions will play their hearts out.

Their fans are waiting for little short of overturning the tables as in the legendary



Simba SC head coach, Didier Gomes Da Rosa. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBASC

overturn of a similar result with Mufulira Wanderers, the difference being that at that time the overhaul was even more dramatic.

The 4-0 result was obtained at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam and a 5-0 follow up followed, the stuff of legend.

Chance of this sort of score taking place are more or less out of place as such results are a rarity, and irrespective of what stage of the tournament was the Mufulira return match at that time, chances of such reversals taking place at quarter final stage are less likely.

This may have been a contributing factor, that quarterfinal encounters are not things that any side takes lightly, and the fact that Simba made minnows out of Al Ahly led to far more intense preparations on the side of the South African champions than would otherwise have been the case.

They went as far as saying they can win the tie by a 5-0 margin.

They almost arrived, as they failed to up the score at the very last half minute of the game, after which the goal kick was scarcely taken after Aishi Manula had foiled a drive

from close range from his right side, ever troubling on that day.

Just why they could make such a prediction and actually carry it out means that their words need to be taken seriously, not just as fans ranting whatever they want on social media like 'Kwa Mkapa Hamtoki' that flooded the Kaizer Chiefs social media page and sent them scurrying for answers on what the phrase means.

The proper results indicate that it was a reasoned analysis, but how?

Those watching the match and who occupy respectable positions in assessing how the team was working out on the pitch, and despite that they can't as well drop their ordinarily intense sentiments on the tie, it was clear they were failing to resolve two sets of divergent data.

One was ability of the visiting side to control the possession or long moments and even put at 69 per cent possession midway into the game, and well into the second half, but was already 2-0 down at that moment.

Well positioned pundits were saying there were 'small mistakes' to

be corrected in the defence but instead of doing that, two goals were added.

It follows hence that the Simba SC head coach had no answers to the 'small mistakes' that his rearguard was making, nor for that matter could his mid-field and attacking set get to grips with any 'small mistakes' that were coming up on the other side, or fruitfully make use of them.

Instead of this situation telling badly on the coaching per se, one needs plausible reasons that could be applied for the whole of 90 minutes of play, as only later did the possession situation appear to be changing in Kaizer Chiefs' favor.

They may hence have used the timeless tactic of allowing an adversary to tire himself, and then be hit.

That notwithstanding, it was also evident that Kaizer Chiefs had taken time to study the Simba game pattern especially after the Al Ahly gargantuan surprise at the continental level, whereas the visiting side relied on their usual tactics expecting the same results.

They may have had no inkling of the strengths and weaknesses of the home side pattern of play, nor indeed that they had done extensive work on them as well.

Not least, it is also possible the streak of wins and a comfortable situation in the local premier league may have taken plenty of worries out of the picture, impacting Simba SC match fitness.

## Usambara Development cricketers thrash Amboni Stars in TCA Tanga T20 League

By Guardian Reporter

USAMBARA Development cricket side cruised to a resounding seven-wicket win over Amboni Stars in a 2021 Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) T20 Tanga League clash, held at Usambara ground in Tanga recently.

Amboni Stars elected to bat once they had won the toss, notching 80 runs for the loss of seven wickets in 20 overs.

The side's top order batsmen were so far the players that played a pivotal role in the acquisition of the total.

Unbeaten 31 runs posted by opener Hamza Ally happened to be the most significant contribution.

He cleared the boundary on two occasions on his way to ending as the top run getter in the innings.

Seif Athuman, who opened the innings with Ally, lasted a few overs and managed to register five runs.

Skipper Alhaj Sadick, deployed at number three, notched 15 runs which consisted of three fours.

Efforts by Sadick, who also regularly plays in



Usambara Development cricket team's players pose for a photo after taking part in a recent club showpiece in Tanga.

Dar es Salaam club competitions, to see to it that Amboni Stars end their innings with an imposing score were foiled by Usambara Development's bowler Hemedi Abdallah that bowled the former.

Dismas Lazaro also had double-digit figures in the innings, his spell was then ended by Usambara Development's Omary Hilal.

