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NEMC commends issuance of EIA permits



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Investigation on warehouses property



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Students for agriculture trainings in Israel



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Finance principles to expand businesses



Real estate dons, developers root for new housing, property policy

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

REAL estate stakeholders meeting in Arusha have called on the government to put in place a national housing and property policy to guide the fast-growing sector.

Prof Joseph Kironde (pictured) from the Department of Land Management and Evaluation at Ardhi University pointed out that most developing countries have such policy and it is high time Tanzania formulates one. This will help formalize the country's investments in properties and safeguard the rights of both landlords and tenants.

"Residential properties for instance need to be classified and standardized therefore rental fees should be charged according to a particular class under which the property has been graded," the don stated.

He was presenting a paper at the ongoing 19th edition of the African Real Estate Society Conference (AfRES) series, taking place at



Arusha is hosting the AfRES Conference for the second time, the first being in 2001 at its third meeting. Mauritius, on the other hand, is expected to host next year's (2020) conference

the Arusha International Conference Center (AICC).

Oscar Mgaya, the Chief Executive Officer of the Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company (TMRC) who was the main guest at the conference pointed out that investing in real estate was not only different but also quite sensitive as it cross-cuts into other sectors "and needs to be handled with utmost care."

On his part, the president of the Tanzania Real Estate Professionals Association, Edward Mbambukila said the real estate sector in Tanzania is self-sufficient such that it does not require foreign intervention as far as capital is concerned.

Dr Felician Komu, the event coordinator said the conference theme was 'Developing New Frontiers for the African Real Estate Sector,' in recognition of the evolving dialogues from the past 18 annual conferences.

This dialogue has shifted from a focus on natural resources management (land, sustainability and environment) in the early years (2001-2007) to real estate markets in the latter years (2009-2018).

The 2019 conference theme pays attention

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Why 88 major water projects are stalled



Minister for Water, Prof Makame Mbarawa (C) helps German Minister for Cooperation, Vera Rosendahl balancing a bucket of water on her head moments after launching a water project worth 331m/- funded by Germany through GIZ at Ng'ong'ona village in Dodoma yesterday. Looking on (L) is Dodoma Urban MP Anthony Mavunde. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

This is another success of the relationship between Tanzania and Germany. We look forward for further engagements," she said, adding that it is the aim of the German government to support development projects

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government yesterday declared that a total of 88 major water projects dating back to 2010 are stalled in various parts of the country, blaming poor management and unscrupulous engineers for the situation.

Speaking here yesterday, the Minister for Water Prof Makame Mbarawa unveiled a plan to revive the projects undertaken between 2010 and 2013 but have not produced a drop of water despite consuming billions of shillings of taxpayers' money.

The clearly annoyed minister scathed past managements and engineers that spent vast sums of government money without achieving intended results.

Officiating at the inauguration of a water supply project in Nghong'onha ward in Dodoma city, he said the government would not entertain such shoddy work anymore.

The project worth over Sh 331 million will benefit an estimated 11,800 people.



The project worth over 331 million/- will benefit which will benefit 11,800 people was implemented between July 2018 and May 2019 under the sponsorship of the German government

implemented from July 2018 to May 2019 under the sponsorship of the German government.

Mbarawa stated that the project was first designed and implemented in 2013 but did not produce water. "It is shameful that we have taken six years to bring water services to people simply due to unfaithful engineers and managers who were working on the project," he said.

There are numerous such projects countrywide that did not produce water with the budgeted funds completely spent, he pointed out, emphasizing that the government intention is to ensure they are restarted and implemented at low cost to bring services closer to people.

Prof Mbarawa thanked the German government for the support, noting that it will reduce the amount of money people used to spend on water in the past.

Before the projects was carried out, the main water source for Nghong'onha community was sold by vendors where the price varied from Sh 250 to Sh 500 per 20 litres of water depending on the season.

With the inaugurated water project, the

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Bulk procurement of pesticides to counter fake inputs, says govt

By Guardian Reporter

THE government is set to introduce bulk procurement of pesticides in the next financial year in a bid to tame rampant counterfeiting and delays that come with the current system of importation.

The Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Omary Mumba told the National Assembly yesterday that the system is scheduled to be in place before the start of the 2020/2021 farming season.

"We are currently finalising the processes but



Last year farmers ended up incurring huge losses because of fake pesticides

next season it will be used to procure the required pesticides," he said.

Mgumba was responding to a question by Uzini MP Salum Rehani (CCM) who wanted to know when the government would start bulk procurement for pesticides.

Rehani also wanted the government to introduce alternative chemicals for cashew instead of sulphur.

The lawmaker said that last year some farmers ended up in losses having used fake pesticides

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Egyptian business moguls in Dar, eyeing investment opportunities

By Francis Kajubi

A DELEGATION of 14 business executives from Egypt is in the country, exploring investment opportunities in the areas of pharmaceuticals, building materials, solar energy, industrial chemicals and engineering.

Welcoming the delegation in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Ramadhan Mwinyi (pictured), said the coming of the investor is an opportunity to boost Tanzania's economy through job creation



and revenue collection.

"The value of Egypt's exports to Tanzania was US\$42million in 2018 compared to US\$24million a year earlier. I therefore encourage all of you to invest in the mentioned sectors as per the government's top priorities," he told the visitors.

At a special dialogue that brought together the delegation with the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation, the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Egyptian Ambassador to Tanzania, members of the

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President Dr John Pombe Magufuli consoles Catholic Diocese of Dar es Salaam Archbishop Yuda Thadeus Ruwa'ichi who is admitted at Muhimbili Orthopaedic Institute (MOI). Photo: State House

Egyptian business moguls in Dar, eyeing investment opportunities

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delegation said they are interested in investing in Tanzania.

Speaking at the dialogue, Ahmed Barakat, the AUG Pharma project director, said the company is interested in establishing a pharmaceuticals factory that will serve the East African region.

"We have started procedures to construct a pharmaceutical facility in Tanzania. We have already acquired the go-ahead at the Export Processing Zone Authority and the area to put up the factory. We expect by next in a short while to accomplish procedures with BRELA and TIC so as to begin the construction of the facility," he affirmed.

The factory investment will cover US\$50million in medical products, he said.

Mohamed Abulwafa, the Egyptian envoy to Tanzania, said Egypt-Tanzania bilateral relations have strengthened in the past two past years.

"While bilateral trade between the two countries has increased significantly, strengthened ties in knowledge and technology exchange also took place," he said.

For his part, the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture president Paul Koyi said that there were plenty of opportunities to explore in the agricultural sector, as it needs tools for its transformation, including processing industries.

"We call for more investments in the agriculture sector so that value can be added to our cash crops," he said.

Seconding him, Zachy Mbenna, the director of membership services and policy advocacy at TPSF assured the delegation of an improved doing business environment that the government was putting in place.

"We the private sector of Tanzania welcomes you to invest in areas of your choice. The status of foreign direct investments has improved as the government has introduced substantial tax incentives for foreign investors," he said.

Tanzania and Egypt have already signed a joint venture agreement for the construction of a massive leather and meat processing plant in the country.

The project, named Ruvu Integrated Industry, is billed to have the capacity to slaughter 1,500 cattle and 4,500 goats per day, to be run jointly by the National Ranching Co. Ltd (NARCO) and an Egyptian firm, NECAI.

The Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Luhaga Mpina said the plant would be located at NARCO's Ruvu Ranch in Bagamoyo district in Coast region. It will also manufacture leather products such as shoes, belts, bags and prepare animal feed.

Once completed, the factory is expected to furnish 5,000 jobs and targets to sell processed meat via local outlets, the regional market and further afield, the minister affirmed.

Why 88 major water projects are stalled

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residents will pay Sh 25 per 20 litres, reducing the burden for households, particularly for women.

Speaking at the inauguration, Vera Rosenhal, the Senior Policy Officer in charge of East Africa in the German Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation, noted that the purpose of the water supply project in Nghong'onha is to enhance the livelihood and well being of some 10,500 people in the area.

"This is another success in the relationship between Tanzania and Germany, and we look forward to further engagements," she said, reiterating that it is the aim of the German government to support development projects.

She acknowledged the government's

"This is another success in the relationship between Tanzania and Germany, and we look forward to further engagements"

efforts in ensuring availability of clean and potable water for the people.

Dodoma Urban MP, Anthony Mavunde thanked the ministry for fulfilling one of the CCM election pledges in 2015, where he told voters not to vote for him in 2020 if the project was not successful.

The area has a long history of water shortages, thus the successful completion of the project is great support in improving people's livelihoods, he added.

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after delays in the supply of genuine pesticides.

"So, when will the government be ready to come up with a system that will be friendly to farmers?" he demanded. He also sought to know when the government will be ready to sit down with cooperative unions and come up with better schedule to import and distribute pesticides.

Responding, the deputy minister said new pesticides like triafmenol, hexaconazole and tubaconazole would be introduced next season, but sulphur will also continue to be in use.

Bulk procurement of pesticides to counter fake inputs, says govt

Sulphur is an insecticide and fungicide as well as rodenticide on several crops including cashew, which is highly affected by powdery mildew, cashew leaf, nut blight, dieback and fusarium wilt. Minor cashew diseases include anthracnose, damping off and leaf spots.

"Sulphur will continue to be in use because of its effectiveness in cashew as it makes the crop organic," he stated.

The government through cashew board will continue to partner with different players including cooperative unions in assessing the demand of pesticides and schedule of importation, he affirmed.

The government through the Tropical Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI) will reinforce control of pesticides in the country and remove unwanted ones, he added.

President Magufuli appoints Dr Ndunguru as LATRA board chair

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli has appointed Dr John Ndunguru as the board chairman of the newly formed Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA).

A statement from the Chief Secretary Ambassador John Kijazi availed to the media yesterday stated that his appointment started with effect from September 9, this year.

LATRA was formed from the Surface and Marine Transport Regulatory Authority (SUMATRA).

It is tasked with regulating the land transport sector whereby some of its important functions include issuance, renewal and cancellation of permits or licences as well as registration of crew and certification of drivers.

Meanwhile, President Magufuli also appointed Prof Antony Mshandete as the new board chairman of the

National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA). Before the appointment, Prof Mshandete was working as Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic, Research and Innovation) at the Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST) in Arusha. His appointment also started with effect from September 9, 2019.

Based in the northern safari capital of Arusha, the institution is one in a network of Pan-African Institutions of Science and Technology located across Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). These institutions, which are the proud brainchild of the late Nelson Mandela, envision training and developing the next generation of African scientists and engineers with a view to impacting profoundly on the continent's development through the application of Science, Engineering and Technology and Innovation (SETI).

Kenyan appointed to US State Cabinet

NAIROBI

TENNESSEE Governor Bill Lee has appointed a native Kenyan to serve in his government as the new commissioner of Commerce and Insurance.

Forty two year old Hodgen Mainda, who first moved to the US in 1997 as a rugby player becomes the first Kenyan to hold such a position in the State of Tennessee after working in government relations and business development roles in Nashville, Knoxville and Chattanooga.

"Hodgen joins my cabinet after an outstanding career as a community leader in Chattanooga," Gov. Lee said in an announcement. "He is respected for his ability to build partnerships across multiple sectors and we welcome his leadership to such a multifaceted department like Commerce and Insurance."

In addition to his work with the Electric Power Board of Chattanooga

(EPB) where he built partnerships across the state and federal level and increased EPB's role in regional economic development, Mainda serves on the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Chattanooga Rotary Club, the United Way of Greater Chattanooga, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Chancellor's Roundtable and the College of Business Advisory Board. He is also a member of the Leadership Tennessee Class of 2019 and a 2018 graduate of the Harvard Business School Young American Leaders Program.

"I am thrilled for the state of Tennessee to have such a wonderful young leader in such a very important role," said state Rep. Robin Smith, the chairman of the House Insurance Committee. "Hodgen will do a fantastic job based on his history of working on many number of projects in the Hamilton County area."



A view of the ongoing construction of Ubungo interchange at the roundabout of Morogoro Road/Mandela Express Highway as captured by our roving photographer in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The construction had reached 25 per cent and is expected to be completed by December 2020. Photo: John Badi

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to emerging issues in the 21st century such as the fourth industrial revolution and the application of smart technologies in real estate markets and education, he stated.

The key events offered by the 19th Annual AFRES conference include policy dialogues in the form of plenary sessions in three key areas, namely land tenure and agricultural transformation and Industrialization in Africa, real estate regulation and real

Real estate developers root for housing, property policy

estate education.

These areas are covered in keynote presentations from renowned scholars on valuation standards, alternative dispute resolution and mediation, as well as international property measurement standards, he

elaborated.

The conference is being attended by around 300 participants, mostly members of academia from 24 countries. A total of 26 institutions of higher learning represented by their faculty staff are scheduled to make

presentations.

Arusha is hosting the AFRES Conference for the second time, the first being in 2001 at its third meeting. Mauritius, on the other hand, is expected to host next year's (2020) conference.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa shares a light moment with MP Special Seats Salma Kikwete at the Parliament grounds in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: PMO

Dr Shein hails Chinese continued support

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohammed Shein has hailed the Chinese government for the continued support to the Isles' development endeavours.

He said that China has been in forefront in supporting the Indian Ocean island in different sectors through the experts who had been sent to train locals.

President Shein made the remarks yesterday when he held talks with the Secretary to the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party (CPC) Dong Weihong who is also the deputy director of the China National Research Institute of Food Fermentation Industries.

Dr Shein said the Chinese government has been sending experts since 1960 just after the revolution in 1964 and that the coming of the experts was a continuation of the relationship.

"It is a positive thing because the Chinese government has been helping us in various sectors including health, agriculture education industries and this has had a great impact to the Zanzibar development," said Dr Shein.

During the talks, Dr Shein said the

Chinese government has a long history with Tanzania, saying it is happy with the developments that both countries had achieved.

He added that the sending of the experts was in support of the Isles government to develop various sectors.

Dr Shein promised continued bilateral relations between the two countries to ensure the long relations between the people of the two countries was sustainable.

Dr Shein said conducting the training in Zanzibar reduced the costs that the government could have incurred by sending them abroad.

Earlier, Chinese Consular General Xie Xiaowu told Dr Shein that his country values the relations that exist between the two countries saying it will continue offering scholarships to Tanzanian students.

In his remarks, the visiting Chinese official commended Dr Shein for his efforts in ensuring the trainings were conducted for the benefit of the citizenry.

The training started yesterday and will last up to next month and will include 45 officials from various ministries and from the office of the president.

NEMC commended for timely issuance of EIA permits

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE National Assembly was yesterday told that the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) should be commended for issuing in time certificates on environment impact assess-

ment (EIA) and therefore enabling the government to implement the projects as planned.

The Minister for Works, Transport and Communication, Isaac Kamwewe, said timely issuance of certificates has facilitated opportune implementation

of projects in many parts of the country including those in Sindano, Lupajo, Lipumburu, Mchauru and Mapili wards near Tanzania's border with Mozambique.

The minister was answering a question by Lulindi MP, Jerome Bwanausi

(CCM) who had wanted to know the progress on the implementation of the projects.

The minister said the while visiting Mtwaru coal plant, President John Magufuli called on NEMC to issue EIA certificates timely.

"Mr Speaker, I want to report to your august House that since then, NEMC has been issuing certificates in time. Complaints on the issue are now a thing of past. It is history. We have every reason to commend the council on that positive change," Kamwewe told

the House.

He said development projects were being implemented in time because the government had removed many of the challenges that undermined implementation efforts.

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GOING PLACES TOGETHER

CSOs and NGOs challenged on patriotism and ethics

By Getrude Mbago

CIVIL Society Organizations (CSOs) and Non Government Organizations (NGOs) have been challenged to be patriotic, work in partnerships and make sure that their plans and projects align with the government's agenda so as to secure efficient and sustainable progress of the country.

Speaking during the meeting to launch the 2019 CSO-Week in Dar es Salaam yesterday, coordinator of sector from the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government, Dr Andrew Komba said that it is high time now for the organizations to have common priorities with the government for best results.

According to him, the government will not start working closely with CSO, monitoring their plans and expenditures to make sure that they all complement the functions of the government which include bringing development to people.

Dr Komba wanted the CSOs to learn from Japan where the government takes full control of them something which brings positive results as they all have common agenda to accomplish.

Timothy Mgonja, who represented the NGOs registrar emphasized on transparency and partnerships to push forward the country's development.

"CSOs should strengthen partnerships with stakeholders, citizens and the government as well so as to contribute to the country's economic growth," he said. For his part, Francis Kivwanga, the Executive Director at the Foundation for Civil Society (FCS) said that the 2019 CSO week is scheduled for November 4 to 8, this year in Dodoma.

He said that the event aims at bringing together key Civil Society members and their respective organisations to effectively engage in in-depth discussions on their work, share experiences, and see how CSOs can strategically collaborate within

the sector and with citizens, the government, donors, and the private sector.

In a broader perspective, the CSO Week seeks to create and deepen a sustainable model for growth fuelled by civil society's effective engagement in efforts to achieve Tanzania's development vision through collaborations that can enable CSOs effectively serve excluded, marginalised and vulnerable populations in the interest of development in Tanzania," he said. "Today we officially launch the theme and the CSO Week website to make it easier for participants and organizations to register. We are also officially opening to the public a call for sessions for interested individuals or organisations to lead discussions during CSO Week to which they can register via the website. This year's CSO Week theme is "Progress through Partnerships: Collaboration as a Driver for Development".

He highlighted that for Tanzania to achieve its development vision and attain a level of growth envisioned in the sustainable development goals, multi-stakeholder collaboration holds the key. "In ensuring that we build the CSOs sector in the country, during the special week, FCS will issue "The CSO Excellence Awards" in order to celebrate, recognise and honour achievements and contributions made by various institutions or individuals that have influenced development policy and practice in Tanzania," he added.

During the CSO week a variety of activities to take place to amplify voices and facilitate the identification of areas of collaboration and linkages with state and non-state actors. Such activities include opening and closing sessions, CSO Exhibitions designed to allow greater access to the public, plenary and breakout workshops for special interest topics, award ceremony, dinner gala and various networking events.



Precision Air acting group managing director Patrick Mwanri (L) hands over dummy air ticket to comprehensive community based rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) chief executive officer Brenda Msangi in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly after announcing the partnership to support disability focused service in which the air firm gave the CCBRT a total of 120 tickets within its network to facilitate regional clinics and administration activities. Looking on are senior officials from the both sides. Photo: John Badi

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC) Managing Director, Elishilia Kaaya has said the government was investigating claims that some centre's staff attempted to entice the Arusha businessman, Heladius Kanje to bribe in return for a discount in the AICC's rented warehouses in ESSO Industrial Area, Arusha City.

Speaking to the members of the press yesterday in Arusha, Kaaya said the claims that AICC staff attempted to entice the businessman must be fully investigated, saying the outcome of the investigations will determine the

AICC investigates allegedly claims of the warehouses commercial property for rent

punitive measures to be taken.

"As an institution that upholds principles of corporate governance and ethical standards and regulations guiding service delivery in the civil service, we are duty bound to ensure that any allegations against any of our staff is thoroughly investigated" he said.

He said he read the allegation from one weekly tabloid and online TV channel, in which Kanje was quoted claiming that the AICC decided to

charge him exorbitantly against what he said was a government guided rate because he refused to bribe some of the centre's staffs in return for a discounted rent.

Kanje also claimed that AICC was undermining the government efforts to industrialization by suppressing those who dare to invest like him, saying he has invested more than 500m/- in his business.

On what exactly was an investigation agency entrusted with the investigation,

Kaaya said what is more important for now is that the matter is being investigated by the state machinery and that the public will certainly be informed of the outcome and punitive measures to be undertaken.

"At the moment we are more interested to see that this matter is seriously investigated than who among the investigative agencies is involved because in the final analysis the outcome of the investigation will be shared in the public," he said.



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13	MOSHONO AREA ARUMERU DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL	108	517sqm
14	MOSHONO AREA ARUMERU DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL	112	608sqm
15	MOSHONO AREA ARUMERU DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL	116	571sqm
16	MOSHONO AREA ARUMERU DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL	106	605sqm
17	MOSHONO AREA ARUMERU DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL	121	855sqm
18	MOSHONO AREA ARUMERU DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL	99	645sqm
19	MOSHONO AREA ARUMERU DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL	96	614sqm
20	MOSHONO AREA ARUMERU DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL	98	598sqm
21	MOSHONO AREA ARUMERU DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL	104	652sqm
22	MOSHONO AREA ARUMERU DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL	122	1024sqm
23	MOSHONO AREA ARUMERU DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL	103	607sqm
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KANIZ MANJI..... 4TH DEFENDANT/J-DEBTOR

YUSUF MANJI..... 5TH DEFENDANT/J-DEBTOR

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAWFUL ORDERS OF THE HIGH COURT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA - COMMERCIAL DIVISION AT DAR ES SALAAM, THE UNDERSIGNED SHALL BE SELLING BY PUBLIC AUCTION TANPERCH FISH PROCESSING FACTORY INCLUSIVE OF THE PLANT AND MACHINERY TOGETHER WITH THE LANDED PROPERTIES ON PLOT NO. 8 AND 9, BLOCK C, ILEMELA INDUSTRIAL AREA, MWANZA CITY, C.T. NO. 13515 - L.R. MWANZA AND PLOT NO. 127, BLOCK C, ILEMELA INDUSTRIAL AREA, MWANZA CITY, C.T. NO. 10104 - L.R. MWANZA ALL IN THE NAME OF TANPERCH LIMITED ON THE DATE, DAY, TIME AND MANNER BELOW STATED. ALL THE LISTED PROPERTIES ARE IN GOOD CONDITION AND SITUATED IN ILEMELA - MWANZA NEAR RADIO FREE AFRICA OFFICES. INTERESTED BIDDERS MAY CALL THE UNDERSIGNED ON 0784549525 OR 0757960445 DURING BUSINESS HOURS TO OBTAIN FURTHER AND BETTER PARTICULARS OF THE PROPERTIES.

AUCTION DATE: 25TH SEPTEMBER, 2019

DAY OF THE AUCTION: WEDNESDAY

TIME FOR THE AUCTION: 10:00 A.M.

CONDITIONS OF THE AUCTION

- 1) THE HIGHEST BIDDER SHALL BE REQUIRED TO PAY AN AMOUNT EQUIVALENT OF 25% AT THE FALL OF THE HAMMER.
- 2) THE REMAINING 75% OF THE HIGHEST BID SHALL BE PAYABLE WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE PUBLIC AUCTION.
- 3) UPON FAILURE OF THE HIGHEST BIDDER TO FINALIZE PAYMENT OF THE REMAINING 75% AS ABOVE, THE 25% RECEIVED MAY BE FORFEITED TO COVER THE COURT BROKER'S COSTS AND THE SALE OF THE ADVERTISED PROPERTIES SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FRESH PUBLIC AUCTION TO BE NOTIFIED TO THE PUBLIC ON A FUTURE DATE.
- 4) NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS NOTICE SHALL BAR THE HIGHEST BIDDER FROM PAYING THE FULL (100%) OF THE HIGHEST BID IMMEDIATELY UPON FALL OF THE HAMMER DURING THE AUCTION.

SILAS LUCAS ISANGI

215415101

Data positions agriculture as key driver of Africa's growth

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

THE potential to increase Africa's agricultural yields through the strategic use of data could place the continent's farmers at the heart of tomorrow's global economy.

"New technologies readily available to Africa's farmers mean that the continent is finally at the moment where Africa's vast, as-yet-unrealised, agricultural opportunity can be made relevant to capital, mechanisation and new global markets," says Antois van der Westhuizen, Managing Director: Sub Saharan Africa, John Deere Financial.

For example, John Deere has worked with ACIDI/Voca, ADVANCE and USAID as well as other input providers in Ghana, to mechanise and provide fertiliser and seeds to demonstration farms aimed at improving the yield of traditional farmers in the country.

"The results have been astounding," says van der Westhuizen. In some cases, "yields have increased seven-fold," he adds.

