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## World Bee Day to see Slow Food inaugurate an action to save bees

By Special Correspondent

SLOW Food will on World Bee Day (May 20) launch an international "Slow Bees" action, the aim being to raise in defence of pollinators and provide greater resonance, outreach and visibility to the threats bees and other pollinators, plants and biodiversity face today.

Roundabout 75 per cent of global food crops rely on animal pollination. According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), today's species are facing extinction rates 100 to 1,000 times higher than normal owing to human impacts.

Aspiring to respond to the devastating statistics, Slow Food activists will spend World Bee Day planting organic flowering shrubs or trees to support clean pollinator forage.

The worldwide mobilisation to act will be launched online, using hashtags #onetreeforahive #plantoneforpollinators #slowtreesforbees.

"We are a diverse group of people who believe that talking about the world of bees and pollinators is the key to observing, learning, measuring and protecting



**We know that you cannot have healthy pollinators if you do not have ample organic flowers for the entire growing season. That is why we call people to act**

biodiversity, while inviting traditional, ancient and indigenous knowledge of sustainable agriculture practice to the fore," say beekeepers Jennifer Holmes from Florida, Terry Oxford from California (US) and Guido Cortese from Italy, who coordinate the Slow Food activities for the World Bees Day.

"We know that you cannot have healthy pollinators if you do not have ample organic flowers for the entire growing season. That is why we call people to act," they add - in a statement issued on Wednesday.

Symbolically, on May 20 representatives of EU Member States will gather to discuss the implementation of toxicity assessment standards, known as the Bee Guidance Document, developed by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in 2013.

However, EFSA only fully applied the new rules in the assessment of three neonicotinoids (imidacloprid, clothianidin, and thiamethoxam), which were banned in the EU only as recently as last year.

Until today, EU national governments

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# Free medical care for elders not yet



Tanzania People's Defence Forces officers and soldiers pictured shortly before departure from Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam yesterday by Air Tanzania Company Limited flight for peacekeeping mission in Darfur, Sudan. Photo: Lt Selemani Semuny Story on Page 4

In an effort to alleviate the challenges and ensure the targeted groups of people get the desired medical services, the government has come up with Health Sector Financing strategy under which a single national health Insurance format would soon be established

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

ONLY 40 per cent of district councils in the country have implemented the government directive on free medical services to the elderly, which among other things require them to issue the elders with identity cards.

The directive also requires public hospitals to set aside a window of service for this group of people but most health facilities do not have such windows.

The deputy minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, the Elderly and Children, Dr Faustine Ndugulile told the legislature yesterday that since the government directed the councils to setup a window of services at health facilities for the aged, most of them have failed to do so.

While reiterating this appeal to district councils in the country to heed the call, the deputy minister said implementation of the directive



**How many districts in the country have implemented the directive since the government announced the measures in 2014 for the elderly to access free medical services at the country's dispensaries, health centres and hospitals?**

faced challenges, making less than half of district councils implement this requirement.

Dr Ndugulile said this in response to a question by Kaliua MP Magdalena Sakaya (CUF) who wanted to know the number of district hospitals that have implemented the directive aimed at saving the lives of the elderly.

"How many districts in the country have implemented the directive since the government announced the measures in 2014 for the elderly to access free medical services at the country's dispensaries, health centres and hospitals?" she asked.

She also wanted to know when the government would implement the policy that calls for free medical services for expectant mothers and children below five years old.

The deputy minister in his response said the government has continually provided improved health services to expectant mothers, children below five and the elderly who do not have ability to pay for services but there are still challenges to be solved.

In an effort to alleviate the challenges and

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## Rains leave five dead, over 2000 displaced

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

FIVE people have been confirmed dead and over 2,000 displaced due to ongoing heavy rains in Kyela district, Mbeya region.

District Executive Officer, Salome Magambo said yesterday that the deaths and displacements have occurred in Matema and Bujonde wards following downpour which started on April 29.

She said that serious damage was inflicted on May 4 when heavy rains swept away crops, livestock and household items, leaving behind



**We have set up 14 camps in schools and churches located on elevated ground where a total of 2570 displaced persons are now sheltered**

wrecked homes that are not safe for habitation.

"We have set up 14 camps in schools and churches located on elevated ground where a total of 2570 displaced persons are now sheltered," she stated.

The DED noted that the actual number of people displaced from their homes is higher than the number she gave because many were taken in by friends and relatives whose homes are on higher ground.

The government is catering for those living in the 14 camps with basic needs including food,

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## Ndugai now recalls Masele from Africa representation

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

NATIONAL Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai has recalled Shinyanga Urban MP, Stephen Masele (pictured) from his position as the parliament's representative to the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), citing gross indiscipline.

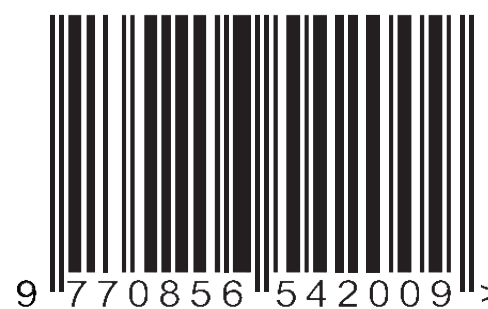
He said he had written to the continental parliament's president, informing him



of the decision of temporary suspension, ordering the MP who is the current PAP First Vice President to appear before the Parliamentary Privileges, Ethics and Powers Committee.

Ndugai told the lawmakers that Masele is reportedly have grossly misbehaved, noting that the MP seemingly has a lot of problems. "Masele is one of the leaders doing

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Germany's Ambassador to Tanzania, Dr Detlef Waechter (R), and Sawata Dodoma board chairman Sebastian Bulegi sign a contract in Dar es Salaam yesterday for the financing of a project to supply and install rain harvesting systems to serve the elderly in Ibihwa ward, Dodoma Region. Left is Sawata (local NGO) executive secretary Oswin Kachenje. Photo courtesy of German Embassy

## Free medical care for elders not yet

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ensure the targeted groups of people get the desired medical services, the

government has come up with Health Sector Financing strategy under which a single national health insurance format would soon be established.

## Government bans entry of all plastic bags from next month

By Guardian Reporter

THE government yesterday announced a ban on the entry of all plastic carrier bags.

A statement titled "Notice to Travelers Planning to Visit Tanzania" said the government was going to set up a special desk at entry points to enforce the measure.

"The Government of Tanzania wishes to make an official note to travelers planning to travel to Tanzania that from 1st June 2019 all plastic carrier bags, regardless of their thickness will be prohibited from being imported, exported, manufactured, sold, stored, supplied and used in mainland Tanzania," a statement issued by the Tanzania's Vice President Office reads in part.

In his speech during a budget session in the National Parliament, Tanzanian

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa announced that the last day to use plastic bags in Tanzania will be 31st May 2019 and from the 1st June no one will be allowed to produce, import, sell or use plastic bags.

In August 2016, the government warned manufacturers of plastic bags to diversify their line of business ahead of the January 2017 full implementation of a plastics ban. Today's development is a second decisive leg of ensuring a plastic-free country.

In April 2016, a minister of union affairs and environment, January Makamba, informed the National Assembly that the government was going ahead with its total ban on plastic bags. "We are warning industries that stern action, including closure, will be taken against those who will be caught manufacturing plastic bags," he said at the time.

## Rains leave five dead, over 2000 displaced

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medicines and clean water to prevent outbreaks of waterborne disease, she observed.

Other wards affected by floods are Ikama, Katumba-Songwe, Mwaya, Talatala Kanjunjumele and Makwale, with most homes in the area being surrounded by water.

Part of the rainwater wreaking havoc in low-lying Kyela district comes from the highlands of Rungwe district, she pointed out.

She thanked the business community in Kyela district for

supporting the district's safety and security committees chaired by the DC in mobilizing humanitarian support for the victims.

Giving his report on the situation here on Tuesday, Mbeya Regional Police Commander Ulrich Matei said a number of houses had been destroyed in Kyela district, with public institutions not spared either.

Mwaya primary school and Mwaya secondary school, both located in Mwaya ward were entirely surrounded by water, he said.

As for Rungwe district, scores of houses had been damaged in Igamba

area and Tukuyu town. Parents must not allow children to be outdoors alone lest they are swept by floods, the PRC cautioned.



**Part of the rainwater wreaking havoc in low-lying Kyela district comes from the highlands of Rungwe district**

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a lot of meaningless things, including unnecessarily causing conflicts among top leaders," said the speaker.

He said the decision to write to the PAP president follows failure by the Shinyanga MP to honour his calls to come back home and let the matters involving him be discussed internally.

The seemingly annoyed Ndugai told the legislature that it was in bad taste that Masele refused to heed his calls and instead went further, accusing his PAP boss of colluding with the Tanzanian parliament speaker to recall him for questioning.

## Ndugai now recalls Masele from Africa representation

"As if that was not enough Masele went on claiming that he received a call from Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa telling him to continue working and that the issues will be solved later, something that is not true," he declared.

Ndugai also explained that the MP will also appear before the CCM ethics committee for hearing.

The Pan African Parliament is one of the organs of the African Union's

54 member states all of whom are represented at the PAP by five MPs selected from among members of national assemblies.

MP Masele was elected First Vice President representing the Eastern Region. The others are MP Haidara Aichata Cisse from Mali (Western Region) elected Second Vice President and MP Bouras Djamel from Algeria, representing the Northern Region, as PAP's Third Vice President.

## Clarification: Prof Museru photo

**Muhimbili National Hospital executive director Prof Lawrence Museru. We inadvertently ran the wrong photo on him alongside a story we carried on the referral medical facility in yesterday's issue, an error we sincerely regret. - Editor.**



## World Bee Day to see Slow Food inaugurate an action to save bees

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have failed to endorse the use of the 2013 Bee Guidance Document in all other pesticide decisions. Recently, the EU Ombudsman has recognised that the process of the Bee Guidance Document adoption "constitutes maladministration" as the Commission has refused to grant public access to the positions of Members States.

Slow Food is advocating the full implementation of the Bee Guidance Document and is part of a joint coalition of civil society organisations asking decision-makers to save the bees and for greater transparency in the risk assessment process.

On May 9, the most recent joint action took place in several European cities: beekeepers and environmental groups handed in a petition signed by over 230,000 Europeans to their national agriculture ministers in seven European capitals asking to improve the way the EU tests all new pesticides.

Slow Food's local group of beekeepers and activists addressed these concerns to the Agriculture ministry in Rome and, ahead of the meeting in Brussels, asked the Italian government to effectively protect bees from harmful pesticides.

Slow Food is concerned that, in the

absence of strict safety rules, many bee-killing pesticides will continue to be used, and more will come to the market, rendering the much-celebrated ban of three neonicotinoid pesticides in Europe last year redundant.

The agency is certain that, to save the bees, governments need to outlaw all bee-killing pesticides, not just three of them.

Slow Food is a global grassroots organisation that envisions a world in which all people can access and enjoy food that is good for them, good for those who grow it and good for the planet.

Founded by Carlo Petrini in Italy in 1986 but having since spread worldwide, it promotes local food and traditional cooking.

Promoted as an alternative to fast food, it strives to preserve traditional and regional cuisine and encourages farming of plants, seeds and livestock characteristic of the local ecosystem.

It was the first established part of the broader slow movement, its sights being on sustainable foods and promotion of local small businesses directed against globalisation of agricultural products.

The organisation involves over a million activists, chefs, experts, youth, farmers, fishers and academics in over 160 countries.



Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein chairs a meeting with senior officials of the Isles Information, Tourism and Antiquities ministry yesterday. Photo: Zanzibar State House

## Tanzania's one million-tonne maize surplus boosts Kenya's supply

NAIROBI

SURPLUS stocks in Tanzania have raised maize supply helping cool the rising price of the produce in Kenya.

Tanzania has announced it has more than a million-tonne surplus, which it will sell to the regional states, unlike previously when it imposed an exports ban.

Millers in Mombasa and Nairobi are getting supplies from traders bringing in the commodity.

The maize is landing in Nairobi at Ksh3,200 a bag.

"There are good stocks coming in

from Tanzania and we are getting some too from Uganda.

"This maize will go a long way in boosting the current limited stocks in the country," said Gerald Masila, Executive Director of Kenya Grain Council.

Millers are paying Ksh3,000 for a 90-kilogramme bag of maize down from Sh3,400 last month, with the prices expected to further drop as farmers release the stocks that they had been hoarding to the market.

Masila said Tanzania is supplying a lot of grain to the region replenishing stocks that would have been depleted

by now.

Mexico

However, he warned the importation process should start now given that the grain in the region would not be enough to last beyond July.

"Even with this stocks in the region, imports are inevitable and the process of shipping in the grain has to start on time to avoid last minute rush," he said.

Kenya is also expected to import maize from Mexico. The government has indicated it will open the import window in July despite opposition from farmers'

lobby that said imports will hurt farmers.

However, Cereal Growers Association said there is no need for imports because stock available is adequate.

"The government should not allow the importation of grain in the country at a time when the short rains crop will be ready for harvesting in July...this is a move to sabotage farmers," said Fanuel Kruger, chairperson of the Cereal Millers Growers.

The Agriculture ministry said only registered large-scale millers would be allowed to import maize to cover the deficit.



## Speaker sees 'issues' in CAG office audit

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE National Assembly had received an audit report on the office of the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) with the House Speaker Job Ndugai saying there are issues in it.

Speaking shortly before the question and answer session, Ndugai said he received the report from the external auditor, went through and submitted it to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of the National Assembly.

PAC will go through the report and resubmit it to his office for further action. "I have received the report, gone through it and realized that there are several issues which I expect PAC to go through it and report back to me," he said.

He cited section 46 of the Public Audit Act, Number 11 of 2018, requiring that the National Audit Office should be audited by an external auditor appointed by the PAC, at least once a year.

The audit was conducted by a company, Eki Mangesho, noting that he decided to brief the MPs on the development since the CAG normally tables audit reports of other institutions but his office's report has never been tabled in the House.

In what appears to be a move to corner the CAG, the Speaker stated that when it comes to audit, no person can audit himself and neither is anybody above the rest, just reporting about others only.

The CAG, Prof Mussa Assad (pictured), has had a complicated relationship with the House such that a resolution was passed where MPs moved to boycott the CAG, though not the National Audit Office of Tanzania (NOAT) and its annual reports, for remarks suggesting that the legislature was weak in its oversight role on the government.

In a radio interview while on a working trip to the United States last December, Prof Assad described the legislature as "too weak" to hold the government accountable for frequent expenditure discrepancies exposed in past CAG annual audit reports.



Chinese tourists in jovial mood as they head for their flight back home yesterday at the Kilimanjaro International Airport yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Cynthia Mwilolezi

## Govt talks of cashew wine factory plans

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government is to establish a factory to produce cashew wine, extracted from the cashew apples always considered a waste product in the processing of cashew nut, the minister for Agriculture, Japhet Hasunga told MPs yesterday.

He said the Mtwara based Naliendeke Agricultural Research Institute conducted research on other use of cashew apples once the nut has been removed and the findings revealed that wine can be extracted from the apples.

"The government has instructed the research institute to work on the possibility of establishing an industry to produce cashew wine," he said, noting that the move would help farmers in the areas where the crop is grown to benefit further.

The minister was responding to a supplementary question by Ndanda MP Cecil Mwambe (CHADEMA) who wanted to know what the government was doing to ensure cashew nut farmers benefit from other side products from the crop, and not only nuts.

"The government has constantly said that there are more than just the nuts from the cashew, but what is it doing to help farmers benefit from the products," he asked.

Earlier in the main question to the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Muheza MP, Adadi Rajabu (CCM) asked why the government cannot do away with the policy on tea factories which bar farmers from establishing their own processing factories.

"Why can't the government do away with this policy that goes against the policy of industrialization spearheaded by the current government?" he demanded.

He said through the policy the East Usambara Tea Company Limited (EUTCO) in Muheza has been affected adversely. In response the deputy minister Stella Manyanya noted the company was one of three companies that were established to process raw tea.

She said, however, the company applied for licence for blending and packing but the law requires that it forms a subsidiary company for the purpose.

The aim of the policy on development of industries is to enhance the building of industries and put in place a conducive environment for their growth, she added.



### ADVERTISEMENT

#### INVITATION FOR BIDS

**TENDER TITLE:** SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF BODY AND BAGGAGE SCANNERS AT TUNDUMA ONE STOP BORDER POST (OSBP)

**TENDER NUMBER:** PRQ20180039

TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is an organisation funded by a range of development agencies to promote regional trade and economic integration in East Africa. Tanzania Revenue Authority with support from TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) wishes to engage a reputable firm/consortium to supply and install body and baggage scanners at the Tunduma One Stop Border Post.

The tender documents can be obtained at <https://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to [procurement@trademarka.com](mailto:procurement@trademarka.com). The closing date for submission of this tender is on or before **Thursday, 13 June 2019 at 4.00 p.m. (Tanzania Time)**.

Interested and qualified reputable firms/consortiums must submit their bids through TMEA's Procurement mail box using the email address, [procurement@trademarka.com](mailto:procurement@trademarka.com), clearly indicating the tender number and description. The maximum size of each email with attachments should not exceed **5 MB**.

**TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender 7 days or less prior to the submission deadline.**

24521701



THE SMARTPHONE NETWORK

INVITATION FOR  
EXPRESSION OF  
INTEREST (EOI)

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2019

#### Addendum to the Invitation for EOI

Based on the request for extension of deadline for submission of EOI for Purchase of Tower Assets of Airtel Tanzania by various potential bidders, Airtel Tanzania has decided to extend the deadline for submission of EOI to 24th May 2019 and last date for submission of Bids has been extended to 3rd June 2019.

- Airtel Tanzania PLC ("Airtel Tanzania"), a telecommunications services provider in Tanzania owns and operates > 1400 telecommunications towers ("Tower Assets") across Tanzania.
- Airtel Tanzania now, intends to sell its Tower Assets to a reputed and experienced tower company under a sale and lease back arrangement subsequent to which the Tower Assets, would be taken on lease by Airtel Tanzania.
- Airtel Tanzania invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from prospective bidders who meet the following eligibility criteria:
  - 5 years of demonstrated experience in managing at least 5,000 sites of passive tower infrastructure and providing such infrastructure to telecom operators at high service levels.
  - The invitation of submitting EOI is open to all independent tower companies with good track record of providing tower services on a non-discriminatory basis to telecom players.
  - The business interests of the prospective bidders should not conflict with those of Airtel Tanzania. Any such current or potential conflict of interest should be thoroughly disclosed upon submission, and Airtel Tanzania reserves the discretionary right to disqualify the EOI received from a prospective bidder found to be conflicted.
  - Irrespective of the above, Airtel Tanzania shall have a sole discretion to accept any of the bids or to consider a non-eligible bidder.
- A detailed information memorandum and other details about the Tower Assets will be shared with the eligible prospective bidder(s) immediately upon signing a Non Disclosure Agreement with Airtel Tanzania.
- Prospective bidders may obtain further information from the office of the Managing Director of Airtel Tanzania.
- EOI should be submitted by 5pm on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and must be delivered through either of the two ways and inscription as below:
  - Through email addressed to [info@airtel.co.tz](mailto:info@airtel.co.tz) the mail subject should be titled "EOI for Purchase of Tower Assets of Airtel Tanzania".
  - Through physical delivery to Airtel Tanzania corporate office located at Airtel House, corner of A.H Mwinyi Road and Kawawa Road, Morocco Area, Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam Tanzania. The outer envelope should be plain and marked "EOI for Purchase of Tower Assets of Airtel Tanzania".
- Last date of submissions of Bids: Eligible prospective bidder(s) would be expected to submit their bids by 5pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019.

Managing Director, Airtel Tanzania  
Airtel House, Corner of A.H Mwinyi Road and Kawawa Road, Morocco Area,  
Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam Tanzania



# ATCL to fly peace keepers to Darfur

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIAN soldiers and officers taking part in peace keeping missions in the Darfur region of Sudan have for the first time started using Air Tanzania flights to the country instead of other airlines.

Speaking to reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the Tanzania People's Defence Force (TPDF) head of operations and training, Major General Alfred Kapinga said this has been possible after the army successfully persuaded the financier of international peace keeping missions—the United Nations—to approve the use of ATCL flights by Tanzanian soldiers.

This is happening for the first time in the TPDF's 10-year itinerary of peace-keeping in the troubled Sudanese region of Darfur.

"We have been using our own military planes or planes from other

countries contracted by the United Nations but now we are delighted with convincing the UN to approve the use of ATCL planes," he said.

Kapinga said the decision by the army to lobby for ATCL to be contracted by the UN to ferry its officers and fighters to Sudan was informed by patriotism and its contribution in ongoing efforts by the government to enhance the pace of economic growth.

Maj Gen Kapinga used the opportunity to urge TPDF officers and soldiers taking part in peace keeping operations in foreign countries to continue being good ambassadors by exhibiting professionalism and high levels of integrity.

Speaking at the event, ATCL director general Ladislaus Matindi extended gratitude to TPDF for the opportunity, saying it will contribute immensely in improving the national carrier's performance and portfolio.

"I thank the Chief of Defense Forces General Venance Mabeyo and his team for enabling ATCL to get this opportunity. We will use this opportunity to expand our visibility internationally for the benefit of the country," he said.

The Commander of the TPDF's TANZBATT-13 battalion, Lt. Col Khalfan Kayage who flies to Sudan with the officers and soldiers, said they were motivated to be flying the national flag-bearer and promised to execute their duties diligently while there, to maintain the good name of Tanzania internationally.

*"We have been using our own military planes or planes from other countries contracted by the United Nations but now we are delighted with convincing the UN to approve the use of ATCL planes"*



Tigo Tanzania staff Regan Emmanuel (R) and Jackson Jerry attend to customers registering for biometric cell phone sim-cards in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



ISO 9001: 2015 CERTIFIED

**INSTITUTE OF TAX ADMINISTRATION**  
Accredited by the National Council for Technical Education

**APPLICATION FOR 2019/2020 ACADEMIC YEAR ADMISSION**

The Institute of Tax Administration (ITA) is an integral part of the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) registered as a Higher Learning Institution under the provisions of the National Council for Technical Education (NACTE) Act (No.9) of 1997 with a mandate uniquely focused on improving the practice and management of Customs and Taxation operations through training, research and consultancy.

The Institute invites applications for entry into its various academic programmes for year 2019/2020.

**1) Ordinary Diploma in Customs and Tax Management (DCTM) - Two years (full-time)**

**Minimum entry qualification:** Basic Technician Certificate (NTA level 4) in Customs and Tax Management or in any other business-related discipline; OR One Principal Pass and one Subsidiary Pass at "A" Level in business related discipline. All applicants for the DCTM should have FOUR passes at "O" Level (including passes in English and mathematics).

**2) Basic Technician Certificate in Customs and Tax Management (CCTM) - One year (Full-Time).**

**Minimum entry qualification:** FOUR passes in business related subjects at "O" Level (including passes in English and mathematics).

