



National Pg 2

Foundation invited to open school



National Pg 3

NIT to acquire two planes



National Pg 4

Dr Shein calls for public cooperation



Sido, CRDB Bank partnership disburses over 1.3 billion/- to agro-processors

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New US app rollout easing fight against rabies in Mara region

By Guardian Reporter

SCIENTISTS working in Tanzania have developed a new internet application that can determine if a dog was vaccinated for the rabies virus with a cellphone camera image-billed as a game changer in the fight against the disease.

The research team based out of the Washington State University (WSU) Paul G. Allen School of Global Animal Health is working with PiP My Pet, the firm that developed a mobile application using facial recognition to reunite lost pets with their owners.

A statement published yesterday by WSU said that rather than locate the lost animals, the company designed a new app to track which dogs were vaccinated for the rabies virus, and more importantly which dogs still require the vaccine.

The app is currently being rolled out in a series of field trials as part of the National Institute of Health, a government agency now handling a vaccination trial in Mara region, it said.



The app is currently being rolled out in a series of field trials as part of the National Institute of Health's vaccination trial in Mara region, the statement added

The trial, which will provide the first mass dog vaccination against rabies in the region is aimed at testing the efficacy of two delivery strategies.

First, it uses teams of vaccinators in vehicles to visit each village in turn, whilst the second uses village-based vaccinators to deliver mass vaccination of dogs.

"This technology means we don't have to insert expensive microchips to identify each vaccinated dog," explains Felix Lankester, director of the WSU Rabies Free Tanzania program. "It saves us time and money, both very important commodities in our mission to eliminate human rabies in East Africa."

Each microchip costs about \$1 US, which quickly adds up when you consider that the WSU rabies elimination campaign vaccinated more than 275,000 dogs in 2019 in Kenya and Tanzania. The effort is now nearing two million vaccinations.

The World Health Organization affirms that rabies kills about 59,000 people every year, mostly in Africa and Asia, where 95 percent of human rabies cases occur. More than 99 percent of human rabies cases are due to transmission from rabid dogs.

"People in the West are often surprised to hear that in East Africa rabies kills so many people each year and mostly children," Lankester said. "Because we no longer need

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Investment provisions under scrutiny to attract investors



As rains continue in the wildlife rich Ngorongoro Crater, tourist vehicles like this get stuck in damaged roads within the caldera, thus trucks are dispatched to help pull cars out of the quagmire. Photo: Correspondent Marc Nkwame

Investments in the three areas are seen as strategic. If their potential is unlocked Tanzania can easily swing into middle income status by 2025 as envisaged in the country's development vision, the minister underlined

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government is reviewing the Tanzania Investment Act to make changes aimed at easing the business environment and attracting more investments.

The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Investment) Angella Kairuki made this observation yesterday at the Annual Agricultural Policy Conference (AAPC).

It brought together over 200 participants from academia, research institutions, policy makers, advocacy groups and development practitioners from Tanzania and in the East African region.

Minister Kairuki said that the revamped legislation is designed to accommodate changes in the world of investments and business.

"We want to have an up to date investment

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NSSF turns Dar apartment blocks into student hostels

By Getrude Mbago

THE National Social Security Fund (NSSF) has turned its Dar es Salaam-based apartment blocks into hostels for university students after seeing this rental mode is more viable business than rental housing.

The NSSF director of planning, investments and projects, Gabriel Silayo told The Guardian in an interview that the decision to turn Mtoni Kijichi properties into students' accommodation was reached after conducting a thorough market demand study.

"We first studied market demand and recognized that there is still a challenge in students' accommodation. So we thought it was better to sign agreements with colleges," he said.

Silayo said that despite market demand, the fund decided to bring its services close to students who are grappling with proximate and safe residence for studies.

"It is not that we failed to rent the apartments

to other people but our aim is also to help students especially girls get safe places to stay and concentrate on their studies."

On transport, Silayo said that there will be bus shuttles to take the students to and from the hostels.

"There will be no challenge in transport as most colleges are located near the hostels for example the Dar es Salaam University College of Education (DUCE), the Tanzania Institute of Accountancy (TIA) and the Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial University, while the Institute of Finance Management (IFM) and the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT) are much farther within the city centre," he said.

On accommodation expenses, Silayo said that this will be supervised by the universities themselves at affordable rates.

Late last month, NSSF handed over buildings with a total of 32 floors located at Mtoni Kijichi suburb in Dar es Salaam to be used by six

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ATCL urges local merchants to start using its Mumbai route

By Henry Mwangonde

AIR Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) is set to carry a delegation of Tanzanian businesspeople to India to attend a trade forum with their counterparts in the Asian country.

The forum is also expected to allow the Tanzanian delegation to pursue various opportunities for crop markets.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday, ATCL head of communications Japhet Kagirwa said the trip will involve the company's Boeing 787 Dreamliner which has the capacity to carry 262 passengers.

"This trip will take place on March 4, and will

involve investors and businesspeople for a meeting which will take place in Mumbai," he said.

The delegation is expected to return on March 7 after the two days forum, he said, noting that costs for the trip like transport and accommodation are set at \$500 to \$700.

"If you choose to participate in the forum, \$500 will include go and return tickets while the \$700 will include tickets to and from plus accommodation."

He said the trip will offer various opportunities including business opportunities between the two countries, how to transport

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Retired Speaker Anne Makinda talks to Clerk of National Assembly Stephen Kagaigai (C) at the Parliament sub office in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is director of international relations and communication Daniel Eliufoo. Photo: Parliament

By Francis Kajubi

THE Minister for Education and Vocational Training Prof Joyce Ndalichako has called upon the Turkish Maarif Foundation (TMF) to reconsider opening a school in the capital city Dodoma to support the government's relocation initiative by enhancing service provision especially quality education.

Speaking yesterday at the inauguration ceremony of a new Turkish Maarif school located in Goba in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam Ndalichako said that for the country to attain the industrial economy goal, the issue of having competent workforce is vital.

"I am aware that Turkish Maarif schools are dedicated to enhancing science and language subjects. With

Minister invites Turkey's Maarif to open school in Dodoma City

this aspect I am sure that Turkey and Tanzania has opened up a new chapter in preparing professionals whom will serve the country to enabling it achieve the economic targets," she said.

The school is set at accommodating 600 students of both nursery, primary and secondary levels but the minister calls for the foundation to reconsider building a college and if possible a university in Dodoma.

She said 23.8bn/ is being set aside every month by the government to fund free education policy which was

initiated in 2016. The introduction of fee free system has attracted increment in number of students enrolled in every new academic year. "This has led to the increase of enrollment in primary school from the previous eight million students to ten million currently and for secondary school enrollment piled up to two million students from 1.6million students thanks to the initiative," she said.

According to her, following increase of school enrollment, more educational investments are needed to be put in

place by development partners and private sector in collaboration with the government.

For his part, Huseyin Sanverdi, a Member of Parliament from Hatay district in Turkey, said that the foundation is a Turkish government's initiative established under the Turkish National Assembly in 2016 with the vision of helping developing African countries deliver quality education especially in science subjects and language.

"So far we have opened schools in

Investment provisions under scrutiny to attract investors

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and competitive law that takes into consideration the needs of investors," she said.

The changes are also meant to attract more investments into agriculture, livestock and fisheries that are seen as risky areas in the current environment, she stated.

The minister hinted at the possibility of commercial banks being compelled by law to issue loans to investors in agriculture, livestock and fisheries, an idea likely to garner support in a forum for agriculture, livestock and fisheries stakeholders.

Kariuki said current trends show that salaried employees can easily access loans than investors in agriculture and its subsectors, a trend which she said runs counter to the country's development needs.

Investments in the three areas are seen as strategic. If their potential is unlocked Tanzania can easily swing into middle income status by 2025 as envisaged in the country's development vision, the minister underlined.

"We have embraced an industrialisation drive but it is agriculture and its subsectors that drive industrialization. Therefore, the two must go together," she explained.

In 2018 for instance, out of 2,821 projects registered by the Tanzania

Investment Centre (TIC), only 17.9 per cent were based in agriculture, she said.

The government is also working on putting in place special incentives for investors in the capital, Dodoma to attract more businesses in the administrative centre of the country.

Speaking at the event, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Livestock Prof Elisante ole Gabriel said Tanzania boasts 32.5 million cattle, 20 million goats, 5.5 million sheep and 79.1 million chickens laying four billion eggs annually at present.

"As of 2018 we had 2.8 billion kilogrammes of fish in our water bodies yet we spent 56.04bn/- importing fish which has since gone down to 37m/-," he said, pointing out that this is equivalent to 99 per cent reduction.

Ease of doing business has been the major concern of the business community in Tanzania as well as foreign investors. In May last year, the government and the British business community in the country launched a dialogue aimed at identifying and ironing out bottlenecks.

The dialogue focused at the regulatory and policy environment, along with challenges faced by British businesses investing in Tanzania.

Policy Analysis Group (PAG) chairman Audax Rukonge said that AAPC is a high level policy dialogue convening key stakeholders among public agencies and the private sector.

They come to present their research findings, success stories, progress made, share best practices and chart a transformative way forward for future reforms, he said.

The conference is themed "Public and Private Sector Investment for Agricultural transformation in Tanzania: Tackling Agribusiness Drivers and Enablers in Crops, Livestock, Fisheries and Agro-processing."

Minister Kairuki said that the revamped legislation is designed to accommodate changes in the world of investments and business

NSSF turns Dar apartment blocks into student hostels

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universities as hostels.

The structure which is expected to accommodate 4,314 students is part of buildings with a total of 64 floors having 760 apartments.

Speaking during the handing over event, NSSF Director General William Erio said that the houses are suitable for lecturers and other staff, thus heads of higher learning institutions need to take advantage of this opportunity to secure better housing.

The president of the students' government at the Centre for Foreign Relations, Xavery Matebo, praised the government for relentlessly addressing challenges facing students

in higher learning institutions.

Minister Jenista Mhagama, who handles the social security docket in the Prime Minister's Office, stated that the fifth phase government under President Dr. John Magufuli will ensure that the student housing problem is resolved and reduced to history countrywide.

She said the government had made the right decision to make sure the project solves a major accommodation challenge for students.

Mhagama warned that the houses should not be turned over to be a university project, and instead the rental costs should be fair to students from all socio-economic backgrounds.

ATCL urges local merchants to start using its Mumbai route

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goods between Tanzania and India as well as how to find interested business partners.

The trip and the forum are just the beginning as this opportunity will be offered to visit other countries covered by ATCL flights, he said.

Two years ago, Tanzania developed a programme to revitalize its national carrier which included purchasing six new aircraft from 2016 to 2018, payment of debts and provision of start-up capital, targeting an improvement and modernization of business.

The aircraft is part of Air Tanzania's plans to grow its operations across

Africa and distant international destinations.

The government ordered the management of the national carrier to lay down new strategies to turnaround the ailing airline into a competitive commercial outfit.

Air Tanzania was established as Air Tanzania Corporation (ATC) in September 1977 after the collapse of the regional East African Airways. Since then, the airline had been operating at a loss and depending on government subsidies.

Last year it launched the India route and carrying the delegation is just one of the successes of the airline in its efforts to expand its wings.



Tanzania Forest Service Agency officers shake hands with Igoma villagers in Mbeya region as a gesture of agreement to exchange farms for various activities yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

New US app rollout easing fight against rabies in Mara region

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to insert microchips into dogs, this technology speeds up our process so we can vaccinate more dogs at a lower cost, and in turn prevent loss of lives."

Philip Rooyackers, CEO of PIP My Pet, said it took about a year of addressing challenges before the app could be rolled out, one of the biggest being a way for the app to backup data in the field, miles from internet capability.

Rooyackers stands by his product and its accuracy.

"Really early on we discovered that if

we look at the current state of human facial recognition technology, you couldn't use it for animals," Rooyackers said. "Human faces are oval, we know where the ears are, we know where the nose is, although someone may have glasses on, all that is relatively easy to overcome compared to dogs and cats whose faces vary so much in shape."

To address those limitations, the technology provides images of the five most closely recognized dogs in the database and allows the vaccinator to narrow from there, he explained.

"We filter those by male and female,

body scars, torn ears, other identifying markers and GPS data points that are stored as part of that file," he said. "Combined with the facial recognition component all of this data make the technology very accurate."

Rooyackers said he chose to waive the app's licensing fee for the Allen School.

"I do believe we have a moral obligation to help in this situation," he said.

Lankester said the app's geofencing tool also provides researchers the opportunity to compare vaccination

rates and strategies in both arms of the Mara region trial, which could help determine strategies to use in the future.

"Not only could this technology improve the efficiency with which we roll out mass dog vaccination across Tanzania right now, it could tell us which vaccination strategies are most effective moving forward," the director asserted.

"That could be valuable information as we try to meet the World Health Organization's goal to eliminate rabies by 2030," he added.



State to address cargo clearance at ports, boundaries, says TBS

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE government has started taking measures to address unnecessary delays of consignments clearing at the entry points—ports and boundaries.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday the Director General of Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), Dr Athuman Ngenya, said they convened a seminar with two government institutions to discuss on how to clear goods on time.

The institutions which took part in the seminar were Tanzania Shipping Agency Corporation (Tasac) and Government Procurement Services Agency (GPSA).

Dr Ngenya said the seminar was convened due to the complaints raised last year during a meeting which involved some government institutions.

He said it was reported that there had been a delay by some government institutions which were tasked to clear goods at ports or boundaries

hence increase storage charges for the customers.

“We have convened this seminar to discuss on how to reduce delay time, give us your recommendations,” he said.

He said TBS would continue to provide similar seminars to other stakeholders who are dealing with clearance of goods at ports and boundaries.

Speaking some official from TASAC and GPSA thanked the Standards

watchdog for organizing the seminar.

They said they are ready to cooperate with TBS to clear goods at the ports on time in order to minimize or alleviate complaints.

Presenting a paper on conformity assessment schemes, the TBS quality assurance officer Athuman Kissumo urged government officials dealing with clearing goods to make sure that they follow all procedures in executing

their duties.

He said they should make sure that all importers do test their products with relevant authorities before they import them to Tanzania.

At the moment, TBS has appointed four agents to test quality of products in abroad.

He noted that the new product conformity assessment programme was introduced to control certain

categories of imported consumer goods.

The objective of the PVoC is to ensure that all imports of regulated products comply with the approved Tanzanian technical regulations prior to shipment.

The one day seminar for government officials dealing with clearing goods attracted more than 40 participants from Dar es Salaam.



Water minister Prof Makame Mbarawa (R) listens to Rural Water Supply and Sanitation acting manager Pascal Kibang'ule during his visit to inspect water projects in Coast region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Kigoma

ASA in crucial move to scale up improved oil palm seedlings

THE government has injected 1bn/- to support the agriculture seed agency's key activities, including mass production improved oil palm seeds at Bugaga seed farm in Kasulu district, Kigoma region.

It is part of the implementation of government's directives to increase palm oil production in the country to cut importation of edible oil.

So far ASA has produced 65,000 improved oil palm seeds known as 'tenera', which is currently at different levels of production in the 191.76 hectare farm in Kasulu district.

ASA's acting production manager, Benjamin Mfupe said the state-owned agency was working round the clock to ensure enough and distribution of palm seedlings to farmers from across the country.

According to him, through the said fund from the state coffers, the agency is currently implementing the 30m/-

project of drilling a vast dam in Kasulu's Bugaga seed farm in efforts to ensure the farm raises and produces the said seedlings more professionally.

“Apart from that, through the provided fund, we have also managed to construct a large green house as well as installation of a modern irrigation system at the farm in order to facilitate irrigation of the pail oil seedlings, but also we have recruited some new agricultural officers with an eye to capacitate our palm oil seedling production,” he explained.

He said that tenera has the capacity of producing between 2.6 and 3.05 tonnes per hectare, urging farmers in all big numbers in order to get the seedlings at affordable prices.

“Currently, most farmers are still using landrace seed that have not being improved and thus, producing poor yields, but with the hybrid seedlings,

tenera, they will stand a better chance of harvesting pumper crop,” he observed.

Moreover, he added, in order to ensure for the professional cultivation of the crop, the government, through Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) has already launched a special centre in Kigoma region (TARI-Kihinga).

The regions that support cultivation of palm oil in Tanzania include Morogoro, Tanga, Coastal region, Mtwara, Mbeya, Mpanda, Rukwa, Lindi, Geita, Bukoba (Karagwe) and Tabora.

“Out of the regions, Mbeya, Tabora and Coast are leading for having large plantations of palm oil, he expressed.

As per available statistics, potential arable land for the cultivation of palm in Kigoma region stands at 11, 4018 hectares.



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Important Timeline

- Submission of participation forms starts from 1st February to 15th March, 2020
- Public online voting of nominees takes place from 1st to 30th April, 2020
- Public announcement of winners in their respective categories will be made on 15th May, 2020 as part of the World International Telecommunications Day (ITU)

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NIT to acquire two planes—Cessna 172

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Institute of Transport (NIT) will this October receive two planes—Cessna 172 to be used for training purposes as it prepares to start offering pilot courses locally.

According to NIT Rector, Prof Zacharia Mganilwa the institute has so far completed preparations for conducive teaching environment such as classrooms and teachers.

“All is set for the institute to offer pilot courses, we are only waiting for the planes to arrive”, he insisted.

Prof Mganilwa made the remarks in Dar es Salaam when briefing a delegation from NIT national leaders council who visited the institute yesterday.

“We are expecting to receive the new planes in between October and November this year. The two aircrafts—Cessna 172 from the United States of America will have capacity to carry four passengers”, said the Rector noting NIT has all the required equipment for training of aircraft engineers.

He added: “We will continue procuring other equipment for training of aircraft engineers with the support from World Bank. The institute has started offering cabin crew courses although it is grappling with teaching equipment”.

Prof Mganilwa said the institute has ordered various teaching equipment worth 50bn/- to facilitate teaching of different aviation, railway and marine courses. He said they have a good number of teachers for each of the courses.

According to him two batches of students taking flight attendant courses have graduated, adding the third batch will graduate later this year.

He however noted that two batches of aircraft engineers have graduated. He said students are attached to various mega state-owned construction projects for practical trainings.

NIT national leaders council chairman, Prof Bavo Nyichomba said the institute aims at producing professionals who will participate in the country's industrialization drive as well as contribute to economic growth through construction sector.

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BW. MANCHARE HECHÉ SUGUTA

Tunapenda kuutarifu Umma kwamba mtajwa ambaye picha yake inaonekana hapo juu alikuwa mtumishi wa Baraza la Taifa la Hifadhi na Usimamizi wa Mazingira (NEMC). Kwasasa, **Bw. Manchare Heche Suguta** amepangiwa majukumu mengine kwa utaratibu wa kawaida wa Serikali hivyo hatahusika na shughuli zozote za Baraza wala Ofisi ya Makamu wa Rais.

Imetolewa na
Mhandisi Joseph K. Malongo
Katibu Mkuu

Community supports two girls who dropped out of school to complete basic education

By Guardian Reporter

TWO girls from a needy family in Serengeti district, Mara region who were recently reported to have dropped out of school have received support after a well wisher who offered funds to help them through basic education.

The story of Magdalena Julius (14) and her younger sister Helena (12) stayed at home because of their family was unable to afford basic necessities like uniforms and stationeries sought the help from the Geitasamo Paralegal Organisation in order to seek funds for their studies.

Speaking to this paper yesterday, the organisation's representative, Anthony Mayunga said they mobilised and raised community awareness on the children and managed to collect 500,000/- that enabled the two young girls to continue with education as more funds are being raised.

According to the government's

circular 5 which implements the Education and Training Policy 2014, directs public bodies to ensure that primary and secondary education is regarded as basic education and a right for every child.

"The mobilisation initiative by Geitasamo Paralegal Organisation enabled Magdalena and Helena to continue with their secondary and primary education after the family failed to meet the schools requirements," he said.

Mayunga said the organisation mobilised and raised community awareness on the children in need and managed to collect 500,000/- that enabled the two young girls from poor family to continue with education.

The access to justice and paralegal work is funded by Legal Services Facility (LSF) with aim to enable Tanzanians and especially who cannot afford legal service costs to get their rights on areas of inheritance,

marriage, teens pregnancies, land issues and many more.

One of the children, Magdalena thanked the organisation and community for the support that has enabled them to continue with their studies.

"The community support has resuscitated my dreams to go for higher education studies and contribute to socio-economic growth of the country," she said.

The government has been taking a number of initiatives to improve infrastructure, learning and teaching environment in learning institutions, with the aim of improving the education sector in the country, which deserves a pat on the back.

Equally, it has gone an extra mile by providing free education from primary to secondary education (O-Level) in public schools to ensure that every child in the country has access to basic education.



Serengeti Breweries Ltd managing director, Mark Ociti (L) and Kilacha Agriculture and Livestock Training Centre Moshi, general manager, Father Jerome Silayo display documents shortly after signing a contract agreement in Moshi district, Kilimanjaro region yesterday where SBL will provide scholarships to 50 students from farmers' communities annually by paying school fees to agricultural colleges for the duration of their studies. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



MFUKO WA MAENDELEO YA JAMII KIPINDI CHA PILI CHA AWAMU YA TATU

UTANGULIZI

Kipindi cha Kwanza cha Awamu ya Tatu ya Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii - TASAF kilitekelezwa kuanzia 2012 na kukamilika Desemba 2019. Utekelezaji ulifanyika katika halmashauri 159 za Tanzania bara, Unguja na Pemba na kufikia kaya milioni 1.1 zenye zaidi ya watu milioni 5.

Tathmini ya utekelezaji wa sehemu ya kwanza inaonyesha kuwa kwa kiasi kikubwa utekelezaji wa Mpango huu umefanikisha azma ya serikali ya kupunguza umaskini nchini. Takwimu zinaonesha kwamba umaskini wa mahitaji ya msingi umepungua kwa asilimia 10 na umaskini uliokithiri umepungua kwa asilimia 12 kwa kaya maskini.

Utekelezaji umewezesha walengwa kujikita kwenye ufugaji, uvuvi, kilimo na biashara na kujijimarisha kiuchumi. Vile vile Mpango umeongeza idadi ya watoto kutoka katika kaya maskini kuandikishwa shule kwa kiwango cha asilimia 7.2. katika sekta ya afya, Mpango umeongeza mahudhuri ya kliniki kwa watoto walio na umri chini ya miaka 5 kwa kiwango cha asilimia 1.5

Kipindi cha Pili cha Awamu ya Tatu ya Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii (TASAF)

Kipindi cha Pili kinatekelezwa katika halmashauri 185 za Tanzania bara, Unguja na Pemba katika vijiji/mitaa/shehia zote ikiwa ni pamoja na Vijiji/Mitaa/Shehia zaidi ya 5,000 ambavyo hazikufikiwa katika utekelezaji wa kipindi cha Kwanza. Kipindi cha Pili cha Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii (TASAF) kitafikia kaya milioni 1.4 zenye watu wapatao milioni 6 kote nchini.

Madhumuni ya Kipindi cha Pili cha TASAF ni kuwezesha kaya zilizoandikishwa kutumia fursa za kuongeza kipato, huduma za kiuchumi na kijamii na kuendeleza rasilimali watu hususan watoto.