This confirms what John Deere already knew, namely, that if farmers are able to access mechanisation, fertiliser and seed and are then guided to apply these correctly, they can dramatically increase their yields.

What has changed is that today farmers in Kenya and Tanzania, for example, now transacting on M-PESA can access the formal economy by selling and buying goods online. Since these previously economically excluded farmers now have a digital footprint, "we can start getting a picture of their inputs, suppliers and costs, as well as their yields, off-takers, incomes and payments histories," says van der Westhuizen.

This data holds the key to revolutionising agriculture in Africa.

Without even having a bank account, "we now have a detailed view of the input, production and earning numbers of previously financially invisible farmers," says van der Westhuizen. With GPS technology able to provide accurate hectareage, "we can now quickly work out how certain inputs, and their cost, might be affordable to specific farmers given the increase in yield that we know these inputs will drive in that location," says van der Westhuizen.

In short, with just a handful of data points, the ability to provide credit to a much broader segment of Africa's farmers increases dramatically. For the first time in history all of Africa's farmers are now potentially able to present the

credit, expenditure, production and income records to make them bankable.

The next step will be to, "use the data from multiple farmers collectively, to develop new supply chains and markets," says van der Westhuizen.

For example, if a grain mill in Kenya requires 2000 tons of a certain crop each month and John Deere has the data on 100 farmers in that district each with the potential to produce 20 tons a month, the data can be used to build a supply chain for the mill that also provides the farmers guaranteed off-take. This data-driven view of the broader supply chain also gives John Deere Financial and other financiers the confidence to extend credit, long-lease machinery or fertilizer to these farmers, secure in the knowledge that the farmers will receive an income from the mill and be able to pay.

Moreover, "if we know that the 100 farmers have secure off-take agreements with a local mill, we can provide tractors or harvesters to start-up agricultural service companies to plough these farmer's fields and harvest their crops, only collecting payment once the farmers have been paid by the mill," says van der Westhuizen.

Using data in this way could justify further investment in irrigation systems, beneficiation plants, canneries or other industrial investment relevant to expanding the agricultural value chain.

Taken to scale across Africa, this kind of data has the potential to make most African countries food secure, freeing up the billions in hard currency that African governments currently spend importing food. This would, "ease Africa's endemic hard currency crunches and reduce sovereign debt - releasing resources for development, infrastructure or education," explains van der Westhuizen.

Given agriculture's much lower barriers to entry, farming also offers Africa far greater potential to broaden economic inclusion compared with, say, "hard currency-intensive mines which only employ a small percentage of the population, for a short time," explains van der Westhuizen. Since agriculture, properly managed and scientifically conducted, is more sustainable, the sector has the potential to produce food indefinitely. This offers Africa's mineral export-dependent economies the opportunity to diversify into much more sustainable exports, "with a far higher potential for beneficiation, industrialisation and economic inclusion," says van der Westhuizen.



The National Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai (L) receiving special message from the Pakistan ambassador to Tanzania Amir Muhammad Khan who paid a courtesy call at his office in Dodoma yesterday. The message was presented on behalf of the Speaker of the Parliament of Pakistan. Photo: National Assembly

MONHEIM, German

A German multinational pharmaceutical and life sciences company-Bayer presented challenges and best practice experiences with the implementation of its Root2Success concept on the continent, during the African Potato Association congress in Kigali, Rwanda.

This holistic concept supports sustainable production systems covering crop rotation, soil preparation, catch and cover crops and the use of the innovative crop protection products Emesto, Velum and Serenade.

The 4-year experience with Bayer's smallholder project in Kenya underpinned the success of the Root2Success concept: farmer yields were increased by a factor of 2 to 4. Farmer income increased by factors ranging from 3 to 10. Diana Gitonga, manager smallholder farming, Bayer East Africa, is excited about their strong support of the smallholder farmers and governmental organizations: "It is extremely rewarding to receive so many positive responses from farmers.

African farmers benefit from Bayer's outreach and knowledge transfer and potato training

Farmers are happy and thankful for Bayer's outreach, knowledge transfer and potato training to improve their incomes."

Both, potatoes and sweet potatoes, are rich in starch and contain high levels of essential vitamins and minerals contributing to food security and to a healthy diet. African farmers grow potatoes in narrow rotations, due to economic pressure and the lack of alternative cash crops. This environment contributes to the development of soil-borne pests and diseases, and farmers face serious yield and quality losses. Soil diseases caused by Rhizoctonia, Fusarium, Streptomyces and Ralstonia are an increasing problem, amplified by the presence of nematodes such as Meloidogyne, Globodera and Pratylenchus spp. In addition, some soil diseases and nematode species transmit viruses as well (Tobacco Rattle Virus, Potato Mop-Top Virus).

Serenade is a biological fungicide based on the novel strain QST 713 of Bacillus subtilis. The product suppresses soil diseases and enhances crop tolerance to abiotic stress. Emesto is based on the fungicide active ingredient penflufen for effective control of Rhizoctonia solani by tuber and or furrow treatment. Velum is a breakthrough innovation for broad spectrum nematode control based on fluopyram with a new mode of action, low dosages and very favorable toxicological and eco-toxicological profile.

Tailored agronomic solutions with innovative crop protection products and services can help control soil diseases and nematodes, effectively increasing sustainability in potato production. Bayer's root health strategy, Root2Success, which includes intensive training programs, offers growers insight into the biology of healthy, high performing roots and

targets key challenges that threaten root health, to maintain or optimize root functionality in vegetables and potatoes.

The concept aims to improve the resilience of the root system by optimizing cropping systems and application technologies of crop protection products, improving pest and disease control and activation of the plants own defense machinery.

The Root2Success concept is one of the strategic initiatives of Bayer's global horticulture strategy contributing to sustainable farming practices, reducing the use of farm inputs and empowering more than 100 million smallholders. This holistic approach and the open partnerships generate added value for all partners involved and improve the livelihood of rural communities. Bayer is excited to partner with private and governmental organizations to expand the Root2Success concept to further improve sustainable farming practices.



Zanzibar Minister of State President's Office and chairman of Revolution Council Issa Haji Ussi addresses at the opening of a seminar on food nutrition and hospitality management organised by China national research institute for food and fermentation industries corporation Ltd. The event took place in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Murdoch to help empower 1,000 entrepreneurs across Africa by the year 2022

PERTH

A new partnership between Murdoch University in Western Australia and the South African-based Kingdom Business Network (KBN) took a first step towards formation after a visit to Perth for Africa Week by a delegation of five of its members.

The KBN is a programme created and funded by the South African diversified investment company, the Beryl Group, to inspire entrepreneurs to create and acquire sustainable wealth, enabling them resources and training to build and develop their communities and positively impact their generation.

Murdoch hosted KBN Chief Executive Officer Joarina Matthys and four of its entrepreneurs to participate in a panel at the 9th Annual Africa Australia Research Forum and meet with Murdoch Alumni, members of the Perth African diaspora and entrepreneurial community.

The KBN was founded 10 years ago by Neveerl and Beryl Kambasha and has a goal to empower 1,000 entrepreneurs across Africa by 2022.

"We are passionate about developing quality entrepreneurs who will have a positive impact on their communities," Ms Matthys said.

"After 10 years of operation in South Africa we have made the decision to expand our reach, to other parts of Africa and to seek partnerships within Australia, including with Murdoch."

Murdoch University Africa Research Group Chair David Doepel said Murdoch was keen to understand what structures facilitated creative and innovative thinking, and to harness the formidable African brain power

globally.

"This is absolutely critical to Africa's participation in the creation of the 4th Industrial revolution," Mr Doepel said.

"Our digital interconnectedness holds great promise, but it only works if we have the human networks formed to leverage the digital ones.

"We have been exploring how we can be more embedded with each other to ensure the success of this burgeoning phenomena on the continent."

Mr Doepel said there were 314 tech hubs in Africa in 2016, which had grown to more than 618 in 2018.

"More than 50 per cent of those tech hubs have incubators with in-kind support for idea and early stage start-ups, developing innovations in agtech, healthtech and fintech focused on African solutions for African opportunities.

"Coming together to ensure the success of these entrepreneurs, and finding ways to straddle continents with ideas that lead to businesses that solve problems, exploit opportunities, create jobs and deliver inclusive growth, is the work we must support."

Ms Matthys said the KBN could also provide a trusted partner for companies interested in investing in African companies or your partners in Africa.

"A key role we play is developing and maintaining strategic partnerships to create a web of networks for our entrepreneurs as well as for people looking for opportunities in South Africa and Africa generally.

"We understand how government and local systems work; if you don't know who to trust we are the place to come to."

Chikungunya disease outbreak affects 20,000 people in Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA

ETHIOPIA has announced that the number of its nationals infected by a Chikungunya disease outbreak has reached 20,000.

In a press statement, the Ethiopia Public Health Institute (EPHI), said although Ethiopia has conducted an extensive anti-Chikungunya spray campaign in the disease's epicenter, the

eastern city of Dire Dawa, there was still a spike in the number of Chikungunya sufferers. Recently EPHI had disclosed 15,192 Ethiopians had been infected by Chikungunya disease outbreak.

According to EPHI, Chikungunya is a viral disease transmitted to humans by infected mosquitoes. It causes fever and severe joint pain. It is rarely fatal, and symptoms are generally self-limiting and last two to three days.

EPHI has disclosed so far there has been no recorded cases of fatalities despite the high number of Chikungunya infections in a relatively short period of time.

The institute is currently undertaking house to house spray campaigns, societal awareness campaign and free medical tests in Chikungunya-affected areas of Ethiopia.

Chikungunya, which has similar

clinical signs with dengue cases, has recently affected Ethiopia's Somali, Afar, Southern regional states as well as the Dire Dawa city council.

Chikungunya is a viral disease transmitted to humans by infected mosquitoes. It causes fever and severe joint pain. Other symptoms include muscle pain, headache, nausea, fatigue and rash. Joint pain is often debilitating and can vary in duration.

Govt plans to build 30 district courts nationwide - minister

By Guardian Reporter

THE government plans to build 30 district courts in the country for the 2019/20 financial year, Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Dr Augustine Mahiga told the House here yesterday.

Dr Mahiga was responding to question by Special Seats MP, Gimbi Masaba (Chadema), who wanted to know the time frame for government to build district court in Itilima, to help people in the area who have been traveling long distances to the nearby districts such as Bariadi to seek justice.

In his response, the minister admit-

ted that the district has no court and people over the area were forced to travel a distance of 37 kilometers to follow the service in Bariadi district.

He said the same challenge is also existing in 27 districts in the country and its people receive court services in neighbouring districts.

"This is due to the fact that the Court in the country is still facing a shortage of buildings in many areas," he said.

He added: the court has set out a good strategies to resolve the challenges through its five year plan to build and renovate court buildings at all levels.

He elaborated that the Itilima district

court is in the process of being built in this financial year for the 2019/20 with other courts in the country.

He mentioned the other districts in the programme as Busega, Kyerwa, Misenyi, Gairo, Mbogwe, Songwe, Rfiji, Kibiti, Nyang'wale, Mvomero, Hiii, Kaliau, Uvinza, Buhigwe, Kakonko, Chamwino, Chemba, Ikungi, Mkalama, Butiama, Rorya, Bungo, Malinyi, Tanganyika, Protective, Kilosa, Kilombero, Hanang and Nkasi.

In addition, he thanked the Itilima district for providing a plot of 5,028 square meters for the construction of a court, urged other districts to provide plots for the construction of the court.



NMB Bank Dar es Salaam zone manager Badru Idd (3rd L) and Ilala Municipal Council executive director Jumanne Shauri (2nd R) looks at the desks donated by the bank at Kibaga primary school in Kinyerezi on the outskirts of Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt dispatches students for applied modern agriculture trainings in Israel

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has dispatched additional 100 students to study 'applied modern agricultural techniques' in Israel in an effort to transform agricultural industry in the country.

Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Permanent Secretary (PS), Dr Faraji Mnyepe revealed this in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the function to bid them a farewell.

He said that Tanzania and Israel have been cooperating for a long time and will continue to do so to improve different sectors including agriculture, information and communication technology as well as in health.

"It is a great opportunity for you as you will acquire knowledge on modern agriculture, and I hope you will use the skills to improve our country's agricultural sector once you are back," Dr Mnyepe said.

He noted that the President, Dr John Magufuli forwarded the request to the Israeli government in November last year and directed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to coordinate it.

He added: "The coordination of the opportunities was undertaken by Foreign Affairs Ministry in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and institutions concerned with youth development...taking advantage of the training to enhance creation of jobs for the youth in future."

Dr Mnyepe further said that in the process 1, 440 students applied and filtering rounded 100 of them to travel, but in batches.

The first batch of 60 students arrived in Israel on September 5, 2019 and the remaining are expected to leave today on September 11, 2019, he said.

For his part, the Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, Anthony

Mavunde, said that the programme would build their capacity such that once they would be back would use their skills to revolutionise agriculture in the country.

"You should make sure that you use this opportunity wisely as ambassadors to uplift the lives of the majority Tanzanians, particularly the youth to invest in the agricultural sector," Mavunde said.

In November 2018, President Magufuli had a diplomatic discussion with Israeli Ambassador to Tanzania, Noah Gal Gendler where the envoy offered to welcome some Tanzanians to attend trainings in his country on modern agriculture fully funded by his government for 11 months.

The programme is being extended to students from South East Asia, Africa and South America to acquire advanced commercial farming techniques in Israel.

Encourage villagers to join CHF for ease access of health services, Kahama DC urges councillors

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

WARD councillors in Msalala Council have been challenged to chip-in in the campaign aimed at encouraging villagers join Community Health Fund (CHF).

Kahama District Commissioner, Anamringi Macha made the call on Tuesday when speaking at the full council meeting, which among other issues includes discussing different development projects, which are implemented at the grassroots level.

He said that joining CHF is on voluntary basis, it's helpful to people as they can easily get access to medication once they fall sick for the whole year. It involves six family members.

The DC has also said that the community should be aware of the health insurance service as the government through the parliament, campaigns

that it is necessary for every citizen to join health insurance regardless of their economic status.

"I request you to motivate the community to join the CHF in order for them to easily access health care including medical care whereby in one household, six people are treated throughout the year," the DC requested.

Macha said: he received a lot of complaints that the community spend a lot of money to purchase drugs from private pharmacy.

The DC said while he visited the Kahama hospital for addressing medical challenge, he found that many patients do not receive proper medication because they do not have Health Insurances.

Speaking at the meeting, Mwalugulu ward councillor Frola Sagasaga told the DC they have been receiving

many complaints from CHF members in their areas saying that when seeking medical help they face abusive language from the health providers the factor that disappointed others to join the service.

The councillor explained that the Kahama hospital is accommodating the whole district because the Msalala council doesn't have a district status.

Sagasaga explained that they have been advocating for community members to join the CHF but the poor services from health providers to CHF members stand as the main barrier that hinders the effort.

She requested the DC to issue a directive that all CHF members should be given first priority when they need medical service at the hospital with increased availability of drugs inside the hospital.

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA
(COMMERCIAL DIVISION)
AT DAR ES SALAAM**

COMMERCIAL CASE NO. 127 OF 2013

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE LIMITED.....PLAINTIFF/DECREE HOLDER

BASIC ELEMENT LIMITED.....1ST DEFENDANT/J/DEBTOR
ROBERT SIMON KISENA.....2ND DEFENDANT/J/DEBTOR
FLORENCIANA ROBERT MASHAURI.....3RD DEFENDANT/J/DEBTOR
ROBESIKA AGRO-PRODUCTS LTD.....4TH DEFENDANT/J/DEBTOR
SIMON GROUP LIMITED.....5TH DEFENDANT/J/DEBTOR
LEONARD DOMINIC RUBUYE.....6TH DEFENDANT/J/DEBTOR

**Proclamation of Sale (Immovable Property)
(O. XXI, r. 66 of the Civil Procedure Code)**

Suit No 127 OF 2013, decided by the High Court Commercial Division at Dar Es Salaam in which **the Judgment-Creditor** was plaintiff and **the Judgment-Debtors** were defendants. Notice is hereby given that, under rule 64 of Order XXI of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1966, an order has been passed by this Court for the sale of the attached properties mentioned in the annexed schedule, in satisfaction of the claim of the decree-holder in the suit mentioned in the margin, amounting with costs and interest up to date of sale to the sum of T.shs **17,463,723,433.03/=**

The sale will be by public auction, and the properties will be put up for sale in the lots specified in the schedule. The sale will be of the properties of the judgment-debtors above-named as mentioned in the schedule below; and the liabilities and claims attaching to the said properties, so far as they have been ascertained, are those specified in the schedule against each lot.

In the absence of any order of postponement, the sale will be held by **Mr. Sadock D. Magai, Receiver and Manager at 10.00 hours on the 26th Day of September, 2019 at Mikocheni Industrial Area, Dar es Salaam.**

In the event, however, of the debt above specified and of the costs of the sale being tendered or paid before the knocking down of any lot, the sale will be stopped.

At the sale the public generally are invited to bid, either personally or by duly authorized agent. No bid by, or on behalf of, the judgment-creditors above-mentioned, however, will be accepted, nor will any sale to them be valid without the express permission of the Court previously given.

FURTHER CONDITIONS OF SALE:

- The particulars specified in the schedule below have been stated to the best of the information of the Court, but the Court will not be answerable for any error, mis-statement or omission in this proclamation.
- The amount by which the biddings are to be increased shall be determined by the officer conducting the sale. In the event of any dispute arising as to the amount bid, or as to the bidder, the lot shall at once be again put up to auction.
- The highest bidder shall be declared to be the purchaser of any lot, provided always that he is legally qualified to bid, and provided that it shall be in the discretion of the Court or officer holding the sale to decline acceptance of the highest bid when the price offered appears so clearly inadequate as to make it advisable to do so.
- For reasons recorded, it shall be in the discretion of the officer conducting the sale to adjourn it subject always to the provisions of rule 69 of Order XXI.
- In the case of movable property, the price of each lot shall be paid at the time of sale or as soon after as the officer holding the sale directs, and in default of payment the property shall forthwith be again put up and re-sold.
- In the case of immovable property, the person declared to be the purchaser shall pay immediately after such declaration a deposit of 25 per cent on the amount of his purchase-money to the officer conducting the sale, and in default of such deposit the property and forthwith be put up again and re-sold.
- The full amount of the purchase-money shall be paid by the purchaser before the Court closes on the fifteenth day after the sale of the property, exclusive of such day, or if the fifteenth day be a Sunday or other holiday, then on the first office day after the fifteenth day.
- In default of payment of the balance of purchase-money within the period allowed, the property shall be re-sold after the issue of a fresh notification of sale. The deposit, after defraying the expenses of the sale, may, if the Court thinks fit, be forfeited to Government and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claim to the property or to any part of the sum for which it may be subsequently sold.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COURT, this 26th Day of August, 2019



Deputy Registrar

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTIES

Number of lot	Description of property to be sold, with the name of each owner where there are more judgment-debtors than one	Detail of any encumbrances to which the property is liable	Claims, if any, which have been put forward to the property and any other known particular bearing on its nature and value
	Properties on Plot No. 53 Mikocheni Industrial Area registered under CT No.32516		Land rent: Site Rate: Revenue derived from the property: Estimated value of the property:

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

CEO Roundtable to develop sustainable finance principles to expand businesses

MEMBERS of the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania (CEOrt) from the financial institutions met in Dar es Salaam recently to develop Tanzania's sustainable finance principles that will be used to strengthen and expand business opportunities in the country.

Chairman of CEOrt, Sanjay Rughani told reporters yesterday in Dar es Salaam said the sustainable finance principles provides a basement for business opportunities that prioritize environmental and social sustainability.

"For a number of years, members of the CEOrt have recognized the importance of adopting business practices that have a positive impact on the environment and society," he said.

"So we are now discussing how bank-

ers association can have a policy framework which is perfect and can bring about equality among the key players," he said.

Rughani who is also the deputy chairman for Tanzania Bankers Association (TBA) explained that they have already drafted the principles and they are now looking on how best can be used to contribute development in the society.

"This sustainability agenda will be promoted in various sectors. The finance sector being a significant catalyst

for others is the first to be targeted," he explained.

The workshop was organized by the CEOrt in collaboration with the Inter-

"In developing countries like Tanzania, finance principles are more important basing on the fact that there are more opportunities for investment due to huge demands of goods and services"

national Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), a membership union composed of both government and civil society organizations and help the world find pragmatic solutions to pressing environment and development challenge.

The workshop that brought together CEOs from financial institutions and members of the Tanzania Bankers Association (TBA) was held for among other things to review and to provide input to and discuss the draft of the sustainable finance principles for Tan-

zania

But, also to agree on the process for adoption and implementation of the sustainable banking principles.

By adopting and mainstreaming sustainable natural resource use, business can have a large and rippling positive impact on the environment by influencing behaviors across the area of direct and indirect influence.

For his part, Netherlands ambassador to Tanzania Jeroen Verheul said the workshop is crucial in order to review and improve the business environ-

ments.

He said businesses are comforted with a lot of sustainability challenges including natural disasters that affects expectations of the businessman.

According to him, sustainable finance principles provide room to business people to make and save money through the available opportunities through the sustainable challenges.

"In developing countries like Tanzania, finance principles are more important basing on the fact that there are more opportunities for investment due to huge demands of goods and services," he said.

The ambassador said the government has got a big role to play to improve the business environments in order to expand the scope of business and attract investment.



Bumbuli legislator January Makamba (L) in tête-à-tête with his Mtama counterpart Nape Nnauye at the Parliament grounds in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast,

Kagera

Kagera residents tell NIDA to speed up issuance of national IDs

THE National Identification Authority (NIDA) has called on residents in Kagera region to remain calm while the authority is working hard to ensure that all the residents were being issued with national IDs before the end of this year.

NIDA regional registrar, Hassan Godigodi said: "We are fully aware that that people are in need of IDs, but that we're going through their documents to verify their eligibility before issuing them with the IDs. The situation is being caused by the fact that the region borders other neighbouring countries. We're working on the documents thoroughly so that those who are being issued IDs are the eligible ones."

Kagera region is bordering with Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Kenya via Lake Victoria.

However, Godigodi was reluctant to close the number of those who had registered in the whole region, how many have been issued with, and how many not yet to be issued with IDs, saying

that everything will be known at the end of whole process, before December this year.

Some residents in Missenyi, Kyerwa, Karagwe and Ngara districts have been complaining that the exercise to issue them with IDs going at a snail's pace.

Alex Ishabakaki, a resident of Katanu village in Missenyi District is fearing that he won't be able to register his SIM card through biometric technology, using Nida IDs as directed by Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA).

Early this year, the government launched biometric SIM registration nationwide on 1 May, in a bid to improve security in the country. The exercise follows a pilot project in seven regions, namely Dodoma, Dar es Salaam, Coast, Singida, Tanga, Iringa and Zanzibar, launched by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) in March 2018. The new system requires customers to provide their fin-

gerprints, as well as proof of identity, to register their SIM card.

"The information obtained from registered SIM cards will be directly linked to a subscriber's national identification card ensuring there is no more misinformation or forgery of the documents; no one can forge fingerprints."

Tanzania plans to launch biometric SIM registration nationwide on 1 May, in a bid to improve security in the country. The exercise follows a pilot project in seven regions, namely Dodoma, Dar es Salaam, Coast, Singida, Tanga, Iringa and Zanzibar, launched by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) in March 2018. The new system requires customers to provide their fin-

"The information obtained from registered SIM cards will be directly linked to a subscriber's national identification card ensuring there is no more misinformation or forgery of the documents; no one can forge fingerprints."

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

Govt challenges local artistes to promote country's tourism

THE government has entered into partnership with music artists in the country to promote tourism sector as well as fight against poaching that ruins the country's Wildlife.

The partnership is seeking to recruit the lyric composers to become ambassadors of country's tourism sector by using their talents to educate the public about the impacts of poaching and the related incidents that destroys the natural resources.

Addressing participants during the dinner event prepared by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism under the sponsorship of Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS), deputy minister for the Ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources Constantine Kanyasu said the partnership will provide opportunity to artists to become more popular by advertising one of the most lucrative sector.