The Institute also invites applications for the **East African Customs Clearing and Freight Forwarding Practising Certificate (CFFPC) short course; Four months (Full-Time) or Six months (Part-Time).**  
**Minimum entry Qualifications:** Two (2) passes at "O" Level or Holder of Advanced Certificate of Secondary Education (ACSE) and above.

**MODE OF APPLICATION**

- Application is done through [www.ita.ac.tz](http://www.ita.ac.tz) online application <http://212.71.252.209/ita-oas/>
- Applications for DCTM and CCTM must be accompanied with evidence of payment of a non-refundable application fee of **TZS. 10,000/=** for East Africans and **US\$ 10** for non-East Africans. CFFPC application fee is **TZS. 30,000/=** for East Africans and **US\$ 30** for non-East Africans.
- The fee may be paid through **M-Pesa, Tigo Pesa and Airtel Money** numbers available in the website: - [www.ita.ac.tz](http://www.ita.ac.tz).
- All applications should be submitted on or before **31st August 2019**.

**Rector,**  
**Institute of Tax Administration,**  
**P. O. Box 9321, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**  
**Mobile 0785 558211**  
**E-mail: ita@tra.go.tz**

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# Heritage tasked to uplift attractions, pull tourists

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has underscored the need for the Ministry for Information, Tourism and Heritage to enhance efforts, work hard in improving the country's attractions so as to increase tourist arrivals.

During his meeting with the ministry's management in the Isles, Dr Shein said that Zanzibar has been blessed with plenty of tourist attractions which if well improved and promoted, will double or triple the number of tourists in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

"My government on its side will be there to support all the initiatives including developing key tourist infrastructures, market well its attractions nationally and internationally but also attract more investors to develop services so as to make more tourists find better visits," he said.

Earlier, Second Vice President Ambassador Seif Ali Idd urged the ministry to come up with initiatives of taking some top leaders to various attractions for them to market them

wherever they go, especially in foreign lands.

For his part, the minister for Information, Tourism and Heritage Mahmoud Thabit Kombo said that the ministry was implementing initiatives including rehabilitating some major historical buildings built during the colonial period.

"Historical sites are among attractions which pull more tourists thus injecting plenty of foreign currency," he said.

The government is also constructing a new tourist centre at Bi Khole area in Bungu, Central Zanzibar District.

"The project is implemented by Quality Building Contractor and the company has already commenced the job."

Zanzibar is made up of two large islands—Unguja and Pemba with many small islands. It relies heavily on tourism for its economic development.

Zanzibar is famous for its spices and the slave trade of the 19th century, to the extent that the Stone Town of Zanzibar is named as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The Isles are expected to host 450,000 international tourists this

year, with the visitors contributing 27 percent of its gross domestic product and 83 percent of foreign exchange earnings. The industry has generated 22,000 jobs as well as benefiting farmers, fishermen and livestock keepers.



**My government on its side will be there to support all the initiatives including developing key tourist infrastructures, market well its attractions nationally and internationally but also attract more investors to develop services so as to make more tourists find better visits**

By Marc Nkwame, Arusha

MORE than 500 leisure and business visitors from China are expected to jet into the country next month, being the second batch of the ongoing series of "Tour Africa - New Horizon" Sino touring expeditions aimed at discovering the continent's attractions.

"Tanzania will be receiving 500 new tourists from Beijing in June and shortly after a team of the Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) will fly to China for yet another promotional

# Over 500 more Chinese tourists to arrive in June

roadshow," stated the TTB director general, Devotha Mdachi. Mdachi was speaking at the Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA) to see off the maiden group of 330 Sino tourists who have just completed a five-day itinerary in the northern tourism circuit.

She said the inaugural trip

of more than 300 Chinese tourists was very successful, on the basis of feedback from Touch Road International Holding Group, which organized the visit, noting that arrival of the second batch was imminent.

The maiden group first toured Djibouti where they stayed for a day, then flew to Tanzania for five days and has just left for Zimbabwe where they will be staying for two days. The visitors described their first time in Tanzania to be wonderful and intended to return here with their families.

"This goes to show that the Chinese visitors preferred to spend more days in Tanzania than in the other countries included in their expedition to Africa," chipped in Geoffrey Tengeza, the Public Relations Officer for TTB.

A total of 10,000 visitors from China will be touring Tanzania through the "Tour Africa - New Horizon" program coordinated by Touch Road International Holding Group, which in addition to opening doors for tourists from the Far East, is hatching a new initiative through which other Sino visitors are going

to identify potential areas of investments in Tanzania.

The recent arrival of tourists from China follows an agreement inked last year between TTB and Touch Road International which organises tours through chartered flights.

China sends out to the world over 130 million tourists every year, but these had eluded African destinations for years. But now under the new arrangement, Tanzania will start getting a share of the lucrative travel market.



**Tanzania will be receiving 500 new tourists from Beijing in June and shortly after a team of the Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) will fly to China for yet another promotional roadshow**

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## Jipatie Maji ya Kunywa ya Kilimanjaro kwa Bei Elekezi za Rejareja kama Ifuatavyo:-

- **Nusu Lita (500ml) – TSHS. 500/=**
- **Lita Moja na Nusu (1.5L) – TSHS. 1,000/=**
- **Bei Hizi Elekezi ni Kwa Nchi Nzima**
- **Maji ya Kunywa ya Kilimanjaro ni Maji ya Kuaminika Kila Siku**

Inaleta hisia ya ndani unayojua mwenyewe

**KILIMANJARO**  
DRINKING WATER



Maji ya kuaminika kila siku





Dar es Salaam Water and Sewerage Authority communication officer Joseph Mkonyi (R) pastes a recognition sticker yesterday on a bowser used in distributing potable water in parts of Dar es Salaam and Bagamoyo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Henry Mwangonde

## Rural school girls' pads access a big headache

STAKEHOLDERS are working to find the best way to reach out to rural women with safe sanitary pads after revelations that some are using traditional products having serious implications on their health.

Currently there is a problem in transporting the products from centres of origin to remote areas as most of them need middlemen like wholesalers and retailers who hike the price by up to 30 percent before reaching the final consumers.

About 84 percent of school girls in Tanzania use materials such as soil, dung, feathers and corn cobs during menstrual constraints, activists assert.

Speaking at a media training workshop on menstrual hygiene yesterday,

an officer with the Institution for Inclusive Development (I4ID), a non-governmental organisation working on menstrual hygiene management (MHM) for girls, Halima Lila said the main issue puzzling stakeholders now is how to unite stakeholders - mostly producers and sellers - to understand that this was a necessity and not just a

commodity.

"These products are imported then they are transported by wholesalers and retailers at the same time hiking prices on their way. It is the final consumer who carries the burden," she said.

Safe sanitary pads have not reached most rural areas, hence the risky cultural substitutes used in many communities, she said.

At the same time 90 percent of school girls do not have sufficient exposure in water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

In her remarks, Dhahia Mbaga, a WASH specialist and senior MNH trainer said most schools do not have descent toilets for girls' secrecy during menstrual periods.

Official data shows that girls miss three to five school days to challenges associated with menstrual periods. One girl in any school also drops school due to pregnancies.

In Tanzania most girls in rural

primary schools who have reached puberty do not use appropriate sanitary wear during their monthly menstrual. They use local pads, i.e. rags, raw cotton and maize cobs. Due to lack of lack of water in most rural schools, washing of re-usable pads poses a serious challenge.

There are rural school girls who have not even seen a sanitary pad.

Girl pupils either use inappropriate materials to manage menstrual flow or/and opt to stay at home and not attend school during the 3-4 days of their menses.

If they attend school without proper sanitary wear, many girls soil their uniforms and may suffer psychologically due to shame and embarrassment.

It is believed that Poor Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) can contribute to poor performance and completion rates among girl pupils and exposes them to health complications.

## CSOs' task force to combat GBV in Dar

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

FOUR civil society organizations (CSOs) have formed a special task force to scale up the campaign against gender-based violence in the country's commercial capital, Dar es Salaam.

The chairperson of Mpakani Tunaweza, Asia Khalifa said in an interview that other CSOs which are part of the campaign include Totos, Zawode and Huba Foundation.

"The task force was formed on Tuesday at a special meeting," she said, noting that apart from the task force the CSOs formed a network, the Tanzania Women Coalition.

Khalifa said the main focus is to curb GBV for communities living on the outskirts of Dar es Salaam with support from the Open Society Initiative for Eastern Africa (OSIEA).

"Our aim is to complement the government's efforts towards addressing gender-based violence in the country," she said, elaborating that GBV remains a significant problem in Dar es Salaam and the country at large.

The task force involves three people from each district, namely Temeke, Ubungo, Kinondoni and Ilala and the task force will also involve community development officers and HIV/Aids coordinators in the municipalities, she said.

The team will be visiting GBV victims and get the entire picture on the challenges victims are going through, she said.

"After visiting GBV victims, people who are in the task force will be able to analyse data and come up with better strategy to address the vice," Khalifa however said that the responsibility towards ending GBV is for all Tanzanians and not just government alone or NGOs. Gender-based violence (GBV) has gained international recognition as a grave social and human rights concern, she pointed out.

In Tanzania, GBV and violence against children (VAC) have become major problems due to negative cultural beliefs and practices, existing gender norms and economic, social and gender inequalities. The government has been acknowledging that this situation has the potential to significantly affect the country's economy, health and social welfare systems.

The violence takes many forms, including physical, sexual, psychological, and economic violence, mainly perpetrated against women.

## IFAD, JPM set to review food security, rural jobs

By Guardian Reporter

THE president of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Gilbert Houngbo is early going to hold discussions President John Magufuli over investments to improve food and nutrition security, jobs for rural youth and poverty reduction.

IFAD said in a statement yesterday that the IFAD chieftain shall visit the country from 19 to 21 May, where the visit will focus on the role of smallholder farmers in ensuring food security, the challenges posed by climate change, opportunities that agriculture can offer to rural youth and the need for greater investment to transform agriculture into a highly productive and competitive sector.

In Tanzania, agriculture is not only the key driver of food production but employment creation, production of raw materials for industries and generation of foreign exchange earnings. It employs nearly 75 per cent of the workforce. IFAD will continue supporting the government's strategies for agricultural development and rural transformation for the benefit of poor smallholder farmers, the statement indicated.

The IFAD president shall also converse with the Minister for Finance and Planning, Dr Philip Mpango, the Minister for Agriculture, Japhet Hasunga and the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Parliament, Policy, Labour, Youth and Disabled) Jenista Mhagama.

Houngbo will also see IFAD investments in action in the IFAD-supported marketing infrastructure, value addition and rural finance support programme. He will meet with project participants to see first-hand how their lives have been impacted. With a total cost of about US\$170 million, the programme is active in all 26 regions of the Mainland and Zanzibar, covering 141 rural districts, and has successfully contributed to enhancing smallholders' access to markets and sustainable financial services.



IPP Media tunatoa shukurani za dhati kwa Vyombo vyote vya Habari vilivyoshirikiana nasi katika kuchapisha na kurusha mubashara **MSIBA MZITO wa MPENDWA WETU MWENYEKITI MTENDAJI WA IPP - DKT. REGINALD MENGI.**

Aidha tunawashukuru kwa mchango wenu wa hali na mali mliotoa katika kipindi chote cha **MSIBA.**

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12. UPENDO TV

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3. E FM

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6. RADIO 5
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14. UHAI FM
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5. POA TV
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#### MAGAZETI:

1. MWANANCHI/THE CITIZEN
2. DAILY NEWS/HABARI LEO
3. MTANZANIA
4. TANZANIA DAIMA
5. GLOBAL PUBLISHERS
6. UHURU/MZALENDO
7. JAMHURI
8. MAJIRA
9. TAZAMA

#### MITANDAO:

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**Na kwa wengine wote walioshiriki nasi kwa njia moja au nyingine tunasema AHSANTE SANA NA MUNGU AWABARIKI.**





## UNITED STATES PEACE CORPS

HUDUMA ZA KUJITOLEA ZA WAMAREKANI

### Vacancies: Pre-Service Training Staff

The U. S. Peace Corps is a leading international community-based development agency that has been working in Tanzania since 1961 to support American Volunteers serving in a number of community development projects including Secondary Education, Sustainable Agriculture and Community Health Education.

We are looking for qualified candidates to temporarily facilitate a Pre-Service Training Programs for the Peace Corps Volunteers, to take place in Korogwe from June to September 2019. Our trainings follow Community-Based Training (CBT) approach and therefore the successful candidates will be required to live and work in rural areas around Dodoma town throughout the training period. We offer attractive contracts including competitive salary, flexible working hours and amazing inter-cultural work experiences.

#### 1. Language and Cross-Culture Facilitators (LCFs) - 5 positions

The LCFs are responsible for planning and implementing a successful community-based Swahili Language and Cross-Cultural training. He / She will be the primary point of contact for the Peace Corps Trainees. An LCF acts as the cross-culture guide to Trainees and a technical information resource person at the Community Based Training site.

LCFs report to the Training Manager and work under direct supervision of the Language and Cross-Culture Coordinator (LCC), in collaboration with the Homestay Program Coordinator and Technical Trainers to ensure that the volunteer-trainees meet a set of established language, technical and cross-cultural minimum standards before service.

#### Desired Qualifications:

An applicant must be a Tanzanian who possess at least a Diploma in Adult Education, Education, Social Work, Community Development or other fields related to the Peace Corps Projects. The incumbents must have at least 3 years of experience with teaching Kiswahili to Americans; and ability to communicate effectively in English. Knowledge and/or experience in secondary education, agriculture, livestock, forestry, gender and women empowerment, HIV/AIDS and Malaria will be an added advantage. Being functional in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint is also an added advantage. Candidates from Zanzibar are strongly encouraged to apply.

#### 2. Language and Cross-Culture Coordinator (LCC) - 1 position

The LCC leads the design and implementation of the Swahili Language and Cross-Culture training program. He/she works with LCFs to ensure quality planning and delivery of the language and cross-culture lessons. LCC is responsible for overall Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting of the language and cross-culture training program. She/he reports to the training manager and coordinates with Homestay

Coordinator and Technical Trainers.

#### Desired Qualifications:

An applicant for this position must be a Tanzanian with at least a Bachelor Degree in Adult Education, Education, Social Work, Community Development or other fields related to Peace Corps Projects. The incumbent must have at least 3 years of experience in teaching Kiswahili to Americans; at least 3 consecutive years of managing a language training program; and must be fluent in Swahili and English languages. Knowledge and/or experience in secondary education, agriculture, livestock, forestry, gender and women empowerment, HIV/AIDS and Malaria will be an added advantage. She/he must be functional in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Candidates from Zanzibar are strongly encouraged to apply.

#### 3. Driver Mechanic - 1 position

The Driver Mechanic is responsible for driving safely on official business for Peace Corps Tanzania. As a member of Peace Corps Tanzania's motor pool, the Driver Mechanic ensures assigned vehicle(s) are maintained and roadworthy. The duties of this position will sometimes require the incumbent to work beyond normal working hours, and travel extensively throughout Tanzania and occasionally to neighbouring countries.

She/he is will be responsible to safely drive trainees, volunteers, staff and guests in official Peace Corps Tanzania vehicles during the training period. She/he shall obey all traffic laws, only drive vehicles which have been checked and cleared as road worthy, and accurately log all vehicle trips in the Vehicle Log Books.

Form four certificate with class C driving license; mechanics certificate from a recognized institution; driving and experience of at least 4 years with a clean record are required. Good spoken English and ability to work with minimal supervision. Being functional in Microsoft Word would be an added advantage.

#### Application Procedures:

Applications must be received no later than **May 24, 2019**. Please email a cover letter, CV, personal address and contact information and the names and contacts of your references to [applicants@tz.peacecorps.gov](mailto:applicants@tz.peacecorps.gov) with "Training Position Application" in the subject line. If necessary applications can be posted to the attention of: Director of Management & Operations, Training Position Application, U.S. Peace Corps Tanzania, P. O. Box 9123, Dar es Salaam.

**Only short listed candidates will be contacted.  
No phone inquiries or visits will be accepted.**



National Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai (L) exchanges greetings with Bank of Africa managing director Joseph Iha, who visited the House in Dodoma earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

## Airbus lab to enhance market opportunities

AIRBUS on Wednesday held its annual African airlines business lab symposium in Zanzibar with the purpose of sharpening their businesses to take advantage of the rapidly expanding African market.

The symposium brought on board airline industry experts and managers from carriers across the region and the topics discussed included aircraft financing, global industry trends, digitalization in the airline industry, aircraft evaluation and sessions on customer marketing and market growth strategies.

Over the past 30 years Africa has recorded steady growth in demand for air transport, with the number of air travellers flying to, from and within the continent doubling every 15 years.

"With Africa's population set to expand by 2.5 billion people over the next 20 years and with urbanisation and economic expansion, it will become the world's fastest growing market," said Hadi Akoum, Airbus Vice President for Sales in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands.

"Our Africa Airlines lab is a forum for discussion and shared learning in order to equip airline managers with knowledge and expertise they can use to take full advantage of this unprecedented opportunity to create sustainable growth, not just for themselves but the economies and societies they serve," he said.

Early this month, there were 240 Airbus commercial airliners in service with 30 African operators.

Airbus is a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. In 2018 it generated revenues of € 64 billion and employed a workforce of around 134,000. Airbus offers the most comprehensive range of passenger airliners.

Airbus is also a European leader providing tanker, combat, transport and mission aircraft, as well as one of the world's leading space companies. In helicopters, Airbus provides the most efficient civil and military rotorcraft solutions worldwide



## NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL(NEMC)

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### RE: UPDATING THE REGISTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTS

The National Environment Management Council (NEMC) is in the process of updating its database for the registered experts. This is in line with Sect. 83 of the Environmental Management Act, No. 20 of 2004, which stipulates that EIA studies are to be conducted by experts or firms of experts whose names and qualifications are registered by the Council. Similarly, Regulation 23 of the Environmental (Registration of Environmental Experts), Regulation, 2005 stipulates that the Registrar has the responsibility to maintain an up to date Register with names of certified and registered environmental experts. In fulfilling this objective and ensuring that there is updated information all registered experts are required to provide the following information:

#### Individual experts:

- Name and specific location of the office where the expert is operating including information on locality, district, and region;
- Certified copies of academic qualifications, with Colleges or Universities attended in attaining such qualifications;
- The year of registration with NEMC; and
- List and types of projects undertaken since the date of registration and number of EIA/EA certificates granted. Also indicate whether you were the lead expert or associated with another expert.

#### Firms of Experts:

- Name of the firm/company and location of the office/ premises where it operates;
- Names of Directors of the firm and their professional qualification supported with certified copies of their professional/academic qualifications. Also attach CVs of the Company/firm Directors;
- Year of registration of the firm with NEMC; and
- List of EIA/EA projects that have been carried out by the firm after registration with NEMC. For each of the project granted with EIA/EA certificate, provide investment value of the project. Also list names of consultants/experts who participated in each of the project that was granted with an EIA/EA certificate.

This information should be submitted to NEMC Headquarters by close of business on 15th June 2019. Submission can as well be made to NEMC's Zonal Offices in Arusha, Dodoma, Mbeya, Mwanza and Mtwara in both hard and electronic copies.

**Announced by:**  
**DIRECTOR GENERAL,**  
**National Environment Management Council (NEMC)**

**Issued by:**  
**The Public Relations and Communications Unit**  
**National Environment Management Council (NEMC) Head Office,**  
**Plot No. 28, 29 & 30-35 Regent Street, P.O. Box 63154, Dar es Salaam.**  
**Telephone: +255 22 2774889, Direct line: +255 22 2774852**  
**Mobile: 0713 608930/ 0692108566**  
**Fax: +255 22 2774901, Email: dg@nemc.or.tz**



## NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL(NEMC)

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE NOTICE

The National Environment Management Council (NEMC) is a body corporate re-established in 2004 by the Environmental Management Act Cap.191 (EMA Cap. 191) as a national environmental regulatory and enforcement institution responsible for overseeing management and protection of environment in Tanzania. The objective for which the Council was established is stipulated in Section 17(1) of EMA Cap.191 and inter alia includes: to undertake compliance, enforcement, review and monitoring of environmental impact assessment, facilitation of public participation in environmental decision making, exercise general supervision and coordinate overall matters that are environmental related.

The government has entrusted NEMC to ensure integrity of the environment for improved people's livelihood and sustained industrial development. The Council, therefore, is taking all necessary measures to ensure improved environmental performance of industries and development projects through improved EIA/EA studies as well as compliance and enforcement programs. In fulfilling its mandate to ensure compliance and enforcement, the Council has conducted numerous monitoring and inspection activities in almost every region in the country. The monitoring and inspection exercises have established that many facilities still lack environmental programs needed to improve their environmental performance. Non-compliance by facilities have led to various environmental problems including water pollution, air pollution, soil pollution, biodiversity loss, land degradation, poor management of solid wastes to mention a few.

The observation made by the Council during inspections has established that major factors contributing to environmental problems to some facilities include:

- operating without environmental certificate (they have not undertaken EIA/EA studies);
- Some failure of developers to implement specific conditions attached to the granted certificates;
- Lack of effective wastewater treatment systems;
- Lack of systems to control air emissions;
- operating without qualified personnel in the field of environmental management;
- Lack of self-environmental monitoring programs;
- Lack of documentation on environmental issues;
- Failure of Investors to pay statutory annual environmental fees;
- Failure of Developers to respond adequately to the directives given by the Council; and
- Other developers have registered their projects with the Council for the intention of conducting Environmental Audits, but have suspended the process without notifying the Council.

All these are non-compliance issues and can have detrimental effect to the environment which we depend on for sustaining people's livelihood and business.

All owners or proponents of industries and development projects are reminded that with all the above mentioned problems they are directed to comply with the law. This is derived from the fact that the investment in the Country is extensive and continues to grow particularly in the field of processing and manufacturing industries, mining, infrastructures, buildings, farms, tourism (hotels and lodges) and petrol filling and service stations among others. Therefore, without appropriate environmental measures, the subsequent environmental problems can hardly be reversed hence voluntary compliance is highly encouraged.

In order to assess the level of compliance, the Council will be conducting an extensive monitoring of the facilities and development projects countrywide and you are reminded that it is important that you fulfil all the environmental requirements as stipulated in the Environmental Management Act, 2004 and its regulations that include:

- Acquisition of Environmental certificate and adherence to the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) as well as general and specific conditions as stipulated on the certificate for those who have been issued with Certificates;
- Conducting and submitting annual environmental audit reports for those with granted certificates;
- Having effective system for treating wastewater to meet Tanzanian effluent standards;
- Having proper systems for managing storm water;
- Having proper systems for managing solid wastes;
- Having appropriate systems for controlling air emissions to levels that are acceptable according to Tanzanian emissions standards;
- Submission of the monitoring results to the Council on a regular basis;
- Having qualified personnel to guide on environmental management issues at your facility;
- Workers being provided with personal protective equipment (PPEs);
- Appropriate systems for managing chemicals and hazardous wastes being in place;
- Improved general housekeeping;
- Having implemented previously issued directives by the Council to respective projects;
- Paying outstanding statutory fees and charges as stipulated in the Environmental Management (Fees & Charges) (Amendment) Regulations, 2018;
- Paying outstanding fees and penalties;
- Effective system for environmental documentation and record keeping being in place;

This notice covers all projects that are developed and managed by Private developers, Public Institutions, and Local Government Authorities (LGAs).