Taarifa ya Utafiti wa Mapato na Matumizi ya Kaya wa mwaka 2011/2012 inaonesha asilimia 28.2 ya watanzania wanaishi katika umaskini huku asilimia 9.7 wanaishi katika umaskini uliokithiri hivyo utekelezaji wa Kipindi cha Pili utawezesha kaya maskini kujikwama kutoka kwenye umaskini na kufanya kazi na kujijimarisha kiuchumi na kuiwezesha nchi kufikia uchumi wa kati ifikapo mwaka 2025

Utekelezaji wa Kipindi cha Pili cha Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii (TASAF)

Shughuli kuu zitakazofanyika ni kutoa fursa ya ajira za muda kwa kaya maskini zenye watu wenye uwezo wa kufanya kazi kushiriki katika shughuli za uzalishaji na kuboresha miundombinu ya barabara za vijijini, elimu, afya, maji na hifadhi ya mazingira. Kuhamasisha walengwa kujijunga katika vikundi vya kuweka akiba na kuwezesha katika shughuli za uzalishaji mali na kutoa ruzuku kwa masharti ya elimu na afya kama kichocheo cha mahudhuri ya watoto shuleni na kliniki ili kupata elimu na huduma za afya na hivyo kuwajengea maisha bora. Aidha wadau katika ngazi mbali mbali watajengewa uwezo kwa njia ya mafunzo ambayo yatawawezesha kutekeleza na kutimiza majukumu yao kwa ufanisi.

Matarajio

Matarajio ya Serikali kupitia utekelezaji wa TASAF ni kupunguza kiwango cha umaskini kwa kutoa fursa kwa walengwa kushiriki kwenye kazi za kilimo na uzalishaji na hivyo kuchochea ukuaji wa viwanda, kuboresha miundombinu ya elimu afya hivyo kupunguza vifo vya mama wajaawazito na watoto na kuongeza kiwango cha wanafunzi wanaomaliza darasa la saba na kupitia miradi ya kuongeza kipato kaya maskini ziveze kuboresha lishe kwa watoto wenye umri chini ya miaka mitano, na kupunguza udumavu na utapiamlo kwa watoto.

Kipindi cha Pili cha Awamu ya III ya Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii (TASAF) kitazinduliwa rasmi na Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania, Mhe. Dkt. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli.

Kwenye Ukumbi wa Mikutano wa Kimataifa wa Julius Nyerere Dar es Salaam, tarehe 17/02/2020

By Guardian Reporter

Dr Shein calls for NEC, ZEC cooperation

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has called for cooperation and urged the public to respect the roles, responsibilities and decisions of the National Electoral Commissions for both in the mainland and Isles considering that the two institutions operate in accordance with the country's laws and constitution.

Speaking during the climax of Law Day commemoration, Dr Shein said that every civilian has a role to ensure that he/she respects functions of the elections bodies in Isles and Tanzania mainland. "It vital for all of us to ensure that we avoid committing actions against laws and regulations placed by the Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC) and the National Electoral Commission (NEC) for our country's development," he said.

Dr Shein urged everyone who is eligible to participate in elections, to

exercise their rights by understanding that it is one of the fundamentals for good governance and democracy.

He however wanted supervising elections matters as well as the safety and security bodies to excise their power by ensuring that all people are safe throughout the elections period.

"We should all ensure that we conduct peaceful campaigns as per our elections rules and regulations...there should be no conflict, hatred, violence, tribalism, racism in our campaigns... The government will be there and it will not hesitate to take stern measures to those who will be seen breaching peace," he added.

The Isles' president further urged political parties leaders to adhere to their roles by ensuring that their followers respect democratic rule and good governance.

Dr Shein also urged members of

law institutions to play their part in promoting human rights and rule of law in the country.

According to him, the government has been doing all on its power to strengthen public institutions to prosper and access to rights among people and promote good governance.

"I have been strengthening efforts to ensure that peace is maintained in our country, and throughout my tenure as national leader, I have worked to ensure that I respect court freedom by recognizing that it is one of the key pillar of democracy and good governance," he further noted.

Zanzibar Chief Justice Omar Othman Makungu also said that in various elections tenures, Zanzibar has maintained peace and democracy urging the general public to continue maintaining it as it is an importance aspects of development.

Govt appeals to WB to make evaluation on private sector business environment

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA has appealed to the World Bank through its International Finance Corporation (IFC) in collaboration with the government to conduct professional evaluation in the business environment in the private sector so that it uses the findings for the nation's interest.

This was revealed in Dodoma by the Minister for Finance and Planning

Dr Philip Mpango when he met and made discussions with IFC manager Manuel Moses, who represents East African countries, Somalia and Malawi.

Dr Mpango said the position of the government is that the task for the evaluation of challenges in the private sector environment should be done by the government and IFC so that the findings there-from are to be fully worked on instead leaving

the findings hanging due to poor collaboration from the institution. "We want to work on result findings which we collaborated in preparation and we will be implementing our own work," said Dr Mpango.

Dr Mpango called upon IFC to direct itself to professional assistance and money so as to beef up the private sector to go in tandem with government priorities particularly in regard to agriculture, but

without disregarding the industrial sector.

He explained that Tanzania had made similar evaluation with the US government in 2011 when going through the implementation of the development vision and the preparation of the nation's plans that included business environment and various steps that were agreed upon with the private sector towards developing the sector and solving the unemployment issue.

Dr Mpango said they have also discussed the possibility for IFC to issue treasury bills which as of now are paid in USD to be issued in Tanzania shillings.

However he said the issue needs more professional examination as treasury bills cannot be issued without the country makes free evaluation with international corporations its ability to get loans from such markets.

He said up to the end of this month answers will be forthcoming after experts work on the issue whether to continue with it or abandon it altogether.

On the other hand the Tanzania government has asked the World Bank through IFC to abide by the country's laws when giving loans including to the private sector in order to ascertain whether the said loans are in the national interests.

Dr Mpango said this following loans and other assistance to the private sector that did not follow the procedure in issuing loans used in the country according to existing laws.

On his part, IFC manager Manuel Moses agreed to work on the advice given by Dr Mpango and added they have had discussions with the government on the best way to improve the environment in private sector.



Job Vacancy: Financial Controller

About EFTA:

EFTA offers an innovative equipment leasing product to create access to finance to small businesses and farmers in Tanzania. EFTA's product focuses on customers with limited collateral whose needs are not well served by commercial banks. The Tanzanian economy is growing significantly and EFTA is playing its part by helping to create jobs in SMEs and improving their business productivity through provision of high quality machinery. EFTA is expanding rapidly across Tanzania and is receiving international attention for its financial leasing model, winning a variety of international awards, including financial innovation awards from the G-20. EFTA also recently featured in the Economist, identified as a leader in financial solutions to small and medium sized enterprises in Africa. EFTA's management team is made up of professionals from a variety of backgrounds, including the UN's Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), KPMG, Kiva and Barclays as well as an investment team with experience from the largest banks in Tanzania.

With our HQ in Moshi, we have branches in Dar, Mwanza, Arusha, Mbeya, Dodoma, Morogoro and Bukoba.

Job Summary:

The Financial Controller will lead EFTA's finance team; management of day-to-day finances including compliance in tax matters, preparation of accounts and annual budgets; preparation of external reporting to key stakeholders, including EFTA's board of directors, regulators and external investors; daily cash management, the payroll process and treasury duties; development of the accounting system and support the ongoing maintenance of internal controls.

Requirements:

- o Must have an undergraduate degree, upper second class, preferably in accounting and/or finance and/or economics.
- o Chartered Accountant / Certified Public Accountant a plus
- o Should be very well versed in MS Excel and accounting packages
- o Excellent communication and analytical skills
- o Ability to meet deadlines in a fast-paced environment, and work independently with a high level of project ownership
- o Excellent attention to detail and willingness to support at all levels to get the job done
- o Experience managing staff and enhancing team performance
- o Five to seven years of experience in accounting
- o Big 4 experience a plus; familiarity with fund reporting also a plus

To Apply:

Send a cover letter and your CV to hr@equityfortanzania.org with the subject "FC Vacancy" by 20th February 2020.

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By Guardian Reporter

THE newly established regulations for Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) are meant to mitigate risk and promoting swift, sustainable growth, a senior official has said.

Speaking recently at the just-ended seminar for editors on MFIs' laws, policies and regulations in Morogoro, Commissioner of financial sector development in the ministry of Finance and Planning, Dr Charles Mwachaja said that the new regulations on MFIs are meant to ensure the protection of clients and the stability of institutions as well as enhancing financial inclusion.

It also cover MFIs establishment, operations, regulation, and supervision in a move to help resolve the challenges facing the microfinance industry, he said.

The new initiatives according to Dr Mwachaja are also geared towards ensuring that information and loans offered by those MFIs are properly documented as well as addressing unfair practices for debt repayment

New microfinance regulations to mitigate risk, official says

collections from poor Tanzanians.

"These regulations also give relief to MFIs borrowers from exorbitant loan interest rates," he said.

"So it high time for MFIs service providers to make sure they obtain a formal license and being registered from the responsible authorities before October 31, this year."

Acting Commissioner of MFIs, Dionisia Mjema, said that 80 percent of Tanzanians have been using MFIs services in the country.

"But, since the country's independence the sector was unregulated, putting Tanzanians at

risk and some of them plunged into poverty rather than growing. So, the establishment of these regulations is a



So it high time for MFIs service providers to make sure they obtain a formal license and being registered from the responsible authorities before October 31, this year.

remedy and I am sure the initiative will take Tanzania further in terms of socio-economic development," she said.

She cited the Development Entrepreneurship Community Initiative (Deci), pyramid scheme which emerged in 2009 attracting approximately 700,000 as one of examples.

Mjema said that the journey towards having regulations started more than ten years ago—it involved a number of studies on MFIs as well as identifying, managing, coordinating, developing and empowering them so that they help to relieve people from poverty trap.

After working on challenges facing MFIs that was thwarting growth of the sector, that's why we came up

with these regulations, whose process started in 2012 and completed in 2018 and started operating last year, she said.

For his part, Head of Agriculture and Rural Finance at the Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT) Mwombeki Baregu said that in the new arrangement, MFIs are categorized in four tiers—deposit taking MFIs, non-deposit taking MFIs such as individual money lenders, Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOS) and community microfinance groups including Village Community Banking (VICOBA) and Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA).



ARIEL GLASER PEDIATRIC AIDS HEALTHCARE INITIATIVE

An affiliate of the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

Terms of References for Procurement, Supply and Installation of Electronic Data Management and Storage System (DATABASE).

Background

Ariel Glaser Pediatric AIDS Healthcare Initiative (AGPAHI) is an independent national non-governmental organization in Tanzania. AGPAHI implements activities aimed at provision of high quality comprehensive HIV and AIDS services in Mara, Mwanza, Simiyu, and Shinyanga in partnership with Center for Diseases Prevention and Control(CDC), and Tanzanian Ministry of Health Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MOHCDGEC).

AGPAHI seeks applications from highly qualified individuals or organizations to assist the Management with Procurement, Supply and Installation of an Electronic Data management and Storage System.

Objectives

To Procure, Supply and Installan electronic based systems capable of capturing, transfer, storage and visualization of data on daily bases for the purpose of improving program implementation performance and reporting.

Scope of Work

1. Procure, Supply and Install at AGPAHI HQ office anelectronic Data Management and Storage Tool (Database). The Database must replicate DHIS2 features and functions.
2. Link the Databaseto the existing data collection system to enable collection of real time program data (daily) and can input into the AGPAHI database, program monthly portal, DATIM, DHIS2 and CTC3 Macro3
3. Develop and Install an electronic mechanism which will ensure automatic availability of CTC-2 Data on daily basis from sites to AGPAHI Database and ensure accessibility to the end users.
4. Ensure that theDatabase has an in built mechanisms to manipulate data obtain weekly, monthly and quarterly data reports, verification (in built data quality checks) and submitted accordingly and in a timely manner
5. Support AGPAHI in ensuring health facility level data is collected in the dedicated electronic tool (Database) and available for review, editing and analysis to include customized and tailor made reports (graphical and tables).
6. Support AGPAHI by training M&E and SI Staff on proper data collection methods, usage of the Database and data and provide enhancements on ensuring data collected reflects program requirements
7. Provide other technical support to AGPAHI staff relevant to this assignment.

Deliverables

- A full functioningAGPAHI dedicated Database for Evaluation and reporting Tool.
- Integratedinto the Database all HIV-Testing and counseling data, pharmacy module data and CTC2 data collected at health facility on daily basis(real timedata) and ensure availability into AGPAHI Database for end users.
- Develop a web based Indicators performance visualization dashboard for end users imbedded or connected directly to all data in the Database.

Qualification

- Relevant experience and evidence in designing, installation and maintenance of HIV/AIDS electronic data management systems
- Relevant and Experience in development of Data Storage Systems
- Experience with PEPFAR / CDC Data for Accountability, Transparency and Impact Monitoring system (DATIM)
- Experience with the technical functionality of DHIS2, CTC-2 and HTS databases.
- Experience with development and Operationalization of Integrated short messaging Service and mobile applications
- Experience with development, utilization and maintenance of Data Analysis Tools such as protected client level data and aggregated analysis tools.

Technical and Financial

- Profile of the applicant and comparable reference projects carried out in the last 3 years. This should include contact details of the organizations worked for.
- Profile of the personnel to be involved in the assignment with details of their qualifications, experience and involvement.
- Proposed work plan including proposed timelines.
- Detailed description of approach, activities and methodologies proposed to achieve the objectives of the assignment.
- The financial proposal should include the total cost of carrying out the assignment.

Evaluation Criteria

- Experience with similar projects; 40%
- Understanding of the project 30%;
- Proposed approach and project work plan recommendations 20%;
- Cost of carrying out the assignment 10%

Submission

Bids submission should be by hand delivery addressed to;

Executive Director
Plot No.372, Chole Road
P.O Box 38252
Masaki,
Dar es Salaam.

The deadline for submission of Bids will be 21stFebruary 2020 at 10.00am

215627301



Position: Project Manager (1) Location: Dar es Salaam Position Overview

The Project Manager supports the timely and accurate execution of the localization of Literacy Cloud into Kiswahili, and digitization of new content, as well as providing continuing technical project management support for the platform in Tanzania. The Project Manager is responsible for the overall implementation of the IMC project in Tanzania, which also includes the creation of 60 Literacy Program schools, publishing of 5 Kiswahili titles, and a government engagement strategy, in addition to the Literacy Cloud component. The Project Manager reports to the Country Program Director and works in collaboration with our Tanzania Country Team, the Global Office Project Manager, the Global Digital Content Manager and Literacy Cloud Team at Room to Read in San Francisco, and liaises with the India- based technical implementation partner to address bugs and fixes in the Kiswahili interface in an organized and coordinated way.

Duties & Responsibilities

Management, Planning, and Coordination (Overall Project)

- Maintain accurate and up-to-date tracking of project activities and spending and serve as primary point of contact for overall project execution. Support departments to revise work plans as needed to meet deadlines, and communicate with necessary stakeholders when major work plan changes occur
- Identify implementation challenges and provide solutions or flag for Program Operations Director or other stakeholders for additional support
- Act as primary liaison between Tanzania Country Office and Global Office Project Manager, and other global office counterparts as needed, to communicate project updates, delays, changes, and concerns
- Monitor project budget to ensure project activities stay within approved budget and coordinate with Global Office Project Manager to address budget issues and provide accurate budget forecasts.
- Facilitate and support annual planning and budgeting in partnership with Global Office Project Manager
- Review and approve staff expense reports to ensure expenses, documentation, and coding are compliant and within approved budget
- Review and approve staff weekly timesheets and trip reports to ensure accuracy and compliance

Program Implementation, Monitoring and Reporting

- Plans, coordinates, and documents all the project related activities including success stories
- Participate in and supervise the successful execution of each stage of the Literacy Cloud project. Including frequent, open communication with the project team members and stakeholders.
- Visiting various project stakeholders and beneficiaries to support and supervise project implementation.
- Oversee Tanzania Country Office contributions to quarterly and annual Room to Read and overall IMC narrative reports and financial reports, including reviewing department inputs for quality, contributing when appropriate, and ensuring timely submissions to the Global Office Project Manager and Global Office Technical Lead

Platform Development Management

- Project manages the implementation of the new platform and collaborates with project team members to ensure the timely completion and/or reconciliation of outstanding tasks
- Collaborates with Tanzania Country Team and Global Digital Content Manager to communicate project status, timelines, deadlines, etc., and ensure the timely completion of platform development activities, including localization of the platform into Kiswahili, digitization of storybook titles, and video and resource development.
- Reviews and/or delegates completed tasks for quality assurance/confirmation of task completion
- Liaises with the Tanzania Country Team to identify local expertise to support platform development in Kiswahili, including:
 - o A technology firm to support platform testing with local stakeholders and troubleshooting in schools; and
 - o Digital designers to develop and/or format platform banners and print content a

- Facilitates weekly platform team meetings, providing status updates, flagging roadblocks, and highlighting areas of strategic focus for the platform team
- Acts as a cross-project strategic thinker, facilitator and problem-solver to help remove barriers and develop solutions to issues that arise during the project lifecycle, identifies areas for potential platform improvement and makes recommendations to facilitate project and platform success
- Communicates with technical implementation partner (Robosoft Technologies) on critical platform issues in Kiswahili.

Other

- Participate in any other activities which may be required to be undertaken to fulfil the objectives of the IMC Project, including any other duties as assigned by Program Operations Director.
- Occasional travel to both Kibaha and Tanga Field Offices if needed

Qualifications and Experience Required:

- 5+ years of experience in project management, including managing multiple project groups and timelines and managing a project budget
- Experience working as part of a geographically distributed team, working through online collaboration, across time zones and cultural diversity
- Demonstrated experience managing a team or group through areas of ambiguity to achieve a goal
- Excellent managerial and interpersonal skills, including skills of managing and mentoring people
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English and Swahili

Preferred:

- 2+ years of experience working with Content Management Systems
- Experience working with online collaboration & project management software tools
- Experience working in a start-up, software development or similar environment
- Familiarity with Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, managing/editing digital color space
- Experience working with an international team, across cultures and languages

Position: Associate, Digital Content (1) Location: Dar es Salaam

Position Overview

The primary responsibility of the Digital Content Associate is to assist the Literacy Team in ensuring that kiswahili text for storybooks is added to the Literacy Cloud platform. This will include managing and tracking all steps in the process, including organizing adaptation workshops to version English text into kiswahili, inputting final text into the platform, working with copyeditors, and making sure the appropriate quality reviews take place. The Associate will also contribute improvement suggestions to the Literacy Cloud interface to Literacy Cloud Manager, as discovered through their use of the platform. Other tasks related to the kiswahili content of Literacy Cloud may be included as necessary. The Digital Content Associate reports to the Literacy Cloud Manager, Tanzania.

Duties & Responsibilities

- Project manages the entire process necessary to input kiswahili text for a storybook on the Literacy Cloud.
- Organizes adaptation workshops to version English book titles into kiswahili in partnership with Book Publishing team, as necessary.
- Inputs Kiswahili, ensuring correct line breaks, text size, and alignment.
- Ensures kiswahili is reviewed by a copyeditor/Quality Reading Material for review and approval, and tracks this process for each book.
- Manages approval process and publishes each book upon approval.
- Assists with other uploads (videos, resources, as needed). This may include coordinating subtitles for existing video content.
- Makes recommendations to Literacy Cloud Manager, Tanzania for improvements to the Literacy

Qualifications

Required:

- Bachelor's degree (in Art, Design, communications, education, or a related field)
- Experience with Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator
- Experience with basic project management, such as tracking the process, following up on timelines, working with individuals to meet deadlines
- Data entry experience
- Strong organizational skills
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English
- Ability to juggle multiple priorities simultaneously

Preferred:

- Knowledge and understanding of the children's book industry and quality children's literature
- Effectiveness in working or volunteering in a non-profit organization that is focused on maintaining high quality work and low overhead

Application Procedure:

Please visit our website at www.roomtoread.org and click on the "careers" link under about us tab. This will take you to Room to Read's Career Portal. Click on the See Current Vacancies to find this vacancy, select the vacancy you are interested and click apply to begin the online application process. If you do not hear from Room to Read within one month of the closing date, please accept that your application was unsuccessful. Please note that late applications will not be considered and correspondence will be limited to short-listed candidates only.

Room to Read is proud to be an equal opportunity employer committed to identifying and developing the skills and leadership of people from diverse backgrounds. Women are encouraged to apply. **"Room to Read is a child-safe organization"**

CLOSING DATE: 06th March, 2020.

215627301



Bariadi district commissioner Festo Kiswaga (R) cuts a ribbon to launch Tigo new modern shop along Sokoni Street in the district, Simiyu region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Promote professionalism, legal practitioners urged

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

MINISTER for Justice and Constitutional Affairs Dr Augustine Mahiga has urged legal practitioners and court workers to promote civility, and professionalism when executing their duties.

Dr Mahiga made the call on Tuesday when speaking at the launch of guidelines on running disciplinary committees to court officials at district and regional levels.

He said that adhering to professionalism is important for maintaining respect of this important pillar that ensures that the laws of the land are implemented in letter and spirit and a sense of justice and fair play pervades in society.

He said according to article 107A (1) of the Tanzania Constitution, the judiciary is the 'authority with final decision in dispensation of justice in the United Republic of Tanzania'.

Judicial authority of the Republic vests in the courts, which are required not to delay dispensation of justice without reasonable grounds as well as dispensing justice without being tied up with technicalities which may obstruct the dispensation of justice. "That's why it is important for legal practitioners to continue working in those lines."

"I call upon some few employees who continue to carry out unprofessional practices that violate the ethics to stop it and maintain the good image of the court for their job security," he warned.

He noted that the government has prioritized

ethics in public service to enhance the public's confidence in their government.

Dr Mahiga said, the efforts have brought great impact where the values in public service have significantly improved and many people are satisfied with the services provided at various public institutions.

"In ensuring that the Tanzanian court provides quality service to the public, it has decided to maintain discipline and ethics for judicial officers at all levels including strengthening the ethics committees for judicial officers," he said.

He said the committees have a great role in managing, developing and maintaining the values of the judiciary in order to promote public confidence."

For his part, the Chief Justice of Tanzania Prof Ibrahim Juma emphasized the importance of public education in order to reduce public complaints over the court officials and then help them to submit their complaints to the right channel.

He said the ethics committees chairpersons are the district and regional commissioners heads who are very close to the people so they are confident that the concerns of the people will reach them and address them quickly.

For her part, the Singida Regional Commissioner, Dr Rehema Nchimbi said the guidelines launched will help to provide them with a vision to address the concerns and problems that public face especially when they go to court.

Kenyatta takes over continental anti-malaria leadership

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya has assumed Chairmanship of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA)—a coalition of African Heads of State and Government advancing advocacy efforts, resource mobilization and accountability in the fight against malaria across Africa.

President Kenyatta becomes ALMA's seventh chair and will serve for a two-year term, from February 2020 to February 2022. He takes over from King Mswati III of the Kingdom

of Eswatini.

According to a statement released yesterday by ALMA, Kenyatta assumed the new role on Tuesday in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

"I am honoured to take over this role as ALMA chair. Significant gains have been made in the battle against malaria and progress needs to be accelerated. As we enter the decade to end malaria, I am committed to ensuring that we accelerate progress and end this ancient scourge! At the heart of Africa's Agenda 2063; the Africa We Want, is improved health outcomes so that our

people and economies continue to grow," the statement quotes Kenyatta as saying.