The rest of Amboni Stars' batsmen were visibly below par, making their way back to the pavilion in quick succession.

Abdallah, Amiri Sadick, Hilal, Rajabu Juma and skipper, Riziki Kisetu, took one wicket

each for Usambara Development side.

Needing 81 runs to post victory, Usambara Development squad hardly drained a sweat, given they easily chased Amboni Stars' total for three wickets in 7.4 overs.

Skipper Kisetu, who opened the innings, led Usambara Development side's batting onslaught, registering 29 runs which consisted of four fours and a six.

Fellow opener, Hilal, was equally impressive, scoring 26 runs which included two fours and a six.

Much as they were pegged back with an early dismissal of Abdal-

lah, who was slotted in at number three, they gallantly got down to successful chase.

Abdallah could only score six runs, which included a four, he was then caught by Amboni Stars' Ally from Seif Athuman's bowling.

Amiri stepped at the crease to forge an unbeaten partnership with Karim Kisetu and steered their squad to victory.

Amiri posted 10 runs not out, which included two fours, Kisetu chipped in with unbeaten two runs.

Amboni Stars' bowlers, Hussein Hemedi and Athuman, ended with a wicket apiece.

The four-team league which has teams locking horns in 20-over clashes has Tanga Women Combine, Macechu Stars, Amboni Stars, and Usambara Development.

Tanga Women Combine, the only women outfit taking part in the showdown, lead the rest of the pack with victory in two fixtures and loss in one.

The league leaders have 0.2184 in net run rate, notching 314 runs and giving away 280 runs.

Usambara Development squad, the league leaders' closest challengers, sits second after notching one win and loss.

The squad has 1.9422 in net run rate given it has notched 181 runs and gave away 184 runs.

Macechu Stars come third with victory in the only fixture they have participated in.

They have registered 1.2553 in net run rate, notching 84 runs and giving away 81 runs.

Bottom-placed Amboni Stars are winless in two clashes they have featured in.

They have -3.2238 in net run rate given they have recorded 179 runs and leaked 213 runs.



## Nurkovic stars as Chiefs stun Simba, Ahly sucker punch sinks Sundowns

JOHANNESBURG

KAIZER Chiefs stole the show as they, title-holders Al Ahly and Chabab Belouizdad used home advantage to build CAF Champions League quarter-finals first-leg leads on Saturday.

South African club Chiefs stunned Tanzanian visitors Simba 4-0 in Soweto with Serbian Samir Nurkovic scoring twice and creating another goal.

A late goal from Salah Mohsen gave Egyptian and African giants Ahly a 2-0 advantage over Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa in Cairo as they pursue a record-extending 10th title.

Last-eight debutants Chabab Belouizdad of Algeria also triumphed 2-0, against four-time champions Esperance from Tunisia, with Amir Sayoud claiming a chart-topping eighth goal of the campaign.

On Friday, twice champions Wydad Casablanca from Morocco took a big step toward the semi-finals by forcing a 1-1 draw away to Mouloudia Alger in Algeria.

All four return matches will be played next Saturday, the two-leg semi-finals are scheduled for June and Casablanca will host the single-match final on July 17.

Chiefs faced Simba having scored only seven goals in 10 previous Champions League matches and were the only contenders to average less than a goal a game.

Simba, on the other hand, had been impressive qualifiers for the knockout stage, topping a group that included Ahly and conceding just three goals in 10 games.

From the kickoff Chiefs exploited the aerial weakness of the Simba central defenders and headed goals by Eric Mathoho and Nurkovic build a 2-0 half-time advantage.

- Stood bewildered -

In the space of six second-half minutes Chiefs doubled their lead as Nurkovic scored again with a close-range shot before Colombian Leonardo Castro beat goalkeeper Aishi Manula with a diving header.

France-born Simba coach Didier Gomes da Rosa stood bewildered on the sideline, praying for an away goal that would give his multi-national outfit a glimmer of hope, but it never came.

Ahly coach Pitso Mosimane likened his previous club Sundowns to a "monster he created that was coming to bite him", but the fears of the South African proved unfounded.