Please take note that non-compliance to any of these aspects may lead to enforcement action.

In case you will need further clarification please do not hesitate to visit NEMC's office located at Plot No. 28- 30 in Dar es Salaam, or NEMC Zonal Offices in Arusha, Dodoma, Mbeya, Mwanza and Mtwara.

**Announced by:**  
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PanAfrican Energy Tanzania contract administrator Ritha Mohele (L) and Kilwa district executive director Renuus Mchaur (R) sign an MoU worth over 1bn/- in Kilwa yesterday for the provision of health facilities in the district by the company, witnessed by Kilwa Town Council chairman Abuu Mjaka. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## PAET to build health facilities in Kilwa District

By Guardian Reporter

PAN African Energy Tanzania (PAET) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for over 1bn/- with the Kilwa District Council (KDC) to construct health facilities in the district as part of efforts to continue contributing to the wellbeing of the local community.

Signed on Wednesday, the MoU encompasses the construction of Somanga Health Centre, Kinyonga District Hospital and a district pharmacy at Kinyonga District Hospital in Kilwa. The construction of Somanga Health Centre and that of the district pharmacy are both in response to the government's directive that all villages in Tanzania should have a dispensary and all wards should have health centres. The directive requires that district council sets up a pharmaceutical shop to ensure reliable supply of medicines for community members accessing services at district hospitals and health centres.

The PAET managing director, Andy Hanna, said the project tied to the MoU demonstrates the company's commitment to transparency in what it does to ensure that the project benefits the people and projects can be sustained by the regions in which they are built.

"PAET is also proud to be a part of the Songo Songo project alongside the government and our partners TPDC and Songas. The project has so far returned significant revenues to the government and generated untold employment as a consequence of the natural gas that we supply for power and industries. We hope that we can continue the project and grow business in Tanzania to accelerate and increase the support we are providing Tanzania to date."

Alongside industrialization and processing increase volume of gas to enable greater power generation and power stability, PAET is equally committed to improving lives of the people in Lindi and Kilwa districts, he stated.

"We develop corporate social responsibility programs hand in hand with the regional authorities, district councils, district leaders and spokespersons from the people themselves," he explained.

Estimated costs for the construction of the facilities include Tsh710, 333,100 for the Somanga Health Centre which will include the construction of the outpatient department block, theatre, maternity, laboratory, mortuary, laundry and incinerator units.

Similarly, around Tsh 136,500,000 is earmarked for the mortuary building at Kinyonga District Hospital in Kilwa Kivinje and Tsh 205,120,800 for the District Pharmacy at Kinyonga District Hospital in the district.

At the signing event, the company's corporate social responsibility manager, Andrew Kashangaki said that support for the projects was testimony to its long-standing commitment to improving the social wellbeing of the communities in which it operates.

The company continues to develop and implement health and other socially-impactful programs to tremendously improve the lives of all the communities in Kilwa District, he said.

Citing the positive impact of the construction of health facilities in the district, Kashangaki he stated that the company will use local resources, mainly local labour and construction materials sourced from local suppliers, thus having direct benefit on the community.

In the entire period of the construction, PAET will utilize local contractors and employ local artisans. "We will ensure that all the building materials and logistical services are procured from local suppliers," he specified, elaborating that materials such as cement, a key component in the construction, will be purchased from the local factory in Kilwa or Dangote Cement Factory in Mtwara.

Kilwa District Council chairman Abuu Mjaka commended PAET for this noble gesture and urged all stakeholders in the region to support such projects.

Successful corporate social responsibility requires concerted efforts of all individuals and institutions to come up with effective initiatives and activities that realize the desired benefit and serve all segments of society, he asserted.

PAET has been pioneering and implementing health and education projects in the district, significantly impacting daily lives of community members for the last 13 years.

By Guardian Reporter

WEIGHTS and Measures Agency (WMA) has underscored the need for measurement fairness in trade to maintain standards of goods at time when the country is heading to industrialization.

Speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam, manager of WMA at the port, Peter Chuwa said that the agency is dedicated to protecting consumers, businesses and manufacturers from unfair practices through application of accurate weights and measures.

"That's why we're encouraging the public to ensure fairness between the trader and consumer. This will facilitate the country realize its goals," he said when explaining on how WMA works ahead of World Metrology Day marked on May 20 each year. This year's World Metrology Day is themed "The Interna-

## World Metrology Day: WMA touts standards,

tional System of Units - Fundamentally Better."

Chuwa described WMA as an executive agency aimed at protecting consumers through legal metrological control in Tanzania Mainland.

"For the government to get the right taxes, it also needs right measurements. And at this department we need to have correct measurements which are used in measuring petroleum products," he said, noting that the law is very clear for anyone tempering with measurements.

WMA handles imported fuel through different ships and one of their tasks is to ensure that the petroleum products

are correctly measured.

"We are encouraging people to ensure that laws governing weights and measures are adhered in the entire value chain of fuel—from the port, wholesale to end users."

May 20 is World Metrology Day, commemorating the anniversary of the signing of the Metre Convention in 1875. The treaty provides the basis for a coherent measurement system worldwide that underpins scientific discovery and innovation, industrial manufacturing and international trade, as well as improving the quality of life and protection of the global environment.

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR) is next week expected to undertake a sensitization visit to Djibouti, where among other things it will hold discussions with various stakeholders with a view to promoting the court's activities.

During the mission, court members will pay a courtesy calls on the Prime Minister, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Justice and the Speaker of the National Assembly.

"The sensitization visit will help to raise awareness of the court's existence and encourage more AU Member States to ratify the protocol and also make the declaration to allow individuals and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to have direct access to the court," said the AfCHPR president, Justice Sylvain Oré.

"For the court to discharge its mandate and further strengthen the African human rights system, a greater number of countries must ratify the protocol and make the declaration under Article 34(6)," he emphasized.

## Pan-African court for human rights sensitisation seminar

Djibouti signed the protocol establishing the court on 15 November 2005 but is yet to ratify it and make a declaration.

Specific objectives of the sensitization visit include raising public awareness about the court, encouraging the ratification of the protocol and deposit of the declaration that allows individuals and NGOs direct access to the court.

Others are sensitizing would-be applicants on how to access the court and procedures involved, encouraging the public to utilize the court in settling human rights disputes and encouraging the utilization of the court for advisory opinions.

The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights was established by virtue of Article 1 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the establishment of the to

complement the protective mandate of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, with a view to enhancing the protection of human rights on the continent.

Since the adoption of the protocol in June 1998, 30 of 55 AU member states have ratified it and only nine state parties to the protocol have made the declaration under Article 34(6). These are Burkina Faso, Benin, Ghana, Gambia, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Malawi, Tanzania and Tunisia.

As of March 2019, the court had received 202 applications of which 52 have been finalised.

The court is composed of 11 judges, nationals of member states of the African Union elected in their individual capacity.

The pan African Court meets four times a year in ordinary sessions and may hold extra-ordinary sessions.

**COMRADE AUCTION MART & COURT BROKERS**  
P.O. BOX 61508 TELEPHONE 2775904 FAX 2775903  
DAR ES SALAAM

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**

Pursuant to instruction given to us by CRDB BANK PLC, Vijana, Mikochei, Singida and Mbagala Branches. We shall conduct a public auction of properties after 14 days notice of this publication to auction properties of the borrower's who defaulted paying to the bank.

**THE BORROWER'S SECURITIES TO BE AUCTIONED ARE AS FOLLOWS:-**

PLLOT NO. AND LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	AUCTION DATE AND TIME
1	House on Plot no. 329 Block "F" Mtwara Area Iringa Municipality with CT. no. 14682-MBYLR, LO. No. 342632 INO: Menas Hebel Masengo.	Auction on 31st May 2019 from 10:00 am onwards.
2	House on Plot no. 16 Block "KK" Nyakato Area Mwanza City with CT. no. 51868, LO. No. 421450 INO: Sabina Christopher Masalu.	Auction on 03rd June 2019 from 10:00 am onwards.
3	Property (Guest House) on Plot no. 6 Hydrom Mbulu District with CT. no. 21668, INO: Justine Sidamuy Masuja.	Auction on 03rd June 2019 from 10:00 am onwards.
4	Property (Yard 5432sqm Area) on Plot no. 1362 Block "C" Mtoni Kijichi area in Temeke Municipality-Dar es salaam with CT. no.141636, LO. no. 628802 INO: Heke Winga Kidiku.	Auction on 7th June 2019 from 10:00 am onwards.

**TERMS AND CONDITION OF THE AUCTION.**

- The successful bidder will be required to pay a deposit of 25% of the amount purchased and the remaining balance of 75% to be paid on or before the 14th day.
- In default of payment of the said balance, the amount deposited shall be forfeited and the property will be re-auctioned.
- Transfer of Title shall be borne by the purchaser.

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT THE AUCTIONEER'S NOS.  
0754 262 461, 0655 262 461 OR 0623 445 566, 0758 212 728

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**VACANT POSITION**

**About CRS**  
Catholic Relief Services is the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. CRS works to save, protect, and transform lives in need in more than 100 countries, without regard to race, religion or nationality. CRS's Agriculture and Livelihoods team supports farming communities using our Pathway to Prosperity approach, which enables rural families to increase their productivity within sustainable landscapes, achieve a living income and build more resilient communities.

**SUPPORTING SEED SYSTEMS FOR DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR- (S34D Policy Coordinator) - Dar es Salaam based (1 position)**

**Job Responsibilities:**

- Supervise Consultants on literature review of seed policies – both at a global level and for S34D geographies. Focus on specific policies such as:
- liberalizing seed quality options;
- expanding market frontier for seed sales (by actors and venues);
- free seed distribution policies, and;
- extent of seed counterfeiting.
- Conduct institutional landscapes to understand different seed initiatives active in a country / region and help identify points for coordination, collaboration, and colocation;
- Identify data needs and develop options to generate and cultivate an evidence-base necessary to make informed decision-makings;
- Coordinate among S34D partners to ensure policy is integrated within their portfolios;
- Facilitate policy dialogues and discussions with S34D consortium partners, national partners, regional, and international partners;
- Work with consultants to supervise and develop seed policy road maps for S34D focus geographies;
- Lead facilitation process with S34D partners by informing them about findings from the seed policy road maps;
- Inform on-the-ground programmatic implementation through use of the information generated from seed policy road maps, ongoing policy dialogues, and stakeholder workshops;
- Co-lead with data management and analyses necessary for creating and managing the evidence-base;
- Coordinate with S34D Data Analyst in maintaining and updating the policy evidence-base
- Play a lead role in maintaining repository of knowledge base for anecdotal and qualitative evidence and stories that

inform policy formulation and implementation;

- Provide technical assistance to S34D partners related to policy matters;
- Lead development of policy briefings and infographics for USAID and various stakeholders;
- Support implementation S34D Policy Learning Agenda and aide study designs;
- Together with the MELPAS Advisor, serve as the public face for S34D in policy-related fora;
- Liaise with national-based S34D policy central links to stimulate coordinated policy think-networks;

**Qualifications**

- Master's degree in International development, Public economics, Agricultural Economics, Regulatory economics or any other related field
- At least five years of demonstrated experience in managing seed system programs – especially in seed policy domain. Program management experience will be a plus.
- Subject matter knowledge of informal and formal seed systems in developing nations preferred.
- At least three years demonstrated expertise in facilitation and coordination with an array of stakeholders is required
- Excellent communication skills – both verbal and written – are required.
- Knowledge of data management and data visualization tools skills are preferred.

**Note:** All applicants must be legally authorized to work in the United States at the time of application.

Interested and qualified applicants are requested to submit their applications to CRS Human Resources Manager at [TZ\\_HR@crs.org](mailto:TZ_HR@crs.org) by 17h00 EAT on 26 May 2019.

Only submissions that meet the following criteria will be reviewed

- Subject line must read "S34D Policy Coordinator"
- CV must be in Word or PDF format and not exceed 4 pages.
- Cover letter summarizing qualifications and motivation. Cover letter must be in Word or PDF format and not exceed 2 pages.

**Disclaimer:** This job description is not an exhaustive list of the skill, effort, duties, and responsibilities associated with the position.

CRS' talent acquisition procedures reflect our commitment to protecting children and vulnerable adults from abuse and exploitation.

**Only short-listed candidates will be contacted**

**NOTICE**

**OUR ESTEEMED CUSTOMERS,**

We wish to inform you that CRDB Bank will carry out a major maintenance in its core banking system on **Saturday 18th May from 21:00hrs to 16:00hrs of Sunday 19th May, 2019.**

Such maintenance aims at increasing efficiency and improvement of service delivery to our customers and the general public.

Please be informed that all services will continue to be available through all our channels i.e ATMS, CRDB Wakala, Simbanking, Internet Banking and MerchantPOS.

Please contact us through:

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[info@crdbbank.com](mailto:info@crdbbank.com)  
[www.crdbbank.co.tz](http://www.crdbbank.co.tz)

**CRDB BANK**  
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## Who'll come to the rescue of these hapless graduates?

**T**HIS is not the first time we are addressing this issue in our editorial columns, and we are sure it will not be the last time for us to do so. We have sound reasons for the relentless reiteration.

Hordes of fresh and 'experienced' Tanzanian university and college graduates are out on the streets in urban areas as well as other areas across the country, most of them literally so - that is, not engaged in any income-generation activity worth decent mention.

Indeed, they are to be seen virtually anywhere and everywhere in the country and in various other countries, many doing what most they believe they can to land salaried employment but finding the hunt an endlessly wild-goose chase.

Except for those with the strongest of hearts, they are understandably a desperate and often enraged lot by no means taking kindly to "professional advice" sometimes by people speaking from comfort zones that even small-time agriculture and small-scale business can lead to prosperity and are therefore avenues one could explore.

This is primarily because it is as clear as daylight that even start-up capital and other basic inputs or resources that would help make the "avenues" cited truly pay are not easy to come by.

It's small wonder, then, that one would find it paradoxical that our universities and colleges continue to enrol and churn out graduates in all manner of disciplines including "rare and strategic" ones such as medicine, engineering and teaching when there is every indication that the job market has reached saturation point and other "employment grounds" can scarcely absorb even one soul more.

Sad to say, this is not a hypothetical situation. We have it on good authority that hundreds of late 2015 and late 2016 graduates including those who pursued a teaching course - in both science and arts "streams" - have been

travelling the length and breadth of the country searching for teaching jobs that many find even engagement as poorly paid volunteers a blessing.

To its credit, the government recently came up with good news to those who have specialised in the teaching of science subjects, saying it would absorb some in public institutions of learning.

True, private schools and colleges might also be willing to sort of follow suit. However, we know that many are grappling with such dire funding and other constraints that they can hardly do much to bail out the distressed job seekers.

Meanwhile, and this is also most baffling, there are still reports of many learning institutions in the country being short of qualified teachers. The government must be fully in the know on the situation and it would help for it to tell the nation why, funds allowing, some of the graduates yet to land jobs are not given the chance to plug the yawning gaps.

There would also be obvious utility in devising and implementing more workable modalities of facilitating or indeed fast-tracking the involvement of our graduates in genuinely gainful self-employment instead of off-handedly "recommending" options like vaguely defined forms of what is commonly described as entrepreneurship.

For way too long, we have shut thousands of young graduates out of salaried jobs by laying needlessly too much stress on a requirement known as "... years of practical experience" when they are denied the chance to start gaining that very experience.

Surely, this does not make sense and is actually as frustrating as it is enraging. At least for the sake of ensuring a fair deal and harmony, we must take the interests of our young men and women, including graduates, as seriously as those of everyone else.

But can we? Will we? Shall we? We should, or we shall not be planning beyond today.

## Helping needy people an obligation but some 'givers' not that generous

**T**HOSE at the launch in Dar es Salaam several years ago of an orphans' website known as Voice of Orphans (VOT) will not have forgotten the piercing remarks some speakers made about how some presumed philanthropists viciously exploit the needy people to whose help they are both supposed and expected to come.

It was reported - and this was nothing new, really - that some people and institutions entrusted with caring for and generally supporting orphans languishing in misery later turn hostile and force those meant as beneficiaries to endure even greater misery.

The government, faith-based agencies, various other organisations and institutions as well as individuals have doubtless done an immense lot in adding value to the lives of orphans and many of those other people to whom even mere "drops of mercy" are the only means of meaningful survival.

Yet there were testimonies to the effect that there were pitiless attendants at some orphanages who were fond of making the poor children under their care suffer multiple tragedies by violating their basic rights.

Even worse, according to witness accounts, some of the funds and other assistance meant for the orphans did not actually reach the beneficiaries but landed in the hands of fraudsters masquerading as good Samaritans.

But there was at least one soothing voice at the launch, and we have chosen to ensure it remains anonymous: "The

orphan of today is the child of a friend you lost yesterday and the future orphan is your child. I know what it is like to watch somebody you love, who is an orphan, deteriorate and have to struggle with life."

With this, there should no longer be any dishonest elements in our midst seeking to turn mercy drops meant for disadvantaged children into their own fortune. But is that the scenario we are being treated to? By no means.

All those who can should promise - today - to do the most they can do to sensitise the public on the fact that orphans and other disadvantaged members of society also deserve a decent life.

Interestingly, lady managing the agency overseeing the website that was being launched was herself raised in an orphanage. She confirmed that many orphans were vulnerable to human trafficking for sexual purposes largely because they lack people caring enough to defend them.

When someone of such stature says that about a life she knows so well, who are we to question the veracity of her message to the world? And this is reason enough for society to hasten to join the noble war that truly well-meaning sympathisers are waging of freeing orphans from the jaws of the greedy monsters baying for the blood of the defenceless children.

As Saint Augustine would put it, love has the hands to help others, the feet to hasten to the poor and needy, the eyes to see misery and want, and the ears to hear people's sighs and sorrows.



## Gender equity is a key component of ethical journalism

BY HANNAH STORM

**W**OMEN account for almost half of the global population. Yet to look at the constitution of newsrooms or news reporting, you might think that figure was wrong.

Ethical journalism is rooted in humanity, built on transparency and advances work that is accountable.

We cannot have truly ethical journalism until gender is on the agenda in a fair and sensitive way, in newsroom practices: be that in the people we hire, retain and promote, or in the work we produce.

Gender is not just a women's issue. We all benefit from rejecting harmful stereotypes, clichés and prejudice. We all gain from greater balance and context, and from amplifying the voices and experiences of vulnerable communities which have traditionally been marginalised.

In my new role at the Ethical Journalism Network, I hope we can support partners everywhere to integrate ethical gender considerations into their news reports and newsrooms, and to recognize the roles they can play in positively shaping public discourse.

Change can't and won't happen overnight. But it needs to happen quicker than it has been.

In 2015, the Global Media Monitoring Project warned: "Progress towards equality of women and men in the news media has virtually ground to a halt."

The GMMP is carried out on one day every five years. Across the 114 countries analysed in its last study, women accounted for 24 per cent of those heard, read about or seen in newspapers, television and radio news.

The figure was unchanged from 2010. It was scarcely better online, with women making up 26 per cent of people in internet news stories and media news tweets combined.

The number of women reporting stories was less than two out of five: the same as in 2005. It will be interesting to see if the 2020 figures differ.

The #MeToo movement has raised awareness of the need for more gender sensitivity across the board, but I don't think there has yet been the sea change needed.

The International Women's Media Foundation has a number of pioneering projects to support women journalists. A handful of programmes have emerged with a specific gender focus, like France 24's The 51 Per Cent.

The BBC's Outside Source ensures that at least 50 per cent of its experts are women, something it ensures through self-monitoring. In Poland, Newsmavens collates news from across Europe and reframes it from the perspective of women journalists.

In late 2017, the Wall Street Journal



announced an effort to overturn gender inequality at the paper. Several years ago Bloomberg initiated a strategy which now includes the family-friendly policies, a mentoring scheme, media training for women executives across different industries, and an index measuring gender equality for more than 100 companies.

But despite these - and a number of other - efforts, outdated stereotypes continue to be perpetrated, often focusing on a woman's appearance or associations instead of her ability or achievements.

This is particularly the case when women reach positions of influence in male-dominated industries. In August 2015, the Associated Press published a tweet, linked to an article about the trial of Al Jazeera journalists in Egypt, which read: "Amal Clooney, actor's wife, representing Al Jazeera journalist accused in Egypt of ties to extremists."

The tweet was later deleted, but not before it had implied that one of the world's most successful international human rights lawyers was only newsworthy because of her husband.

In January Nancy Pelosi, the highest-ranking elected woman in US history, resumed her role as Speaker of the House of Representatives. The New York Times tweeted a photograph, captioned: "Nancy Pelosi, wearing a hot pink dress, ascended to the marble dais." Later the tweet was deleted, with the paper calling it "poorly framed".

It's not just appearance or association that implies that the achievements of some women are an aberration. It's common to read demeaning language with gendered connotations, like "hysterical", "feisty", "bossy", "whining".

For women of colour or those who belong to other marginalised communities, it's often worse. Stereotypical language is directed against men too and can be just as damaging in terms of reinforcing

well and truly broken.

For the most part, women tend to be more vulnerable, less able to call the shots, and more likely to be exposed to abuses of power, both in the newsroom and in the field.

In my previous role at the International News Safety Institute, I often heard from men about the extra risks faced by women in hostile environments, rather than the extra perspectives they could bring. But, sadly, women are still regarded as the problem rather than the solution.

I have heard anecdotes of women being taken off stories because their male colleagues were not to be trusted or because they were brave enough to speak out about their experiences of harassment and well-meaning editors thought they were not capable of covering the same kind of stories again.

Women do face a greater likelihood of abuse than men. But this doesn't mean that they shouldn't report. Far from it. Without women, we lack the voices that represent one half of the world's population. When those voices are silenced, there is a significant knock-on effect.

One of the most wide-ranging current threats to women journalists is online harassment. They are much more likely to be attacked online than their male colleagues - and, when they are, this is often sexualised.

This takes its toll, especially because the abuse often hits when women are most vulnerable, like first thing in the morning when they turn on their phones. I know many women who are now self-censoring, whilst others are considering giving up journalism.

The best and most successful ethical journalism understands the importance of collaboration and amplification. The volume of a hundred voices resonates more than one solitary shout.

Until women are valued in the same way as men, there can be no equality, be that in the newsroom or in the words and images we use to shatter stereotypes and truly reflect the communities we serve. And until that is the case, I really believe that we cannot really call ourselves ethical, no matter what our gender.

*This article was originally published by the Ethical Journalism Network as part of their annual publication: "Saving the news: Ethics and the fight for the future of journalism". Hannah Storm became the new Director and CEO of the Ethical Journalism Network in April 2019. She joined the International News Safety Institute (INSI) in 2010, becoming its director in 2012. Before joining INSI, Storm spent more than a decade working as a journalist for television and radio, online and print for outlets including the BBC, The Times, Reuters and ITN, and Oxfam.*



# 'Global South newsrooms leading innovation against disinformation'

By David Maas

Amid destabilised political circumstances and threats to press freedom, newsrooms in the global South are pioneering sustainable, innovative approaches to combat the viral spread of disinformation, a new report has found.

