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Long queues, tears as Dar residents bid JPM farewell

By Guardian Reporter

There were long queues of pedestrians, cyclists and motorists on roads leading to Uhuru Stadium as residents of Dar es Salaam region and its environs bade farewell to the late President John Magufuli for the second consecutive day yesterday.

At dawn, thousands of mourners patiently lined up on both sides of Sam Nujoma Road waiting for the body to emerge from the Lugalo military hospital and as the hearse proceeded; more people emerged from neighbourhoods all the way to the stadium where more people were already waiting.

At the stadium, scores of mourners were visibly sobbing if with some restraint, while some fainted on seeing the body of the late Head of State who passed on in Dar es Salaam last Wednesday from heart complications.

A team of health attendants from the Tanzania Red Cross Society and other institutions was on the spot to provide immediate support to those who suddenly lost strength at the grounds.

The government set two days for Dar es Salaam residents to pay their respects, with thousands of other mourners lined on the streets of the commercial city to bid farewell to the late president.

"Before I saw the coffin, I didn't believe our president was really dead. We have lost a very big hero, our defender, a lover of the poor," said Latifa Jamal, a mourner.

“Before I saw the coffin, I didn't believe our president was really dead. We have lost a very big hero, our defender, a lover of the poor”

She said Tanzania has lost a powerful and visionary leader who always wished to see poor people having a voice and helping them to build improved livelihoods.

On the first day (March 20), newly sworn-in President Samia Suluhu led mourners including government officials and members of the public in paying their last respects to her predecessor who died late last week over cardiac problems.

Supervisors and the police had a task of making things go smoothly from a virtually uncontrollable multitude of



These mourners were among the massive numbers of grief-stricken Dar es Salaam residents who flocked to the city's Uhuru Stadium yesterday to pay final farewell to former President Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli. It was the second day running set aside for the purpose - before it's time for Dodoma city, Zanzibar, Mwanza city and JPM's home village in Chato District, Geita Region. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Ten African leaders to attend JPM burial

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

TEN Heads of State or Government across the eastern and southern Africa region have confirmed intent to attend the burial of the late president John Magufuli in person or through representatives on Friday at his home in Chato District, Geita Region.

A statement released yesterday by chief government spokesperson, Dr Hassan Abassi, named leaders who have confirmed their attendance as Uhuru Kenyatta (Kenya), Filipe Nyusi (Mozambique), Félix Tshisekedi (DRC), Edgar Lungu (Zambia), Cyril Ramaphosa (South Africa), Hage

“So, I call on Dodoma residents to line themselves along the route to pay their last respects”

Geingob (Namibia) and Mokgweetsi Masisi (Botswana).

Other presidents, who will be represented

by their prime ministers, are Paul Kagame (Rwanda), Évariste Ndayishimiye (Burundi) and Yoweri Museveni (Uganda).

Meanwhile, preparations for viewing of the body of the late president here today were completed yesterday, ready for residents of the capital and from neighboring regions to pay last respects to their departed leader.

Briefing journalists here yesterday, Regional Commissioner Dr Binlith Mahenge said that the body of the late president was expected to arrive at Dodoma Airport early evening yesterday.

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Kamala Harris lauds Samia, roots for stronger relations

By Guardian Reporter

US Vice President Kamala Harris has sent a congratulatory message to President Samia Suluhu Hassan, the first woman to hold the highest office in the country, saying the United States was ready to strengthen ties with Tanzania.

"Sending best wishes to @SuluhuSamia following her swearing in as Tanzania's new President - the first woman to hold the office. The United States stands ready to work with you to strengthen relations be-

“Sending best wishes to @SuluhuSamia following her swearing in as Tanzania's new President - the first woman to hold the office”

tween our countries," she wrote Harris on her twitter handle.

The two women share a similar history, Harris is the first female vice president and the highest-ranking female official in US history, as well as the first African American and first Asian American vice president.

Samia was also the first woman to hold the office of the Vice President in Tanzania and now the presidency making her the most powerful woman in the region.

Samia who had been vice president since 2015, on Friday urged the country to ce-

ment its unity.

The US Trade Representative's office is leading US efforts to forge a new trade and investment partnership with the East African Community, a regional organization that includes Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

Total trade between the two countries was \$462 million in 2019. U.S. foreign direct investment (FDI) in Tanzania was \$1.5 billion

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Kamala Harris lauds President Samia, all for stonger relations

FROM PAGE 1

in 2019, a 5.2% increase from 2018, according to US government data.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres also congratulated Samia on her inauguration as the first female president of Tanzania.

"The secretary-general extends warm congratulations to Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan after her swearing-in today (Friday)," said Stephane Dujarric, UN spokesman.

"The secretary-general looks forward to working with the president, including supporting Tanzania's efforts towards sustainable development," he said in a brief statement.

Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa also congratulated President Samia Suluhu Hassan, reaffirming his country's position to continue working with Tanzania to further strengthen and broaden the two countries' relations.

"On behalf of the Government and people of Zimbabwe and indeed on my behalf, I wish to convey to you, Your Excellency, hearty congratulations on your swearing-in as President of Tanzania. Your Excellency and Dear Sister, as you assume this important office, allow me to note with satisfaction the excellent long-standing relations that exist between our two countries which were born during the days of our struggle for liberation and self-determination. Let me assure you of my unwavering commitment

to continue working with you to further strengthen and broaden these excellent relations for the mutual benefit of our two countries and peoples," said President Mnangagwa.

The president emphasised his readiness to work with President Samia in SADC to enhance regional integration and in the African Union to achieve the goals of Agenda 2063 and other multilateral forums for peace, security and development.

"I wish you, Your Excellency, personal good health and success, and peace and prosperity for the friendly people of the United Republic of Tanzania," the president underlined.

Samia was sworn in earlier in the day as the sixth president of the East African republic, following the sudden death of President John Magufuli.

According to the Constitution of Tanzania, Samia Suluhu will serve as president for the remainder of Magufuli's second five-year term that ends in October 2025.

Samia was Magufuli's running mate when they were first elected in 2015, making her the first female vice president in the nation. They were re-elected to a second term in October 2020.

Samia, 61, studied finance, economics, management and public administration before beginning her political career in 2000. She was elected to Tanzania's parliament and held ministerial posts before becoming vice president.



A mourner who lost consciousness while paying her last respects to former President Dr John Magufuli at Dar es Salaam's Uhuru Stadium yesterday is led to safety. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Ten African leaders to attend JPM burial

FROM PAGE 1

Soon after arrival, according to Dr Mahenge, the body will be taken to Chamwino State House through Chako ni Chako Road, Nyerere Road, Regional Commissioner's roundabout, Parliament buildings, Morena, Bwigiri up to the State House.

"So, I call on Dodoma residents to line themselves along the route to pay their last respects," he said.

Today at around 12 pm, the body will leave Chamwino State House to Jamhuri Stadium through the New Mfugale Road, Bwigiri, Morena, Parliament buildings, RC's Roundabout, Nyerere

Road to Jamhuri Stadium and people along these are requested to emerge in big numbers to pay their last respects.

Today, which is a public holiday is a special day for residents of Dodoma and from neighboring regions to pay their last respects to the late Dr Magufuli.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan will lead mourners to say farewell and pay their last respects to the late Dr Magufuli in the capital, an exercise that will continue until all the people have been able to do so, the RC noted.

Others expected to attend the national funeral ceremony for the late national leader include Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, top officials of the National Assembly and the Judiciary, heads of local offices of international institutions, foreign diplomatic

missions and various neighbouring country leaders.

Senior public officials including cabinet ministers, MPs, RCs, leaders of political parties, religious leaders and those from civil society will also be in attendance in large numbers.

"Among activities to be conducted at Jamhuri Stadium include a funeral military parade by the defence forces, prayers by various denominations and condolence messages from various sources, the RC indicated.

He said on Tuesday, March 23 (tomorrow) at 12:00 noon the body of the late Dr Magufuli will be moved from the Benjamin Mkapa Hospital to Dodoma Airport via Udom, Chimwaga, Morena streets, Parliament roundabout, Chako ni Chako Road and flown to Zanzibar.

The chairman of the Dodoma petty traders association, Bruno

Mponzi said that there will be no business in the city to the pave way for the traders to pay their last respect to the fallen leader.

"We want to take part fully in this event taking into account that the late Magufuli was on the forefront to support us earn a living," he declared.

Petty traders will continue honoring him for contributions he made to develop small businesses all over the country while in office, he asserted.

The late President Magufuli has left a legacy after fulfilling the government's long-time dream of moving to the centrally located Dodoma, an idea adopted by the ruling party and the government in 1973 but the arrangement remained fallow for lack of resources and the zeal to finish it up.



A placard bearing a 'Fare Thee Well' message to Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli stands at the National Assembly (Parliament) grounds in Dodoma city yesterday. Members of Parliament are expected to come together in the House today to pay their last respects to the former President. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Long queues, tears as Dar residents bid JPM farewell

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mourners, some jumping over fences to get a chance to join the queue.

After Dar es Salaam, the body will be flown in Dodoma to allow mourners in the capital to pay their last respects.

On Tuesday, it will be sent to Zanzibar for the mourners in the islands to bid farewell. On Wednesday the

bit will be in Mwanza city for the paying of last respects, settling at Chato on Thursday and eventual burial in his native town on Friday, which will also be a public holiday like Monday.

Dr Magufuli (61) died from a heart condition on Wednesday March 17 at the reclusive Emilio Mzena Hospital in Dar es Salaam.

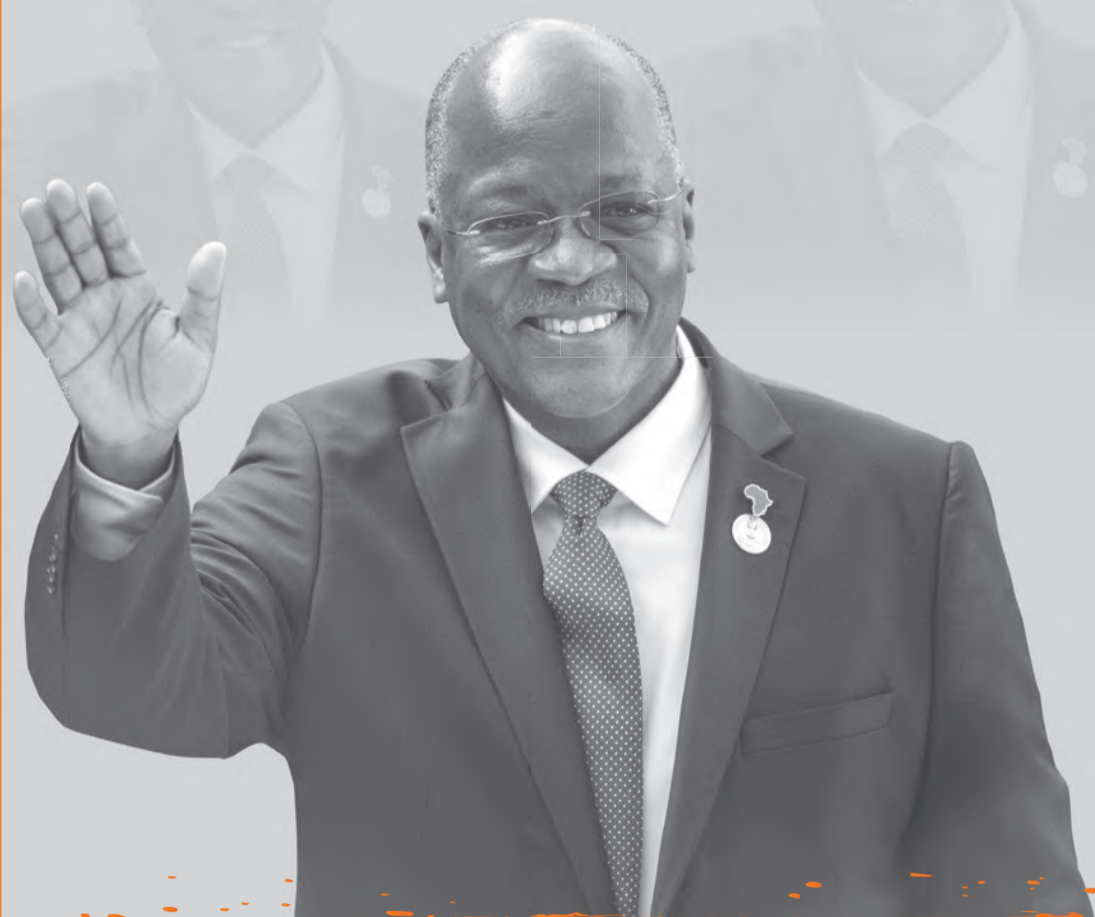
Speaking on Friday after she was

sworn in as president, Samia appealed to Tanzanians to cement unity and harmony during this difficult moment.

"We should take over from where President Magufuli has reached. We should stop pointing fingers at one another. We need to forge ahead as a nation," she said, underlining that Tanzania will remain peaceful and calm as it has always been.

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Rest In Peace
Dkt. John Pombe Magufuli
1959 - 2021



On behalf of Halotel Tanzania Management,
We would like to send our sincere condolence to the President of the United Republic of Tanzania Hon. Samia Hassan Suluhu, the family and the people of the Republic of Tanzania for the loss.

Forever you will be remembered

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Residents of Ulemo and Misigiri villages in Singida Region look on at the weekend as a 41,158,000-litre water reservoir expected to benefit 9,000 people is inaugurated. Photo: Correspondent Jembe Ismailly

Call: Come out in large numbers tomorrow to pay your last respects

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR residents have been urged to come out in large numbers tomorrow to pay their last respects to the former President John Magufuli at an event which will be conducted at Amaan grounds in Unguja.

The government of Zanzibar has also declared tomorrow (March 24) as holiday, a move which is aimed to allow more people to get an opportunity to bid farewell to the late leader.

In a statement issued by the CCM's Publicity and Ideology Secretary in Zanzibar Catherine Nao wanted the public and party's members to utilise the given moment to honour the leader for the good things he did in the country.

Nao said the late President Magufuli was a patriotic and strong leader who always wished well for his people.

"We are asking for all people in Isles to suspend other activities on that day and come out to pay their last respects to our national leader who has done a tremendous job in pushing forward the country's development," she said.

Salim Biman, ACT-Wazalendo's Publicity and Ideology Secretary also hinted on the note calling on people to come and honour the late President Magufuli.

Bimani said death of President Magufuli is a big tragedy for all Tanzanians so marching forward at the Amaan grounds to bid farewell without considering parties differences, is the only way of honoring the good things he had done for the nation.

He wanted the ACT-Wazalendo's members from urban and rural areas to remember and honour the good job done by the late President Magufuli during his five years of tenure.

Announcing that Tuesday will be a holiday, Minister of State, Second Vice President's Office, Policy and House of Representatives Dr Khalid Salum Mohamed said the body of the late is expected to arrive at the Abeid Amani Karume Airport at 7.45am whereas funeral services are expected to begin at 8.30am.



We are asking for all people in Isles to suspend other activities on that day and come out to pay their last respects to our national leader who has done a tremendous job in pushing forward the country's development

Women leaders laud Samia Suluhu Hassan

By Correspondent Deogratias Mushi

WOMEN leaders have lauded President Samia Suluhu Hassan, describing her as a no non-sense person who can lead the country to great social-economic success.

In a statement issued in Dar es Salaam yesterday, former Speaker Anne Makinda said President Samia has gathered sufficient professional leadership experience from her predecessor John Pombe Magufuli who passed on Wednesday last week.

"President Magufuli trusted her and gave her some opportunities to

represent him in different local and international meetings. We are very optimistic that she is going to take over from where president Magufuli ended, and make the country prosper in different aspects of development" she said.

The Executive Director of Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP) Lilian Liundi congratulated President Samia Suluhu Hassan as a strong women who can spearhead the country's development plan.

"We wish you all the best in your new daily responsibilities as president of the United Republic of Tan-

zania. We know you have undisputable leadership qualities that this country needs" she said.

Lilian who was recently recognized as an exemplary Gender Equality Activist, received an award for leading an institution which struggles to push forward gender equality agenda. She received the award on March 8, 2021.

It should be recalled that the nomination of Samia Hassan Suluhu as Vice President in 2015 moved women one step further into the highest office.

It was then that the ACT Wazal-

endo party fielded Anna Mghwira as its presidential candidate, defeating several men vying for the position.

In Tanzania, and especially in urban areas, many young people have been brought up by their mothers and especially their mothers, aunts or sisters taking on the responsibilities of upbringing and family leadership that were once the responsibilities of men.

"Even in the popular social networks of Tanzania where these new generation young people have been visiting; women activists online have also shown great courage and leadership to the extent of being an attraction for these young people" said Lilian.

Lilian said that Tanzanians are ready to be led by a female President because at first it is not very strange and in the last two decades - slowly, it was as if they were being prepared for this woman-led event.

Why it's a big surprise that the African leadership prize went to Niger's Issoufou

By Sebastian Elischer

THE president of Niger, Mahamadou Issoufou, has been awarded the 2020 Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership. The annual prize is granted by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, named after the Sudanese billionaire businessman and philanthropist who founded it. The prize - which includes a US\$5 million award - aims to showcase exceptional role models from the continent and "recognise leaders who have strengthened democracy and human rights for the

shared benefit of their people".

Since its inception in 2007 the Ibrahim Foundation has granted the award to only seven other presidents. On eight occasions it found no eligible candidate.