During his term, Mswati III played a key role in the launch of the Zero Malaria Starts with Me campaign which, to date, has launched in 13 countries across the continent. Also, together with the African Union Commission, he initiated the annual Africa Malaria Progress Report and launched the first End Malaria Fund in May 2019 to mobilize domestic resources for Eswatini's malaria control and elimination programme.

His Majesty King Mswati III said during the handover event: "We have enjoyed our role as chair of ALMA and will continue the work to end malaria for all Africans. We see other countries establishing their own End Malaria Funds and look forward to seeing them scaled up across the African continent."

Malaria remains a significant challenge in Africa: the continent accounts for 93 per cent of global malaria cases as well as 94 per cent of global malaria deaths. There is an urgent need to act in 10 high-burden

African Union Member States, who account for 67 per cent of global malaria cases and 62 per cent of deaths.

Amira El-Fadil, Commissioner for Social Affairs for the African Union Commission said: "Ending malaria on the African continent is a key priority outlined in the Catalytic Framework to End HIV, TB and Eliminate Malaria and we are committed to achieving this goal. I welcome His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta as the new chair of ALMA and look forward to working with him to end this terrible

disease."

Dr Abdourahmane Diallo, CEO of the RBM Partnership to End Malaria, welcomed the new ALMA chair saying: "Leadership by African Heads of State is paramount if we are to reach the ambitious goal of a malaria-free Africa within a generation, and ALMA continues to be a key strategic partner of the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. We look forward to continuing this collaboration and supporting His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta's work to end malaria in Kenya and across the continent."



USAID | TANZANIA
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

U.S. MISSION DAR ES SALAAM

RE-SOLICITATION ANNOUNCEMENT

The U.S. Mission in Dar es Salaam is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the position identified below at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Position Title: Communication and Records (C&R) Management Supervisor

Solicitation Number: 72062120R10007

A copy of the complete solicitation, listing all duties, responsibilities and qualifications required, is available at:

<https://tz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/>

HOW TO APPLY:

Effective immediately only online applications will be accepted via usaidtzlesapps@usaid.gov

Applicants MUST follow instructions in the solicitation on the website: Failure to do so will result in an incomplete application.

CLOSING DATE FOR THIS POSITION: February 27, 2020

215627501



JOB ADVERTISEMENT

African Underground Mining Services (AUMS) is an international leader in mechanised hard rock underground mining. AUMS is part of Perenti (Formerly the Ausdrill Group), an ASX 200 company and Australia's second largest integrated mining services provider. We are a global leader in hard rock underground mining; together with Barmenco we operate across Africa in Tanzania, Egypt, Ghana, and Burkina Faso and in Australia and India. We are driven by the continued success at our operations and exceeding our client's expectations – both in terms of safety and performance.

The collective talent and expertise of our workforce is the key to our success, and we are looking for talented people to join our business. We seek to build teams who are loyal, committed to our company values and dedicated to helping our clients.

In return, we provide state of the art facilities, equipment and technology. We look forward to receiving your application for the following position.

ICT Officer

- Geita Gold Mine, Geita

• Position purpose:

The role of the ICT Officer is to provide IT Support for users on allocated sites and maintain and service all the IT hardware and equipment

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Complies with all HS&E policies, procedures and instructions. This includes the correct use of safety devices and protective equipment, prompt reporting of any hazardous situations, which they cannot themselves correct, making the necessary changes to eliminate or control the hazard and reporting immediately any accident or injury which arises in the course of their work.
- Assist users when they have network and connectivity issues
- Maintain strict confidentiality in performing the duties of the position. This includes protecting the privacy of personal information when collecting, holding, using or disclosing information.
- Report any issue to his supervisor

Essential Requirements:

- Relevant IT Qualification
- Good knowledge on computer maintenance
- Good knowledge on printers and copier maintenance
- Network cabling and terminology
- Good knowledge on Microsoft office products i.e. Excel, word, power point.
- Basic knowledge on server configurations
- Basic First Aid Knowledge
- Completion of secondary education
- Advanced skills in written and verbal English
- Valid Driver's License

If you have the necessary skills, drive and experience to be an asset to AUMS Operations Team, we welcome your interest and encourage you to apply.

Please send your CV along with a detailed covering letter via email recruitment@aumsgh.com

Application letters should reach the above on or before 25th February 2020, 18hr00.

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The Guardian

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THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2020

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Tanzania has huge potential to grow pyrethrum

PYRETHRUM was a genus of several old world plants which are cultivated as ornamentals for their showy flower heads. Pyrethrum continues to be used as a common name for plants formerly included in the genus pyrethrum. Pyrethrum is also the name of a natural insecticide made from the dried flower heads.

Pyrethrum has been used for centuries as an insecticide, and as a lice remedy in the Middle East. It is one of the most commonly used non-synthetic insecticides allowed in certified organic agriculture. Pyrethrum farming has proved to be a vital component in improving living standards of rural life as well as strengthening the national economy through foreign currency earnings.

The cash crop came in the country from Kenya in the 1930s, being cultivated in large estates in the northern highlands-Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Tanga regions. Stakeholders in Tanzania provide high-quality pyrethrum to the local and export destinations and also source the raw fresh pyrethrum from family growers in the country. Tanzania pyrethrum (pyrethrins) or Pareto in Swahili is a natural insecticide from several types of flowers in the chrysanthemum genus. Two of these include *C. cinerariifolium* and *C. coccineum*. Each produces white-colored flowers with yellow central buds. In dried form, the flowers produce the insecticide.

Pyrethrum came to Tanzania in the 1930s courtesy of settlers from the northern neighbour, Kenya. The crop was once a major export from the two East African countries in the years just before and after independence. The nations' respective sectors have diminished in glory since then. The biggest pyrethrum farmlands in Tanzania include Tanga to the north-

east and Arusha to the north.

Tanzania pyrethrum is from the highlands in the south of the country. Family growers own an average of 0.5 hectares of land which they cultivate with farmyard manure. They also keep their crop free of chemical sprays to reduce residual levels.

Tanzania pyrethrum is harvested at early dawn when the flowers are still fresh and untainted by the sun. Trained army of workers plucks each flower head by hand but often uses garden scissors to cut it at the stem.

Former Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda has praised the efforts made by the Pyrethrum Company of Tanzania (PCT) to revitalize the pyrethrum farming in southern regions which is key in addressing poverty and improving the economy in the country.

He called on Iringa regional leadership to invest in educative programmes, work on encouraging more farmers to embark on the pyrethrum farming thus lift the economy of the farmers and the region at large.

"Authorities this is your time now to promote pyrethrum farming, as it is one of the crops that can boost your region's revenue collection because you have a factory that adds value to this," he said.

For his part, PCT production manager Benedict Kafyulilo said the factory produces more than two thousand tonnes per year, and it is likely to increase production to at least four thousand tonnes that will enable the factory to operate consistently throughout the year.

The Pyrethrum Company of Tanzania is leading a multi-year expansion programme to revitalize pyrethrum growing in the southern highlands as well as the Arusha region. PCT is also investing in its extraction plant in Mafinga so as to be able to process the expanded harvest of pyrethrum flowers now growing across Tanzania.

World Radio Day: Why radio remains Africa's best media tool

RADIO is one of the oldest forms of mass media. One would think that the invention of the internet and the proliferation of social media sites would undermine the essence and value of the radio broadcasting but that has not happened, at least not in Africa.

While the internet largely serves its part in mass communication, radio still champions the cause, especially at the local and communal level.

The radio broadcast in itself has modified over time to suit more purposes and contexts. From the terrestrial zone, other alternatives like cable radio, local wire television networks, satellite radio, and internet radio have emerged.

Guglielmo Marconi is recognised as the inventor of the radio. However, it is on record that several engineers before him had made contributions towards it. Marconi had the privilege of working on existing works of others. He harnessed them and gave a somewhat finishing touch on it to make it what today is identified as the radio.

Radio always has something for everyone- from local to international news, music of all genres, drama, entertainment, cultural and topical discussions.

In the international scene, there has been an upsurge in radio broadcasting, thanks to technological advancements. Radio is the transmission and reception of electromagnetic waves of radio frequency, especially those carrying sound messages. Cellular phones are linked by radio rather than wires. Telecommunications in Tanzania include radio, television, fixed and mobile telephones, and the Internet available in mainland Tanzania and the semiautonomous Zanzibar archipelago.

Radio remains the most used mass-communication medium in Africa. It has the widest geographical reach and

the greatest audiences compared with the Internet, television and newspapers. The statistics from the Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA) show that from 86 licensed radio in 2012, the number almost doubled until 2017. Following a request from the Spanish Radio Academy on 20 September 2010, Spain proposed that the UNESCO executive board include an agenda item on the proclamation of a World Radio Day. UNESCO's executive board approved the agenda item in its provisional agenda for the proclamation of a 'World Radio Day' on 29 September 2011. UNESCO carried out a wide consultation in 2011 with diverse stakeholders, such as broadcasting associations.

The board recommended to the UNESCO 36th session of the General Conference that it proclaim a World Radio Day at its 36th session, and that this day be celebrated by UNESCO on 13 February, the anniversary of the day that the United Nations established the United Nations Radio in 1946. It also invited all United Nations member states, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, professional associations and broadcasting unions, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to duly celebrate World Radio Day, in the way that each considers most adequate. The board further requested that UNESCO's Director-General bring the resolution to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, so that World Radio Day could be endorsed by the General Assembly and celebrated by the whole system. The matter was subsequently treated by UNESCO's general conference, which adopted resolution. World Radio Day was thus unanimously proclaimed by all member states of UNESCO in November 2011.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

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



To silence the guns, restore nature

By Hailemariam Desalegn

IN the span of a human life, Mozambique's majestic Gorongosa National Park has flipped: from wildlife haven to killing ground to sacred ground of peacemaking and recovery. This past week, as African heads of state gathered in Addis Ababa to evaluate progress toward "silencing the guns" and creating an environment conducive to development, Gorongosa stands as both a warning sign and a symbol of hope.

Battles waged in Gorongosa during Mozambique's 1977-1992 civil war left millions of people dead or wounded. It also ruined the ecosystem and killed 90 percent of elephants, buffalo, zebra, and wildebeest as soldiers poached them for money or slaughtered them for meat. At the war's end, just 15 buffalo and 100 hippo survived. Few lions remained.

But with peace came opportunities to rebuild communities for 100,000 local people and to restore the environment. By 2018, grasslands, shrublands and forests were recovering. Some 1,000 buffalo roamed the area and the hippo population had increased five-fold. When Cyclone Idai struck last year, healthy ecosystems absorbed tens of millions of gallons of water, saving nearby villages from floods. Meanwhile, through programs of the Gorongosa Restoration Project, families have improved their agriculture and health, and the education of their children. Today, ecotourism adds local jobs, as the area reclaims an essential balance between nature and human development.

As in Gorongosa, the protection of nature everywhere is central to sustainable development, to the mitigation of climate change, and to secure and peaceful societies. Yet nature is being lost at a frightening rate.

Habitat conversion, the unsustainable use of natural resources, urbanization, and climate change all undermine the foundations of the natural world. The earth has lost 60% of terrestrial wildlife and 90% of the big ocean fish. One million plant and animal species are threatened with extinction. We are clear cutting rainforests at a rate of four football fields per minute.

The impacts of land and ecosystem degradation on biodiversity, land productivity, and human well-being in Africa has affected over 485 million people and costs an estimated US\$9.3 billion annually.

That which has been destroyed in centuries, we must act to restore in



the next decade in order to avert even greater natural, climate and human catastrophes.

Roadmap to Action

There is a roadmap to action. The Campaign for Nature offers a science-driven, ambitious new deal for nature that calls on world leaders to protect at least 30 percent of the planet—its land and water—by 2030. This rallying cry of "30X30" fuels the Campaign, which is a partnership of the Wyss Campaign for Nature, National Geographic Society, and a growing coalition of more than 100 conservation and indigenous peoples' organizations around the world. The Campaign has also launched a High Ambition Coalition (HAC) for Nature and People composed of government leaders to drive high-level action on 30X30.

The Campaign calls on world leaders help mobilize financial resources to properly manage protected areas, and to fully integrate and respect indigenous leadership and rights in the

work of conservation. We know from experience that local communities have to own the protected areas as their own and benefit from their protection. Only in this way will conservation succeed and promote inclusive economic and social development.

The Campaign's main measures are crucial to Africa's peaceful development. Africa generates 62 percent of its GDP through industries that are highly or moderately dependent on nature, most especially agriculture. One of the major risks business faces from the loss of nature is increased conflict. The protection of nature is paramount.

Africa can and should take the lead in driving action toward 30X30. A crucial opportunity to do so will be at the meeting of the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Kunming, China, later this year. There, Convention targets will be updated to reflect the full extent of our planetary crisis.

Many African countries have already

committed to conserving their natural heritage as integral to sustainable development. The governments of both Rwanda and Uganda have resolved to protect 30 percent of their natural lands by 2030. Ethiopia has written environmental protection into its Constitution so that every political party that comes into power must act accordingly. Namibia has designated its entire coastline as a national park.

Gorongosa National Park has shown us that nature recovers if given a chance. And like streams across a watershed, the benefits flow from there.

By investing in national parks, natural reserves, sustainable tourism, and community-led conservation areas, and by partnering with indigenous and local people, by building a global consensus for 30X30, we can not only save biodiversity but also generate jobs and income, significantly mitigate climate change, and silence the guns.

Hailemariam Desalegn is the former Prime Minister of Ethiopia.

Inequalities in human development in 21st century

UNITED NATIONS

INEQUALITIES. The evidence is everywhere. And although they may be hard to measure and summarize, there is a sense in many countries that many are approaching a precipice beyond which it will be difficult to recover.

Not all inequalities are harmful, but those that are perceived as being unfair tend to be. Under the shadow of sweeping technological change and the climate crisis, those inequalities hurt almost everyone.

They weaken social cohesion and people's trust in government, institutions, and each other. They are wasteful, preventing people from reaching their full potential at work and in civic life, hurting economies and societies. And when taken to the extreme, people can take to the streets.

The United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) 2019 Human Development Report, opens a new window to understand and address inequalities in human development. "Beyond income, beyond averages, beyond today: Inequalities in human development in the 21st Century" asks what forms of inequality matter and what causes them.

It recognizes that pernicious inequalities are generally better thought of as a symptom of broader problems in a society and economy. It also asks what policies can tackle the underlying drivers—policies that can simultaneously help nations to grow their economies sustainably and equitably expand human development.

There is far too much in the report to cover in this short post so let me focus on two important points.

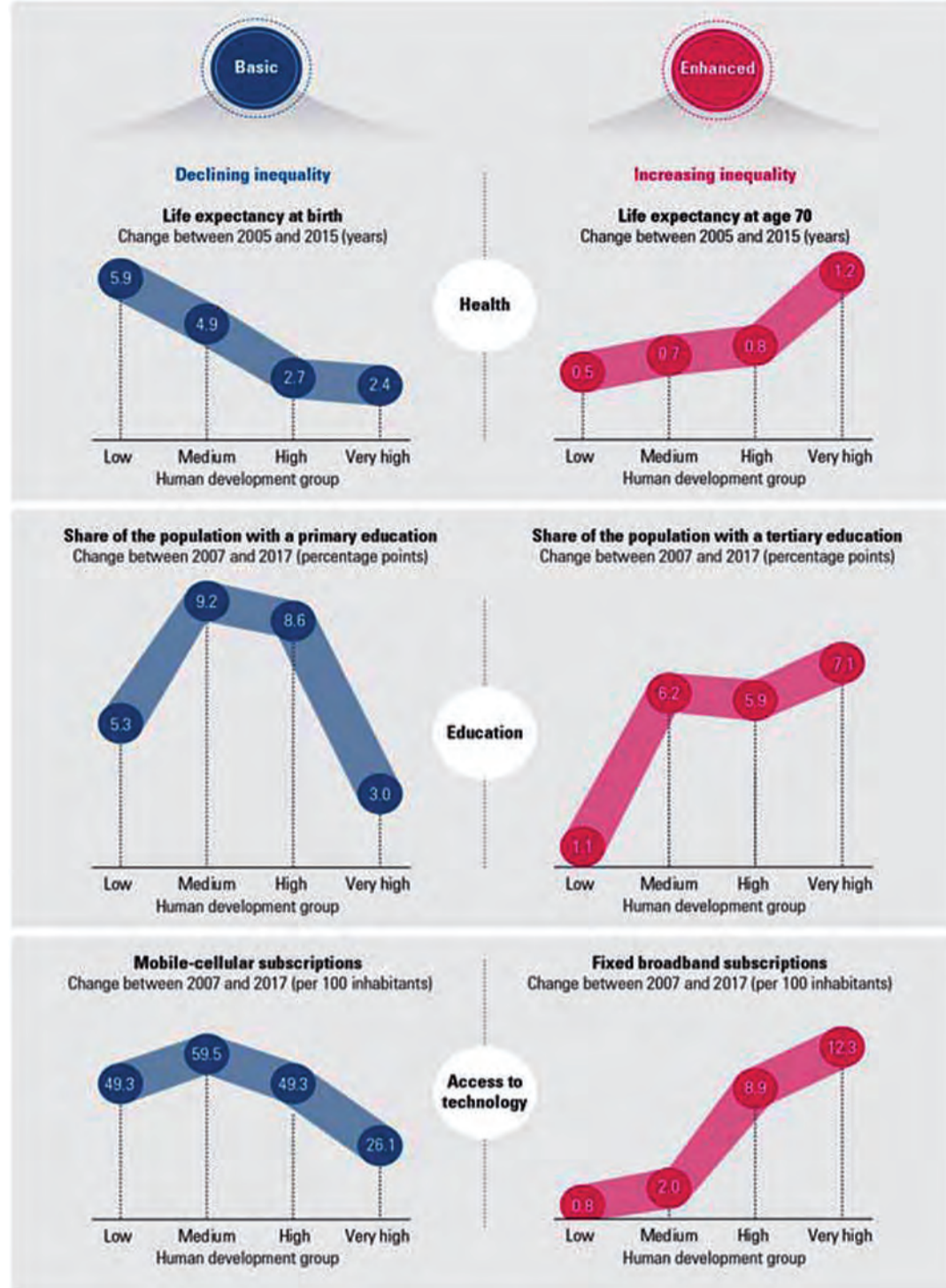
1. A NEW GENERATION OF INEQUALITIES IS EMERGING, EVEN IF MANY 20TH CENTURY INEQUALITIES ARE DECLINING

It is common knowledge that some basic inequalities are slowly narrowing in many countries, even if much remains to be done. The indicators of basic achievements in the figure below all show narrowing inequalities between countries in different human development groups, though the gaps are still wide.

Life expectancy at birth (driven mainly by survival to age 5), in access to primary education, and in access to mobile phones, countries with lower human development are catching up with more developed countries.

In contrast, and much less well known, inequalities in more advanced areas are widening. Countries with higher human development have longer life expectancy at older ages, higher tertiary education enrollment and more access to broadband—and they are increasing their lead.

These new inequalities may be one reason behind an apparent increase in concern about inequality: These



are the inequalities that will shape people's ability to seize the opportunities of the 21st century and function in a knowledge economy, and to meet challenges, including the ability to cope with climate change.

2. INEQUALITIES IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CAN ACCUMULATE THROUGH LIFE, FREQUENTLY HEIGHTENED BY POWER IMBALANCES

Understanding inequality—even income inequality—means looking well beyond income. Different inequalities interact, while their size and impact shifts over a person's lifetime.

Inequalities start before birth, and the gaps can increase over a person's life if they are not counteracted, creating self-perpetuating engines of privilege and disadvantage. This can happen in many ways, and the report looks in detail at one set of linkages: the nexus between health, education, and parental income.

Parental incomes and circumstanc-

Slow convergence in basic, rapid divergence in enhanced capabilities
Source: Human Development Report Office calculations based on data from the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Institute for Statistics and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

es affect the health, education, and incomes of children. Health gradients—disparities in health across socioeconomic groups—can start before birth and may accumulate.

When that happens, inequalities compound and spiral: Children born to low-income families are more prone to poor health and lower education. Those with lower education are less likely to earn as much as others, while children in poorer health are more likely to miss school.

And when children grow up, they typically partner with someone having similar socioeconomic status, reinforcing the inequalities across generations. It is a cycle that is often difficult to break, not least because of the way inequalities in income and political power co-evolve.

When the wealthy shape policies that favor themselves and their children—as they often do—that drives further accumulation of income and opportunity at the top. Unsurprisingly, then, that mobility tends to be

lower in more unequal societies.

A NEW TAKE ON THE GREAT GATSBY CURVE

The positive correlation between higher income inequality and lower intergenerational mobility in income is well known. This relation, known as the Great Gatsby Curve, also holds true using a measure of inequality in human development instead of income inequality alone (see Figure 2).

The greater the inequality in human development, the lower the intergenerational mobility in income—and vice versa. These two factors go hand in hand, but that does not imply that one causes the other.

In fact, it is more likely that both are driven by underlying economic and social factors, so understanding and tackling these drivers could both promote mobility and redress inequality.

WHERE TO NEXT?

The report has a template framing a rich set of policy suggestions for governments wishing to act, but stresses that there is no silver bullet. Tackling inequalities requires addressing the drivers, not just the symptoms. Two arguments are central to this.

The first is that inequalities do not always damage a society, nor do they always reflect an unfair world. Some inequality is productive in rewarding talent and effort, and some is probably inevitable, such as the inequalities from diffusing a new technology.

Preventing anyone from access to a new health treatment until everyone can have it makes no sense. But some inequalities—especially in opportunities—are unjust and damaging. They have deep roots, and we focus on these inequalities and their drivers.

The second argument is that the sorts of inequalities that concern us most are not so much a cause of unfairness as a consequence of an unfairness deeply embedded in our economies, societies, and politics. That sense of unfairness can lead to alienation and become a wellspring of anger.

The human development lens—placing people at the heart—is central to approaching inequalities and asking why they matter, how they manifest themselves and how best to tackle them. This is a conversation that every society must have for itself, and that should begin today. The 2019 Human Development Report is a contribution to inform and to help shape those conversations.

Note: Inequality in human development is measured as the percentage loss in Human Development Index value due to inequality in three components: income, education, and health. The higher the intergenerational income elasticity, the stronger the association between parents' income and their children's income, reflecting lower intergenerational mobility.

Agencies

College Comfort Zone
 With **Salima Hamisi**
 saly30@gmail.com
 0762 174 124

Active learning: The only way forth

YOUR bachelor's or masters doesn't mean a prospective employer should hire you. Neither does an MBA certification mean you know how to run a business nor does the name of the institution you went to speak a thing.

Your degree doesn't matter. At least not as much as you think it does. Can you practically show it? What can you bring on the table with a degree or masters certification? Well, that's what matters.

Mr. Ellison an HR Professional and veteran of the HR tech industry, degreed crystallized something I had always felt but wasn't able to put words to -he insists that a degree simply doesn't matter.

In as much as it's true your degree is an important record of your training on the fundamentals and learning how to think critically. It is important to step into lifelong learning as well because learning is a perpetual action not a means to an end. It simply doesn't matter as much as what you have learned since you graduated is tucked away in a drawer 50 KM away. You have to keep tabs and embark on a learning journey blend into new trends of the world's work place and the future of work.

What if your professional qualifications today might be replaced by a robot in the near future? Will your skills still be relevant? Your BA isn't as valuable as your recent learning in determining readiness or qualifications for a job. Never the less, Your MBA doesn't make you a better manager than someone who has helped grow a business and stays current with reading on entrepreneurship and leadership.