Mohammed Taher put the Cairo Red Devils ahead midway through the first half by cutting inside and firing past veteran Ugandan goalkeeper Denis Onyango.

Sundowns dominated second-half possession and were defied several times by the brilliance of Ahly captain and goalkeeper Mohamed el Shenawy before Mohsen delivered the 89th-minute sucker punch.

Ahly and Sundowns have met nine times in the Champions League, starting with the 2001 final, and the Egyptian club have won five of the matches and lost only once.

In Algiers, Belouizdad added Esperance to a list of recent high-profile victims, including five-time champions TP Mazembe from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sundowns.

Zakaria Draoui starred for Chabab, scoring the first goal as half-time approached and setting up Sayoud for the crucial second with eight minutes remaining.

AFP

## Wembley comes alive with noise and colour of fans' return

LONDON

WEMBLEY Stadium came alive with the largest sports crowd in England since the coronavirus pandemic hit on Saturday as 22,000 spectators descended on the home of English football to witness Leicester lift the FA Cup for the first time.

Youri Tielemans's stunning strike that beat Chelsea 1-0 was met with a wave of noise from the 6,000 Foxes fans behind the goal where the ball had nestled in the top corner.

There were just as jubilant scenes when Chelsea saw a late equaliser ruled out after a VAR review and the final whistle went.

"It's fantastic for the club," said Leicester fan Alan Edwards. "To have fans at the game as well. It's a shame we can't have 40,000 here, but it's brilliant to have so many here. You can hear the atmosphere."

The final was the third test event held at Wembley with fans, as thanks to a mass rollout of vaccinations, restrictions across Britain are beginning to ease.

Just under 4,000 saw Leicester's semi-final victory over Southampton last month.

That attendance was doubled for Manchester City's 1-0 win over Tottenham in the League Cup final on April 25.

Later this week, crowds of up to 10,000 will return to Premier League grounds for the final two matchdays of the season, including another vital clash between Chelsea and Leicester for a place in next season's Champions League.

Wembley will host eight matches at Euro 2020 with at least 25 percent of its 90,000 capacity.

There are even hopes that both semi-finals and the final could be played out in front of more than 22,500.

AFP

# Fixing Arsenal: What Arteta & Co. can do to actually pull off their youth-oriented rebuild

By Bill Connelly, ESPN Staff Writer

A SHORT run of success can be extremely misleading. And when you make a few huge decisions based in part on a really short run of success, it can set you back for quite a while.

Last summer during Project Restart, Arsenal beat league champions Liverpool and took down both Manchester City and Chelsea on the way to a surprising FA Cup title. New manager and former Pep Guardiola and Arsene Wenger protege, Mikel Arteta, hadn't been on the job very long, and his debut season had been interrupted by a once-in-a-century pandemic, but these were openly exciting results, a sign of a plan potentially coming together.

Of course, over a larger sample, there was little evidence of sustained growth. Arsenal averaged 1.6 points per game after the league's restart, only a slight improvement over its 1.43 PPG pre-stoppage average. Liverpool had already clinched the title and taken their foot off the gas at the time of Arsenal's 2-1 win (which came between Arsenal losses to rival Tottenham Hotspur and a relegation-threatened Aston Villa), and while the cup upset of Guardiola's City was particularly exciting, City had beaten the Gunners 3-0 in league play a month earlier.

Heading into an abbreviated but vital off-season, Arsenal was working to get expensive veterans off the books, and younger players like center/left back Kieran Tierney and attackers Nicholas Pepe, Bukayo Saka and Eddie Nketiah had looked impressive late in the season. Plus, veteran Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang ended the season on fire (nine goals and six chances created in 12 post-restart matches), offering the club a chance to perhaps sell high on the 30-year old scorer if there were any takers. They appeared to have an opportunity to move on from some veterans and execute a long-term plan a la Liverpool, which over a number of seasons built a core of players of similar age who all peaked in performance around 2019-20.