To qualify for the award, candidates have to leave office at the end of their term. Since being elected in 2011, Issoufou has served two terms (10 years) and has indicated he will step down this year. This means Niger will have the first democratic transition between elected leaders since it became independent from France more than 60 years ago.

Nevertheless, as a scholar who has followed Issoufou's tenure in power, I find the decision of the Ibrahim Foundation to select Issoufou as this year's prize winner difficult to comprehend.

Overall, Issoufou has failed to strengthen fundamental democratic rights such as free and fair elections, freedom of association, and freedom of speech. If anything, the Issoufou era is a textbook case of democratic backsliding.

This is not to say that the Issoufou presidency is without merits. Niger has, so far, managed to avoid the volatile trajectory of its neighbouring countries. There has also been moderate progress with regard to the sustainable development goals.

However, when taking a closer look at his time in office, it's not apparent that he should've been bestowed with a prize that is founded on principles of good governance and democratic election.

Mahamadou Issoufou was elected president in 2011 after a brief period of military rule. Like no other candidate at the time, he embodied Niger's democratic aspirations. As leader of the Nigerien Party for Democracy and Socialism, he was a prominent advocate of basic civil rights and political freedoms since the early 1990s.



Hon Dr. John Pombe Magufuli 1959 - 2021

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of ADVENT CONSTRUCTION LIMITED convey our sincere condolences for the sad and untimely demise of the 5th Phase President of the United Republic of Tanzania, His Excellency Dr. John Pombe Magufuli.

May his soul rest in eternal peace. We stand in mourning with his immediate family, the respected government of the United Republic of Tanzania and the people of Tanzania in this terrible loss.

We appreciate the unprecedented efforts of all relevant organs in managing this difficult situation for the best interest of our country's peace and prosperity, and for the smooth transition that is currently taking place.

We join our fellow Tanzanians to mourn the loss of our great leader who will always be cherished for his leadership and his dedication to our country's sustainable prosperity.



INVITATION TO BID: NO. RFP/2021/SUP/012 FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FRAME AGREEMENTS FOR PROVISION OF ROAD CARGO AND PASSENGER TRANSPORT SERVICE FROM KIGOMA REGION TO BURUNDI

1. Background:

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2. Eligibility:

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CRUCIAL DATES FOR THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Pre-bid Conference meeting will be held	Monday 30 th March 2021
Deadline for receiving requests for clarification	Friday 11 th April 2021 at 2359hrs EAT
Deadline for submission of offers	Wednesday 27 th April 2021 at 1600hrs, EAT

UNHCR tenders are free of charge, no fees are charged to collect the tenders.



Tanga district council director Daudi Mahej (2nd R) shakes hands with NBC business director Elvis Ndunguru moments after the inauguration of Tanga business club recently. Looking on are head of small and medium customers, Evance Luhimbo (R) and Tanga branch manager Asia Chambega. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Iringa RC underscores need to empower women, girls to achieve gender equality

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

IRINGA Regional Commissioner Ally Hapi has underscored the need to empower women and girls to achieve gender equality, create inclusive, open and a prosperous society.

He made the statement recently during a meeting organised by the SOS Children's Villages Tanzania to launch an initiative project for adolescent girls to be implemented in Iringa Region (Kilolo, Mufindi and Iringa) for three years from January 2021 to December 2023.

Hapi said issues of women empowerment and gender equality are the world's top agenda since gender inequality is widespread in all cultures.

The RC said the organization through its education and family empowerment projects in Iringa and Mufindi districts, a total of 5103 people have benefitted. Among them, 250 are widows, and 293 households.

He said the SOS Children's Villages Tanzania has been closely with the government in implementing various development policies through establishment of project such as the Community Development Policy (1996), Education Policy, Child Development Policy (1996), Women and Gender Development Policy (2000), the National Plan to Combat Violence Against Women and Children and the 2020/2025 CCM Election Manifesto.

RC Hapi expressed satisfaction with SOS projects including the newly launched which will benefit 600 girls mostly victims of sexual violence. They will be equipped with life skills to enable them develop income generating activities for their social welfare improvement.

However, the project, a total of 15,000 young people in schools will be educated on reproductive health and HIV/Aids to protect themselves early pregnancies as well as diseases.

He commended the various development partners including the Finnish government for supporting different development projects in the region calling for others to emulate the spirit.

JPM was committed to steering economic development of East and southern Africa'

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Pakistani High Commissioner to Tanzania, Muhammad Saleem has hailed President John Magufuli, saying the departed leader was committed to steer economic development in East and southern Africa.

"The government and people of Pakistan, the Pakistan Diaspora living in Tanzania, the Pakistan High Commission and I were all saddened and deeply shocked to hear that President Magufuli has died," he noted.

Saleem said Pakistan has indeed lost a sincere friend.

"May his soul rest in eternal peace, the government and people of Pakistan

stand in solidarity with the government, the friendly people of Tanzania and the bereaved family in this hour of grief and mourning," he said in a statement.

According to him, during Magufuli's short tenure as Tanzania president he contributed immensely to uplift the country and its people from poverty to a lower middle income country five years ahead of schedule.

He described it as a big leap forward for the nation.

"The late President Magufuli was totally committed to steer the country as well as East Africa and the South-eastern Africa regions to socio-economic prosperity and development," he added.

He described the death of Magufuli as

unfortunate and untimely, saying he has left a rich legacy of dedication, hard work and bright future for the country and the region.

Saleem added: "Tanzania is a strong, stable and resilient nation. I am sure the new leadership and the nation will come out of the tragedy of the irreparable loss of their leader stronger together to fulfill Magufuli's vision for the nation, the region and the wider world.

President Magufuli died on March 17th 2021 at Mzena Hospital in Dar es Salaam aged 61, with a series of funeral ceremonies laid out until the proper burial is conducted on Friday this week at his home village of Milimani, Chato District in Geita Region.

Condolence messages to the nation flock in following Dr Magufuli's passing

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

GLOBAL leaders continue to pour in messages of condolences following the death of the ex-president John Magufuli.

Among them is the Queen who conveyed her "deepest sympathy" to the people of Tanzania following the recent death of the country's president, John Magufuli.

In a short message posted on the official royal family Twitter account the Queen said she and the Duke of Edinburgh were saddened to learn of his death.

The Queen said in her message: "Prince Philip and I were saddened to learn of the death of President John Magufuli. I wish to convey my condolences to his loved ones and my deepest sympathy to the people of Tanzania."

US government has expressed its condolences to Tanzanians saying it remains committed to continuing to support Tanzanians.

The brief statement, issued by State Department Spokesperson Ned Price, expresses Washington's hope that Tanzania can move forward on a democratic and prosperous path.

World Health Organisation Director General, Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus, joined other world leaders, including British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Venezuela's Nicolas Maduro, in expressing their condolences to the late President's family and the people of Tanzania.

KIM Jong Un, President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) also sent a message of condolence to Samia Su-

luhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, on March 19.

The message reads as follows: "Upon hearing the sad news on the

demise of H.E. President John Magufuli owing to illness, I, on behalf of the government and people of the DPRK, extend my deep condolences to

you and, through you, to the government and people of the United Republic of Tanzania and to the bereaved family."

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- Experience in testing and Debugging of PCBs and electronic assemblies.
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The selection will take place in Dar Es Salaam.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Please be alert to a scam that falsely solicits money in the name of the Consortium for Street Children. The scam is taking place in Mwanza and possibly other locations in Tanzania.

The name and logo of the Consortium for Street Children are being used to defraud people into giving money.

Consortium for Street children is a UK-registered NGO working for street children. It is not soliciting funds in Tanzania. The individuals handing out these forms and asking for money are not affiliated with the Consortium for Street Children. Completing the form will not result in any of the benefits that are promised. If you have been approached to fill out this form or give money, or have any information regarding this scam, please contact the police.

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The brief statement, issued by State Department Spokesperson Ned Price, expresses Washington's hope that Tanzania can move forward on a democratic and prosperous path



**The Board of Directors,
Management and Employees
of Tanzania International
Container
Terminal Services (TICTS)**

**We wish to send our
congratulations to**

H.E Samia Suluhu Hassan
President of the United Republic of Tanzania



**HUTCHISON PORTS
TANZANIA**

9,000 homes to benefit from on-going Iramba District rural water project

By Guardian Correspondent, Iramba

MORE than 9,000 residents of Misigiri and Ulemo villages in Kinampanda Division, in Iramba District, Singida Region expect to benefit from safe and clean water supply after completion of the ongoing big water project at Misigiri area.

This was revealed recently by Singida Urban Water and Sanitation Authority (SUWASA) Managing Director Eng. Patrick Nzamba at the event to lay the project's cornerstone.

Nzamba explained that the project was part of the Second Phase of the project for the improvement of safe and clean water supply services for Misigiri and Ulemo villagers, the first phase of which began by drilling three wells capable to pump out 41,158,000 litres per hour.

Nzamba said the project's second phase that started on February 8 this year was expected to be completed September 8 this year and was being financed via Force Account procedures.

"The project aims to construct a 400,000-litre reservoir, the work of which is going on, as well as a small 45,000-litre reservoir. We shall also construct a pumping station and laying of various infrastructures for water distribution," he said.

He said when fully completed, the project, so far 15 per cent complete, will cost 500.6m/- and added that so far 240,600m/- had been received.

He said when completed a total of 9,960 of Ulemo and Misigiri villages will benefit.

Singida Region's Rural Water and Sanitation (RUWASA) Manager, Eng Lucas Saidi said the region's water supply services were improving citing that in 2019 water supply in rural areas was 49 per cent, but now it has gone up to 57 per cent.

"We have attained more than eight percentage points in a short time, whereas in urban areas water supply has attained 71 per cent in Singida town, while in the small town of Manyoni the supply has attained 71 per cent," he said.

The RUWASA Manager said in the period of two years they have received a total of 12bn/-, part of which has financed the construction of the reservoir for Misigiri and Ulemo villages.

Laying the project's cornerstone on behalf of Singida Regional Commissioner Dr Rehema Nchimbi, Iramba District Commissioner Emmanuel Luhahula said Nkingi village that had no water at all is the home area of Iramba West Member of Parliament Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, the Legal, Constitutional and Legal Affairs Minister, hence they should look into ways to take water supply service to the village.



Mulongo David, National Director at SOS Children's Villages Tanzania, inaugurates a three-year (January 2021 to December 2023) project for adolescent girls to be implemented in Iringa Region's Kilolo, Mufindi and Iringa districts. Left is Mufindi district commissioner Jamhuri William. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

Late Magufuli sacrificed his life for Tanzanians - Jokate

By Guardian Reporter

KISARAWA District Commissioner Jokate Mwendelo has said the late John Magufuli forfeited his life for Tanzanians, because despite his heart disease, he chose to serve them with all his strength.

In her Instagram page on Saturday she wrote: "Yesterday (March 20) was my birthday, but it came at the time the nation is in deep grief following the departure of our General, former Fifth Phase President, Dr John Pombe

Joseph Magufuli.

"Hence a took time to ponder over the life and the death of our loved former President. Truly the life is just the wind. But this should not discourage us in doing what is good as per wishes of our Almighty God to enable us leave a mark."

Jokate said late Dr Magufuli led the nation after mortgaging his life due to his long time heart complications.

"Dr Magufuli offered to lead the nation despite his heart complications he had, he forfeited his life with brav-

ery, audacity, creativity and great love to the people and our nation," she said.

"As part of the youth on who you placed your trust in your government, we shall continue to hold your deeds in high esteem for our nation for present and future generations. I convey my heartfelt condolences to Janeth Magufuli, her entire family and all Tanzanians."

Jokate is among the youth appointed by the late Dr Magufuli in various leadership positions.

TAMWA-Z'bar congratulates Samia

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

TANZANIA Media Women Association (TAMWA) in Zanzibar has congratulated Samia Suluhu Hassan for becoming the sixth President of the United Republic of Tanzania, and the first woman to in Tanzania and East Africa to hold the position.

Her taking the reins of power followed the death of former President Dr John Magufuli on March 17.

In her statement to the media yesterday, TAMWA-Zanzibar director Dr Mzuri Issa said Samia's swearing as Tanzania President sets a new trajectory for gender development in the country and East Africa as well as providing aspirations for women and girls to attain leadership positions.

Dr Mzuri called on Tanzanians to remove the built in thinking that women could not take up top leadership positions.

"TAMWA-Zanzibar wishes President Samia Suluhu Hassan well in this difficult period following the death of her predecessor and in her new role in guiding the nation," she said.

She said on behalf of the Association, she prays to God to guide President Samia in her leadership as well as enhancing women's rights and human rights in general.

Meanwhile, the wife of Zanzibar's former Second President, Asha Suleiman Iddi has called upon women in the country to give President Samia Suluhu Hassan all cooperation to enable her implement her responsibilities while disregarding political considerations.

She said it is an age long wish for women in the world to hold top-most positions in the respective countries especially in Africa.

She urged women to stand together and increase efforts against gender discrimination so that they live without fear of being discriminated or oppressed.

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How to apply

Please complete the application form at www.railwaychildren.org.uk/jobs and return it to jobs.mwanza@railwaychildren.or.tz indicating a position you are applying on email subject. Please note that Railway Children will only accept applications made using this application form and will not accept CVs or Covering letters.

Closing Date: 2nd Apr 2021 at 5pm East African Time.

Due to the number of applications often received, only those to be invited for interview will be informed of the outcome of their application. Applicants who have not heard within two weeks of the closing date should assume they have been unsuccessful.

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LIVING ON THE STREETS

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Railway Children Africa (RCA) is a registered NGO in Tanzania and an affiliate of Railway Children UK - an international charity that fights for vulnerable children who live alone and at risk on the streets, where they face abuse and exploitation.

RCA has extensive experience working with highly marginalized, hard-to-reach children and young people in the East Africa region. Currently, RCA is working in partnership with twelve Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) providing both funding and technical support. The CSOs are in six major cities, namely, Mbeya, Iringa, Dodoma, Dar es Salaam, Arusha, and Mwanza. In addition, RCA has direct implementation work in Mwanza and Dar es Salaam. RCA's primary aim is to enable and create positive, sustainable change in the lives of hard-to-reach, marginalized children, and adolescents. We put exceptional care and effort into improving the lives of everyone we serve. In its 10 years of existence in the country, RCA has established an MOU with the government and collaborated with it in several initiatives, including defining objectives of the National reintegration guidelines.

In Mar 2021, RCA signed a grant agreement with Legal Service Facility (LSF) worth TZS 300,000,000/= to implement a twelve-month project with the aim of equipping community members in the urban settings of Ilemela and Nyamagana districts with skills and knowledge on the rights of street connected children and youth and domestic workers and improve access to justice through legal empowerment approaches.

For further information please email:
RCA@railwaychildren.or.tz

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WE FIGHT FOR CHILDREN
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May the tree of China-Gambia friendship be evergreen

By Ma Jianchun

MARCH 17 marks the 5th anniversary of the resumption of diplomatic relations between China and The Gambia. Over the past 5 years, China and The Gambia have been working together in fostering strong friendship, and adding a new momentum to the building of a China-Africa community with a shared future.

Over the past 5 years, China-Gambia mutual political trust was elevated to a higher level. H.E. President Adama Barrow twice visited China and met with H.E. President Xi Jinping.

The two leaders expressed firm support to each other on issues related to each other's core interests and major concerns. High-level exchanges between the two countries were frequent.

The Vice Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Ma Peihua attended President Barrow's inauguration ceremony as President Xi Jinping's special envoy. The Speaker of the Gambian National Assembly Mariam Jack-Denton visited China. Bilateral friendship groups were also established in the national legislatures of the two countries.

The foreign ministers of China and The Gambia exchanged visits and established a ministerial consultation mechanism. On multilateral occasions, The Gambia assured the Chinese side its firm commitment to the one-China policy, consolidating the political founda-

tion for the comprehensive and healthy development of the bilateral relations of China and The Gambia.

Over the past 5 years, We have strengthened practical cooperation under the framework of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC). The establishment of the FOCAC in 2000 created the China-Africa friendship family with its own collective dialogue platform and practical cooperation mechanism.

In September 2018, H.E. President Barrow went to China to attend the FOCAC Beijing Summit, and The Gambia officially joined the FOCAC family. In the past three years, we have been actively implementing the important consensus of the two heads of state and the outcomes of the FOCAC Beijing Summit.

For instance, the Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara International Conference Center, built under the cooperation of the two countries, has been in operation and will be the main venue of the OIC 2022 Summit.

The two sides are working closely on the highly-anticipated URR Road and Bridge project, it is getting close to completion, and it will effectively improve the transportation condition of people on both sides of The Gambia River.

Recently, we have been working together to fight the COVID-19. The Chinese side donated a large quantity of anti-epidemic supplies and helped The Gambia contain the virus.



Farmers at Tengeru in Arumeru District pictured at the weekend packing their carrots in sacks, ready to transport them to the market. Photo: Correspondent Getrude Mpezya

Tanzanians urged to fight against substandard goods

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

TANZANIANS have been urged to participate in the war to end the existence of substandard goods in the market in honouring the late President John Magufuli.

The call was delivered by officials of Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) when speaking at campaigns to educate the public on the importance of buying certified goods held in Musoma District in Mara Region, Chato in Geita and Karagwe in Kagera.

During the campaign, traders were also sensitised to

register their business premises especially those use for manufacturing of food and cosmetics.

The public campaign was conducted at primary and secondary schools, markets and bus stands.

TBS Marketing Officer, Debora Haule called for collaborative efforts to win the war against substandard goods.

"We reached 14,517 people, among them, 12,204 were primary and secondary students and 2,313 ordinary citizens", she said.