Kanyasu added that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism will provide the needed assistance to artists to enable them produce their work in the forest reserves and parks as part of the initiative to market the resources. "The Ministry is eager to work with artists to promote the development of tourism sector basing on the fact that

the artists are able to influence and attract the tourists," he said.

He challenged the artists to refrain from singing only love songs and instead they should start to work for the betterment of the country's development.

The minister mentioned that the main challenge that retard the growth of domestic tourism in the country is lack of information about tourism sector specifically the tourism sites.

According to Kanyasu, the ministry will also provide free tickets to artist couples who are ready to support the initiative to visit one of national parks, forest reserves and others in order to market the area.

For her part marketing manager for TFS Mariam Kobelo said the event was mainly prepared to welcome the artists to get to know the country's tourism sites and parks for them to support the government's initiative by marketing the sector.

She said the meeting is basically to let the artists know the importance of promoting the country's tourism sites in order to make the sector more po-

tential to country's economy.

Themed: 'our tourists attractions our economy' the initiative provides opportunity for tourists to enjoy food, medicine, fresh water and other resources available.

Kobelo said there are 17 forest reserves in the country and Tanzanians are most welcomed to practice domestic tourism at low cost.

For his part board chairman for Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) Judge (rt) Thomas Mihayo challenged the artists to stop complaining on the lack of support from the government.

He said the government doors are open for them and that they need to show their creativities towards supporting the country.

Mihayo told them that they need to stop working on love songs and stories and focus on supporting the government economic development like what the artists in foreign nations are doing.

The Judge welcomed them and promised them that the board will also provide the needed support to them mainly to lift the level of tourism in the country.

VACANCIES RAILWAY children

Fighting for street children

PROJECT OFFICER X 2 - MWANZA

Railway Children Africa (RCA) is a subsidiary of Railway Children UK – an international charity that fights for children living and working on the streets (CLWS). RCA is registered as a Limited Company (77698) under the Companies Act, and with NGO compliance (1563) under the Non-Governmental Organizations Act in Tanzania.

RCA is committed to safeguarding anyone who comes into contact with us and implements a range of policies to ensure only those suitable to work with vulnerable groups are employed.

We continually strive to provide positive work environment for all our employees. This is an exciting time to be joining Railway Children Africa.

In the next five years we have exciting plans to upscale our work dramatically:

- We will work in more locations than ever before, in Tanzania and across East Africa
- We will recruit more staff
- We will raise more than \$10 million

And here is the best part, we will transform the lives of more than 12, 000 of the region's most vulnerable children

If you would like to help steer us on this journey, we'd love to hear from you.

Key requirements

- You will have atleast one-year experience in a more similar role, working with supporting Vulnerable children, Youth and Families.
- You will also have a demonstrated understanding of child protection and safeguarding processes as well as application of health, safety and risk management procedures.
- Most importantly you will have the passion and drive to make a difference to the lives of children living and working on the street.

The recruitment pack with job description, person specification and application details is available online at www.railwaychildren.org.uk/jobs

How to apply: Please complete the application form at www.railwaychildren.org.uk and send it to jobs.mwanza@railwaychildren.org.uk. Please note that Railway Children Africa will only accept applications using this application form and will not accept CVs or covering letters.

Closing date: Sunday, 22 September 2019 at 5pm East African Time. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

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THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2019

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

As pupils sit for school leaving exams, quality education doubts persist

ADMINISTRATORS at the National Examination Council of Tanzania (NECTA) have plenty on their hands as the national examinations season returns, starting with Standard VII national exams followed by Form IV and finally Form VI. Higher levels of examinations are individually administered by respective institutions, even when they offer identical courses like teaching certificates, diplomas and advanced diplomas. There are no national examinations for technical education as it is believed each institution is vested with a charter that also ensures competence is embedded in the way it operates, generally speaking. In that case there is something thrilling about school examinations from primary to secondary and on to high school levels, with a total of 947,221 pupils in 17,051 schools across the country sitting for their Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE) for two days. In years gone by, these exams were set on an ordinary format of answering questions and expressing oneself, but this proved increasingly difficult as years went by. A multiple choice format was adopted as it reduces the breadth of error and how to mark each set of answers, avoiding perhaps too many failures, to enable the pupils finish school with dignity.

Yet it is not even this aspect of schooling and setting of examinations which preoccupies attention of the public authorities during this examination season, but honesty and the proper conduct of exams. NECTA Executive Secretary Dr Charles Msonde made an effort to emphasize how stringent the council was going to be for those defaulting in their conduct, that none of that would be tolerated. There were

examination centres where misbehavior was reported last year; their candidates will sit at new centres this year, not reopened as it is likely rectification efforts are not yet satisfactory to remove the cause of the misconduct.

What is also alarming is that examination indulgence isn't just on the side of interfering with its conduct to bring about faulty pass marks for pupils but quite often parents push pupils to do badly, so as to be available for other social chores. Girls are needed by a portion of families for domestic chores including helping with younger siblings - and in some cases marriage is contemplated, only held back by strict application of the law. With free (or free fee) secondary school education now available, parents are resigned to have the girls continue with schooling - unless of course they aren't selected, to their 'joy'.

Such attitudes are symptomatic of the effects of generalized lack of employment the higher one goes, and inability to use education to find means of livelihood directly as all initiative must take a commercial character, where the competition is too high. People cannot put their labour to creating the goods for their direct livelihoods in urban areas and even in rural areas the lack of assurance of water flow all year round is a serious limitation. When such bottlenecks are resolved, school leaving examinations would open the way to life of self-management - knowing which vegetables to prioritize in a family garden, how to take care of poultry or getting the right breeds, not by opening kiosks all over the place. It is a long journey to making full use of primary/secondary school education to make a living - but vital in combating poverty.

South-South cooperation represents solidarity among the countries of the South

SOUTH-South Cooperation is a term historically used by policymakers and academics to describe the exchange of resources, technology, and knowledge between developing countries, also known as countries of the Global South. The Global South is making increasingly significant contributions to global development. It is a manifestation of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South that contributes to their national well-being, their national and collective self-reliance and the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. South-South cooperation is accelerating progress towards the implementation and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

South-South cooperation is done through a broad framework of collaboration among countries of the South in the political, economic, social, cultural, environmental and technical domains. Involving two or more developing countries, it can take place on a bilateral, regional, intraregional or interregional basis.

Through South-South collaboration, developing countries share knowledge, skills, expertise and resources to meet their development goals through concerted efforts. Triangular cooperation is collaboration in which traditional donor countries and multilateral organizations facilitate South-South initiatives through the provision of funding, training, management and technological systems as well as other forms of support.

The United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation celebrates the economic, social and political developments made in recent years by regions and countries in the South and highlights United Nations efforts to work on technical cooperation among developing countries. Theme for 2019: From Commitment to Action - Follow up to Buenos Aires Plan of Action+40.

In 1978, the first United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) took place in Argentina, adopting the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries (BAPA), endorsed by the General Assembly.

On the occasion of the fortieth

anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among developing countries (TCDC), the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40) was recently held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 20-22 March 2019. That is why this year the theme will be focused on the implementation of the commitments adopted in the Plan of Action+40.

Objectives of South-South Cooperation to foster the self-reliance of developing countries by enhancing their creative capacity to find solutions to their development problems in keeping with their own aspirations, values and specify needs; promote and strengthen collective self-reliance among developing countries through the exchange of experiences; the pooling, sharing and use of their technical and other resources; and the development of their complementary capacities; strengthen the capacity of developing countries to identify and analyse together their main development issues and formulate the requisite strategies to address them; increase the quantity and enhance the quality of international development cooperation through the pooling of capacities to improve the effectiveness of the resources devoted to such cooperation; create and strengthen existing technological capacities in the developing countries in order to improve the effectiveness with which such capacities are used and to improve the capacity of developing countries to absorb and adapt technology and skills to meet their specific developmental needs; increase and improve communications among developing countries, leading to a greater awareness of common problems and wider access to available knowledge and experience as well as the creation of new knowledge in tackling development problems; recognize and respond to the problems and requirements of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and the countries most seriously affected by, for example, natural disasters and other crises; and enable developing countries to achieve a greater degree of participation in international economic activities and to expand international cooperation for development.

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Reversing the growing unemployment among African universities trained graduates

By Esther Ngumbi

RECENTLY, I watched the heartbreaking story of a 24-year-old Kevin Ochieng, a first class honours degree graduate, whose excellent academic performance did not secure him a decent job. He articulated well how he worked hard, excelled in exams, and was looking forward to put his training and expertise into practice. Instead, he is still unemployed and living on the streets of Nairobi.

I asked myself: How many young African graduates like Kevin are out there?

A recent feature by the Nation titled "The reality of Kenyan youth: Young, educated, ambitious and jobless" clearly articulates the situation. In South Africa, according to the recently released quarterly Labour Force survey, 2nd Quarter 2019, 35.6 per cent of those aged 25-34 are unemployed. Just recently, South Africa reported how many graduates are struggling to find meaningful work. This trend is common in other countries including Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana and Mali. What happens over and over is that youth are trained and then many of them have no place to practice that what they have learned and some end up being jobless. Seeing no hope for employment in the near future, those who can may decide to migrate.

There are several reasons that explain this troubling trend. These

include a weak African economy, lack of a vibrant private sector, manufacturing jobs and financial support for African youth to become entrepreneurial, and a mismatch between available jobs and the training African youth. There is also a lack of sound employment and job policies. At the core of all these issues is poor governance.

The situation is even more upsetting when one considers how Africa's educated youth are well equipped with the expertise needed to transform and develop the African continent, yet, their skills and expertise remains untapped. Instead, African countries continue to tap into foreign expertise or unknowledgeable experts, many of who are political appointees.

Clearly, African countries must commit to reversing this trend. We must shift these statistics. We must create jobs and put into use the skills its youth have. It is time to welcome them to the governments, to departments of agriculture, and any other place of influence.

So how do we facilitate the rapid absorption of the youth and the ideas they bring along?

First, African country governments should implement sound job and employment policies. These can range from policies that provide an enabling environment for the private sector to create jobs that enable the youth to build skills that are in demand. Governments can also see that they leverage already existing

employers including NGOs to support and employ youth or support young entrepreneurs through initiatives by which governments procure goods and services from youth-owned businesses.

In addition, countries can also implement affirmative policies to ensure all government ministries or departments including the Ministry of Agriculture have certain positions that are exclusively set aside for recently trained graduates. Some countries like Uganda and Kenya are working to change policies as a way to tackle youth employment.

Even with policies, it is unlikely that all graduates, and the many unemployed youth will be absorbed in the formal sector.

For those that do not end up having office jobs, they can consider being entrepreneurial. According to recent data by the African Development Bank, 22% of Africa's working age have established new businesses. What's more is that coming along with a rising middle class in Africa is an increase in the number of consumers and consumer spending, creating more opportunities for youth-led businesses to thrive and grow. As they grow, they can in turn offer employment to other youths.

Evidently, it is clear that the entrepreneurial landscape in Africa is excellent. According to 2018/2019 Global Entrepreneurship Monitor report, Africa and Middle East region has by far the highest

number of people involved in early state entrepreneurial activity. And because the entrepreneurship ground is fertile, African youth, especially recent graduates, should continue to innovate, think out of the box and create for themselves businesses and the opportunities to put their skills and brilliant minds to work.

Importantly, to continue building a prosperous Africa, where trained young people are absorbed in careers, Universities must restructure their training programs and train not just for the sake of it, but also to fill in the market demand.

This also demands creation of vocation schools and institutes where youths can train for specific jobs including digital jobs. Just recently, Google Africa announced that it will give over 30,000 young African developers scholarships and grants to help them become certified on Google's Android, web and cloud technologies. African youth should latch on such opportunities. It is a win for both.

Ultimately, cutting down on youth unemployment in Africa while ensuring that we tap onto the skills and passion African youthful graduates bring along, will require rolling out of sound employment policies. It will mean continuing to tap onto entrepreneurship while continuously adapting the education system to ensure that graduates have the skills to match the market demand. It is possible.

IF there was ever a time when incentives could help reduce the spread of animal disease, it is probably now in South Africa.

Since April 2019 there have been 14 reported outbreaks of African swine fever in South Africa. All are in areas of the North West, Mpumalanga, Gauteng and Free State. These outbreaks were mainly among smallholder farmers. A few cases in wild boars have also been reported.

Local authorities responded by quarantining and controlling the movement of pigs in affected areas. But the industry remains concerned that farmers may give in to the temptation to rush the rest of the herd to the market when they realise that some of their pigs are dying because of African swine fever.

This would present a risk of further spread of the disease (which spreads by contact). This leads us to the point of incentives for areas that have been affected by the disease. While we understand that government finances

Should the SA government incentivise farmers to control the spread of African swine fever?

are constrained, farmers should be incentivised to report the outbreaks so that the disease can be successfully controlled and avoid major devastation like what we now see in China and Vietnam.

The incentives could take the form of government payments to farmers of a portion of the market value of pigs to be culled because of the disease, as provided for in the Animal Diseases Act. While it is unclear what the costs of this exercise would be (I anticipate it won't be much as it is mainly smallholder farmers affected thus far), the risk of the disease spreading to the commercial sector could have far bigger and costly implications for the South African pig industry. Also, having observed that the most affected areas are the smallholder farmers in

informal and rural areas, where pigs are for self-consumption and sales in informal markets, the disease could have social implications if pigs die or farmers are forced to cull their herds with no compensation.

Aside from incentives, increased education and awareness of African swine fever should also be prioritised, specifically among smallholder farmers. Hence, we were encouraged to learn over the weekend that Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development,

Thoko Didiza, has set up a task team to urgently look into ways to curb the spread of the disease to other provinces. From a human consumption side, there are no threats posed by consuming pork products for two reasons. First, the spread has largely affected smallholder

farmers whose produce does not end up in the retail chains. Second, even if the commercial sector was to be affected and not detected until the meat reaches consumers, African swine fever reportedly has no effect on humans, although consumption of affected pigs is not encouraged (I have briefly discussed the science side African swine fever here).

Moreover, combating African swine fever is key to improving South Africa's self-sufficiency. South Africa is a net importer of pork meat of about 26,000 tonnes a year. This is a trend the country intends to change, but that requires tackling any disease that could derail the country from improving its pig production. The first point to start with is the present outbreak of African swine fever.

West Africa doesn't need another counter-terrorism force

BY LORI-ANNE THÉROUX-BÉNONI

On 14 September, leaders of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) will hold an extraordinary summit on terrorism in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The meeting aims to review existing counter-terrorism initiatives in the region and agree on priorities within a proposed emergency plan.

West Africa is experiencing a sharp rise in insecurity. The terror threat is expanding beyond the Sahel towards coastal countries, and there's a surge in local conflicts threatening social cohesion in the Liptako-Gourma region. Crimes such as arms and drug trafficking, illegal mining and cattle rustling are increasing. Several countries also have elections coming up. The fragile security conditions in which polls will take place could exacerbate political competition and tensions, and deepen existing vulnerabilities.

ECOWAS needs to claim back some leadership in the regional fight against terrorism. It needs to bridge gaps through strategic coordination, identifying and sharing best practices, and guiding and creating synergies.

There has been a lot of counter-productive institutional rivalry among the United Nations, the African Union, ECOWAS and the G5 Sahel in the region's



Leaders from the Economic Community of West African States must look to the comparative advantages of existing initiatives. (File photo)

fight against terror. Much time has been wasted in competing for visibility, credibility and funding.

The decisions taken at the 14 September summit could generate new institutional dynamics around cooperation and a much-needed change in the way efforts to prevent and counter terrorism are conceived and executed in West Africa.

ECOWAS members should use the organisation's experience in peace operations and its regional stature to push the advantages of existing stabilisation initiatives by proposing a constructive and efficient coordination mechanism among them. They could also provide cohesive political leadership, including in dealing with external partners whose support often comes with constraints and agendas.

This week's meeting will consider key proposals contained in the final report of ECOWAS's 28-29 August meeting of defence staff chiefs, heads of security services and heads of intelligence services held in Niamey,

Niger. These include the proposed 'activa(tion) of the deployment of the ECOWAS Standby Force to contribute to the fight against terrorism.'

An additional force in the current security context would however create more competition for already limited finances and resources. It would also further strain defence and security forces in affected countries that are already stretched thin.

ECOWAS found a solution to the 2012 political and institutional crisis in Mali, but not the security crisis. The absence of a credible security option became obvious in 2013 when violent extremist groups started descending into central Mali. The interim government called on France for help.

This triggered the hasty deployment of ECOWAS' African-led International Support Mission to Mali. Funding problems led to the July 2013 rehatting of West African troops under the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali. Since then, ECOWAS and the

African Union have been relegated to supporting roles in managing Mali's crisis.

Several sub-regional counter-terrorism initiatives have emerged since the terror threat started expanding in Lake Chad Basin and Sahel countries over recent years. This has resulted in ad hoc coalitions that often straddle existing regional economic communities in West, Central and North Africa.

One example is the Multinational Joint Task Force against Boko Haram, deployed by Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Cameroon and Benin under the political leadership of the Lake Chad Basin Commission. Cameroon and Chad are members of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) while the other three are ECOWAS members. The Lake Chad Basin Commission has also adopted a regional strategy for the stabilisation, recovery and resilience of the Boko Haram-affected countries of the Lake Chad Basin.

The G5 Sahel unites Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger (all from ECOWAS), Chad (ECCAS) and Mauritania (Arab Maghreb Union). The Nouakchott-based permanent secretariat of the G5 Sahel has adopted a Priority Investment Plan and an Emergency Development Programme that covers resilience, infrastructure, governance and security.

The G5 Sahel Joint Force launched in 2017 was mandated to fight terrorist and criminal groups as well as illegal migration in the G5 countries' border areas, with an initial focus on the Liptako-Gourma region. Increasingly the force's impact is being called into question. It hasn't stabilised the area or won the support of the local population. It says this is due to financial constraints and equipment delivery delays.

The last ad hoc sub-regional security arrangement is the Accra Initiative created in 2017. It comprises Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo. Mali and Niger were given observer status in 2019. All its members are also members of ECOWAS, and three - Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger - are members of the G5 Sahel. It facilitates the sharing of information among member country intelligence services and conducting joint operations.

ECOWAS' marginalisation in preventing terror in West Africa isn't due only to weaknesses in the management of Mali's security crisis or the emergence or boosting of ad hoc institutional actors. A leadership crisis at commission level and within the region's political leadership also

plays a big part.

Now the region's worsening security situation and the expanding threat provides an opportunity to improve cooperation among the various institutions. ECOWAS should strive to foster closer cooperation and form more creative partnerships among existing initiatives.

Enhancing collaboration within existing structures, providing special status to interested states who could provide extra capacity, and advocating for more attention to non-military/security initiatives might help improve security timeously.

Effectively countering and preventing terrorism requires a paradigm shift. Institute for Security Studies research shows that terror groups in West Africa and the Sahel feed off a multiplicity of localised state vulnerabilities linked to political, social, economic and security governance problems.

In designing a coordinated military and security plan, ECOWAS' leaders must highlight two points. First, to avoid growing the ranks of violent extremists they should ensure that interventions respect human rights and don't stigmatisate specific communities. Second, they should ensure that such security responses are just one part of a larger strategy that includes prevention, development and socio-economic interventions in the short, medium and long terms.

Lori-Anne Théroux-Bénoni, Regional Director, ISS Office for West Africa, the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin

By Guardian Correspondent

Why stock assessment of marine resources vital for national development

Tanzania and other African countries alongside the South West Indian Ocean have been told that if they wanted to benefit from their marine resources, the first thing they need to do was to understand the amount of resources or the biomass they have.

Speaking last week during the just ended three-day Regional South West Indian Ocean Tuna Platform (SWIOTUNA) training and Annual General Meeting held in Dar-es Salaam, Tanzania, Dr. Bernard Fulanda from the Department of Marine Science Fisheries Oceanography, Pwani University of Kenya, who was one of the trainers said "The key thing will be doing stock assessment to first evaluate how much they have in the water in terms of the biomass."

Secondary, and especially for the tuna resources, Dr Fulanda said that since tuna resources are migratory resources, so these governments need to come together and understand that there is migration root for these stocks and licensing in one country can't go unnoticed by the next country.

Once the stocks move from one country into the next country then it is difficult for a single country which didn't get a chance to license to benefit.

"Therefore, if we go for regional license which will be distributing the revenues to these countries will be better off."

He said that the other optional is the enactment of a minimum terms and conditions. "Where the conditions of licensing and revenues are uniform within all these countries such



Tuna fishing in the Mafia Island in Tanzania. File photo

that we don't have one organization or country going to another country because licensing over there are cheaper."

But if the conditions are the same then they will be able to get a license from each of these countries depending on the migration position of the resources.

The optional was for these governments to look for the benefit to the local communities; because without the local communities benefiting, conservation become a very big issue. And therefore if the communities feel they do not own those resources they will continue destroying these resources.

"Governments should plow whatever they get from the fisheries sector backing the fisheries sector to uplift the livelihoods of the local communities who are actually the key custodians of these resources."

He therefore urged the governments to encourage small scale fisheries to keep the data to justify the government plowing of resources backing to these fisheries. "Because of poor statistics governments find it difficult to invest in this sector," he noted.

Dr Fulanda further said that if small scale fisheries own the resources, conservation and the issue of resource management will be given an up-hand when it comes to the defending of these resources such that the communities feel the resources belong to them. And they can actually manage the resources knowing are theirs.

"So, we need to transfer ownership and convince the local communities that the revenues belong to them and are for their own benefits and future generations."

Meanwhile, Dr Fulanda has urged governments that if they want to get more revenues from fish catch by foreign vessels using licenses that were licensed in their countries, to force those vessels to land fish in a country where they licensed these vessels.

Otherwise they will get a license in Kenya, but land the fish in Tanzania. Or get license in Tanzania, fishing in the waters of Tanzania, but land the fish in Mozambique.

For his part, Secretary General Southern African Non State Actors Platform in Fisheries and Aqua

Culture within SADC Regional, and a Professor at the Totiara University in Madagascar, who was one of the participants to that training, Dr Paubert Mahatante, also concurred with Dr Fulanda by saying that if these countries wanted to immensely benefit from their marine resources, they should first assess the biomass.

"We should know how much biomass do we have, how much can we sell, and how are going to manage that. "We should start by establishing a very good management plan, and that should be justified from using relevant data. And this is how we can improve the way we are using our resources in a sustainable way."

Dr. Mahatante further said "So, we start from establishing a very good management plan and that should be justified from using relevant statistical data. And this is how we can improve the way we use our resources in a sustainable way."

The second thing they should do is to promote the local fisheries because it is from the local production that they can sustainably fight against food insecurity.

The third thing they need to do is to target export. This exportation also should be done in a sustainable way where they can benefit as a regional far away from corruption through involving other stakeholders such as civil society organisation and the private sector to sit on the same table with the government and discuss all fisheries agreements in the region.

"This is how we can improve the fisheries production in our region," he said.

In Tanzania, tuna fishing is undertaken within the territorial waters that measure 64,000 km² and the 200 nautical miles Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) that measures 223,000 km². The potential for the fishery is largely unknown.

For her part, Marine Programme Officer with World Wide Fund for

Nature (WWF) in Tanzania, Lydia Mwakamema, said that Tanzania has limited capacity to exploit tuna fisheries resources in her EEZ. The country licenses Distant Water Fishing Nations (DWFNs) fleets to harvest tuna resources and other highly migratory species.

The Deep Sea Fishing Authority (DSFA) is responsible for the management and development of tuna fisheries resources in both mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

The Authority licences deep sea fishing operations carries out surveillances and fights illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU) fishing. The DSFA has established a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) as part of its Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) capacity building.

In 2009, one foreign vessel was arrested for illegally fishing in Tanzania with some 293.77 Mt of tuna and tuna-like species on board. In 2011, some 1302 Mt of tuna and tuna-like species were harvested by DWFNs.