Instead, the club decided that those three wins were all the proof they needed of an impending breakthrough, and leaned on locking up veterans to put the finishing touches on a contender that didn't actually exist.

This piece I wrote last July ended up both extremely correct in hindsight and extremely incorrect in guessing the actual plan, such as it was, that Arsenal executed.

After pointing out that a lot of Arsenal's "improvement" wasn't backed up by stats, I noted that the Gunners indeed had an opportunity to pull a Liverpool: "[Liverpool's] general



Mikel Arteta

approach was what Arteta and Arsenal will now embark on: slowly unfurl your intended philosophy over time, while stockpiling players who will be in range of their athletic peak in about three years. Generally speaking, that means guys currently between about 21 and 25 years old."

Of the five primary signings Arsenal made last summer, four were for players 27 or older. "They've been linked to Atletico Madrid's 27-year-old Thomas Partey... which makes little sense considering either [his] age or likely asking [price]."

They spent £45 million to acquire Partey and signed him for £13 million a year, per Spotrac. "It will be tricky to make any major roster improvements this off-season, but one astute move could be to sell high on Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, who scored 22 goals this season but also just turned 31. If Arsenal is contending in a few years, he probably won't be a part of it and his value will never be higher."

They quickly re-signed Aubameyang for three years and £13 million per year, then doubled down on 30-somethings by bringing in former Chelsea winger Willian at £10 million per year for three years. They paid £7.2 million for 27-year old defender Pablo Mari and signed 29-year old former Southampton fullback Cedric Soares to a four-year contract at £3.9 million per year.

Aubameyang, Partey and Willian are easily the three most highly paid players on the team, and they're all under contract for two more seasons. All three struggled with either injury, form or both in 2020-21.

Arsenal did land a decent young defender in Lille's Gabriel Magalhaes, and managed to get some aging players' contracts off of the books -- Henrikh Mkhitaryan, Mesut Ozil, Sokratis Papastathopoulos, Shkodran Mustafi -- in recent months. But that only benefits you so much when that investment is simply shifted to other players who are either already past their respective peaks or will

indeed been at least a few on-field gains, if not nearly enough to justify last summer's moves.

While they're on pace for nearly the same Premier League point total this season (58) as last (56), their goal differential has improved slightly, from +0.2 goals per match to +0.3, and their expected goal (xG) differential has improved by quite a bit from -0.3 per match to +0.2. They've gone from being lucky to finish eighth to being slightly unlucky to rank eighth. That's not something you celebrate, but slight improvement is still improvement.

Most of the gains have come on the defensive side: the Gunners are fourth in goals per match allowed (1.06, down from 1.26 last season) and fifth in xG allowed (1.27, down from a ghastly 1.67). Part of this comes from the fact that they keep the overall tempo so low -- they average just 82.7 possessions per match, lowest in the league, and they possess the ball 53% of the time. That they rank just 10th in shots allowed per possession (0.13) and seventh in xG allowed per shot (0.12) hints that the defense maybe isn't quite as good as its goals allowed, but the trend is a healthy one.

They're much better at defending set pieces, too, giving up just 0.14 set piece goals per 90 minutes, second-fewest in the league and way down from last year's 0.39. When Arsenal is lucky enough to go ahead, few in the Premier League protect leads better. Their scoring margin while ahead is +1.3 goals per 90 possessions, fourth in the league. They maintain solid possession, limit opponents' shot attempts and counter-attack well. Once ahead, they are more likely than their opponents to score next.

The problem: they're rarely ahead. Their scoring margin when tied is -0.1 goals per 90 possessions, 11th in the league. Their defense is leakier in these situations, their attack mediocre.

Actually, the attack is just mediocre, period. They're 10th in goals scored (1.4 per match) and 11th in xG (1.5). They had a serious shot volume problem last season and early in this season, and while they've addressed it (they're currently sixth in shots per possession), they did so mostly with low-quality shots (14th in xG per

shot). Unless they're creating rare counter-attacking opportunities, they don't create many clean looks -- 84% of their shots have come with at least two defenders between the shot and the goal. It's an improvement from last year's 83%, but it still ranks 13th in the EPL.