Debora appealed to small and medium entrepreneurs (SMEs) to make use of the free certification services pro-

vided by the bureau through the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO). She also urged them to good ambassadors by educating the public on the importance of using certified products.

The officer called upon the public to report to TBS whenever they came across expired goods in supermarkets and shops. She said such information can be reported to nearby TBS offices or through a toll free call number. TBS Quality Assurance Officer, Eng Emmanuel Shilinde reminded food sellers and buyers on importance of reading information on product labels.

He warned that consumed uncertified products expose them to health risks. He said similar campaigns would be conducted in Kilosa District in Morogoro Region, Mkinga in Tanga and Bagamoyo in Coast Region.

Musoma District Executive Director, Fidelica Myovella commended the bureau for educating the public saying it would increase citizens' knowledge on how to differentiate between genuine and fake goods.

Bugene Ward Councilor in Karagwe District, Mugisha Mathias said the campaign has helped the public to raise the level of awareness on quality goods.

The Eastern and Southern Africa Anti - Money Laundering Group

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CONDOLENCES



H.E. Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli
1959 - 2021

The Council of Ministers, the Task Force of Senior Officials and the Staff of the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti - Money Laundering Group, send sincere condolences to the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Mama Samia Suluhu Hassan, the family of the Fifth President Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli and all Tanzanians following the demise of the Fifth President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, who passed away on 17th March, 2021.

May His Soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

Eastern and Southern Africa
Anti - Money Laundering Group
ESAAMLG Secretariat
Website: www.esaamlg.org

CONDOLENCES



John Pombe Magufuli
1959 - 2021

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of Kamal Steel Limited join fellow Tanzanians in mourning the death of The President of the United Republic of Tanzania His Excellency Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli.

May his soul rest In Eternal Peace.



KAMAL STEEL LIMITED

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The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

MONDAY 22 MARCH 2021

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Outpouring of grief is a show of patriotism and affection for JPM

SCORES of public officials and thousands upon thousands of residents of Dar es Salaam city have already had occasion to pay their last respects to departed President Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, whose body will be lying in state in a few major urban centres ahead of the burial in Chato District, Geita Region, on Friday.

As the weather has generally also been on the benevolent side, all those who wished to go and pay their last respects did not meet with any impediments.

Even the numerous other who didn't actually go to the venue of the solemn occasion, Uhuru Stadium, contributed to the outpouring of grief as they followed the proceedings on radio, television and the social media.

Silent sobbing was also visible all over the streets of Dar es Salaam soon after news of the president's death broke - and thereafter - as were audible expressions of shock and grief across the city and its environs.

Scores of those who are community leaders in one way or another, be it in commerce, religion or art, have had occasion to express themselves over various print and broadcast media.

Two cardinal elements come up in the profound affections of the public for the departed leader, who was fondly referred to simply as JPM.

The first is genuine admiration at the speed in which he changed our country's physical landscape, including how he modernised urban roads and major streets in all districts, leaving people heaving sighs of relief while also expressing astonishment and disbelief.

The other part was his particular regard for informal sector operators, whose lot depends much on municipality attitudes.

The pervasive grieving could also be suggesting doubts whether all these gains, including JPM's pro-poor governance stance, would be sustained in the coming period.

This, for some observers, could be the belief that some of the achievements made stemmed less from consensus in the government as to policies that are most appropriate but from the departed president's personal inclination and intervention.

There could be fear that those wishing to be free to do what they like to informal sector operators will now have leeway to do it, just as there is wider fear that the policy choices JPM espoused, which crushed consumption patterns in the ranks of government and the public sector, may not last.

But there is also pervasive hope, fortunately, that those who now share these responsibilities will follow the footsteps of the departed leader, however difficult it might be for them to equal or exceed his speed and efficiency.

While many people admire and salute the changed physical landscape of urban areas and roads in many rural districts as well, there are incontestably large numbers

of bystanders who have for several years lamented the 'disappearance' of cash from daily use, especially for purposes of luxury.

At the time JPM was conducting a "cultural revolution" on how public finance should be used, these quarters remained low-profile as they did not have particularly audible channels through which to air their voices.

These are areas where many, especially in Western countries, believe that Tanzania will change tack. This is considering that what we may view as laxity and accountability gaps allowing government and other public sector officials to abuse their offices with relative impunity is tolerated - even praised - there.

It is seen to be consonant with democracy, by cardinal rules of human rights where no voice is suppressed, even if this leads to disruption of national unity via unfettered corruption.

JPM's successor will likely be under some local and international pressure on this, but stands to triumph. It can be said that divinity has put up a stern test for Tanzanians, who found themselves being led by a Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli whom they knew little of what his actual intentions were as he assumed the reins of government, and now he has departed quite early.

Still, what he was doing has been well understood in the ranks of the government and during the three - and, tragically, last - months of his second term it was cabinet ministers who were flushing out wrongdoing in various areas.

In that case it isn't the experience or skills that they lack but only whether the political will or zeal will be maintained or whether some will be found wanting when it comes to implementation.

While we have been easily talking about cherishing JPM's ideals and emulating his work outlook, keeping to his ethos won't be easy at all, as some public officials may have toed the line chiefly thanks to the disciplinary action they know dissent or default called for.

Fortunately, we have in President Samia Suluhu Hassan as JPM's newly installed successor a Head of State holding every promise to ably carry on from where the indefatigable taskmaster left.

Thus, we have reason to harbour no fear whatsoever that officialdom will fall back on its laurels and do no more than make an effort of continuing or completing the implementation of the landmark development projects JPM embarked upon.

Let us see Dr Magufuli as someone deliberately sent to our country and the world to show and illustrate what is right and figure out if we can live up to his ethos with as much commitment and seriousness as we can and as we believe our leaders will strive to be.

We wish President Samia Suluhu Hassan and the Government the very best.

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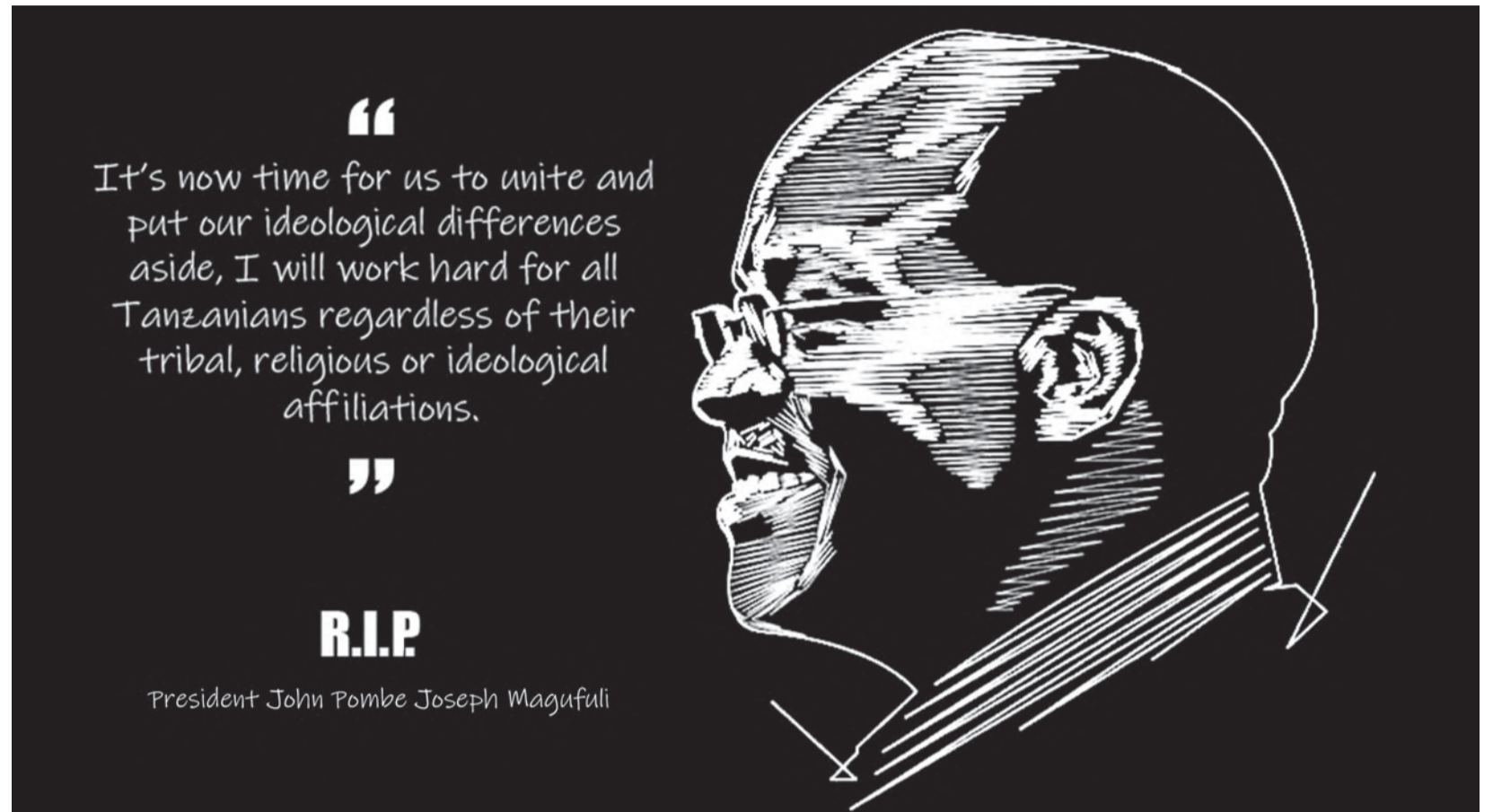
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JPM: Mining reforms, roads over political space

By Special Correspondent

SOME African leaders have polarised public opinion in the recent past quite like former Tanzanian president Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, whose death from a heart condition was announced on Wednesday (March 17) just over four months into his second constitutional five-year term in office.

During his first five-year term, he drew admirers and detractors in almost equal measure both at home and abroad thanks to a no-nonsense leadership style that included firing public officials on the spot or giving them dressing-downs in public.

He confounded most early expectations by maintaining a consistent if not completely successful crusade against government corruption and embezzlement of public funds, while instilling a new creed of work ethic and frugality in the public service.

And he deserves much credit for the way he used his 'Hapa Kazi Tu' slogan (placing a premium on serious matters) to tangibly transform the laissez-faire way of doing things and achieving standards of results-oriented government efficiency that were once considered all but impossible in Tanzania.

But some critics saw him presiding over a shrinking and deterioration of political and democratic space in Tanzania during his time in office, plus a headline economic stance falling short of encouraging private sector growth.

Members of the political and business establishments particularly felt the pain of his tough austerity and anti-graft measures.

According to various sources including Moody's international credit ratings agency, Tanzania under Magufuli saw "limited progress" in areas like business environment reforms as well as a decline in key democratic principles like civil rights, rule of law and freedom of expression.

The critics also saw the Magufuli administration focusing on infrastructural development at the expense of "people-centred" development.

But he remained unfazed by all the local and inter-



Dr Magufuli casts his ballot during a past General Election

national criticism, and continued to pursue inward-looking policies while striving to keep the international community at bay.

In almost five and a half years at the helm, Magufuli made less than a dozen trips to countries in the neighbourhood of Tanzania, the furthest being Ethiopia to the north and South Africa to the south.

It is noteworthy that not once did he venture outside the African continent, saying he preferred to "stay home and keep my own house in order first".

Championing social services

On the social services front, Magufuli scored highly in areas such as his introduction of a free education policy in all government-run primary and secondary schools early in his tenure, leading to a three-fold increase in pupil numbers by June last year.

The number of healthcare facilities across the country has also increased exponentially since 2016, while a comprehensive programme that he initiated to ensure that all Tanzanian villages are connected with electricity had by January reached 80 per cent completion.

Part of Magufuli's legacy will be in the form of the sweeping reforms that he introduced to Tanzania's mining sector. In going head to head with gold mining giants Acacia Mining and Barrick Gold, he famously defied the assumption that

African states cannot take on big multinational mining corporations and win.

That particular showdown eventually resulted in the UK-based Acacia being outlawed from Tanzania and the Canadian-based Barrick agreeing to a more equitable share deal over gold from its mines in the country and other substantial concessions to the Tanzanian government.

Magufuli's accomplishments also included a number of infrastructural improvements across Tanzania such as the expansion and/or rehabilitation of the country's tarmac roads network in both urban and rural areas and facility upgrades at the major Indian Ocean ports of Dar es Salaam, Tanga and Mtwara.

During his tenure as the chair of the East African Community Summit, he advocated industrialisation and infrastructure development.

"His exemplary stewardship led to economic growth, elevating Tanzania to middle income status", said Peter Mathuki, the incoming EAC secretary general.

Stiegler's Gorge project

Magufuli's main pet development projects included the ongoing construction of the standard gauge railway through the central corridor and a 2,100-megawatt hydroelectric dam within the Stiegler's Gorge that is designed to solve

Tanzania's persistent power problems.

The Stiegler's Gorge project was not without controversy, with conservation groups saying it would require that the Rufiji River be dammed as it flows through the Selous nature reserve.

To conservationists, the project would further affect the population of elephants and the endangered black rhinoceros. But Magufuli dismissed claims of irreversible damage to the reserve as groundless, arguing that the project would cover a mere 1,350 sq km - or just three per cent of the reserve's land area.

The president also initiated an ambitious revival programme for the national airline, Air Tanzania. The upcoming 1,444-kilometre East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project from Hoima in Uganda to the port of Tanga in Tanzania, which is set to be signed into implementation on Wednesday next week, also fits into this category.

As Tanzania under newly sworn-in President Samia Suluhu Hassan sees whether it has institutions strong enough to withstand the abrupt loss of such a strong-willed leader, chances of those projects being completed within their set timeframes even without Magufuli's watchful eye remain high.

UN sanitises killings of children in armed conflicts

UNITED NATIONS

THE horrendous killings of children in military conflicts and civil wars - both by national armed forces and militant groups - have triggered widespread condemnation by human rights organizations worldwide.

But a "list of shame" singling out some of these perpetrators have been politicized leaving out some of these countries under fire, including Afghanistan, Israel (in the killings in occupied territories), Somalia and Yemen (where the killings are blamed on the aerial attacks by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates).

According to Human Rights Watch, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has been repeatedly criticized for letting national armed forces and non-state armed groups off the hook for grave violations against children in war.

The list, first requested by the UN Security Council in 2001, is described as the "linchpin" for UN efforts to protect children in war.

The numbers, however, are staggering, according to a new report released by the Eminent Persons Group, including Lt-General (Ret) Romeo Dallaire, the former UN force commander during Rwanda's genocide; Yanghee Lee, former chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child; Benyam Dawit Mezmur, a child rights expert; and Allan Rock, former Canadian ambassador to the United Nations.

The group, which released its report last week, has numerous examples of armed forces or groups (typically government forces) that have been omitted or removed from the "list of shame" - notably the Saudi and UAE-led coalition, Israeli forces, Afghan forces, and Myanmar's military, Tatmadaw.

Afghan security forces have reportedly killed or injured more than 4,000 children since 2014 but have not been listed.

In 2014, Israeli forces killed 557 Palestinian children and injured 4,249, largely during fighting in Gaza. But Israeli forces were not on the list of shame - even though the number of children killed was the third highest in the world that year.

In Somalia, the armed group Al-Shabab has been repeatedly listed for sexual violence against children, but the Somali National Army has not been listed, despite comparable numbers of cases.

In 2020, Guterres "delisted" the coalition led by Saudi and United Arab Emirates for killing and maiming children in Yemen, as well as Myanmar's army for recruiting and using child soldiers.

Yet each was responsible for hundreds of violations the previous year, according to the report.

Jo Becker, Advocacy Director, Children's Rights Division at Human Rights Watch (HRW), told IPS that Guterres has been reluctant to hold all perpetrators to account since he first took office about four years ago.



Masha Khromchenko stands in the kindergarten classroom that took a direct hit from a shell in the Luhansk region, Ukraine. The UN Security Council has demanded an end to attacks on schools worldwide.

Asked whether Guterres is paying politics in a year he is seeking re-election, Becker said: "So his failure to list all perpetrators is definitely not just an issue of this being an 'election year'."

She said the UN Security Council first requested the annual list, and over the past two decades, has carefully created the UN's framework for children and armed conflict.

As the architects of the agenda, they should insist that the Secretary-General ensure it functions as it was intended, and that he list all perpetrators, without exception, Becker declared.

But without an accurate list, the UN's children and armed conflict framework is seriously undermined. The experts urged the secretary-general to change his approach and

list all perpetrators "without fear or favor."

Without such action, they warn, children will be put at even greater risk, said HRW. "The secretary-general should take the experts' recommendations to heart and put the protection of children first."

Mouin Rabbani, Senior Fellow with the Institute for Palestine Studies and Co-Editor, Jadaliyya, an independent ezine produced by the Arab Studies Institute, told IPS it doesn't take more than a passing glance at the list of perpetrators included in, and excluded from the list, to understand that these assessments are not the product of a rigorous examination of the evidence, and thus do not represent the conclusions of an appropriately professional process.

"It seems to me indisputable that political factors are in play. In part this consists of the traditional deference to the powerful and their

clients, which is compensated for with sanctimonious outrage - which would otherwise be justified - against the weak and marginalized". In part, he argued, it reflects electoral considerations, with Guterres gearing up for election to a second term. And in part it reflects financial concerns, with the UN continuing to suffer a budget crunch and the kingdom of Saudi Arabia being once again given a pass.