Published last month by the Reuters Institute's Journalism Innovation Project, "Lessons in Innovation: How International News Organisations Combat Disinformation through Mission-Driven Journalism" carried out case studies of three digital news outlets - Rappler in the Philippines, South Africa's The Daily Maverick and India's The Quint.

Researchers examined the ingenuity and innovation that each newsroom's respective country contexts have inspired.

"The crises faced by these news organisations are existential - they are not just in the realm of business model upheaval, they go to the journalism mission at the core of their purpose," lead author Julie Posetti told IJNet.

"In the developed West, we have only just woken up to the media freedom implications of viral disinformation, state trolling and the murder of journalists with impunity in our midst," she noted.

"Unlike these countries, we don't have a recent history of media activism focused on defending freedom of expression rights that support the practice of independent journalism," she added.

In one example, in the wake of disinformation campaigns conducted by the Duterte government that targeted journalists and other critics of the administration, Rappler launched a new beat around verification and busting disinformation. The news outlet proceeded to map and store data about disinformation networks in the Philippines, efforts they have compiled into a database dubbed the "shark tank".

"We're the only country that has its own database that shows you how we went from a democracy to a near dictatorship. We can show you how they've done it,"



Rappler co-founder Maria Ressa is quoted in the report as having said:

"The initiative caught Facebook's attention, and a fact-checking partnership was born through which the two organisations worked together to expose "troll networks" and remove "200 hundred pages, groups and accounts" from the social media giant's platform, according to the report.

Journalists at the outlet have also used engaging graphics and new storytelling methods to help their

readers better understand their reporting.

"We've embraced our identity as fact-checkers," Rappler political reporter Pia Ranada said in the publication's press release, adding: "We may be alienating people, but then we think that if we take a stand people will admire that and might side with us."

In South Africa, The Daily Maverick has spearheaded collaborative fact-checking and verification efforts - both within the newsroom and with readers -

to counter disinformation's spread. These efforts have been most successful in slowing the spread of misinformation on WhatsApp.

This collaboration emerged in the aftermath of the Bell Pottinger public relations scandal during which journalists at the outlet were targets of online, and often gendered, harassment linked to disinformation.

The Quint meanwhile created WebQoof, an online platform dedicated to exposing mis- and disinformation, amid such

campaigns in the country that have targeted critics of Hindu nationalist Prime Minister Narendra Modi - or the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party.

Through WebQoof, The Quint's journalists have debunked false stories in engaging ways, efforts which have often been picked up by mainstream news outlets.

"Unfortunately, we are in a post-truth world. A substantial number of people are not comfortable enough to know what the facts are. They just want the narrative to be based on what they already believe

in," The Quint's senior news editor, Jaskirat Singh Bawa, said in the press release.

"Do you take them head on? Do you tell them, 'No, you're wrong,'" he wondered, adding: "Or do you try and involve them in a dialogue, and try and make it more participative, and try to explain how damaging misinformation can be to the social fabric, to the welfare of society in general?"

For the report, Posetti, who is also a senior research fellow at the Reuters Institute, embedded herself at each of the three newsrooms featured in the report over a month's time early this year.

"It's a case of mission-driven journalism, invested in preserving hard-won democracies, in a recognized fight against external threats," Posetti said of the news outlets' innovation against disinformation, noting further: "Western media should take note."

"Western newsrooms can learn much from the innovative, creative approaches to combating disinformation and other media freedom threats practised by these news organisations," she said.

The report ultimately identifies nine lessons surrounding journalism innovation other newsrooms should heed, including that a clear mission helps focus innovation, mission-driven journalism may divide audiences but is not the same as partisanship, and the ability to "pivot" in response to a crisis is an innovation marker.

Among the others are that audiences can be part of journalism innovation, reporting can fuel organisational innovation, innovation requires investment in new skills, tools, techniques and training (no matter how limited resources are), innovation can be based on core values but also requires constant re-examination of whether a more fundamental shift is necessary.

The rest are that innovations need to be shared across the whole news organisation to avoid siloing and that, with a clear mission, it is possible to do important, innovative journalism for a large audience even with limited resources.

AGENCIES

## PesaCheck debunks health myths in East Africa, spreading the truth

By Irene Wangui

Late last year, the PesaCheck fact-checking initiative helped debunk a fake story about the outbreak of the human papilloma virus (HPV) in the western Kenya county of Kisii.

According to the claim, the disease was spread through kissing and killed faster than the AIDS virus. The hoax originated on WhatsApp, spread on Facebook and then was picked up by a local radio station, Ghetto Radio.

Through a partnership with Facebook designed to check the spread of misinformation on social media, PesaCheck was able to flag the post as false. Facebook ranked it significantly lower in its News Feed as a result, a practice the company said cuts future views by more than 80 per cent on average.

Facebook also linked the original post to the PesaCheck article explaining that HPV is transmitted through sexual contact only, not kissing.

Health misinformation is a growing problem in East Africa as social media expands the spread of hoaxes and other false information that can put lives at risk. Fact-checking initiatives such as PesaCheck are meant to combat the problem.

Through partnerships with local news outlets, PesaCheck is able to spread verified information on health claims faster.

A project of Code for Africa, a key partner of the Washington-based International Centre for



Journalists (ICFJ). PesaCheck operates in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

The initiative mainly checks the authenticity of statements about public finances and service delivery, including claims made by government officials on social media or in the press.

Additionally, PesaCheck has started to get to the truth behind a number of health assertions as well. For instance, it debunked

false rumours in January about Ebola and Tilapia Lake Virus outbreaks in Kenya.

A story published by an online news platform and shared on Facebook claimed that two cases of Ebola had been reported in Nairobi. PesaCheck found that neither Kenyan health officials nor the World Health Organisation had recorded any such cases.

In Uganda, PesaCheck refuted a

claim that government spending on health had dropped by 90 per cent over a five-year period. The claim was made in a newspaper editorial that called government spending on healthcare a joke and blamed it for high mortality rates in public hospitals.

PesaCheck's review of Uganda's National Health Accounts (NHA) found that per capita expenditure on healthcare had actually increased over that time.

In Tanzania, when a health official blamed a shortage of HIV drugs in public hospitals on the withdrawal of donor funding, PesaCheck found the accusation to be partially true. It found that, while the withdrawal by donors had adversely affected the supply of medication, other factors such as poor supply chain management heavily contributed to the shortage as well.

How does PesaCheck spread

the truth? In addition to its collaboration with Facebook, PesaCheck says that local news outlets often pick up its fact-checked stories, including the Star in Kenya, Clouds Media and Fikra Pevu in Tanzania, and international news aggregation site Global Voices.

PesaCheck articles are also shared on social media, with more than 70,000 shares on Facebook and Twitter. PesaCheck also

fact checks information on WhatsApp. Users can send questionable claims to the group's number for verification.

In recent months, PesaCheck has expanded its fact checking to include claims made on WhatsApp, the encrypted messaging platform owned by Facebook. It invites members of the public to share such claims for verification on the PesaCheck WhatsApp number.

PesaCheck managing editor Eric Mugendi says the fact-checking service focuses on issues that affect the well-being of citizens.

"PesaCheck verifies claims made by public figures on allocation of public resources around health and other sustainable development goals," he said, adding: "This helps hold governments accountable and ensure that citizens have accurate information for their decision making."

"Our fact checks also help the public understand the rationale behind certain health policies or actions by government," said Mugendi. For example, when Tanzania introduced a cervical cancer vaccination programme, PesaCheck fact-checked the health minister's claim that cervical cancer accounted for one-third of all cancer deaths in the country.

"We found the health minister's claim to be true and hopefully, in this case, helped citizens better understand the rationale behind the vaccine programme," he said.



# WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY

## MINISTERS'S STATEMENT



www.mwtc.go.tz

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY  
17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2019

2019 Theme: "BRIDGING THE STANDARDISATION GAP"

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY



Today is an important day, as Tanzania joins different nations in the world in marking the 50th anniversary of the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day which has been celebrated annually since 1969. It is also the day when people and nations ponder on ways and means of leveraging ICT as an integral part of their development. In this day we also mark the founding of ITU and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865.

Since mid-19th century, telecommunication has provided means to people and nations to communicate irrespective of the distances that separate them. From those times of simple telephony to advances in Internet and Next Generation Networks, the field of ICT has grown from length to length, providing better communication among people and societies. Indeed, ICT has made the World a global village where its people are always in touch.

In marking this day, the international Telecommunication Union sets a theme which should be the focus of each year's celebration. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge this year's theme as "Bridging the Standardization Gap". The standardization gap is referring to disparities in the ability of developing countries, relative to developed ones, to access, implement and influence ITU's international standards. One of

ITU's core objectives is to develop international standards that offer a common basis for growth and innovation, highlighting the importance of ITU's efforts to ensure that our standardization process is globally inclusive.

The international standards that are produced by the ITU are referred as "Recommendations" and they become mandatory only when adopted as part of a national law. Tanzania being an active ITU member has the responsibility of adopting ITU standards to be legitimately within the country.

ITU standards create mutual benefits for both developed and developing countries, that enables the companies in developing countries to access the global marketplace, and enable global players to access emerging markets.

Tanzania is committed to participate in the programme of Bridging the Standardization Gap that is spearheaded by the International Telecommunication Union that aims to empowering our local experts in ITU's standards-making process.

In this regards Tanzania has put in place the National ICT Policy of 2016 that recognises that there is a rapid technological advancement which has led to convergence of technology and service delivery channels. The policy emphasises on the need to use existing standards as well as developing new ones including having a standardised approach to achieve interoperability supported by standards development organizations, with the active participation of industry. Tanzania also recognises that standards do encourages economies of scale, interoperability of technologies and systems, competition, innovation and safety, which are crucial for the growth of the ICT sector.

The Government has put in place the Electronic and Postal Communications (Electronic Communications Equipment

Standards) Regulations, 2018. These Regulations provides the requirements for standardisation of equipment and systems in Tanzania and allows the adoption of regional and international communication standards. Implementation of these Regulations will help in reducing the Standardisation Gap.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all Stakeholders involved in developing and implementing standards related to the communications sector to play their role in bridging standardization gap and ensuring development of inclusive ICT standards that will address all people in the United Republic of Tanzania. I also urge companies and academic organisations to enhance capacity building in the standardisation field.

The United Republic of Tanzania is committed to support and localise all relevant and applicable ITU standards in the country. The aim is to increase awareness to the application of standards, make use of the relevant standards and finally to participate in the works of standard with the aim of bridging the standardization gap within the country and hence accelerates ICTs for all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Hon. Eng. Isack Kamweliwe (MP),  
MINISTER FOR WORKS, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

HAPPY 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

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## DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REMARKS



WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY  
17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2019

2019 Theme: "BRIDGING THE STANDARDISATION GAP"



ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs. It was founded to facilitate international connectivity in communications networks, to allocate global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strive to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide. Every time as you make a phone call, watch a television, listen to a radio, browse internet or send an email, you are benefitting from the work of ITU.

As ITU celebrate 50th anniversary of WTISD, Tanzania, as a member of ITU, joins other countries in the world to mark this Day whose theme is dedicated to raise awareness of the importance of ICT technical standards namely "Bridging the Standardisation Gap". The standardization gap is referring to disparities in accessing, implementing and influencing international standards developed in ITU. The gap between participation between developed and developing countries is enormous and that ITU is committed to reduce the gap by supporting inclusiveness measures to draw maximum efforts through a programme namely ITU's Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG).

ITU provides a platform where different stakeholders from both public and private sectors as well as academia, from both developing and developed countries, develop international ITU standards. ITU standards development process is beholden to the principles of consensus, transparency, balance, due process and openness through different specific technical groups, namely Study Groups (SG) in which representatives of the ITU-T membership develop standards applicable to various fields of information and communications technologies (ICTs). The standards facilitate inter-connection and interoperability and thus provide for a common base for growth and innovation; they define how telecommunication networks operate and interwork. Many technologies are based on ITU standards allowing all to benefit fairly from ICTs.

Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) on behalf of Government of the United Republic of Tanzania has been effectively participating in ITU standards-making process through ITU Study Groups.

Since mid-19th century, telecommunication has provided means by which people and nations communicate irrespective of the distances separating them. From those times of simple telephony to advances in Internet and Next Generation Networks, the field of ICTs has grown tremendously, providing better innovation in communication among people and societies in the urban areas as well as rural areas. These drastic changes have been experienced in Tanzania as well, as the results of adopting the use of ITU standards in the country.

This year, we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of World Telecommunications and Information Society Day (WTISD), which has been celebrated annually since 1969. The Day marks the founding of ITU on 17th May, 1865 when the first International Telegraph Convention was signed in Paris.

### Benefits gained through implementation of international standards in the country

Realizing the importance of using international standards, in 2006 TCRA introduced the Converged Licensing Framework consisting of four licenses: Network Facilities, Network Services, Application Services and Content Services, in four market segments: International, National, Regional and District. These licenses are technology neutral and service neutral as long as the offered service or technologies in use conform to international standards.

As a regulatory body responsible for communication sector in Tanzania, TCRA has been using international standards in executing its core functions that facilitates the growth of the sector among other things as summarized below:-

- Planning and managing of scarce communication resources such as numbering and radio frequency spectrum are in accordance to ITU standards, which have ensured the efficient use of the said resources;
- The communication equipment that are imported in the country are type approved by TCRA in accordance with ITU standards;
- Migration from analogue to digital terrestrial broadcasting technology was successful done as per the ITU standards;
- The use of evolved mobile wireless technologies from first generation (1G) to fourth generation (4G) in the country has been possible after implementing ITU standards.

As a result of using ITU standards, we have experienced high growth of numbers of connected telephone subscribers from 300,237 in the year 2000 to over 43 Million subscribers today.

The mobile financial services have grown substantially over the past few years, contributing to financial inclusion. This can be attributed to the consumer friendly numbering plan introduced by TCRA, for example, \*150\*004 (M-pesa of Vodacom), \*150\*014 (Sipessa of NIC), \*150\*024 (M-pesa of Zantel), \*150\*604 (Airtel money of Airtel), and for banks such as \*150\*034 (CIBD Simbani), \*150\*304 (Barclays), \*150\*504 (NBS), \*150\*664 (NMB), \*150\*714 (T-Pesa of TFC) and many others.

### Current and Future Engagements in ITU's Technical Standards making process

Currently, TCRA is participating in the work of the following ITU-T Study Groups (SG) among others:

- ITU-T Study Group 20: responsible for studies relating to Internet of Things (IoT) and its applications, and Smart Cities and Communities (SC2C). This includes studies relating to key data aspects of IoT and SC2C, e-services and smart services for SC2C. It is part of IoT standardization process.
- ITU-T Study Group 17: responsible for building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies (ICT). This includes studies relating to cybersecurity, security management, counting span and identity management. It also includes security architecture and framework, protection of personally identifiable information, and security

of applications and services for the Internet of Things (IoT), smart grid, smartphone, Software Defined Networking (SDN), Internet Protocol Television (IPTV), web services, social network, cloud computing, big data analytics, mobile financial system and tele-biometrics. It is part of standardization process focusing on security.

- ITU-T Study Group 13: which is responsible for studies relating to the requirements, architectures, capabilities of future networks focusing on 4G/5G, cloud computing and trusted network infrastructures. It is part of standardization process on emerging network technologies for 4G/5G networks and future networks.

TCRA is currently working on standards and specifications for Digital Sound Broadcasting (DSB) as per ITU standards that will see improved sound broadcasting quality, efficiency in spectrum usage and more improved coverage with value added services. The specifications are for Digital Radio receivers using DSB.

TCRA is also developing Technical specifications for Digital Television Receivers to achieve interoperability of decoders and TV as well as internet applications for broadcasting services.

### A call from TCRA for stakeholders

Today, as we are celebrating 50 years of World Telecommunications and Information Society Day (WTISD), TCRA will endeavour more people are aware of ITU standard-making process and familiar with participation in ITU meetings aiming at bridging the standardisation gap. We urge all stakeholders in Tanzania to keep on using the standardized technologies, which guarantee economies of scales, interoperability and seamless communications between networks.

### A call from ITU for stakeholders

TCRA is extending a call from ITU for various Stakeholders such as private-sector entities and academic institutions to join ITU. Members of ITU have the opportunities of participating in various physical and virtual remote meetings, which deals with standardization processes among other things, and have free access to training sessions, video primers and e-learning courses, facilitated participation in standards development, with services such as fellowship and mentorship programmes and tools for remote participation.

Eng. James M. Kilabu  
Director General, TCRA





## Sahara Energy, Brooge Petroleum due to build 250,000 bpd refinery

By Special Correspondent

Sahara Energy Resources DMCC Dubai and Brooge Petroleum and Gas Investment Co (BPGIC) and have signed a partnership agreement to set up an oil refinery capable of producing bunker fuel with a capacity of up to 250,000 barrels per day (bpd) in the Emirate of Fujairah.

Sahara Energy and BPGIC said the facility will be one of the first of its kind in the Middle East and North Africa to comply with the new regulations of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) 2020 by capping sulphur content in shipping fuels. The first phase of the planned refinery is expected to be completed by March 2020.

Mohammed Sanusi Barkindo, Secretary General of OPEC, attended the signing ceremony in Abu Dhabi and said the deal "evolved through the drive of the UAE's leadership in promoting and supporting such private initiatives and expediting the diversification of their economies".

He underlined the "unique role of the private sector as a critical engine for economic vision and strategies" globally.

Nicolaas Paardenkooper, the BPGIC CEO, meanwhile said: "The new facility will contribute to bolstering the growing status of the Emirate of Fujairah in the oil and gas industry and help meet

the growing demand for shipping fuel that complies with the new international laws on capping sulphur content in shipping fuels, as most of current shipping fuel contains up to 3.5 per cent sulphur."

He noted that new regulations of IMO will require ships to use fuels with a sulphur content below 0.5 per cent beginning next year, adding: "It falls in line with the company's expansion strategy and its growing contribution to the development of the oil and gas industry in the UAE by injecting more investments into this essential sector."

Sahara Group executive director Wale Ajibade said their Refinery Unit would from its location in Fujairah make Sahara Energy DMCC a major supplier of IMO 2020 compliant products in the UAE as well as in African, Asian and European markets.

"Sahara Energy DMCC is delighted to be part of this landmark leap into the future of clean energy. We are constantly seeking opportunities to expand our operations and develop the sector in line with global best practices," said the ED.

"Bringing energy to life is the passion that drives us at Sahara and we are committed to ensuring that our energy is accessible, clean and ultimately reliable for promoting sustainable development globally," he added.

Paardenkooper



Sahara Group executive director Wale Ajibade, Secretary General, Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Companies (OPEC) secretary general Mohammed Barkindo and BPGIC chief executive Nicolaas Paardenkooper at the ceremony that sealed the partnership between Sahara Energy and BPGIC towards the construction of a refinery to produce IMO 2020 compliant fuels in the United Arab Emirates. Photo: Agencies.

highlighted the process towards BPGIC's listing on Nasdaq Stock Exchange, which started last month, as a resounding success conducive for building up investor confidence

in the company and its expansion plans. For Ajibade, meanwhile: "Sahara Group continues to operate as foremost promoter of clean energy initiatives,

working in collaboration with prominent global stakeholders."

"In addition to other interventions, Sahara Group recently signed a Memorandum of

Understanding with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to promote reliable access to affordable and sustainable energy in Africa," he said.

## Bank awards third round of winners of its 'Double Your Deposit' Campaign

By Guardian Reporter

STANDARD Chartered Bank Tanzania Limited yesterday announced its winners of the second raffle of its 'Double Your Deposit' Campaign which is aimed at enhancing financial inclusion and the culture of savings through its recently launched Digital Bank on Mobile.

The newly launched Digital Bank on Mobile, which is accessible via the SC Mobile Tanzania App, enables individuals to open accounts wherever they are without needing to visit the Bank's branches at any stage of the account opening process.

Five winners were picked at yesterday's first raffle of the 'Double your Deposit' campaign.

Speaking at the event to pick the winners, bank's manager of Corporate Affairs, Brand and Marketing, Mariam Sezinga, said that the Campaign had been running for six weeks and that it is geared towards rewarding the Bank's individual clients in the Personal and Priority segments by doubling their deposits. She added that the campaign also incorporates additional monetary prizes to enable more clients benefit from the ongoing campaign.

Khahelo Joseph Sigalla of Mwanza emerged as the overall winner of the first raffle of the Standard Chartered Bank's "Double your Deposit"

campaign, seeing him double the amount that he has deposited at the Bank through the SC Mobile Tanzania App.

The Bank also announced four other winners for various categories of the campaign. These include; Evelyn Simon Mwakajinga who won 500,000/-, Amon Manyama who won 250,000/-, Mr. Jackson Kasigwa Walu who won TZS 50,000 and Mr. Albert Raphael Mapunda who won 50,000/-.

Speaking about the details of the campaign, Mariam Sezinga said that the potential clients were required to deposit a minimum of 100,000/- for the period of the campaign which ends in May 2019.

The Bank will double the lucky winner's deposit up to a maximum of 1,000,000/- of money deposited. More winners will also be drawn bringing to five the total numbers of winners at every raffle. The raffles will take place every two weeks until the end of May, 19.

"I am happy to inform you that our Digital Bank on Mobile and the 'Double Your Deposit' campaign have been well received in the market and we have been opening more than double the number of accounts that we would otherwise open through our normal branch channels thereby enhancing Financial inclusion which is one of our main goals of introducing the Digital Bank on Mobile," Mariam said.

(NBAA & BOT)

THE NATIONAL BOARD OF ACCOUNTANTS AND AUDITORS  
AND THE BANK OF TANZANIA



JOINT SEMINAR ON THE THEME "DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE  
FINANCIAL SERVICES AND REPORTING IN TANZANIA"

DATE	: Wednesday 22nd - Friday 24th May 2019 (3 days)
VENUE	: Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC) - Arusha
TARGET GROUP	: All Auditors, Accountants, Bankers, Financial analysts, Brokers, Lecturers, Directors of entities, Partners and Employees of Audit Firms, Students in the Profession and all interested persons.
TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION	: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Role of Domestic Institutional Investors in Creating a Vibrant Stock Market</li> <li>The Role and Effectiveness of Internal Audit and Audit Committees in Enhancing Corporate Governance</li> <li>Implementation of IFRS 9: Challenges and key lessons from Banks and other Financial Institutions in Tanzania</li> <li>The New Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (effective June 2019)</li> <li>Creative Accounting and Bank Frauds: Case Studies</li> <li>Anti- Money Laundering Guidelines for Accountants and Auditors (2019)</li> <li>Transformation of Insurance Industry in Tanzania</li> <li>Shifting Paradigm: Capital Markets as the Main Source of Development Finance in Tanzania</li> <li>Development of Digital Payment Systems and Reporting in Tanzania</li> </ul>
AWARD	: 24 CPD Hours
FEES	: Tshs.600, 000/= for payment made before seminar date and 650,000/= for payment made on and after seminar date to cover tea/coffee, lunch and seminar presentations. Visit NBAA web Payment Portal, Signup/Login to request bill and obtain payment control number. Make payment through Bank (NMB/CRDB) or Mobile (Airtel Money/Halo Pesa/Mpesa/Tigo Pesa/TPesa) by selecting ('Government Payments') and use the provided payment control number as your payment reference. <b>Save the received confirmation message from the Service Provider as a proof of payment in case, the Board requires it.</b>

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ITU SECRETARY GENERAL

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)



WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY  
17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2019

2019 Theme: "BRIDGING THE STANDARDISATION GAP"

On 17 May, 2019 we will be celebrating the 50th World Telecommunication and Information Society Day.

This year, we will focus on "bridging the standardization gap."

Setting standards is a fundamental pillar of ITU's mission as the specialized agency of the United Nations for information and communication technologies.

You want to connect to the internet, enjoy a sports event on TV, listen to radio in your car or watch a video on your smartphone? ITU standards make it possible.

The upcoming 5G standards, especially if coupled with artificial intelligence, will support a new range of applications which we will soon take for granted: from self-driving cars to safer and smart cities.

ITU standards ensure interoperability, open up global markets and spur innovation and growth. They are good for developed and developing countries.

They help accelerate ICTs for all Sustainable Development Goals.

I call upon ITU Member States, industry members, small and big companies and academia, together with UN sister agencies, our partners and all stakeholders, to support ITU's "Bridging the Standardization gap" programme and prosperity and well-being for all.

Thank you.



#WTISD www.itu.int/wtisd





# Global hunger is threatening families because of climate change

Droughts are not new to East Africa. However, abnormally high temperatures in the region are linked to climate change and proving deadly for livelihoods and livestock. Credit: Petterik Wiggers/Oxfam

NAIROBI

There is barely a corner of human life that will not be affected by climate change, and some of its impacts are already being felt. Consider this, 821 million people are now hungry and over 150 million children stunted, putting the hunger eradication goal, SDG 2, at risk.

Today 15 May, is the United Nations International Day of Families and the theme for this year is, 'Families and Climate Action'.

The wellbeing of families is central to healthy societies, but is threatened by climate change, especially in the poorest parts of the world.

Across the world what we understand by 'family' takes many forms, but it remains the fundamental unit of society. It is where from our earliest days we learn to share, to love, to reason, to consider others, to stand up for ourselves and to take responsibility.

But families face challenges on many fronts and - particularly in the developing world - climate change is perhaps the greatest of these as it is exacerbating hunger and food insecurity.

The focus on families and climate has most

ability to respond.

Nowhere is this truer than in Bangladesh, with its overwhelmingly young population and almost unparalleled vulnerability to the repercussions of a changing climate. A recent report by UNICEF looked at the impact of climate change on families and children in Bangladesh.

"Climate change is deepening the environmental threat faced by families in Bangladesh's poorest communities, leaving them unable to keep their children properly housed, fed, healthy and educated," said UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore, who visited Bangladesh in early March 2019.

Increased competition for dwindling natural resources results in political instability, social upheaval, conflicts, forced migration and displacements and once again, children are the main victims. Forced from their homes, many are denied an education, further denting their prospects and threatening social and economic development in some of the poorest areas of the world.

An FAO study says that almost 57% of Kenya's population lives in poverty, particularly female headed households who are largely reliant on climate-sensitive economic activities including rain fed subsistence or smallholder agriculture.

With Kenya's considerable advances in mobile technology penetration, important information can be delivered to agricultural actors along the value chain, including weather information and availability and prices of inputs.

With proper investments and policy, Kenya's youth can spur the transformation of agriculture from subsistence, hit-or-miss propositions to robust commercial operations that can withstand the effects of climate change.

Africa's biggest threat from climate change will remain the inter-generational downward spiral into deeper poverty that is brought on by decreased farm yields.

Increasing resilience to climate-related shocks in Africa's agriculture will result in a rise in farm productivity. It will mean women, who make up the largest share of the continent's small-holder farmers, will have better incomes.

Women allocate more of their income to food, health and education for their families, therefore it would also translate into greater gains for children and future generations.

Ending hunger and poverty is the prime mission of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, and will demand dramatic shifts in what and how we consume, and above all it will demand cooperation and collaboration on a regional and global scale.

It will not be easy, but for the sake of every family, everywhere, we cannot fail.

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By Property Watch Reporter

## GOODWILL CERAMICS BLAMES DIFFERING STANDARDS FOR KENYA TILES REJECTION

LOCALLY made tiles were rejected entry into the Kenyan market last year because of not meeting the East African nation's standards and also trade barriers which have recently escalated between Dodoma and Nairobi.

Deputy Managing Director of Goodwill Tanzania Ceramic Company Limited, Robin Huang said in Dar es Salaam last week that his company has been exporting tiles to Kenya and other East African Community countries for many years.

"Our tiles are of high quality and meet TBS standards but were rejected by Kenya because they use different standards compared to Tanzania," Huang said while clarifying on remarks made by Controller and Auditor General's latest report which blamed Tanzania Bureau of Standards for failure to ensure locally made products meet standards.

He said in addition, tit-for-tat trade blockades being imposed by authorities in Dodoma and Nairobi also contributed to the blockade which bore all the hallmarks of political orientation.

"It was an unfortunate incident which we have since sorted out with support from authorities," the Goodwill Tanzania Deputy Managing Director added noting that after rejection, TBS did test samples of the tiles and found them to be genuine.

He urged EAC governments to move quickly and harmonise standards for manufactured goods in the region to avoid creating barriers against intra-regional trade.

"I just hope that East African governments will address this issue of standards because it's a non-tariff barrier



Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan (R) and Coast Regional Commissioner, Engineer Evarist Ndiro admiring tiles made at Goodwill Tanzania Ceramics in Nkuranga district. File photo.

causing inconveniences to businesses," he lamented while expressing hope that efforts are being made through East African Business Council to address many NTBs hindering trade growth in the bloc.

In his latest report, Controller and Auditor General, Professor Mussa As-sad said Tanzania Bureau of Standards' procedure in enforcing standards of manufactured goods locally is wanting after tiles manufactured by Goodwill Tanzania were rejected entry into Kenya last year.

The report stated that between September 2017 and May 2018, Goodwill's tiles were found substandard by authorities in Kenya hence denied entry into the East African Community member market.

"These products failed quality tests as per KEBS/HQ/QAS/18 of 18 July, 2018. Thirty of the 31 trucks which carried the substandard tiles were blocked but during inspection by TBS, they were not found with TBS marks and were found at different locations," the CAG report stated.

The report further noted that under the 2009 Standards Act, it empowers TBS to certify, license and conduct regular inspections at products manufacturing premises and shop outlets. "This is done through impromptu inspections at markets and factories for domestic manufacturers," stated the CAG report while noting that under 2017 regulations, the bureau is also sanctioned to take relevant action against defaulters.

Warning that TBS negligence jeopardises efforts to export manufactured goods to the EAC market, the CAG noted that such substandard goods risk a backlash from consumers in the five regional bloc's markets.

## Increasing population growth in Africa's megacities a challenge for authorities

TORONTO

Megacities, cities with a population of at least 10 million, are sprouting everywhere in Africa. Cairo in Egypt, Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Lagos in Nigeria are already megacities, while Luanda in Angola, Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and Johannesburg in South Africa will attain the status by 2030, according to the United Nations.

Abidjan in Côte d'Ivoire and Nairobi in Kenya will surpass the 10 million threshold by 2040. And by 2050 Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso, Addis Ababa in Ethiopia, Bamako in Mali, Dakar in Senegal and Ibadan and Kano in Nigeria will join the ranks - bringing the total number of megacities in Africa to 14 in about 30 years.

The number of people living in urban areas in Africa will double to more than 1 billion by 2042, according to the World Bank. The University of Toronto's Global Cities Institute, which monitors cities' population growth and socioeconomic development worldwide, forecasts that Lagos will be the largest city in the world by 2100, housing an astonishing 88 million people, up from 21 million currently.

In a 2016 paper titled African Urban Futures, published by the Institute for Security Studies, an African independent research organisation that aims to enhance human security on the continent, researchers Julia Bello-Schünemann and Ciara Aucoin wrote: "The current speed of Africa's urbanisation is unprecedented in history. For some it is the 'single most important transformation' that is happening on the continent." They add that African "cities and towns will increasingly shape the lives of people living on the continent."

Africa's demographic transition, caused by the "youth bulge", an increase in the population of people between 15 and 29 years of age, will continue to fuel a move to the big cities because "young people are generally more prone to migrate to urban areas" than older people, according to Bello-Schünemann and Aucoin.

While millions of rural Africans move to cities in search of high-paying jobs and a better quality of life, these burgeoning metropolises also offer strong incentives to investors foreign and domestic.

Power of population  
 Lagos is a prime example of the economic power in Africa's megacities. From its technology hub ecosystem - Africa's largest - to its successful banking sector and prosperous film industry, venture capitalists see many investment opportunities in Nigeria's commercial capital.

According to a report by the telecom trade body GSM Association, there are 31 tech hubs in Lagos, 29 in Cape Town and 25 in Nairobi. The value of innovative tech spaces to African economies is massive, as investors pump capital into startups and hence contribute to countries' GDPs.

In 2017 outgoing Lagos State Governor Akinwunmi Ambode announced that the state's GDP had reached \$136bn, about a third of Nigeria's GDP (\$376bn) and more than the combined GDPs of Ghana (\$47bn) and Tanzania (\$52bn).

Steve Cashin, founder and CEO of the private equity firm Pan African Capital Group, believes that investors are focusing on Africa's megacities because of market size.

"My firm does a lot of business in Liberia, and one of the main constraints to growing businesses

and attracting investment there is the population size and density. When the entire country's population is just about 4 million, and you're likely only to reach a small fraction of that, it is harder to make a compelling business case," says Cashin.

A single Lagos district can be a market the size of an entire country such as Botswana. Because people in Lagos are concentrated, companies can benefit from lower fixed costs and easier distribution. "The economics are just more attractive," he adds.

Overstretched infrastructure  
 But highly populated cities have both positives and negatives. Rapid urbanisation strains already overstretched infrastructure and creates complex problems for local governments. For example, the population of Kinshasa is forecast to grow by 61 people every hour until 2030. People will have to look for jobs and use public transport and other social services.

Bello-Schünemann and Aucoin elaborate: "Most of Africa's urban residents live in informal settlements or slums, lack access to basic services, face precarious employment conditions and are vulnerable to

various forms of urban violence."

They add: "Global climate and environmental changes, and pressure from water, food and energy insecurities, compound the challenges for human development and the complexities of contemporary urban governance on the continent."

Around 75% of homes in Kinshasa are in slums, and Lagos has dozens of them: places like Somolu, Bariga and the floating slum of Makoko. If infrastructure growth fails to keep up with increasing population, more slums will develop, experts warn.

To address these problems, Africa's fast-growing cities require all-inclusive infrastructure development, advises Cashin. "The importance of deliberate and thoughtful urban planning cannot be understated, not only for the efficiency and productivity of these cities but also for the safety of its inhabitants."

He adds that "proper urban planning requires significant upfront investment" and that "local governments also need to harness the potential of these rapidly growing cities by making strides to formalise the economy."



Africa's megacities includes Kinshasa in DRC.

## Rovuma LNG development plan approved by Mozambique govt

MAPUTO

Mozambique Rovuma Venture said today that the government of Mozambique had approved its development plan for the Rovuma LNG project, which will produce, liquefy and market natural gas from three reservoirs located in the Area 4 block offshore Mozambique, two of which straddle the boundary with neighbouring Area 1.

"The development plan approval marks another significant step toward a final investment decision later this year," said Liam Mallon, president of ExxonMobil Upstream Oil & Gas Company. "We will continue to work with the government to maximise the long-term benefits this project will bring to the people of Mozambique." The Rovuma LNG project will work to build the local workforce through focused recruitment and skills development.

"This is the third development plan approved in this five-year period to enable the sustainable development of the huge natural gas reserves discovered in the Rovuma basin and represents the government's commitment to ensure the implementation of projects that will drive the development of Mozambique," said Ernesto Elias Max Tonela, minister of mineral resources and energy.

"We want Mozambican entrepreneurs and Mozambicans to be the main beneficiaries of the various business opportunities made available by the multinationals because we believe that these companies should grow with the national businesses and with Mozambique," added Tonela.

The marketing effort for the LNG produced from the Rovuma LNG project is jointly led by ExxonMobil and Eni. Sales and purchase agreements for 100 percent of the LNG capacity for trains 1 and 2 have been submitted to the government of Mozambique for approval, which together will produce more than 15 million tons of LNG per year.

"The expected production from the Area 4 block will generate substantial benefits for Mozambique and

the Area 4 partners," said Alessandro Puliti, Eni's chief development, operations & technology officer. "The development plan details our commitment to train, build and employ a local workforce and make gas available in support of Mozambique's industrialisation."

The Rovuma LNG partners have developed a series of plans to support community development in line with the government's priorities. During the production phase, the Rovuma LNG project expects to provide up to 17,000 tons of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) per year in Mozambique from Area 4 resources, which is currently about 50 percent of the country's LPG imports, and will dramatically improve access to energy. The Area 4 partners also plan to distribute up to 5,000 LPG burners and cooking stoves in the Afungi area to replace the burning of wood.

Area 4 is operated by Mozambique Rovuma Venture S.p.A. (MRV), an incorporated joint venture owned by Eni, ExxonMobil and CNPC, which holds a 70 percent interest in the Area 4 exploration and production concession contract. Galp, KOGAS and Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos E.P. each hold a 10 percent interest.

Eni Rovuma Basin will lead construction and operation of upstream facilities on behalf of MRV and ExxonMobil Mozambique Limitada will lead construction and operation of natural gas liquefaction and related facilities.



Area 4, in Rovuma Basin, Mozambique.



# NEW KANSAI PLASCON CHIEF PROMISES TO SERVE MARKET WITH QUALITY PAINTS

By Property Watch Reporter

**J**APANESE based Kansai Plascon through its local subsidiary, Kansai Plascon Tanzania Limited will continue to deliver quality paints and related products in the country's property market.

New appointed Managing Director, Hussen Jamal said in Dar es Salaam last week that the company which already controls a significant part of the local market, banks on its skilled and dedicated employees, modern technology and increasing demand to deliver accordingly.

"I will ensure that contribution of each employee will be maintained, and you will get the same enthusiasm and support in sustaining your livelihood through your many business ventures within the paint industry," Jamal said immediately after assuming office.

Kansai Plascon Tanzania, which is one the country's dominant companies in the paint industry, announced a new leadership structure to support the company's continued growth investment in customers, partners, staff and local communities earlier this month.

Jamal who served as General Manager before assuming his new role, said he will focus on building a meaningful business strategy tied to growing the company in the market where the construction industry is one of the fastest

growing in the economy.

"I can also promise you that we are going to step up by reconfiguring this business by catching up with current demand and navigate newer ways of doing business - in the hope that they will also change your businesses and lives," he added.

The new structure is a natural step in the company's growth, building off the name change from Sadolin to Plascon in 2017, with investments in core stores and continued good relationships with customers throughout the country.

"We are growing up, learning from past experiences, gathering more tools, sharpening our minds by developing our talents, adding more skills, meeting new people, expanding our level of influence, and many more," the new Managing Director stressed.

Strong annual performance, new product innovations and ongoing market share position shows that Plascon Tanzania is performing well in the growing construction industry and is poised to continue servicing the local market with the most trusted products.

Kansai Paint, based in Japan, is a top ten coatings company globally, it is the largest supplier of original equipment of auto paints in the world. It has world-leading research and development facilities in Japan, India and South Africa, which continually drive innovation and excellence in the paint environment.



Kansai Plascon Tanzania Limited's new Managing Director, Hussen Jamal. Photo: Guardian Photographer.

**Egypt is struggling to fund its new capital, official says**

CAIRO

The man in charge of delivering a vast new capital for Egypt in the desert east of Cairo has said the foreign investment needed for the megaproject is not there yet. "We need very extensive financing and the state doesn't have money to give me," said Ahmed Zaki Abdeen, chairman of the army-controlled New Administrative Capital for Urban Development (ACUD).

An estimated \$58bn is needed for the scheme, which was launched in 2015 and is intended to house 34 government ministries and be a new business, finance and cultural hub, with a population of 7 million people.

Abdeen told Reuters that only around 20% of the investment so far had come from abroad, including loans from China amounting to around \$4.5bn. At the time of the launch, the Egyptian government believed global capital would pour in to create a clean, futuristic business hub.

But since then, talks with prominent investors, including Dubai-based Emaar Properties PJSC and China Fortune Land Development, have fallen through. The Egyptian government has been forced to get a \$3bn loan from China to build towers in the new capital's central business district.

## Kigali ranked Africa's 2nd most popular conference destination

KIGALI

Kigali has been ranked the second most popular destination in Africa for international meetings and events by International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA). Cape Town in South Africa is ranked first in Africa.

Last year, Kigali was ranked third behind Cape Town and Marrakesh in Morocco. ICCA represents the world's leading suppliers in handling, transporting and accommodating international meetings and events.

The rankings, which were released by the ICCA, are based on the number of association meetings taking place regularly (annually, biannually), rotating between at least three different countries and with at least 50 participants.

Last year, Kigali hosted 26 association meetings. The association meetings organised by Rwanda included several high-level conferences such as the 4th Gender Summit that was held in March, the Mo Ibrahim Governance Weekend, the GSMA Mobile 360 Series Africa, the

meeting of the African Society of Human Genetics, the Africa Smart Grid Forum, and the International Conference on Family Planning.

Rwanda is currently hosting over 4,000 delegates who are attending the Transform Africa Summit 2019, as well as the Africa Public Relations Association Annual General Meeting. Reacting to the new ICCA rankings, the Chief Executive Officer of Rwanda Convention Bureau, Nelly Mukazayire said the country is aiming at even better rankings.

"We believe that identifying and working with our local associations will help Rwanda perform better in ICCA rankings in the years to come. Rwanda recorded 38,745 delegates in 2018, up from 28,308 delegates in 2017. Tourism is the country's largest foreign exchange earner and MICE is playing a significant role in its growth, bringing in 20 per cent of all tourism revenues. MICE tourism contributed \$56 million in 2018, and this year, we intend to increase it to \$88 million," Mukazayire said.

Commenting on the ICCA report, the Rwanda Development Board deputy

chief executive Emmanuel Hategeka said that the ranking is proof that Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) strategy is generating value to Rwanda.

"Rwanda has been able to establish itself as a safe, secure MICE destination of choice due to the presence of world-class MICE venues, accommodation facilities, connectivity options and ease of service due to RCB support," he said.

Rwanda is a preferred MICE destination due to its simplified visa regime that allows citizens of any country in the world to get a visa on arrival in addition to its easy accessibility due to several flight options offering connectivity to Kigali and the rest of Africa, including through the national carrier Rwandair.

The presence of range of world-class venues such as the Kigali Convention Centre, the Kigali Conference and Exhibition Village, and Intare Conference Arena, as well as soon-to-be opened Kigali Arena are key drivers of MICE tourism in Kigali.

## Construction activity forecast to grow across Sub-Saharan Africa

JOHANNESBURG

Despite a number of significant risk factors that threaten to limit economic growth in the region, Mace's latest Market View for Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) reports that construction activity is forecast to grow across the region.

While the overall outlook for construction activity in SSA is reasonably strong, with growth forecast at an average rate of over 6% per annum over the next two years, there is notable variation across the region.

This variation, driven in part by the complex political and economic challenges in each nation, creates an element of uncertainty that has the potential to destabilise markets and restrict growth. This is particularly the case in SSA nations with high levels of foreign denominated debt.

On a more positive note, ambitious, large-scale social infrastructure programmes are expected to support further growth, with the housing and energy sectors set to attract significant funding across the whole of SSA.

Ethiopia leading the charge  
 Ethiopia, one of the region's largest markets, is leading the charge, with construction activity forecast to achieve double-digit growth through to 2020. There's also positivity elsewhere, with construction activity in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda also forecast to grow over the medium-term. And, amid a return to economic growth, prospects for construction in South Africa may improve as well; although the upcoming general election is causing a temporary hiatus in public sector spending.



Simon Herd, MD, MaceYMR

A reflection of Mace's expanding presence in SSA - including through joint ventures with cost consultancy companies in South Africa (MMQSMace) and Kenya (MaceYMR) - the latest report provides an overview of the region, as well as detailed economic analysis of the construction sectors in South Africa, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda and Ghana.

Simon Herd, MD, MaceYMR, said: "The cautiously optimistic outlook for construction demand across SSA comes at a time when the costs of construction materials are rising and contractor capacity is already stretched. Together, these factors suggest that upwards pressure on construction costs in SSA will continue over the medium term, which will create a challenging procurement environment."



Nyandungu Urban Wetland Eco-Tourism park project is under construction.



## CONSTRUCTION

## NEW YORK

# TRUMP TOWER NOW AMONG LEAST DESIRED ADDRESSES IN ALL OF NEW YORK CITY

Trump Tower, once the crown jewel in Donald Trump's property empire, now ranks as one of the least desirable luxury properties in Manhattan.

The 36-year-old building has been turned into a fortress since Mr Trump won the presidency, ringed with concrete barriers and the two main entrances partially blocked off. It hasn't been substantially updated in years. And Mr Trump's name has been a huge turnoff in liberal New York City.

For anyone who owns a unit in the tower, the past two years have been brutal. Most condo sales have led to a loss after adjusting for inflation, property records show. Several sold at more than a 20 per cent loss. By contrast, across Manhattan, just 0.23 per cent of homes over the past two years sold at a loss, according to PropertyShark, a real-estate data provider.

It's all a far cry from the days when the New York landmark attracted the likes of Michael Jackson, Johnny Carson and Steven Spielberg. These days, it's better known for a Trump campaign meeting with a Russian lawyer documented in Robert Mueller's Russia report.

While some corners of Mr Trump's business empire have thrived, such as his Washington DC hotel, others have suffered from his high unpopularity. Rounds of golf are down at his public course in New York, a clutch of once Trump-branded buildings have torn his name off their fronts and an ambitious plan to launch a new mid-tier hotel chain across the country fizzled.

Mr Trump is scheduled to provide an updated snapshot of his net worth this week, with his annual financial disclosures due Wednesday. The documents won't go into detail about the Trump Organisation's revenues, but it's clear that Trump Tower is suffering, based on securities filings, property records, real estate listings and interviews with industry insiders.

The commercial portion of the building has been struggling for months to find tenants for more than 3,900 square metres of vacant office space, despite advertising rents well below the area's average, listings and data from real estate brokers show.

On any given midweek afternoon,



Trump Tower in downtown Manhattan.

the number of government and Trump Organisation security personnel rivaled the number of other people inside the building's atrium.

Trump Tower's occupancy rate has plunged over the last seven years to 83 per cent from 99 per cent, giving it a vacancy rate that's about twice Manhattan's average. "If I were looking for office space, that would be a building I'd want to avoid," said Edward Son, until recently a market analyst for CoStar.