When you're great at building on leads, but you're falling behind a lot, you're a pretty poor performer in close games. Even with Wednesday's 1-0 win over Chelsea, Arsenal average a paltry 1.05 points per game in matches decided by 0-1 goals, good for 15th in the league. At the same time, they've won 10 matches by 2+ goals, mostly against bad teams -- four against teams that have been relegated, two against Newcastle, one against Southampton.

There is luck and randomness in close-game performance, and Arsenal's terrible average will likely improve next season. But mediocrity in attack will still probably keep said average low.

**Their biggest issue: no easy chances**

Under Arteta, Arsenal have done well to establish some of the basics of the possession game: they average 6.4 passes per possession (fourth in the league) and 27.0 seconds per possession (second). Their direct speed (the average meters the ball progresses vertically in a given sequence) is the fourth-lowest behind possession-dominant Manchester City, Chelsea and Southampton. (Southampton is more possession-aspirant than possession-dominant under Ralph Hasenhuttl, but you get the idea.)

Arsenal also finish 42% of their possessions in the attacking third, fifth-best and up from 39% last season. But they've gotten to this point without creating any of the easy chances that the best teams in the league create. They begin only 6.8 possessions per match in the attacking third (11th), allow 14.2 passes per defensive action (12th) and allow 5.4 passes per opponent possession (13th). This is another way in which the aging core of attackers has not helped.

Even possession teams can occasionally spring scoring opportunities by completing a well-placed "long ball," but Arsenal rarely does that. They don't attempt many, like most possession-heavy teams (9% of their passes

go 25+ yards, fifth-fewest in the league), but they also don't complete many of the ones they try either (46%, 10th). Granit Xhaka has been brilliant in this regard, completing 121 of 171 long balls this season (71%) -- among EPL players with at least 150 longball attempts, only Manchester City's Rodri (73%) has been more accurate -- but that only highlights how poor everyone else on the team has been.

One way or another, the best teams create easy scoring chances for themselves. Arsenal don't, and they would do it far less without Xhaka, who has likely been the team's most valuable player. He not only completes the most long balls, but he's also recorded by far the most ball recoveries and won more than 50% of his duels and aerials on a team that desperately needs all of those things. They are averaging 1.55 points per game in league play with him and 1.43 without. Their goal differential is +0.52 per match with him and -0.43 without. His absence in the meek, scoreless second leg of the Europa League semifinals against Villarreal -- he suffered a pre-match injury -- was clearly felt.

Xhaka is 28 years old, and his contract runs another two years. He is said to have a strong relationship with Arteta (it wouldn't be hard to see why), but his future with the club is murky.

**But really, whose isn't?**

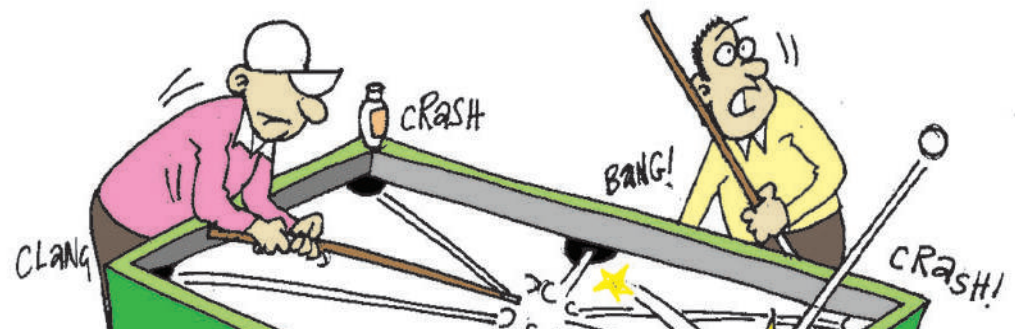
**How's this offseason going to go?**

Despite middling results, financial losses, the embarrassing stink of the failed Super League venture and growing fan outrage, Kroenke Sports & Entertainment, the club's owner, appears uninterested in selling the club anytime soon. They could do with a PR coup or two -- usually accomplished via some big-name talent acquisition -- but it's unclear how that might come about. They don't have as much spending power as some other big clubs, and Arsenal need to skew younger than most "big names" in their acquisitions anyway.