While there is much discontent with the glaring omissions in the list, which no one has failed to notice, it seems unlikely that the General Assembly will act to rectify, since it is composed of governments and many of them are subject to similar pressures and inducements, said Rabbani.

Asked for a response to the report from the eminent group of experts, UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric told reporters on March 17: "First of all, I have to say we appreciate the views expressed".

"We have worked... diligently with many partners, including NGOs, and everyone is working towards the same goal: improving the protection of children and wiping out the scourge of children being forced as combatants and, of course, as victims of conflict."

He pointed out that the Secretary General's report is one critical tool that is meant to generate action. "I

think, year after year, the report and the associated work of all our colleagues on the ground and in New York is to change behaviours in the most difficult circumstances. Our goal is to end and prevent grave violations against children. Each year, we report on progress and setbacks".

There's a lot of focus on the list per se, but I think it's also critical to read the full narrative in the reports every year, which lays out in detail how children are impacted by the conflict and the work that is being done to better protect boys and girls, notably through Plans of Action. "And I think we have seen, over the years, improvements in some areas with Plans of Action being signed by different combatants. There's always going to be discussion among people of the conclusions of the report, the methodology, the observations, the recommendations". IPS

HUBERT KAIRUKI MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY



Jumuiya ya Hubert Kairuki Memorial University
inaungana na Watanzania wote kuomboleza kifo cha
Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania

Mh. Dkt John Joseph Magufuli.

Mwenyezi Mungu ailaze roho ya marehemu mahali
pema peponi

Amina.

Dkt. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli
1959-2021

JPM: Yet more pay last respects, send condolences



Assistance comes the way of a mourner overwhelmed after paying his last respects Dr John Magufuli at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



A mourner in silent prayer during the paying of last respects in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



Members of the Tanzania Red Cross stretcher to safety a Dar es Salaam resident who fainted after paying her last respects yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



A young Dar es Salaam mourner overcome by emotions after paying her last respects yesterday is led to safety. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



The magnitude of the grief of these Dar es Salaam residents, who had just paid their last respects at Uhuru Stadium yesterday, calls for no description. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



A Dar es Salaam mourner moving in style brandishes a placard bearing a message hailing JPM as an unswerving advocate of the poor and weak, an African hero and a true patriot. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



Altif Hiran Mansoor, patron of the Mwanza regional peace committee, signs condolence book at the Mwanza Regional Commissioner's Office yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Arusha regional commissioner Idd Kimanta signs a condolence book in Arusha city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Getrude Mpezya

500,000 in Morogoro, Iringa regions due to benefit from five-year water programme

By Guardian Correspondent,

Iringa

THE US Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded Water Resources Integration Development Initiative (WARIDI) has installed over 540 kilometers of a water pipeline network of clean and safe drinking water in Morogoro and Iringa regions.

The five-year project worth US\$48.8 million is expected to benefit more than 500,000 people in 20 Local Government Authorities (LGAs) in the two regions.

As of December 2020, WARIDI has completed the construction and rehabilitation of 50 water projects in rural and peri-urban communities, relieving the burden on women and girls who are often required to collect water from unsafe sources far from home.

The selection of each implemented scheme was

demand-driven, with community members fully engaged. Works implemented included construction of water intakes, drilling boreholes, installing submersible electric pumps, laying pipes, constructing valve chambers, water points, storage tanks, fixing solar panels, installation of chlorination water treatment units, building pump houses, and securing infrastructure with a fence.

Communities also contributed to the successful implementation of the water projects through cash and in-kind contributions such as excavating trenches, laying pipes and backfilling. In addition, communities provided support by carrying, loading, and offloading materials and storing and securing the materials at construction sites.

Testimonies by community members show that these in-kind contributions make them feel ownership over the schemes and increase their desire to see them succeed.

To ensure sustainable services are delivered to all beneficiaries in an equitable manner in all water supply schemes, WARIDI also supported training for community-based water supply organizations (CBWSOs) to manage and operate their water supply schemes.

The capacity of CBWSOs was built-in financial management, maintenance, and operations as well as governance of their water systems.

To complement and integrate water support, WARIDI also involved local communities in identifying promising alternative livelihood activities (household-based activities) that only require a little amount of water but have the potential to sustain household food security and generate income.

Building from that, WARIDI designed and trained farmers on three livelihoods interventions (home gardens, poultry, and fruit trees nurseries). Stamili Viale is



Kalenga resident, Margreth Philipo draws water within her house compound for the first time.

one of the farmers from Sole Village who is already benefiting from WARIDI interventions.

She decided to turn her flower garden into a vegetable garden after receiving

livelihood training.

"With this garden, I save the money I used to buy vegetables, and increase my income by selling vegetables to my neighbors. I am sure I will now have vegetables

throughout the year at my yard". The income generated from home gardens and other WARIDI designed livelihood interventions can help many women like Stamili to pay for water services.

Morogoro market traders say late Magufuli was great leader

By Guardian Correspondent,

Morogoro

TRADERS at the newly launched Kingalu market in Morogoro Municipality have expressed their grief following the passing of President John Magufuli.

"We have been so much saddened by this death, Dr

Magufuli was a great leader, he loved petty traders a lot, he worked hard to ensure that we conduct our business smoothly and profitably," said Avintishi Mussa, one of the traders who benefited from a 1.25m/- as a help from President Magufuli on March 16, 2018.

The funds were collected through a fundraising super-

vised on the spot by president Magufuli during the launch of the Philip Morris cigarette factory in the Region.

Avintishi, a vegetable seller at the market and a resident of Boma road in Mji Mkuu ward in the municipality said the death of President Magufuli is one of the huge pains she ever experienced.

"I was taking President Magufuli as my child, a relative, I'm so sorry to hear that he has died, when my children woke me up last night telling me this news, I didn't believe them, I cried a lot, this hurts me," she said.

Halid Mkunyegele, an interim chairperson of the Kingalu market urged the continuing leaders to live his legacy by

implementing all the plans he had for the country.

"He was our hero, a shoulder to cry when we (petty traders) were passing through a difficult time of being abused by some leaders in the municipality who were usually chasing them away from conducting business in some areas," he said.

Daudi Kisombo, a pasto-

ralist from Melela Mangae village in Mvomero said the death's information has saddened him because President Magufuli was so supportive to them during his tenure.

"President Magufuli worked hard to address several conflicts between farmers and pastoralists, he wanted us to live peacefully," he said.

Morogoro Regional Commissioner (RC) Loata Ole Sanare expressed his condolences to the Morogoro residents and Tanzanians following the huge national tragedy.

He urged the residents to remain patient and calm when the nation and the World are mourning the passing of the great leaders.

TAZAMA PIPELINES LIMITED

CONTAINER DEPOT

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

TAZAMA Pipelines Limited, an interstate organization owned by the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Zambia and which deals in transportation of crude oil from Dar es Salaam to Ndola, Zambia, wishes to invite applications from suitably qualified candidates to fill the below-mentioned post for its new Container Depot at Keko, Dar es salaam.

- #### 1. YARD PLANNER (ONE POST)

Job Purpose: Ensure proper planning of placement and overall movement of containers in liaison with other sections in order to facilitate efficient operations of the company.

QUALIFICATIONS:

 - Form IV Secondary School Certificate.
 - Degree in Logistics and Transport from a recognized Institute/University
 - At least three years' work experience in reputable firm.
 - Very good command of spoken and written English and Kiswahili language
 - Knowledge in ICT
- #### 2. YARD SUPERVISOR (ONE POST)

Job Purpose: Ensure proper supervision of personnel; and use of equipment for smooth movement of containers in order to facilitate efficient operations of the company.

QUALIFICATIONS:

 - Form Four Secondary Education Certificate.
 - Degree in Logistics and Transport or equivalent.
 - Three years' work experience in shipping logistics as an added advantage.
 - Spoken English and Kiswahili language
 - Knowledge in ICT
- #### 3. ASSISTANT YARD SUPERVISOR (ONE POST)

Job Purpose: Assist and ensure proper supervision of personnel; and use of equipment for smooth movement of containers in order to facilitate efficient operations of the company.

QUALIFICATIONS:

 - Form Four Secondary Education Certificate.
 - Diploma in Logistics and Transport or equivalent.
 - Three years' work experience in shipping logistics as an added advantage.
 - Spoken English and Kiswahili language
 - Knowledge in ICT
- #### 4. ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT (ONE POST)

Job Purpose: Undertake the provision of accounting services in order to facilitate company operating services in order to facilitate company transactions and ensure compliance with accounting policies, company procedures and statutes.

QUALIFICATIONS:

 - Form Four Secondary Education Certificate.
 - Degree in Accounts/ Finance or equivalent.
 - Three years' work experience.
 - Spoken English and Kiswahili language
- #### 5. CONTAINER HANDLER/FORKLIFT OPERATOR (THREE POSTS)

Job Purpose: Facilitate efficient movement and stacking of containers in order to ensure efficient operations.

QUALIFICATIONS:

 - Form Four Secondary Education Certificate.
 - Certificate in Operations of Reach Stacker equipment/ Forklift from Bandarai College.
 - Knowledge in Automobile Engineering is an added advantage.
 - Three years' work experience.
 - Spoken English and Kiswahili language
- #### 6. TALLY/ DATA ENTRY CLERK (FOUR POSTS)

Job Purpose: Ensure accurate counting, inspection and assessment of container quality in order to facilitate efficient operations.

QUALIFICATIONS:

 - Form Four Secondary Education Certificate.
 - Diploma in Logistics, Shipping, Accounts or Procurement.
 - Two years' work experience in container depots as an added advantage.
 - Spoken English and Kiswahili language
 - Knowledge in ICT
- #### 7. TRUCK DRIVER (THREE POST)

Job Purpose: Drive company trucks in order to facilitate movement of containers.

QUALIFICATIONS:

 - Form Four Secondary Education Certificate.
 - Class C driving license specialized in truck driving.
 - NIT certificate in truck driving as an added advantage.
 - Three years' work experience in port operations.
 - Spoken English and Kiswahili language

REMUNERATION:
Attractive remuneration packages will be offered to the successful candidates for the above positions.

MODE OF APPLICATION:
Application in own handwriting with detailed CV including photocopies of relevant academic certificates should be submitted to the undersigned within two weeks from the date of this advertisement.
Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

**HEAD HUMAN RESOURCE
TAZAMA PIPELINES LIMITED,
NEAR TUNGI TANESCO
KIGAMBONI
P O BOX 2157,
DAR ES SALAAM.**

TechnoServe

Business Solutions to Poverty

INVITATION FOR BIDS

USA ORIGIN #2 OR BETTER HARD RED WINTER WHEAT MINIMUM 11.5 PERCENT PROTEIN IN BULK

TechnoServe Inc, invites bids for the purchase of 38,000 metric tons (MT) of United States origin #2 or Better Hard Red Winter Wheat minimum 11.5 percent protein in bulk to be shipped from the United States to Port of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania and/or Port of Nairobi, Kenya.

The product will be sold at market prices to bidders who offer the most competitive prices. Serious bidders can request at no cost the Sales Tender Guidelines and Bid Form from Friday March 19, 2021, through TechnoServe's designated agent Saramac Consulting LLC at the following e-mail address: salestender@saramac-consulting.com

Bids must be submitted via e-mail at the following address: salestender@saramac-consulting.com no later than Monday, March 29th, 2021, at 16:00 hours (Dar Es Salaam/Nairobi time). Late bids will not be accepted.

Dar residents honour JPM, as captured yesterday



Roberta Cocconi, Head of Mission at the Italian Embassy in Tanzania, signs condolence book following former President John Magufuli's death in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Egypt's Ambassador to Tanzania, Mohamed Gaber Abulwafa, signs the condolence book. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



It's time for Jakaya Kikwete, whom Dr Magufuli succeeded as President in late 2015, to sign the condolence book. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Scouts, members of the Tanzania Red Cross and other first aid staff come to the assistance of a mourner with disability overcome by grief during the paying of last respects to Dr Magufuli at Uhuru Stadium. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



Members of the Tanzania People's Defence Forces on stand-by, ready to help out a mourner at Uhuru Stadium. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



Scouts come escort a mourner who had just paid her last respects. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



Mourners line up to wait for their turns at Uhuru Stadium to bid final farewell to Dr Magufuli. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



A scout carries a young mourner who, too, paid his last respects to JPM but could just not hold himself together. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

BUSINESS

RESTRICTION

Rwanda FDA to release list of licensed honey producers

KIGALI

The Rwanda Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) on Friday, March 19, said that it will soon release a list of licensed producers of honey, following detection of adulteration in various honey products on the market.

Honey adulteration is the process of adding cheap sweeteners such as sugar to pure honey, which diminishes its quality or even safety. The regulator made the announcement as seven people suspected of producing or selling unlicensed honey were paraded before the media on Friday.

According to the Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB), an ongoing inspection exercise done in collaboration with Rwanda FDA has so far seen 1,300 kilograms of illegally produced honey seized. The exercise, which is still ongoing, followed the banning of honey products of the brand Honey Hive, after a laboratory examination by the Authority showed that the producer adds sugar in honey.

Speaking to the press, Alex Gisagara the head of the Foods and Drugs Inspection and Safety Monitoring at the Rwanda FDA, noted that a general inspection is ongoing to ascertain that honey products on the market are of quality.

"Honey products of 15 brands are already undergoing laboratory examination, and we expect that soon we will release a list of approved honey producers to help the public know what to consume and what to not purchase," he explained.

Gisagara also urged all manufacturers to first seek for a certificate from FDA

before embarking on producing foods and drugs related commodities, so as to avoid putting the lives of consumers at risk. Concerning honey products that are adulterated, he said that they may, especially, harm the health of diabetic consumers who most of the time opt for honey as a substitute of honey.

Meanwhile, vendors arrested over selling unlicensed honey products said that they should not be the ones blamed or punished, but instead the main producers, saying that they had no idea that the products they purchased were illegal. They said that they have shown investigators where they purchased the products from, and showed the EBM receipts as well.

However, the FDA stressed that all sellers should be mindful of the quality of the products they are going to buy for resale. The institution also highlighted that consumers should be keen while purchasing products, and make sure that those products have the Rwanda FDA mark (R). Other criteria to observe include date of manufacturing and expiration, the name of the producer, and ingredients of the product among others.



Honey products of 15 brands are already undergoing laboratory examination, and we expect that soon we will release a list of approved honey producers to help the public know what to consume and what to not purchase

TRIBUTE

JPM: CEOs Roundtable, EABC chiefs mourning

By Francis Kajubi

THE death of President John Pombe Magufuli last week is a big blow against economic growth powered by both public and private sector collaboration.

In a statement released last week, East Africa Business Council's CEO, Dr Peter Mathuki and CEOs Roundtable said in separate statement, Sanjay Rughani said the late Magufuli was a patriotic, intellectual pan-African who pioneered the vision of industrialisation and heavy investments in infrastructure.

Dr Mathuki, who is due to take over as East African Community Secretary General next month, said the late president was a visionary leader who revived Air Tanzania Company Limited and decided to invest in mega infrastructure projects such as construction of Standard Gauge Railway.

"These initiatives and projects have started delivering prosperity to the citizens of Tanzania and the EAC region. His exemplary stewardship led to economic growth elevating the country's economy to lower middle income status," the incoming EAC chief said.

According to him, the late Magufuli was also instrumental in bringing about reforms to the EAC because as Chairman of the regional bloc, he launched and endorsed the East African Business Code of Conduct and called for joint efforts to fight against corruption in the region.

He asserted that the late Tanzanian leader was also at the forefront of promoting the socio-economic role of the private sector while advocating for



industrialization, infrastructure development and revitalization of the energy sector in the EAC bloc.

"Dr Magufuli's presence remains very strong in our hearts and it is our duty to follow his great vision of unity, peace and industrialization for the economic growth and prosperity of the East African Community," he added.

On his part, Rughani who is also CEO of Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania, said that he is mourning Magufuli not just as president of Tanzania but a

strong supporter of the private sector.

"Magufuli was the first Tanzanian President to call a private sector meeting only two months into his presidency in December 2015. To me, this was an indicator of his commitment to facilitate dialogue with the business community and build a strong foundation for collaboration with the public sector," Rughani said.

He pointed out that the country's sustained economic growth which his government presided over since 2015, led to

a World Bank decision to elevate its status from least developed to lower middle income by July 2020.

"And although this puts us in the lower middle income group, it motivates and encourage us all to work harder and have big dreams by aiming higher to maintain the status and more importantly achieve the fully middle income status," he concluded.

tap water as an alternative to bottled drinking water from 2020 in a bid to cut down on plastic waste and give cash-conscious diners more choices.



Bodi ya Wakurugenzi, Menejimenti na Wafanyakazi wa Taasisi ya Utafiti wa Kilimo Tanzania (TARI), Wanaungana na Watanzania wote katika Kuomboleza msiba mkubwa wa kitaifa Kufuatia kuondokewa na aliyekuwa

Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania

Mheshimiwa Dkt. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli

Daima TARI tutaenzi maono yako katika kuleta mapinduzi ya kilimo



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PROMOTION

NMB touts 'Kizimba Business Model' to smallholder farmers



Agriculture minister Prof Adolf Mkenda speaks at the launch of 'Kizimba' Business Model at Sokoine University of Agriculture in Morogoro last week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

SMALLHOLDER farmers have been advised to conduct adhere to modern farming practices so that they can qualify for loans through 'Kizimba Business Model' being offered by NMB Bank Plc.

NMB Bank Plc's Head of Agribusiness, Isaac Masusu, said mid this week while addressing smallholder farmers and experts from Sokoine University of Agriculture that many farmers fail to qualify for bank loans because of quality of their commodities which then leads to failure to access markets.

"As NMB Bank we are frustrated by both quality and quantity of commodities being produced by farmers but also lack of professionalism which leads to poor market access as such produce cannot compete," Masusu said.

He pointed out that in order to address the challenge, the market's largest bank has come up with 'Kizimba Business Model Loans' to sensitize farmers and stakeholders

on quality farming by offering long term loans and technical advice.

"We hope that this 'Kizimba Business Model' will provide solutions for these challenges which have denied smallholder farmers access to long term loans to invest in their businesses," he noted while stressing that women and youth are targeted beneficiaries of the scheme.

He further explained that NMB is working with a group of SUA agribusiness graduates under Sugeco to assist develop capacity of smallholder farmers so that they can grow and graduate into commercial farmers under the arrangement. "Through this collaboration, NMB will start issuing long term loans to smallholder farmers so that they can invest in profitable projects which mature in many years," he added.

Agriculture Minister, Professor Adolf Mkenda applauded NMB for the move saying the agriculture sector has huge potential but lacks financing and technical expertise especially among smallholder farmers.

Prof Mkenda gave an example of palm oil which has thrived well in Indonesia which Also exports refined edible oil to Tanzania because the country's agri-business sector is less competitive hence unable to meet local demand. "Indonesia harvests 10 tons per hectare of crude palm oil while here we do 0.6 tons which means that we have an uphill task to improve," he said.

SUA's Vice Chancellor, Prof Raphael Chibunda backed the minister by saying that the institution through Sugeco is working with NMB to address some of the teething challenges facing the agriculture sector. "Through this cooperation our graduate students also get into agri-business with practical knowledge received from experts in the field," he stated.

DIVERSITY

Budget Office pushes for civil servants to work from home

NAIROBI

Civil servants should continue to work from home and engage in online meetings to cut operational and maintenance costs such as allowances, the professional unit which advises lawmakers on financial and economic matters says.

Analysts at the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) reckon that by continuing with the work-from-home policy, the State will reduce billions of shillings spent on training, maintenance of cars and computers, office internet, tea and other perks extended to government employees.

Taxpayers saved Sh7.1 billion on travel and hospitality allowances for civil servants in the six months to September last year, data from the Controller of Budget shows, underlining the huge savings accrued from the stay-at-home working policy in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Civil servants were in April last year directed to work from their homes after imposition of restrictions on movement and bans on social gatherings as part of the restrictions imposed to curb spread of the Covid-19.

"Continue with a work-from-home option for public servants and encourage shift to online platforms for meetings. This will reduce demands on operations and maintenance," PBO says in its analysis. Allowances on travel and hospitality for civil servants dropped 51 per cent to Sh7.396 billion in the six months to September last year from Sh15.306 billion.

Budget items that recorded the biggest falls included travelling and hospitality through which civil servants have traditionally raked in thousands of shillings especially on working trips abroad or in Nairobi and Mombasa. The restrictions on meetings denied civil servants opportunities to boost their wages through perks such as mileage, sitting and subsistence allowances earned from local and foreign travels.

The World Bank says that public servants use the trips to enlarge their salaries, where daily subsistence allowances (DSA), domestic and international travel fall under 'other items' other than the wage bill. Kenya started easing the restrictions in July but only a limited number of employees, mostly those handling critical tasks are allowed within the government offices.

But the Treasury said that restrictions on meetings, travel and trainings for civil servants will remain in the coming months, extending the perks drought for public servants. The World Bank in its latest review of Kenya's expenditure says the country will save up to Sh30 billion in the year to or Sh2.5 billion monthly from civil servants' reduced local and foreign trips - which often involve lavish travel allowances.

ALERT

Japanese agency warns of fraud in Kenya car imports

NAIROBI

The Kenyan office of the Japan External Trade Organisation (Jetro) says most local importers are falling for promises of highly discounted prices only to end up losing money. The agency now wants all second-hand vehicle importers to be contacting the local office in Nairobi before engaging with Japan-based dealers to avoid the risk of being defrauded.

"Almost every week we get about two to three calls from Kenyan importers on claims of fraudulent dealings purportedly from Japan-based dealers," said Sotaro Nishikawa, Jetro executive director for Nairobi office.

"Some importers are lured by low prices and send money overseas without confirming the sellers' trustworthiness and reliability, which leads to a high possibility of victimisation because money sent to these tricksters/fraudsters cannot be recovered." He added that the Nairobi office maintains a list of all genuine registered companies in Japan involved with the exportation of used motor vehicles.

Vehicles from Japan dominate the Kenyan second-hand car market, controlling more than 80 per cent stake. Kenya imports about 90,000 used vehicles from Japan every year, making the East Asian country a crucial source market.

Japan Used Motor Vehicles Exporters Association (Jumvea), which brings together local importers, has also been pushing its members to use Jumvea safe trade system—a platform that consists of about 400 Japanese used car exporters. The system acts as the bridge between worldwide importers of used cars and exporters in Japan, eliminating the risk of falling prey to fraudsters.

REWARDING

Tigo customers win millions in mega promotion

By Guardian Reporter

TEN Tigo Pesa subscribers won 1m/- each on Friday during a weekly draw conducted by Tigo Tanzania as part of celebrations to mark the telecommunications company's 10th anniversary of the mobile money platform's operations.

Speaking during a handover event held in Dar es Salaam, Tigo's Segment Manager, Mary Rutta the cash prizes are part of the ongoing 'Sherehekea pesa' promo to mark 10 years of Tigo Pesa in the country.

"In the main campaign, every customer will win various bonuses while Tigo Pesa

wakalas who invest and put more effort in making sure customers are getting reliable services all the time, also get rewarded," Rutta said.

She pointed out that the telco has allocated over 200m/- for the entire campaign with 10 grand draw winners taking home 10m/- each at the climax of the exercise in the next 10 weeks. "The more a Tigo customer uses Tigo Pesa to transact the more the more chances they get to win cash prizes," she noted while urging Tigo Pesa subscribers to pay for purchases of goods and services, utility bills and other government fees through the

platform.

Last week's 10 winners include; Eliud Changanage, Aron Anatoly, Asha Bura, Kwizera Ndabise, Pavin Rwezaula, Jose Kanene, Annatheresia Clemence, Regina Balama, Ayub Ndaliko and Flora Kawa who are based in various parts of the country.

"Thank you for being with us for the past 10 years, learning and growing with us. Let us celebrate the amazing achievement thus far and continue working together for more innovative relevant solutions to further simplify your daily lives," Rutta noted. Established in 1995 when it

started its operations in Tanzania in 1995, Tigo Tanzania is one of the top three telcos in the market with its Tigo Pesa brand also dominating mobile money platforms.

Through its distinctive and diverse product portfolio in voice, text messaging, high-speed internet and mobile financial services, Tigo has pioneered digital innovations such as the first smartphone in Kiswahili, free Facebook in Kiswahili, TigoPesa application and Tigo Mobile application as well as being the first East African cross-border mobile money transfer with currency conversion



Tigo segment manager Mary Rutta (R) speaks in Dar es Salaam last week. Photo courtesy of Tigo.

SLOWDOWN

Investec shares drop as British bank drags again

JOHANNESBURG

South Africa's Investec warned of an up to 29% drop in full-year profit, citing its ailing British bank and sending its shares down almost 5% on Friday.

Investec's British operation has long

dragged on the group, and high hedging costs related to the division's structured deposits book have further soured sentiment around it over the last year. Though it has since announced plans to wind the book down, it expects to continue incurring costs,

including another 53 million pounds in the last six months of its financial year.

CEO Fani Titi told reporters Investec had made "good progress" on efforts to reduce the risk by selling off parts of the book. He added the costs for the second half of the

year to March 31 were in line with guidance. But when combined with others related to restructuring, investors were left disheartened.

"The disappointment lies in the UK bank," said Neelash Hansjee, portfolio manager at Old Mutual, adding this contrasted

with a good performance at Investec's wealth business and lower credit impairments than feared.

Overall, Investec expects full-year adjusted earnings per share, which reflect profits on ordinary operations, of 24-27 pence, down from 33.9 pence a year earlier

when accounting for the spin-off of asset manager Ninety One.

Investec has in recent years been on a simplification drive, in part to eliminate future nasty surprises, such as the hedging costs. It said on Friday this was largely complete, allowing it to

focus on growth. Titi said this could include both organic and inorganic growth, especially in capital-light areas, including transactional banking and wealth.

Titi said Investec did not harbour any concerns about paying a final dividend and it expected

to remain in its previously guided payout ratio. Investec also announced on Friday that chairman Perry Crosthwaite would step down in August. Titi said both internal and external candidates were being considered in the search for a successor.

SCRAMBLE

EU threatens to block vaccine exports as rising cases point to third wave

BRUSSELS

Covid tension was exposed on Saturday as the EU threatened to block the export of vaccines in a row over failed deliveries. Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission, made the threat after saying the bloc had received only 30 per cent of the vaccine doses it had been promised.

The EU has been criticised for placing a temporary ban on the AstraZeneca shot and its sporadic inoculation programme, which has been slower than those of the UK and US. Cases are rising in 20 member states, including Germany and France, and some fear a third wave is imminent.

"We have the option of banning a planned export. That's the message to AstraZeneca: you fulfil your contract with Europe first before you start delivering to other countries,"

Ms von der Leyen said. Ms Von der Leyen said the EU had only received 30 million doses of the 90 million AstraZeneca vaccines it had been promised by the end of March.

The company blamed production delays at its EU plants, but European officials are furious that AstraZeneca has been able to deliver its UK contract while falling short on the continent. "We haven't received anything from the Brits, although we are delivering to them," Ms Von der Leyen said. "I can't explain to European citizens why we are exporting millions of vaccine doses to countries that are producing vaccines themselves and aren't sending us anything back."

EU-based manufacturers have shipped 41 million vaccine doses to 33 countries since early February, Ms von der Leyen said, making the bloc one of the world's biggest export regions for Covid-19 vaccines. French European Affairs



Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission.

minister Clement Beaufort welcomed the tougher tone coming from Brussels.

"We need a principle of reciprocity: supply others if they supply us in accordance with signed contracts," he said. There are concerns that the low vaccination rates are contributing to the rising rate of new cases.

"We have exponential growth ... so it is good we had agreed on an emergency brake and unfortunately we will have to make use of this emergency brake," said German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

She sounded a warning of a slowdown in lifting lockdown restrictions. French Prime Minister Jean Castex warned his country was facing a "third wave" of the pandemic as new restrictions were introduced in Paris.

Most businesses and public venues in Poland are closing as the health service copes with more patients on respirators than at any period over the last year. Hungary has also extended its lockdown for another week. The European Medicines Agency on Thursday confirmed the AstraZeneca shot "safe and effective". Vaccination has since resumed in some countries.

GROWTH

Dubai's World Logistics Passport expands global network of trade hubs to 11 countries

DUBAI

The World Logistics Passport, a Dubai-led initiative designed to boost trade between developing markets, has expanded its global network of trade hubs to four continents and 11 countries, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, Vice President and Ruler of Dubai, said on Saturday. India, Indonesia, Thailand, Brazil, Colombia and South Africa have signed on to the WLP in the past 12 months, Sheikh Mohammed said in a statement on state news agency Wam.

Launched at the 2020 World Economic Forum in Davos, the WLP aims to increase resilience in the global supply chains and remove trade barriers facing developing economies. It is planning to tap into more than 20 markets representing 54 per cent of global gross domestic product and by 2023, is projected to have an impact of about 2 per cent on global trade.

"In just one year, we have taken the WLP from vision to reality, bringing together a number of leading nations, logistics partners and multinational corporations in a close-knit alliance focused on trade growth," Sheikh Mohammed said.

"The WLP demonstrates once again the UAE's keenness to work together with other nations to enhance prosperity and expand growth opportunities for businesses at a time when global markets are seeking to renew their momentum for growth."

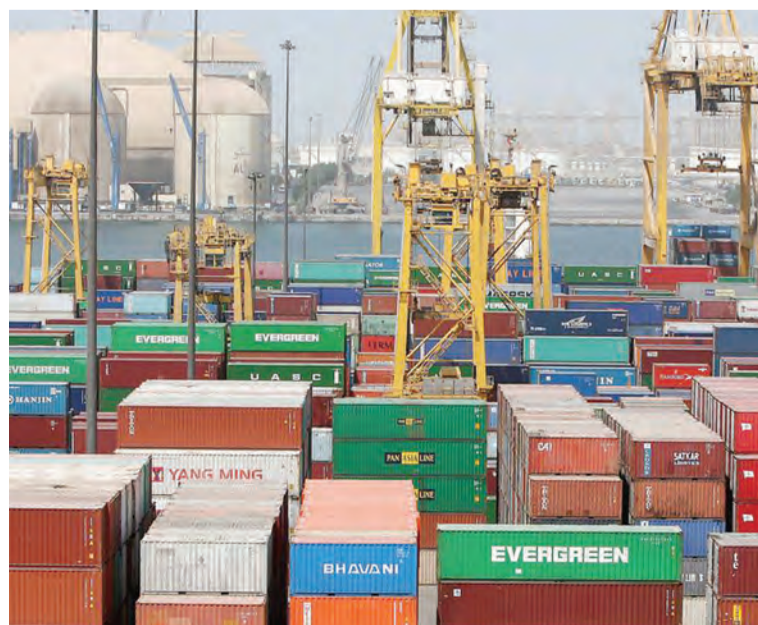
In January, Etihad Credit Insurance, the Dubai Multi Commodities Centre and flydubai signed up to the initiative, joining ports operator DP World, Dubai Customs, Emirates airline and Dnata, as well as other countries

including Senegal, Kazakhstan and Uruguay, the WLP said.

Benefits range from increased trade revenue for businesses, increased fee generation for state trade authorities, tax revenues, connection of customs departments and global knowledge sharing networks. South-south trade between developing countries in Asia, Africa and South America represented an estimated US\$2.48 trillion, or 52 per cent, of total developing economies' exports, according to the World Trade Organisation's World Trade Statistical Review 2019 report.

"By connecting into the WLP network of fast-growing economies, member businesses have the opportunity to diversify into new markets such as Latin America, South Asia or Africa while shoring up their regional connectivity," the Wam statement said. Multinational corporations, including UPS, Pfizer, Sony, Johnson & Johnson and LG have already registered as WLP members, it added.

"The UAE continues to work with its partners to introduce new initiatives that stimulate trade growth regionally and globally, leveraging its vast expertise in facilitating global trade and its capabilities and experience gained over the years to explore expanded opportunities and create new economic value," Sheikh Mohammed added. Studies on parental burnout had, until now, focused on personal factors, however parents affected by this syndrome exercise their parenting in a particular cultural context, which researchers say is important to take into account when treating symptoms.



Cargo containers at Terminal 1 in Jebel Ali Port in Dubai.



ITV		MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM		ITV																											
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WORLD

US to place some migrant families in hotels in move away from detention centres

WASHINGTON

SOME migrant families arriving in the United States will be housed in hotels under a new program managed by nonprofit organizations, according to two people familiar with the plans, a move away from for-profit detention centers that have been criticized by Democrats and health experts.

Endeavors, a San Antonio-based organization, will oversee what it calls "family reception sites" at hotels in Texas and Arizona, the two sources said. The organization, in partnership with other nonprofits, will initially provide beds in seven different brand-name hotels for families deemed vulnerable when caught at the border.

Tae Johnson, the acting director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), said the agency had signed a short-term, \$86.9 million contract with Endeavors to provide temporary shelter and processing services for migrant families. The contract provides 1,239 beds and other necessary services, he said in a statement.

The opening of the reception centers would mark a significant shift by the admin-

istration of President Joe Biden, a Democrat, away from the detention of migrant families in for-profit facilities.

In January, Biden issued an order directing the Justice Department not to renew its contracts with privately operated criminal detention facilities. However, the order did not address immigration jails run by ICE.

Roughly 1,200 migrants were being held in two family detention centers in Texas as of Wednesday, according to an ICE spokeswoman. A third center in Pennsylvania is no longer being used to hold families.

The number of migrants arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border has climbed in recent weeks as Biden has rolled back some of the hard-line policies of former President Donald Trump, a Republican.

Biden, who took office on Jan. 20, has faced criticism from Republicans for reversing those policies. At the same time, some Democrats opposed Biden's administration reopening a Trump-era emergency shelter for children.

The hotel sites, set to open in April, will offer COVID-19 testing, medical care, food services, social workers and case managers



Asylum-seeking mothers from Guatemala carry their children after they crossed the Rio Grande river into the United States from Mexico on a raft in Penitas, Texas, U.S., March 17, 2021. Mayra, 17, is seen carrying her 13-month-old son Marvin (L) and Maria is seen carrying her 14-month-old son Brando (R). REUTERS

to help with travel and onward destinations, according to the two sources, who requested anonymity to discuss the matter. Staff will be trained to work with children.

It remained unclear whether migrants would be required to wear ankle bracelets or be subject to any other form of monitoring, the people said.

The families will arrive at Border Patrol stations and then be sent to the hotel sites to continue immigration paperwork, the two sources said. They could leave the reception centers as early as six hours after arrival if paperwork is completed, they test

negative for COVID-19 and transportation has been arranged.

Biden officials have said migrant families will be "expelled" to Mexico or their home countries under a Trump-era health order known as Title 42. But more than half of the 19,000 family members caught at the border in February were not expelled, with many released into the United States.

"Our border is not open," ICE's Johnson said in the statement. "The majority of individuals continue to be expelled under the Centers for Disease Control's public health authority."

Agencies

China calls for Sino-US cooperation on 'pressing tasks'

ANCHORAGE

BEIJING and Washington could work together on combating COVID-19 pandemic and other most pressing tasks facing the world, and develop a relationship featuring mutually beneficial cooperation rather than zero-sum competition, senior Chinese diplomats said at the first China-US high-level strategic dialogue that concluded on Friday.

The world's top two economies could cooperate on COVID-19, climate change and world economic recovery, the three most demanding tasks for the international community, and ramp up communication and coordination on major global and regional issues for the benefits of the two peoples and the rest of the world, the Chinese side said in a statement after the two-day talks.

The dialogue was held between Yang Jiechi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission, State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, and US State

Secretary Antony Blinken and National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan.

It was a follow-up to the first phone call by the presidents of the two countries about a month ago, and also the first face-to-face meeting between the two sides since US President Joe Biden took office in January.

The two-day dialogue was "candid, constructive and helpful", though there are still some important differences between the two sides, Yang told reporters as the event wrapped up Friday noon.

He said China will firmly safeguard its national sovereignty, security and development interests, and China's development and growth is unstoppable.

The two sides should handle China-US relations in the spirit of non-conflict, non-confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation, so as to move forward the bilateral relationship on a sound and stable track.

During the dialogue, the Chinese side also said the essence of China-US relationship is mutually beneficial co-



Yang Jiechi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee, Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan attend a high-level strategic dialogue in the Alaskan city of Anchorage, the United States, on Wednesday. (XINHUA)

operation instead of zero-sum contest, and the two countries will not necessarily end up with posing a threat to each other.

Blinken said US relationship with China will be "competitive where it should be, collaborative where it can be, adversarial where it must be", while Sullivan said that the US didn't want "conflict" but welcomes "stiff competition".

In its statement, the Chinese side said the difference and disagreement between the two countries should not be the ground for confrontation, as confrontation or conflict

would lead to outcome that is beyond what either of the two could bear.

"The two countries need to build trust rather than second-guess each other; understand rather than blame each other, work together rather than undermine each other, so as to make sure they could both focus on their own domestic agenda, and attain their respective development goals," according to the statement.

Blinken said after the meetings concluded that the US side was able to have a "very candid" conversation over the many hours in the two days

on an expansive agenda. "On Iran, on North Korea, on Afghanistan, on climate, our interests intersect".

Joint working group on climate change

China and the United States have decided to establish a joint working group on climate change, said the Chinese delegation on Friday following the dialogue.

Both sides also share the hope of continuing such type of high-level strategic communication, the delegation noted.

At the dialogue, the United States has reiterated its adherence to the one-China policy on the Taiwan question, according to the delegation.

China and the United States, the delegation said, discussed reciprocal arrangements for the COVID-19 vaccination of each side's diplomats and consular officials.

It also said that the two sides will hold talks to facilitate activities of each other's diplomatic and consular missions and personnel, as well as on issues related to media reporters in the spirit of reciprocity and mutual benefit. Xinhua

Russian Ambassador to US eyes a lot of work on Russian-American relations in Moscow

NEW YORK

RUSSIAN Ambassador to the United States Anatoly Antonov expects that a lot of work will have to be done in Moscow analyzing Russian-American relations.

"There is a lot of work to be done, it is necessary to analyze the state of Russian-American relations we find ourselves in," he told reporters at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York before flying to Moscow. "The Russian side has always emphasized that we are

interested in the development of Russian-American relations to the same extent as our American colleagues. We need to sort it out," Antonov stressed.

The diplomat did not announce the exact timing of consultations in Moscow, but expressed his intention to stay as long as necessary.

"Several meetings are planned in Moscow in various departments. How long it will take is difficult to say now. But I proceed from the fact that as long as necessary, I will stay as



long," he said.

Upon his arrival to the New York airport Antonov first refused to answer journalists' questions and went into the pre-flight control zone. But later he spoke briefly with the media. Antonov is to arrive in the Russian capital on Sunday, March 21 (morning Moscow time).

The Russian Embassy in the United States said on Facebook on Wednesday that "on March 20, Ambassador of Russia to the United States Anatoly Antonov is leaving for Moscow for consultations." Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said in a statement that Antonov had been invited to Moscow for consultations on ways to mend Russia-US ties.

Antonov's leaving for Moscow for consultations was announced after US President Joe Biden said in an interview with

ABC News that the Russian authorities would have to "pay a price" for their alleged interference in US elections. In addition, when asked if he considered Putin to be "a killer," Biden answered in the affirmative.

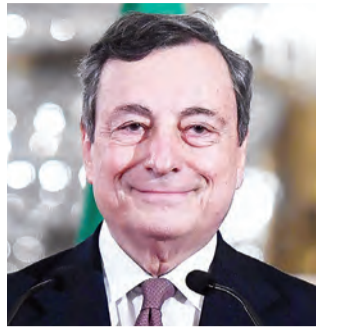
Later, the White House and the US State Department made statements that Washington counts on constructive cooperation with Moscow in areas of mutual interest, but is not going to smooth over the contradictions in bilateral relations.

Agencies

Italian premier says Sputnik V purchases by his country possible

ROME

ITALIAN Prime Minister Mario Draghi said on Friday he does not rule out the possibility of his country authorizing the use of Russia's Sputnik V anti-coronavirus vaccine on its territory, if the European community fails to make a coordinated decision.



"We will order Sputnik V and we will see. If European coordination is not working, especially in healthcare, we should be ready to act on our own. And I'm not the only person saying this," Draghi said when answering to a TASS correspondent's question during his first press conference as the premier of Italy.

"German Chancellor [Angela] Merkel told me that if [EMA the European Medicines Agency] approves Sputnik V, it will be fine, but if not - Germany will do it. This is ordinary pragmatism. We should rely on European unity, but if it cannot be reached, we should act in a different fashion," the premier said.

Earlier, Merkel said Germany may purchase Sputnik V from Russia on a national level if the EU fails to find a common decision to this issue.

The European Medicines Agency said on March 4 it had begun Sputnik V evaluation procedures to look at its compliance with the EU efficacy, safety and quality standards.

Russia's Sputnik V is ranked among the world's top three most popular coronavirus vaccines. By today, it has been registered for use in over 50 countries worldwide with an overall population of more than 1.3 billion.

Agencies

Republic of Congo's principal opposition candidate hospitalised with COVID-19

BRAZZAVILLE

THE opposition presidential candidate in the Republic of Congo, Guy-Brice Parfait Kolelas, was hospitalized in Brazzaville after being diagnosed with COVID-19 on the eve of the elections scheduled for Sunday, his campaign manager said.

The 61-year-old candidate missed his last election campaign on Friday after fearing he might have malaria. His campaign manager Christian Cyr Rodrigue Mayanda confirmed the authenticity of a video broadcast on the internet which showed Kolelas wearing an oxygen mask on a bed.

"My dear compatriots, I am in trouble. I am fighting death. However, I ask you to stand up and vote for change. I would not have fought for nothing," the candidate said in the video.

The presidential election is taking place this Sunday, with seven candidates running for the position, including President Denis Sassou Nguesso and his main opponent Guy Brice Parfait Kolelas who came second in 2016.

Biden 'doing fine' after stumbling on steps of Air Force One

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE

US President Joe Biden is doing fine after stumbling on the steps as he climbed aboard Air Force One on Friday, White House spokeswoman Karine Jean-Pierre told reporters.

She suggested high winds at Joint Base Andrews near Washington may have been a factor.

"It's very windy outside," said Jean-Pierre when asked about his stumbling. "He is doing 100 percent fine."

She did not say whether Biden had been checked by a traveling physician after the episode.

Boarding a flight to Atlanta, where he was to speak to the Asian-American community about a shooting there this week, Biden stumbled slightly about halfway up the 25 or so stairs, recovered, then stumbled again and briefly went down on one knee, according to video footage.

The president appeared to rub his left knee before getting back up, then completed the stairs at a slower pace. He stopped at the top of the stairs, turned around and offered a crisp salute.

In late November, Biden suffered a hairline fracture in his right foot while playing with one of his dogs.

At 78, Biden was the oldest person ever to assume the presidency when he entered the White House on Jan 20.

Agencies



'Patriots governing Hong Kong' to return bright future to HKSAR

CHINA'S top legislature, the National People's Congress (NPC), will deliberate a draft decision on improving the electoral system of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) during its annual session, according to the agenda of the fourth session of the 13th NPC released Thursday.

The decision triggered huge attention from the public and received support from all walks of life. It is believed that improving Hong Kong's electoral system is undoubtedly legitimate and justified, and only by implementing the principle of "patriots governing Hong Kong" and timely fixing the loopholes in the HKSAR's elec-

toral system can the special administrative region embrace a better future.

"Patriots governing Hong Kong" is basic political ethic that is perfectly justified. The Chinese central government, implementing the principle by improving the HKSAR's electoral system, aims to ensure the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong, as well as the long-term stability of the "one country, two systems" principle.

However, some anti-China forces have made ceaseless complaints about the "patriots governing Hong Kong" principle and colluded with foreign forces. Such action of "opposing China for the sake of opposing China" is nothing new to and won't

blind the Hong Kong citizens.

The Chinese central government has the right of overall jurisdiction over the HKSAR, as well as the right to safeguard the constitutional order of the HKSAR to ensure its long-term stability. Both the making of the national security law and the improvement of Hong Kong's electoral system aim at benefiting the special administrative region, and will bring it a brighter future.

Hong Kong enjoys a solid foundation for development, which was earned by the painstaking efforts made by the patriots and people who love Hong Kong under the support of the Chinese mainland and

the "one country, two systems" principle.

The current shadow over the "Pearl of the Orient" came from the "burn with us" tactic and anti-China forces. Since the anti-extradition bill movement, the rioters have planned a number of violent activities on the streets and fanned up filibustering in front of the Legislative Council, regardless of the safety of citizens.

If they are allowed to grab the power to administer Hong Kong, will there be a future for Hong Kong? The political chaos in Hong Kong, as well as the social divide and stagnant progress to improve livelihood, are all "masterpieces" of these people.

The Chinese central government can't ignore such anti-China forces that make troubles, undermine the "one country, two systems" principle, and destroy the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong.

The Chinese central government is the founder of the "one country, two systems" principle, and dominates and decides Hong Kong's democracy development and improvement of electoral system.

In other words, the "one country, two systems" software is like a software program built by the country, so the country is of course responsible for fixing it when it encounters malfunctions.

People's Daily

Xi prescribes solutions for healthy development of China's platform economy

BEIJING

THE ninth meeting of the Central Committee for Financial and Economic Affairs, chaired by President Xi Jinping on Monday, analyzed the pros and cons of the country's platform economy, stressing the need to promote its healthy development from the strategic height of fostering new advantages in national competitiveness.

The high-profile meeting emphasized the strategic role of the platform economy in fostering national competitiveness and made a clear-cut judgment on how to promote its healthy development, heralding new development opportunities for the sector.

Addressing the meeting, Xi, also head of the committee, said the development of China's platform economy is now at a critical stage and it is necessary to focus on the long-term goals and tackle the needs of current development at the same time.

Industrial regulators such as the National Development and Reform Commission, the People's Bank of China and the State Administration of Market Regulation tabled reports at the meeting, which marked the latest policymaking development involving the platform economy.

With its business closely related to people's lives, China's platform economy has grown to over 2.39 trillion U.S. dollars as of early April in 2020, accord-

ing to statistics from the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology under the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology.

Digital marketplace firms each with over 1 billion U.S. dollars market value in China had increased to 193 by the end of 2019. By then, the total market value of online marketplaces had grown nearly 200 percent to 2.35 trillion U.S. dollars from 2014.

STRATEGIC HEIGHT

"Reviewing the sector's development from a strategic height means the policy orientation of encouraging and supporting the development of the sector will not change, nor will relevant policies be weakened," said Fang Aiqing, deputy director of the economic committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference National Committee.

"This helps to unify the understanding of the sector's development from all walks of life and enables platform economy to secure faster, more stable and better development," he added.

According to Zhang Yansheng, chief researcher at the China Center for International Economic Exchanges, healthy development of online marketplaces will in turn help advance the country's economic transformation toward better quality, higher efficiency and stronger impetus.

The platform economy's roles mainly lie in its ability to make resource alloca-



Aerial photo taken on Sept. 11, 2020 shows the city view of Shenzhen, in south China's Guangdong Province.

tion across the country more efficient, promote faster and more rigorous transformation in the spheres of informatization, digitalization and smart technologies, smooth the circulation of the national economy and enhance and refine national governance, the meeting noted.

BETTER SUPERVISION

However, problems and risks involving the sector have also caught the attention of policymakers and regulatory authorities.

Some large online marketplaces have done too much in tracking and collecting their users' digital footprints to push ads touting excessive consumption to those with fragile credit standing and thus lured them into the traps of unsecured consumer loans, said Dong Ximiao, a part-time researcher with the Institute for Financial Studies, Fudan University. "Internet platforms improve the availability of financial products but often ignore their affordability, which could cause financial risks to pile up," he added.

Other latent risks ranging from data monopoly to deliberately circumventing regulation also trigger concerns. As current regulation

is sector-specific, there exist certain regulatory gaps and loopholes. Supervision against cross-market, cross-sector and cross-domain financial risks needs to be strengthened,

Dong said. The meeting made it clear that all financial activities involving platform enterprises must be put under financial supervision to rectify the situation, while regulators need to consolidate their oversight capability under an optimized supervision framework.

It also reiterated the need to promote fair competition, oppose monopoly and prevent the disorderly expansion of capital as well as the need to strengthen the protection of the rights of all market entities involved in the platform economy and safeguard users' rights and interests in data and privacy.

The meeting had pointed out the direction for the healthy development of the platform economy, which was pursuing development with regulation optimized side by side, Zhang Yansheng said.

Another takeaway of the meeting, as analysts noted, is that the platform economy has been tasked with a mission to make contributions to high-quality economic development and improve the quality of life as the country ushers in its 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025).

Xinhua

US appeals WTO decision in South Korea trade dispute

GENEVA

THE United States has appealed against a World Trade Organization recommendation that Washington revise a series of duties imposed on South Korea under the president Barack Obama, a WTO official said on Friday.

The appeal pushes the case into legal limbo along with some 18 others, several of them involving the United States, because the WTO lacks a functioning appellate body.

The US decision on whether to comply with the recommendation on the South Korea duties or lodge an appeal had been seen as an early indicator of US President Joe Biden's approach to the WTO and its dispute settlement system.

Under former president Donald Trump, the US administration blocked appointments to the appeals body, leaving it with too few adjudicators to rule.

The US mission in Geneva did not immediately comment on the appeal. A WTO panel recommended in January that the duties on South Korea - imposed on four grades of steel in 2016 and on large power transformers in 2012 - be revised.

The three-person WTO panel found that the US Department of Commerce failed to take into account all the information available when it calculated the level of dumping or subsidies.

The tariffs on transformer makers Hyosung Heavy Industries Corp and Hyundai Electric & Energy Systems Co and steelmakers from Hyundai Steel and POSCO were inconsistent with WTO rules, the panel said.

The case was later joined by the European Union, which said steel producers from several EU member states had also suffered from Commerce Department practices.

Xinhua

WASHINGTON

Biden, Harris condemn anti-Asian violence

US President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris condemned anti-Asian violence in the country on Friday, warning against silence and complicity in the aftermath of shootings this week in Atlanta, Georgia, in which eight people, including six Asian women, were killed.

Speaking from Emory University in Atlanta after meeting with Asian-American community leaders, Biden acknowledged there has been "a

skyrocketing spike" in hate against Asian Americans over the last year, while Harris sounded the alarm over a sobering reality that racism, xenophobia and sexism are all "real in America" and have always been in existence.

"Whatever the motivation," Biden said of the reason behind the Atlanta shootings, "we know this, too many Asian Americans have been walking up and down the streets and wor-

rying, waking up each morning the past year feeling their safety and the safety of their loved ones are at stake. They've been attacked, blamed, scapegoated, harassed. They've been verbally assaulted, physically assaulted, killed."

The president lamented that the families of the Atlanta shooting victims were left with "broken hearts and unanswered questions," suggesting that the country failed to

express enough outrage about innocent Asian Americans being targeted during the coronavirus pandemic.

"Hate and violence often hide in plain sight and are so often met with silence. That's been true throughout history. But that has to change because our silence is complicity. We cannot be complicit. We have to speak out. We have to act," Biden said. "For all the good the laws can do, we have to change our hearts."

Hate can have no safe harbor in America. It must stop. And it's on all of us, all of us together to make it stop."

Harris, who herself is of South Asian descent, said prior to Biden, "A harm against any one of us is a harm against all of us. The president and I will not be silent. We will not stand by. We will always speak out against violence, hate crimes and discrimination, wherever and whenever it occurs."

Xinhua

Milestone achievement in soft robotics of Chinese research team published on Nature as cover story

A LATEST achievement made by a joint research team from China's Zhejiang Lab (ZJ Lab) and Zhejiang University (ZJU) was published on Nature as a cover story titled "Self-powered Soft Robot in the Mariana Trench" on March 4.

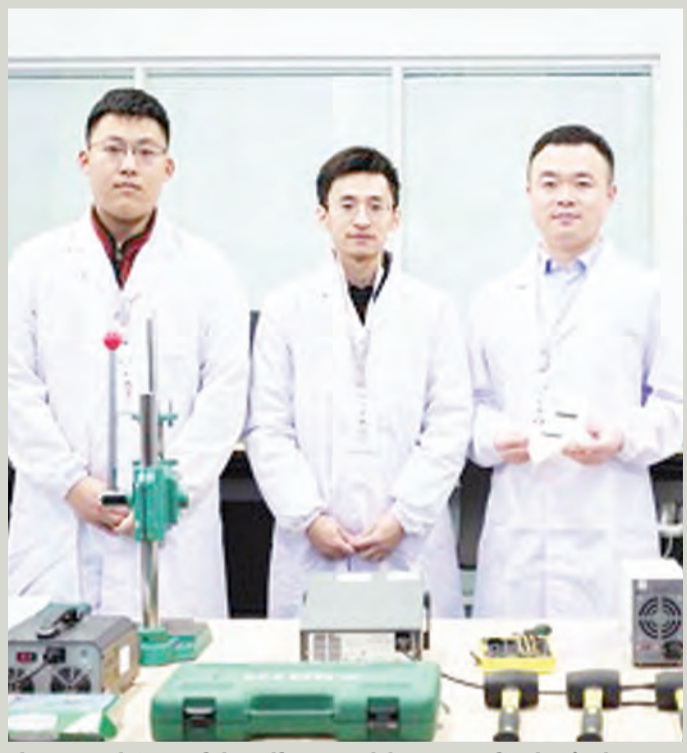
The research team created the world's first soft robot that can be operated 10,000 meters under the ocean surface and completed the world's first deep-sea free-swimming test of a soft robot.

The Mariana Trench, the deepest known point in Earth's oceans, is called the "fourth pole of the Earth" for its high hydrostatic pressure, low temperature and complete darkness.

The continuous advancing progress of deep diving technologies enabled people to have found hundreds of animal species in the hadal zones of the Mariana Trench, including the snailfish, an animal that is able to survive a pressure of nearly 100 MPa thanks to its structure-bones distributed in tiny parts in its soft gelatinous body.

Inspired by the unique structure of the snailfish, the research center for intelligent robot of the ZJ Lab and the center for X-mechanics of the ZJU kicked off a research into deep-sea soft robot in May 2018.

The self-powered soft robot



The research team of the self-powered deep-sea soft robot in the Mariana Trench (File photo)

developed by the joint research team is in the shape of a fish, with a length of 22 cm and a wingspan of 28 cm, approximately as large as A4 sheets.

Hard components, including control circuits and batteries, are distributed across the gel-like body of the robot. The materials and structure of components and the robot body enable the robot to resist hydrostatic

pressure 10,000 meters under the ocean surface without any hard shell.

In summary, a machinery system fusing hard and soft components and is able to resist deep-sea hydrostatic pressure, as well as a new dielectric elastomer actuator that works in high-pressure and cold deep-sea environment, are the two major breakthroughs that make the ro-

bot a success.

"Compared with traditional high pressure-resistant deep diving equipment, the deep-sea soft robot was developed with brand new technologies, which is expected to significantly reduce the difficulty and cost of deep-sea exploration," said Li Guorui, the first author of the article, as well as a senior researcher with the research center for intelligent robot of the ZJ Lab.

In December 2019, the robot performed steady wing-flapping movement at a depth of 10,900 meters in the Mariana Trench. Around nine months later, it successfully completed free swimming at a depth of 3,224 meters in the South China Sea.

"Our robot enjoys bright application prospects in harsh and extreme environments such as deep sea, polar regions, and high-impact scenarios," Li noted.

The research team will continue studying the integrated system of energy, drive, and perception of deep-sea soft robots, so as to improve their intelligence while cutting application costs.

"We also plan to apply key technologies of the soft robot to deep-sea vehicles, and develop small deep-sea equipment with functions of deep-sea communication and detection," said Liang Yiming, the second author of the research. **People's Daily**

France is ready to use Russian vaccine once it is approved by EMA - Foreign Ministry

PARIS

FRANCE will be ready to use the Russian Sputnik V coronavirus vaccine if it receives the approval from the European Medicines Agency (EMA), and its production meets the required quality standards, Secretary of State for European affairs in the French government Clement Beaune said in an interview with BFM TV channel on Saturday.

"France is open to the Russian vaccine. We are by no means pursuing any anti-Russian policy," Beaune said. He recalled that Russia had already submitted an application to the European Medicines Agency. At the same time, he stressed that "there can be no question of inoculating people with this vaccine without it being scientifically tested."

"If the Russian vaccine is approved [by EMA], we will use it," the spokesman for the French Foreign Ministry assured.

Beaune recalled that along with the possibility of using the Russian vaccine, France also has real solutions - such as the Pfizer vaccine, France has already signed additional contracts for.



"So let's not get carried away by mirages - in the near future we will have neither Chinese nor Russian vaccines," Clement Beaune emphasized.

He noted that several weeks will definitely pass before the Russian vaccine is approved for use so one can expect the approval in April-May.

"In general, such procedures usually take about two months," he recalled.

Beaune added that "production of a Russian vaccine is also on the agenda."

"For example, in Italy, one company has already announced that it is capable of producing the Russian vaccine. If the vaccine is certified and its production started in Europe, it is very good," he said.

"But the main thing is to produce a high-quality vac-

cine and produce it quickly," the Foreign Ministry spokesman emphasized.

"That is, for France, the short-term solution is to produce already approved vaccines, seek quick approval for other vaccines and quickly produce them," Beaune said.

Chinese vaccine

During the interview, Beaune also touched on the issue of the Chinese vaccine against COVID-19.

"I would like to remind you that France is looking for the maximum possible amount of vaccine, provided that [during its production] all existing safety rules are observed. We should not forget that an application for the Chinese vaccine has not yet been submitted to the European Medicines Agency," Clement said

Myanmar protesters voice defiance as junta reminds of 'external threats'

DEMONSTRATORS in Myanmar maintained their unflinching opposition to military rule on Sunday despite a rising death toll at the hands of security forces as the junta appeared equally determined to resist growing outside pressure to compromise.

One man was killed and several were wounded when police opened fire on a group setting up a barricade in the central town of Monywa, a doctor there said as a community group issued a call on Facebook for blood donors.

The violence has forced people determined to resist a return to military rule after a decade of tentative steps towards democracy to think up novel ways to make their stand.

Protesters in nearly 20 places across the country staged candle-lit protests on Saturday night and into Sunday, from the main city of Yangon to small communities in Kachin State in the north and the southernmost town of Kawthaung, according to a tally of social media posts.

Hundreds of people in the second city of Mandalay, including many medical staff in white coats, marched before sunrise in a "Dawn protest", video posted by the Mizzima news portal showed.

"Failure of the military regime, our cause our cause ... federal democracy, our cause

our cause," the crowd chanted as the sky was beginning to brighten and birds called from the trees lining the otherwise deserted streets.

Protesters in some places were joined by Buddhist monks holding candles while some people used candles to make the shape of the three-fingered protest salute.

Others came out later on Sunday, including the crowd in Monywa, where police opened fire.

"Sniper, sniper," people can be heard shouting in a video clip shortly after the man was shot in the head and more shots rang out. The spokesman for the

junta was not available for comment but has previously said security forces have used force only when necessary. With the latest killing, the death toll since the coup rose to at least 248, based on a tally by the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners activist group.

The military has said at two policemen have been killed in the protests.

FOREIGN INSULTS

Western countries have repeatedly condemned the coup and the violence, Asian neighbours, who have for years avoided criticising each other, have also begun speak-

ing out. Indonesian President Joko Widodo, in some of the strongest comments yet by a regional leader, said on Friday the violence should stop immediately. He called for an urgent meeting of Southeast Asia's regional grouping, of which Myanmar is a member.

Malaysian Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin backed the call saying he was appalled by the persistent use of lethal violence against civilians. Singapore has also expressed disapproval.

The military has shown no sign of being pressed into back-tracking on its coup, which derailed a slow transition to democracy in a coun-

try that was under strict military rule from a 1962 coup until the generals initiated reforms a decade ago.

The junta says a Nov. 8 election won by Suu Kyi's party was fraudulent, an accusation rejected by the electoral commission. The military leaders have promised a new election but have not set a date. Coup leader General Min Aung Hlaing on Saturday visited the Coco islands, one of Myanmar's most strategically important outposts, 400 km (250 miles) south of Yangon, and reminded members of the armed force there that their main duty was to defend the country against

external threats.

The islands are near some of the world's most important shipping routes, in waters where China and India seek to project their power. Neither of the Asian giants has spoken out strongly against the coup and the violence.

The state-run Kyemon newspaper prominently featured a quote from independence hero Aung San, Suu Kyi's father, who in 1947 said: "It is everyone's duty to sacrifice their lives and defend and fight back against foreign countries' insults."

Suu Kyi, 75, faces accusations of bribery and other crimes that could see her banned from politics and jailed if convicted. Her lawyer says the charges are trumped up.

Agencies

Tanzania's basketball fraternity mourns Magufuli

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi



Tanzania Basketball Federation (TBF) president, Phares Magea.

TANZANIA'S basketball governing bodies have sent their condolences, following the sudden demise of President John Magufuli.

The associations have announced an immediate suspension of all scheduled basketball competitions and activities domestically.

Tanzania Basketball Federation (TBF) leaders, whose federation is responsible for supervising development and promoting the game in the country, said they have received news of the death of the beloved President of Tanzania with much sadness.

Phares Magea, TBF president, said in Dar es Salaam on Saturday that his federation has received the news with great sadness.

He noted: "As basketball family, we offer our condolences to all Tanzanians, members of his family and friends and we extend our heartfelt condolence."

He stated that in accordance with the procedures and guidelines of the National Sports Council (NSC), in this regard, all associations and clubs under TBF need to adhere to the laws and guidelines of the country.

Magea insisted: "The TBF has decided to suspend all basketball

activities and competitions in all levels from March 18, 2021 so that we can join all Tanzanians at this difficult time in the nation."

Rashid Hamza Khamis, the vice-chairman of Zanzibar Basketball Association (BAZA), also said they have sadly received news of the death of Tanzania President Magufuli.

He noted: "The association extends its condolences to the family of President Magufuli, government officials and all of Tanzanians."

He said that in the wake of the tragedy, the association has announced the suspension of the ongoing Karume Cup.

He said that BAZA joins all Tanzanians in this difficult period of mourning and the body wishes the nation well.

He disclosed: "We ask God to rest the soul of President Magufuli in the right place."

Noel Mfangavo, BAZA's Competition and Technical Committee secretary, added that he has received with great sadness the death of the President.

Mfangavo said: "The Government has declared 14 days of mourning following this tragedy."

"We also decided to postpone Karume Cup tournament and other activities too until further notice."

Football followers deserve praise for motivating teams

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SOCCER enthusiasts in Tanzania ought to be praised for the way they are spending their time and resources to support clubs they are supporting on the pitch.

Enthusiastic support the soccer lovers showcase motivate the outfits to seek good results in tournaments.

The presence of fans in venues gives players the much needed motivation and makes the latter more committed.

Every fan loves to see his or her side perform well, a situation that makes it possible for him or her to make it to the venues to watch games.

Other soccer enthusiasts opt to stay at home watching games through Television.

The First Division League's clubs' followers should continue to fight for their respective outfits' dreams of fulfilling their plans.

It should be noted every person should invest in an outfit he or she supports in an effort to achieve success.

Good preparation is needed for a team looking for good results.

Domestic soccer sides can scale great heights in the game, if they value good preparations.

Every player must realize his or her role on and off the pitch, seeing to it his or her side get good results.

Players should understand that fans are attending games with the aim of moti-



Simba SC supporters cheer their club at one of recent CAF Champions League fixtures in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: SIMBASC

vating the players and, in turn, seeing to it their sides get good results.

There is hardly any fan, who likes to see his or her side succumb to relegation and therefore, seeing to it teams get good results turns out to be players' assignment.

Mistakes that outfits have committed in previous matches must be corrected with a view to helping the outfits bounce back.

Getting good results will obviously increase the number of fans in the stadiums.

A tendency by a section of football enthusiasts to, time and again, fuel violence in venues, is sadly one of events that have been in view in venues.

The particular soccer enthusiasts' penchant for engaging in fights should be brought to an end, given it costs the outfits they cheer.

Domestic sides have on several occasions faced heavy fines because of their respective fans' violent acts in venues.

Keep this in mind, fans should not engage in violent acts in matches.

Fans have right to crack jokes at each other when they attend matches but they should see to it they put their frustrations in

control.

A tendency by a section of soccer enthusiasts to hurl water bottles at players and officials is certainly against the spirit of sportsmanship.

The supporters ought to bring the traits to an end.

Hurling bottles at referees at the end of league fixtures is definitely inhuman.

The same can be said of some of football enthusiasts' tendency to rough up a rival outfit's supporter that has unknowingly occupied a seat at a section, which is normally occupied by them.

Civilization is Tanzanian sports enthusiasts' culture, supporting outfits is obviously normal.

The sports enthusiasts, in this case, should value peace in sports stadiums.

Soccer outfits' coaches are equally under pressure when the fans cheer their respective teams.

The noise fans make in venues force the gaffers to deploy game tactics, which can see to it their sides post victory.

Players will moreover get strength to perform well because of the fans' cheers.

The player's life is built around discipline both on and

off the pitch.

Players have to learn how they can maintain good relationship with their sides' supporters.

If a player values discipline on the pitch, it is easier for him or her to achieve the success he or she seeks.

It is difficult for a player to fulfil his or her dreams, should the latter not value discipline.

It is, therefore, the players' responsibility to look for the best way they can live up to expectations.

Football referees moreover must adhere to the 17 rules of the game, with the aim of making it a point they do not hurt football followers when making decisions.

Live broadcast of local tournaments has greatly helped to not only help soccer supporters closely follow events in the tournaments but also promote the players.

The domestic media, which telecast the tournaments' games, in this case, deserve praise, given they are making the country popular elsewhere.

Fans are a great asset to leagues' teams. Teams should, in this case, give their all in competitions with a view to attracting more fans to their games

Simba SC defender earns Harambee Stars' call-up for AFCON qualifiers

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA Sports Club's defender, Joash Onyango, is one players selected for Kenya's senior national football team, Harambee Stars, which will face Egypt and Togo in the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers.

Harambee Stars' head coach, Jacob Mulee, recently announced his 28-man with the experienced player featuring in the squad.

Onyango who was involved in a collision with during Simba's clash against Al Merreikh in CAF Champions League's fixture, emerged as a surprise package for Harambee Stars.

The former Gor Mahia defender reportedly suffered a concussion during Simba's Group A match against Al Merreikh at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The player was stretchered off in the 43rd minute to be replaced by Erasto Nyoni.

Kenya currently sit third in Group G with three points, five behind second-place Comoros and leaders Egypt, who are just ahead on goal difference.

They will need to win both of their matches on March 26 and 29, and for one of the group leaders to lose their matches, in order to secure a spot in the finals.

Mulee chose the players who will be up for the mission, most of them based in Africa, including Cliff Nyakeya who plies his trade with Egyptian Second Division side ZED FC.

Harambee Stars' full squad:

Goalkeepers: Ian Otieno (Zesco United), James Saruni (Ulinzi Stars), Joseph Okoth (KCB).

Defenders: Joseph Okumu (IF Elfsborg), Eric Ouma (AIK), Joash Onyango (Simba), Johnstone Omurwa (Wazito FC), Nahashon Alembi (KCB), Harun Mwale (Ulinzi Stars), Daniel Sakari (Kariobangi Sharks), Baraka Badi (KCB).

Midfielders: Anthony Akumu (Kaizer Chiefs),



Joash Onyango

Duke Abuya (Nkana), Cliff Nyakeya (ZED FC), Duncan Otieno (Lusaka Warriors), Lawrence Juma (Sofapaka), Kenneth Muguna (Gor Mahia), Kevin Simiyu (Nzoia Sugar), Danson Chetambe (Bandari), James Mazembe (Kariobangi Sharks), David Owino (KCB), Kevin Kimani (Wazito FC), Boniface Muchiri (Tusker FC), Abdallah Hassan (Bandari).

Forwards: Michael Olunga (Al-Duhail), Masoud Juma (Difaa Hassani El Jadidi), Erick Kapaito (Kariobangi Sharks), Elvis Rupia (AFC Leopards).



Rest in Eternal Peace

Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli

1959 - 2021

The Management and staff of WWF Tanzania office join all Tanzanians in this difficult period following the death of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania

Dr. John Pombe Magufuli.

President Magufuli will be remembered for his strong commitment to ensuring that every Tanzanian benefits from Tanzania's natural resources.

We will always remember you.

Zidane mystified by France continuing to exclude 'spectacular' Benzema

MADRID

ZINEDINE Zidane admitted he is still baffled by Karim Benzema's exclusion from the French national team after the striker starred again in Real Madrid's 3-1 victory over Celta Vigo on Saturday.

Benzema continued his scintillating form at Balaídos by scoring twice to make it 10 goals in his last 10 games, before he set up Marco Asensio to add a third in injury-time.

Many in Zidane's squad will now join up with their national teams on Monday but Benzema will remain in Madrid, with the 33-year-old still sidelined by France after his alleged role in a plot to blackmail Mathieu Valbuena in 2015.

"How can you understand it? I don't understand it, you don't understand it, there are many people who don't understand it," Zidane said after the game. "What he did today was spectacular."

Zidane confirmed Sergio Ramos will join up with Spain, despite the defender missing the Celta win with a bruised tibia.

Madrid's victory increased the pressure on Atletico ahead of their game in hand at home to Alaves later yesterday while Zidane's team climb to second, at least until third-placed Barcelona play Real Sociedad, also on Sunday.

Benzema's latest contribution came in the same week Zidane admitted a Madrid return could be "possible" for Cristiano Ronaldo this summer.

But speculation around Ronaldo makes light of Benzema's superb showings in recent weeks, with his five goals in Madrid's last three league games earning a crucial draw at Atletico, victory over Elche and now a win at Celta.

His hot streak appears to be Madrid's best chance of catching Atleti, who are still three points clear but look increasingly vulnerable to the momentum of their nearest rivals.

"We're entering the final stretch and we're happy with how we're playing and how we are physically," said Zidane.

- Kroos' persistence pays off -

Benzema had two early chances, the first after Vinicius Junior skipped around Celta goalkeeper Ivan Villar and the second when the ball spilled loose in the area, but both shots were blocked.

His two goals both owed a lot to Toni Kroos, who glided past three Celta shirts on the edge of the area in the 20th minute before feeding Benzema, who swivelled and shot crisply into the far corner. Kroos' incision set up the first and his persistence created the second 10 minutes later, as he robbed Renato Tapia and Benzema profited by curling in with his left foot.

Celta grew stronger towards the end of the half, Santi Mina flicking wide and then heading in after being left completely unmarked from a free-kick, conceded by Kroos.

Madrid lost some control in the second half and needed Thibaut Courtois to save an Iago Aspas header, even if Vinicius and Benzema might have extended the advantage on the counter-attack.

Aspas' free-kick late on might have flown in had the ball not grazed Casemiro's fringe on its way onto the post but Madrid breathed a sigh of relief and then celebrated, Asensio tapping in Benzema's cross in injury-time.

AFP

Juventus coach Pirlo 'happy' to continue with Ronaldo next season

TURIN

JUVENTUS coach Andrea Pirlo insisted Saturday he was happy to continue next season with Cristiano Ronaldo whose contract expires in 2022.

The Portuguese forward's future has been under scrutiny after Juventus crashed out of the Champions League in the last 16 for the second consecutive season.

"For now we have not thought about it, Cristiano still has a year left on his contract with us and we are happy about that," Pirlo said ahead of Sunday's league game against Benevento.

"We're extremely focused on this end of the season. He has already scored a lot of goals and is beyond discussion."

Zinedine Zidane opened the door to Ronaldo returning to Real Madrid on Monday, admitting a comeback is "possible" for the striker.

Meanwhile, Ronaldo, the top scorer in Serie A this season with 23 goals, posted a message on Instagram to thank Juventus after being named the best player in Italy by the players' association on Friday.

The 36-year-old promised "the whole Juventus universe that we will continue to work until the last day because we can still, all together, have reasons to celebrate this season".

In Serie A, Juventus are third, 10 points behind leaders Inter Milan, as they push for a 10th consecutive league title.

"It's an important match because it comes just before the international break, it's a fundamental game for our season," said Pirlo of their game against 16th-placed Benevento.

AFP

Another domestic treble for Man City feels inevitable

LIVERPOOL, England

IT is a testament to Manchester City's achievements under Pep Guardiola that making history has become so routine that it barely seems to register. But after beating Everton 2-0 at Goodison Park on Saturday to seal a place in the FA Cup semifinals, City are as good as three victories from another domestic treble.

They left it late against Carlo Ancelotti's team, with Ilkay Gundogan's 84th-minute header breaking the deadlock before substitute Kevin De Bruyne doubled the advantage six minutes later, but the end result was what we have come to expect from this City team: a win.

In cup competitions this season, City have won 15 and drawn one of their 16 ties, with the draw coming in a meaningless Champions League group game against FC Porto. And in recent months, they have won 25 of their past 26 games in all competitions, with the only blip coming in a 2-0 defeat against Manchester United this month.

The loss at home to United at least showed that City can be beaten on an off-day, but those days tend to come around as rarely as Halley's Comet, so we might be waiting a while for the next one. That's why there is now a sense of



Manchester City beat Everton 2-0 on Saturday to move on to the FA Cup quarterfinals. (Agencies)

inevitability about their pursuit of all three domestic trophies. When City won all three -- Premier League, FA Cup and Carabao Cup -- in 2019, it was the first time it had been done in English football history and it was quite rightly lauded as a unique achievement. But here we are, two years later, and they are odds-on to do it again.

With City still alive in the Champions League and set to face Borussia Dortmund in the quarterfinals next month, they might even go one better and pull off a quadruple, which would permanently eclipse United's historic Champions League-Premier League-FA Cup Treble in

1999. But while the route to Champions League glory is blocked by the formidable presence of Bayern Munich or Paris Saint-Germain in the semifinals, the path to domestic glory is less hazardous.

With a 14-point lead over second-place United (who have played a game fewer) in the Premier League, it will take an unprecedented collapse by City for Guardiola's men to miss out on a third title in four seasons, so that success is all but guaranteed. In the Carabao Cup, Jose Mourinho's Tottenham Hotspur could shock City in the final next month, but not if recent form is anything to go by. And in the FA Cup, although

Chelsea, United and Leicester City could yet thwart City, the reality is that Guardiola's team would be favourites to beat all of them if they faced them in the semis or final. Southampton, who beat Bournemouth on Saturday to qualify for the semifinals, would not be expected to halt City's charge either.

It was the manner of City's win at Everton that was the most ominous warning to those clubs still left standing in the FA Cup, though.

Ancelotti's team, desperately attempting to win the club's first major trophy since lifting the FA Cup in 1995, pushed City all the way at Goodison. They stood firm at the back, with

third-choice keeper Joao Virginia and centre-back Ben Godfrey particularly impressive. In midfield, Allan enjoyed a bruising tussle with Fernandinho while Dominic Calvert-Lewin and Richarlison made life difficult for City centre-backs Ruben Dias and Aymeric Laporte. But despite their efforts, Everton could not test City keeper Zack Steffen, deputising for first-choice Ederson, sufficiently to score on a day when Guardiola's players lacked their usual fluency.

City's depth of quality is why they are closing in on a repeat of the treble. With the game heading to extra-time, Guardiola was able to call on De Bruyne and

Riyad Mahrez from the bench and Everton eventually succumbed when Gundogan scored the opener after Laporte's shot had been tipped onto the bar by Virginia. When De Bruyne made it 2-0 shortly afterward, it ensured a scoreline that did not reflect the balance of the game, but that is a measure of City's ability in that they were able to soak up pressure and win the tie late on.

"It was a really tough game," Guardiola said. "We saw the commitment from Everton, how focused they were and they defended really aggressively, but we conceded nothing, we were patient. It was one of the toughest games we've played in the last four months."

Guardiola is right, it was a hugely difficult game for City, but despite the challenge, they still overcome it to win. That's what this City team does, week after week, so it is becoming impossible to see anyone stopping them in England.

Bayern or PSG might prove to be immovable objects in the Champions League, but City have won six of the past nine domestic trophies contested, and right now there looks to be only one winner in England, in every competition, and that is Manchester City.

ESPN

Lewandowski hits hat-trick as 10-man Bayern thrash Stuttgart

BERLIN

ROBERT Lewandowski scored a hat-trick on Saturday as Bundesliga leaders Bayern Munich romped to a 4-0 home win over Stuttgart despite losing Alphonso Davies to a red card in the 12th minute.

Stuttgart chief executive Thomas Hitzlsperger described Lewandowski's performance as "something above world class".

The result keeps Bayern four points clear at the top after second-placed RB Leipzig won 1-0 at Arminia Bielefeld on Friday.

Lewandowski has scored 35 league goals this season to leave him just five short of Gerd Mueller's all-time Bundesliga record of 40, set in 1971/72.

"I just keep thinking from game to game and not how many more goals I have to score," said Lewandowski, who netted with his left foot, right foot and head for a 'perfect' hat-trick.

Davies received an early red card at the Allianz Arena for a tackle on the ankle of Stuttgart's Japan midfielder Wataru Endo.

"After that we woke up," said Lewandowski. Bayern responded with a burst of three goals in five minutes.

Lewandowski beat two defenders to tap home a Serge Gnabry cross on 18 minutes. A superb exchange of passes between Leroy Sane and Thomas Mueller set up Gnabry to score Bayern's second on 22 minutes.

Just 77 seconds later, Lewandowski headed home Mueller's cross and the Poland star



Schalke goalkeeper Frederik Ronnow scored an own goal at home to Moenchengladbach. (Agencies)

wrapped up his treble six minutes before half-time with a low shot.

"We paid dearly. They scored with every chance," said Stuttgart sporting director Sven Mislintat.

Davies and Jerome Boateng will both be suspended for Bayern's April 3 showdown at Leipzig. Boateng picked up a first-half yellow card, his fifth this season.

- Haaland equaliser - Elsewhere, Erling Braut Haaland rescued Borussia Dortmund with two goals, including a late equaliser, in a 2-2 draw at strugglers Cologne.

The 20-year-old Norway star stormed off the pitch at the final whistle as Dortmund's defensive weaknesses were again exposed. Dortmund, who face Manchester

City in the Champions League quarter-finals next month, were heading to defeat before Haaland struck on 90 minutes after also giving the visitors an early lead.

Dortmund's England midfielder Jude Bellingham gave away a

first-half penalty when a VAR review showed he had blocked a shot with his arm and Ondrej Duda netted the spot-kick.

A mistake by Dortmund defender Thomas Meunier allowed Germany Under-21 winger Ismail Jakobs to fire

Cologne into a 2-1 lead with an hour gone. Haaland hit the post with a towering header before stabbing in Dortmund's equaliser.

Fifth-placed Dortmund are four points from the Champions League spots.

Eintracht Frankfurt, the club immediately above them, cruised to a 5-2 home win over Union Berlin as Portugal striker Andre Silva netted twice.

Wolfsburg consolidated third place with a 2-1 win at Werder Bremen as Dutch striker Wout Weghorst hit what proved to be the winning goal just before the break.

Later, Borussia Moenchengladbach ended their slide down the league table with a 3-0 win at bottom side Schalke with goals by Lars Stindl and Stefan Lainer.

Schalke goalkeeper Frederik Ronnow summed up the home side's luck when he parried a header by Nico Elvedi, but the ball carried over the goalline.

The away win ended Gladbach's awful run of seven defeats since it was announced head coach Marco Rose was leaving to take charge of Dortmund next season. Gladbach are ninth while Schalke are 12 points from escaping the bottom three.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Another domestic treble for Man City feels inevitable

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Yanga's officials, players pay last respect to Magufuli



A section of Yanga's officials and players make their way into Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam yesterday to pay last respect to the body of President John Magufuli. Magufuli passed away last week. Scores of the city's residents headed to the venue yesterday to pay their last respects to his body. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S football big guns, Yanga, yesterday joined other Tanzanians to pay their last respect to the late President John Pombe Magufuli at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Putting their green and yellow team kits, Yanga players and officials were seen pass near the casket carrying Magufuli's body, arms wrapped around their backs while visibly battling tears.

Yanga's Chairman, Mshindo Msolla, on Saturday said the death of President Magufuli is a big blow to the country and the club.

The official said the team will join Tanzanians in paying last respect to the departed President.

He said President Magufuli was a sports loving leader and he wanted to see to it sports enjoy progress in this country.

"Our departed President loved sports, he wanted to see the sector grow in the country, his death is a big blow to all Tanzanians, we have a huge

task to do to honour our President," he said.

People of all walks of life gathered at the stadium to pay their last respect to the president and many were seen weep uncontrollably, others choked with song and emotions.

The President died in the city last Wednesday and he will be buried in Chato on Friday.

On Saturday Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president Wallace Karia, Simba Sports Club's investor and the outfit's Board of Directors' Chairman, Mohammed Dewji, were some of domestic sports personalities who paid their last respect to the President at Uhuru Stadium.

President Magufuli placed Tanzania's sports squads on international map as, during his life as President,

the country national football national teams qualified for Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) tournaments in different age categories.

The senior national squad, Taifa Stars, national U-20 squad, and national U-17 squad qualified for the showpieces' finals after missing the events for many years.

His passion for sports saw him announce an increased budget to the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports.

He as well announced that there will be a special budget to fund national teams.

He also honoured all Taifa Stars' players with plots of land in Dodoma once the side made it to AFCON in Egypt in 2019.

Tanzania also hosted the U-17 Af-

rica Cup of Nations Championship, with Magufuli being in the forefront of supporting the country's national U-17 squad.

The President also watched a section of Vodacom Premier League games.

He graced the match pitting Simba SC versus Kagera Sugar and the Dar Derby between Yanga and Simba.

He was accompanied by former Confederation of African Football (CAF) president Ahmed Ahmed to the clash.

During his time he was also a towering symbol of urban music as during many of his activities local artistes were performing.

He was at times involved in playing musical instruments.

5 EATV
MONDAY
11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:00 Wanawake Live (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:00 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 5SPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hits

TONIGHT @ 9:00

UJENZI

Tonight on EATV
Find out how using glass blocks from Canghui Traders Limited can improve your home decor

And Tanfix Quality Choice has an innovative solution for wall fungus

It's all on Ujenzi at 9PM

eastafrica RADIO
88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

FIFA expresses grief over Magufuli's death

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE world football governing body (FIFA) president Gianni Infantino has paid tribute to the late Tanzania President, John Pombe Magufuli, praising the latter's fight against corruption and poverty.

In Infantino's condolence message, he pointed areas that will stand out as Magufuli's achievements since he was first elected as Tanzania's President in 2015.

He noted: "It is with emotion and sadness that we have learned the sudden passing of His Excellency John Pombe Magufuli, President of the United Republic of Tanzania."

"Tributes are flowing from around the world to salute his memory and we would like herewith to join with them," Infantino said in the statement.

"Presiding over the destiny of Tanzania since 2015, renowned statesman, and charismatic leader, recognised for his vision, patriotism and actions for better governance and the fight against corruption and poverty, Magufuli will not be forgotten," the FIFA President eulogized.

"On behalf of the members of the international football community, we wish to extend our deepest condolences to the Tanzania Football Federation, to your government, and to the Tanzanian people in these difficult times," he said.

The newly-elected Confederation of African Football (CAF) president Patrice Motsepe joined other sports personnel who have consoled with the grieving Tanzania.

"Our deepest condolences to our brothers and sisters in the Tanzania Football Federation and to the people of Tanzania on the passing of our dear President John Pombe Magufuli," the South African business mogul stated.

"May God comfort and strengthen you during these painful and difficult times," Kenya Football Federation's president Nick Mwendwa also sent his message of condolence to Tanzanians.

"Our hearts go to the people of Tanzania following the loss of President John Pombe Magufuli. On behalf of the Football Kenya Federation and the entire Kenyan football fraternity, I wish you peace and solace during these difficult times," he stated.

President Magufuli succumbed to a heart ailment on March 17th, this year.

His death also triggered the cancellation of an international friendly tie that would have involved Kenya's Harambee Stars and Tanzania's Taifa Stars in Nairobi on Thursday last week.

Harambee Stars' match against Taifa Stars was part of preparations planned ahead of the resumption of the African Cup of Nations qualifiers late in March.

They had already played in an international friendly at Nyayo Stadium in Nairobi on Monday last week, with Kenya edging Taifa Stars 2-1.

Dar golfer Victor Joseph mourns Magufuli

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi



Victor Joseph

TANZANIA'S national golf team's ace Victor Joseph had to endure sadness, grief and sorrow following news of the death of Tanzania President, John Magufuli, a few hours before the former's first round tees off at the Magic Kenya Open Championship at Karen Country Club in Nairobi, Kenya, last Thursday.

The national golf team captain though had to tighten grips to card a three-over 74 at the opening round of the showdown.

The four-day 72-hole European Tour tournament brought together over 156 top professional golfers and East African top amateurs.

Amateurs golfers including Joseph qualified to compete amongst the world's top pros after winning different Kenya amateur national competitions between 2019 and 2021,

because last year's

event was cancelled due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Joseph said from Nairobi after the first round that it was not easy for him to showcase his virtuosity after receiving the sad news.

"The news of the death of the President had left me with nothing but sadness, shock and sorrow as I was just getting ready to tee off," he said.

Joseph stressed that he had to calm himself and put his head down to overcome tension and pressure before he grossed 74 strokes in a tough event.

He hit two birdies and a bogey in the first nine to go back nine one under, but the double bogeys on number 10 hole par 5, straight bogey at both par 5 no. 11 and 12 and par 3 no.14 and par 4 no.17 had let him down before correcting the mistake to finish with another birdie on 18th hole.

On Saturday around 14.00, he was scheduled to enter into second round action to find his fate as he

was out to make the cut at the European Tours' competition for the first time.

Joseph, who qualified to play for the European Tour's showdown after winning the 2019 Kenya Amateur Open Golf Championship, is looking to become the first Tanzanian to make the cut in the event.

The tournament saw Benjamin Hebert of France stun others to claim a lead by one shot with a seven-under 64 while England's Horsfield Sam, Jacques Raphael (France), Meronk Adrian (Poland), Ritthammer Bernd (Germany), Samooja Kalle (Finland), Syme Connor (Sco), and Hebert Benjamin (France) each carded impressive six-under 65 strokes to stay second in the leaders board after the first round.

About half in the 156 golfers list, who play well, will continue to round three today, while others will have to go home early and wait for the next chance.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