Simply, your degree doesn't matter as much as you are a lifelong learner, a student of life.

This Hr personnel summed it up well at a recent career boot camp, "increasingly I hear this mantra: skills not degrees. It's not skills at the exclusion of degrees. It is just expanding our perspective to go beyond degrees." Degreed is "jailbreaking the degree." Degreed is offering a way to demonstrate the learning that does matter but not the practical work that is needed to execute and implement what has been studied.

Having started her career in Human Resources and having built and scaled global Customer Success teams at several fast-growing companies, he has had the opportunity to interview thousands of people. One of his favorite questions as he says has always been, "Why did you go to college, what did you study and how did that lead to where you are today?" A three part interview question? The questions might catch one off guard but they are questions that really do matter for the work place today.

This has nothing to do with the school, the level of degree or even the subject an individual has passed through or is currently pursuing.

Personally, it did matter to me a while ago until the professional world taught me a

lesson on skills and not papers. It had never mattered to me that much in the past just like today.

Mr Ellison talks about how he finds it interesting to look into the insights of an individual and how has leveraged that foundation to learn and grow through their careers not even with his company but those the individuals will work for in the future as well.

"Oh... I have a degree in Public Relations and because I didn't know what I wanted to do and I have always been interested in running my own business. But after graduating, I..." or "I have a degree in Procurement because I love store management but after graduating I found that I hate being stuck in Invoices all day so I..." Such replies and analysis are just but a tip of the iceberg and Mr. Ellison explained it so candidly how such sincere discussions reveal true potentials of prospective employees as unique individuals who desire to make ends meet and live their dreams.

Pretty much, the honesty in many of the answers can lead to an interesting discussion. The way candidates connect higher education to their career and lifelong learning is a great indication of what they are bringing to the table. It is an interesting insight into the Why of their career. It is almost rare anymore to find someone who went to college and received a degree in the same area as their current profession. Those that do business related studies you ought to celebrate! There is hope literally!

Even if your degree is perfectly aligned with the job you want, the hiring team wants to know what you have been doing since then and what you are willing to share and bring along for the benefit of their company.

The problem is several recruiters are still measuring skill acquisition with how attractive your GPA looks - - - by your college degree because that's the standard they have had to measure learning.

Well, I am aware that he is not the only HR professional or hiring manager that knows the degree isn't an effective measure of skills and capabilities. I doubt any effective hiring manager is making offers on a degree alone. But that is all most of us have known. Or it was anyways.

Imagine if you could demonstrate everything you learned since you graduated. All of the relevant articles, papers, and books you have read that equip you to succeed in your job. Imagine a record of the conferences, webinars, and workshops you have attended that have helped you prepare for the job you want. If you could represent that to your organization, or future employers, wouldn't that be more valuable than saying you have an accounting degree from 5 years ago? Wouldn't you want that Hr manager to understand what you have learned since then? That's meaningful and something that I wish human resource managers would want to hear from us more when carrying through the interview process.

VACANCY

Procurement Manager

Stanbic Bank Tanzania Limited is a full service commercial bank which specializes in providing facilities and services to public and private sector corporations, diplomatic missions and international organizations.

Job Title: Procurement Manager
Report to: Head of Finance
Division: Finance, Procurement
Job Purpose: The incumbent will be responsible to ensure that the procurement standards, policies and procedures governing all third-party spend are embedded in the legal entity and that the segregation of duties for authorising and paying third-party suppliers are maintained through appropriate and effective systems and procedures.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES
 The roles and responsibilities of this incumbent will be as follows:

- Ensure efficient and effective procurement standards, policies and procedures.
 - Ensure that the legal entity has sourcing strategies that ensure a reliable supply of required commodities and services at competitive prices.
 - Ensure that the legal entity procurement functions are proactively supporting the Business and Finance teams with lean and efficient sourcing and vendor management processes that meet the bank's standards for third-party procurement and payments.
 - Ensure that Service Level Agreements (SLAs) are understood and embedded in each legal entity by the Source to Pay Lifecycle.
 - Improve the procurement environment from a routine administrative function into one that is perceived as a value adding business partner, through:
 - Improving the quality, speed and reliability of supply services.
 - Reducing the Total Cost of Ownership for all third-party sourced products and services.
 - Improve procurement capability and expertise on basic sourcing, procure to pay, and vendor management disciplines by leveraging the core competencies and centres of excellence.
 - Implement the procurement standards, policies and supply chain capabilities across the Source to Pay Lifecycle.
 - Implement procurement transformation programmes (system enabling and others) as required across the end to end value chain based on the Source to Pay Capability and Maturity Framework.
 - Drive the ratification of the procurement policies at the in-country boards and embed the policies in the legal entity.
 - Implement the relevant Risk and Compliance frameworks in line with policies and practices.
 - Implement the Delegation of Authority Framework in the required procurement processes.
 - Implement effective processes / controls for the investigation of identified instances of non-compliance based on audits conducted.
 - Manage and derive cost savings for the Operational and Capital Expenditure in the legal entity.
- Ensure an efficient and effective leadership and staffing process.
 - Determine the people strategy for the area, together with the Human Capital Business Partner for the area, with a focus on talent management, resourcing, development and retention.
 - Oversee the moderation and relative distribution of performance appraisals in line with overall business performance for the area.
 - Mentor the team on people management techniques and approaches. Motivate team members to set the example on living the values and recognition.
 - Review the overall development needs analysis. Approve training budgets and review actual spend to ensure that funds are being used.
 - Review and approve succession plans for key roles in the area. Support the Talent Review process and approve nominations for the area.
 - Interview and hire direct reports, with support from Human Capital. Support managers with their recruitment decisions on request.
 - Review consolidated headcount plans; reallocate resources between departments if needed.
 - Approve/decline headcount within overall mandate.
 - Keeps abreast of local legislator and regulatory requirements
- Ensure efficient and effective stakeholder engagement.
 - Develop relationships proactively with key external stakeholders including key suppliers to ensure Stanbic Bank receives appropriate co-operation when required.
 - Build and develop relationships across the firm with various stakeholders with the intention of breaking down silos to maximise business growth.
 - Hold primary relationship with clients and handle all aspects of client interaction.
 - Manages the selection of suppliers in line with the bank's policies (e.g. agency pit/ch)
- Ensure accurate and quality reporting standards.
 - Measure and report compliance in terms of the relevant frameworks and report to the appropriate key stakeholders.
- Adhere to a procurement best practice approach.
 - Ensure purchase spend analysis and audits take place with a focus on eliminating waste, non-value adding supply chain links and optimising Bank's supply chain processes.
 - Ensure that TCO reduction targets are met or exceeded.
 - Assist with gap analysis of existing Procurement processes and implement appropriate improvements.
 - Align performance metrics/measurements to organisational/project objectives so as to ensure the achievement of deliverables.
 - Reduce the percentage spend going through the non-formal procurement process (sundry purchases).
- Ensure an effective and efficient contract management process.
 - Facilitate the development and maintenance of contracts for all commodities under the sphere of control.
 - Facilitate the process of assisting suppliers' performance.
 - Rationalise supplier database.
 - Entrench the development and management of supplier through the Service Level Agreement.
 - Assist with standardisation of products, materials and contract template.
 - Responsible for the recruitment, development and retention of relevant skills in order to meet the business needs.

KEY SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND PERSONAL COMPETENCIES

SKILL

- Minimum qualification:** A graduate or post-graduate qualification in Procurement, Business Commerce, The incumbent must be either CIPS or FSP/PT certified
- Approximately 5 years' experience in a procurement and/or supply chain management role. At least 2 years should be at a senior management level.**
- Procurement Knowledge:** Knowledge of procurement policies and procedures and ability to procure high-quality products and services for the Bank on advantageous terms
- Supplier Relationship Management:** Knowledge and application of tools and methods to monitor the effective delivery of suppliers and to gain maximum value from supplier services. From Technical Competency Library.
- Tender Process:** Knowledge and understanding of the formal processes of issuing requests for proposal for suppliers to respond to.
- Procurement Process:** Knowledge and application of the SAP vendor management modules and the supporting business processes.
- Policy Development:** Understanding and application of the discipline of policy analysis, definition, writing and implementation.
- Experience in financial services would be beneficial. Experience in working in a multi-national company with a global brand would be beneficial.**
- Experience in managing people.**

MODE OF APPLICATION
 Applications to be sent to: stephen.kisanko@stanbic.com

Stanbic Bank Tanzania Limited,
 P.O. Box 72647, Dar Es Salaam,
 Plot No. 99A, Corner of Kinondoni Rd/Al Hassan Mwinyi Rd.

Closing Date: Sunday, February 16th, 2020.

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Could Africa's marketplace platforms help upskill generation for digital age?

NAIROBI

BY 2030, sub-Saharan Africa will be home to more than a quarter of the world's population under 25. Between 15 and 20 million young people will enter the African workforce each year, joining the ranks of the millions of currently under- and unemployed people searching for better livelihoods.

Does this massive growth present an urgent challenge or an extraordinary opportunity? It depends in part on whether young people can acquire the skills they will need to participate in an increasingly digital economy.

One pathway to learning these skills has, until now, gone mostly under the radar, but it may be a surprisingly powerful ally in meeting this challenge.

Some of the same digital marketplace platforms that are changing economic sectors and connecting workers to gigs are now putting training at the core of their operations. This upskilling has become essential to providing the levels of service and quality customers demand.

There are currently more than 250 marketplace platforms active in sub-Saharan Africa alone. They touch many economic sectors: ride hailing and delivery, freelancing, services and trades, even agriculture, the biggest employer on the continent.

When these platforms train, they train broadly. While coding or IT skills are an important component, many platforms train in a variety of subject matters, using a variety of methods.

Some platforms offer training in digital and financial literacy; Uber has partnered with Old Mutual to deliver money management classes to driver-partners. Some platforms teach specific vocational skills, like the Kenyan service platform Lynk, which prepares people to be everything from carpenters to beauty technicians.

Other platforms teach soft skills, like Nigerian ride-hailing platforms Gokada and MAX, which invest extensively



in customer service training while onboarding drivers.

Importantly, all of these skills are portable. They can be applied on and off the job, and, once transferred, they can't be taken away. If the scale and quality of platform-led upskilling continues to rise, it could have a transformational impact on economic growth and sustainable development in the region.

With the support of the Mastercard Foundation, Caribou Digital has produced a white paper analyzing the potential of training programs offered by platforms.

We found three broad approaches in practice. The first is of course to provide online training materials,

Jumia training in session. File photo

ranging from simple "FAQs" and blog posts to videos and tutorials.

Notably, we found many using innovative approaches, like Senty, an African delivery and logistics platform that has designed videos for drivers to watch at mechanic workshops or gas stations while their bikes are being maintained.

Some of the larger platforms offer training moments within workflows—training that happens almost without the user's awareness. For example, the African e-commerce site Jumia uses AI to offer sellers a "Content Score" that automatically measures the quality of a product's content list-

ing, allowing small merchants to improve their advertisements in real time.

However, we were most surprised by the amount of coaching that happens face to face. For example, the Kenyan services platform Lynk has set up Fundi Works, a production workshop that allows carpenters to train with a master carpenter to improve their techniques.

They are also trained on procurement of raw materials, storage practices, and the processes involved in furniture design, to ensure high quality finished products.

Meanwhile the Nigerian ride-

hailing platform Gokada has partnered with a defensive driving academy that has reduced training time in the classroom and the field from seven days to three. Almost every platform we spoke to, large and small, relies on some degree of interpersonal training to upskill its workers and suppliers.

The influence of platforms on all kinds of markets is likely to grow. Not all of this influence is good—platformization has raised important concerns about competition, worker safety, wages, and consumer choice.

But if platforms' commitment to training correlates with their

growth, their influence on skills acquisition around the world could have a major positive impact. Our research shows that marketplace platforms can be powerful new partners for governments, educational institutions, and worker organizations looking to upskill the continent's workforce.

It is therefore time to foster collaboration around what we have dubbed "platform-led upskilling". With a dedicated community and shared perspective comes the opportunity to compile best practices across industry sectors and training approaches as well as to analyze returns on investment to platforms, and the efficacy of skills training and improved livelihoods among their workers and suppliers.

A lot of this evidence is currently hidden and fragmented, held inside different platforms' vendor support departments. The development community can act as a catalyst and partner with platforms to more systematically gather and share this evidence.

Preparing a generation of young Africans with the skills for the digital age will require all hands-on deck. Platforms won't replace investments in improving and extending schools, NGOs, and training academies, or in advancing employee training.

But the reach of platform-led upskilling is growing along with the rise of platforms.

The question "Could Africa's marketplace platforms help upskill a generation?" is still open, but the answer is worth pursuing systematically and vigorously. Platform-led upskilling is a promising way in which platforms can act not just as disruptors but as stewards of the markets in which they play.

Agencies

War no more: Honouring UN 75th anniversary

NEW YORK

75 years ago following the end of the Second World War and the first time any state has dropped an atomic bomb, not once, but twice, on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, 51 countries from all continents met to create the United Nations.

Its primary purpose, as stated in the Charter says: "We the peoples of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war..." Of course, it is also dedicated to human rights for all and equal rights for men and women and nations large and small and more...

But peace, prevention of war, is its "most profound purpose," Ambassador William vanden Heuvel said when he suggested we organize this conference on "War No More".

It is to this purpose, to save humanity from war, that the Committee on Teaching About the UN with the co-sponsorship of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the UN, has dedicated its conference which will convene on February 28, 2020. <https://teachun.org/conference/2020-un/>.

We honor the UN on its 75th anniversary and call for the full implementation of this purpose.

It is often said that as long as there are people there will be war. But it hasn't always been that way and certainly war is not inevitable.

Indeed, not only has the UN called for saving succeeding generations, but the Charter also calls for "...the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources..." (Art 26); the First Committee is dedicated to Disarmament.

It goes on, "... (Art 2.3) All Members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means..." and (2.4) states, "All Members shall refrain from the threat or use of force..."

Some say that as long as there is a right of self-defense (Art 51) there shall be war. We will see what the lawyers and experts including Liechtenstein's Ambassador Christian Wenaweser and James Ranney, international law professor, say in their conversation.

Have you heard of Bertha von Suttner, the young poor Princess who answered



an ad from Alfred Nobel for a housekeeper. In short, she left his employ having persuaded him to turn the profits from his invention of dynamite to support a Nobel Peace Prize.

In 1905 Bertha became a Nobel Peace Laureate for writing the best-selling, "Lay Down Your Arms", (Die Waffen Neider) probably the only novel written about disarmament, and for organizing the world's first International Peace Congress.

It resulted in banning hot air balloons,

A Hibakusha, one of the survivors of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, speaks at a special event commemorating Disarmament Week in October 2011. File photo

mustard gas and dumdum bullets. Did she anticipate climate change?

Getting rid of war has been a hope for generations. Eleanor Roosevelt said that that, "the idea of war is obsolete". Abolishing war has been a serious multinational effort.

Following the first World War and the League of Nations, the Kellogg Briand Pact, 1928, <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1921-1936/kellogg> was signed by all "major

states" including the foreign ministers of the US and France, who agreed not to... "resort to war to resolve disputes or conflicts of whatever nature."

The Pact could not prevent or stop wars of "self-defense" and had no enforcement capacity.

Lord Bertrand Russell and Albert Einstein, who said that nuclear weapons threaten the "continued existence of mankind", also called for the end of war. War, in the age of

atomic bombs, "is the most serious problem that has ever confronted the human race," said Lord Russell. Thus, the Russell Einstein Manifesto of 1955 was signed by the world's leading scientists including Marie Joliot-Curie. [www.theguardian.com › world › jul › russell-einstein-peace-manifesto...](http://www.theguardian.com/world/jul/russell-einstein-peace-manifesto...)

In 1999, on the centennial of the world's first Peace Congress, the Hague Appeal for Peace con-

vened 10,000 people from over 100 countries in The Hague and called for Peace is a Human Right and it is Time to Abolish War. Archbishop Desmond Tutu told us, "If the world could get rid of Apartheid, why not war?" www.haguepeace.org

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan addressed the HAP conference, urging everyone, "Don't despair, don't deny and by all means don't ever give up".

The Hague Agenda for Peace and Justice for the 21st Century with 50 Articles going from a Culture of War to a Culture of Peace, became a UN document, A/54/98.

It created the Global Campaign for Peace Education which states, "A Culture of Peace will be achieved when citizens of the world understand global problems, have the skills to resolve conflicts, and struggle for justice non-violently."

"War No More" takes its name from the drawing, Nie Wieder Krieg, (War Never Again) 1924, by the German artist and peace activist, Kathe Kollwitz. Her son was killed in the first World War. <https://archive.org/details/warno-morefinalitics2>

The apocalyptic twins, nuclear weapons and the climate crisis, are the existential threats destined, if not reversed, to cause the war no one survives. As long as there is armed violence between states, or groups, no amount of good governance, democracy, human rights or development can be sustained.

Positive Peace, says the Institute for Economics and Peace, not only looks at the risks of violence but at what builds peaceful and resilient societies.

We urge everyone to imagine what the Future they want looks like. What can you take away from this conference to work on to make your future happen? What can we ask of the Member States to make a World Without War?

Agencies

Island residents in L. Victoria build school under police supervision

By Guardian Correspondent, Ukerewe

RESIDENTS of Kweru Mtondongo island in Ukerewe district have been forced to build a primary school in order to save the lives of their children who had to cross the lake by canoes to attend classes at a neighbouring island.

Speaking at a public rally in the island Ukerewe District Commissioner Cornel Magembe said Shikizi primary school was built under police supervision as a group of people emerged claiming the area is their

grandparents' graveyard, but the real aim was to derail the construction of the school.

He said in the past children were forced to board canoes to go to school from the neighbouring island, the daily to and fro trips that were very inconvenient and hazardous to them.

"This school project that has cost 33m/- with contributions from the District Executive Director, the wananchi, NMB Bank, and 193 bags of cement from the Member of Parliament Constituency Fund," said Magembe.

Earlier, the chairman of Ukerewe District Council who is also Kanguli Ward Councillor George Nyamaha explained on the determination by the wananchi to provide education for their children and were ready to complete the project so that it can be registered.

The Mwanza Regional Commissioner John Mongella hailed the residents of the island for the development, saying there are many other areas with many more people but lack mobilization to build a school.

He promised to follow up the construction of two remaining classrooms and toilets so that the school gets full

registration as soon as possible.

On his part, the regional education officer Michael Ligo-la said the school needs registration to save children from inconveniences and will see to it that it gets registration.

Frank Vicent and Yusta John, residents of the island said they decided to build the school because sometimes their children failed to go to school if there are storms and high winds in the lake.

They started with a makeshift structures that were used as classrooms and then asked the government for assistance, including registration.

Mwanza RC assures quick rehabilitation of berth used by MV Tegemeo ferry

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

MWANZA Regional Commissioner John Mongella has appealed to residents of Maisome and Kaunda islands in Lake Victoria to exercise patience over the challenge they are facing following the collapse of the berth used by MV Tegemeo ferry due to ongoing rains and assured them that the government is working on the matter.

Mongella gave the assurance at the weekend during his inspection visit on the destruction to various infrastructures, roads and bridges following heavy rains in Sengerema and Buchosa districts in the region.

He said Tanzania Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA) have brought in engineers to assess the situation and decide what can be done as an urgent measure to help passengers use the ferry.

He also called upon TEMESA to ensure they work day and night to deal with the challenge, adding that the government will be laughed at if it embarks on a shortcut solution to deal with the challenge.

He also appealed to TEMESA to con-

struct a shelter to be used as waiting room for passengers as well as toilets saying these should be ready by June this year.

In addition, he said TEMESA should prepare a timetable for the ferry that should be well understood as well as a schedule for the cost of passenger fares and luggage.

The Sengerema District Commissioner Dr Emmanuel Kipole said the ferry has been serving two regions - Geita and Mwanza but due to berth's collapse the timetable has been altered.

He said the ferry will end its daily services at 6.30 pm when there is still light so that the wananchi should not be attacked by wild beasts such as crocodiles and hippos.

Residents of the area, Samsoni Nyanda and Marco Lufungulo said the berth's collapse after being submerged in water has instilled fear in wananchi's lives when travelling and appealed to the government to work on the berth as quickly as possible.

MV Tegemeo ferry was launched by the then Vice President, Dr Gharib Bilal on September 26 2014.



Stanbic Bank Tanzania Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Kenrick Cockerill (R) shares insights with some of the participants at the South African Business Forum held in Dar es Salaam recently. Stanbic Bank sponsored the forum as part of its commitment to continue promoting financial successes and shared prosperity for both Tanzania and South Africa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

Education ministry distributes teaching aids to govt run 35 teachers' colleges

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has distributed teaching aids for teaching instructors in 35 government run teachers' colleges aimed to improve the education sector.

Speaking here yesterday at a short handing over ceremony for Pandi and Monduli teachers colleges, the Ministry's Permanent Secretary Dr Leonard Akwilapo said they have distributed the aids to 35 colleges countrywide.

He said the aids distributed

included laptops, more than 26,000 books on Maths, English language and Science, projectors, photocopy machines and laboratory equipment.

He said experts in the education sector had a one week meeting in Arusha to discuss and evaluate achievements

made through the Five Year Teacher education Support Project (TESP).

Akwilapo said the government of Canada provided 90bn/- for teachers training in teachers; colleges including teaching aids for the improvement of the education sector in the country, and

called on upon the colleges to make better use of the teaching aids that can also be used by future generations.

Chief Chancellor for the Co-operation and cooperation in the Canadian High Commission in the country Gwen Walmsley said the project recognizes the

importance of the 2925 Tanzania Government policy of free education in primary and secondary schools.

He said since 2015 the free education policy has assisted 10.6 million primary and secondary school students to get free education.

He added that for the period 2018/21 the Canadian government set aside USD 180 million for the youth.

He said apart from the 90bn/- Canada provided towards TESP, it has also contributed 8bn/- for technical assistance.



Staff members work at a workshop of Skyworth in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong Province, on Monday. Chinese authorities are carefully balancing efforts to control the novel coronavirus epidemic and minimize its impact on the economy as millions of people head back to work Monday after an extended holiday.

COVID-19: New coronavirus disease named by WHO

GENEVA

THE new coronavirus disease has been named COVID-19, the World Health Organization announced Tuesday.

This strain of coronavirus was first detected in December in the Chinese city of Wuhan.

The illness caused by the virus, which has since infected thousands in China and several other countries, had been nameless since the outbreak began. It was commonly referred to as 2019-nCoV by health officials.

The UN health agency explained that the name COVID-19 consists of the CO in coronavirus, VI in virus and D for disease; 19 stands for the year 2019.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said the name was carefully chosen to avoid stigma and that other names could be inaccurate.

"We had to find a name that did not refer to a geographical location, an animal or an individual or group of people," he said.

"Having a name matters to prevent the use of other names that can be inaccurate or stigmatizing. It also gives us

a standard format to use for any future coronavirus outbreaks."

Tedros said there are currently more than 42,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in China. A total of 1,017 people have died in the outbreak. Outside of China, there are 393 cases reported in 24 countries.

During a press conference, Tedros urged countries to be "as aggressive as possible" in fighting the outbreak.

"If the world doesn't want to wake up and consider the virus as public enemy number 1, I don't think we will learn from our lessons," Tedros said.