The best outcome of this offseason, then, would be the creation and execution of an actual plan. Conceiving of such a thing will likely require answering the following questions.

**To be continued**

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

**Fixing Arsenal: What Arteta & Co. can do to actually pull off their youth-oriented rebuild**

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**5 EATV MONDAY**

**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

**UJENZI**

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 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music/Soap  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 UJENZI  
21:30 SPORTS LIVE  
22:30 Bongo Hits

**UJENZI**

**Tonight on EATV**  
Find out how using glass blocks from Canghui Traders Limited can improve your home decor

And Tanfix Quality Choice has an innovative solution for wall fungus

**It's all on Ujenzi at 9PM**

**eastafrica RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

## Defender optimistic of Yanga's successful quest for winning VPL

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA defender Bakari Mwamnyeto has insisted they have not lost hope in their quest to clinch this season's Vodacom Premier League title after their 0-0 draw with Namungo FC on Saturday.

Yanga went into the match at Majaliwa Stadium in Ruangwa seeking a win to close the gap between them and table-toppers Simba SC but they could not break down the resilient Namungo side and the points were shared.

The draw ended Yanga's two-match-winning run but Mwamnyeto, who was captaining the side in the absence of defender Lamine Moro, noted the draw was a fair result considering the effort their rivals put in.

He was adamant they are still in the race to win the title this season.

"It was a difficult game, we came with our plans to win and take the three points but Namungo also came with their plans and we have managed a point, which is not a bad result for us, we are happy with the point," Mwamnyeto said.

Mwamnyeto who was signed from Coastal Union moreover pointed out the draw will not affect their push for the title.

He noted: "I don't think so, we still have hope, we still have the chance to win the title, we have not lost hope, the league is a marathon and we will fight to the end."

He disclosed: "We have not lost against Namungo but we managed a draw and for me, I feel a draw is a fair result considering how our opponents fought in the match, we managed a point and must now focus on our next match."

Namungo striker Reliant Lusajo said they are happy to pick up a draw against one of the best teams in the competition.

"We all know Yanga is a strong team, and one of the best in the league, and picking a draw from them is a good result for us, we are happy and contented with the draw," Lusajo said.

Yanga were, however, denied a goal in the 73rd minute after striker Yacouba Songne headed in from a corner-kick, but the assistant referee controversially ruled it out despite replays suggesting it should have stood.

With the draw, Yanga will remain in the second position with 58 points from the 28 matches they have played.

The 27-time league champions have collected 16 wins, 10 draws, and two losses and have further scored 41 goals and conceded 17.

Reigning champions Simba lead the race with 61 points from 25 matches having won 19, drawn four, and lost two, scoring 58 goals and conceding 10.

## Coach: Simba SC still within reach of 2020/21 CAF CL semi-finals



Kaizer Chiefs goalkeeper, Bruce Bvuma (R), seeks to make a save to foil Simba forward, Chris Mugalu, when the clubs locked horns in a CAF Champions League's last eight match, which took place in South Africa last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S Simba SC head coach Didier Gomes Da Rosa has refused to concede his outfit is out of this season's CAF Champions League after losing 4-0 to Kaizer Chiefs in a last-eight match, which took place in South Africa on Saturday.

The Msimbazi Street giants went into the match at FNB Stadium with a good record from the group stage but Kaizer Chiefs, nicknamed 'Amakhosi', used their home advantage well to win the first leg contest and put one leg in the semi-finals of the competition.

However, Simba found the going tough as goals from Samir Nurkovic (a brace), Erick Mathoho, and Leonardo Castro inspired 'Amakhosi' to a well-deserved win.

The results have helped the Soweto giants maintain their unbeaten home record in this season's Champions League.

The French tactician has

maintained a brave face despite the huge defeat, insisting they still have a chance to make things right in the return leg set for Tanzania because 'in football, anything can happen.'