Since 2010, only Spain and French vessels have been fishing in Tanzania waters, representing a 60 percent decline in the number of licenced boats.

Chairman of the Tanzania Tuna Fishery National Alliance, Mr. Mohamed Mohidin said "This country might be losing billions of shillings from tuna catches by foreign vessels in its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

He therefore urged that in order to maximise returns from Tanzania's EEZ, there is need to provide enabling policy and legal environment to allow local investors to venture in the tuna sector, enter joint ventures with DWFNs, develop national tuna fleet, develop the infrastructure (porting, transshipment, cold storage facilities), train and build the capacity of local fishers.

He further suggested "There is also a need to improve on fisheries statistical data collection systems

as well as and research, test and introduce fish aggregating devices (FADs) fishing technology, carry out value chain analysis of deep sea fisheries and effect best licencing practices based on economic and conservation concerns."

Concurring with the previous speakers, to Regional Fisheries Programme Manager WWF Mozambique, Mr. Edward Kimakwa, said there was limited data on how much tuna stock was exploited by foreign vessels also known as distant water fishing nations due to weak monitoring, control and surveillance.

According to him (Kimakwa) the fisheries sector contributed 1.4 percent to Tanzania's gross domestic product (GDP), adding that in 2010 an average of 1,021.6 tonnes were obtained from Tanzania's EEZ while 7,834.8 were obtained from Mainland Tanzania artisanal fishery. Meanwhile, Kimakwa mentioned the overall objective of the training was to enhance the capacity of the participants to have some in-depth understanding on fisheries access arrangements.

These include forms and their impacts to stock sustainability, socio-economic returns to respective countries, and negotiations approaches and tactics, and how to effectively manage fisheries access arrangements/ partnership agreements.

He further mentioned the specific objectives as: to understand the types and forms of fisheries access arrangements and how to effectively negotiate for them.

Understand the regional Fisheries Governance Frameworks in the SWIO region and the role of CSO in driving reforms in influencing fair and equitable fisheries access arrangements.

Facilitate cooperation and collective approach to fisheries access arrangements by the SWIOFC member states, including lobbying for the implementation of regional Minimum Terms & Conditions for fisheries access in the SWIO region.

The training was organised by the South West Indian Ocean Tuna Forum (SWIOTUNA) with financial support from WWF Mozambique Regional Fisheries Programme.

African countries should tap opportunities from Russia-Africa summit

MOSCOW

FOR the first time in many decades, Russia and Africa will hold a historical summit this year in Sochi, Russia from October 22-24.

This event is especially important given that Soviet Union (USSR) and Russia as its successor were close allies of African nations during the latter's struggle for independence from colonialism.

The new development relations between Russia and Africa are strategically important and mutually beneficial to both sides.

The economic potential for cooperation between the two sides is particularly important and will help in the economic growth of African countries.

The coming summit will be unique in the history of relations between Russia and African countries, thus, the meeting will provide an opportunity for Africa to find a new and strategic partner.

The summit will also help resolve many economic problems African countries are facing and it will also be a catalyst for the economic growth of the African nations.

Through this summit, leaders will share ideas and, in the process, stimulate further development of bilateral and multilateral contacts for many decades to come.

The Russia-Africa summit will be co-chaired by Russia President Vladimir Putin and Egypt President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, who currently serves as Chairman of the African Union (AU).

This is the first event in the history of the Russia-Africa relations to which the heads of all states of the African continent have been invited along with the leaders of major sub-regional associations and organizations.

"The Russia-Africa summit is of crowning significance following a series of events dedicated to developing our relations. In June this year, we had the honour to take part in a field ses-



Russian president Vladimir Putin

sion of the Annual General Meeting of shareholders of Afreximbank, part of which consisted of the Economic Conference with a rich business program," Anton Kobayakov, Adviser to Russia President and the Executive Secretary of the Organizing Committee for the Summit, stressed.

"In October, as part of the summit, Sochi will host the Russia-Africa Economic Forum. This forum will be a major and vital step in creating the most favourable conditions for promoting trade and economic relations with the countries of Africa and will diversify the forms and spheres of Russia-Africa cooperation," Kobayakov added.

Russia, as it was the case for USSR, has historically been a very strong partner and always supported Africa, especially during the African coun-

tries' struggle for independence.

This partnership, which lasted for many years, is going to be renewed and will give African countries a chance for full cooperation with Russia Government.

Holding these events will provide an additional impetus for the development of trade and investment opportunities for African countries.

In the current era African countries, including Tanzania, encourage and welcome different stakeholders to invest especially in agriculture and tourism in the countries.

The continent must take advantage of the coming summit to tap the opportunities that will be offered by the Russia Govern-

ment at the summit.

Russia has been Africa's traditional partner in trade. Presently, the trade between Tanzania and Russia, for example, stands at \$204 million, so, there is a great need to increase trade volume between our countries.

Through this summit, Russia will provide investment opportunities to various sectors, so Africa has the potential to benefit from these opportunities.

Tourism is one of the opportunities African countries should take advantage of, since our country has so many tourist attractions.

"We should use this historic event to promote our tourist attractions so that Russia's tourism

companies could either invest in or have partnership with locals", one of commentators for Russia-Africa affairs, who opted for anonymity, said.

He further said that at present Russia's tourism companies have strong ties with their Zanzibar counterparts as currently there are shuttle direct flights from Russia to the island.

"Through the coming summit, Air Tanzania and other airlines in the continent stand a chance to greatly benefit and may have the opportunity to start direct flights from Dar es Salaam and other parts of the continent to Moscow, if Tanzania's companies and firms from the rest of the continent will manage to sign cooperation agreements with Russia's tourism investors," he said.

There is, thus, a need for Tanzania's tourism industry stakeholders, through Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, to attend the Russia summit with a view to seeing to it the former take advantage of any opportunity they will have.

Apart from the tourism industry, Russia has been helping African countries in the defense field, training troops, sharing security information and providing military equipment.

The commentator said it should be noted that, many of the people involved in terrorist activities in Syria and other parts of the world were recruited from African countries, so after having been disbanded from Syria, many of them are making their way back to their countries.

He emphasized on the need for Russia and Africa to have joint strategy for nullifying the terrorists before the latter form new terrorist groups in the continent.

"It should be noted that, at pre-

sent, Russia is one of the world's most technologically advanced countries, the country's military equipment is of high technology, African countries need to have closer relations with Russia in the defense sector to help us fight terrorists endangering our continent," he said.

Russia and Africa also have good relations in the health sector. Kremlin had in the past provided many opportunities for Africans to study medicine in Russia.

Tanzania is one of the beneficiaries of the program.

"It would mutually be beneficial for Russia and Africa to develop these relationships and invite Russia's businessmen to invest in such areas of the health sector like pharmaceutical manufacturing and private hospitals," he added.

"Investment in the health sector will help Africa reduce drugs shortage and increase access to good health care."

According to information from the organizers of the Russia-Africa summit an exhibition involving Kremlin and African partners will be organized as part of the forum.

The exhibition will serve as a key platform for demonstrating achievements and potential opportunities in economy, science, ecology, and culture.

The exhibitors will present landmark projects and advanced technologies in the mining and chemical industries, engineering, energy, agriculture, transport, healthcare, and the military-industrial complex as well as other promising areas in which Russia and African countries can develop investment and export potential.

Agencies

There's more to the plastic pollution crisis than just carrier bags

By Nonhlanhla Kalebaila

RECYCLING initiatives are low hanging fruit and without a doubt reduce the leakage of most packaging plastic products, such as carrier bags, and other recyclable mega and macro plastic products into the environment.

However, addressing the plastic pollution crisis in its entirety must go beyond the 'carrier bag' narrative. A deliberate effort should be made towards outlawing the import, manufacture and use of all forms of problematic plastics such as single-use (non-recyclable) plastics and deliberately manufactured tiny plastic products (microplastics).

South Africa is actively involved in the global fight against environmental pollution and has not been shy to ratify several global initiatives supporting environmental sustainability, including those specifically addressing plastic pollution.

Commitment to the UN Environment's Clean Seas Campaign and Assembly, are some of the most recent and notable examples. Over and above our own National Development Plan, SA has also committed to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with SDG 14 aimed at addressing marine pollution of all kinds.

Ostensibly, this is a very good thing, because all these commitments supposedly complement, build on and/or echo the calls for urgent action on environmental pollution.

Examples of earlier initiatives for reducing plastic bag consumption in SA include recycling and introduction of the plastic bag levy. While similar initiatives have worked elsewhere, the results have been slightly underwhelming in South Africa.

A review done seven years after the plastic bag levy, found plastic bag consumption at about 8-billion per year, of which 96% went to landfills after use. This problem is not unique to South Africa, ocean plastic pollution is a global crisis.

Tackling it requires a global solution almost on par with the Stockholm convention or the Paris accord.

Nonetheless, other governments have pressed on with plans to completely ban other forms of problematic



plastics, ie single-use plastics products (such as plastic cotton buds, cutlery, plates, straws, drink stirrers, glitter and sticks for balloons) and the use of microplastics in certain consumer products.

A recently completed Water Research Commission has demonstrated the presence of substantial amounts of micro to nano-sized plastic particles in a selected surface, tap, and groundwater sources in South Africa. Microplastics in water sources could originate from industrial pellets, microbeads used in personal care products, micro/nanofibres used in clothing items, as well as abrasives from synthetic sandblasting. These minute plastic particles end up in our rivers because wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove such small particles.

Secondary microplastic fragments are derived from the degradation of

larger plastic pieces.

The interest in single-use plastics and microplastics in the environment is motivated by the large amounts likely to be involved due to the known ubiquity of plastic debris and microplastics in the marine environment. Interpretation of a growing knowledge base of plastic debris in aquatic systems consistently indicates the real and potential risks of microplastics at many levels.

Curbing pollution related to these types of plastics demands immediate and aggressive action. This kind of action is provisioned for under Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development 1992.

This section states that, "In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach

shall be widely applied by States according to their capabilities. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation".

To date, only a handful of countries have invoked this principle and announced calls to ban single-use plastics and/or microplastics. Among these are the US, UK, Sweden, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Luxemburg and Norway. A European Union-wide call for the ban of single-use plastics is also underway.

In the recent Budget Policy statement, the Department of Environmental Affairs announced their ambitious plans for curbing plastic pollution. However,

much of the stimulus behind these plans rests on the assumption that economic growth can be decoupled from environmental degradation, and that poverty eradication and environmental sustainability can be simultaneously achieved.

Plastic recycling in South Africa has been ongoing for over a while now, with the rate of recycling currently estimated to be about 41.8%. However, the rising plastic pollution problem is a clear symptom that as a country we have neither achieved the necessary balance for sustainability, nor been able to maintain the momentum from earlier efforts against plastic pollution. Visible plastic pollution is easily tackled through consumer education and awareness.

However, microplastics re-

quire a differentiated approach. Accurate product labelling will be vital, as it will provide enough information for the consumer to make choices on the product. As it is, it may be hard for the consumer to even know that the product contains microplastics; nanofibre containing clothing items are good examples.

SA's efforts to implement commitments to global initiatives against environmental degradation are an important first step but enabling effective responses in marine water quality management can contribute to unlocking the economic potential of South Africa's resources, growing our GDP and creating more sustainable jobs, while at the same time ensuring that our environment is free from litter.

DM

Anthropology professor deploys drone to fight disease in Africa

LILONGWE

THIS summer, Oakland University Professor Jon Carroll went to Africa to explore the role drones can play in combatting the spread of malaria. The project, which is funded by the United States Agency for International Development, uses precision agriculture to support public health, environmental protection, food security and other efforts.

The research team spent nine days in the East African nation of Malawi, where they collected data to assess the effectiveness of drone imagery in detecting areas of standing water - common breeding grounds for mosquitos, the chief transmitters of malaria.

"You have to compare the aerial imagery with data collected on the ground," Carroll explained. "That's how you gauge the reliability of the drone photos."

Although data analysis is not yet complete, Carroll said drones are a promising tool to curb the threat of a disease that, according to the World Health Organization, afflicted more than 200 million people in 2017 - with more than 90 percent of cases and deaths occurring in Africa.

Carroll, who is a FAA-licensed drone pilot, registered professional archaeologist and assistant professor in OU's Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice, explained that drones allow researchers to capture high-resolution images that far exceed the quality of those produced by satellites.

"With standard satellite imagery, the smallest object you can detect is around 7 feet by 7 feet," he said. "With drone imagery, the smallest object you can detect is about 3 inches. So in terms of distinguishing objects from each other, and detecting different landscape features,



Prof Jon Carroll flies a drone over the Bwanje Irrigation Scheme in Malawi

drone imagery is far superior."

Carroll and fellow researchers April Frake and Brad Peter, both from Michigan State University, centered their efforts on Malawi's

Bwanje Valley Irrigation Scheme due to the markedly high rates of malaria found there.

"Malaria is endemic to the region, but it's not evenly distributed,"

Carroll said. "The people that live around this irrigation scheme are at far greater risk than people who live down the road."

Researchers hope drone

imagery can help irrigation engineers and agriculturalists develop strategies that allow water to flow through irrigation schemes more efficiently, avoiding stagnation

which enables mosquitoes to breed.

The communities that surround the irrigation scheme are heavily dependent on water-intensive crops, mainly rice, which causes puddles to form in the fields. Carroll noted that the research team worked closely with local residents to collect the aerial and ground data.

"I was really impressed by how collaborative and engaged they were in helping us do our work," he said. "They have intimate knowledge of the local landscape, as well as the social, economic and political environment. All of those factors play into how the irrigation scheme is run."

Along with the field work, the team also held lectures on their research at Malawi's Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The lectures were well attended by faculty and students - another sign of strong community engagement, which Carroll said is vital to the success of the project.

"If this technology is going to grow and propagate, these are the folks who are going to do it," he said. "They are the ones who will build on this research and use it to improve the lives of potentially millions of people."

New York's registered Corteva Agriscience opens shop in EA

By Guardian Reporter

THE New York Stock Exchange-listed agriculture company, Corteva Agriscience has launched its regional operations in Nairobi.

Corteva also named Nairobi the regional hub for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa (ECSA) countries, comprising of Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

According to the statement, the company is positioning itself to provide seed, crop protection and digital solutions to address the recurring problem of food insecurity in the region by investing in the agricultural value supply chain.

The Corteva Agriscience Country Lead for Kenya and the Great Lakes Region, Humphrey Kiruaye said that the launch will change and completely disrupt the agricultural sector not only in Kenya but in the region. He further added that the company, with its global affiliation and its partners, was well positioned to provide sustainable solutions to the challenges facing the small-scale farming sector in Kenya.

In doing this, the firm will work closely with the Kenya Government institutions, research institutions, as well as the academia to harness expertise that would assist the small-scale farmer maximize on his land in line with the food security pillar in the Kenya Government Big



Four Agenda.

According to Kiruaye, Corteva would principally address the problem of low productivity per unit area facing the grains small scale sector in Kenya, which has been found to not only be the lowest in the region but in Sub Saharan Africa as well: Kenya's small-scale

farmers produce an average of 1.5 metric tonnes per hectare compared to Ethiopia with 5 metric tonnes and Zambia with 4 metric tonnes respectively.

Corteva, Kiruaye noted, will deploy the latest technology in farming and leverage on extension services and digital platforms to

disseminate information to farmers throughout the country in order to reduce the post-harvest losses in Kenya which currently stood at over 40 per cent.

Corteva was born out of the merger between international chemical manufacturer Dow Chemical Company and DuPont to form DowDu-

Pont (NYSE: DWD) which created three separate publicly traded companies in agriculture, materials science and specialty products sectors that will lead their respective industries through productive, science-based innovation to meet the needs of customers and help solve global challenges.

In Africa and Middle East, Corteva Agriscience™ brings together DuPont Crop Protection, DuPont Pioneer, PANNAR and Dow Agro-Sciences to create a market shaping, standalone agriculture company with leading positions in seed technologies, crop protection and digital agriculture.

AUC, AUDA-NEPAD and OCP Group deepen partnership to develop agriculture in Africa

By Special Correspondent, Accra

THE African Union Commission, together with the African Union's Development Agency, AUDA-NEPAD, and OCP Group, a leading global producer of fertilizers have strengthened their partnership to support the development of the African Agricultural Sector through the signature of a comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The MoU was signed by Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko, African Union Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, OCP Group's Chairman and CEO, Mostafa Terrab, and Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, CEO of the AUDA-NEPAD, represented by Dr Hamady Diop, on the sidelines of the ongoing African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) held recently in Accra, Ghana.

The African Union, AUDA-NEPAD partnership with OCP Group, a major African private sector player with extensive global reach, demonstrates a shared commitment to deepen collaboration with all actors, including the African private sector to reduce jointly hunger and poverty through the sustainable transformation of the agricultural sector on the Continent.

OCP Group is a major player in Africa's sustainable development and does so by contributing to the African agricultural ecosystem through support to African farmers and targeted private and public African actors and stakeholder. The Group supports innovative mechanisms aimed at creating resilient and sustainable agricultural productivity to enable Africa to reach its full agricultural

potential while protecting its natural environment.

This partnership is intended to facilitate effective coordination of the implementation and delivery of a set of goals as outlined in the African Union Malabo Business Plan on Agriculture Transformation which aims to increase productivity and catalyse private sector investment.

As such, the parties aim to promote the use of agricultural inputs, including access to customized fertilizer to the soil and crops of each region, and to develop the efficiency of the fertilizer whole value chain by working on corridors approach.

The agreement will therefore be operationalized by strengthening a conducive environment for private sector investment in agriculture; equipping African Union member states with the right policies and tools to support the achievement of the Abuja commitments on fertilizer use; strengthening efficient and sustainable use for smallholders to increase the sector's productivity and promote inclusive growth; as well as strengthening national and regional agricultural policies aimed at boosting the adoption of good agricultural practices and innovations.

The Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) of the African Union monitored by the AUDA-NEPAD, is one of the continental frameworks under Agenda 2063 and it aims to help African countries eliminate hunger and reduce poverty by raising economic growth through agriculture-led development as well as promote increased national budget provision to the agriculture sector.

Tanzanian large-scale sisal farming project to feature Africa's top agribusiness summit

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S large scale sisal farming runs by Noble Azania Investments is one the successful commercial farming projects in Africa expected to feature the 6th Commercial Farm Africa meeting to be held in Kenya's capital, Nairobi next month.

Another project is Coffee Plantation & Processing Plant Investment, which is manned by Afro-Tsion Farm in Ethiopia.

Organized by Centre for Management Technology (CMT) the meeting also will involve

officials, plantation owners, tech companies and funding Agencies.

According to a statement issued yesterday, financial accessibility, cost competitiveness in agribusiness transformation mainly in Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania, as well as use of precision farming, hydroponic systems are just some of the highlights expected to feature the regional meeting.

The leading agribusiness conference in Africa, to be held between October 30 and 31, this year, will open with a key presentation on Kenya's Agricultural Transformation &

Growth Strategy - explained in detail by Dominic Kitaka, Head of Agriculture Transformation Office, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries & Irrigation, Kenya.

"He will highlight vital aspects such as agri-tech, vertical farming and public private partnerships," the statement reads in part.

The program includes an essential Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on 'Access to Innovative Financing' - focusing on real challenges in financial accessibility, role of commercial banks in long-term investments led by panelists

- Olaniyi Oladejo, Operating Partner, Sahel Capital Agribusiness Managers and Edson Mpyisi, Chief Financial Economist / Coordinator, ENABLE Youth Program Department of Agriculture & Agro-Industry, African Development Bank (AfDB).

Speaking on Ethiopia's Agricultural Investment Potential & Opportunity as well as the potential of commercial/mechanized farm projects and the bottleneck of agri-investment is Horizon Plantations.

Olam on the other hand provides its views on AfCFTA via session on 'Impact of African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA)

on Agriculture' highlighting food security balance in Africa, cross border trade and its impact. In addition, LMC International presents the 'Growth Outlook and Market Prospects for African Agribusiness' - assessing the potential of key agri commodities and price forecasts for grains, oil crops and more.

The summit also focuses on data Capturing to Enhance Overall Profitability of a Farming Operation - SGS Precision Farming Services (Corporate Sponsor) and application of Regenerative Agriculture for Today's Climatic Context: Case Studies - Soil Capital.

Your social media profiles, your CV

A couple of days ago, I was listening to a conversation on the airwaves. As entertained as I was, there were points at which brought some points home to me about how we let our social media pres-

ence define us letting strangers into our lives unknowingly.

Similarly, I find myself relating so very much to professional advice from people who have our best interests at heart.

Literally speaking, it might

seen unimportant, but for the record any one could get a glimpse of your personality, where you hang out, the kind of people in your circle amongst many others from a single post in your timeline. In as much as we enjoy sharing our

lives in your social media timelines, it's imperative that we remain very selective in what we share out there.

Well, your outfit is ready, you have just the right experience or even more to it that perfectly fits the job requirements, a speedy out-

layed referees list, communication skills that are on top and gladly the suitable kind of confidence that we wear when aware that our performance will be assessed, weighed and compared to someone else's.

Literally, you are so outrightly presentable to the extent that your presence will still linger in the minds of those present at the interview panel and probably remain deeply imprinted on the HR's medulla oblongata for quite a while after you walk out of that interview room.

You are well prepared for the interview and that's what is actually required of you.

Infact, amongst all the days, this should probably be the day you prepare to give your best shot.

This is a typical interview preparation from anyone of us who's eager to smash those interview questions and ultimately bring the award home – the job.

However impressive your



THE CAREER MIRROR
With
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resume may look, how immaculate and neat your outfits are, however confident you seem, your efforts will still be deemed futile if you have a controversial social media presence.

Shocking right?!

For today's organisation, image is everything, and the last thing an employer wants is an employee that will make the company look bad and unfortunately, what you may not have realized is that personal things you enjoy doing on social media may have unintended consequences and maybe your Facebook account, Twitter

timeline, Instagram photos and Snapchat could be what is standing between you and that terrific job you've been eyeing.

One Facebook post, a single tweet or a tagged picture may be enough to keep you unemployed literally!

Essentially, social media sites the likes of Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn give the public a glimpse into your personality and it's highly important to regulate what's being posted and to consider social media as only a tool for positive utilization.

Ever wondered why the interview might have gone

smoothly and you walk out of that room with high hopes of landing the job but to your utter surprise you realise that you weren't even shortlisted.

You only get a brief text message "thank you for showing up for the interview, but sorry, you did not make it to the shortlist".

You sit down, head reeling, wondering what you did not do right.

It may seem trivial or even insignificant, but your social media presence could be your greatest undoing while approaching that interview room for that job you've been praying for.



Should we worry about income gaps within or between countries?

By Dani Rodrik

Let's narrow the focus to incomes and assume that people care only about their own consumption levels (disregarding inequality and other social conditions). "Rich" and "poor" are those in the top and bottom 5% of the income distribution, respectively. In a typical rich country, the poorest 5% of the population receive around 1% of national income. Data is a lot sparser for poor countries, but it would not be too much off the mark to assume that the richest 5% there receive 25% of national income.

Similarly, let's assume that rich and poor countries are those in the top and bottom 5% of all countries, ranked by per capita income. In a typical poor country (such as Liberia or Niger), that is around \$1,000, compared to \$65,000 in a typical rich country (say, Switzerland or Norway). (These incomes are adjusted for cost-of-living, or purchasing-power,



have both raised the share of within-country inequality in the total, reversing an uninterrupted trend observed since the nineteenth century.

Given patchy data, we cannot be certain about the respective shares of within- and between-country inequality in today's world economy. But in an unpublished paper based on data from the World Inequality Database, Lucas Chancel of the Paris School of Economics estimates that as much as three-quarters of current global inequality may be due to within-country inequality. Historical estimates by two other French economists, François Bourguignon and Christian Morrisson, suggest that within-country inequality has not loomed so large since the late nineteenth century.

These estimates, if correct, suggest the world economy has crossed an important threshold, requiring us to revisit policy priorities. For a long time, economists like me have been telling the world that the most effective way to reduce global income disparities would be to accelerate economic growth in low-income countries. Cosmopolitans in rich countries – typically the wealthy and skilled professionals – could claim to hold the high moral ground when they downplayed the concerns of those complaining about domestic inequality.