"We are still in containment strategy and should not allow the virus to have a space to have local transmission."

The virus that causes COVID-19 was also renamed Tuesday. The International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses, which classifies and names viruses, stated that the virus was now to be called SARS-CoV-2, which stands for "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2."

It made this decision based on its assessment that this new virus was a "sister" to other SARS viruses.



If the world doesn't want to wake up and consider the virus as public enemy number 1, I don't think we will learn from our lessons

Xi vows to win people's war against novel coronavirus

BEIJING

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, stressed resolutely winning the people's war against pneumonia epidemic caused by the novel coronavirus.

Wearing a mask, Xi, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, visited a residential community, a hospital and a district center for disease control and prevention in Beijing.

The inspection came at a time when many people outside the epidemic center of Hubei Province resumed work after an extended holiday.

Xi said the situation at the moment remains very serious but expressed confidence that China can certainly obtain a full victory in the fight against the epidemic.

He first went to the Anhuai Community in Chaoyang District to learn about the epidemic prevention and control at the primary level and stressed the role of community in effectively containing the spread of the epidemic.

At Beijing Ditan Hospital, a designated institution treating the novel coronavirus pneumonia, Xi checked the treatment of hospitalized patients at the monitoring center and talked to medical staff on duty via a video link.

Xi called on medical staff to continue to improve the diagnosis and treatment plan, save patients at all costs and reminded them to take good self-protection.

"HEROIC" WUHAN

At the hospital, Xi talked to frontline



President Xi Jinping checks the treatment of hospitalized patients at the monitoring center and talks to medical staff on duty via a video link at Beijing Ditan Hospital in Beijing, capital of China, on Feb. 10, 2020. (Xinhua)

medical workers in three hospitals in Wuhan receiving infected patients with a telemedicine system, encouraging them to resolutely carry on the fight to defend the city, capital of Hubei.

Xi expressed deep condolences to those who died from the novel coronavirus pneumonia outbreak and extended sympathy to their bereaved families and stressed that the whole Party, armed forces and people of all ethnic groups in China should stand together with the people of Hubei and

Wuhan.

"Wuhan is a heroic city, and people of Hubei and Wuhan are heroic people who have never been crushed by any difficulty and danger in history," Xi said, speaking to officials fighting the epidemic in Hubei in a video-conference.

Noting that Hubei and Wuhan are the top priority for epidemic prevention and control, Xi called for greater efforts in hospital ad-

mission, treatment, social management, public communication and unified commanding in the epidemic prevention and control work. He also urged more caring for the frontline medical personnel.

ECONOMIC IMPACT SHORT-LIVED

Leaving the hospital, Xi went to the center for disease control and prevention of Chaoyang District. Xi presided over a meeting and listened to report on the epidemic prevention and control work of Beijing.

Xi highlighted the urgency of putting in place targeted measures to address the rising risk of epidemic spread following the post-festival travel peak, called for efforts to work out more effective treatment plans to reduce the rates of infection and mortality and demanded resolute punishments on illegal activities such as price gouging.

Xi stressed that the fundamentals of China's long-term economic development remain unchanged and the impact of the novel coronavirus epidemic on the economy is short-lived.

He called for greater efforts to minimize the impact of the epidemic on the economy and reach goals and tasks of economic and social development this year. Close attention must be paid to employment and large-scale layoffs should be avoided, he added.

XI THE COMMANDER

Xi is the commander of the people's war against the epidemic.

Over the past few weeks, he has called multiple meetings, heard reports, made important instructions on the prevention and control work and discussed the topic with foreign leaders.

One message is consistent and crystal clear: People always come first. Xi has stressed putting people's lives and health as the top priority.

On Jan. 25, Xi chaired a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and demanded that epidemic prevention and control be taken as the most important task.

In the last week of January, Xi entrusted senior officials to inspect epidemic control work in Wuhan, made instructions to Party organizations, members and officials as well as the military and met with the World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

In early February, Xi again chaired a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee on epidemic prevention and control and later a high-level meeting on overall law-based governance, requiring strong legal guarantee to epidemic control.

Under Xi's leadership, China has carried out national mobilization, across-the-board deployment and swift responses, adopted the most comprehensive and rigorous prevention and control measures and launched a people's war against the epidemic.

Though the battle remains arduous, especially in Hubei, the number of daily new confirmed cases outside the province has been dropping for six consecutive days since Feb. 4.

In the past week, Xi also discussed epidemic control when he met with Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen in Beijing and spoke over the phone with Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and U.S. President Donald Trump respectively.

Xi told King Salman that the strong measures China has taken are not only responsible for the health of the Chinese people, but have also made huge contributions to the world's public safety.

According to statistics of the WHO, the outbreak has affected about two dozens countries but all with limited cases.

"We would have seen many more cases outside China...if it were not for the (Chinese) government's efforts and the progress they have made to protect their own people and the people of the world," Tedros, the WHO chief, said. **Xinhua**

Where do Sahel terrorists get their heavy weapons?

BY HASSANE KONÉ

TERROR attacks on military outposts in the Liptako-Gourma area where Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger meet are increasingly ambitious and complex. Their frequency and the damage inflicted on defence and security forces is worrying, and raises questions about where the terror groups are sourcing their heavy weapons.

New research by the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) on the links between violent extremism, organised crime and local conflicts in Liptako-Gourma reveals that terrorist groups in the Sahel region - of which Liptako-Gourma forms part - are using weapons from the military barracks they're looting.

Since the outbreak of the crisis in Mali in 2012, the origin of the many weapons circulating in the area has generated speculation. Libya was at one point the main source of arms. Weapons proliferation was linked to the fall of the Muammar Gaddafi regime in 2011. Following the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)-led military intervention, Libya lost control of a large part of the stockpiles it had amassed over 40 years.

The transfer of weapons from Libya strengthened armed rebel movements in Mali in 2012. It facilitated the acquisition of arms by terror groups such as



With arms flows from Libya declining, military barracks and poorly controlled national stockpiles are being targeted. File photo

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD =046=

WORD FIT

SQUIRREL

ETA

3 letter word: LAY, GET, RAY, CAT, ETA, TOE, MOT, NET
 4 letter word: BEST, FLEE, CUTE, OTES
 5 letter word: ROUGH, BINGO, MASON, PLAIT, AEGIS
 6 letter word: SQUARE, NATIVE, ENCAP, PLASMA MINING, INLETS
 7 letter word: HORIZON, ZEALOUS
 8 letter word: SQUIRREL, UBIQUITY, UNICYCLE
 9 letter word: ENTERTAIN, ENACTMENT

CROSSWORD

1 a girl who marries a member of the armed forces from a different country (3,5)
 2 Collecting and amassing (10)
 3 Largest country in the World (6)
 4 Garden of Adam and Eve (4)
 5 Madagascan monkey active at night
 6 a hormone produced by a body when you are frightened (9)
 7 Entertain someone with stories (7)
 8 Metal box containing gears (7)
 9 Wooden frame with a picture (5)
 10 Helper and accomplice (4)
 11 Spoken (4)
 12 Animal like a frog (4)
 13 Possess (3)
 14 Crime committed during a war (3,5)
 15 Mother (4) 17 Insect (4) 18 amount (3)
 19 Final and finally (5)
 20 From the past (3) 21 Tire (4)
 22 Tall plant with a wooden trunk (4)
 23 Send out air (4) 25 Back in the past (3)
 26 Connected by a military agreement (6)
 27 Type of gas which has no colour (5)

al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa, and non-state groups operating in the Sahel region. Since 2013 however, the flow of weapons from Libya is said to have decreased for various reasons. First, the growing military presence in Mali, as well as the deployment of military reinforcements on the Nigerian and Algerian borders, have led to the interception of arms shipments destined for terrorist and other armed groups. The intensification of the Libyan civil war has increased the internal demand for arms. Second, the intensification of the Libyan civil war has increased the internal demand for arms, which means there are less weapons to export. Nevertheless, arms trafficking networks continue to exploit this channel to obtain other supplies. But these smuggling networks are just one of the supply channels for non-state armed groups. Another comes from weapons diverted from poorly controlled national stockpiles, as well as arms trafficking from the various crises that have shaken West Africa - in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire and Niger. Some West African ports, identified by the Small Arms Sur-

vey as illicit trafficking routes, are also allegedly used for the transport of arms. More recent attacks on isolated military barracks - during which equipment was stolen - shows that violent extremists are getting their weapons from looted military barracks. Terror groups in the Sahel now launch large-scale attacks on military garrisons or positions, exploiting their vulnerabilities. Using the element of surprise, attackers arrive in large numbers, on motorcycles or in pick-up trucks. They surround the camp and pound it with mortar shells or rockets to disrupt its defences. Vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices are used to clear the way for the assault on multiple fronts. Soldiers are overwhelmed and the attackers gain control of the outposts and seize weapons, ammunition and other materials. Securing armouries and weapons stocks has become a real challenge for Liptako-Gourma states. War footage broadcast by the Group for the Support of Islam and Muslims and the Islamic State in the Great Sahara confirm these tactics. In videos, the fighters theatrically display quantities of arms and ammunition stolen during attacks on military camps of Inates

in Niger, Indelimane in Mali and Koutougou in Burkina Faso in 2019 (see map above). This modus operandi, which has enabled terrorist groups to accumulate large stockpiles of ammunition and weapons, is becoming the main source of supply, offsetting the decline in flows from Libya and other former conflict zones. Securing armouries and weapons stocks has become a real challenge for defence and security forces of states in the Liptako-Gourma region. Rigorous stockpile management in barracks is needed to control the exit of weapons and ammunition, and improve their traceability. To prevent the theft of weapons, stricter measures are needed to ensure soldiers take responsibility for the weapons they hold. The governments concerned also need to strengthen their operational capabilities and boost soldiers' morale in the face of violent attacks and equipment theft. Curbing weapons proliferation is a priority and there's no better time than now for countries in the Sahel to get behind the African Union's 2020 focus on Silencing the Guns. **Agencies**



Thursday 13 February 2020

Tira director challenges FIs, insurance companies to exploit huge market

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

INSURANCE companies and financial institutions have been challenged to take their products and services to rural areas where a huge potential remains unexploited.

Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority's Director of Licensing and Marketing Conduct Supervision, Samwel Mwiru said in Dar es Salaam this week while launching Diamond Trust Bank's Bancassurance services.

Mwiru said that insurance penetration in the country is still very low hence insurers, brokers, banks and other financial institutions should widen their market reach by going rural where the vast majority are uninsured.

"In order for insurance to play its rightful role in the growth of our economy it must contribute at least three percent of GDP (gross domestic product) in the next ten years. Innovation in processes, products and infrastructure is therefore paramount," said Mwiru.

He pointed out that insurance penetration across Africa has remained at about one percent with Tanzania having a penetration level of approximately 0.7 percent which is very low and need urgent action to boost.

The Tira Director further added that the role of insurance in mobilizing savings and providing protection against disasters cannot be under-rated hence the prevailing low insurance penetration presents a huge opportunity for the local industry to grow rapidly.

He despite the financial sector witnessing rapid growth over the last five years while

attract investment from both foreign and local investors, insurance remains laggard which has prompted the government to provide an effective policy and regulatory framework for the industry to grow and support development.

"It's against this background that the government, through Tira and Bank of Tanzania promulgated bancassurance regulations last year, to provide a requisite legal and regulatory framework for banks and financial institutions to participate effectively in the distribution of insurance products and services," he added.

On his part, Diamond Trust Bank Tanzania Limited's Country Manager and CEO, Viju Cheria said the bank has partnered with six insurance companies to sell products across its branches for the purpose of providing a one stop solution for both banking and insurance products to its customers.

Cheria named the insurance companies which DTB Tanzania is partnering as Jubilee Life Insurance, Jubilee General Insurance, Alliance Insurance, Phoenix Insurance, Heritage Insurance and Reliance Insurance. He said that one of the reasons DTB Tanzania launched bancassurance is to focus on small and medium entrepreneurs to enhance financial inclusion.

"With the sizeable client base that we have, we believe that the easy delivery of insurance products for the common man and the small entrepreneurs will help in risk mitigation both commercially and personally," he said.



Diamond Trust Bank Tanzania Limited's Country Manager and CEO, Viju Cheria speaks at a past event.

The DTB Tanzania boss said with the bank's mission of providing customer-centric financial services, its partnership with insurance companies will provide a comprehensive suite of insurance solutions to its customers nationwide.

"We are excited to bring our customers a complete product offering that includes insurance products within our branches. Our focus is to cater for all demographics, business entities and economic scales," Cheria added.

DTB Tanzania has a network of 27 branches in the country with most of which being in Dar es Salaam where it also has its headquarters.

Sido, CRDB Bank partnership disburses over 1.3 billion/- to agro-processors

By Beatrice Philemon

SOME 34 small agro-processing industries have received over 1.34bn/- in loans between July 2015 and September 2019 through a Small Industries Development Organization and CRDB Bank Plc partnership.

Sido's small and medium size enterprises Credit Guarantee Scheme's Program Officer, Ismail Tego said the agro-processors received between 10m/- and 50m/- loan packages.

Tego said the objective of the scheme is to promote and support SMEs which play a significant role in the economy because they create jobs but also add value to commodities hence need to access financing from banks with less stringent conditions. "The loans are disbursed as per the applicant's needs but also ability to repay timely," said Tego who further noted that the SME Credit Guarantee Scheme is currently implemented in 16 regions across the country.

He said the beneficiary regions were selected based on the potential of agro processing SMEs, presence of other related program implemented by Sido such as 'Muunganiho Ujasiliamali Vijini' (MUVI), One District One Product and Kaizen Cluster Development Program.

He called on SMEs in all areas across the country where Sido has offices to visit them and secure the concessional loans because procedures have been improved while guarantee is given by the organiza-



Sido director general, professor Sylvester Mpanduji.

tion. The Program Officer also said interest rates have been reduced from a prevailing market rate of between 20 and 18 to only 17 percent.

"Sido decided to embark on this program after discovering that access to finance has been one of the major challenges facing SMEs as the majority have no collateral," he added.

The SME Credit Guarantee Scheme is backed by funding from Japanese government's Agriculture Food Aid Counterpart Fund program.

In January 2015, Sido on behalf of Ministry of

Industries and Trade signed the grant agreement with Japan's Food Aid Counterpart Fund.

Sido then signed another agreement with CRDB Bank to extended loans to the program beneficiaries through a special loans term that fits the target group's capacity to absorb and repay the loans.

Under the deal, CRDB agreed to extend loans to Sido guaranteed SMEs of up to 2bn/- in total while the organization deposited 1bn/- cash as guarantee funds to cover 50 percent of any defaults if they occurred.

Oracle says Africa's digital banks are increasing investment

JOHANNESBURG

ORACLE claims to be attracting several digital-first banks in Africa to its financial services, specifically to the Flexcube Universal Banking platform - said to power over 10% of the world's consumer bank accounts.

Oracle has issued a statement from its OpenWorld London event, currently underway, in which it says that several key customers are using Oracle Flexcube and Oracle Banking Digital Experience for their digital transformations.

According to the company, it has served this market segment

for over 20 years and today over one hundred banks in Africa rely on Flexcube. Oracle says Flexcube helps banks meet customers' evolving expectations for more digital, responsive and connected experiences.

"In addition to addressing core-banking needs, the integrated solution will empower banking staff with key insights and help improve operations. It will also make it simpler to launch new products and reduce time-to-market for new services," it added.

Included in a list of banks said to have invested in Oracle technology is the Central Bank of Libya in Tripoli (which includes four of the

country's public sector banks), Nigeria's LAPO Microfinance Bank as well as a public sector bank in Algeria, and several others in Malawi, Djibouti, and Sudan.

Sonny Singh, senior vice president and general manager, Oracle Financial Services, said: "We have a long-standing presence in the African market, and it is promising to see more banks streamline their business operations and enhance the customer experience using Oracle. Africa continues to be at the forefront of innovative inclusive banking, and we are poised to support our banking customers as they continue to modernise and expand their digital offerings."

Oracle added that its Oracle Banking Digital Experience (OBDX) has also been chosen alongside Flexcube by several banks including Al Nile Bank and Balad Bank in Sudan, as well as Libya's Alyaqeen and Andalus Banks, and a postal bank in Senegal.

"With OBDX, banks can build on their existing infrastructure to launch new digital brands, automate processes, modernise experiences or launch innovative new digital capabilities, such as mobile payments and digital wallets," Oracle continued. Meanwhile, Titan Trust Bank in Nigeria is implementing a full suite of solutions.

CBK rolls out mobile bonds platform with eye on mass market

NAIROBI

THE Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) has rolled out a mobile platform through which retail investors will be able to apply for and trade Treasury bills and bonds.

The government's fiscal agent says the new service will make it easier to process transactions of Sh140,000 and below. The move could potentially take investing in Treasuries to the mass market by eliminating the friction in the current market infrastructure.

"The Bank is pleased to inform you about the roll-out of the Treasury Mobile Direct (TMD) services, designed to facilitate investment in Government Securities using the mobile telephone," CBK said in a notice to investors.

"To access these services, investors will be required to register for this facility at the nearest Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) Branch or Currency Centre." Retail investors have been applying for the debt instruments on physical forms that are delivered to CBK branches and currency centres.

They have had to contact the CBK to confirm if their applications were successful and the amounts they are to pay. Alternatively, the investors have hired banks to apply for the securities on their behalf. The lenders charge a commission of 0.15 percent of the actual amount invested in a bond or T-bill.

The small investors have also relied on CBK's website and newspaper advertisements for announcements of new T-bill and bond auctions. The mobile service will now aggregate all these services and others including request of statements and receipt of the cash value of maturing securities.

"For transactions whose amount exceeds Sh140,000 or other prevailing transaction limit, CBK will at its sole discretion determine the best alternative means of disbursing or receiving the funds," the lender of last resort said.

The mobile service is expected to avail to retail investors the same level of convenience that big buyers of treasuries such as banks have been enjoying. For more than a year now, banks have been placing their bids for treasuries through an online platform.

Retail investors and other nonbank participants had bought a cumulative Sh125 billion worth of treasuries as of January 31, 2020, representing 4.27 percent of the total domestic sovereign debt. CBK's Treasury Mobile Direct platform builds on the M-Akiba service which has raised nearly Sh800 million from more than half-a-million investors.



They have had to contact the CBK to confirm if their applications were successful and the amounts they are to pay. Alternatively, the investors have hired banks to apply for the securities on their behalf. The lenders charge a commission of 0.15 percent of the actual amount invested in a bond or T-bill

Bank sponsors women entrepreneurs' training on GS1 barcode adoption

By The Banker Reporter

WOMEN entrepreneurs have been advised to mobilize themselves into manageable business groups which will enable them enjoy advantages of collective production and access banking products tailored for groups.

National Bank of Commerce's Manager of Retail Liability Products, Dorothea Mabonye told a conference organized

for women entrepreneurs in Dar es Salaam this week to sensitise them on regional barcode commodities traceability systems service provided by GS1 that it is important to have such certification.

Mabonye said the bank sponsored the conference on a two-tier goal, first to empower women in business by ensuring they are mobilized in their respective groups and on the other hand, to equip them with necessary business skills and allow them access suitable

bank product that will catalyze their sustainable business growth.

"NBC relies on its experienced bankers who understand that mobilization of business schemes and ventures is crucial for micro enterprises, if at all their entrepreneurship efforts are to thrive and unleash full potential," she said.

The banker's views were seconded by a participant, Rosemary Mugarula who observed that the training was important because it enlightened them

on the need to unite and run projects sustainably.

"We have now realized it is easier to move forward as a group. I call upon women to mobilize themselves in productive units and tap into many opportunities that exist in the market," Mugarula said.

Speaking at the event, which was attended by over 500 women, NBC Brand and Communications Manager, David Raymond said the bank has a wide range of affordable and easy-to-

use products targeting women entrepreneurs and other businesses.

"We have products and services tailored to serve any productive groups and those suitable for women in general," Raymond noted naming some of them as Imara Account which is tailor made for Tanzanian woman and it can be opened in minutes with a minimum deposit of ten thousand shillings.

"The account is suitable for women and it allows them to save towards reaching their various goals. Our NBC

Kikundi Account is a special product for groups and offers safe custody of groups' deposits," he added.

Speaking at the same event, GS1 Tanzania's Board Chairman, Jembe Menye said while the role of the company is to mobilize businesses to use barcodes, they have keen interest in women entrepreneurs. "Women form a bulk of valuable players in small enterprises, so we can easily reach out to them if they are organized in groups," Menye said.

DC applauds Tigo for expanding to Simiyu region

By The Banker Reporter, Bariadi

THE opening of a new Tigo Tanzania Limited's shop in Bariadi district of Simiyu region is an important investment to allow consumers have access to the mobile phone company's services including biometric registration easily.

Bariadi District Commissioner, Festo Kiswaga said earlier this week while opening the new Tigo shop that the company has shown determination in investing its resources to ensure customers receive world-class services.

"Customer services is often at the heart of any business which aims to provide an exceptional service that leaves the customer feeling valued and respected," said Kiswaga noting that the new shop will greatly help to speed up biometric registration of customer to allow them continue enjoying services such as Tigo Pesa.

"Tigo is the best in investing its resources in crafting an intentional and wonderful customer experience which differentiates them from the rest in the market," Kiswaga noted.

Among other things, the new Tigo shop will allow customers to no longer travel long distances to get access its services which also include smartphones, routers and modems for Tigo Home internet service but also the cheap popular smartphone dubbed Kitochi 4G.

Tigo's Lake Zone Director, Uthman Madati said the shop will also provide sim swap, device sales, data services and Tigo Business services. Madati the launch of the new shop is in line with the mobile phone service company's strategy to improve service delivery to customers and fulfill its promise of providing them with more convenient access to products and services.

"The new shop features a special experience zone where customers can get the opportunity to test and experience different Tigo products such as mobile phones before they can buy them. The shop is convenient to customers visiting the city centre," he added.



Bariadi district commissioner, Festo Kiswaga holding a scissors aloft after cutting a ribbon to signal the launch of a new Tigo shop in Bariadi district earlier this week. Partly hidden is Tigo Lake Zone director, Uthman Madati. Photo courtesy of Tigo.

Absa's new boss faces tough fight to win back business

JOHANNESBURG

The Reserve Bank's former second-in-command, Daniel Mminele, will have his work cut out for him when he takes office as the new CEO of Absa on January 15. Absa is currently fighting to reclaim market share it lost to rivals over the years because of its conservative approach to lending under Barclays' rule.

Statistics from Genesis Financial News & Data show that Absa's market share in mortgage advances had shrunk to 21% in October 2019 from highs of around 31% a decade earlier in 2009. Barclays took a controlling stake in Absa in 2005, but in 2017 reduced its majority stake from 62% to 15%.

Through the new strategy which Absa adopted after the "divorce" with its parent company, Barclays, the bank wants to restore its leadership in SA retail banking. In 2018, the bank's retail unit launched a strategy to increase loans, which had stagnated over the past two years, as well as deposits.

Bloomberg reported that retail and business banking were the first of Absa's divisions to undergo a management restructuring in June 2018. Analysts believe Mminele won't bring drastic changes but continue with the strategy already in motion.