He noted: "Anything can happen because this is football".

He stated: "We are not happy with the outcome but we still have hope."

Simba SC midfielder Bernard Morrison, who missed the clash against Chiefs, is confident they have what it takes to overturn the results in Dar es Salaam.

He noted: "When a hero stumbles, the cowards rejoice. Nothing feels better to a coward than to see a good guy fall."

Morrison had put the comments on his Twitter handle about his side's humiliating defeat.

He disclosed: "When they say you can't do it, tell them to sit back and watch how you do it."

Despite Simba going into the match having won five successive matches in their domestic league, Chiefs got off to the perfect start as they broke the deadlock through Mathoho, who

marked his return to the starting line-up with a goal just six minutes into the match.

Nurkovic flicked a well-taken corner-kick from Bernard Parker and Mathoho headed past Simba goalkeeper Aishi Manula to hand Chiefs a 1-0 lead and it was his third goal in this season's Champions League.

Chief then doubled their lead four minutes after the half-hour mark as Reeve Frosler's delightful cross was headed home by Nurkovic, who netted his first goal in the Champions

League, to hand Chiefs a 2-0 lead heading into the half-time break.

Nurkovic pounced and scored with a brilliant volley to make it 3-0 to Chiefs after Simba defender Mohammed Hussein had mistakenly headed the ball into his path three minutes before the hour-mark.

It was soon 4-0 to Chiefs in the 63rd minute when Castro hit the back of the net with a diving header.

The two teams are scheduled to meet again in the second-leg encounter at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on May 22.

## Lions Castilla hammer TCA Dar Combine in Kazim Nasser Memorial tourney's Division C

By Guardian Reporter

LIONS Castilla cricketers posted a 73-run win over Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) Dar Combine in the 2021 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division C's duel, played last weekend.

Opener Faisal Gothey is one of Lions Castilla side's batsmen who should be credited for the side's ability to post the triple digit score, thanks to his solid batting showing.

The team, a second-string side of Lions Cricket Club, went in to bat first in the Group B duel, amassing 170 runs for the loss of two wickets in 20 overs.

Unbeaten 68 runs posted by Gothey gave the side a good start, he cleared the boundary on nine occasions in what was the best innings.

The fellow opener, Pramod Shetty, put solid knocks for several overs and notched 21 runs, which included three fours.

Chetan Borkhataria, deployed at number three, saw



Lions Castilla cricket squad's players pose for a photo after participating in a regional showdown, held in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF LIONS CRICKET CLUB

to it Lions Castilla are in control, given he notched 26 runs which consisted of four fours.

Skipper Imran Khan forged an unbeaten partnership with Gothey, registering unbeaten 20 runs, which consisted of a four, as the team brought their innings to an end with the total.

The youthful TCA Dar Com-

bine lost steam in the chase, as they ended scoring 97 runs, dropping three wickets in 20 overs.

Opener Ayaan Ashik Shariff was one run short of a half-century in what eventually became the best showing in the chase, which ended in vain.

The young batsman registered four fours in his spell.

Emmanuel Laurent, who opened the innings with Shariff, had a brief stay at the crease, ending with five runs to his name.

The club's skipper, Brijesh Hitesh Kakkad, attempted to boost the total after notching 13 runs, clearing the boundary on two occasions.

Abdulqadir Jivajee chipped

in with a two-digit figure, scoring 13 runs.

Ibrahim Job ended with the bat in hand, given he registered seven runs not out.

Lions Castilla's bowler Borkhataria frustrated TCA Dar Combine's quest for getting down to a successful chase, bowling Laurent out.

The DC Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML)'s Division C has attracted 15 squads, which have been grouped into A and B.

Malabar Cricket Club (MCC), Dar Cricket Club (DCC), Lions Youths, Estim B, Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Centre (SKLPSC) B, TCA Academy, and Upanga SC B participate in Group A.

Unisoft Rising Stars, Annadil Seifee, Lions Castilla, TCA Women Combine, Strikers B, Tamil Nadu Sports Club, TCA Dar Combine, and Caravans B make Group B.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