But the rise of populist nationalism throughout the West has been fuelled partly by the tension between the objectives of equity in rich countries and higher living standards in poor countries. Advanced economies' increased trade with low-income countries has contributed to domestic wage inequality. And probably the single best way to raise incomes in the rest of the world would be to allow a massive influx of workers from poor countries into rich countries' labour markets. That would not be good news for less educated, lower-paid rich-country workers.

Yet advanced-economy policies that emphasise domestic equity need not be harmful to the global poor, even in international trade. Economic policies that lift incomes at the bottom of the labour market and diminish economic insecurity are good both for domestic equity and for the maintenance of a healthy world economy that provides poor economies a chance to develop. DM

differentials so that they can be directly compared.)

Now, we can calculate that a rich person in a poor country has an income of \$5,000 (\$1,000 x 0.25 x 20) while a poor person in a rich country earns \$13,000 (\$65,000 x 0.01 x 20). Measured by material living standards, a poor person in a rich country is more than twice as well off as a rich person in a poor country.

This result surprises my students; most of them expect the reverse to be true. When they think of wealthy individuals in poor countries, they imagine tycoons living in mansions with a retinue of servants and a fleet of expensive cars. But while such individuals certainly exist, a representative of the top 5% in very poor countries is likely to be a mid-level government bureaucrat.

The larger point of this comparison is to underscore the importance of income differences across countries, relative to inequalities within countries. At the dawn of modern economic growth, before the Industrial Revolution, global inequality derived almost exclusively from inequality within countries. Income gaps between Europe and poorer parts of the world were small. But as the West developed in the 19th Century, the

A street scene in Switzerland, a typical rich country. The writer argues that a poor person in a rich country is more than twice as well off as a rich person in a poor country. (File photo)

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

3 Letter word: BEE, BAN, OAT, IRE, ROE, NOT, GEE, IRE
4 Letter word: NEST, REDO, ATOP, LESS, EFTA, ADAM, SALE, EAST
5 Letter word: KORAN, PLATO
6 Letter word: LOUNGE, FAMOUS, MASTER, ATTAIN, ORANGE
7 Letter word: SINUATE, FRAGILE, SANGOMA,
10 Letter word: NGORONGORO, TELEVISION

WORD FIT

W A G A M O Y O S
A R A A P
N O S E M A
A B H A D D U
N O R T H E A S T
A I M M I D I
F R A G I L E
I N M
S I N O R P O M I
P A I N I R A N
G S R B S S
M E R R O

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD = 695 =

1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11
12 13
14 15 16
17
18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25
26 27
28 29
30
31 32

Clues: Across
1. Commercial city of Tanzania (11)
7. "Northern way," (6)
9. Calling for immediate action (6)
12. Organ of hearing (3)
13. Make somebody late (5)
14. Jewish prayer shawl (7)
16. Not just one (4)
17. 12 month period from any date (4)
18. material of elephant's tusks (5)
21. Together with (3)
23. Main axis of plant (4)
26. Plant material used for roof (6)
28. Try to overcome problem (8)
29. Bottom of foot (4)
30. Insect living in colonies (3)
31. One (6) 32. Unique (3)

Down:
1. Contribute (6)
2. Almost never (6)
3. Islamic law (6)
4. High in volume (4)
5. Non-Hispanic white person (5)
6. In any case (6)
8. United with England in 1536 (5)
10. Revival of ideas (7)
11. Consume (3)
15. 3-sided figure (8)
19. Bony (6)
20. Small single-celled fungus (5)
21. Containers (5)
22. Unintelligent (5)
24. Swahili word for a river (3)
25. Female person (3) 27. Kinfolk (4)

By Magezi, sanchezdasmari@gmail.com 0789437309



Thursday 12 September 2019

No more branch closures at the FNB, says CEO

JOHANNESBURG

Tech-savvy customers are pushing First National Bank (FNB) to the limit, driving the bank to come up with digital innovations that are boosting profitability at the financial services provider.

This is according to Jacques Celliers, FNB CEO, in an interview with ITWeb. "The nice thing is we have a very sexy client base. If you don't have customers that push you, we will not be able to deliver cool stuff. We are grateful that our customers are tech-savvy; if we make mistakes, they catch you out."

FNB recently rescinded its decision to introduce a new password policy that required users to type in their usernames and passwords manually for online banking rather than using their browser or password manager to automatically fill in the fields.

This after hundreds of consumers turned to social media to voice their frustration with the new rules, which resulted in several consumers being locked out of their accounts. "We have invested millions in our digital drive. Besides investing in actual ICT solutions, we have over 3 000 people developing and coding for us. Technology is a massive expense for our business. Everything we do is digital; we don't have analogue anymore, it's all digital. It has been an exciting journey," Celliers said.

Digital interface

Celliers was speaking after FirstRand, whose portfolio includes FNB, Rand Merchant Bank and WesBank, said yesterday it grew its profit 5% to R29.4 billion in the year, buoyed by a strong performance from FNB. According to the bank, a consistent strategic focus on cross-sell and up-sell to existing clients resulted in an uplift in deposit and lending volumes, with customer numbers at 8.2 million.

Commenting on the results, Celliers said: "Our digital interface continued to offer us fresh growth opportunities, with app logins topping 45.5 million in June this year. "Sales and client interactions continue to grow on our digital platforms and we are delighted clients have embraced the opportunity to engage on these interfaces."

The performance of FNB's digital interface highlights its ability to shift client behaviour, Celliers noted. According to FNB, its app transactions are up 45%. However, it points out that digital sales dominate the growth story, with insurance, FNB Connect and investment pillars all enabled on digital.

Branch modernisation

Commenting on closing branches as more customers get comfortable with digital channels, Celliers noted there won't be any closures at FNB. "There is a misunderstanding in the world about the role the branch plays. For example, at Uber, although there is an unbelievably reliable platform, zero customer service can be provided without the human. For every customer request at Uber, a human will be there."

FNB's competitor, Standard Bank, recently faced backlash after it closed 104 branches countrywide within a short space of time. To date, one in every five Standard Bank branches has been closed down.

"In our environment, whether you call our contact centre or visit our branch, or whether we visit you at your offices; whenever there is a need for a human, we will have a human being there to serve our customers using the most powerful tool available. We would want to see many more points of presence.

"When someone walks into our branch, we ensure the ability of the platform to identify the customer; to present the context to the customer, and we automate the whole experience. Branch closures are not part of our strategy. We are actually looking at modernising our branches. In fact, 80% of our sales are still happening in branches. So we are very excited about our branches," said Celliers.

He believes the bank will be able to shrug off competition from the new digital entrants that have recently entered SA's retail banking space. These include TymeBank, Discovery Bank and Bank Zero. "Competition comes to us from all angles. The big guys at the moment are still our biggest competitors. They are the ones that keep us up the most," he said.

"We believe the new players will gain momentum, and we are not pretending that they are not there. However, I am sure we will be able to respond to their offerings. FNB has been around for 180 years now, and over the years, there has been many entrants, so we are quite used to this, and we are also excited about the vibrancy in our industry."

Celliers pointed out that FNB is also tapping into fintech to boost its business. The company recently partnered with start-up company Selpal to connect informal traders in townships with fast-moving consumer-goods companies. FNB is seeking to tap into a market that it estimates could consist of as many as a million enterprises that have largely been ignored and fall into the "unseen economy."

Maendeleo Bank disburses 150bn/- in loans, recovers over 100bn/- in 6yrs

By Beatrice Philemon

OVER 6,000 small and medium size enterprises have received 150bn/- plus in loans from Maendeleo Bank Plc which has already recovered over 100bn/- since 2013.

The bank's Managing Director, Ibrahim Mwangalaba told 'The Banker' earlier this week that 44bn/- remains unpaid by the beneficiaries who continue paying in installments. "Most of our beneficiaries are SMEs engaged in agri-business, food processing, petty trading and food vendors popularly known as 'Mama lishes' the majority of which are informal," Mwangalaba said as the Dar es Salaam based bank marks its sixth anniversary.

He pointed out that loans were issues to the private sector including micro-businesses ranging between 50,000/- and 2bn/- mostly meant to grow such businesses. "Apart from giving them loans, we also train them in how to run their businesses professionally



Maendeleo Bank Plc's Managing Director, Ibrahim Mwangalaba.

by keeping records," he added while pointing out that this year, the bank has set-aside 60bn/- for lending to SMEs to grow their capital.

"SMEs which are interested to access loans from our bank should have a business with least six months and above in operation," the Maendeleo Bank Plc

CEO noted.

Among the key beneficiary groups include 800 poultry farmers who have borrowed over 2bn/- between March last

year and this month.

Mwangalaba said the bank which is listed at Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange's Enterprise Growth Market, started with a capital of 4.5bn/- in 2013 and has since grown to 14bn/- as of this year thanks support from depositors, shareholders and the private sector.

The bank has grown its customer base from nil to more than 26,000 over the six year period served in three branches in Dar es Salaam and 200 agency banking centers in some parts of the country.

"Next year we want to continue expanding agency banking services in Arusha, Dodoma, Iringa, Mbeya and Mwanza by targeting rural areas where the highest population of the unbanked resides," he pointed out.

Established in 2013, the bank is owned by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania-Eastern and Coastal Diocese. Maendeleo was registered as a limited company in February 2011 before changing to a public limited company in June 2013 when it was listed at Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange's Enterprise Growth Market window.



DCB Bank Plc's Chief Finance Manager, Zacharia Kapama speaks at a past event File photo.

More banks issuing ultimatum to loan defaulting clients

By Francis Kajubi

MORE banks are issuing ultimatums to defaulting borrowers who include retrenched bankers who have disappeared in the market. DCB Bank Plc's Chief Finance Manager, Zacharia Kapama said in Dar es Salaam this week that they have issued a 14 day notice to loan defaulters to present themselves before the bank or risk legal action.

"If they show up then we will negotiate with them on a possible repayment schedule but if they don't then we will proceed with legal action," Kapama said noting that DCB's non-performing loans currently stand at 17 percent worth 15.8bn/-, a slight improvement from 19 percent at the end of March this year.

"We expect to recover not less than 1bn/- from this operation although the total amount that is in the hands of borrowers is more," he added. The Dar es Salaam based

lender which is listed at Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange recovered from 6.9bn/- loss in 2017 to post a 1.9bn/- gross profit last year.

"Efficiency in our operations and digitization contributed to a decrease in operational costs to 16.9bn/- last year from 21.2bn/- registered in 2017. Serious collection of debts associated with non-performing loans led to a decrease in provision to bad loans that is to be deposited to the central bank reaching 263million/- from 4.5bn/- remitted in 2017" he said.

Last month, TPB Bank Plc also gave defaulters of its loans a 14 days ultimatum and said it targets to recover more than 1bn/- from the defaulters.

The bank's CEO, Sabasaba Moshingi said the borrowers have not serviced their loans in the past six months.

"I cannot reveal the exact amount and the number of customers that have defaulted because you will end up

making a comparison of what we expect to recover from what is defaulted which might pose questions to the public" Moshingi said noting that the majority of the defaulters were clients of Twiga Bancorp and Tanzania Women's Bank.

In May last year, Bank of Tanzania approved the annexing of Twiga Bancorp and TWB with TPB to save the duo from collapse blamed on bad loans.

In its fresh Quarterly Economic Bulletin, the central bank stated that total domestic credit by the banking industry which comprise credit extended to the government and private sector, grew by 17.3 per cent in the year ending June 2019 compared with 1.5 per cent in the year ended June 2018.

According to BoT statistics, average NPLs is 10 percent this year which was down from 12 percent in the previous year while the target is 5 percent threshold of the central bank.

Are banks, regulators keeping pace with digital disruptions?

KIGALI

As emerging technology companies race to provide digital financial services, some traditional players have expressed concerns over the potential threats that such firms can pose to the stability of the financial sector.

The scepticism stems from the fact that emerging tech firms in the sector lack the experience in managing risk and have "weak" governance structures, among shortcomings. This could potentially adversely affect the stability of the financial sector.

This has been the narrative for the past few years and still is for some players who also view emerging tech firms as their next big competitors. However, this trend has been changing, according to the Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI), the global network of central banks and other financial regulatory institutions from emerging and developing economies.

Alfred Hannig, the Executive Director of AFI, said on Tuesday in Kigali that central banks and other financial regulatory institutions are currently responding to digital disruption. "Digital financial services is actually the most prominent area we are undertaking," he said at a press conference while announcing the upcoming AFI Global Policy Forum which takes place this week on Thursday.

He noted that the question was how to deal with the challenges that come with the adoption of digital technologies and putting in place the kind of regulatory frameworks needed to propel digital financial services.

Analysts have argued that regula-

tors are trailing tech firms, which are disrupting the industry, in terms of innovation. This sometimes leaves some products unregulated.

Moreover, Hannig indicated that countries such as Peru, Rwanda, Malaysia, Philippines and others have been able to respond to what might be the negative effects of these digital services. They have established frameworks for consumer protection and electronic money issuance, among others.

John Rwangombwa, the Governor of the National Bank of Rwanda, highlighted that Rwanda put in place the regulatory sandbox, which allows emerging firms with digital financial services to test their solutions.

"In 2017, we launched a sandbox to allow financial technology companies to test their solutions for six months or above. We didn't have this framework before because we were scared they would cause instability in the financial sector, but today, we have been able to benefit from these digital services," he noted.

Riha Payment System is one of those fintech players that have received the privilege to work on a basis of a sandbox regulatory framework initiated by the central bank. Through this framework, start-ups and companies are often given a testing approval for a limited time, without having to undergo a full authorisation and licensing process.

The central bank governor says, today, there are more people saving using mobile phones and able to acquire micro loans, compared to two years ago when the Government decided to open up for digital financial services.



National Bank of Rwanda Governor John Rwangombwa (L) and AFI Executive Director Dr Alfred Hannig addressing the media yesterday.

DC salutes NMB Bank for sustained investment in community services

By The Banker Reporter

SUSTAINED investments in community services such as education and health has earned NMB bank Plc's leadership praises from Mpwapwa District Commissioner, Jabir Shekimweri. The 5m/- donation comprised of five beds and mattresses, 25 bed-sheets and two labour ward beds.

Shekimweri said earlier this week while receiving medical materials donated by NMB to JKT Mpwapwa company number 826 earlier this week, that sustained support to social services is important to nurture a health and educated population which constitutes NMB's clients.

"Through this donation which you have presented

today, the bank directly touches on community wellbeing because health is a vital service as many people receive treatment from this hospital," Shekimweri said.

He said this year so far, NMB has already donated educational materials to back public schools most of which lack basic things like classrooms, textbooks and desks, among many other things. "It's the third time so far this year that I am receiving donations from NMB," the Mpwapwa DC added while calling on other commercial banks and corporations to borrow a leaf from the Dar es Salaam based lender.

JKT Mpwapwa representative, Colonel Festus Mangwela also paid tribute to the bank's management saying the donation will go a long way



NMB Central Zone Manager Nsolo Mlozi (R) handing over desks to officials from Bahi district in Dodoma region earlier this year.

in improving health services at the public health centre.

"This health centre is overwhelmed because it treats both military personnel and their families but also civilians from neighbouring villages," Col Mangwela said while commending the timing of the donation as the barracks is set to start receiving form six leavers on compulsory military service for three months.

NMB's Central Zone Manager, Nsolo Mlozi said the medical materials donation was made following a request from authorities in the district. "We at NMB support three key areas which are education, health and disaster relief through budgeted resources annually," Mlozi said while noting that so far this year over 110m/- has been donated to Dodoma region.

Equity to expand in The DRC with acquisition of second-largest bank

NAIROBI

Equity Group Holdings is set to acquire a controlling equity stake in Commercial Bank of Congo (BCDC) with the aim of merging the business with its existing subsidiary in DRC.

The proposed deal will give new impetus to Equity's Pan-Africa expansion strategy coming just after similar transactions that would see the bank increase units in Zambia, Mozambique, Tanzania and Rwanda.

"By acquiring BCDC, Equity will be able to expand its footprint

in Africa. Further, through the proposed transaction, EGH aims to provide access to competitive, tailored financial services to improve people's lives and livelihoods whilst also delivering significant value to its stakeholders," Equity chief executive James Mwangi said in a statement Monday.

The Nairobi Securities Exchange-listed company first entered DRC by acquiring 79 percent stake in Pro Credit Bank in 2015. In 2017, the bank raised its stake by seven percent to 86 percent.

ProCredit was the seventh largest bank by assets in the market with total assets exceeding \$200 million (about Sh20 billion), net assets of \$25 million (Sh2.4 billion) and a customer base of over 170,000 at the time of the acquisition.

The Kenyan multinational rebranded the subsidiary to Equity Bank Congo last year. The Congo subsidiary is the most profitable in the region. Access to banking services in the resource-rich nation is low compared to other countries in Sub-Saharan region. About 90 per cent of the

population is unbanked.

"The Proposed Transaction is an opportunity for EGH to deliver the vision of building sub-Saharan Africa's premier financial institution through delivering innovative products and services to customers, including, in particular, the effective use of technology," Mr Mwangi said.

BCDC is the second-largest bank in DRC with about 29 branches across the country including key cities Kinshasa, Goma and Lubumbashi. It has an asset base of about \$700 million.



Equity chief executive James Mwangi.

China's new digital currency to have similarities to Facebook's Libra

BEIJING

China's proposed new digital currency would bear some similarities to Facebook's Libra coin and would be able to be used across major payment platforms such as WeChat and Alipay, a senior central bank officer said.

Mu Changchun, deputy director of the People's Bank of China's payments department, said the development of the coin would help protect country's foreign exchange sovereignty as commercial applications of such currencies expanded.

"Why is the central bank still doing such a digital currency today when electronic payment methods are so developed?" said Mr Mu, according to a transcript of a lecture he gave this week that was published online.

"It is to protect our monetary

sovereignty and legal currency status. We need to plan ahead for a rainy day." He said the tokens would be as safe as central bank-issued paper notes and could be used even without an internet connection. They could also be used on Tencent's WeChat and Alibaba-backed Alipay.

The state-run newspaper Shanghai Securities News reported his comments on Friday. China's central bank set up a research team in 2014 to explore launching its own digital currency to cut the costs of circulating traditional paper money and boost policymakers' control of money supply.

It had said little since but Mu last month announced that the digital currency was almost ready. US financial magazine Forbes, citing sources, said the currency could be ready as soon

as Nov. 11. Some analysts say China appears to have accelerated the push to digital money after US social media giant Facebook announced plans in June to launch digital coin Libra.

Mu said China's digital currency would strike a balance between allowing anonymous payments and preventing money-laundering. It would also bear some similarities to Libra in design but would not be a direct copy, he said without elaborating. Facebook's proposed cryptocurrency has sparked concerns among global regulators that it could quickly become a dominant form of digital payment and a channel for money laundering given the social network's massive cross-border reach.

Libra will be a digital currency backed by a reserve

of real-world assets, including bank deposits and short-term government securities, and held by a network of custodians. Its structure is intended to foster trust and stabilize the price. Like other cryptocurrencies, Libra transactions will be powered and recorded by a blockchain, which is a shared ledger of transactions maintained by a network of computers.

Mr Mu said the advantage a central bank-issued digital coin had over those issued by WeChat and Alipay was that commercial platforms could, in theory, go bankrupt which could cause users losses. Its ability to be used without an internet connection would also allow transactions to continue in situations in which communications have broken down, such as an earthquake.



Guaranty Trust Bank Plc's CEO, Segun Agbaje

GTBank's 2019 half year profit before tax hits N 115.8 billion

LAGOS

Guaranty Trust Bank Plc has released its audited financial results for the half year ended June 30, 2019 to the Nigerian and London Stock Exchanges.

The half year result shows positive growth across key financial metrics and reflects GTBank's leading position as one of the best managed financial institutions in Africa. The Bank reported a Profit before Tax of 115.8 billion, representing a growth of 5.6% over 109.6 billion recorded in the corresponding period of 2018. The Bank's loan book grew by 1.0% from 1.262 trillion recorded as at December 2018 to 1.274 trillion in June 2019 and customer deposits increased by 6.3% to 2.418 trillion from 2.274 trillion in December 2018.

The Bank closed the half year ended June 2019 with Total Assets of 3.598 trillion and Shareholders' Funds of 603.0 billion. In terms of Asset quality, NPL ratio and Cost of Risk improved to 6.8% and 0.2% in June 2019 from 7.3% and 0.3% in December 2018 respectively. Overall, asset quality remains stable with adequate coverage of 84.7%, while Capital remains strong with CAR of 23.5%. On the backdrop of this result, Return on Equity (ROAE) and Return on Assets (ROAA) stood at 33.7% and 5.8% respectively. The Bank is proposing an interim dividend of 30 kobo per ordinary share of 50 kobo each for period ended June 30, 2019.

Commenting on the financial results, the Chief Executive Officer of Guaranty Trust Bank plc, Segun Ag-

baje, said: "We have delivered a good result in spite of a challenging market, characterized by varying degrees of uncertainty and a rapidly changing competitive landscape. Our strong financial performance is underpinned by our unwavering focus on delivering value for our shareholders and reimagining the role we play in our customers' lives."

He further stated that "In a rapidly changing world and increasingly unpredictable environment, we are committed to building a long-term business that is both nimble and focused on flawless execution. The progress that we have made over the past six months demonstrates that we have the right strategy and the dedicated team to deliver for all our stakeholders, even in difficult conditions."

The Bank has continued to report the best financial ratios for a Financial Institution in the industry with a return on equity (ROE) of 33.7% and a cost to income ratio of 37.6% evidencing the efficient management of the banks' assets. These ratios are a testament to the competent and experienced management and work-force, efficient balance sheet structure and operational efficiency of the Bank.

In recognition of the Bank's bias for world class corporate governance standards, excellent service delivery and innovation, GTBank has been a recipient of numerous awards over the years. Some of these include Africa's Best Bank and Best Bank in Nigeria from Euromoney Magazine, and Best Banking Group and Best Retail Bank by World Finance Magazine.

To curb misconduct within their rank and file, banks introduce a new code of conduct

By Dr Joseph Masawe

Commercial banks and other financial institutions, which are members of Tanzania Bankers Association have agreed on a new code of conduct for the industry, which is a product of their collaborative effort.

The new code of conduct is referred to as Code of Conduct of the Tanzania Bankers Association. The code replaces a previous one and is based on a new common mission, vision and values of the banking sector.

It seeks to ensure that member banks structure their business in line with the changing landscape taking place in the banking industry. By so doing, banks will ensure that the market place for the financial institutions becomes a better place for the growth of the banking industry.

TBA Executive Director, Tuse Jouné said the initiative sets out the banking industry's key commitments and obligations to customers and stakeholders on standards of practice, disclosure and principles of conduct for their banking services.

Jouné confirmed that the association received quality engagement from Bank of Tanzania and its leadership to come up with the new code and that this collaboration and the ongoing support they continue to receive from the regulator has been very productive.

Professor Florens Luoga, the Governor of the Bank of Tanzania complimented TBA on this effort and said "The code represents a stronger dedication to moral behaviour, accountable practices, larger monetary safety and elevated transparency. Prof Luoga further expressed hope that ultimately bank customers will benefit from this initiative through better practices and standardized services.

TBA's initiative deserves praise because it will enable its members to realize the general objectives of an ever-growing banking sector by improving the range and quality of banking products and services. The new code of conduct will also enable banks to use available resources appropriately, ensure fair competition, information sharing between members and good relationships with customers.

It is therefore appropriate that the objectives of the new code of conduct are to ensure strict adherence to best banking practices and continued commitment to ethical conduct and pro-



TBA Executive Director, Tuse Jouné

fessional standards by all TBA members and their employees in order to foster the association's core values; namely: integrity, professionalism, customer-centric banking, unity and teamwork.

Given the aforementioned, it is clear that TBA's new code of conduct will be a strong tool for self regulation as well as an instrument for creating trust with customers by serving them in a most efficient and friendly manner, hence building a strong culture of integrity.