Gryphon Asset Management's Casparus Treurnicht believes Mminele will, in fact, be well placed to help the bank reconstruct its retail and



Daniel Mminele, who is new CEO of Absa effective January 15

business division. "He has no emotional relationships with existing structures and policies. Resetting (the retail unit) could be strengthened by getting rid of forces working against

the strategy." In Treurnicht's view, the fact that Mminele's experience lies primarily outside of large corporate entities makes "more radical changes less likely."

According to Treurnicht, in addition to dealing with a shrinking mortgage book, the bank is also addressing market share loss which they have suffered in the last decade.

"I am sceptical whether they will succeed. The times we live in will make it hard for the retail segment to recoup clients while Capitec, TymeBank and Discovery are fueling headwinds," said Treurnicht.

Harry Botha, banking analyst at Avior Capital Markets, said Mminele would probably take the next few months to acquaint himself with the business. After all, Absa is a big bank with operations in different jurisdictions, and is also in the middle of executing a new strategy - one in which divisional executives have more power to make their own decisions.

Thereafter, his measure of success will be how he steers Absa through its "Africanity" strategy, which the bank adopted in 2018. "His stepping into the role doesn't disrupt things dramatically now...The key thing is that when the board hired Mminele, it made sure that he was comfortable with the strategy that's in place so that there wouldn't be too much disruption," said Botha.

Mminele's impact remains to be seen. "He comes with regulatory and commercial banking experience but lacks retail banking experience which is the division that requires the most turnaround. He is, however, a safe option," said Mergence Investment Managers analyst Nolwandle Mthombeni.

DBS evacuates 300 Singapore staff after Coronavirus case

SINGAPORE

DBS Group Holdings Ltd. has evacuated 300 employees from an office floor in the heart of Singapore's financial district after one of its workers tested positive for the coronavirus.

Southeast Asia's biggest bank has told the staff members on Level 43 at Marina Bay Financial Centre Tower 3 to work from home for the time being, the company said in a statement. The number of evacuees was given in a memo seen by Bloomberg earlier and confirmed by the bank.

"During this difficult time, the bank will be providing this employee and his family with every support and guidance," it said. "We are also currently conducting detailed contact tracing with all employees and other parties that the infected employee may have come into contact with." DBS is deep-cleaning and disinfecting the affected office space.

The coronavirus had already been detected in Singapore's financial district earlier this week, prompting some companies to send workers home and temperature screening checkpoints to be set up at the entrances of several towers. Singapore has 47 confirmed cases of the disease, according to health ministry figures as of Tuesday. Only Hong Kong has a larger number outside mainland China, excluding an outbreak on a cruise ship quarantined in Yokohama.

The virus that originated in China has now claimed 1,115 lives, all but two on the mainland. Singapore last week raised its disease response level to "orange," the same grade used during the SARS epidemic, as it braced for what Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said was a "major test for our nation."

Care packs

Since the alert, DBS has been doing temperature screening and stepped up cleaning of its premises. Next week it will issue staff with care packs including masks, a thermometer, hand sanitiser and vitamin C, it said in the statement.

"The health and well-being of our staff are a top priority for us, and we will lend them every support to get through these uncertain times," DBS said. The infection comes a day before the bank is scheduled to report fourth-quarter earnings. DBS economists last week cut their forecast for Singapore's gross domestic product by 0.5 percentage point, citing the expected impact of the outbreak on tourism.

DBS has a 30% stake in MBFC Tower 3, which serves as its headquarters. The 46-story property is home to more than 4,800 employees, according to a filing in December 2012. Other tenants include Rio Tinto Group and law firms Clifford Chance and WongPartnership, according to the property's website.

A worker at an unnamed firm in nearby MBFC Tower 1 was confirmed as being infected with the coronavirus over the weekend, and another case was detected at Clifford Centre. That person is an employee of United Industrial Corp., according to an advisory to tenants in the building where UIC is located.

Taha boss buoyed by global market outlook for horticultural products

By The Banker Reporter

MORE markets are opening up for local horticultural produce thanks to Tanzania Horticultural Association's efforts to scout for new outlets for fruits and vegetables.

Taha Group CEO, Dr Jacqueline Mkindi who led a delegation of the association's members to the just ended Fruit Logistica, the world's premier fruits and vegetables fair held in Berlin, Germany, said last week that their participation has opened up new avenues.

"We are simply blessed because our local producers and exporters have closed a number of lucrative deals with overseas buyers at the Fruit Logistica show," Dr Mkindi said upon her arrival. She pointed out that international buyers who were keen on quality and quantity fell in love with locally grown avocados, raspberries, lime and high value vegetables which offers opportunities to local farmers and exporters.

At the Fruit Logistica fair, 15 producers and exporting companies represented the country, under the umbrella of Taha and showcased home-grown fruits and vegetables which also included French beans, peas, baby carrots, sweet melon, spices and herbs like ginger, assorted chilli and mint.

"Apart from signing several strategic partnerships with global horticulture clients on a win win situation, we also marketed Tanzania as a land of myri-



Taha Group CEO, Dr Jacqueline Mkindi (C) in a souvenir photo with members of her delegation which attended Fruit Logistica fair held in Berlin, Germany last week. Photo courtesy of Taha.

ad opportunities for producing and exporting horticulture produce," the Taha chief added.

Buyers were also impressed by the capacity of Taha Fresh Handling Lim-

ited, a local logistic company which handles horticultural commodities from the country being exported to various destinations across the world.

Taha Fresh which is a subsidiary of

Taha Group, is an official member of World Cargo Alliance (WCA) network. The WCA is the world's most powerful lobby of independent freight forwarders with more than 6,473 members in

789 cities and ports worldwide.

Taha Fresh is also part of the 6,473 freight forwarders who are present in over 190 countries worldwide. Dr Mkindi said her next biggest task is to empower producers to increase production of quality horticultural produce to satisfy international market demands and standards.

She further added that the association has signed a partnership agreement with the Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee (COLEACP) to bridge skills gap in collaboration with Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST) and World Vegetable Centre.

COLEACP is an international network promoting sustainable horticultural trade with an objective to actively contribute to the sustainable horticultural trade between ACP-countries and the European Union. "We also have fruitful talks with the GlobalGAP with who we agreed to formalize our partnership to pave way for the organization to build Taha capacity on standards issues," she underlined.

Last year, the global standard setting body accredited Taha to ensure local growers produce in compliance with international market benchmarks. Currently, Taha is a Global Good Agricultural Practice (Global GAP) "Licensed Farm Assurer Company," breathing life into millions of local fresh produces to meet the international stringent safety standards for

commodities.

The Global GAP's move to entrust Taha with the task of carrying out the certifications means that doors are now open for millions of Tanzanian farmers and exporters to exploit global markets.

"The benefits of having Global GAP certification include access to new business opportunities, especially in the European market that consumes 80 percent of local horticultural produce, which translates into higher income earnings because of their certification.

Currently, the industry earns the economy over \$700 million annually, up from \$60 million in 2004, making horticulture a lucrative enterprise with spill over effects such as creating jobs and wealth, as said by Taha Chief Development Manager, Anthony Chamanga.

Thanks to Taha's painstaking efforts to position the nation as a leading producer and exporter in the region with over 2.5 million both large-scale and smallholders farmers moulded into a single bloc fortified by a common set of business oriented interests.

With an annual growth rate of 12 percent, the industry has turned into a growth driver of the entire agriculture sector which has an average growth rate of only 4 percent per annum. "Horticulture's input to overall agrarian exports value has increased by 30 percent on average 1 recent years," Chamanga noted.

Trade sector leads in non-performing loans

KIGALI

Trade sector is leading among industries with the highest Non-Performing Loans (NPLs) ratio, the Central Bank says.

Following last week's Financial Stability Committee sitting, the Central Bank noted that NPLs had generally declined from 6.4 per cent in December 2018 to 4.9 per cent in December 2019.

The Central Bank benchmark of 5 per cent is 5 per cent. The ban observed that the economic performance in 2019 was a key driver in the reduction of NPLs and enabled borrowers improve their debt service capacity.

Valence Kimenyi, the Director of Financial Stability and Monitoring at the Central Bank said that trade was the sector with highest NPLs adding that it could be a consequence of external trade fluctuations currently being experienced globally.

The banking sector's profits went up in 2019 Rwf 76bn from Rwf 57bn in 2018 and Rwf 29bn in 2017. Profits in the Micro-finance sector increased from Rwf 7.3bn in 2018 to Rwf 12 in 2019. New authorized loans in 2019 increased by 20.1 per cent from 17.2 per cent in the previous year.

Insurance sector profits stood at Rwf 7.1bn in December 2019 from Rwf 3.3bn in 2017. Like previous years, the profits was a result of investments in other sectors and not from underwriting where they registered a loss of Rwf 3.4bn. The central Bank expressed concern over the state of affairs saying that reliance and underwriting losses in the motor vehicle and medical insurance products are a major risk to the development of the sector.



Rwanda's Central Bank Governor, John Rwangombwa.

In banking, the major risk was identified as the stock of written-off loans with the Central Bank committing to engage various stakeholders to ensure improvement in the collateral realization process. The process to auction property in the event one is unable

to pay off a loan is currently slow and, if not checked, could negatively affect the stability of local banks.

At the moment, in the event a bank client is unable to pay a loan and the bank intends to auction on the collateral, it involves a lengthy process

which among other things seeking authorization from Rwanda Development Board. According to a number of bankers, the process on average takes over one year, is unpredictable and often has unwarranted interruptions.

Ordinarily, in the event one

is unable to pay off a loan, the collateral is auctioned following the approval of Rwanda Development Board. However, in some instances, bank clients often go to court to stop the process it leads to months of court cases further delaying the process.

Goldman Sachs to raise \$8bn for new buyout fund

NEW YORK

Goldman Sachs plans to raise \$8 billion in only its second buyout fund since the 2008 financial crisis, bolstering its ability to secure deals worldwide, said two people with direct knowledge of the matter.

Undeterred by a coronavirus epidemic in China that has cast a shadow over the global economy, the Wall Street heavyweight will kick off the fundraising next week via its private equity arm West Street

Capital Partners, said the people.

The fast-spreading virus is not seen as a hurdle to the fundraising as the bank is mainly targeting offshore, non-Chinese prospective investors, said one of the people.

It is aiming for a first close by the end of March - an important milestone indicating the fund has crossed a minimum threshold and can begin making investments, said the other person. The new fund, substantially smaller than

Goldman's biggest fund of \$20bn in 2007, underscored its commitment to the private equity business.

Many banks, including Citigroup and JPMorgan Chase, have spun out or divested their private equity arms in recent years following the adoption of the Volcker Rule, which limited banks from investing their own balance sheets in funds.

Private equity firms have also been raising record amounts of capital globally, with Blackstone Group, the

world largest alternative asset manager, last year raising a record \$26bn for its latest buyout fund.

Goldman's new fund will focus on deals where it gets majority control, with the goal of deploying 60 per cent of the capital in America, said the first person. It also plans to make about 25 investments in various sectors, with the deal size ranging between \$150 million and \$600m. Like its last fund - West Street Capital Partners VII that raised about \$7bn in 2017 - the new fund

will seek capital from both institutional investors and the bank's own employees, said the person.

Goldman declined to comment. The sources declined to be identified as they were not authorised to speak to the media. Goldman's private equity arm, established in 1986, has been managed by its merchant banking division. It has raised about \$47bn since inception across eight funds, according to industry data provider Preqin.

US Fed says coronavirus spread to have spillover effects on global economy

NEW YORK

Spillover effects from the novel coronavirus present a new risk to the global economy, the US Federal Reserve said in its latest monetary policy report.

The Fed said in a bi-annual report to the Congress that the global economy and the US could be further affected due to the Chinese economy's size. "Downside risks to the US outlook seem to have receded in the latter part of the year, as the conflicts over trade policy diminished somewhat, economic growth abroad showed signs of stabilising, and financial conditions eased," the bank said.

"More recently, possible spillovers from the effects of the coronavirus in China have presented a new risk to the outlook," the report said. The rapid spread of the virus, which has so far claimed 722 lives and infected around 35,000 people, brought China - the world's second-largest economy - to a virtual standstill as Beijing rushed to contain the epidemic by enforcing a lockdown on domestic travel.

As a result, the country's economy is expected to continue to slide, like in 2019 - which was primarily a consequence of its trade war with the US. China, which accounted for 20 per cent of global manufacturing output in 2018, is expected to see its annual gross domestic product slide to 5 per cent from 5.7 per cent due to the economic fallout from the virus, S&P Global Ratings predicts. In a bid to boost its economy, China's government injected 1.2tn yuan into financial markets last week, in addition to lowering interest rates on reverse repurchase agreements by 10 basis points.

Beijing also halted tariffs on \$75bn worth of US goods as a result of a phase one trade deal with the US last month. Goods earlier taxed at 10 per cent will be levied a 5 per cent fee, while those having a tariff of 5 per cent will now have a 2.5 per cent duty from February 14 onwards. The US is also expected to reciprocate, rolling back some of its tariffs on Chinese goods.

The Fed also noted that the spillover from the coronavirus further weakened the outlook of Asian economies which have been hit by political unrest in Hong Kong, slow growth in India and trade tensions with the US. While it was "premature" to speculate about the economic impact of the epidemic, China's economy will most certainly be affected in the first quarter, the International Monetary Fund's chief Kristalina Georgieva said last month.

"It would be irresponsible to offer any speculations around what may happen. What I can do is refer to a similar case of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, [or] the SARS epidemics. What happened then was indeed a slow-down in the short term and then rebalancing of economic growth," she said. SARS refers to a strain of coronavirus with similar origins in China that claimed 774 lives between 2002 and 2003.

Former IMF chief Christine Lagarde, who currently heads the European Central Bank, also cited the virus threat as a new risk to the economic outlook, replacing the US-China trade war. "While the threat of a trade war between the US and China appears to have receded, the coronavirus adds a new layer of uncertainty," Ms Lagarde said on Thursday.



It would be irresponsible to offer any speculations around what may happen. What I can do is refer to a similar case of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, [or] the SARS epidemics. What happened then was indeed a slow-down in the short term and then rebalancing of economic growth

WORLD

Vaccine for coronavirus could be ready in 18 months, says WHO

GENEVA

The World Health Organization (WHO) on Tuesday announced a new name of the deadly novel coronavirus disease and said the vaccines to the novel coronavirus could be available in 18 months.

The novel coronavirus disease now has an official name COVID-19, which stands for the coronavirus disease originated in 2019, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said at a press briefing in Geneva on Tuesday.

Under the guidelines of the WHO, the World Organization for Animal Health, and Food and Agriculture Organization, the name for the disease has to avoid reference to a geographic location, an animal, an individual, or group of people, Tedros said.

"Having a name matters to prevent the use of other names that can be inaccurate or stigmatizing; it also gives us a standard format to use for any future coronavirus outbreaks," he added.

Despite the ongoing global research effort, the WHO chief estimated that it

could take 18 months for the first COVID-19 vaccines to be ready.

For the moment, he recommends basic precaution measures for the public such as washing hands regularly either with alcohol-based drop or soap, keeping distance from people who are coughing or sneezing, and covering the mouth and nose with tissue or the elbow when coughing or sneezing.

While reiterating that now is a window opportunity to fight the disease as most of the cases have so far remained in China, Tedros also expressed his concerns for the virus to spread to the countries with weaker public health system, which he said "will create havoc."

He said that as time passes, his confidence in stopping the outbreak will depend on the strength of measures taken, hence asking all countries to be "as aggressive as possible" and not to allow the virus "have a space" for regional transmission.

At Tuesday's briefing, the WHO also announced that it will initiate a UN Crisis Management Team against the vi-



The World Health Organization holds a press conference in Geneva, Switzerland, on Tuesday. (Xinhua)

rus, while bringing in other UN agencies.

To fast-track the global research on the disease, a two-day WHO-coordinated research and innovation forum was held in Geneva on Tuesday to gather about 400 scientists and researchers as well as some 25 funders from around world to discuss a priority research agenda for the COVID-19 outbreak.

The event, organized in collaboration with the Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness, focuses on pursuing critical research and the development of vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, among other innovations.

The participants, either attending in person or online, are expected to shape a roadmap to prioritize the areas and questions of research that need to be addressed in urgency.

According to Soumya Swaminathan, WHO chief

scientist, it is very fortunate to have doctors from the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention at the forum online to present the data of research already initiated in China.

"Measures in China (are) incredible, unprecedented, from which we can learn a lot of how this kind of outbreak is handled," she said, adding that as more data comes in a few months, "we will be able to learn a lot of lessons about the quarantine and travel restriction, and how effective those are."

She also appreciated China's sharing of the genetic sequence of the virus, which helped other countries to quickly detect and prepare for the virus.

"Early data sharing really helps save lives," she said, commending and congratulating China for being that open and transparent.

Xinhua

Merkel allies press for swift resolution of succession question

BERLIN

SENIOR members of Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservatives called on Tuesday for a swift decision on who should lead the party and be its next chancellor candidate after her protégée Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer threw in the towel.



Kramp-Karrenbauer said on Monday she would give up the party chair as well as her ambitions of running for chancellor, as she believed one person should do both. She would organize a process to fill both roles in the summer.

But Alexander Dobrindt, chief lawmaker of the Christian Social Union (CSU), the Bavarian sister party of Merkel's Christian Democrats (CDU), said the so-called "Union" conservative bloc must find a much swifter solution.

"In my opinion, such leadership questions must be resolved quickly," Dobrindt said. "We need decisions now to make things clearer."

CDU deputy leader Volker Bouffier also put Kramp-Karrenbauer's timetable into question. "I don't think we're going to wait that long, we'll find a decision sooner," Bouffier told public radio broadcaster ARD.

CDU parliamentary group leader Ralph Brinkhaus warned that a prolonged leadership debate could hamper the ruling coalition's work. The party should not rush the decision, but definitely avoid a delay until autumn or even winter, he said.

Kramp-Karrenbauer had faced growing doubt over her suitability to replace Merkel, who has led Germany for 15 years but plans to stand down at the federal election due in autumn 2021.

Last week, Kramp-Karrenbauer's inability to impose discipline on the CDU in the eastern state of Thuringia dealt a further blow to her credibility, which had been eroded by a series of gaffes.

The regional CDU branch defied her by endorsing a local political leader helped into office by the anti-immigrant Alternative for Germany (AfD), shattering a postwar consensus among established parties on shunning the far-right.

Agencies

Egypt proposes joint force to fight terrorism on African continent

CAIRO

EGYPTIAN President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi has said Egypt is ready to host a special African summit to discuss setting up an African force to fight terrorism on the continent.

The Egyptian president made the remarks during a televised speech on Sunday during the opening ceremony of the 33rd African Union (AU) Summit in Addis Ababa.

During a closed session, African leaders proposed to convene a special African summit to discuss a counter-terrorism African force, al-Sisi (pictured) said.

"I affirm Egypt is ready to host this special African summit stemming from its responsibility and belief in the importance of this proposed force to achieve peace and security in Africa," al-Sisi said.

Three main reasons were behind the proposal of the establishment of African anti-terrorism force, according to Hesham Halby,

an Egyptian military expert at Nasser Military Academy.

First of all, some African countries still suffer the deteriorations of civil wars and don't have the military capabilities to uproot terrorism, said Halby.

Secondly, the mobility among the borders between the African countries facilitated the spread of the cross-border terrorism, like what is happening in the Sahel and Sahara countries that would impact Egypt and Sudan, he said.

The third reason is generated by that fact that the African countries are currently witnessing large flows of investment and development momentum that require secured stability, he added.

"Terrorism is one of the basic threats for Africa," Halby, also a member of the Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs, told Xinhua, adding that it is difficult to initiate or continue any developmental projects in the continent without security.



"Establishing an African force to eliminate terrorism will be a point of strength because the solution will be applied by African people, which will make the operations sustainable," Halby told Xinhua. He pointed out that Africa will be ready to establish the force

when the political willingness is provided, warning that there is no alternative except for foreign intervention.

He added the anti-terrorism force does not have to be very large but should have some special formation that suits to fight the threats of terrorism, noting that Egypt has rich experience in this regard.

"Africa doesn't enjoy the luxury of waiting or choosing because it has to fight the infiltration of some present terrorist groups like Boko Haram in Nigeria to its neighbors," he said.

Meanwhile, Tariq Fahmy, a political professor at Cairo University, said the timing of proposing the establishment of the force is significant as Egypt is fighting the Islamic State on its lands, especially in Sinai Peninsula.

Fahmy suggested that some north and central African countries could share intelligence about terrorists and the proposal

could succeed as long as implementation tools are provided.

The idea is very "practical," said Samir Ragheb, head of the Cairo-based Arab Institution for Strategic and Development Studies, referring to the Sahel-Saharan force supported by Egypt for fighting terrorism in Mauritania, Mali, Chad, Burkina Faso and Niger.

He pointed out that Egypt has already started training forces in Sahel and Sahara countries as well as implemented a mechanism for intelligence cooperation and transfer of expertise.

In June 2019, the Egyptian army conducted a military training in Mohamed Naguib military base at the Mediterranean Sea for the Sahel and Sahara countries on means of combating terrorism.

In July 2018, Egypt established its counter-terrorism center in Cairo for the regional community of Sahel-Sharan states.

Xinhua

US says Duterte's move to scrap defence pact is 'unfortunate'

By Bloomberg

THE US said the Philippines' move to terminate a 22-year-old military agreement, which can be ended with 180-days notice, was "unfortunate".

Scrapping the 1998 Visiting Forces Agreement -- which sets the terms for joint exercises and engagement of American soldiers in the Philippines -- would be the first concrete step by the Philippines to cut defence ties with the US.

Pentagon chief Mark Esper said Wednesday it was "a move in the

wrong direction" for the "long-standing relationship" between the two countries and for the Philippines' strategic location.

It's a shift that President Rodrigo Duterte had signaled since his six-year term started in 2016 as he realigned his foreign policy toward China. The Philippines and the US signed a mutual defense treaty in 1951 which binds the nations to defend each other, if attacked.

"Trump, and the others, are trying to save the Visiting Forces Agreement," Duterte said in a speech in Manila on Monday night



referring to the US president. "I said, I don't want it," he said according to the official transcript. Win for China

Scrapping the military deal will bring the Southeast Asian nation closer to China, as US support for Philippine military will likely be reduced, said Malcolm Cook, senior fellow at ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute in Singapore.

"As with many other decisions made by President Duterte, China appears to be the biggest winner and Philippine external security the biggest loser," Cook said.

The Philippines may find it difficult to access millions of dollars in military aid, and trade relations may also be hurt once the pact is

terminated, Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin said last week. Joint military activities -- including training for thousands of Philippine and American soldiers -- will also be severely curtailed, he added.

The 74-year-old Duterte revived his threats to end the military pact with the America last month after the US canceled the visa of his former police chief who oversaw his deadly drug war. Duterte said the nation's military ties with the US didn't solve the decades-long communist insurgency.

Agencies



Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky

Zelensky ready to meet with Putin if necessary, presidential office says

KIEV,

Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky is ready to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin if this is necessary, but no talks on the issue are underway now, new Ukrainian Presidential Office Head Andrei Yermak said yesterday.

"Speaking about the meeting with Putin, it's up to President Zelensky to make this decision. If he sees that this meeting is necessary and that it could become a step towards achieving a real outcome of talks in the Normandy format, we are not ruling this out.

But so far no talks on the issue have been held," Yermak told reporters, answering a question if the two leaders could meet before the summit of the Normandy Four (Russia, Ukraine, France and Germany) scheduled for April.