Net income slightly rose last year, boosted by the tenancy of his 2020 campaign committee, which has spent more than \$890,000 (Dh3.26 million) over the last two years to rent space in Trump Tower, according to Federal Election Commission records.

The building's net income is still about 26 per cent lower than what bankers expected when they

evaluated Trump's fitness for a \$100 million loan in 2012. Even so, Trump Tower regularly produces an annual profit for its namesake. Last year, the building generated \$10 million in net cash flow, after taking into account its annual \$4.3 million interest payment on the loan, according to Trump Organisation disclosures. The Trump Organisation didn't respond to requests for comment.

Condo owners hoping to run into the president on occasion have been disappointed. While Mr Trump ran his presidential campaign out of the high-rise, he's only visited 13 times since his inauguration, according to a count from NBC News.

Michael Sklar sold his parents' 57th floor unit for \$1.83mn in October after they spent \$400,000 to remodel the property. His family purchased it for \$1.4 million in 2004, which comes out to \$1.84 million after adjusting for inflation. "No one

wants in that building," Mr Sklar said.

After Trump's election, living in his tower became a hassle, Mr Sklar said. His mother, who was battling cancer, took cabs to the building from the airport, and she used to be dropped off right in front of the entrance. After the election, security would force her cab driver to drop her off a few hundred feet from the front door, requiring a long and painful walk home. "The name on the building became a problem," Mr Sklar said.

At least 13 condos in the tower have sold since Mr Trump's 2016 election, property records show. For the nine transactions where New York City records show what the seller originally paid for the property, eight sold at an inflation-adjusted loss.

By contrast, just 57 homes in Manhattan sold over the past

two years at a loss, out of 24,871 third-party sales, according to PropertyShark, although the firm doesn't adjust for inflation. "The luxury market is softening," said Matthew D. Hughes, a Manhattan-based broker at Brown Harris Stevens. "But it's rare that someone owns an apartment here for 10 years and takes a loss."

One New York real estate agent, who didn't want to be identified discussing Mr Trump, said that clients have repeatedly told him not to show them units in Trump buildings. These days, gawkers sometimes outnumber the customers of the building's remaining retail stores.

"It's totally a tourist trap," said Barbara Res, a former Trump Organisation executive who oversaw the building's construction.

Ms Res remembers the building fondly, and said that when it was built

Mr Trump recruited celebrities to purchase its condos and prominent brands to fill its retail space. "It's dated but it's a building worthy of respect," Ms Res said. Located just two blocks from Central Park, Mr Trump built his namesake tower in 1983, complete with a 60-foot waterfall and mounds of pink Italian marble.

Advertised as having 68 stories - it's actually 58, city records show - the building was ahead of its time, Trump's lawyer, George Ross, wrote in his 2005 book, *Trump Strategies for Real Estate*. "He single-handedly created the market for high-end luxury residences in New York City," Mr Ross wrote.

The *Apprentice*, Trump's reality show on NBC, was filmed in Trump Tower. Its launch in 2004 gave the building a new prominence and helped Mr Trump revive his personal and corporate brands. In 2013 Trump pegged the value of his brand at \$4 billion, according to unaudited statements of financial condition provided by his former personal lawyer, Michael Cohen.

By most measures, Trump Tower should be doing well these days. It's in a part of Manhattan known as the Plaza District, named after the Plaza Hotel right off Central Park, that many real estate experts consider to be the nation's premier office area. Offices with views of Central Park easily fetch more than \$100 per square foot, said Craig Leibowitz, New York research director for JLL.

The office portion of Trump Tower is advertising five vacancies spread across five floors. In January, prices for the open space ranged from \$72 to \$85 per square foot annually. A month earlier, the Trump Organisation posted to its YouTube channel a glossy marketing video that referred to the tower as "one of New York's most iconic trophy buildings." Now the prices are listed as negotiable.

A commercial real estate broker said that his firm's surveys show that prospective tenants won't consider a Trump building until he's out of office. One of the building's other problems is that Mr Trump hasn't spent much money updating the tower in recent years, according to disclosures to investors.

"I don't think I would want an office in Trump Tower," Ms Res said. "Why would you go there? It's a wonder he doesn't have 50 per cent vacancy."

## London luxury home prices slump by most in years

## LONDON

It was a symbol of the swagger in London's luxury home market: a mansion in the trendy Notting Hill neighbourhood with a car elevator and a swimming pool that transforms into a ballroom at the touch of a button.

But just over a year after Havona House was listed with great fanfare for £25 million, the owners of the seven-bedroom house have taken it off the market, stymied by the longest price slump in decades.

The sale prices of top-end homes in the British capital have been falling for nearly four years, weighed down by a cocktail of tax hikes, a crack-down on money laundering and aglut of new properties. Uncertainty surrounding Brexit has only made things worse, and the recent decision to delay the divorce until Halloween means sellers' long wait for the bottom will likely continue.

"It's just not the right time to trade it," said Becky Fatemi, a director at Rokstone, the broker that marketed Havona House. Home prices in London's swankiest districts began falling in August 2015, according to an index com-



Wealthy neighbourhood of Notting Hill in London.

plied by Knight Frank. That predates the Brexit referendum by nearly a year and puts the downturn at 45 months, almost four times longer than the sharp plunge during the financial crisis, the broker's data show.

While the duration of the current slump is grinding sellers down, price declines are less dramatic than in the past. In prime central London prices are down about 12.9 per cent since August 2015, according to Knight Frank's index. That compares with a 22.3 per cent drop during

the financial crisis and a 20.7 per cent decline in the early 1990s.

Evidence of the downturn's impact is mounting. The developer behind London's Centre Point tower stopped using external sales agents because the offers it was receiving for the luxury apartments were too low, Estates Gazette reported in October. The number of unsold homes under construction in the capital hit a record in March.

The twists and turns of the Brexit negotiations have compounded the

market's woes. The extension temporarily averted the extreme risks associated with a disorderly withdrawal, including a 30 per cent plunge in house prices, according to the Bank of England's worst-case scenario. But this respite offers cold comfort to developers and home sellers who are impatient for the uncertainty to end.

"I've always said that what we could not cope with economically in this country is a long, prolonged period of uncertainty," said Mark Preston, chief executive of

the Grosvenor Group, the property company that owns large swaths of the upscale Belgravia and Mayfair districts on behalf of the billionaire Duke of Westminster. "And that's now what we have got."

The market for prime and super prime housing remains challenging, and demand from overseas buyers has slipped in part because of the political uncertainty in the UK caused by Brexit, according to a statement from British Land on Wednesday. Changes to the rules on capital gains tax on property sales has also deterred investors from abroad, the developer said.

Increasingly there's a sense that without a resolution of the political crisis, buyers will have little incentive to take the plunge even with the big discounts on offer.

"We have a number of buyers who are saying: 'As soon as Brexit's over, we're ready to commit,'" said Alex Michelin, director of Finchatton, the luxury developer behind 20 Grosvenor Square, a Mayfair apartment project where prices start from £17.5m. What the six month delay does is "put us at this point of stasis again, where just nothing happens", he said.

## UAE residents ranked top property enthusiasts globally

## DUBAI

UAE residents spend more time researching, looking through property listings and viewing homes than people in nine other countries, according to a new survey from HSBC.

The survey, conducted by Europe's biggest bank by assets in November and December of last year, polled 11,932 adults aged 21 and over in the US, Canada, Mexico, France, the UK, Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and the UAE, which included 1,058 participants.

People in the UAE spend an average of 6.6 hours per week "window shopping" for homes, even when not in the market for a new house. The next highest was the US at 4.95 hours, while the lowest was France at 1.74 hours.

Of those surveyed in the UAE, 39 per cent own a home in the Emirates. Respondents had positive sentiments about buying property with 94 per cent saying they were "hopeful", 89 per cent "excited" and 85 per cent "optimistic", 12 points higher than global averages.

"The UAE continues to be a destination of choice for career-minded expats with more and more making it their home," said Marwan Hadi, head of retail banking and wealth management at HSBC UAE. "The fact that sentiments around buying property are positive is indicative of the development of the sector."

For UAE residents planning their next

five years, 35 per cent said that buying a new home is a top priority, compared to 20 per cent citing career progression and 22 per cent saying marriage. As for sticking to a financial plan, 59 per cent of respondents said they adhered to a strict budget - 12 points higher than the global average - while 37 per cent said they went over budget.

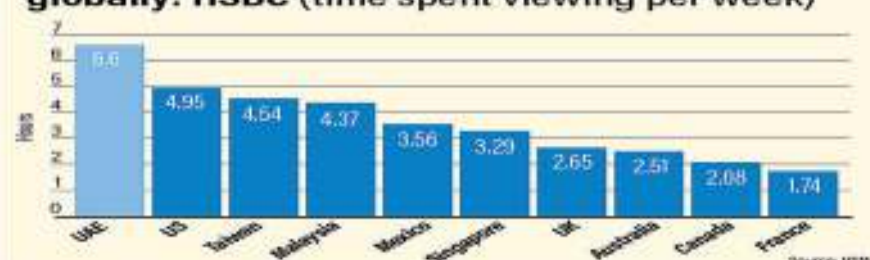
When deciding on a mortgage, UAE homeowners, overseas owners and those intending to buy in the next decade, said the most important considerations are attractive interest rates, affordable monthly payments, a trustworthy mortgage provider and an easy application process.

According to the survey, 38 per cent of UAE homeowners check the value of their properties, whether in country or overseas, at least once a month, compared to 28 per cent of US owners and 14 per cent of UK owners.

"Now is a good time to be considering buying a home in the UAE. Average prices have fallen by around 10 per cent in Dubai over the past year, but the rate of decline has slowed in recent quarters as the market approaches the bottom of its cycle," said Craig Plumb, head of research at real estate consultancy JLL Mena.

"Most families do not currently own a property in the UAE and the present soft market conditions provide an opportunity for those families renting space today to get on to the housing ladder," he added.

### UAE residents ranked top property enthusiasts globally: HSBC (time spent viewing per week)





## WORLD

# Fighting grips Yemen's Hodeidah port, complicating peace moves

ADEN

HOUTHIS fighters and Saudi-backed pro-government forces battled in Yemen's port city of Hodeidah on Wednesday, breaching a ceasefire and potentially complicating a troop withdrawal agreement intended to pave the way for wider peace talks.

The Houthis began withdrawing from three ports on Saturday, including Hodeidah port - a lifeline for millions of Yemenis threatened by starvation because of the four-year war, as it is the main entry point for food imports and humanitarian aid.

A military coalition led by neighboring Saudi Arabia, which receives weapons from the West, intervened in Yemen in March 2015 after the Iran-aligned Houthis ousted President Abd Rabbu Mansour Hadi's government from the capital Sanaa. The war is seen as proxy war between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

The Houthis and coalition forces both reported renewed clashes in

Hodeidah on Wednesday, a day after the Houthis claimed responsibility for a drone attack that Saudi Arabia said had hit two of its oil pumping stations.

The Saudi-led coalition will "retaliate hard" for any Houthi attacks on coalition targets but remains committed to a Hodeidah peace deal, said a senior official from the United Arab Emirates, which is part of the coalition.

Lieutenant General Michael Lollsgaard, who heads a UN monitoring mission in Hodeidah, said that while there had been an increase in violations of the ceasefire on Wednesday, "it is not an alarming number ... I think the number that we have now is pretty much what we saw in some of the days before Ramadan."

The Yemen government and the Houthis met in the Swedish capital Stockholm in December and agreed to a ceasefire and troop withdrawal deal for Hodeidah. Under phase one of the deal, the Houthis withdrew from the ports of Hodeidah, Saleef and Ras Isa.

This is due to be met by a retreat of



Hodeidah port

Saudi-led coalition forces from the eastern outskirts of Hodeidah, facilitating humanitarian access to grain stores at the Red Sea Mills.

However, Lollsgaard said on Wednesday that a phase one withdrawal by government and coalition forces would not take place until the warring parties have worked out details for a broader phase two redeployment around Hodeidah and agreed on local forces to secure the area.

"We need to finalise phase two and the question of the local security forces before we start the full implementation of phase one," Lollsgaard told reporters at the United Nations in New York via video.

"We will never get a perfect plan for phase two ... both parties need to compromise," he said. "The same goes for the local security forces (deal). We could be done in two weeks, but it can also take months if there is no willingness."

The UN Security Council was briefed on the situation in Yemen earlier on Wednesday.

Acting US Ambassador to the United Nations Jonathan Cohen called on all parties to negotiate in good faith to reach a deal on local security forces, exercise restraint and enable the UN efforts on the ground, particularly by granting entry to the country for UN monitors.

"Obstruction of the UN process cannot be tolerated. For months apparent breakthroughs have happened just in time for Security Council briefings, then progress stalls," he said. "Council members must consider how to hold parties responsible if they don't implement the Stockholm agreement."

Lollsgaard said there were 15-18 UN monitors on the ground in Hodeidah, but that another 30 monitors were still waiting for the Houthis to grant them a visa.

Tens of thousands of people have been killed during the conflict in Yemen, many of them civilians, and aid agencies say the humanitarian crisis is the worst in the world. **Agencies**

## Putin: Russia is ready for normalising dialogue with US

SOCHI

RUSSIA is fully ready for normalizing relations with the United States as soon as required internal political conditions emerge in Washington for this, Russian President Vladimir Putin said at a news conference after talks with Austrian President Van der Bellen on Wednesday.

"We are open but it is not about us, it's about our American partners. As soon as they grow ready for this, as soon as their internal political situation changes in a way that it is conducive for work, we are ready to involve everything that is necessary on our part," the

Russian leader stressed.

Putin said he hoped that "such conditions are created gradually," especially after a report by US Special Counsel Robert Mueller on the absence of a conspiracy between Russia and US President Donald Trump's election campaign. "In any way, we feel so that American partners are interested in restoring the relations," Putin said.

During the latest contacts (Putin's telephone conversation with US President Trump on May 3 and his meeting with US Secretary of State Michael Pompeo in Sochi on May 14), the sides identified the themes that are of mutual inter-



est, the Russian leader said.

Specifically, these are the issues of strategic stability and security in the world and the non-prolifer-

ation of mass destruction weapons. There is also both countries' common interest in settling regional conflicts, Putin stated, mentioning Afghanistan, Syria and other problematic areas where "this work [for the settlement of conflicts] will hardly be effective" without the active participation of Russia and the United States.

As for the North Korean problem, it should be resolved in a way, in which "all the sides would be satisfied with the results," Putin pointed out.

Speaking about the Iran nuclear deal, Putin stressed that this was a very acute issue linked with the entire set of Middle East prob-

lems.

"That is why, there are a lot of mutual interests. I believe that we can find points of contact in the economic sphere as well... The United States has become the largest oil producer and we need to think about how we influence the world energy market," the Russian leader said.

Putin also drew attention to other spheres. Thus, most of Boeing aircraft are produced using Russian titanium. "We are well aware of this but few people in the world know about that. There are also other areas that are of mutual interest," the Russian leader stressed. **Agencies**

## China confident economy can overcome tariff threats

BEIJING

THE Chinese economy is developing steadily and China is confident it can withstand any external risks and impacts, Beijing said on Wednesday, amid ongoing trade frictions with Washington.

"The protectionist measures the United States takes will have a certain influence on China's economy, but they can totally be overcome," Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said.

Geng made the remarks after US President Donald Trump claimed that China wants to reach a deal "badly" as it will lose investment due to the tariffs Washington has imposed.

Such notions from the US are groundless and false, Geng said,

adding that China's economy has been growing steadily and showing good momentum.

In the first four months of 2019, China's trade has expanded with partners such as the European Union, according to customs. During the period, China's imports and exports grew by 4.3 percent, and trade with the EU increased by more than 11 percent.

"China's trade partners are all over the world," Geng said. "If someone doesn't want to do business with China, naturally there will be others filling the vacancy."

Geng said China understands the concerns expressed by the international community over the latest round of tariffs from both sides. The escalated trade



frictions are in no one's interests, he said, and will undermine the global economy.

The US "fired the first shot" of

the tariff increase and has been "repeatedly applying maximum pressure", Geng said, while China has acted in self-defense.

Trade relations between China and the US, the two biggest economies, mean a great deal to the rest of the world, the spokesman said, adding that the US should have worked with China to promote the global economy, instead of choosing to unilaterally initiate a trade war.

"We hope the US will listen to the reasonable and just calls from the international community, understand clearly the situation and return to the right track as soon as possible, and work with China for a win-win deal based on mutual respect," Geng said.

"This not only benefits the two countries, but also is a common aspiration of the international community," he said. **Xinhua**

## Zimbabwe police assure visitors of safety despite US travel warning

HARARE

THE Zimbabwe Republic Police yesterday reassured locals and visitors to the country that despite a negative travel advisory issued by the United States government on its citizens wishing to travel to Zimbabwe.

The U.S. government on Tuesday issued "Zimbabwe Travel Advisory, Level 2: Exercise Increased Caution", warning citizens to be careful while in Zimbabwe because of "crime and civil unrest."

"Violent crime, such as assault, carjacking, and home invasion, is common. Smashing the windows of cars with the intent to steal, which can harm the driver or passengers, is also common.

Local police lack the resources to respond effectively to serious criminal incidents. Read the safety and security section on the country information page," said the advisory.

It also advised those deciding to travel to Zimbabwe to stay alert and avoid openly displaying cash, stay away from political rallies, demonstrations and crowds, as well as monitor local media for any developments and adjust plans accordingly, and for citizens to carry copies of their passports and visas while keeping the originals in safe places.

However, ZRP said in a statement that the country remained safe to visit. "Contrary to the Zimbabwe Travel Advisory Level 2 issued by the Americans recently, the Zimbabwe Republic Police wishes to assure all Zimbabweans and visitors who include tourists to all parts of the country that the country remains safe, peaceful and secure.

"The ZRP is conducting general patrols, blitz (and) stop and search patrols in all central business districts, industrial sites, residential areas and other places which are usually frequented by the public with a view of getting rid of the malady of criminality," the police said.

U.S. travel advisories have four levels, with Level 4 being the most severe as it advises citizens not to travel to certain identified countries.

The lowest advisory - Level 1 - simply says that there is some risk in any international travel as conditions in other countries may differ from those in the U.S.

Level 2 calls for increased caution, Level 3 advises citizens to avoid travel due to serious risks to safety and security and Level 4 telling them not to travel to the identified countries or leave the countries as soon as it is safe to do so. **Xinhua**

## Biden expands lead over rivals for 2020 Democratic presidential nomination - poll

WASHINGTON

FORMER U.S. Vice President Joe Biden has expanded his lead over his rivals for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination since he entered the race last month, a Reuters/Ipsos poll showed.

Twenty-nine percent of Democrats and independents said they would vote for Biden, up from 24 percent who said so in a poll that ran in late April, days before Biden announced his bid, according to the latest poll released on Wednesday.

Biden led the field among all major demographic groups except those ages 18-37, who favored U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont over Biden 18 percent to 16 percent.

In terms of overall support rate, 13 percent of Democrats and independents said they would vote for Sanders. None of the other candidates received more than 6 percent support in the poll.

Biden, 76, was the U.S. vice president from 2009 to 2017 after representing Delaware in the Senate from 1973 to 2009.

The Reuters/Ipsos poll was conducted online in English throughout the United States on May 10-14 over 1,132 Democrats and independents.

Respondents were asked to pick from 23 potential Democratic nominees, including New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, who was expected to jump into the race yesterday. **Agencies**



Former US Vice President Joe Biden

## Leaders deliver final speeches two days ahead of Australian election

CANBERRA

LEADERS of Australia's major political parties have made their last pitch to voters ahead of the general election on Saturday.

In his final major speech of the campaign, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison told the National Press Club here yesterday that "now is not the time" for a change in government.

According to the latest Newspoll, one of the nation's leading opinion polls, released on Sunday night, the opposition

Australian Labor Party (ALP) leads the incumbent Liberal-National Party coalition (LNP) 51-49 on two-party preferred terms.

Morrison yesterday's address stressed that, despite the polls, the election was not "run and done."

"This will be a close election. That is not something, I think, anyone was writing two months ago, six months ago, eight months ago," he said, referring to his party's revival in the polls under his leadership.

"Every single vote that is cast on this

Saturday will decide who will lead our country... who will form the government.

"It will determine not just the three years that are in front of us but I believe the next decade that Australia will live in, the next decade of the economy that Australians will live in, and the choices that they will have."

Morrison's final speech echoed the sentiments that he has built his re-election campaign on, promising fiscal stability and significant tax cuts across the board while attacking Shorten's plan to

tax the "top end of town."

ALP leader Bill Shorten also delivered his final campaign speech yesterday.

"Our nation must choose the habits and fears of the past or the demands and opportunities of the future," he said.

"The nation's door to the future stands ajar and we ask the men and women of Australia to vote for change on May 18. We ask you to vote for new ideas, new equality of opportunity."

On Wednesday night, Morrison made his final bid to Chinese voters who will

be crucial in marginal electorates in and around Sydney, according to The Sydney Morning Herald.

Speaking in Sydney's Chinatown, Morrison committed to enhancing "relations with China," describing the relationship as "very much co-dependent."

"The linkages go well beyond the economics to the heritage that we share in common and that provides Australia with a unique opportunity to pursue this relationship," he said.

"I know of no community who does not work harder, start more businesses,

or apply themselves more to the education of their children."

The Australian Electoral Commission has warned that a record number of early votes could delay counting when polls close on Saturday and make it difficult to declare a winner on election night.

About 3.4 million people had cast their ballots early as of the close of business on Wednesday, more than the 2.98 million pre-poll votes lodged in the 2016 election. **Agencies**



# Iran 'exercising restraint' despite 'unacceptable' US escalation

TOKYO/MOSCOW

IRAN is committed to its obligations under an international nuclear deal despite the US withdrawal from the landmark agreement, its foreign minister said yesterday, calling the reimposition of sanctions by Washington "unacceptable".

Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif made the comments in a meeting with his Japanese counterpart in Tokyo as tensions rise in the Middle East, fuelling concerns that the United States and Iran are heading for conflict.

Iran is exercising "maximum restraint in spite of the fact the United States withdrew from (the) JCPOA last May," Zarif said at the start of his meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono.

He was referring to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action signed in 2015 by the United States, Iran and other countries, under which Tehran curbed its uranium enrichment capacity and won sanctions relief in return.

US President Donald Trump withdrew the United States from the nuclear deal last year and is ratcheting up sanctions on Iran, aiming to strangle its economy by ending its international sales of crude oil. Japan was a major buyer of Iranian oil for decades before the sanctions.

An attack on four oil tankers in the Gulf on Sunday, for which no one has claimed responsibility, and Saudi Arabia's announcement on Tuesday that armed drones hit two of its oil pumping stations have raised tensions.

The United States withdrew staff from its embassy in Iraq on Wednesday out of apparent concern about perceived threats from Iran, with US sources saying they believe Tehran encouraged the attacks on the oil tankers.

Trump is sending an aircraft carrier group, B-52 bombers and Patriot missiles to the Middle East to counter what the United States calls a heightened threat from Iran to American soldiers and interests in the region.

"We believe that escalation by the United States is unacceptable and uncalled for," Zarif told Kono in front of reporters before they met privately.

Nevertheless, Iran has relaxed restrictions on its nuclear program and threatened actions that may breach the nuclear deal, although the initial moves do not appear to violate the agreement.

"I'm concerned that the situation in the Middle East is becoming very tense," Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told Zarif in a later meeting.

Kono said it was essential to maintain the nuclear agreement and urged Iran to keep implementing it, echoing other countries.

Asian shippers and refiners have put ships heading to the Middle East on alert and are expecting a possible rise in marine insurance premiums after recent attacks on Saudi oil tankers and pipeline facilities, industry sources said on Tuesday.

Deal suspension 'forced by US'

In Russia, the Kremlin said Wednesday that US pressure on Iran has forced Tehran to suspend the implementation of the JCPOA, reports Xinhua.



Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif (left) and his Japanese counterpart Taro Kono pose for the media prior to their talks at the foreign minister's audience room in Tokyo yesterday. (AFP)

"We clearly understand that Iran makes these decisions not in an initiative, but responding to the pressure, which in general contradicts the letter and spirit of the JCPOA," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov

told reporters. In recent weeks, Washington has ratcheted up pressure against Tehran with a series of sanctions, designations and military threats.

In response, Iranian President

Hassan Rouhani announced last week his country's withdrawal from complying with the restrictions set by the JCPOA on Iran's enriched uranium reserves and heavy water supplies. **Xinhua**

## Restriction will hurt US' 5G deployment, Huawei says

BEIJING

HUAWEI Technologies Co said yesterday that restricting the company from doing business in the United States will only limit the US to inferior yet more expensive telecom equipment and leave it lagging behind in 5G deployment.

Huawei made the statement after the US Department of Commerce announced to add Huawei and its affiliates to the "entity list" of the department's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), restricting the sale or transfer of American technology to these companies.

The world's largest telecom equipment maker said blocking it from doing business in the US will not make the country more secure or stronger, instead, this will eventually harm the interests of US companies and consumers.

"Huawei is the unparalleled leader in 5G. We are ready and willing to engage with the US government and come up with effective measures to ensure product security," the company said, adding that unreasonable restrictions will infringe upon Huawei's rights and raise other serious legal issues.

Earlier in the day, US President Donald Trump signed an executive order, declaring a national emergency to "prohibit transactions posing an unacceptable risk" to the US national security or the safety of US people. **Agencies**

# Palestinians assert right to return on 71st anniversary of Nakba Day

GAZA/RAMALLAH

THE Palestinians marked on Wednesday the 71st anniversary of the Nakba Day, or "Day of the Catastrophe," the day after Israel declared its independence in 1948.

Clashes broke out on Wednesday afternoon between hundreds of demonstrators and Israeli soldiers on the border between the eastern Gaza Strip and Israel, said eyewitnesses and Gaza-based radio stations.

Medics and paramedics said 10 Palestinians were shot and wounded during the clashes by Israeli soldiers' gunfire, including one in serious condition. Eyewitnesses said Israeli soldiers showered the demonstrators with sewage water, and fired tear gas canisters and rubber gunshots to disperse the demonstrators.

The Hamas-run al-Aqsa radio station reported that thousands are expected to arrive in the eastern Gaza Strip, close to the border with Israel to join the Nakba event. In the Gaza Strip, more than half of the 2 million residents are refugees. Shops, schools, universities, ministries and banks observed the general strike and close down on the day.

"We want today to send messages to the Israeli occupation and to the international community that we will never forget, we will never forgive and we will grab our rights sooner or later," the highest commission said in a press statement.

In 1948, 957,000 Palestinians, 66 percent of the total popula-



A Palestinian demonstrator hurls back a tear gas canister fired by Israeli forces during a protest marking the 71st anniversary of the 'Nakba', or catastrophe, when hundreds of thousands fled or were forced from their homes in the war surrounding Israel's independence in 1948, at the Israel-Gaza border fence, in the southern Gaza Strip on Wednesday. REUTERS

tion of the historic Palestine, were expelled and displaced from their territories now occupied by Israel.

Last year, 61 Palestinians were shot dead by Israeli gunfire during clashes that broke out in the eastern Gaza Strip, when tens of thousands marked the 70th anniversary of the Nakba Day, according to the Health Ministry in Gaza. The ministry said since the outbreak of protests, known as the Great March of Return, on March 30 last year, the Israeli army has shot and killed 305 Palestinian demonstrators, including 59 children and 10 women. Israeli reports earlier said the Israeli army deployed

more troops on the border with the Gaza Strip, adding the army closed down all roads that lead to the area of the fence of the border with the Hamas-ruled coastal enclave.

An Israeli army spokesman warned people in the Gaza Strip not to reach the border fence or damage the infrastructure as such move would put them at risk.

Meanwhile, the Palestinians highlighted their adherence to their right of return and expressed their rejection to the U.S. decisions against the Palestinian cause. "Israel and its partner the United States are continuing to pursue their

historic injustice legally, morally and politically by violating the legitimate and internationally guaranteed rights of our people," said Hanan Ashrawi, a member of Palestine Liberation Organization executive committee, said in a press statement.

Israel and its aggressive alliance "are consolidating their policies, which are based on the Judaization of the Palestinian place and the theft of land and history," she added.

"The U.S. unilateral actions and plans in the Palestinian territories are a new Nakba for the Palestinians everywhere," the Palestinian official noted. **Xinhua**

people were able to appreciate the beauty of all civilizations.

"It is foolish to believe that one's race and civilization are superior to others," Xi said. "It is disastrous to willfully reshape or even replace other civilizations."

The Chinese president raised a four-point proposal to consolidate the "cultural foundation" of jointly building a community with a shared future for Asia and humanity: treating each other with respect and as

equals; appreciating the beauty of all civilizations; adhering to openness, inclusiveness, mutual learning; and keeping pace with the times.

Equality, reciprocity, diversity and multi-directionality are underscored in exchanges among civilizations.

The exchanges, Xi said, should neither be compulsory or forced, nor one-directional.

Asia, with two-thirds of the global population, is a major birthplace of human civilization

# Nissan's Saikawa 'remains as CEO' amid criticism

TOKYO

NISSAN Motor Co will keep its current CEO Hiroto Saikawa in his position amid criticism from insiders and name CEO of its alliance partner Renault SA, Thierry Bollore, to its board, sources with knowledge of the matter said yesterday.

The management changes have been brought about by the arrest of former Nissan Chairman Carlos Ghosn for alleged financial misconduct last November and under the alliance's plans made last month to allow the alliance to cooperate more efficiently, effectively and on a consensual basis.

Nissan is eyeing a new board comprising 11 members, with six of them being outside directors.

Bollore and Renault Chairman Jean-Dominique Senard will be on the new board, and along with Saikawa, who some



insiders believe should have stepped down to take responsibility for Nissan's recent controversies, Nissan's Chief Operating Officer Yasuhiro Yamachi, will also be a member.

The reshuffled board is still pending the approval of Nissan shareholders at an annual regular meeting scheduled next month.

In March, Nissan, Renault and Mitsubishi Motors Corp initially announced they planned to reorganize their partnership following the arrest of Ghosn and make a new internal body

to oversee their alliance.

They said at the time that a four-member committee would be at the helm of overseeing the newly-structured alliance, to be chaired by Senard and include Saikawa, Mitsubishi Motors Chairman and CEO Osamu Masuko and Bollore.

The shift in leadership structure would allow the alliance to better respond to changes in the automotive industry, such as the growing popularity of electric vehicles, Senard said at a press conference in Yokohama at the time.

The management revamp is not without its critics, however, with some industry insiders maintaining that Saikawa should have stepped down as CEO in response to Nissan's protracted scandal involving Ghosn and the automaker's subpar earnings released recently. **Agencies**

# Kremlin says Moscow was not invited to attend Zelensky's inauguration

SOCHI

KREMLIN Spokesman Dmitry Peskov has no information on whether Russian President Vladimir Putin will have contacts with Ukrainian President-Elect Vladimir Zelensky after his inauguration.

The Kremlin official added that Moscow had not received an invitation from Kiev to attend Zelensky's inauguration ceremony, set to take place on May 20.

"Currently, I am not aware of any plans to hold contacts [a meeting or a phone call between Putin and Zelensky], and, as far as I am aware, there have been no invitations [to the inauguration] at any level," Peskov told reporters.

"In many countries, inauguration does not include visits from foreign leaders," Peskov said, noting that he is not certain of the exact process of inauguration in Ukraine.

Peskov refused to provide an answer to a question on whether the Russian leadership plans to congratulate Zelensky with his assumption of office. "I cannot respond to the question: this is the decision of the Russian president," he said.

Putin has not congratulated Zelensky on his election victory and has not addressed the future Ukrainian leader personally in his Victory Day message.

Yesterday, the Ukrainian parliament set May 20 as the date of Zelensky's inauguration ceremony. The ceremony will start at 10:00.

# China advocates dialogue, rebuts 'clash of civilisations' as conference opens

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Wednesday urged various countries to treat each other as equals for the peaceful coexistence of civilizations.

"Various civilizations are not destined to clash," Xi said at the opening of the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations, Asia's first-ever grand gathering themed on inter-civilizational exchanges and mutual learning for a community with a shared

future. Thousands of people from 47 Asian countries and nearly 50 countries outside the region attended the conference in Beijing.

"The intensifying global challenges humanity are facing now require concerted efforts from countries across the world," Xi said, highlighting the role of culture to cope with common challenges.

The conference comes at a time when certain countries

have resorted to the "clash of civilizations" argument, bullying, unilateralism and an inward-looking mentality.

Qian Chengdan, a professor at Peking University, said the Xi-proposed event is highly relevant in the current political environment.

"It will boost understanding among different civilizations and pave the way for a brighter future for humanity," Qian said.

Xi noted there would be no clash of civilizations as long as

people were able to appreciate the beauty of all civilizations.

"It is foolish to believe that one's race and civilization are superior to others," Xi said. "It is disastrous to willfully reshape or even replace other civilizations."

The Chinese president raised a four-point proposal to consolidate the "cultural foundation" of jointly building a community with a shared future for Asia and humanity: treating each other with respect and as

equals; appreciating the beauty of all civilizations; adhering to openness, inclusiveness, mutual learning; and keeping pace with the times.

Equality, reciprocity, diversity and multi-directionality are underscored in exchanges among civilizations.

The exchanges, Xi said, should neither be compulsory or forced, nor one-directional.

Asia, with two-thirds of the global population, is a major birthplace of human civilization

and home to vibrant cultures. There are 47 countries and more than 1,000 ethnic groups on the continent.

Asians expect a peaceful, stable, open and integrated continent with common prosperity, Xi said.

The Chinese president's take on civilization has won broad support from conference attendees. "When he talked about discarding arrogance and prejudice to treat each other as equals, there was a round of ap-

plause," said Zhai Kun, another professor at Peking University. "That was really a show of approval."

In their talks on Tuesday, Greek President Prokopis Pavlopoulos told Xi that he believed the "clash of civilizations" argument was a huge mistake.

He agreed that different civilizations should respect each other, enhance mutual learning through dialogue and exchanges and draw upon each other's strengths. **Xinhua**





Kodak Black

## Rapper Kodak Black pleads not guilty to weapons charges

MIAMI

RAPPER Kodak Black pleaded not guilty Wednesday to federal weapons charges that prevented him from performing last weekend at the Rolling Loud hip-hop festival, around which several violent incidents occurred.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Edwin Torres also granted the 21-year-old Black release on \$550,000 bond with house arrest, although he faces other criminal cases that could keep him locked up.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Brown said Black was out on bail awaiting trial in a South Carolina sexual assault case – and that bail is likely to be revoked with these new charges.

Even with the possibility Black will be jailed there, Brown listed numerous other crimes the rapper has been involved in since he was a juvenile.

“Wherever he goes, your honor, there’s going to be guns, drugs and shootings,” the prosecutors said, adding that Black also might be at risk of fleeing.

Black did not speak at the hearing.

In the weapons case, an indictment says Black on two occasions falsely filled out federal forms to buy weapons at Lou’s Police Distributors in Hialeah, Florida. He received three of those – a 9mm handgun, a .380-caliber handgun and a semiautomatic Mini Draco weapon – one of which was left at the scene of a recent shooting in

nearby Pompano Beach, Brown said.

The rapper, whose current legal name is Bill Kapri and who was born Dieuson Octave, was arrested before his scheduled festival performance. Authorities are investigating three unrelated shootings in the Miami area with possible connections to Rolling Loud, two of them fatal. No arrests have been made.

Black’s attorney, Bradford Cohen, said the rapper owns a \$600,000 house in Florida that will be used as collateral for the Florida bond. He added that Black voluntarily turned himself when he learned there was a warrant for his arrest in the weapons case.

“He showed up. He went into custody. There was no problem,” Cohen said.

Besides the South Carolina sexual assault allegations, Black’s lengthy rap sheet includes a recent arrest in New York on drug and weapons charges as he crossed the U.S. border from Canada. That case is still pending as well.

In Florida, he has been charged at different times with drug and weapons possession, armed robbery, sexual assault, probation violations and fleeing from officers, but Black has never done significant prison time.

Black’s better-known singles include “Skrt,” “Zeze,” “Roll in Peace,” “Tunnel Vision,” and “No Flockin’.”

AP

## Bucks finish with a flourish, rally to top Raptors 108-100

MILWAUKEE

DOWN for most of the game, clearly rusty at times after nearly a full week off, the Milwaukee Bucks looked very much like a team in trouble.

Until the fourth quarter. The team with the NBA’s best record this season found its stride at the perfect time.

Brook Lopez scored 13 of his career playoff-high 29 points in the fourth quarter, Giannis Antetokounmpo added 24 points and the Bucks closed the game on a 10-0 run to beat the Toronto Raptors 108-100 in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference finals on Wednesday night.

Milwaukee forced Toronto to miss its final eight shots and outscored the Raptors 32-17 in the fourth.

“I think it speaks a little bit to the character of the group,” Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said. “They just stick with it. I think it’s become a little bit of a theme in the playoffs: I think eventually, hopefully, we feel like if we stick with what we’re doing good things will happen for us.”

Lopez had a dunk with 2:20 left to put the Bucks ahead for good, added a 3-pointer on the next Milwaukee possession to push the lead to four and the Bucks – after trailing for the overwhelming majority of the game – did just enough in the final minutes to grab the series lead.

“I think this game definitely made us better,” Antetokounmpo said.

Malcolm Brogdon scored 15 and Nikola Mirotic had 13 for Milwaukee, which closed the game on a 10-0 run.

“We just did a great job of sticking with what we’ve been doing all postseason long,” Lopez said.

Kawhi Leonard scored 31 points and Kyle Lowry added 30 for the Raptors, who led by as many as 13 early and took an 83-76 lead into



Toronto Raptors guard Kyle Lowry (7) passes the ball under pressure from Milwaukee Bucks forward Nikola Mirotic (41) during the second half in Game 1 of the NBA basketball playoffs Eastern Conference final in Milwaukee on Wednesday, May 15, 2019. (AP)

the final quarter. Lowry was 5 for 7 in the fourth – and his teammates were 0 for 15.

“Fourth quarter killed us, 32-17,” Lowry said. “They outplayed us in that fourth quarter. They got a little bit more aggressive. They made some big shots, made some big plays. It sucks when you lose like that. But we had our chance and we’ve got to learn from it.”

Lopez added 11 rebounds for the Bucks, who had three players post double-doubles. Antetokounmpo had 14 rebounds and Khris Middleton finished with 11 points and 10 rebounds for Milwaukee, which is now 9-1 in this postseason.

The Bucks trailed for 37 of the game’s 48 minutes.

Didn’t matter. They stayed just close enough until they could finish with a serious kick.

“The way guys competed and just got after it... stands out to me,” Budenholzer said.

Pascal Siakam scored 15 for Toronto, including a 3-pointer over Antetokounmpo to end the third quarter and give the Raptors a seven-point lead with 12 minutes left.

It unraveled quickly from there. And now the Raptors, who came in on the high of winning a second-round Game 7 on a buzzer-beater by Leonard, have two days to regroup.

“The game is over,” Toronto’s Marc Gasol said. “We got to look back at it and learn but we can’t think too much about it. You come out Game 2 and try to win. You can’t replay this one.”

With the chants of Milwaukee’s motto – “Fear the deer! Fear the deer!” – bouncing throughout the building, the Bucks predictably came out flying.

The flurry was brief.

The Bucks missed seven consecutive shots, the Raptors made four 3-pointers in a span of

three minutes, and that all helped become a 16-0 run by Toronto that turned an early 8-3 deficit into a 19-8 edge. The lead got as big as 13 later in the quarter on a fadeaway jumper by Leonard, and the Raptors held the lead the rest of the half.

Milwaukee had a chance to take its first lead since the opening minutes when Antetokounmpo went to the line for a pair of free throws with 8:17 left in the third and the Bucks down by one. He missed both and the Raptors peeled off the next nine points to rebuild a 10-point lead again.

But Toronto shot 5 for 22 in the fourth, the Bucks finally reclaimed the lead, and the Raptors’ chance to steal home-court went away.

“We gave ourselves a chance to win on the road in an Eastern Conference final,” Raptors coach Nick Nurse said. “And it didn’t turn out.”

AP

## Genuine all-rounders need of the hour, says Mohinder Amarnath

MUMBAI

GENUINE all-rounders can help with the balance of a team at the World Cup but they should be good enough to play leading roles with both bat and ball, the hero of India’s 1983 triumph Mohinder Amarnath told Reuters.

Amarnath was one of the architects of India’s maiden 50-over World Cup triumph in 1983, winning player-of-the-match awards both in the semi-final and final to deny Clive Lloyd’s West Indies a title hat-trick.

“If you have two-three quality all-rounders, that balances the team very well,” Amarnath, now 68, said

in an interview.

“It gives you a choice of how you want to go about with the rest of the team.”

Amarnath started off as a medium-pace bowler before developing into a reliable batsman highly regarded for his gutsy batting against quality fast bowlers.

He believes all-rounders need to work on their games to ensure they do not just end up being bits-and-pieces players.

“The white ball won’t seam around or do much and we don’t see many green wickets in England anymore,” he said before being named the winner of Ceat Cricket Rating’s Lifetime Achievement

Award.

“Probably the weather will also have a role to play.

“But all said and done, you need the right balance, a quality all-rounder need not necessarily be the fourth bowler or the fifth but he can be the third bowler, a regular bowler.

“He should be a top-order batsman, that balances the team very well.”

Amarnath, who played 69 test matches and 85 one-day internationals for India, said the sport had changed drastically from his era and rued the current imbalance between bat and ball in limited-overs cricket.

With current rules allowing a maximum of four fielders outside the 30-yard circle between overs 10 to 40, captains find it difficult to stack their teams with frontline batsmen and rely on part-timers to pitch in with the bowling.

Amarnath implored all-rounders to grab their chance of making an impact by finding a batting spot high up the order and bowling their entire quota of overs.

“Somebody coming in at seven, eight and nine, it probably becomes too late to make a difference,” he said. “So there I would think you need someone who can bat from number one to six and bowl the 10 overs.”

REUTERS

## Spieth trying to buck the odds at PGA Championship

FARMINGDALE, N.Y.

JORDAN Spieth needs to win the PGA Championship for the career Grand Slam. Masters champion Tiger Woods needs to win the next three majors to capture an unprecedented calendar Grand Slam.

Based on how their seasons have gone, the question now is who has the better chance.

Spieth smiled at the supposition, and then tried to play along. He first considered how physics major Bryson DeChambeau would approach it and figured that winning one major would be easier than winning three. And then he considered the Wisconsin man who placed a \$100,000 wager on 100-1 odds of Woods winning all four majors this year, a bet that would return \$10 million.

“I would have better odds than that, right?” Spieth said.

For someone mired in a slump – a word Spieth himself said Wednesday on the eve of the PGA Championship – the 25-year-old Texan didn’t appear overly concerned about the opportunity in front of him at Bethpage Black.

Only five other players have won



Jordan Spieth

Tiger Woods

the career Grand Slam. No one has completed it at the PGA Championship.

Spieth wouldn’t appear to be a candidate at the moment. He is winless since getting the third leg of the slam in the 2017 British Open at Royal Birkdale. And while he had chances on the back nine of two majors last year, he hasn’t come close to winning since then.

In the eight stroke-play events this year when he played the weekend,

Spieth on average has finished 14.5 strokes behind the winner. He has yet to finish in the top 20, with his best result a tie for 21st at the Masters.

He talks mostly about progress and consistency, both defined more by what he feels than what anyone else sees.

“I’ve shot some low rounds, but piecing together four has been difficult this season so far,” Spieth said. “I think it’s gotten more progressively consistent

throughout the year, and out here you’re going to need that kind of consistency. You need your bad rounds to be held at about par to win this tournament, and you need your good rounds to go deep enough. If I can continue to make the amount of birdies I’ve been making and then just limit the mistakes a little bit, then I should be right in it.”

Woods, who won the second leg of the calendar slam at Bethpage Black in 2002 when it hosted the U.S. Open, is the betting favorite at 8-1. He is followed by Dustin Johnson and defending champion Brooks Koepka, two of golf’s most powerful players.

Spieth is listed at 50-1 on a big golf course that might feel even bigger considering the 2 inches of rain since Sunday that has left it long and soft.

“This is a completely different animal out here, Bethpage Black, and it’ll wear you out,” Xander Schauffele said.

Justin Rose says while 156 players are in the field, he felt there were only 30 or 40 who could win because of how long the Black course plays. He includes Woods in that group, mainly from what he saw on the 17th hole at Augusta National, where Woods had a two-shot lead and piped one down the middle.

“That was the most telling shot that I saw him play at Augusta this year, and because of that, I think it gives him an opportunity this week with his driver,” Rose said.

Koepka also believes the field – with 99 of the top 100 in the world – is shorter than it seems. He used his own brand of math to eliminate most of the field from taking home the Wanamaker Trophy.

“You figured at least 80 of them I’m just going to beat,” he said. “From there, you figure about half of them won’t play well from there, so you’re down to about 35. And then from 35, some of them just ... pressure is going to get to them. It only leaves you with a few more, and you’ve just got to beat those guys.”

“I think one of the big things I’ve learned over the last few years is you don’t need to win it,” he said. “If you hang around, good things are going to happen.”

Woods won’t be guilty of over preparing.

He hasn’t competed since winning his fifth green jacket – and 15th major – at the Masters, and he has played only 27 holes at Bethpage since he was last here in 2012 for a PGA Tour event. Woods

played 18 holes a week ago and nine holes Monday. That was followed by a day of light work, but then he chose not to come to the course Wednesday on the final day of practice.

Spieth, who played the back nine Wednesday with Steve Stricker, has been frustrated by not finding a solution sooner, though he seemed upbeat.

During a long question when a reporter referenced him as among the best in the world, Spieth interrupted with a quick, “Thank you.” Another reporter referenced his phrase of a “bit of a slump” he is in, and Spieth quickly interjected with a smile, “Was.”

“I don’t want to use the word negativity, but the questioning and the wording that’s used to describe me by media or whatever over the past year has only come up because of the amount of success that I’ve had,” he said. “So it actually could be looked at positively, as well, because if I didn’t have the success that I’ve had, then I wouldn’t be in here right now.”

“It’s just one of those things where you’ve got to block out the noise and stay the course and believe in yourself.”

AP



## German, French leagues reject proposal to create closed Champions League

BERLIN

THE German and French football leagues have both rejected a proposal to create a near-closed Champions League from 2024 onwards, adding to widespread opposition to the plan.

The German Football League (DFL), which runs the top two divisions of the Football League system – known as the Bundesliga and Bundesliga 2 – said in a statement that such a competition would have “unacceptable consequences” for national leagues around Europe.

The French league (LFP), meanwhile, said it would propose an alternative in the next few days.

The region's governing body UEFA is working with the European Club Association (ECA), whose members include all of the continent's biggest clubs, to re-design European competition after the current international calendar ends in 2024.

UEFA has said discussions are at a preliminary stage and has not given any further details. But according to reports of a meeting held between UEFA and representatives of the European Leagues last week, the governing body has already put a proposal on the table which would involve drastic changes.

Several league representatives who were present have said that the proposal included a three-tier European league with promotion and relegation between each

division.

The top tier – the equivalent of the Champions League – would include 32 teams, the top 24 of whom would keep their places for the next season, ending the tradition that qualifying for European competition is achieved via national leagues.

Only four places would be open to the winners of Europe's 54 national leagues.

“The presently discussed concept... would have unacceptable consequences for the national leagues in Europe and should therefore not be implemented in this form,” said the DFL's chief executive Christian Seifert.

“We must not allow the traditional national leagues to be damaged in their attractiveness for millions of people across the continent.”

The DFL called on UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin to “moderate further proceedings in a foresightful manner”.

“In all discussions, two points are of crucial importance: the number of games in the football calendar and, above all, access to international competitions,” said Seifert.

“Changes to these must not jeopardise the relevance and future of the national leagues in Europe. This would... damage the whole of European football – and that can never be in the interest of the UEFA.”

REUTERS

## UEFA investigators send Manchester City case to judges for verdict

GENEVA

UEFA club finance investigators have sent their Manchester City file to independent judges for a verdict which could be a one-year ban from the Champions League.

The English champion is suspected of breaking rules that monitor clubs' commercial income and spending on player transfers and wages, and faces the most serious sanction which could apply next season.

UEFA confirmed the expected referral to its judging panel on Thursday, though did not publish the recommended punishment or a timetable for the verdict.

The chief investigator – Yves Leterme, a former prime minister of Belgium – is required by UEFA rules to propose “the final decision to be taken, including, where appropriate, any disciplinary measures.”

City hit back in a statement at what it called “a wholly unsatisfactory, curtailed, and hostile process” overseen by UEFA.

“The accusation of financial irregularities remains entirely false and the... referral ignores a comprehen-

sive body of irrefutable evidence provided by Manchester City,” the club said.

UEFA's club finance panel opened its formal case against City in March “for potential breaches of financial fair play regulations that were made public in various media outlets.”

Internal documents about City's business and emails between club executives have been published in the Football Leaks series led by German magazine Der Spiegel since last November.

The revelations suggested City officials deceived UEFA over several years, including by disguising that revenue from potentially overvalued commercial deals came from the club's owners in Abu Dhabi.

The Football Leaks documents are suspected of being hacked or stolen, and a Portuguese man was extradited from Hungary to his home country in March to be questioned about alleged attempted extortion and illegal access to data.

City has not disputed that the published information is authentic, while also refusing to address the detail in public statements.

AP

## Gracia stands in way of Guardiola's treble dream

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

PEP Guardiola is aiming to become the first manager to win an English domestic treble when his Manchester City side take on Watford in Saturday's FA Cup final but a fellow Spaniard stands in his way.

Watford manager Javi Gracia may not have the reputation that Guardiola enjoys in the game but he has made his mark this season by guiding the Hornets to a creditable 11th-place finish in the Premier League and only their second FA Cup final.

Gracia played for Athletic Bilbao and Real Sociedad during the time when Guardiola was a player with Barcelona and like the City boss he was a deep lying central midfielder.

But while Guardiola began coaching with Barca, Garcia has worked at several lesser known Spanish clubs before he moved to

England after a spell with Russian club Rubin Kazan.

The 49-year-old makes no attempt to hide his admiration for Guardiola, who on Sunday succeeded in winning his second straight Premier League title.

“Pep is the best in the Premier, yes. He is a very good manager and we have a good relationship. I don't speak with him many times but we have a good relationship,” he said.

City beat Watford in both meetings in the league, 2-1 at Vicarage Road in December and 3-1 at the Etihad, but Gracia believes his team showed enough in those games to have hope they could pull off a surprise at Wembley.

“We lost both games but I think we showed that we can beat them. We competed really well in both games in different moments,” he said.

REUTERS

## Mikel returns to Nigeria squad ahead of Africa Cup of Nations

BY COLIN UDOH, SPECIAL TO ESPN

NIGERIA's release of their 25-man provisional squad for the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations on Tuesday was marked by one notable return, that of skipper John Obi Mikel.

The midfielder, 32, has not suited up for the Super Eagles since June of 2018 when the Nigerians were eliminated by Argentina in the group stage of the FIFA World Cup.

There was some uncertainty about whether he would play for Nigeria again, although coach Gernot Rohr left the door open for the Middlesbrough midfielder to walk through when he decided to answer the knock.

Outside of Mikel's return, Rohr has stayed true to his word of sticking with the squad which punched the ticket to Egypt.

Easy to make space for Mikel

It might come as no surprise that Mikel did not play a single minute of the qualifiers for Nigeria. Two years ago, his injury-enforced absence, along with those of Victor Moses and a few other senior players, saw Rohr roll out youngsters in the opening qualifier at home to South Africa.

The Super Eagles were beaten 2-0, their first ever competitive loss to Bafana Bafana. Stung by that defeat, the Nigerians went on to beat a destructive path through the opposition and qualify with a game to spare.

But even through that, they always looked a different, more formidable force with Mikel in the side. This was especially visible during the World Cup qualifiers that were sandwiched between the Afcon games.

Mikel brings a calm solidity to the side, usually seen when there is adversity to be weathered. His name on the team sheet and presence on the field offers an intimidation factor borne of 85 caps that very few others possess.

It remains to be seen if he still has the legs or lungs to see out 90 minutes after 90 minutes over a three-week period, but his leadership and influence in that Super Eagles side is a welcome boost to their chances off going all the way.

Rohr sticks with what he knows

Prior to the final, inconsequential, qualifier against Seychelles, the Nigeria coach made it clear he would not be looking out for any fresh names to come into his Afcon squad.

He has kept his word. Al Ahly's Junior Ajayi - on the standby list - is



John Obi Mikel.

the only one who appears to be from slightly left field, but even he has been called up by the coach in the past.

What this says, as if it was in any doubt, is that the German has a fairly good idea not only of what his final squad will be, but what his starting eleven is for that opening group game against Burundi on June 22.

Rohr can be deceptively verbose, talking a lot without giving too much away, and he will doubtless keep that final squad list close to his chest until the very last minute.

But make no mistake, this roster is pretty much ready to be laminated.

### Iheanacho at big risk of not making the cut

It's tough to see Kelechi Iheanacho in that final 23-man squad at this time, let alone in the starting XI.

Two places are up in the air. From the looks of it, one defender and Iheanacho are the decisions that need to be made. Up the pitch, Kele's competition are Victor Osimhen and, to some extent, Paul Onuachu.

The other two have proven themselves with minutes and goals at club level, and also in recent international games. Iheanacho has barely got on the green for Leicester City, let alone scored.

His big chance came against Manchester City when he had a chance to level for his team but he fluffed his lines. It was a big moment

for the forward, one that could have all but guaranteed his place in Egypt.

As it is, he will be in a fight for his life to beat out the other two, both in training camp and in the friendlies to come.

### My kingdom for a left back

In addition to the 25-man squad, Rohr also listed six standby players. That list of six offers telling insight into Rohr's view of his squad.

Despite seeing Jamilu Collins usurp Bryan Idowu and solidify his claim on the left back position, Rohr still named Idowu, along with two other left-sided defenders, on his standby list.

Under-20 defenders Ikouem Utin and Valentine Ozornwafor - who will be at the FIFA U20 World Cup until June 15 - will provide cover for Collins and Ola Aina.

It's an indication of how thin Rohr considers his left-sided options to be that he choose to list fifty percent of his standby players from that area of the pitch.

There will be plenty of divine supplication in the technical room that both first choice players selected for that position stay fit during the build-up and through the tournament.

### The Missing...

Notably missing from the lists of 31 are midfielder Ogenyi Onazi, forwards Isaac Success and Taiwo Awoniyi, and defender Tyrone Ebuehi.

All four would have been fine additions to the squad. Both Onazi and Ebuehi have been ruled out through injury, however.

Liverpool loanee Awoniyi, on the other hand, appears to be not quite ready, not to mention that Rohr would want to leave the U20s with at least one decent striker to focus on their World Cup campaign after stealing away both Osimhen and Samuel Chukwueze.

Success, however, is a different issue. The forward worked hard at the beginning of the season to get himself in shape for Watford and subsequently earned a call up for Nigeria.

But he did not get enough club minutes, and when he did get some did not do anything special with them. Onuachu did, and that has locked Success out. At least for now.

### 25-man provisional squad:

**Goalkeepers:** Francis Uzoho (Anorthosis Famagusta, Cyprus); Ikechukwu Ezenwa (Katsina United); Daniel Akpeyi (Kaizer Chiefs, South Africa)

**Defenders:** Olaoluwa Aina (Torino FC, Italy); Abdullahi Shehu (Bursaspor FC, Turkey); Chidozie Awaziem (Caykur Rizespor, Turkey); William Ekong (Udinese FC, Italy); Leon Balogun (Brighton & Hove Albion, England); Kenneth Omeruo (CD Leganes, Spain); Jamilu Collins (SC Paderborn 07, Germany); Semi Ajayi (Rotherham United, England)

**Midfielders:** Mikel John Obi (Middlesbrough FC, England); Wilfred Ndidi (Leicester City, England); Oghenekaro Etebo (Stoke City FC, England); John Ogu (Hapoel Be'er Sheva, Israel)

**Forwards:** Ahmed Musa (Al Nassar FC, Saudi Arabia); Victor Osimhen (Royal Charleroi SC, Belgium); Moses Simon (Levante FC, Spain); Henry Onyekuru (Galatasaray SK, Turkey); Odion Ighalo (Shanghai Shenhua, China); Alexander Iwobi (Arsenal FC, England); Samuel Kalu (Girondins Bordeaux, France); Paul Onuachu (FC Midtjylland, Denmark); Kelechi Iheanacho (Leicester City, England); Samuel Chukwueze (Villarreal FC, Spain)

### Six on Standby:

Theophilus Afelokhai (Enyimba FC); Bryan Idowu (Lokomotiv Moscow, Russia); Ikouem Utin (Enyimba FC); Mikel Agu (Vitoria Setubal, Portugal); Junior Ajayi (Al Ahly, Egypt); Valentine Ozornwafor (Enyimba FC)

## World Cup shines spotlight on gender pay disparity

STOCKHOLM

THE players set to light up the Women's World Cup in France next month may play for big-name clubs like Barcelona, Arsenal and Juventus but, although salaries are improving, they earn a fraction of the money paid to their male counterparts.

Nilla Fischer, who will move from Frauen-Bundesliga champions VfL Wolfsburg to FC Linköping in her native Sweden when the tournament is over, gave Reuters a stark assessment of the gap between men's and women's wages in a recent interview.

“What they maybe make in an hour, I make in a year,” she said bluntly.

The vast pay inequality was one of the reasons that prompted Women's World Cup holders the United States to file a lawsuit against the U.S. Soccer Federation in March.

All 28 members of the 2015 World Cup-winning squad were named as plaintiffs in federal court in Los Angeles in the lawsuit which outlined complaints about wages as well as other aspect of their working conditions when compared to the U.S. men's side, who failed to qualify for the 2018 World Cup.

The group that includes high-profile players such as Megan Rapinoe, Carli Lloyd and Alex Morgan said they have been consistently paid less money than their male counterparts even though their performance has been superior to the men's team.

“We believe that fighting for gender equality in sports is a part of that responsibility. As players, we deserved to be paid equally for our work, regardless of our gender,” Morgan said at the time when the lawsuit was filed.

The advent of fully-professional leagues like the Women's Super League (WSL) in England is a step in the right direction, but there was still a long way to go, sports agent Lindi Ngwenya told Reuters.

“The definition of ‘fully professional’ is that the players are paid a salary that they can live on, so from this season all the players that you see in the WSL are on a basic (wage) of 20,000 to 25,000 pounds (\$25,904 to \$32,380) a year, plus accommodation, with the big clubs paying slightly more,” she said.

In contrast, the average pay for a male footballer in England's Premier League was 3 million pounds a year, according to the 2018 Sporting Intelligence Global Sports Salary Survey

- or more than 100 times what their female counterparts are paid.

Despite that enormous gulf, improved salaries for women footballers in England represents a big step up from the most recent report

published by player's union FIFPro in 2017. The Global Football Employment Report contained the results of a survey of 3,600 top-level female players around the world and revealed an average wage of \$600 a month, with 50% of players saying they did not get paid for playing.

Short-term contracts and a reliance on verbal, rather than written, agreements added to the insecurity for female players, according to the report.

Former rugby player and British army officer Ngwenya, director of London-based agency SISU Sports Management, said the structure of contracts varies from country to country.

French clubs are the top payers on straightforward professional contracts, while mid-tier German sides often offer a part-time employment contract with a local company on top of payments for playing.

Though high-profile internation-

als such as Norway's Ada Hegerberg and Brazil's Marta can earn six-figure sums and complement their salaries with lucrative endorsements, not all players are so lucky.

Ngwenya said bigger crowds and more media attention means more sponsorship and ultimately more money in players' pockets.

“We're seeing more money coming into the game, which clearly at the end of the day is going to be the driver,” she said.

“The English FA subsidises the women's game a lot at the moment, but the hope and the plan is that commercial sponsors will come in to take up that slack and take the game forward.”

For sponsors and the media it all comes down to return on investment, and the exposure provided by the Women's World Cup in France will provide a chance to gauge the current popularity and market value of women's football. **REUTERS**

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

## Mikel returns to Nigeria squad ahead of Africa Cup of Nations

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**5 EATV**

**TONIGHT @ 21:00**

**FRIDAY**

10:59 Jibuti Na Jome  
11:00 DADAZ (live)  
13:30 Kufi Za Wana  
14:00 Radio/Planet Bongo Live  
15:00 RINDURU  
16:30 RHASHAQ  
17:00 SSELKTI  
17:55 KIROKO  
18:00 eNews  
18:30 Skanga  
19:00 KAFY SAA I  
19:30 MUDALA  
21:00 Friday Night Live

**FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE (FNL)** is where EATV and East Africa Radio combine to bring you an explosion of Friday Night entertainment. The base gets louder, the fun gets addictive and the guest list is exclusive! It's a party on TV.

**east africa RADIO**

05:00 EA Breakfast  
09:00 Supamix  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

## Junior tennis players set for Africa Championship

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's eight junior tennis players will leave for Kenya next week to compete at this year's Confederation of African Tennis (CAT) U-14 Championship.

They include five from Rafiki Foundation of Moshi, two from Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC) and Dar es Salaam has contributed one player.

Rafiki Foundation's head coach, Charles Laizer, mentioned his players, who will make the trip, as Naitoti Singo, Aurelia Mushi, Rachael Swai, Isaka Ndosi and Emmanuel Minja.

The AGC youngsters are Rashid Ramadhan and Nicholas Mera while Dar es Salaam player was not known by the time we went to press.

In an interview held yesterday, Laizer said his players are well prepared for the tournament and he is confident that they will perform well.

He said the players would compete in both single and doubles categories but he stopped short of mentioning the coach who will accompany the team.

He disclosed he has only been informed of the names of players from Rafiki Foundation and AGC, who will make the trip, but Tanzania Tennis Association (TTA) officials are better placed to name the coach.

Dennis Makoi, TTA president, had, in a previous interview, confirmed that the country would send junior tennis players to the tournament.

"We will send our players to Kenya for the junior tournament, I do not have more details with me now as I gave club coaches the responsibility to select the players and start preparations," Makoi noted in a brief response.

He, though, could not be reached on his mobile phone yesterday when we wanted to know the name of the coach who will accompany the team to Kenya and people that have met the team's participation expenses.

"All of my players are ready mentally and physically for the tournament as they have been training well ahead of the event, am very confident that they will do well," the coach said.

"It won't be easy but they are ready for the challenge ... the team depart for Kenya on Saturday for the tournament that will start the following day and will return home on June 1."

Goodluck Mollel, AGC head coach, also said his players are well prepared for the event.

"My players are always ready for any event and this tournament will not be exceptional, I can assure all tennis lovers that AGC is always ready for any event," he said.



Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC) junior tennis player, Tumaini Martin, battles it out in a past ITF East Africa tournament in Dar es Salaam.

## Sevilla FC tour set to promote football in Tanzania-TFF



SportPesa Tanzania Director of Administration and Compliance, Tarimba Abbas (L), hands over a certificate of appreciation to Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president, Wallace Karia, in Dar es Salaam yesterday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SPORTPESA TANZANIA

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Football Federation (TFF) has urged Simba Sports Club players to display scintillating showing in their international friendly encounter with Spanish giants, Sevilla FC, slated for May 23.

The federation has also commended prominent betting firm in the country, SportPesa Tanzania, which has organized the match, for its efforts to promote the

game in the country.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday, TFF president, Wallace Karia said Simba players must know that Sevilla FC is one of high-flying teams in the world and the former have to show their best in the encounter in order to win hearts of the visitors' technical bench and officials.

Karia said Simba players have been given the golden chance

to play against the famous team in Europe and recording the best results is the former's task.

"Every coach in the world prefers to work with talented and committed players. Sevilla FC will be visiting the country during the off season, it is an opportunity for players who focus on playing abroad," Karia said.

Karia also commended SportPesa Tanzania for

their efforts to stimulate the development of football in the country.

"To be sincerely, SportPesa Tanzania have so far done tremendous job in developing football in the country. They have managed to bring English Premier League side, Everton FC," he added.

"Recently, English Premier League club Southampton FC instructors conducted special

coaching course for more than 30 domestic coaches apart from training for the youths, we have been impressed by the efforts made by the firm."

Meanwhile, SportPesa Tanzania have disclosed the encounter, which has been scheduled to start from 7pm at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam, will be televised live through MultiChoice Tanzania's Dstv Super Sport 9.

SportPesa Tanzania Director of Administration and Compliance, Tarimba Abbas, said all preparations ahead of the encounter are complete and the company is expecting a thrilling match.

Abbas called all soccer fans in the country to turn at the National Stadium in big number.

He also called on Tanzania soccer lovers to join the company's betting platform in order to win lucrative prizes.

He pointed out the new promotion dubbed 'Usibahatishe Cheza na SportPesa' has been designed purposely to reward the company's clients and change their lives.

The prizes from Usibahatishe Cheza na SportPesa include three Toyota IST vehicles, 200 smartphones, 45 tickets for the encounter and 10 tickets to watch Kariobangi Sharks versus one of the famous English Premier League sides, Everton FC.

## TFF officials participate in FIFA infrastructure improvement workshop

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Football Federation (TFF) Secretary General, Wilfred Kidao, and the federation's Director of Competitions, Salum Madadi, were in Malawi attending a workshop organized by the world soccer governing body, FIFA, known as Forward Infrastructure, which ended yesterday.

The two-day workshop, which was held for the first time in the continent, attracted 26 representatives from 15 African countries.

Kidao yesterday did not respond to a question when we requested for details on the workshop and how it will contribute to the development of football in the country.

However, press release from FIFA said, the workshop was aimed at emphasizing nations on how serious the world soccer governing body is in improving the fabric of the game through infrastructure development.

The world soccer governing body was represented by its facilities and income generating programs manager Daniel Krebs.

FIFA said, its council's members, last year, voted for continued better improvement of the game, and said there is need for good infrastructure, but this cannot come without good advice.

It further says, infrastructure is the backbone of football development as you can have everything, which concerns football, but without space to play there is no football.

"Infrastructure is the back bone of football development, FIFA and its forward program is supporting all national associations, one critical part of this development is infrastructure, without pitches, stadiums, technical centers, FA headquarters its not



Tanzania Football Federation Competitions Director, Salum Madadi.

possible," said part of FIFA press release.

Some of the topics covered include building sustainable and accessible infrastructure that meet international standards, helping lead infrastructure projects professionally and efficiently and adopting best practices of infrastructure, natural grass pitches, artificial turf and sustainability.

The 26 delegates were from Eritrea, Egypt, Eswatini, Gambia, Lesotho, Liberia, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda,

Cape Verde and the hosts Malawi.

Others, who attended the workshop, are Thomas Speck who is the Infrastructure Consultant, Accessibility Consultant Jonna Deagle, and Ole Myhvoid who is playing surface consultant.

FIFA officials Florence Mahwera and Christine Game, who are Development

Officer and Development Coordinator respectively, as well took part in the workshop.

However, it is the wish of all sports loving people in the country to see TFF mak-

ing use of the knowledge gained at the workshop.

The local football governing body, currently, is one of the few associations in the continent that have no tangible assets of their own, apart from owning its head quarters and a ground (Karume Stadium) in Ilala District, Dar es Salaam.

The body has no any other infrastructure of its own, it moreover depends on government and stadia belonging to other institutions.

The federation also hires halls and other facilities when it is hosting international events.

## Rivals wary of India's all-surface attack, says Kumar

NEW DELHI

BATTING has traditionally been India's strength but their World Cup rivals will also be wary of their all-surface pace attack, swing bowler Bhuvneshwar Kumar has said.

The 29-year-old is a key member of the twice world champions' three-pronged pace attack, which also includes Mohammed Shami and Jasprit Bumrah.

Kumar's ability to move the ball offsets his lack of pace and like any other swing bowler, he is looking forward to making the most of the English conditions that encourage his craft.

"I agree that pitches in England in the last few years have been flat, but teams will be wary of India's bowling unit since we can be potent both at the start and at the death," he told the Times of India newspaper.

"It will all boil down to how we execute the plans on the given day."

A fitter Shami has emerged as a strike bowler while Bumrah is currently the top ranked ODI bowler famed for his yorkers and death-overs mastery.

Pundits believe skipper Virat Kohli is blessed to have at his disposal arguably the best ever Indian pace attack but Kumar is keener to talk about their versatility.

"I don't want to comment on whether we are the best or not because our performance in the field is what will define our attack," said the bowler from Meerut, a north Indian town known for its sports goods industry.

"Our performances over the last few years speak for us. The Indian bowling attack has grown from strength to strength."

REUTERS

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