It is important to note that while a strong culture of integrity and ethics takes years to build, it takes just a moment to violate and lose it, hence, the latest culture cannot be taken for granted. TBA needs to ensure that it invests in it consistently, day after day and year after year. Every TBA member

must follow the industry's code of conduct without failure. By doing so, TBA will strengthen its ethical culture, and build trust with customers, investors and communities and thereby help members to win back market confidence.

On the other hand, the central bank has indicated that it has in place already, a consumer protection policy which was endorsed by Ministry of Finance and Planning. The policy provides the framework on consumer protection with which this code of conduct has been closely aligned to. The BoT will soon publish consumer protection regulations developed from the framework.

As for consumers of banking services, this code of conduct is also a public statement on what the banking community in Tanzania stands for hence

consumers must use this code of conduct as a yardstick to assess the performance of individual banks.

But in order for this to succeed and also for the code of conduct to achieve its broad objectives, the Tanzania Bankers' Association must ensure that it sensitises not only employees of banks but also the public at large on presence of the new code of conduct. This will facilitate clearer understanding of the new code by all parties and hence be subject to better interpretation and implementation. The code will formally be adopted by all banks after its official launching, which is expected to take place in the few coming weeks.

Dr Joseph Masawe is the Head, Research and Policy, Tanzania Bankers Association

Staff pay doubles as bank CEO pay soars ahead

JOHANNESBURG

Over the past decade, fixed remuneration plus short-term incentives for executives at the country's largest banks has soared. Even excluding the value of long-term incentives such as share options, pay is up anything from 69% to 505%.

The recent Moneyweb analysis of bank executive remuneration highlighted the limitations of using just two arbitrary years as the basis for comparison (shifting the start/end dates would yield dramatically different results).

While executive remuneration has sky-rocketed, over the same period, the median remuneration of employees at these five banks has mostly not kept up. Average remuneration at both Absa Group and FirstRand is up over 100% over the decade, while the increases at Nedbank and Standard Bank are 91% and 83%, respectively. Average remuneration at Capitec is 73% higher.

This means that average pay at each of the banks has roughly doubled over the past ten years. The methodology used to calculate this is simple: total staff costs are divided by the total number of employees at each banking group (this includes staff in South Africa and in the banks' international operations).

This only tells half the story, however. Over the same period (January 2009 to January 2019, used because

substantial changes were made to the basket in January 2009), consumer price inflation is up 167%. This means growth in average remuneration at the banks has not outpaced inflation.

But not only are the increases over the past decade telling, the median salary at the four large 'full service' banks is approximately R50 000 a month. It must be noted that these four obviously have corporate and investment banking divisions, which will drag the average upwards.

At Capitec, with a far greater proportion of front-line branch staff, the median is R23 000 a month. Included (to some extent) in these calculations are staff long-term incentive schemes, the costs of which are rolled up into the total remuneration numbers. Here, certain staff will benefit disproportionately to others, based on management level, duration of employment, and employment equity status (black staff will generally participate in staff BEE schemes).

Staff numbers at the four full-service banks have grown over the past decade, but at a rate lower than inflation (plus GDP growth). Coupled with this has been the trend - particularly in recent years - for the four banks to cut their physical footprints, both in terms of the number of branches as well as the floor space these take up. This generally means fewer front-line bank service staff.

BANKING & FINANCE



Turkish Airlines officials displaying their 5-Star APEX Award which they won in Los Angeles earlier this week.

Tigo connects 85pc of rural consumers with UCSAF subsidy funding

By The Banker Reporter

SOME 85 percent of rural population can now access Tigo Tanzania Limited's communication services including Tigo Pesa transaction thanks to a deployed second generation network (2G) with subsidy funding from Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF) since 2013.

Over 264,763 rural consumers scattered across several regions of the country have been connected by the mobile phone company which has received 16bn/- in subsidy from UCSAF during the period as it targets to close the gap between urban and rural communication by end 2020.

This drastic growth in mobile connectivity has been boosted by Tigo's ability to also deploy 3G, 4G and 4G+ network to the urban areas in the country. "We have been applying for tenders from UCSAF since 2012 and we will continue to do so, in the quest to ensure that rural areas have access to network connectivity," said Tigo Head of Planning and Engineering, Emmanuel Mallya.

The subsidy move was adopted because telecommunication services would accelerate economic undertakings in rural areas where return on investment takes longer hence the need for the government to design UCSAF.

Through UCSAF, telcos have received subsidies to ease the rollout of their services to remote areas which would otherwise take very long time to attract companies' investments. The subsidies have been provided to attract the operators to move to the areas which currently do not attract



Tigo Tanzania's Managing Director, Simon Karikari (R) shaking hands with UCSAF's CEO, Engineer Peter Ulanga after signing a rural communications services contract recently in Dar es Salaam. Photo: courtesy of Tigo.

investment for poor return on investments.

Available data show that since 2013, Tigo has been able to connect residents across 111 wards, costing a whopping 17bn/- of which 16bn/- was subsidy from the government. "In UCSAF phase one, we connected 190,942 customers in 51 wards with 27 wards on 2G network technology and 24 wards on 2G and 3G network technologies," Mallya said.

Under UCSAF's phase two, Tigo connected

some 57,543 customers, scattered across 60 wards with 41 wards connected to 2G network technology and 24 wards connected through 2G and 3G network technologies.

Mallya said the UCSAF project was a necessary innovation by the government because it has created an enabling environment for mobile network operators to extend services to marginalised rural populations.

"Tigo is committed to bridging the communication gap between urban and rural under-served Tanzanians before end of 2020 in order to foster social, educational and economic development. We take this opportunity to re-affirm our commitment to continuing to live up to our mission of providing digital lifestyle services to our customers across the country," the Tigo Head of Planning and Engineering noted.

Tigo has invested heavily on network modernisation and optimization for the past five years to increase the coverage footprint and network capacity, according to the company's boss. "Most importantly, the investment is meant to increase the quality of experience for customers using mobile broadband services," said Tigo Managing Director, Simon Karikari.

Karikari said his company is optimistic that increased accessibility to mobile broadband will open rural communities to essential services such as e-health, e-education and e-government, thereby transforming the way people learn and do business.

"This will enable the entire country to experience a wide array of economic, educational and social advantages, speeding up development and the overall wellbeing of the communities," the Tigo Tanzania CEO added.

Karikari's arguments have been backed by UCSAF CEO, Engineer Peter Ulanga who said by 2018, the fund's projects had benefited over 4.5 million people based in 2,500 villages which had been denied such services for decades since the mobile phone service revolution started.

"I commend Tigo and other mobile network operators for delivering on their tenders by ensuring that quality and reliable communication services are availed to consumers in rural areas," Eng Ulanga said during a third phase contract signing ceremony end last year.

Turkish Airlines wins 5-star global airline APEX Award

By The Banker Reporter

AIRLINE Passenger Experience Association (APEX) named Turkish Airlines as winner of 2020 Five Star Global Airline Award earlier this week.

Travel industry experts who met at the Los Angeles Convention Centre on Monday where the APEX official airline ratings were announced with passengers rating over a million flights of almost 600 airlines around the world covering the period July 2018 and June 2019, chose the Istanbul based airliner as winner for the third successive year.

Categories were judged on a five star scale in five sub-categories; namely: seat comfort, cabin service, food and beverage, entertainment and Wi-Fi.

The airlines' Chairman of the board and executive committee, Iker Ayçi said the award only serves to encourage them do better. "As Turkish Airlines, we are aiming to offer the perfection to our guests in every aspect of their travels. With the renewed Business Class on our new Dreamliner, the brand new style of travelling at Istanbul Airport, our new home, and exceptional services above the clouds, we are undergoing a change," Ayçi said.

"We are happy to see our passengers award that change with five stars. We express our thanks to APEX and all of our passengers for acknowledging our efforts while offering us this exceptional award for the third successive time," Ayçi added while promising passengers in all 126 countries where the airline operates to expect more this year.

APEX distinguishes itself as the first rating program that solely relies on the passenger feedback on subcategories such as service, entertainment, seat comfort and Wi-Fi during its review process.

Established in 1933 with a fleet of five aircraft, Star Alliance member Turkish Airlines has a fleet of 343 (passenger and cargo) aircraft flying to 315 worldwide destinations as 265 international and 50 domestic, in 126 countries.

WORLD

Trump fires foreign policy hawk Bolton, citing strong disagreements

WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump abruptly fired his national security adviser John Bolton amid disagreements with his hard-line aide over how to handle foreign policy challenges such as North Korea, Iran, Afghanistan and Russia.

"I informed John Bolton last night that his services are no longer needed at the White House. I disagreed strongly with many of his suggestions, as did others in the Administration," Trump tweeted on Tuesday, adding that he would name a replacement next week.

Bolton, a leading foreign policy hawk and Trump's third national security adviser, had pressed the president not to let up pressure on North Korea despite diplomatic efforts.

Bolton, a chief architect of Trump's strident stance against Iran, had also argued against Trump's suggestions of a possible meeting with the Iranian leadership and advocated a tougher approach on Russia and, more recently, Afghanistan.

The announcement followed an acrimonious conversation on Monday that included their differences over Afghanistan, said a source familiar with the

matter. The 70-year-old Bolton, who took up the post in April 2018, replacing H.R. McMaster, had also often been at odds with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, a Trump loyalist.

Pompeo acknowledged he and Bolton often had differences but he told reporters: "I don't think that any leader around the world should make any assumption that because some one of us departs that President Trump's foreign policy will change in a material way."

Offering a different version of events than Trump, Bolton tweeted: "I offered to resign last night and President Trump said, 'Let's talk about it tomorrow.' Trump had sometimes joked about Bolton's image as a warmonger, reportedly saying in one Oval Office meeting that 'John has never seen a war he doesn't like.'"

A source familiar with Trump's view said Bolton, an inveterate bureaucratic infighter with an abrasive personality, had ruffled a lot of feathers with others in the White House, particularly White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney.

"He (Bolton) doesn't play by the rules," the source said. "He's a kind of a rogue operator."

During his time at the State Depart-



John Bolton

ment under the administration of Republican former President George W. Bush, Bolton kept a defused hand grenade on his desk. His 2007 memoir is titled: "Surrender Is Not An Option."

Stephen Biegun, special U.S. envoy on North Korea, is among the names that have been floated as possible successors.

"Biegun is much more like Pompeo understands that the president is the president, that he makes the decisions," said a source close to the White House. Also considered in the running is Deputy Secretary of State John Sullivan, who had been expected to be named U.S. ambassador to Russia, and Richard Grenell, U.S. ambassador to Germany, people familiar with the matter said.

White House spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said "many, many issues" led to Trump's decision to ask for Bolton's resignation. She would not elaborate.

'HELL BOMB YOU'

Trump would sometimes chide Bolton about his hawkish ways in meetings, introducing him to

visiting foreign leaders by saying, "You all know the great John Bolton. He'll bomb you. He'll take out your whole country."

Officials and a source close to Trump said the president had grown weary of Bolton's hawkish tendencies and bureaucratic battles. He was seen by policy analysts as an odd choice for an administration leery of foreign entanglements.

Bolton, a former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and Fox News television commentator, had opposed a State Department plan to sign an Afghan peace deal with the Taliban insurgents, believing the group's leaders could not be trusted.

Among the points of contention was Trump's intention - called off by the president at the last minute - to bring Taliban leaders to the Camp David presidential retreat last weekend to finalize an accord just days before the 18th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

One factor in Bolton's departure was the perception that he had floated the idea that Vice President Mike Pence had joined with him in opposing the Taliban meeting when in fact he had not, a source familiar with the matter said.

The implication was that Bolton was trying to send a message to Trump that even his vice president disagreed with the Camp David idea, the source said.

Sources familiar with his view said Bolton believed the United States could draw down to 8,600 troops in Afghanistan and maintain a counter-terrorism effort without signing a peace deal with the Taliban.

U.S. officials have said it was Bolton who was responsible for the collapse of a summit in February between Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Hanoi by recommending a list of hard-line demands that Kim rejected.

North Korea media in May referred to Bolton as a "war maniac" who "fabricated various provocative policies such as designation of our country as 'axis of evil', preemptive strike and regime change." U.S. oil prices fell more than 1 percent on the news of Bolton's departure, with investors believing it could lead to a softer U.S. policy on Iran.

Bolton had spearheaded Trump's policy against Iran, including the U.S. abandonment of a 2015 international nuclear deal with Tehran and reimposition of U.S. sanctions.

Agencies

'US needs Huawei more than Huawei needs US'

BUDAPEST

"AMERICA needs Huawei more than Huawei needs America," a senior executive of China's telecoms company Huawei said on Tuesday, adding that Washington's ban on its products "will hurt America in a very substantial way."

Andy Purdy, chief security officer of Huawei Technologies USA, said that about 30 percent of components of Huawei's global products come from the US and that last year, Huawei spent US\$11 billion buying technologies and components from some 130 US companies.

Without purchases by Huawei, those US companies are going to lose, which might affect 40,000 US jobs, Purdy said at a press conference held on the sidelines of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Telecom World 2019.

The US government in May announced that it would "prohibit transactions posing an unacceptable risk" to the country by declaring a national emergency over what it claimed are technological threats, and announced restrictions on the sale and transfer of US technologies to Huawei.

However, "all these technologies have already gone through



the clearance to show that they don't damage the security of the United States, that's why they are allowed to be purchased by us and sold by us worldwide," Purdy said.

Also, some 40 rural telecoms

carriers in the United States and tens of thousands of rural residents would not be happy if they could no longer use Huawei equipment, which has been proved to be safe and have competitive price, Purdy added.

Meanwhile, Huawei has been incredibly successful without significant penetration of the US market, Purdy said, adding that Huawei hopes to have conversation with the US and asks for "trust through verification."

There is no evidence of any wrongdoing by Huawei, he said. "Blocking Huawei will not make America more secure."

Because the sophistication of

the malicious attackers in the cyber space and their ability to virtually hack into anybody's equipment, the mobile community needs objective and transparent standards concerning the security issue, Purdy added.

As for the components forbidden to be purchased from the United States, Yang Chaobin, president of Huawei's 5G Product Line, said that Huawei began to establish a business continuity mechanism 10 years ago.

"Huawei has a principle, that is, for any components of our products, we are not going to rely on any single supplier or any single country," said Yang.

Fifth Investing in Africa Forum focuses on economic diversification, job creation

BRAZZAVILLE

THE Fifth Investing in Africa Forum kicked off in Brazzaville, capital of the Republic of Congo on Tuesday, with a focus on leveraging partnerships for economic diversification and jobs creation in African economies.

In opening remarks, Moussa Faki Mahamat, chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, said the forum came at a right time because the continent had launched the operational phase of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement, which is aimed at boosting economic integration and development.

He said the topics of the forum were important for that goal and the forum would increase investment into Africa.

When delivering opening remarks, Republic of Congo President Denis Sassou Nguesso said Chinese investment had contributed a lot to the economic development in Africa, calling for strengthened cooperation between China and African countries in areas including digital technologies and infrastructure construction.

The president stressed that the partnership forged by Africa, China and international financial institutions will produce a win-win outcome in the continent.

Other heads of state attending the opening ceremony include Felix Tshisekedi, president of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Angolan President Joao Lourenco, Central African Republic President Faustin Archange Touadera, and Rwandan President



Moussa Faki Mahamat, chairperson of the African Union

Paul Kagame. They all made remarks on issues related to the economic diversification and job creation in the continent.

Xu Hongcai, Vice Minister of China's Ministry of Finance, Liu Jin, Executive Vice President of China Development Bank, and Sergio Pimenta, World Bank Group Regional Vice President

for Middle East and Africa also delivered speeches at the ceremony.

The Chinese officials said China pledged to enhance its cooperation with Africa and would help boost the continent's economic development.

Official statistics show that China has been the largest trading partner of Africa for ten consecutive years. In 2018, trade volume between China and Africa amounted to some 204.2 billion U.S. dollars, up 20 percent year on year.

Following the opening ceremony, a total of seven documents, including a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for China-Africa regional avia-

tion cooperation and an MOU for the overall cooperation on African cement projects, were signed.

The three-day event, co-organized by the government of the Republic of Congo, China's Ministry of Finance, China Development Bank and the World Bank Group, attracted about 400 delegates from African countries, China and international organizations.

Delegates were expected to discuss such issues as human capital development, digital revolution, innovations and the new service economy, public-private partnerships, and investment climate during the forum.

Xinhua

World Bank urges African countries to make bold decisions for digital transformation

BRAZZAVILLE

AS Africa sits on the precipice of digital transformation, governments will need to make some bold choices, said a World Bank policy brief, which was revealed during the ongoing Fifth Investing in Africa Forum in Brazzaville, capital of the Republic of Congo.

"In Africa, faster Internet helps create jobs across education levels. Urgent investment in digital infrastructure is necessary to reach the African Union's goal of universal and affordable internet for all," the document, based on the report titled

"The Future of Work in Africa: Harnessing the potential of digital Digital Technologies for All," said.

It stressed that there is a critical need to equip workers with digital skills and to address universal basic digital literacy for all, adding the governments need to invest in complementary assets, such as reliable electricity and transport, and improve the overall business environment.

The growing youth population makes it more urgent for Africa to invest in technologies that will create more and better jobs, and the continuing high levels of poverty make it imperative to invest in ways that reduce rather than exacerbate the digital divide, according to the document.

It also pointed out that there is an African exception in this regard, which means there is still time for governments to make the right decisions now and pave the way for the next generation of African workers, investors and entrepreneurs to innovate and thrive.

According to the brief, the commitment of the African Union to promote digital technologies provides a window of opportunity to broaden the policy debate.

The World Bank called on the African countries to act now to facilitate all types of technology adoption to generate the jobs and economic transformation that Africa needs. The three-day investment forum, jointly organized by the government of the Republic of Congo, China's Ministry of Finance, China Development Bank and the World Bank Group, kicked off on Tuesday.

Such issues as human capital development, digital revolution, innovation and the new service economy and public and private partnerships and investment climate were discussed during the forum.

According to the forum, digital technologies can unlock new pathways for economic growth, innovation, participation, job creation and access to services in Africa.

DRUGS WAR PROBE: Philippines to shut out UN

MANILA

THE Philippines will not allow visits by the United Nations to investigate its bloody war on drugs, its foreign minister said yesterday, calling its human rights experts "bastards" who had already demonstrated prejudice.

The United Nations Human Rights Council approved a resolution in July to compile a comprehensive report on President Rodrigo Duterte's three-year crackdown, during which at least 6,700 people have been killed in what police say were shootouts with dealers who resisted arrest.

Thousands of mostly urban poor drug users have also been killed, many in mysterious circumstances. Human rights groups accuse police of systematic cover-ups and summary executions of anyone associated with drugs, which police reject.

Asked in a television interview if UN investigators would be allowed to work in the Philippines, Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin said: "No. Because they have already prejudged."

"I already said those bastards - especially that woman acting like the queen in Alice in Wonderland - first, the judgment, then the trial. No."

Locsin (pictured) was referring to Agnes Callamard, the UN special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions. She has been a staunch critic of Duterte, who has threatened to slap her and has warned of an even bloodier campaign ahead.

"No - I don't want them coming here and then saying that everything they have been saying, but have not proved, is true 'because we saw it'. How? Are they going to exhume every body?" Locsin said.

"No. I'm not going to give them that chance."

The resolution came after a call from 11 UN experts concerned about a "staggering" amount of deaths during Duterte's signature campaign.

Locsin, a former journalist, on Wednesday called it a "nothing resolution" and "dead" arguing that it had failed because the votes in favour were fewer than the combined number of abstentions and votes against it.

Agencies



Israeli PM's annexation plan draws condemnation from Palestinian, Arab leaders

CAIRO/JERUSALEM

PALESTINIAN and Arab leaders on Tuesday condemned Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's plan to annex the occupied Jordan Valley in the West Bank, while warning it could kill the peace process.

Netanyahu (pictured) said on Tuesday that he would annex the Jordan Valley in the occupied West Bank right after Israel's Sept. 17 election, if he wins reelection.

"I intend to apply Israeli sovereignty over the Jordan Valley and the northern Dead Sea immediately after the elections," Netanyahu said in a televised speech. In angry reaction, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas warned that all peace agreements will end if Netan-

yahu moves to annex the Jordan Valley, northern Dead Sea or any part of the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel in 1967.

"We have the right to defend our rights and achieve our goals by all available means, whatever the results are, since Netanyahu's decisions contradict the international legitimacy and international law," the Palestinians leader said.

Secretary General of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Saeb Erekat warned that Netanyahu's plan to annex part of the occupied West Bank will bury any chance of peace between the Palestinians and Israelis.

"If Netanyahu is allowed to implement his plan of annexation, he will succeed in burying any chance of peace between the Palestinians and Israelis.



The Israeli and the international community must stop such madness," Erekat tweeted. Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Ishtayeh also issued a statement, denouncing Netanyahu as a "destroyer of the peace process." The 2,400-sq-km Jordan Valley, which accounts for nearly 30 percent of the West Bank, is regarded to be strategic both in terms of security

and agriculture.

If Netanyahu moves to annex part of the West Bank, it would be a major shift from Israel's long-held policy and is set to trigger strong criticism from Arab countries and the international community, and even escalate violent clashes with the Palestinians.

On Tuesday night, Netanyahu was whisked off the stage of an election rally, which was part of the Likud's campaign ahead of the Sept. 17 parliamentary elections, after rockets fired from Gaza Strip triggered air raid sirens in the southern city of Ashdod.

Video footages taken at the rally showed people running in panic and security guards escorting Netanyahu off the stage. A spokesperson with Netanyahu's Likud party told Xinhua that

Netanyahu later returned to the stage to finish his speech. No group in Gaza immediately claimed responsibility for firing the rockets, which Israeli army said were intercepted by Israel's anti-rocket Iron Dome system.

The Islamic Hamas movement, which controls the Gaza Strip, earlier accused Netanyahu of selling "illusion" to Israeli voters by vowing to annex parts of the occupied West Bank.

"Netanyahu is searching for the right-wing votes throughout selling his audience the illusion that he would keep the occupation of our land forever," said Hamas spokesman Hazem Qassem. He also underscored the need to forge "a unified Palestinian position that adopts comprehensive resistance" against the Israeli plan to annex part of the occupied

Palestinian territories of West Bank.

Meanwhile, Arab foreign ministers, who held a meeting in Cairo, Egypt under the framework of the Arab League, condemned Netanyahu's plan as "a new Israeli offensive" that undermines peace chances.

The ministers vowed they are prepared to take all legal and political actions to counter this unilateral Israeli policy. They also reaffirmed their adherence to the principles of the Arab position that supports the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital. Currently, about 400,000 Jewish settlers live in some heavily guarded communities in the West Bank among some 2.8 million Palestinians.



This general view taken on July 8, 2018, shows the Kremlin and Moscow State University (back) in Moscow, Russia. (AFP)

Kremlin says looking into case of suspected CIA mole

MOSCOW / LONDON

THE Kremlin said yesterday it didn't know if one of its former employees had been a CIA informant, but that Russia's intelligence services were looking into the case.

CNN reported on Monday that the United States had successfully extracted one of its highest-level covert sources inside Russia in 2017.

The official may have been a man called Oleg Smolenkov, Russian daily newspaper Kommersant reported on Tuesday. He is reported to have disappeared with his wife, Antonina, and three children while on holiday in Montenegro in June 2017.

"I can only state that this employee existed, that he was fired, and that we don't know whether he was a spy or not. This is a question for the intelligence services - they are doing their job," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on a conference call.

Two sources familiar with US monitoring of Russian activities confirmed to Reuters that such a CIA informant did exist inside the Russian government and had been extracted and brought to the United States.

The Russian daily cited unnamed Russian law enforcement officials as saying Moscow had initially opened an investigation into his suspected murder in Montenegro before concluding he was alive and living abroad.

It published a picture of a house in Virginia which it said had been bought later by the Smolenkovs and linked to details of the property's purchase, including its exact address, in a real estate listing and a local county tax filing.