Earlier Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov announced that the Russian and Ukrainian leaders had established a working contact.

The first phone conversation between Putin and Zelensky was held on July 11, 2019, a month and a half after Zelensky's inauguration.

The two leaders talked over the phone several times. Their first meeting was held on December 9 at the Paris summit of the Normandy Four group.

Agencies

Sanders narrowly wins in New Hampshire Democratic primary

MANCHESTER, NH

BERNIE Sanders narrowly won New Hampshire's Democratic presidential primary on Tuesday, solidifying his front-runner status in the White House race and dealing a setback to moderate rival Joe Biden, who finished a disappointing fifth.

Pete Buttigieg, the former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, who narrowly edged out Sanders in last week's messy Iowa caucuses, came in a close second, after splitting much of the centrist vote with Senator Amy Klobuchar.

Sanders, a progressive senator from neighboring Vermont, prevailed after fending off attacks from rivals who

warned his left-wing views would lead the party to defeat in the Nov 3 election against Republican President Donald Trump.

"This victory here is the beginning of the end for Donald Trump," Sanders told supporters in Manchester, New Hampshire.

In a sign of the growing rivalry between Sanders, the 78-year-old self-professed democratic socialist, and Buttigieg, a 38-year-old moderate, Sanders' supporters booed and chanted "Wall Street Pete!" when Buttigieg's post-primary speech was shown on screens.

It was also a good night for Klobuchar, who rode a wave of momentum from a strong debate on Friday into a

third-place finish. But Senator Elizabeth Warren, who was considered a favorite in New Hampshire until a few months ago, finished fourth, which cast further doubt over her continued viability as the progressive alternative to Sanders.

The results provided no clear answers for Democrats trying to decide whether their best choice to challenge Trump would be a moderate like Buttigieg, Klobuchar or Biden, or a progressive like Sanders and Warren, who represents neighboring Massachusetts.

Turnout in New Hampshire approached the record 287,000 who cast ballots in the 2008 Democratic primary, when the battle between Barack



Obama and Hillary Clinton energized the party. That could ease Democratic concerns about the smaller-than-ex-

pected turnout in Iowa.

Biden, the former vice president who was once the front-runner in the Democratic race, limped to his second consecutive poor finish after placing fourth in Iowa. He is certain to face growing questions about his campaign's staying power and his ability to consolidate moderate support against a surging Buttigieg and Klobuchar.

He also faces competition from Michael Bloomberg, the billionaire former New York mayor who is skipping the four early voting states in February and pouring resources into much larger, delegate-rich states such as California that will vote on March 3, known as Super Tuesday.

Sanders had 26 percent of the vote

and Buttigieg had 25 percent with more than 91 percent of precincts reporting. Klobuchar had 20 percent, Warren 9 percent and Biden 8 percent.

Biden fared poorly in two previous runs for president before winning election in 2008 as President Barack Obama's No. 2. He hopes to stay afloat this time until the Feb. 29 contest in South Carolina and a series of contests in other Southern states on Super Tuesday, where his support among African Americans will be a strength.

Without strong showings there, his race could be over.

"It ain't over, man. It's just getting started," an energetic Biden told supporters in South Carolina. Agencies

Nations should join forces in fight against virus, says Rand adviser



Dr. Jennifer Bouey

WASHINGTON

SENIOR policy researcher and Tang Chair in China Policy Studies at the RAND Corporation, Dr. Jennifer Bouey, said during an interview with People's Daily that the coronavirus outbreak was a "battle between humans and viruses, not between people, not between countries."

The fight against coronavirus pandemics highlight the importance of prioritizing global health research and increase openness and cooperation among scientists worldwide.

As an epidemiologist focused on global health and health strategies, Bouey has taught at Georgetown University and participated in studies on global health security issues in the US and China.

Since the SARS outbreak, China's response capabilities during a pandemic and its health management system have improved significantly. The country has invested in a nationwide network consisting of disease control centers at every level, Bouey noted.

The centers are connected by a real-time, web-based system for emerging public health events.

"The coronavirus is the most serious test for China's strengthened epidemic surveillance and response systems since new measures were implemented after the SARS outbreak," Bouey said.

Following the outbreak of the novel coronavirus, China and WHO officials began communicating with each other to share the disease's genetic sequence in efforts to prevent and control the epidemic.

Bouey said that because Chinese scientists isolated the coronavirus they could conduct genomic sequencing experiments and share their findings with the world in such a short period. Their efforts helped identify the virus and enabled China and other countries to develop early detection testing kits.

"This was a very important step in controlling the outbreak, the Chinese scientists in this regard are doing very well," Bouey said.

The World Health Organization

(WHO) classified the outbreak as a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) while stressing that travel and trade restrictions would be unnecessary. Since then, a few countries have implemented so-called "travel bans," barring Chinese from entering their countries.

Bouey said travel bans are an overreaction based on multiple factors, would have huge social and economic impacts, and would not be an effective response to the outbreak.

"A travel ban does not protect a country from the virus. It gives the illusion that it can be contained in China, which it isn't," she explained.

As for the growing discrimination against Chinese due to coronavirus in other countries and regions, Bouey said this phenomenon should be condemned. As Bouey explained, epidemic disease outbreaks are often accompanied by rumors and discrimination and lack a scientific basis, stigma, and prejudice.

Also, punitive remarks preclude a sense of goodwill and more than likely undermine transparency, making the disease harder to combat.

"The coronavirus is a threat to all human beings, not to a particular country or nation, and international cooperation is needed to deal with it," Bouey elaborated.

History has revealed that China and the US maintained strong communication and cooperation in the fight against SARS, H5N1, H1N1, H7N9, influenza, and Ebola, and have made great contributions to the progress of human health, said Bouey.

Looking forward, Bouey said that in a globalized environment, the distance between countries is very small. The unfolding battle against this new pandemic, meanwhile, highlights the importance of transparency and open collaboration among scientists globally.

"It is a reminder that all nations should prioritize, and protect global health research, capacity building and cooperation," she said.

People's Daily

Russia cannot just sit and wait for further developments in Syria's Idlib – diplomat

MOSCOW

RUSSIA cannot just sit and wait for further developments in Syria's Idlib where terrorists shell Syrian army's positions daily, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Department of International Organizations Pyotr Ilyichev said on Tuesday at the opening ceremony of the 9th session of the United Nations Model at the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In response to a question on how the latest developments in Idlib affect Russian-Turkish relations, Ilyichev reminded about the memorandum

on the de-escalation zone in Idlib from September 2018 which "reiterates, firstly, respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity of the Syrian Arab Republic, and that the agreement on establishing a security zone in Idlib is temporary."

"Furthermore, there were very important details, according to which Turkey pledged to disengage moderate opposition from terrorists, pledged to create a demilitarized zone, pledged to ensure free access to two national highways – M-4 and M-5. Over the last one-and-a-half years, nothing was done," he added.

"We understand difficulties that our

Turkish partners face. However, the positions of Syrian forces, the positions of Russian forces – the Hmeimim air base, drone attacks – come under fire daily," he noted. "We cannot just sit and wait what will happen in Idlib next," he stressed.

The situation in Idlib escalated after Russian and Turkish military made another attempt to introduce a ceasefire regime but terrorists only stepped up their attacks.

As a result, Russian and Turkish military specialists were killed. In response, the Syrian army took control over the city of Saraqib in Idlib province on February 5.

Agencies



Abbas rejects US Mideast peace plan at UN Security Council meeting

UNITED NATIONS

PALESTINIAN President Mahmoud Abbas on Tuesday reiterated the rejection of a newly released U.S. Middle East peace plan, calling it an "Israeli-American proposal."

"I have come to you on behalf of 13 million Palestinians to call for a just peace. That is all. I have come to you today to reaffirm the Palestinian position that rejects the Israeli-American proposal," Abbas told the UN Security Council, which met to discuss the U.S. plan.

The rejection of this plan reaffirms, or is the result of its unilateral steps and the fact that it violates international legitimacy and the Arab Peace Initiative, said Abbas.

"It annuls the legitimacy of Palestinian rights, our rights to self-determination, freedom, and independence in our own state. It legitimized what is illegal: settlements and confiscation of land, and annexation of Palestinian land."

"I would like to reaffirm that this plan or any part in this plan should not be considered as an international reference for negotiations," he said. "This is an Israeli-American preemptive plan in order to put an end to the question of Palestine. It was rejected by us because it considers that East Jerusalem is no longer under the sovereignty of the state of Palestine. That alone is enough for us to reject this plan."

He warned that the plan would put an end to the question of Palestinian refugees. It will end all basis for a peace plan. It means the rejection of all agreements and obligations to establish two states along the pre-1967 lines, said Abbas.

"This plan will not bring peace or stability to the region. And therefore, we will not accept this plan. We will confront its application on the ground."

Showing a copy of a map of the U.S.-proposed two-state solution for Israel and Palestine, Abbas said it looks like a piece of "Swiss cheese," which features large holes.

"This is the summary of the project that was presented to us. This is the state that they will give us. It's like a Swiss cheese, really," said Abbas.

"Who among you will accept a similar state and similar conditions?" he asked. The U.S. plan includes the entrenchment of occupation and annexation by military force and the strengthening of "the apartheid regime," said Abbas. "This plan rewards the occupation, instead of holding it accountable for all the crimes it perpetrated against our people and our land."

"In this difficult time and before it is too late, I would like to say to (U.S. President) Mr. Donald Trump that the proposed American deal cannot achieve peace and security, because it canceled international legitimacy," said Abbas.

"Who can cancel international legitimacy, international legitimacy, who can annul and cancel it? President Trump did so. It cancels all resolutions of international legitimacy. It cancels all the rights of the Palestinian people. It even decided that East Jerusalem is no longer part of the Palestinian sovereignty. This does not meet the aspirations of a two-state solution (for) Israel and Palestine."

Xinhua

Businessman Andrew Yang ends eclectic presidential bid

WASHINGTON

ANDREW Yang, an entrepreneur whose unlikely White House bid evolved into a serious campaign thanks to grassroots enthusiasm, pulled out of the Democratic presidential race on Tuesday after New Hampshire delivered him a second straight poor showing.

Yang, 45, who ran for president despite having no political background, surprised many observers by qualifying for debates and remaining in the contest longer than some veteran politicians.

The Ivy League-educated son of Taiwanese immigrants, who was bidding to be the country's first Asian-American president, launched his long-shot candidacy in 2017 as a virtual unknown.

Yang's signature proposal, a universal basic income that would pay every American US\$1,000 a month, was his answer to the "fourth industrial revolution," the rise of automation that he said destroyed millions of manufacturing jobs and, as a consequence, paved the way for Donald Trump's 2016 election.

Yang told supporters in New Hampshire on Tuesday night he would support whoever wins the Democratic nomination to take on Trump in November, while continuing to push his own message.

"This is just the starting line. This campaign has awakened something fundamental in this country and ourselves," he said.

On the trail, Yang warned that automation would hit major industries like retail, customer service and trucking. He noted that technology companies were paying almost no taxes despite profiting from people's personal data, and vowed to impose new taxes on tech giants to finance his "Freedom Dividend."

Supporters said they were drawn to Yang's diagnosis of the country's problems, saying it resonated much more



Democratic presidential hopeful tech entrepreneur Andrew Yang

than a typical politician's speech. His devoted followers, fueled in part by his campaign's savvy use of social media, called themselves the "Yang Gang."

He had long pointed to New Hampshire as a natural place for him to succeed given its large proportion of independent voters. But the results on Tuesday - and last week in Iowa - made it unlikely he could raise enough money to continue campaigning.

As senators and governors saw their campaigns fizzle in what was the largest field of presidential candidates in U.S. history, Yang qualified for almost every debate thanks to a broad donor base and solid polling figures.

He was fond of noting he was the "opposite" of Donald Trump: "An Asian guy who likes math."

He often sported a MATH hat, which also stood for "Make America Think Harder."

He was a funny and amiable presence on the campaign trail, cracking jokes and occasionally breaking into dance.

At a CNN town hall in New Hampshire last week, Yang got several questions from undecided voters until he finally smiled and said, "One of you should just pretend to be for me," drawing laughs from the crowd.

Agencies

UN official calls on all parties to stand united against epidemic, and to avoid stigmatisation and discrimination

UNITED Nations Resident Coordinator Nicholas Rosellini on Thursday delivered a message to encourage China to fight against the coronavirus outbreak, calling on all parties to stand united, offer support and avoid the stigmatisation of Chinese people and other victims of the situation. The following is the whole message

To all my friends across China,

At this difficult time, we need to come together in common humanity, we need to stand together in compassion and solidarity.

I understand you will be feeling anxious about the current outbreak

of the 2019 novel coronavirus.

But I urge all of you to follow the guidance from The World Health Organization and stay positive!

At the United Nations, we are working together with the government and partners to procure much needed medical supplies and resources.

We are also discussing how best to support China with the longer-term socio-economic impacts. In particular, we stand by to support the recovery of the health and education systems, which are under tremendous strain.

As we continue our effort to sup-

port poverty reduction across China, we will also give special attention to vulnerable groups.

Hi I also want to take this opportunity to commend all the frontline health and emergency service workers who are working tirelessly to respond to the outbreak.

And I wish all of you who are unwell a speedy recovery.

To the world, I want to emphasize the need for international solidarity, and to support China and those other countries that might be impacted in these difficult circumstances.

Importantly, we must avoid the

stigmatisation of people that victims of the situation.

As the UN secretary-general has said: "At this time of heightened anxiety, we must avoid discrimination, and stand together in solidarity and compassion."

I urge everyone to follow the advice of the government of China and "stay calm, rest assured, and stay confident."

At the UN we are working very closely with the Chinese authorities.

We continue to have confidence in China's capacity to respond this outbreak.

I urge all of you to follow the guidance of WHO:

To greet each other without physical contact,

maintain a distance of one meter between you and others, wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use hand sanitizer, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and finally, when you wear a mask, learn how to put in on, take it off and dispose of it correctly.

Zhongguo jia you!
Wuhan jia you!

People's Daily

Coronavirus outbreak is not an opportunity to score points against China

ON Feb. 1, Cui Tiankai, China's ambassador to the United States, gave a talk at a UC San Diego forum on China-US relations.

In his remarks at the forum, the ambassador said that the prevention and control of the coronavirus outbreak in China is the top priority for the country and that the well-being of people always comes first.

He stressed that China is doing whatever it can and using whatever means it must to curb the spread of the coronavirus and treat those affected.

The ambassador also emphasized that China is doing all this not just for the health and safety of the

Chinese people, but for the health and safety of the entire global community.

He pointed out that the fight against the coronavirus once again shows that we live in a shared community where all of us are in this together.

China has taken extraordinary measures to combat the coronavirus outbreak.

The entire country has gone into battle mode to combat it. In Wuhan, the epicenter of the coronavirus outbreak, China recently completed the construction of a 1,000-bed emergency hospital in days and a second 1,600-bed hospital is under construction.

The People's Liberation Army has also set up medical teams to help local medical staff in this battle.

The coronavirus is only one of many health threats that we face as a global community and China is moving mountains to contain it. The H1N1 influenza virus that originated in the United States in 2009, for example, killed an estimated 151,700-575,400 people worldwide during the first year the virus circulated, according to official estimates.

The United States did not do enough to stop the global spread of H1N1 but it has done too much in response to the novel corona-



virus outbreak in terms of restrictions, which is more harmful than helpful.

Many believe that the US response to the coronavirus outbreak has set a bad example for

other countries and created unnecessary fear and anxiety. The United States had raised its advisory for China to Level 4, telling Americans not to travel to China and for those currently in China to attempt to depart as soon as possible. It has also banned the entry of all foreign nationals who have been to China in the last 14 days, which goes against the recommendation of the World Health Organization that there should not be any travel or trade restrictions.

All countries should take appropriate defensive measures in times of uncertainty to protect the health and safety of their citizens, but we should also be careful

not to heighten fears around the world, fueling a wave of panic and overreaction and a wave of racism and xenophobia.

To add insult to injury, certain US officials see the misfortune as an opportunity to score points against China. Around the time that WHO declared the coronavirus outbreak a public health emergency of international concern, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo attacked the Communist Party of China, calling it "the central threat of our times," even though China's ruling party is going all out to lead the fight against the outbreak, and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross suggested that the coronavirus a

good thing, saying that it will "help" to accelerate the return of American jobs.

Unnecessary panic and cruel and heartless comments will do nothing to help contain the virus and will only heighten negative feelings, including racism and hostility. As the Chinese ambassador pointed out in his remarks, we must guard against any "political viruses" that prevent the two largest countries from joining hands to meet shared challenges.

We cannot let unnecessary panic or malicious agendas to control the response to a problem that requires all of us to work together.

People's Daily

The
Guardian

SPORT



Dar es Salaam basketball players take part in training at Jakaya Kikwete Youth Park courts in the city on Tuesday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA



Junior soccer players showcase their skills in a training session at Jakaya Kikwete Youth Park in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA



SportPesa's Chairman of Board of Directors, Tarimba Abbas (2nd L), hands over foodstuff to Ruangwa District Commissioner, Hashimu Mgandwila (2nd R), in Lindi recently. SportPesa, who sponsor Lindi's Namungo FC which takes part in this season's Vodacom Premier League, offered the foodstuff as relief aid to the region's people that were affected by floods. Abbas noted at the handover ceremony his company has been saddened by the tragic event and is joining hands with the government to reach out to at least about 100 families with some necessities specifically food in an effort to rebuild their lives. He as well called upon other stakeholders to join hands with the government to see how best they can support the affected people. Standing (C) is Namungo FC chairman, Hassan Zidada, Lindi regional authority official (R), and one of Namungo FC players. PHOTO: SPORTPESA

Harden, Westbrook help Rockets beat Celtics 116-105

HOUSTON

AFTER James Harden and Russell Westbrook combined for 78 points Tuesday night, Harden was asked just how dangerous this combination can be when it gets rolling.

"It's pretty scary," Harden said. Harden scored 42 points, Westbrook had 36 and Houston snapped Boston's seven-game win streak with a 116-105 victory over the Celtics in a game that showcased the Rockets' dynamic small-ball lineup.

Harden had eight rebounds and seven assists and Westbrook finished with 10 rebounds and five assists as the Rockets used a starting lineup without a true center after trading Clint Capela last week.

"It's helping both of them," coach Mike D'Antoni said. "It should. It opens up the floor for them. Both of them are great drivers and great finishers ... and it should trickle down to everybody else, too."

Houston broke it open with a 15-2 run that made it 116-98 with about two minutes left. Harden scored six points during the decisive stretch, and Danuel House had five.

Boston had two turnovers and missed numerous shots to allow the Rockets to turn the close game into one where D'Antoni cleared the bench for the last minute with the game well in hand.

"Harden was great ... and Westbrook was great," Boston coach Brad Stevens said. "Those guys are two of the best in the world and they showed it again tonight."

The Rockets enjoyed a big advantage at the line, going 37 for 42 compared to 20 for 25 for the Celtics. Harden made 17 of 18 foul shots.

Gordon Hayward had 20 points in Boston's first loss since Jan. 26. Jaylen Brown scored 19, and Jayson Tatum had 15 on 5-for-15 shooting.

Westbrook, who is in his first season in Houston after a trade from Oklahoma City, is excited for the possibilities for this lineup once they have more experience with it.

"We can be pretty successful," he said. "We've just got to find ways to continue to be effective, efficient and make the right plays."

Harden, who scored 19 points in



Houston Rockets' James Harden (13) drives toward the basket as Boston Celtics' Kemba Walker defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020, in Houston. (AP Photo)

the third quarter to help Houston take control, picked up his fifth foul with about eight minutes left. But he was able to stay in the game and avoid fouling out.

Robert Covington had 12 points and seven rebounds in his fourth game since he was acquired as part of the four-team trade that sent Capela to the Hawks.

The Rockets were up by seven with about eight minutes left when Harden picked up three fouls in about 30 seconds. The Celtics then closed to 96-94 on Brown's 3-pointer and a dunk by Tatum with 5:40 to go.

But Houston made five straight free throws to push the lead to 101-94 before making the big run to put the game away.

Meanwhile, in New Orleans, Zion Williamson has recorded his first 30-point performance just nine games into his NBA career.

Williamson scored 31 points in barely 28 minutes on the court, and the New Orleans Pelicans used a dominant second half to defeat the Portland Trail Blazers 138-117 on Tuesday night.

"I expect to make an impact but I don't expect to do nothing like this," Williamson said in his usual, grinning, affable manner. "I just kind of look to come in, just kind of fit in, just not try to mess up, but my teammates and coaches are always pushing me."

"I do hold myself to high expectations, but I think it's just finding the line between reality and dreams," Williamson added. "If my teammates find me, they find me. If not, just got to make another play, get the rebound and just play defense."

Williamson used his 6-foot-6, 285-pound frame, quick feet and explosive vertical to have his way with every defender Portland tried against him. Williamson was either too strong, too fast, or both. He mixed spinning dribbles and sudden baseline drives into his usual arsenal of soaring transition dunks and tenacious putbacks. Six of his nine rebounds came on the offensive end.

"I don't really think he's comparable to anyone that I have seen," Portland forward Carmelo Anthony said of Williamson. "Someone who is as

powerful as that, who jumps like that ... you can tell he's getting better and getting a feel for the game."

J Redick scored 20 for New Orleans, which trailed by as many as 16 in the first quarter before taking command en route to a third straight victory. Josh Hart's 17 points included an alley-oop dunk set up by Williamson's lob in transition.

"It's kind of scary to see how good he is this early," Hart said.

Jrue Holiday contributed 16 points and 10 assists for New Orleans, while Lonzo Ball added 10 points and 10 assists.

Portland star Damian Lillard scored 20 points – less than half of his 42-point average over his previous 10 games. But his playing time was limited in the fourth quarter when the Pelicans, who led by as many as 26, had put the game out of reach.

CJ McCollum had 20 points for the Trail Blazers, and Anthony finished with 18, but just four after halftime. Hassan Whiteside had 17 points and 14 rebounds.

AP

Tiger's pursuit resumes for No. 83 at Riviera

LOS ANGELES

THERE is no better place for Tiger Woods to set the PGA Tour record for most career victories than at Riviera.

Because this is where he played his first PGA Tour event as a 16-year-old amateur?

No.

Because he now is tournament host of the Genesis Invitational, giving it the kind of elevated status – smaller field, bigger purse – enjoyed only by Jack Nicklaus at the Memorial and the late Arnold Palmer at Bay Hill?

Not necessarily.

Because it's the course Woods has played the most times – 10 as a professional – without ever having won and he's due?

Not at all.

What makes Riviera ideal is because it's the next one on his schedule. And the sooner Woods can win No. 83 to break the record he shares with Sam Snead, the sooner everyone can stop speculating about the inevitable.

The question came up Tuesday – how could it not? – about how special it would be for Woods to set the record at Riviera. He interjected by saying with a smile, "Yes, that's been mentioned."

It was mentioned three weeks ago at Torrey Pines when he started the new year, and that made just as much sense. Torrey Pines was the first PGA Tour event he attended with his father, the course where he won eight times, including that 2008 U.S. Open that he played with a double stress fracture and shredded knee ligaments.

Then again, Woods has left such an enormous trail in golf that winning anywhere would have some historical perspective.