One US official familiar with the background to the story said it was not necessarily totally stupid or against standard spy practice for a defector to

buy property in his own name. He did not say why.

But now that the story had become public it was highly likely the US government would have to make serious efforts to protect the defector, said the source, who did not dispute the mole was Oleg Smolenkov.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, speaking at a White House briefing, dismissed reports that the CIA pulled the informant out of Russia over concerns the asset's identity could be exposed.

"The reporting there is factually wrong," said Pompeo, without elaborating.

Asked about the matter, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said that Smolenkov had worked in the Russian presidential administration but had been fired in 2016/17.

"It is true that Smolenkov worked in the presidential administration, but he was fired several years ago. His job was not at a senior official level," said Peskov. Smolenkov did not have direct access to Putin, Peskov added, declining with a laugh to confirm whether he had been a US agent or not.

"I can't confirm that. ... I don't know whether he was an agent. I can only confirm that there was such a person in the presidential administration, who was later sacked.

"All this US media speculation about who urgently extracted who and saved who from who and so on - this is more the genre of pulp fiction, crime reading, so let's leave it up to them," said Peskov.

Smolenkov at different times worked at the Russian Embassy in the United States, in the Russian government administration and in the Russian presidential administration, open-source documents inside Russia show.

Agencies

S. African govt denies claims foreigners were targeted in latest spate of violence

CAPE TOWN

THE South African government on Tuesday denied that foreigners were being targeted in the latest spate of violence that swept parts of the country.

Evidence presented to the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster of Ministers has not shown that foreign nationals were being targeted because of their nationality, the government said in a statement issued by the Department of Defence.

"We have noted with concern that the incidents of lawlessness have been characterized as xenophobic attacks," the statement said. "South Africa is not a xenophobic country," and "whoever is found on the wrong side of the law will be dealt with accordingly," the statement added.

South Africa has been hit by a new spate of violence for more than two weeks, claiming the lives of at least 12 people and resulting in the arrest of more than 170 people.

The violence has been dubbed as "xenophobia-related" as quite a number of foreign-owned shops were looted and foreigners, particularly foreign truck drivers, came under attack.

Law enforcement agencies have moved swiftly to restore peace and stability where violence took place, particularly in Johannesburg, Pretoria and Durban, the statement said, adding that "intelligence agencies are working day and night to detect and prevent the occurrence of these violent incidents."

Law enforcement will ensure that the authority of the state is not undermined, and any attempt to undermine the authority of the state will be met with severe consequences, the statement said.

Xinhua

China unveils lists of US goods to be exempted from new tariffs

BEIJING

CHINA yesterday unveiled the first set of lists of US goods to be excluded from the first round of additional tariffs on US products.

The exemption will be effective from Sept 17, 2019 to Sept 16, 2020, the Customs Tariff Commission of the State Council said in a statement.

Two lists of goods will be excluded from China's first round of tariff countermeasures against the US Section 301 measures.

The first list includes 12 items and

allows affected import enterprises to apply for refunds of collected duties within six months from yesterday.

The second list includes four items that will enjoy the exemption but are not eligible for tariff refunds.

Next, the commission will continue to work on the exemption process and release subsequent lists in due course, according to the statement.

Top Chinese negotiators will travel to Washington for talks in the coming weeks, and lower-level officials will also hold discussions this month.

Both sides raised tariffs on each others' goods on Sept 1 in the latest

escalation of trade tensions, and the US plans to add more tariffs. Both nations will increase them again on Dec 15 unless there is a breakthrough.

Applications for the second tranche of exclusions started on Sept 2 and will close on Oct 18, China's finance ministry said earlier on its website. That will be applied to the products subject to additional tariffs on American goods worth US\$60 billion.

China said it will open the third tranche of tariffs up for exemption requests later, though it hasn't specified a date.

Xinhua

Scottish court rules UK PM's parliament suspension unlawful

LONDON

Scotland's highest court of appeal ruled yesterday that British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's decision to suspend parliament for five weeks is unlawful, the lawmaker who led the challenge said.

The British government said it would appeal.

"We are disappointed by today's decision, and will appeal to the UK Supreme Court. The UK Government needs to bring forward a strong domestic legislative agenda. Proroguing Parliament is the legal and necessary way of delivering this," a government spokesman said.

Parliament was prorogued, or suspended, on Monday until Oct 14, a move opponents argued was designed to thwart their attempts to scrutinise his plans for leaving the European Union and allow him to push through a no-deal Brexit.

"We are calling for parliament to be recalled immediately," Scottish National Party lawmaker Joanna Cherry told Sky News after the verdict by Scotland's Inner Court of Session.

There was no immediate comment from Johnson's office.

On Friday, London's High Court rejected a similar challenge by campaigners and that case is due to be heard on Sept 17 at the Supreme Court, the highest judicial body in the United Kingdom.

Jo Maugham, a lawyer involved in the Scottish case, said an appeal to the Supreme Court in their challenge would begin on Tuesday.

Britain's main opposition Labour Party should campaign against Brexit and push for a referendum to reverse its planned departure from the EU before any election, deputy party chief Tom Watson, is due to say on Wednesday.

After parliament ordered Johnson last week to seek a Brexit delay beyond Oct 31 unless he strikes a deal to smooth the transition, Brexit is up in the air with options ranging from a turbulent no-deal exit to a referendum that could reverse the entire endeavour.

In a speech that is at odds with the



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson

stance of Labour's leader Jeremy Corbyn, Watson will say there is "no such thing as a good Brexit deal" and Labour must campaign unequivocally to remain, the BBC said.

"The only way to break the Brexit deadlock once and for all is a public vote in a referendum," Watson will say, according to the BBC. "A general election might well fail to solve this Brexit chaos."

"There is no such thing as a good Brexit deal, which is why I believe we should advocate for remain," he will say.

The 2016 Brexit referendum showed a United Kingdom divided about much more than the EU, and has given rise to soul-searching about everything from secession and immigration to capitalism, empire and modern Britishness.

It has also triggered civil war inside both of Britain's main political parties as dozens of lawmakers put what they see as the United Kingdom's fate above that of party loyalty.

Divided kingdom

Johnson says the United Kingdom will leave the EU "do or die" on Oct 31 and has ruled out seeking an extension. He says he wants to agree an exit deal with the bloc at an EU summit on Oct 17.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Wednesday there was still every chance for Britain's divorce from the EU to transpire with a deal although Berlin is prepared for a disruptive no-

deal Brexit in case that does not happen.

"We still have every chance of getting an orderly (Brexit) and the German government will do everything it can to make that possible - right up to the last day. But I also say we are prepared for a disorderly Brexit," Merkel told parliament.

"But the fact remains that after the withdrawal of Britain, we have an economic competitor at our door, even if we want to keep close economic, foreign and security cooperation and friendly relations," Merkel added.

EU leaders, though, are adamant that the onus is on the divided United Kingdom to propose a way out of the Brexit impasse.

A Kantar opinion poll showed fewer than one in three Britons think it is likely that the United Kingdom will leave the EU by Oct 31.

If a new referendum was held, 37% of Britons say they would vote to remain, 34% say they would vote to leave while 18 percent would not vote at all, Kantar said.

That survey and a ComRes poll published this week put the governing Conservatives ahead of Labour although there was a huge divergence.

Comres had the Conservatives ahead by just one percentage point compared to Kantar's double-digit lead, reflecting the difficulty of forecasting any election outcome.

Agencies

South Africa beefs up deportation of illegal immigrants

CAPE TOWN

SOUTH Africa has deported more than 10,000 undocumented foreign nationals in the first six months of 2019, the government said on Tuesday amid a new spate of xenophobic violence that gripped parts of the country.

These deportations happen regularly, following the prescribed legal processes, the government said in a statement issued by the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster of Ministers (JCPSCM).

In the same period South Africa has charged 1,048 employers for breaching immigration laws and more than half of these were in Gauteng Province, according to the statement.

"With regards to hiring of undocumented foreign nationals, we will clamp down on private business owners who do not abide by the labor and immigration laws," the statement said.

The Department of Home Affairs (DHA), along with the Department of Labor and police, will intensify inspections, said the statement.

The DHA is preparing to implement the pilot phase Border Management Authority (BMA) bill soon after the bill has been finalized through Parliament, the statement said.

The BMA is designed to improve the security of South Africa's borderline and facilitate easier movement of people and goods through the ports of entry.

South Africa is host to some 274,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).



US seeks to rewire Latin American landscape for its own needs, says Lavrov

MOSCOW

WASHINGTON'S policy in Latin America is only aimed at pursuing selfish US interests in the region, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said in an interview with the National Institute of Information of Suriname published yesterday.

"Unfortunately, Latin America and the Caribbean now find themselves under serious pressure. We are deeply concerned over the U.S. attempts to rewire Latin American political landscape for its own needs, in the spirit of the revived Monroe doctrine.

What Washington has done is to usurp the right to use force where it sees fit based on its own assumptions in order to overthrow governments it is not satisfied with for whatever reason," Russia's top diplomat noted.

Lavrov emphasized that such Washington's steps "disrupt the foundations of regional security and stability, lead to the polarization of Latin American societies."

The foreign minister recalled that in its relations with the countries of this region, Russia, on the contrary, adhered to the principles of respect for sovereignty and honoring international law.

"Russia has consistently advocated a politically united and economically stable Latin America - only under this condition the region will be able to assert itself as one of the pillars of multipolar world order.

We aim to work collaboratively with everyone who shares our approaches in order to maintain peace and stability in Latin America and the Caribbean," he pointed out.

Lavrov also noted that such cooperation is facilitated by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (the Treaty of Tlatelolco), which is the first international instrument that makes an entire region a nuclear-free zone.

"We are ready for further fruitful cooperation with our Latin American partners on strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime," Lavrov said.

Agencies

Colombia threatens to denounce Cuba as sponsor of terrorism

BOGOTA

COLOMBIA threatened on Tuesday to denounce Cuba at the United Nations unless it immediately turns over two guerrilla commanders believed to be living on the communist island.

The demand came in a letter sent to the Cuban Embassy in Bogota.

President Ivan Duque first pressed Cuba to arrest two National Liberation Army leaders after the group claimed re-

sponsibility for a car bombing in January that killed 22 people at a Bogota police academy.

But now the Duque (pictured) government warns that it could denounce Cuba as a state sponsor of terrorism at the upcoming UN General Assembly because of the threat of an alliance between the ELN and a rearmament faction of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC.

"As a result of the new circumstances Colombia demands the Republic of Cuba

immediately hand over to our judicial authorities all of the members of the ELN that are in Cuban territory," the letter said.

The new pressure being exerted by Colombia threatens to further isolate Cuba in the region at a time it is already reeling from US sanctions aimed at cutting off its support for Venezuela, which Duque has also threatened to denounce to the United Nations.

The FARC's former chief negotiator, Luciano Marin, ap-



peared in a video last month surrounded by heavily armed guerrillas saying he intended to rearm, accusing Colombia's government of failing to live up to its commitments under a peace accord signed in 2016.

Marin said he would seek an alliance with ELN rebels who have been steadily filling the void in rural areas once dominated by the FARC.

Colombia claims that the video was shot in Venezuela and that President Nicolas Maduro is providing safe haven to hun-

dreds of Colombian rebels who are planning attacks from the neighboring country's territory.

Cuba, which had been sponsoring peace talks with the ELN and helped broker the historic deal with the FARC, has condemned the attacks inside Colombia.

But it has steadfastly refused to extradite two top ELN commanders best known by their aliases Gabino and Pablo Beltran, arguing it believes that would violate peace talk protocols that guaranteed the guer-

illas' safe return to Colombia in case negotiations end.

After taking office on a law and order platform last year, Duque put a hold on peace talks with the ELN.

Under a UN Security Council resolution passed in the wake of the 9/11 attack in the US, all member states are banned from providing financial or logistical support to terrorist groups. Both the ELN and FARC are considered terrorist organizations by the US and European Union.

Agencies



A section of the Russian Fair participants pictured during the event, held in Dar es Salaam last Saturday

The Russian Fair in Tanzania

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ON September 7, 'The Russian Fair' was held at the Russian Center for Science and Culture (RCSC) in Dar es Salaam.

The Fair, which had been organized by the Association of Russian Compatriots (ART) with the support of the Coordinating Council of Russian Compatriots Organizations and the "Rossotrudnichestvo" Representative Office in Tanzania, recorded great success.

On display at this year's 'Russian Fair' were many different products made through talents of the country's people.

The products include jewelry, clothing from local fabrics, dishes of Russian cuisine as well as that of other peoples of Russia, Russian traditional souvenirs, books from Russia and much more.

Tanzania craftsmen also demonstrated their talents and creativity at the fair.

The cultural and entertainment program for hundreds of visitors to the Russian fair was very eventful and took into account tastes of all guests - both adults and children.

Magicians and acrobats performed at the playground, animators invited children to participate in games and competitions of coloring Russian traditional patterns.

A great interest of the guests was drawn to

a fashion show - which included a demonstration of Russian folk costumes and traditional costumes of the peoples of Russia.

The youngest model who participated in the improvised show, had just turned four years old, and precisely her exit got accompanied by a thunderous applause.

Tanzanian fashion designers also participated in the show, presenting women's and men's clothes sewn from traditional bright colored Tanzanian fabrics.

In the concert program, pupils of the Baba Watoto Orphanage performed vocal and original acrobatic numbers, while the famous Tanzania dance ensemble, 'WakaWaka', presented Russian folk dances.

A talented young singer "Star" also participated in the program.

Pupils of the karate sports club at the RCSC demonstrated their skills.

Every participant of the program received a certificate and a T-shirt with the inscription of the famous Russian nesting dolls - Matryoshka.

More than 300 people - Russian compatriots and Tanzanians - took part in the project.

This event had attracted an enthusiastic attention of many hundreds of guests.

In 'Hustlers,' Jennifer Lopez steals money, and the show

TORONTO

"HUSTLERS" is, in itself, a hustle.

It looks like a flashy, glamorous movie about strippers - all sparkle and skin and high-heels. And it is that. But the fleshy, dazzling surface of "Hustlers," written and directed by Lorene Scafaria, cloaks an empowering feminist tale about a sisterhood of women who turn the tables on a male-controlled industry.

"People go into the movie expecting something because stripper is a word that has so many connotations and preconceived notions," says Scafaria. "That's the hustle. Hopefully we're subverting expectations but subverting them in a way that has some nuance to it."

"Hustlers," opening in theaters this week following its well-received premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, stars Jennifer Lopez as Ramona, a veteran stripper in New York who takes a young dancer (Constance Wu) under her wing. Ramona organizes a scam to drug Wall Street guys and max out their credit cards. It's loosely based on a true story, chronicled in a 2015 New York magazine article, and set

in the years after the 2008 financial crisis - when far greater, white-collar swindles went largely unprosecuted.

The transactional world of strip clubs - so commonly depicted from a male viewpoint in movies - has seldom been viewed through a female gaze like it is in "Hustlers." It's a microcosm, Lopez says, of America.

"It's all a strip club," says Lopez. "You have people tossing the money and people doing the dance."

"This film says something about the inequality that we've been yelling and screaming about for a while now and kind of making some headway," she adds. "And I hate saying that so broadly because I love men and there are so many great, supportive beautiful men in the world. But there is this thing that exists that we can't deny."

"Hustlers" might be Lopez's most radiant and regal screen performance, too, since Steven Soderbergh's 1998 film "Out of Sight." As Ramona, she's the matriarchal ring-leader of an improvised family of strippers-turned-hustlers. (Cardi B makes her big-screen debut, alongside a cast including Lili Reinhart and Keke

Palmer.)

Lopez is, like Ramona, an entrepreneur from the Bronx. She instantly identified with the role, even if the stripping scenes gave her pause.

"It was scary. I saw the script and it wasn't like boobs everywhere. That wasn't (Scafaria's) thing," says Lopez. "But I also knew I was playing a stripper and I'm a mom and what does that all mean? But I felt good about how Lorene wanted to tell the story and that it was something I could be proud of it."

Scafaria, the 41-year-old writer of "Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist," observed how much training Lopez put into the part. As experienced a dancer as she is, pole-dancing was something else entirely. Lopez' resplendent entrance in the movie is a stage dance set to Fiona Apple's "Criminal" while being showered with bills.

"It was like acrobatics. I had to start lifting more weights. I had to change my body," says Lopez. "I told her, 'I have to change my body if I do this.'" "And I was like, 'Please don't. I don't know what we're talking about,'" retorts Scafaria, laughing.

In just the past two years,

Taifa Stars have moved up the ladder, thanks to Kaseja again

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL ENEZA

TANZANIA has qualified for the group stage of the Qatar World Cup qualifiers for Africa after a couple of draws with Burundi and an exceptional performance in the penalty shootouts, thanks to veteran goalie JumaKaseja. It was the second time he took the national side out of danger with an uncanny ability of watching penalty shots and stopping them, this time blocking one while two went wide, and the home side scored three in that stead. While the team played well even to obtain two successive draws with a side that was also part of the recent African Nations Cup finals, the threats and weaknesses were familiar.

The national side, Taifa Stars, earlier obtained a vital away one all draw against neighbouring Burundi in an Africa Cup of Nations-cum-World Cup qualifiers encounter in Bujumbura, and rapidly set to face the same side in the return leg at home after a few days. That result brought relief at home and most media outlets were of the view that the next step is one that offers hope and even a minimum of assurance for Taifa Stars, as usually scaling an away encounter is the dreaded part. The home encounter was seen in a rather blissful manner, which laid a trap that had been observed, even amply verified, the previous month.

This is where success distinguished itself from failure, as teams that obtained good away results or draws tended to be rather off guard in the return encounter, unable to put up the same performance as outside, in which case losing a tie or obtaining a negative draw. The latter is a situation where a draw is painfully advantageous for the visiting side, for instance obtaining a null score in an away game and a one-all draw in the return game, as it assists the visiting side with a vital away goal. That is how Tanzania premier league defending champi-



Senior national soccer team, Taifa Stars.

ons Simba SC were eliminated at the preliminary round of the CAF Champions League having played only two matches. This national level tournament is structured in a similar pattern.

The reversal of fortunes where the side that does well in its away game loses ability to determine results in the home encounter was repeated often enough for the Taifa Stars technical bench to take this risk lightly. The way the media reacted to the away result was symptomatic of what happened earlier, and in that sense there were no psychological defenses that it wouldn't happen in similar manner in the return game, that is, reproduce another upset. There was every reason to worry that this could even materialize.

On the other hand it can't be said that it would inevitably happen that way, except that if the problem or risk is not taken into account it may bring itself up in precisely the manner it occurred during the CAF Champions League and Confederation Cup tournaments in the

preliminary round. That would add salt to injury, to have our champion club side eliminated at the preliminary stage, and then suffer the same drawback when the national side seeks to obtain group placing after preliminaries. Owing to the current structure of the tourneys, that early risk of elimination is like a sword of Damocles hanging over teams.

There is an expression that 'to be forewarned is to be forearmed,' in which case TaifaStars head coach Etienne Ndayiragije sawn what happened with his club side Azam FC, the strengths and weaknesses of their performance in the first place and their opponents on the other hand. Yet it was not easy to use those lessons as the technical bench and the players would have to vacate the psychological honeymoon built into their minds on account of obtaining a draw in away encounter, the belief that this makes the return encounter almost assured of them clinching victory. That impression was oblivious of

what took place at the club championship continental encounters lately, and definitely not one to prescribe for Taifa Stars.

For some reason Taifa Stars is a sort of improved since the AFCON championship, having taken good care of Kenya in the home-based players tournament, CHAN and now taken care of Burundi in the Africa Cup of Nations cum World Cup finals qualifiers. There was an impression in the AFCON finals that Burundi was by comparison a better side than Tanzania, but this hasn't been especially demonstrated in the two-leg competitive engagement between the two sides lately. Even if the Kenya-Tanzania matches lacked the depth of fully constituted national sides, it still tells something about cohesiveness and ability to compete, which however has not been replicated at the club level. The failure by the premier league defending champions to cross the preliminary round contest was a blot in this reassuring picture of sorts.



Jennifer Lopez attends the premiere for "Hustlers" on day three of the Toronto International Film Festival at Roy Thomson Hall on Saturday, Sept. 7, 2019, in Toronto. (Photo:AP)

Lopez has released new Spanish-language tracks, launched a cosmetic line, got engaged to former baseball player Alex Rodriguez and recently concluded a 38-concert tour. Time Magazine has ranked her among the 100 most influential people in the world. "Second Act," released in 2018, proved movie

audiences still love her. It grossed \$72.2 million worldwide. She's also a producer on "Hustlers."

"People think 'Oh, she's not a serious recording artist.' Or, 'she's not really a serious actress,' or 'She's not really a serious entrepreneur.' No, I'm very serious about all of them. That's why I've spent

most of my life doing as many of those things as possible," says Lopez. "Because I do all those things, I don't get the credit at times - which is fine, I don't care. I love what I do. I have the most amazing life. I feel good about my life. I feel good about where I am."

IOC hopes to remain relevant with Tokyo's 'urban festival'

TOKYO

THE International Olympic Committee (IOC) hopes that Tokyo 2020's "urban festival", which will offer fans the chance to try out Olympic sports, will help the governing body remain relevant and increase long-term youth engagement with the Games.

In July, Games organisers announced plans to develop a Waterfront City in Tokyo Bay, involving demonstration events and fan participation in sports, as well as concerts and other performances during next year's sporting showpiece.

The plans, which mirror a similar idea tested at last year's Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires, are part of the IOC's wider aim of increasing its appeal to younger sports fans.

"We have made a point to take sport to youth," IOC Games Director Christophe Dubi told Reuters by telephone.

"We want to make sure the Olympic programme remains relevant."

"We have to bring those sports to youth as we cannot expect that they come naturally to the offer that we have."

The inclusion of new Olympic sports skateboarding, surfing and sports climbing at Tokyo 2020, and the likely introduction of breakdancing at Paris 2024, is part of an IOC bid to attract a younger, more urban audience.

"(The Olympic programme) is growing but it is growing for a good reason - to remain relevant. Relevant to youth and relevant to sports participation overall," Dubi said.

"The sports programme has to reflect what is happening in playgrounds, on fields of play every single weekend."

AP

REUTERS

Djibouti now defy odds, Zimbabwe survive scare and Rwanda set record

JOHANNESBURG

DJIBOUTI triumphed unexpectedly, Zimbabwe survived a scare and Rwanda created a record as the first round of African qualifying for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar concluded on Tuesday.

French coach Julien Mente was hired by Djibouti recently and promised to restore the "dignity" of a national team used to heavy losses.

It did not take him long to succeed as a 0-0 draw in eSwatini (formerly Swaziland) earned the "Shoremans of the Red Sea" a 2-1 aggregate victory.

Forcing a goalless draw in Manzini completed an amazing turnaround for the tiny Horn of Africa nation, who were crushed 8-1 overall by the then Swaziland in a 2018 World Cup eliminator.

"Officials did not speak to me about qualifying for the Africa Cup of Nations, the African Nations Championship or the World Cup," Mente told the FIFA website.

"All he (the president of the national football federation) wanted was to stop losing 5-0 and 6-0 and I said I would definitely bring him that dignity."

Ranked 195th of 211 football nations, Djibouti must now wait for the second round draw, which will include the teams ranked 1 to 26, who received first round byes.

The 40 survivors will be split into 10 groups of four with the winners advancing to a final two-leg stage to decide which five African teams go to Qatar.

In Harare, Khama Billiat scored two minutes into stoppage to hand Zimbabwe a 3-1 win over minnows Somalia, whose solitary-goal first leg win proved insufficient to survive.

A dramatic finish to the return match saw Marshall Munetsi give Zimbabwe a second leg lead 13 minutes from time only for Omar Abdullah Mohamed to equalise.

Zimbabwe had to score at least

twice to avoid a shock exit and Knox Mutizwa, direct from a free kick, and Billiat with a hard close-range shot netted for a dramatic victory.

- Driving instructor - Like Djibouti, Somalia have suffered many heavy losses in World Cup qualifiers with home matches having to be played outside the country because of an unstable security situation.

The side that tackled a Zimbabwe team packed with full-time professionals included Mohamud Ali, who combines playing sixth-tier football in England with being a driving instructor.

Meanwhile, Rwanda created a record for a World Cup qualifying aggregate winning margin in Africa by trouncing the Seychelles 7-0 in Kigali for a 10-0 overall victory.

The previous nine-goal mark was set by Ghana in a 1974 World Cup qualifier and equalled by Libya in a 2006 tie.

Rwanda fell just short of the record eight-goal margin for a single match set by the Democratic Republic of Congo in a 2002 qualifier and later equalled by Libya.

Guinea-Bissau, once minnows but qualifiers for the last two Africa Cup of Nations tournaments, fell behind at home after 11 minutes to an aggregate-tying goal from Sao Tome.

The visitors, whose "The Falcons and True Parrots Team" nickname must rank among the most eye catching in football, retained the second leg lead until midway through the second half.

Joseph Mendes, who equalised in Bissau on 66 minutes, was yellow carded for taking his shirt off when celebrating, and scored again to give Guinea-Bissau a 2-1 victory.

The "Djurtus" (wild dogs) progressed 3-1 on aggregate to keep alive the seemingly improbable dream of coach Baciro Cande, who believes a team ranked 123rd in the world can qualify for Qatar.

AFP

Outspoken, volatile, unstoppable: Eto'o retires a great

BY GRAHAM HUNTER, ESPN SPAIN WRITER

NOW that Samuel Eto'o has retired from football, debate will rage about whether or not he was the greatest African footballer of all time. In short, he was and by some margin.

What shouldn't be debated was that "Samu" (as most of his teammates knew him) was one of the most contrary, stubborn, volatile, fiercely competitive, determined, talented, agile and unstoppable footballers in living memory. Perhaps even all-time.

Some examples. The first time I interviewed him, Eto'o had already helped Barca win their first trophy for six years (La Liga in 2005), helped them retain that title a year later and won the Champions League in Paris against Arsenal. One of the questions for him was to list the top five achievements of his career. The absolute creme de la creme moments. And he looked at me straight in the eye with an "I dare you to contradict me!" expression while listing "joining Real Madrid" (three appearances) and "Winning the Champions League with Real Madrid" (53 minutes played across 1999-2000) as two of his five greatest achievements...

Plus, he didn't include anything to do with Barcelona despite his two La Liga medals, his flood of goals since moving to the Camp Nou or the Champions League final win a few weeks earlier where he'd actually scored to make it 1-1 vs. Arsenal. He was in a huff with Barcelona that day so he simply erased his current employers from his "my greatest moments" list.

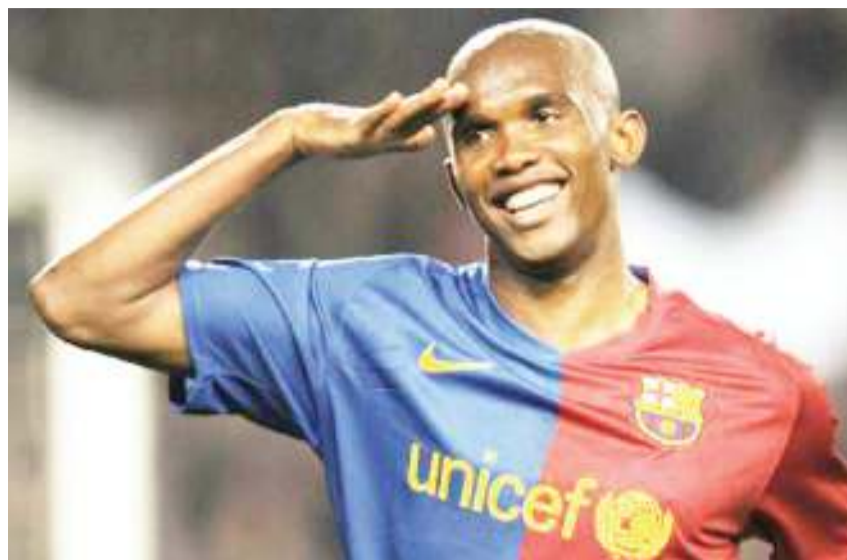
Need more proof?

This is a guy who ditched a Cameroon youth team tour of France, when he was only 11, and hid for seven months in his big sister's flat, not leaving during that entire time in case the police stopped him and asked for his (nonexistent) residence papers. Eventually, in spite of his indomitable will, he arranged to go home only to arrive back in France a couple of years later, illegally again, and stay secretly with his sister while arranging trials with football clubs around that country, all of which unsuccessful. Stubborn and determined.

Eto'o is, incidentally, the only man in the entire history of football to win back-to-back Trebles of the league, the national cup and the Champions League. That he did it with two different clubs, one that had tried to toss him out the previous summer (Barca), and the other that had previously won the Champions League only twice during the competition's 55-year existence (Inter), makes the feat even more impressive.

What about another slightly personal anecdote in the list of Samuel Eto'o's massive list of proud, aggressive, "winning" idiosyncrasies?

When we were filming the "Take The Ball, Pass The Ball" documentary in 2016, based on my book about Barcelona, an interview was agreed



Samuel Eto'o

with Eto'o in Turkey on the occasion of a star-studded benefit match for his charitable foundation. By chance, the attempted military coup d'etat against the ruling government took place around the same time, which resulted in hundreds of casualties and, as you'd expect, the immediate cancellation of the event.

One of our producers, Marc Guillen and our cameraman, Victor Gros, were there for Eto'o's take on his single, volatile season under Pep Guardiola era. Initially, all planes were grounded because the military were bombing significant locations around Turkey. Then, suddenly, there was a window granted for some foreigners to exit the country. Private jets roared into the skies, with most of the stars who'd arrived early for the match naturally taking their chance to flee.

Not Eto'o.

He insisted that before using this window of opportunity he "must" complete his commitment and speak to our camera crew. And he did. His interview is intense, funny, characterful and you'd never tell that the instant Marc called "cut!" Eto'o was up and off the couch as quickly as he's ever moved for a penalty box chance. I think his jet left about 15 minutes later. But he stayed, risking the chance of being stuck in Antalya and making sure we had what he'd promised. That's Samuel Eto'o.

On the subject: I guess everyone remembers Guardiola arriving as manager at Camp Nou in 2008 and announcing he was giving Deco, Ronaldinho and Eto'o the boot. It caused a huge furore not just at the club but around Europe. Only Eto'o managed to avoid the cut, eventually hammering in 36 goals across all competitions in that single season under the Catalan boss.

After initially being shown the door, Eto'o stayed under Guardiola and became a central figure in helping Barca through the final knockout qualifying round for the competition itself, an ignominy the club hasn't suffered since. He scored in Guardiola's first Clasico. He accepted playing on the right wing to enable Guardiola's first 'Messi-as-false-nine' experiment in the 6-2 win at the

Santiago Bernabeu and he scored the opening goal, from an improbable position, in the Champions League final against Manchester United.

That goal, after only nine minutes, Alex Ferguson later claimed "killed us [Man United]."

All of these are known, if underestimated, parts of the Eto'o tapestry. What I think isn't known is how he managed to stay after Guardiola dropped the "Get out of town!" bombshell in his first news conference as manager.

In announcing Eto'o would stay, the young Catalan (who was about to rip up football history) said: "During the past month we've been together, I have been very pleased with his performance. I only have words of praise. His behaviour and attitude in Scotland and the United States [training camps] have made me decide that Eto'o will remain with us. And, as well as that, he is a player with immense talent."

What's not widely known is that the key trigger, during Barcelona's St. Andrew's training camp, was when the team captaincy group, helmed by Carles Puyol, Xavi and Andres Iniesta, went to Guardiola and said: "Look boss, we know what you've said and we know 'Samu' can be 'hard work' but he's going to be very useful to us if you'll keep him this season."

It wasn't a mutiny, nor a challenge to Guardiola's authority, but a hard pill for the incoming coach to swallow having committed himself publicly to the need to expunge problem players like the Cameroonian from the Camp Nou environment. The players won their argument and Eto'o seized his chance, but not many footballers generate a reverence among their teammates sufficient for them to risk and arguing with a new coach about extending his tenure. That's Eto'o.

Let's not forget either that Guardiola was the second Barcelona coach who tried to kick Eto'o out of the club. One day in training, one of Frank Rijkaard's assistants (legend says it was Johan Neeskens) failed to give an "offside" in a training ground match and Eto'o furiously grabbed him by the throat. Eto'o was expected to go but against the odds, as is his habit, he remained.

Then there was his belligerence

towards racism. One of Eto'o's most-used phrases about his career was "I have to work like a black man to live like a white guy." He's never been scared of saying precisely what he believes with no reservations about controversy or consequences.

See Feb. 28, 2006, when Barcelona played at Zaragoza in the Copa del Rey. After suffering repeated monkey chants it was Eto'o, not Ronaldinho or any of the several players of colour on the pitch, who said: "No mas!" ("No more!") and took the unilateral decision to walk off the pitch in protest. It took extended and vehement persuasion from his teammates, notably Ronaldinho and, eventually, his manager Rijkaard, for Eto'o to eventually play on against his will. I think his actions were right and his cohorts were misguided.

Hit the racists, hurt them where they feel it. Eto'o had it right then, and only now are we beginning to see that.

Yet, and see this as a contradiction if you please, Eto'o was one of the quickest to staunchly defend Luis Aragones after he used derogatory terms about Thierry Henry, mentioning the colour of his skin, to try and shock a reaction out of the late Jose Antonio Reyes. Aragones was wrong, plain and simple. No ifs or buts. But Eto'o was certain he knew his old Mallorca coach better than this incident and firmly told anyone who asked that Aragones "wasn't racist... just Luis!"

With Eto'o, we are talking about a man who, in the early years of his career, steadily bought a fleet of old cars and shipped them back to Cameroon for friends and family to start jobs as taxi drivers and then checked up on them to make sure that they were working hard enough to make his generosity worthwhile. The man who stood in front of us in the Camp Nou mixed zone and, during one of his rare scoring droughts, described goals as "like rats: if you chase them they disappear up a drainpipe." Only Eto'o.

There's little in this appreciation about his time with Inter, Real Madrid (how Florentino Perez must rue losing him. In 20 matches against Madrid he lost only five times, scoring 11 goals.), Cameroon, with whom he won Olympic Gold, or his 11 other clubs.

But be clear about this: with Eto'o's retirement European and African football have lost one of the most superb, talented, athletic, clever, charismatic, quixotic, hot-tempered, big-mouthed, entertaining and most "winning" players we have seen or are likely to.

Tennis star Rafa Nadal recently said: "People get confused about talent. Talent isn't striking the ball well, or very hard. Some play beautifully, some flawlessly, others run brilliantly. But in all sport the final objective is to win. So, in summary, the person who wins the most is the one with the most talent"

Rafa knows. Samuel Eto'o knew. What a talent, what a winner. Adios "Samu!"

Iran's woman ban in focus after fan set self afire

TEHRAN

AN Iranian woman detained for dressing as a man to sneak into a stadium to watch a football match has died after setting herself on fire upon learning she could spend six months in prison, semi-official news outlets reported Tuesday.

The self-immolation death of a 29-year-old known as Sahar Khodayari has become a hashtag trend across social media in the Islamic Republic.

It also comes as FIFA is working with Iranian authorities to overcome a ban on women entering stadiums for men's games, a ban in place since the country's 1979 Islamic Revolution. FIFA wants the issue resolved before Oct. 10, when Iran -- the top-ranked team in Asia -- hosts its first home World Cup qualifier against Cambodia.

Khodayari died on Monday at a hospital in Tehran, Iran's capital, after suffering burns across 90% of her body. She had been on a respirator since dousing herself with gasoline in front of Tehran's Ershad courthouse on Sept. 2, according to the Iranian news website Rokna, which publishes in Iran with government permission.

She had just learned she could be tried by a Revolutionary Court in Iran and be put in prison for six months, her father told the website.

Khodayari's sister told pro-reform Shahrvand newspaper that her sister dealt with bipolar disorder. Her father said she had stopped taking medication a year ago.

Prominent lawmaker Ali Motahari, who is close to Iran's relatively moderate President Hassan Rouhani, tweeted that Khodayari didn't deserve prison time and offering her "some advice" would have been enough.

In March, Khodayari tried to sneak into Tehran's Azadi Stadium to watch her favorite team, Esteghlal, take on the United Arab Emirates team Al Ain. As in other matches, she disguised herself as a man. However, police arrested and

detained her.

She spent three nights in jail before being released pending the court case. She reportedly returned to the court to retrieve her seized mobile phone and heard she could face prison time.

She had gained the nickname "Blue Girl" for wearing the team's colors. News of her death ricocheted across Iran on Tuesday, with tributes hashtagged #BlueGirl.

Former Bayern Munich midfielder Ali Karimi -- who played 127 matches for Iran and has vocally suggested ending the ban on women -- urged Iranians in a tweet to boycott stadiums to protest Khodayari's death.

Iranian-Armenian player Andranik "Ando" Teymourian, the first Christian to be the captain of Iran's national squad and also an Esteghlal player, tweeted that one of Tehran's major stadiums should be named after Khodayari "in the future."

Female lawmaker Parvaneh Salahshouri called Khodayari "Iran's Girl" and tweeted: "We are all responsible."

There was no report on Khodayari's death from Iranian state media. The conservative Shafaqna news agency acknowledged her death in a brief item Tuesday, noting that the case had drawn international attention and caused "counter-revolutionary media" to "cry" over the case.

FIFA said Tuesday it was "aware of that tragedy and deeply regret it."

"FIFA convey our condolences to the family and friends of Sahar and reiterate our calls on the Iranian authorities to ensure the freedom and safety of any women engaged in this legitimate fight to end the stadium ban for women in Iran," FIFA said in a statement.

FIFA has been trying to push Iran to allow women in for matches. A partial exception came in November, when hundreds of Iranian women, who were separated from male supporters, were allowed into the Azadi Stadium in Tehran to watch the Asian Champions League final.

(Agencies)

England, France hammer minnows, Ronaldo shines for Portugal

PARIS

ENGLAND and Portugal both scored five goals while France scored three as they overcame lowly-ranked Kosovo, Andorra and Lithuania in Euro 2020 qualifying on Tuesday.

Captain Ronaldo, making his 160th international appearance, scored four as Portugal won 5-1 in Vilnius and strengthened their position in Group B after a sluggish start.

For Ronaldo it was a second hat-trick in three internationals. The victory over Lithuania, 130th in the world rankings, kept Portugal five points behind Ukraine at the top of Group B.

Portugal, who opened the group with home draws against Ukraine and Serbia, started their recovery with a victory in Belgrade on Saturday. They have a game in hand on all the other teams in the group.

"We were better, we are better, and we won because of it," said Fernando Santos, the Portugal coach. "We kept the pace after the win at Serbia, otherwise this triumph would make no sense, and we are closer."

Ronaldo's first goal was a penalty. The second, with the scores level af-

ter an hour, was a scuffed low shot from outside the penalty area which took a couple of stragles bounces off the artificial turf before it was parried into the air by the diving Ernestas Setkus. The dropping ball hit the back of the goalie's head before rolling in. The third was a clinical volley from close range. The fourth was a low shot into the corner.

Vytautas Andriuskevicius scored the hosts' only goal before William

Carvalho added a fifth for the reigning champions at the end.

Serbia beat Luxembourg 3-1, as Aleksandar Mitrovic netted twice, to solidify their grasp on third place. They are a point behind Portugal.

In Southampton, Gareth Southgate's England side trailed early on to Kosovo, ranked 120th in the world, when Valon Berisha scored after 34 seconds. England replied with a first-half goal binge that ended with Jadon

Sancho scoring twice to make it 5-1 at the break.

'Bizarre game'

The visitors claimed two back in the second half, including a second for Lazio midfielder Berisha, but the 5-3 victory put England three points clear in Group A, ahead of the second-placed Czech Republic, who beat Montenegro 3-0.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Outspoken, volatile, unstoppable: Eto'o retires a great

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

5 EATV

TODAY @ 18:00



THURSDAY

11:00 DADAZ (live)
12:00 Mpya
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:00 Bongo Hits
18:30 #ASHITAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 #JADALA
21:00 Bongo Hits

eNewz is your one stop show for everything entertainment. It covers celebrity interviews, gossip, what's hot, what's not, trending online and offline and what happened in history.

east africa RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Simba seek win over Mtibwa Sugar

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SIMBA SC head coach Patrick Aussems is confident that he can win the Vodacom Premier League's Friday encounter with Mtibwa Sugar at Morogoro at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Aussems issued the statement after his team's morning training sessions in the city yesterday.

He said although he will miss the services of skipper John Bocco who is nursing an injury, the rest of his players are in good shape and are responding well to his instructions.

"We will play as a team and, of course, be cautious that we are playing at home, Mtibwa Sugar are a good side, we respect them, but I'm confident of good results, the other good thing is that many of my players who were with the national team are back," he said.

The gaffer expressed hopes that his side will score goals to enhance its chances of emerging as winners.

"John Bocco is injured and Kagere (Meddie) has not joined us as he is with Rwanda national team," he noted.

"He will join us soon, but on top of that I'm confident because we have other capable and good players who can score goals."

The Friday game will be the second game for both sides this season. Simba won 3-1 at home against JKT Tanzania in the first match, whilst Mtibwa lost 3-1 away to Lipuli.

Mtibwa came up against Singida United in a friendly match to stay in great shape, winning 2-0.

Simba who have contributed a lot of players to the senior national team did not play any friendly match but the squad's other players were training.

Mtibwa Sugar assistant coach Patrick Mwangata is reported to have said they arranged the friendly game against Singida United so as to boost his players' morale ahead of the Simba clash on Friday.

"Against Singida United it was a good game, it has helped my players boost their morale, you know we lost the first game, so the morale was down, but after this win I'm confident of good results against Simba SC," he said.

In the league's other matches, which will be played on Saturday, Namungo FC will host Singida United, JKT Tanzania will confront Lipuli at Isamuhyo Stadium and Mbaao FC will host Biashara United at CCM Kirumba Stadium in Mwanza.

The league will continue the following day, which will see Ndanda entertain Mwadui FC, Prison face Ruvu Shooting and Alliance host Kagera Sugar at CCM Kirumba Stadium.

Zahera satisfied by Yanga preps for Zesco clash



Yanga head coach, Mwinyi Zahera.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA soccer big guns, Yanga, have intensified preparations for the CAF Champions League's first round encounter with Zesco United of Zambia slated for Saturday at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Yanga have played two friendly games in Mwanza against the region's sides, Pamba and Toto Africans, which are currently

participating in First Division League and Second Division League respectively.

Pamba held Yanga to 1-1 draw in the first clash, the Dar es Salaam squad then cruised to 3-0 win over Toto Africans.

Yanga's head coach, Mwinyi

Zahera, said after the two games he has seen the weaknesses and strengths of his charges and he is working on them.

He said only two of his players will miss the match but the rest are in great shape ahead of

the Saturday game.

Yanga will lock horns with Zesco in the return leg of the premier continental club competition in Lusaka between September 27 and September 29.

"As coach I'm satisfied with how things are moving on, I have seen the weaknesses and strengths of my players in the friendly matches and I'm working on them," he said.

"I'm sure of good results on Saturday, we have every player on board except for two players who are nursing injuries and others who have other issues, but if you look at the players' attitude, I am very confident that by the end of the day, we will come out top."

The coach also said his charges are not under any pressure playing against Zesco, which have a good record in CAF tournaments.

"We are not under pressure though it's always tricky to start at home because it means that you need to be at your best to claim a result but whatever the case, we are ready for them," he disclosed.

The coach said he had talked to the players and they are confident and ready for the showdown.

He noted they have assured him that they will cover every blade of grass in pursuit

of victory over Zesco.

Yanga dispatched Botswana's Township Rollers in the preliminary stage of the tournament to book a place in the first round.

Yanga and Township Rollers settled for 1-1 draw in the first leg clash and the former, against all odds, cruised to 1-0 win over the Botswana champions in the return leg in Gaborone.

Ugandan striker Juma Balinya drilled in the lone goal for Yanga to earn them the memorable victory.

Meanwhile, Tanzania's representatives in CAF Confederation Cup, Azam FC, said they are ready for their first round match against Triangle United of Zimbabwe at Azam Complex slated for Sunday in the city.

Azam FC information officer, Jafari Maganga, said the team is preparing well for the encounter and they are hoping for better results on Sunday.

"The team is preparing well for the game, I'm asking all football lovers in the country to come to Azam Complex on Sunday to cheer the team," he said.

Azam FC made it to the stage after recording a 3-2 aggregate win over Fasil Kenema of Ethiopia in the preliminary round.

Fasil Kenema edged Azam 1-0 in Addis Ababa, the latter then regrouped to record 3-1 victory over their opponents at Azam Complex.



Dar es Salaam darts players pictured with a trophy and a dartboard after the completion of a recent National Championship played in the city.

Dar to field 40 players in Uganda Open darts championship

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

DARTS is still in its diapers stage in Tanzania, because the country has to fish players from nearly 10 regions when participating in international darts events.

As it happens Tanzania is currently kitting off a sporting delegation of 40 players from eight regions to participate as a team in the Uganda Open darts championship set for Friday to Sunday in Kampala.

The darts players are taken from Arusha, Kagera, Mbeya, Mwanza, Tabora, Morogoro, Kilimanjaro, and Dar-es-Salaam, and they will be converging in Kampala where they will be outfitted as the

national team, to participate in the tournament which will involve male and female players.

The event will see participants battle it out in singles, doubles and team games.

As usual Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania are taking part in the championship, which is part of the bi-annual East Africa Federation Championship.

Debuting for the first time this year, Rwanda will also be making scene as participatory observer.

According to the Secretary General of the Tanzania Darts Association (TADA), Victor Kimambo, the country excelled in the previous championship held in Kilimanjaro

and with the new team, some sporting personnel from military forces are also being included for the Kampala event which means Tanzania is well set to conquer the Uganda competition.

Tanzania emerged as the overall winner during the previous round of East Africa darts championship, which was held in Moshi, Kilimanjaro. Apparently, the country intends to repeat the same victory in Kampala.

According to Kimambo, darts events for this year have been exhausted as per TADA calendar, however the association intends to organize an extraordinary darts meet in Arusha in October, in prepa-

ration for the forthcoming Kenya Open Darts Championship, slated for November in Nairobi.

For many years, Arusha has been the doyen of darts events in the country whose sporting scene is blanketed with mostly soccer.

"Last July we held audience with Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Harrison Mwakyembe, regarding the lack of sponsors to support darts in Tanzania," the TADA official disclosed.

He disclosed that when crippled financially, the country will face difficulties to participate in international events.

Taifa Stars ought to concentrate on Sudan clash- Nyoni

By Correspondent Faustine Feliciane

TAIFA Stars' defender, Erasto Nyoni, has pointed out the team has to concentrate on the Africa Nations Championship (CHAN) qualifiers' second round clash with Sudan.

Nyoni was part of the Taifa Stars' squad which dispatched Kenya in the first round of the tournament, which has been designed for players plying their trade in domestic events.

The defender also featured for the Tanzania team that knocked Burundi out of the 2022 World Cup qualifiers.

Nyoni disclosed the support the team enjoyed from fans, journalists and officials played crucial role in the team's success in the past two assignments.

"We still have challenging assignments in all tournaments we are featuring in. We will lock horns with Sudan in the coming assignment, we need to focus on the game," he said.

"We have to be united as it was the case in the just ended games, all we need is achieving good results and live up to expectations."

He pointed out there are no easy matches, adding the squad must prepare well for every match.

"I believe, with better preparations and hard work on the pitch we will perform well and sail through to the following phase," he disclosed.

Stars will entertain Sudan in the first leg of the second round of CHAN qualifiers at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam at the end of this month.

The two squads will clash in the second leg next month

Flexibles by David Chikoko