Tiger Woods holds up the ball after putting the fourth hole of the South Course at Torrey Pines Golf Course during the final round of the Farmers Insurance golf tournament Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020, in San Diego. (AP Photo)

It could be Bay Hill, where he has won eight times. Maybe the Masters, where he could set the record and tie Jack Nicklaus with a sixth green jacket. The U.S. Open is at Winged Foot, the first major he played after his father died and the first cut he ever missed in a major.

It's a long list.

Woods hasn't decided where he is playing or even how much this year – even the Mexico Championship next week remains up in the air – but odds are he will have won every tournament on his schedule except L.A.

Oddly enough, what made the career record feel so inevitable was a tournament he had never played.

Winning the Tour Championship (for the third time) at the end of the 2018 season was the first step in his comeback from four back surgeries. Winning the Masters (for the fifth time) made the comeback complete,

for it was his first major after a drought of nearly 11 years.

But it was when he returned from a fifth knee surgery – this one the maintenance variety – and played the ZoZo Championship in Japan where he showed such a comfort level with his swing and with his game that more victories seemed certain to follow.

So how about now?

"I've played in a number of events over the years, and for me not to win an event that has meant so much to me in my hometown ... I've done well in San Diego, I've done well at Sherwood, just haven't done well here," Woods said. "So hopefully, I can put it together this week and we'll have a great conversation on Sunday."

Riviera is the closest PGA Tour stop to his hometown of Cypress in Orange County, about 40 miles away, although with traffic, it takes about

as much time as the 90 miles from Cypress to Torrey Pines.

Woods has done well all over his home state: eight victories at Torrey Pines, three at La Costa, two at Pebble Beach, one at Harding Park (not including the Presidents Cup in 2009, where he went 5-0).

Riviera hasn't been so friendly to him.

Woods withdrew after narrowly making the cut in 2006 because he was ill, and he stayed away for the next 12 years, only returning when a new title sponsor came on board and took on his TGR Ventures as the group running the tournament.

Not all memories are bad. He was runner-up in 1999 to Ernie Els – a bogey on the 13th cost him dearly, and a bogey on the final hole ended it for Woods. He also shared a story about one of the occasions he was at the tournament without clubs.

Woods was behind the ropes watching on the 11th tee when he heard Tom Watson was coming up the eighth hole, which was right behind him. He got there just in time for Watson to miss left while aiming for the back left pin position.

"I'm basically one of the only ones over there and Bruce (Edwards) was on the bag and I'm standing looking at the golf ball," Woods said. "He comes over and says, 'Move out of the way, kid,' and pushes me out of the way. So I'm out on tour telling him this story and he says, 'Well, you were in the way.'"

"So for me to have experiences like that here at Riv and to have now this be my event ... hopefully on Sunday we'll be having this discussion a little bit more."

If not Sunday, then soon.

AP

Klinsmann quits Hertha, calls it 'suicide mission'

BY STEPHAN UERSFELD, ESPN GERMANY CORRESPONDENT

HERTHA Berlin head coach Jürgen Klinsmann has left his role at the Bundesliga club after less than three months in charge, saying "I took over a suicide mission."

The former Bayern Munich, Germany and U.S. men's national team coach confirmed his departure in a statement posted on his Facebook page and said he will remain at the club in a supervisory role.

"I took over a suicide mission," Klinsmann told Bild. "Only in one match, we did not get what I hoped for. The coaching staff managed to stabilize the team and get it away from the relegation ranks."

"From my understanding, a coach should have the full sporting responsibility, just like the English model. And, thus, also over transfers. This gives the position more power. The last few weeks cost too much energy spent with side issues. If I am responsible for the team as a coach, I want to put all my energy into working with the squad."

Those quotes followed his earlier statement on Facebook, in which he said: "I would like to say a big thank you to all players, fans, spectators, staff and my colleagues at Hertha Berlin for the support, the many meetings and the talks over the past ten weeks. It was an incredibly exciting time for me with many new interesting insights. The club and the city have grown on me even more."

"In late November, we followed the request of the club leadership with a highly competent team and helped out during a difficult time. Within a relatively short period of time we set out on a good path. Also because of the support of many people we put six points between us and the relegation playoff place despite mostly difficult games."

"I am more than convinced that Hertha will reach its goal to stay up. But for this job, which is not done yet, as the head coach I need the trust of the acting persons. Especially in a relegation battle unity, team spirit and focus on the basics are the most important elements. If they are not guaranteed, I can't live up to my potential as a head coach and fulfil my responsibility."

"That's why, after long consideration, I have come to the conclusion that I will leave my post as the Hertha Berlin head coach and return to my initial long-term task as a member of the supervisory board. The supporters, the players and staff have grown dear to me in this

time and that's why I will continue to cheer for Hertha.

"I continue to look forward to the many encounters with you in the city or in the stadium."

Sources close to Klinsmann told ESPN last week that he felt unnerved by what he thought was a lack of support over a coaching license issue in January.

Having not coached in Germany since his dismissal at Bayern Munich in early 2009, Klinsmann had not renewed his license, which is required every three years in Germany. He had to provide documents as proof of continuing education to have his license renewed in time for the Bayern Munich home match, Hertha's first game of 2020.

Hertha cancelled Tuesday's scheduled news conference with Alexander Nouri, one of Klinsmann's assistant coaches, as the players trained ahead of the trip to Paderborn on Saturday.

"We were all in the meeting room and the players thought it was the meeting after the game against Mainz, but instead he said he won't be our coach anymore," midfielder Marko Grujic, on loan from Liverpool, told reporters.

"Strange news this morning. We are all a little bit confused. After the match we received the information that we won't train for two days to clear our heads. Because it was far from good on Saturday."

"It's a great shock," defender Dedyck Boyata added.

Winger Javairo Dilrosun called Klinsmann's departure a "great loss" for the club.

He said: "He was a great personality. Now, there's chaos here. And we need to win on Saturday to calm things down."

"We were surprised by the developments this morning. Especially after such a trustful cooperation during the intense winter transfer period, there were no signs at all for this," Michael Preetz, Hertha Berlin's sporting executive, said.

"We will inform about the further developments at a given time."

He added that Nouri will take charge of the club on an interim basis.

Klinsmann, 55, was appointed by Hertha on Nov. 26, 2019, and won just three of his 10 matches in charge, losing four and drawing three.

Hertha are 14th in the Bundesliga, six points off the relegation places. In January, they signed Krzysztof Piatek from AC Milan; sources told ESPN the striker cost a fee in the region of €27 million -- a club record.



Jürgen Klinsmann lasted just 76 days in charge of Hertha Berlin. (Agencies)

Italian ref banned for head-butting goalkeeper

MILAN

AN Italian soccer referee has been banned for one year after he lost his cool and head-butted a goalkeeper he had sent off during a minor league game earlier this month, ANSA news agency reported on Tuesday.

In a match between Borgo Mogliano and Montotone in Macerata on Feb. 1, the referee Antonio Martiniello had given Borgo Mogliano's goalkeeper Matteo Ciccioli his marching orders as the hosts won 3-1.

The pair faced off outside the changing room after the game as

the goalkeeper sought an explanation for the dismissal. The referee head-butted Ciccioli, who was taken to hospital to treat his injuries.

Martiniello's ban will not only prevent him from officiating games for the next year but also from entering the facilities of teams in the top three tiers of Italian soccer, minor and amateur leagues, and matches involving the Italy national team.

The office of the Macerata police chief said the ban was fully warranted as Martiniello had failed to set an example for youngsters.

(Agencies)

Zidane vs. Setien will determine who wins La Liga

BY GRAHAM HUNTER, ESPN SPAIN WRITER

UNLESS you believe that Getafe, with European football to distract them and the possibility of losing their talismanic goal-scoring substitute Angel to Barcelona, can close a 10-point gap on La Liga leaders Real Madrid, then we must accept that Spain now has a 15-game, 15-week two-horse race for the title: Barcelona vs. Real Madrid.

If it's a reduced field, then, at least it's between two thoroughbreds (who happen to meet at the Bernabeu on March 1). One which has known its way to the finishing post almost by regal instinct throughout the past 15 years -- often winning at a canter. The other younger, more muscular, fiery, looking like it has the legs and lungs to take down the champion.

But this past weekend emphasised something about the jockeys: Quique Setien and Zinedine Zidane. While racegoers would tell you that it's almost always about the quality of the horseflesh, why is it that some jockeys spend a career lifting prize fee after prize fee? Because they matter. Thus, I think, it'll prove to be between now and May. One thoroughbred has a distinct advantage in terms of who's in the saddle.

First things first: Barcelona are gradually improving under Setien. Ernesto Valverde's reign ended with them disastrously unable to protect a one-goal lead with time running out against both Espanyol in the Catalan derby and Atletico Madrid in the Spanish Supercopa semifinal. Since Setien took over, the reigning champions have had bad days and their flaws are not anything like wholly corrected, but one of the positive signs is that they've protected single-goal leads against Granada, Levante and now Real Betis.

Little by little, Setien's pupils look sharper; slightly quicker off their toes, slightly longer on stamina and beginning to move the ball in a way that is, at least, not totally alien to the best days of the Camp Nou in those 15 years of rarely broken domestic domination: pass, move, press, win possession, pass, move, score.

Frenkie de Jong is beginning to break lines. Ansu Fati is starting to impose himself. Clement Lenglet is scoring goals and has proven that he's far ahead of Samuel Umtiti in the pecking order. Sergio Busquets, very slowly, is becoming recognisable once more. Arturo Vidal and Lionel Messi are having a shot at recreating the previously exclusive society from which Messi and Luis Suarez benefited so much.

But Setien, compared to Zidane, is a novice. Not simply at winning trophies, not because he didn't have a career worth a hoot compared to the great Frenchman. No. Setien has staunch, clear-cut and highly entertaining footballing principles: win the ball quickly, pass it sharply and repetitively, move off the ball, creating supporting triangles of passing options for the man on the ball, try to take control of a match.

Win, yes, but win with flair and attacking verve if at all possible. Simply because he's at Camp Nou, suddenly with better players than ever before, there's nothing for him to update about the football ideals that have sustained him through his playing days and past his 60th year.

His pending task is learning about his squad; learning about their moods, their individual capacities, when to push them, when to rest them, when to chastise them, when to confer with them and trust them. Ask any coach: learning about and fully understanding, then motivating and leading, a group of 20-plus athletes is complex, frustrating and the biggest part of how you earn your salary.

Add the fact that your squad is composed of multi-multi millionaires -- one of whom earns about €100 million a year -- and full of guys who've genuinely seen it all, done it all, and the difficulty factor multiplies by about the numerals contained in a Messi pay packet: millions.

Zidane is in a different situation, and it shows. More, we are talking about the very factor most likely to differentiate the two men in the 15-match race to the tape.

He took over a rabble last season. He was the third coach in that term; the players were either tired, bored,



Quique Setien and Zinedine Zidane will determine whether the La Liga crown goes to Barcelona or Real Madrid. (Agencies)

under-cooked or half-hearted. His appointment of fitness coach Gregory Dupont has been a masterstroke.

Unlike Diego Simeone, who's stuck with an increasingly unpopular and outdated fitness coach in "Profe" Oscar Ortega, Zidane's new appointment has utterly revitalised Los Blancos' squad. It took time -- witness the 3-0 defeat at Paris Saint-Germain in the autumn -- but for many weeks now Madrid probably only have Getafe as rivals in the fitness-stamina-sharpness stakes.

But with this newly revitalised raw material Zidane has worked wonders. I'm not claiming that, in comparison to Setien or any of his elite rivals in Europe, Zidane is an outright tactical genius. Instead, to me, the 47-year-old possesses qualities that remind me of a young Sir Alex Ferguson.

Ferguson, whether at Aberdeen, where he won two European trophies, or at Manchester United, where he dominated England, wasn't generally understood to be a tactical genius. His genius lay in implacably understanding his resources. Who was strong? Who was his on-pitch lieutenant? Which guy needed pushing? Which guy was self motivated? Which player would need a rest in five weeks' time? Which star was on the wane and needed selling? Ferguson was not flawless, even in this aspect -- take his handling of Jaap Stam and Roy Keane, for example.

But when you speak to any alumni of that Ferguson era at Old Trafford, they'll tell you of the enormous hold the Scot had over each and every one of his successful footballers. He told them something and they believed it. They cringed at the thought of letting him down. He imbued them with not just a winning attitude, but a brutal hatred of defeat. He was, to them, a guru; someone who convinced, who inspired and who cajoled all at the same time.

Zidane may not be as publicly fiery as Ferguson, but his ability to understand his playing staff -- what they

need to motivate them, when to play them, when to rotate them, when to bring them on in matches and, above all, when to take an instinctive risk (so Alex Ferguson) -- is what elevates him above not only Setien but almost every top manager in Europe.

Sunday was an example. Just as in recent weeks Zidane has rested Raphael Varane, Casemiro, Luka Modric and Federico Valverde in matches in which it appeared folly not to use his best players without exception, he left out Toni Kroos and the in-form Vinicius for what undoubtedly appeared like an ultra-challenging test in Pamplona against Osasuna.

The midfield functioned. Isco, deputising for Kroos, scored and was in the top three or four performing players. Modric, played as a second striker, had one of the great games of his season and was involved in three of the four goals. When the game was simmering and tense, Zidane brought on Lucas Vazquez (who scored) and Luka Jovic (who also scored). It felt like the man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo, saying "Let it roll" as his roulette chip towers built up on zero again and again and again.

Whatever Zidane touched: gold. It's been the same for the past few weeks.

Mr. Midas rests Valverde against punchy, punishing Getafe away, brings him on with 20 minutes left and the Uruguayan produces an assist for Modric. "Zizou" leaves a tiring Lucas on against Sevilla, much against expectation given that it's the Galician's first appearance after a two-month injury absence, and Lucas rewards his manager by crossing for Casemiro's headed winner.

Against Valladolid with Dani Carvajal suspended, Zidane doesn't choose the younger, faster, taller, fitter Eder Militao to deputise at right-back, he chooses the loyal, likeable but low-on-form Nacho. For a late corner, Zidane instructs the diminutive defender how and where to attack the ball, and Nacho heads home the winner.

Against Atletico, Zidane mucks up

the first-half tactics and personnel choice. Without hesitation he corrects it at half-time, brings on two wide men and Vinicius, who's getting personal tuition from the French World Cup winner and multi-time Champions League-winning coach, catalyses the move for the 1-0 winner.

Zidane is in the zone. He knows his troops inside out, judges brilliantly what to ask of them, when to feed and water them and when to shout "Into battle!" It's fascinating to watch. Not to be unfair to Setien, he's new in the saddle. His refusal to use Vidal at Athletic Bilbao in midweek possibly cost Barcelona a place in the Copa del Rey semifinals. His distinctly odd decision not only to rest Ansu but to not then introduce him at half-time at Betis while Rubi's side played a ridiculously high defensive line and Barcelona screamed out for another player to run beyond that flimsy barrier and collect passes from Busquets, Messi and De Jong, well, that felt bizarre.

There are other examples: starting off thinking that Umtiti -- slow and in terrible form -- should keep Lenglet on the bench, proclaiming that the notoriously injury-prone Ousmane Dembele was going to be "like a great new signing" about two days before the Frenchman collapsed in a heap again and wrote off the rest of the season.

Football is like that. Decisions come at a cost, fortune only favours the brave sometimes, and Setien is inarguably making progress. It's just that time between now and the crucial months in which this league will be decided is very tight indeed.

And while there looks to be a slight advantage to the machine in royal white colours that is a nose ahead more than halfway around the course, I think that Zidane is the rider who has the confidence, the knowledge and the little sprinkling of magic dust that will help Madrid gallop away from the popular champion and burst past the winning post -- probably before we've reached May.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Zidane vs. Setien will determine who wins La Liga

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Yanga forward, Tariq Seif (L), gets the better of Mbeya City FC fullback, Hassan Mwasapili, in a Vodacom Premier League match, which took place in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Khawaja to contest Graves for ICC chairmanship

LONDON

IMRAN Khawaja, the ICC's deputy chairman, is set to contest the leadership of the global governing body against the ECB chairman Colin Graves at its annual meeting in June, ushering in a period of furious lobbying by both sides ahead of the vote of the board.

If elected, Khawaja, the former president of the Singapore Cricket Association, would be the first leader in the ICC's history to come from outside the governing body's traditional clique of Full Member nations, with India having four men in the role, England and South Africa two, and Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan and West Indies one each.

While it has been reported that Graves has the support of India, the ICC's re-constitution under the leadership of the current chairman Shashank Manohar in 2017 has added a far greater degree of diversity to the board. Formerly dominated by the voting rights of the 10 Full Members, it is now a far more varied coalition, including an independent female director Indra Nooyi, plus the additions of representatives for Afghanistan and Ireland in addition to the Associate directors from Scotland, Malaysia and Singapore - Khawaja.

ESPNcricinfo understands that while Graves currently has the support of other major nations, including Australia, New Zealand and Pakistan, the traditional Full Members now represent only 10 of 17 available votes on the board.

Khawaja, a longtime presence on ICC boards and committees, was named as Manohar's deputy in June 2017, and as a senior lawyer and chairman of the ICC's associate member committee has been an influential player among the game's decision-makers for quite some time. The most recent example of Khawaja's influence came when he convinced Manohar to take back his resignation and finish his two-year tenure.

He was also instrumental in helping reshape the ICC constitution to encourage a wider power base and greater number of nations involved in decision-making, something he made clear when accepting the deputy role. "It is a great honour to be elected Deputy Chairman especially whilst wearing the hat of an Associate," Khawaja said at the time.

"I am also privileged to be part of the working group to have authored and reinvented the ICC constitution to make it one of the most inclusive, transparent and merit based sports governing bodies in the world. I have no doubts that a new era is dawning on our great game which will see not only a more vibrant membership but also a competition structure that sees cricket played at the highest level."

Graves was also involved in these changes, but in recent times he has taken the step of allying himself closely with the BCCI and its new incoming leadership, fronted by Sourav Ganguly as president but with plenty of other familiar administrative figures behind him, including secretary Jay Shah and the former ICC chairman N Srinivasan.

It was Graves who authored a letter to the ICC's chief executive, Manu Sawhney, in November that expressed strong opposition to his plans for the next global broadcast rights cycle from 2023 to 2031, in which another global event would be added to the calendar in an attempt to generate more revenue for members, who have been suffering from the steady loss on value for rights to bilateral series, even those featuring India.

"We are keen to work closely together with ICC to promote the interests of cricket globally, to attract more fans to the game, and to optimise commercial returns without further compromising the existing balance between ICC Events and bilateral cricket," Graves wrote in part. "I am of the strong belief that working together as stakeholders, we can establish a calendar of events from 2023 onwards that achieves all of these aims and serves the interests of all ICC Members."

One of Graves' points of opposition to Sawhney's proposal was the clash of the extra ICC event with the World Test Championship final scheduled for 2023 - a decider that was the end result of years of work by the ICC and member boards to establish a workable league structure for the game's oldest and longest format. **AGENCIES**

Simba seek to step up title chase

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

SIMBA SC head coach, Sven Ludwig Vandenbroek, is optimistic his squad will notch wins in the Vodacom Premier League games against Lipuli and Kagera Sugar, which will take place this month.

Simba clobbered Morogoro's Mtibwa Sugar 3-0 in a league match which took place in the region on Tuesday.

The Simba coach (pictured) pointed out he was determined to see to it his squad post victory over Mtibwa Sugar given the latter had cruised to victory over the former in Mapinduzi Cup, held in Zanzibar.

Simba's fans moreover disclosed the team's victory over Mtibwa Sugar helped the Msimbazi Street-based squad regain the fans' trust in it.

The supporters were irked by the team's defeat to JKT Tanzania a clash, which took place in Dar es Salaam.

Simba's Ubungu supporters' branch spokesman Justine Joel said the side played well against Mtibwa Sugar throughout.

"On behalf of Simba's Ubungu supporters who went to Jamhuri Stadium to watch the duel I declare that we no longer doubt the side's competence," he noted.

"I request our fellow fans in Iringa to cheer the team in a game against Lipuli, which will take place on Saturday."

Simba defender, Serge Wawa, said his side has set out to lift the league's silverware.

"Winning the trophy is out team's target. We are committed to fulfilling the plan," he disclosed.



Newly appointed Tanzania's national cricket team's coach Steve Tikolo.

TCA ropes in Steve Tikolo as national cricket team coach

By Guardian Reporter

SENIOR national cricket squad's preparations for the ICC Africa T20 competition, which will be played in Nairobi in March, have got a boost as the Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) has roped in Kenyan coach, Steve Tikolo, as the squad's head coach.

The TCA chairman, Premji Pindoria, disclosed Tikolo, who has a two-year contract with the association, will oversee the senior national men's team preparation for and participation in the Africa T20 tournament slated for March 20-18 in Nairobi.

Hosts, Kenya, and Uganda will also be looking for top honours in the showdown.

Pindoria noted he is confident Tanzania will excel in major international assignments given Tikolo is not only a well experienced coach, but also has played cricket in the World Cup, representing his country well.

Tikolo will, among other major assignments, coach the national Under-19 team to shape up for the African tournament to be played in Uganda in dates to be announced.

Tikolo pointed out his ambition during his two-year coaching career is to see to it Tanzania qualifies for the World Cup.

The decorated former Kenya senior national team's player said that Tanzania has hugely talented players who lack some technical aspects from a qualified coach to help the country excel in ICC World Cup Qualifiers and African tournaments, among others.

Lack of an international exposure, according to him, is also one of reasons which have brought about Tanzania's failure to qualify for the World Cup. He pointed out that Kenya boasts of best cricket records, among others playing against World cricket big guns, West Indies.

The five-time World Cup player Kenya senior national team said that he will work collectively with TCA development officers and other stakeholders to make sure that Tanzania starts to see changes at least after either six months or a year once he takes charge.

"I may not predict for the future, because qualifying for the World Cup is a progress (pathway) from which we need to make our plans and investments for the youth," Tikolo, who took Uganda to the World Cup during his tenure, disclosed.

Tikolo said Tanzania is like a second home to him, having visited several times for playing cricket.

"I last came to Tanzania during the 2000's when I came to play in the Advanced Players

League (APL), it is therefore my pleasure to be Tanzania's national team coach," Tikolo said.

Tikolo (born in 1971) headed Uganda in several International Cricket Council (ICC) tournaments including the World Cup.

He was widely regarded as the greatest Kenyan cricketer ever, he had scored the most runs and taken the second most wickets for the Kenya's national team in One Day International matches (ODIs).

He made his ODI debut in 1996 against India by the time he had played 11 caps for Kenyan teams. His last ODI was against Canada in 1993.

Pindoria, said that Tikolo was most needed because of his experience, success and exposure. "We kindly welcome him in Tanzania and great pleasure to work with him," the official said.

Shaheed Dhanan, TCA vice-chairman, disclosed; "I played cricket for over a decade as a national team player and always dream of playing in his level."

Tanzania has for years been taking part in major continental and ICC qualifying series, but performed poorly, prompting the new TCA leadership to look for a qualified coach to open a new chapter.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



EATV THURSDAY

MORNING @ 11:00

DADAZ.

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Bongo Hits
13:00 Msosi Kitaani (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Ujenzi (r)
14:30 DK10 Za Maangamizi
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Wagonga Ulimba (r)
16:00 Ubongo Kids (r)
16:30 #HSHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:30 EATV SAA I
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Kibiashara Zaidi

DADAZ. A show that explores social and political issues from a feminine perspective.

eastafrica RADIO

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

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM