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**National Pg 3**  
Fuel ship docks at Zanzibar port



**National Pg 5**  
Council sets aside 8bn/- for education



**National Pg 6**  
Family planning services for girls



**National Pg 7**  
Dr Shein appoints high ranking officials



**Mkapa to address UDSM on his vast SADC experiences**

By Guardian Reporters

Former President Benjamin Mkapa (pictured) is expected to lead a symposium on experiences and history of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) at the University of Dar es Salaam next week.

Speaking yesterday after touring the SADC exhibitions at the Julius Nyerere Conference Centre and Mnazi Mmoja grounds in Dar es Salaam, government spokesman Dr Hassan Abbasi said during the symposium, the retired president will give his experience on the economic block.

"Apart from the various scheduled events, there are other activities on SADC whereby on August 15 the retired president will be at USDM where the symposium will be held," he said.

During the symposium, the history of SADC countries will be elaborated with Mkapa, who has participated in various top level meetings in the economic bloc, will deliver on his experiences.

Dr Abbasi affirmed that the symposium will have lessons to the younger generation especially on the role of Tanzania in the



**Dr Abbasi affirmed that the symposium will have lessons to the younger generation especially on the role of Tanzania in the liberation of various African countries**

liberation of various African countries.

Former President Mkapa came into office late 1995 when the process of liberation had largely been completed but southern Africa was engulfed in convulsions, like a rapid pace of tribal animosities in South Africa after President Nelson Mandela came into office late 1994.

Two years into his first term, the ailing Zairean leader Mobutu Seseseko was toppled in the wake of a rapid armed uprising from the eastern part of the country, the start of four years of a tumultuous transition without proper institutions of government.

In 2001 the new Congolese leader Laurent Kabila was killed by his bodyguards and civil war ensued for the control of the Congo, providing the sternest test yet for both foreign policy and defence cooperation in the region, which brought South Africa to the fore of regional efforts to reach peace in the Great Lakes region.

Further on, upon his retirement at the dawn of New Year in 2006 president Mkapa started to be involved in the peace process on

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# Local DFIs ready to push vibrant industrialisation



The Minister for Agriculture, Japhet Hasunga (R) in a jovial mood with the Director General of TARI, Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo shortly after visiting the TARI pavilion at the Nyakabindi grounds, Bariadi district in Simiyu region on Tuesday. Photo: Gerald Kitabu

## TARI Mikocheni certified for virus free sweet potato vines

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

TARI Mikocheni, one of the 17 research centres under the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), is now a reliable source of high-quality certified virus-free sweet potato vines.

This acknowledgement follows the registration of TARI as a seed dealer, which allows its centres to produce and sell different grades of certified seed for various agricultural crop.

Confirming this step, the TARI Director General Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo said that the certification



**The training, which covered areas in sweet potato seed production, certification procedures was conducted in November 2018 and March 2019**

of the high-quality virus-free sweet potato vines was done by the Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) following rigorous quality inspection and assessment.

TOSCI is an entrusted institution to enforce the Seed Act of 2003 and its Seed (Amendment) Regulations of 2017 stipulating standards for quality seeds of vegetatively propagated crops, including sweet potato, he said.

The certification also allows TARI Mikocheni to multiply and sell high quality virus-free

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The SADC Industrialisation Week is a public-private engagement platform that helps to foster new opportunities for intra-African trade and investments in the southern African region

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S development financial institutions (DFIs) have demonstrated readiness to continue supporting the country's pace on industrialization that aims at becoming a semi-industrialized and middle-income economy as envisioned in National Development Vision 2025.

The commitment was affirmed by TIB Development Bank Managing Director, Charles Singili when presenting a paper on 'Challenges in Financing Industrialization and the Role of Local DFIs' during the ongoing 4th SADC Industrialisation Week (SIW 2019) held at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam.

Singili said local DFIs are best placed to provide both medium and long term financing in greenfield projects in their localities that can catalyze economic



**Local DFIs do have the local knowledge, they can offer technical assistance and provide capacity building aiming at promotion of industrial development**

development. "DFIs are known by their strength in financing and support towards implementation of infrastructure, mining projects and industrialization," he stated.

"Local DFIs do have the local knowledge, they can offer technical assistance and provide capacity building aiming at promotion of industrial development," he said.

Through local DFIs governments can propel industrial development and achieve higher economic growth, he said.

Singili pointed out that the uniqueness of industrial financing by local DFIs relies on their understanding of the local environment and ability to focus on areas where there will be significant economic impact.

Themed "A Conducive Business Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development," SIW 2019 reflects TIB's principal objective that is to offer medium and long term funding, technical assistance and funds management for development projects.

This is conducted with a view to support the government in attaining national development goals of eradicating poverty and becoming a middle income country as indicated in the country's Vision 2025, he emphasized.

The SADC Industrialisation Week is a public-private engagement platform that helps to foster new opportunities for intra-African trade and investment in the

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## Shift to beekeeping, TFS tells charcoal producers

By Songwa wa Songwa, Singida

THE Tanzania Forest Service (TFS) has invited all those who currently depend on charcoal production for their livelihoods to use forests under its protection and other public woodlands for beekeeping free of charge in an effort to tame logging and consequent deforestation.

TFS Executive Officer Dr Dos Santos Silayo told The Guardian over the phone yesterday that

the European Union (EU) has agreed to fund a major project starting later this year which will involve a roll-out of modern beehives for beekeeping, collection points in strategic honey-producing regions as well as marketing for local consumption and export regionally and internationally.

"Tanzanian honey has already been tested and approved for export in the EU, USA and

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## Local DFIs ready to push vibrant industrialisation

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southern Africa region.

It was endorsed by the SADC Council of Ministers to intensify

engagement with various partners including the private sector in order to accelerate the implementation of the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063.

## African leaders witness signing of final peace deal in Mozambique

MAPUTO

AFRICAN leaders in the southern and east Africa region witnessed the signing of a final peace deal between the Mozambican government and the main rebel opposition.

South Africa's Cyril Ramaphosa, Namibia's Hage Geingob, Rwanda's Paul Kagame and Edgar Lungu of Zambia were among the leaders in Maputo for the signing ceremony.

President Lungu is participating in his capacity as Chairperson of the regional bloc, SADC's Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Operation.

Zimbabwe's second vice-president, Kembo Mohadi is in town representing President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

The EU Foreign Affairs chief, Federica Mogherini, also arrive on Monday for today's ceremony.

The final pact was appended to by President Filipe Nyusi for ruling FRELIMO while leader of the opposition RENAMO, Ossufo Momade, signed the pact.

The deal is expected to bring durable peace to the southern African country that was wracked by a civil war years ago.

Mozambique's president and the leader of country's main opposition group signed a new peace accord Tuesday, pledging to end years of violence and work toward peaceful elections in October.

The signing of the Peace and National Reconciliation Agreement followed their signing last week of a similar agreement to cease military hostilities.

That took place in Gorongosa National Park in central Mozambique.

The new pacts call for the immediate disarmament and reintegration into society of more than 5,000 rebels. Some Renamo officers are to take up leadership positions in the military, but only a few rebels have turned in their arms so far.

Momade said they would participate peacefully in the country's elections on Oct. 15.

As part of the negotiations, Mozambique's legislature amended the country's constitution so provincial governors will be elected, rather than appointed by the ruling party. It is expected this change will allow Renamo to win a few provincial governor positions in central and northern areas where it has support.

The two agreements resulted from years of negotiations to bring an end to sporadic violence that has persisted since the end in 1992 of a bloody, 15-year civil war in which an estimated one million people died. Another peace agreement was signed in 2014, but violence sporadically flared up.

Portugal, which was the colonial power in Mozambique until its independence in 1975, has supported the country's peace negotiations, and Portugal's Foreign Secretary, Teresa Rebeiro, attended Tuesday's signing ceremony in Maputo's central Peace Square.

Thousands of Maputo residents also turned out for the ceremony, including many children wearing T-shirts with the phrase "Ultimate Peace."



Carvings traders taking the advantage ahead of the 39th Southern African Development Community (SADC) Summit next week in Dar es Salaam. The scene was captured by our roving photographer along Samora Road in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: John Badi

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Asia," he said.

Prof Silayo noted that the project is set to revolutionize the honey sub-sector which currently produces just 55,000 tonnes per year, well below its potential for 135,000 tonnes.

"We hope that increased beekeeping activities in public forests and woodlands will create a sense of ownership among keepers and tremendously decrease, and finally end logging for charcoal," the CEO said.

The government recently appealed to investors to put up a gas cylinders manufacturing plant in the country as prohibitive pricing of the container hinders shifting to clean energy amongst a majority of Tanzanians.

Speaking at the official opening of the sixth LPG summit in Dar es Salaam last month, Minister for Energy Dr

## Shift to beekeeping, TFS tells charcoal producers

Medard Kalemami said the price of LPG for domestic use is too high for low-income earners and the culprit is the cost of imported cylinders.

Dr Kalemami stated that LPG selling price is high because of the cylinders which if manufactured in the country this could reduce prices and hence save the nation from deforestation.

The minister highlighted the fact that Dar es Salaam region alone uses about 500,000 bags of charcoal per year, around 15,000 tonnes.

The United Nations Food and

Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture is currently implementing the 'Support sustainable value chain development for job creation, food and nutrition security in Tanzania,' a project whose implementation kicked off in 2016.

FAO's National Consultant on Value Chain and Youth Employment, Cypridion Mushongi said here that the model is designed such that it can be scaled up countrywide.

It is part of implementation of the National Strategy for Youth

Involvement in Agriculture (NSYIA, 2016-2020), which FAO helped develop. It targets youth groups and young agro-entrepreneurs who are currently engaged in preselected value chains mainly sunflower, horticulture, poultry and beekeeping in Dodoma, Singida, Morogoro and Coast regions.

Since year 2016 to date, FAO says it has supported training of about 750 youth on hands-on practical agribusiness skills and knowledge, access to finance and markets, along with access to irrigation technologies such as water pumps and drip irrigation kits.



TIB Development Bank's managing director, Charles Singili (C) in tête à tête with a member of UN business steering committee on financing for development and CEO of Europe-Asia-Africa Dr. Alawi Swabury (L) during the presentation on "Financing Industrialisation: Opportunities and Challenges" in Dar es Salaam yesterday. (R) is Kay Parplies, European Union head of unit for investment and innovative financing. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Mkapa to address UDSM on his SADC experiences

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Burundi, a legacy inherited from both retired president Nyerere and then Mandela while he was still in office, and

more commonly then vice president Thabo Mbeki.

In 2007 the retired president emerged as the leading spokesman for objections to signing the

proposed Economic Partnership Agreement with the European Union, a proposal that has largely been overtaken by the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) treaty

that envisages the merging of the East African Common Market, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa as well as SADC to form a broad economic area.

## TARI Mikochei certified for virus free sweet potato vines

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sweet potato vines to decentralized vine multipliers (DVMs) for further multiplication of other seed grades, he elaborated.

When approached for comment, the Director General of TOSCI, Patrick Ngwedigi said that approving TARI as a seed dealer is premised on official directive to TARI to produce sufficient quantities of quality seeds.

This is meant to complement what is produced by private companies and the Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA), particularly for crops such as sweet potato. Ngwedigi noted that TARI should ensure that all seeds sold meet national and international seed standards as Tanzania recognizes these protocols.

The country therefore follows standards stipulated in seed schemes of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and procedures approved by the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA).

Dr. Fred Tairo, research and innovation coordinator at TARI Mikochei as well as coordinator of BioInnovate Africa supported project for Tanzania, a local project tied to the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe) said that the work on sweet potato is tied to this project.

Under the project, TARI Mikochei facilitated the institutionalization of a sweet potato seed delivery system by training 54 sweet potato decentralized vine multipliers (DVMs) and sellers from Dar es Salaam, Coast and Singida regions.

The training, which covered areas in sweet potato seed production, certification procedures and dealership was conducted in November 2018 and March 2019 in partnership with BioInnovate Africa, the Food and

Agriculture Organization (FAO), TOSCI and TARI Kibaha.

Five out of the 54 trained DVMs have fulfilled the required procedures and will soon be fully registered as seed dealers. The institutionalization of a sustainable sweet potato delivery system is also planned to continue in Mwanza and Kagera regions, to elevate existing DVMs to become registered seed multipliers and sellers. This aims to enhance availability of high-quality certified virus-free sweet potato vines for increasing sweet potato production and productivity in Tanzania.

TARI Mikochei is a public research centre under the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) of the Ministry of Agriculture based in Dar es Salaam, with a mandate to conduct and promote research for the development of the coconut sub-sector.

It also covers the promotion and coordination of agricultural biotechnology activities in Tanzania generally, and is among four institutions implementing a BioInnovate Africa supported project titled 'Integrating ICT in commercial production of tissue culture-based quality sweet potato planting materials in East Africa' being implemented since last year.

BioInnovate Africa is an Eastern Africa regional innovation-driven bioeconomy programme of the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe) based in Nairobi.

The programme is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) to develop and pilot innovative biological based technologies and products that are relevant for inclusive growth and a sustainable economy in the region. Participating countries in the BioInnovate Africa programme are Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

# MT Ukombozi fuel ship docks at Zanzibar port

By Guardian Reporter

THE second fuel ship, MT Ukombozi II docked at Zanzibar port yesterday, thanks to President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein for fulfilling his promises to Isle's residents.

While at State House, President Shein witnessed the ship loaded with fuel from Shanghai, China arriving at the port via the Chumbe Island through Malindi port in Unguja Urban.

The ship that has been constructed by Netherland's Damen Shipyards Group arrived in Zanzibar at around 11am and was received by Isle's residents, officials from the government and private sector and journalists.

Earlier, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works, Communication and Transport, Mustafa Aboud Jumbe confirmed the arrival of the fuel ship, MT Ukombozi II. He informed the gathering on the processes done by the government of Zanzibar in procuring the ship.

The PS assured the Isle's residents that MT Ukombozi II is new whereas the government started to consult the construction firm in 2017 and that it was to be completed in July 2018. He said the company—Damen Shipyards Group of Netherlands delayed its construction until April 2019.

“Officials from the Revolutionary government of Zanzibar travelled to Netherlands on July 8, this year and witnessed the ship before it was brought in the country”, he said, adding the ship has a length of 86.2 meters with the capacity to carry 3,500 tonnes of fuel in its storage tankers.

He said the ship which has been constructed at a cost of Euros 14.3 million (36bn/-) makes a total of two fuel ships as the government had previously procured MT Ukombozi I with the capacity to carry 2,400 tonnes.

Jumbe said that President Shein is implementing the 2015 - 2020 election manifesto of the ruling-CCM which stipulates that the government will procure a new fuel ship. He said the government is also improving marine transport services whereas it procured a new ship in 2015, MV Mapinduzi.

He said the passenger ship was constructed by a Korean firm—Daewoo International for a period of between July 2013 and December 2015 when it arrived in Zanzibar. It was constructed for about 18 months at a cost of \$ 30.4 million.

The passenger ship, he said has the capacity to accommodate 1,200 people and carry 200 tonnes of cargo.



**Commitment:** Dar es Salaam Water and Sewage Authority employee at Tegeta in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam seals water pump leakage at Bunju B in Kinondoni on Tuesday. Dawasa commits to reduce water leakages by 35 per cent by next year. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Ministry outlines measures to spur fish fingerlings and quality feeds

By Guardian Reporter

LIVESTOCK and Fisheries Ministry has outlined strategies to increase availability of fish fingerlings and quality food to enhance aquaculture and improve productivity.

The ministry's Permanent Secretary, Dr Rashid Tamatamah said the government has arrived at the decision to improve availability of fish fingerlings and food following an increased demand of a big number of Tanzanians engaging in aquaculture.

He was speaking at Nyakabindi grounds in Bariadi district, Simiyu region during the ongoing agricultural trade fair.

He said currently there are challenges in getting quality fish fingerlings and food at affordable prices.

“Last year, the demand for fish fingerlings was 40 million, but the country's capacity was to produce 18 million chicks only”, said Dr Tamatamah noting the outlined strategies will meet the rising demand and supply throughout the country.

He said there various local manufacturers of fish foods do not meet the quality as a result the prices are high. He said the challenges of food has resulted into people engaging in fish farming to import food from outside the country which is costly.

The Permanent Secretary noted that the ministry is using the ongoing NaneNane farmers' exhibition to educate fish farmers on better

aquaculture practices to help them get quality fish that can be easily marketed.

He added that according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation (FAO) the consumption of fish in Tanzania is approximately 8.2 kilogrammes per year while the UN food agency recommends every individual to eat 20.3 kilogrammes of fish annually.

He said they have put in place strategies to ensure that fishes produced in the country reach everywhere to enable Tanzanians to increase consumption.

Tanzania is currently estimated to have a total of 14 100 freshwater fishponds scattered across the mainland.

The East African nation produces about 336,821 tonnes of fish per year, against a demand of 731,000 tonnes.

The country imports about 24,000 tonnes of fish per month worth Tsh56 billion (\$25 million), mostly from China, Vietnam and other states around the Indian Ocean.

Last year, LuhagaMpina, the Minister for Livestock and Fisheries said the government has planned to review the Fisheries Act and regulations governing the sector to pave the way for a total ban on fish imports.

He said that regulations will be put in place to safeguard local fisheries.

In Tanzania, fishing is mostly carried out in the Indian Ocean, Lake Victoria, Lake Tanganyika and Lake Nyasa.

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## INVITATION FOR TENDER TENDER NO. 2019/08-001

### FOR CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATION OF HEALTHCARE CENTERS IN THE LAKE ZONE

Jhpiego is a nonprofit global leader in the creation and delivery of transformative health care solutions that save lives. In partnership with national governments, health experts and local communities, Jhpiego builds health providers' skills and develops systems that save lives now and guarantee healthier futures for women and their families. Informed by scientific discovery, technical know-how and best practices, Jhpiego translates decades of experience into moments of care that mean the difference between life and death: the moment a woman gives birth, the moment a midwife helps a newborn to breathe, the moment a nurse screens for cervical cancer with a simple vinegar swab, the moment a community health worker tests a man for HIV and reports that he is virus-free.

By collaborating with local governments, nongovernmental organizations, health care facilities and schools, Jhpiego develops sustainable solutions to address global health challenges—solutions that empower individuals and communities to work cooperatively to improve and increase access to high-quality health care. Jhpiego remains close by until the health care system has embedded the know-how and practice into a sustainable way forward and the entire health care system and the people served are transformed

Since 1999, Jhpiego has worked with the Tanzania Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, President's Office Regional and Local Government, Development partners, Health experts, and Community leaders to improve health outcomes in Maternal, Newborn and Child Health; HIV/AIDS; Gender-Based Violence; Cervical Cancer Prevention; Integrated Management of Childhood Illness; Malaria; and Family Planning, as well as Pre-Service Education, Infection Prevention and Control, and training of Community Health Workers.

Led by Jhpiego and funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and U.S. President's Malaria Initiative, the USAID Boresha Afya project is working to improve the health status of all Tanzanians—with an emphasis on women and children in targeted regions—by improving the availability of, and access to, high-quality, respectful and integrated health services. The project focuses on reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health outcomes and is taking place in a total of 1,823 health facilities in selected districts of Zanzibar and seven regions of the Lake and Western Zones (Geita, Kagera, Kigoma, Mara, Mwanza, Simiyu and Shinyanga).

Jhpiego Tanzania now seeks reputable and qualified building contractors eligible registered with Contractors Registration Board (CRB) with class Seven (7) and above and have relevant experience and capacity for carrying out construction/rehabilitation of various healthcare facility lots in the lake zone as indicated in the table below. Vendors are permitted to bid on multiple lots; please note that each lot addresses a different region.

| Lot No.     | Site(s) of Work               | District  | Region | Type of Construction/Renovation  |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------|--------|--|
| Lot No. I   | 1. Nyasho HC                  | Musoma MC | Mara   | Rehabilitation of maternity ward to extend/ separate labour, antenatal, and postnatal rooms.   |
|             | 2. Murangi HC                 | Musoma MC | Mara   | Improvements of Labour ward privacy.   |
| Lot No. II  | 1. Bunazi HC                  | Misenyi   | Kagera | Walkway construction from maternity ward to theatre.   |
|             | 2. Kaigara HC                 | Muleba DC | Kagera | Construction of a walkway from maternity block to theatre for emergency services               |
|             | 3. Nyamiaga District Hospital | Ngara DC  | Kagera | Finishing the labour ward and Laying tiles on the floor for the theatre and facility corridors |
| Lot No. III | 1. Katoro HC                  | Geita DC  | Geita  | Expansion of the Maternity/postnatal ward  |
| Lot No. IV  | 1. Budekwa Dispensary         | Maswa DC  | Simiyu | Extension of Maternity ward (to obtain more rooms for L&D, FP, ANC & Postnatal)                |

All interested bidders shall send an email by 15 August 2019 to [sourcing@jhpiego.org](mailto:sourcing@jhpiego.org) with a copy of your CRB certificate certifying your registration and indicating your interest in the lot(s) you would like to bid on. Bidders will be required to bid on all sites in a given lot. All qualified bidders will be provided a complete set of bidding documents.

Jhpiego reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to Bidders. Jhpiego is under no obligation to accept the lowest bid.

# NANENANE EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER INDUSTRIAL SHOW EVENTS



Industries and Trade Deputy Minister Eng Stella Manyanya looks at tomatoes produced by East African Seed (T) Ltd during Nane Nane exhibition in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila



Fire and Rescue personnel gives precautions on fire outbreaks to Banemhi secondary school students at Nane Nane grounds in Simiyu region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Ministry of Agriculture Permanent Secretary Mathew Mtigumwe (L) gets a briefing from senior cotton researcher Dr Furaaha Mroso (R) when visiting Nane Nane exhibition grounds in Simiyu region on Tuesday. Photo: Correspondent Ashton Balaigwa



Tanzania mechanical and electronic services driver Mohamed Mohamed (R) explains on rules about traffic lights and other signs to Temesa pavilion visitors at Nyakabindi grounds in Simiyu region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Former Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda (C) looks at sunflower oil container at Nane Nane grounds in Simiyu. Right is Mara Regional Commissioner Adam Malima



Livestock and Fisheries Deputy Minister Abdallah Ulega (3rd L) gets a brief on modern cassava cultivation practices when he visited Kiliwa District Council farmers' pavilion at Nane Nane exhibition for the southern zone at Ngongo grounds in Lindi region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Hamisi Nasri



Manyara acting Regional Commissioner Chelestino Mofuga (C) with senior government officials visit TPRI pavilion at Nane Nane exhibition in Arusha region. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadei



Zanzibar Second Vice President ambassador Seif Ali Iddi (L) listens to Deputy Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Industries and Trade, Ali Khamis Juma at the Cotex factory at Chumbuni in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

# Joint anti-GBV campaign bears fruit in Pemba Island - official

By Lusekelo Philemon

THE joint anti-gender-based violence campaign has started bearing fruit in Wete district in Pemba Island as more cases are being reported to the responsible authorities and perpetrators are taken to justice.

"It wasn't an easy task to reach where we're now. It takes us some years to sensitize people on GBV related issues, which mostly affect women and children," said Haroub Suleman Hemed, Community Development Officer in Wete District.

"At least now people are becoming aware of the GBV issues and they're

now reporting GBV cases to the responsible authorities," he said, when speaking to a team of journalists from Tanzania Media Women Association (Tamwa-Zanzibar).

According to Hemed, five years ago, the GBV situation was bad in the district, which has a total of 36 Shehia (villages/streets), but now things are improving as more cases are being reported and the victims are dragged in courts and jailed.

Citing examples, Hemed revealed that between January and June, 2018, a total of 73 cases were reported and the same period in 2019, only 47 cases were reported and some of the victims were

sentenced.

"This wasn't possible without active engagement of leaders from the grassroots to the district level and the national level. At the local level, we're working with GBV coordinators who are in every Shehia, who report to our office. They also report cases to police and one-stop centre established in the district," he said, adding that district authorities formed the child protection committee, which involves 12 experts.

He said: "All these initiatives are in line with the Zanzibar's National Plan of Action to end Violence against Women and Children (NPA-VAWC), 2017-2022, which signifies a commitment to end

all forms of violence against women and children."

"These efforts helped in scaling up the anti-GBV campaigns in the district, which has a population of more than 300,000 people," he said, commending the role played by the country's media through Tamwa-Zanzibar in the anti-GBV fight.

Coordinator of Tamwa-Zanzibar in Pemba, Fathiya Mussa Said cited marital abandonment, abduction, indecent assaults, and rape as among the leading causes of GBV in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

She said that there are several cases of families and women who have been

abandoned by men, the situation which end up fueling GBV.

In February this year, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) supported the Isles government to implement the NPA-VAWC, which includes building the capacity of the police, who are on the frontline of the response to GBV. UNFPA committed continued to support the renovation of Police Gender and Children's Desks—units, which play an important role in establishing trust between the police and women and children, carving out an avenue to justice that didn't exist before. It also meant to increase the resources available to police to

investigate GBV cases and to bring perpetrators to justice.



**These efforts helped in scaling up the anti-GBV campaigns in the district, which has a population of more than 300,000 people**



Beekeeper Hosea Amani from Singida bee product supplier harvesting honey at Wamaka Village in Singida urban Yesterday. The group is a beneficiary of sustainable value chain development for job creation, food and nutrition security in Tanzania implemented by the UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). Since year 2016 to date, FAO has supported training of about 750 youth on practical agribusiness skills and knowledge, access to finance, markets and irrigation technologies such as water pumps and drip irrigation kits. Photo: Courtesy of FAO

## Dodoma City Council sets aside 8bn/- to address challenges in education sector

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DODOMA City Council has set aside 8bn/- to help solve challenges facing education sector in city, the executive director, Godwin Kunambi said yesterday.

He said the amount will be spent on building classrooms to reduce the acute shortage, building teachers' houses as well as construction of toilets at both primary and secondary schools.

Speaking during the full council meeting, Kunambi said the city council also has plans to build four more schools and one health centre both at the cost of 600 million/-.

During the meeting, city councilors voted in the Matumbulu Ward councilor, Emmanuel Chibago (CCM) as the deputy mayor beating his contestant, the Madukano councilor, Said Kitegile (CHADEMA).

"The city council is working hard to

help improve availability of services especially health and education sectors," said Kunambi.

Earlier, speaking at the same meeting, Minister for State in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government, Suleiman Jafo, praised the city authorities for the good work in revenue collections.

He said the Dodoma city council has managed to broaden revenue collections, saying that in the just concluded financial year, the authority collected 71 billion/-.

He called on the councilors to continue working together in efforts to realise more collections. "It is obvious that such good revenue collections is due to close working relations among you and that if the same spirit is maintained you can realise more revenue collections," he said.

According to the minister, the amount collected by Dodoma City authorities is

enough to serve two councils, adding that there are district councils with very low revenue collections.

He called on them to work together and avoid laxity, noting he was aware that there are some councilors who are not willing to work together with others for the betterment of the council.

Last year, Dodoma was said to have surpassed its revenue target, leading other councils in the country, including Dar es Salaam city.

Statistics showed that the council surpassed its revenue targets by 120 per cent, collecting 25.05 billion/- against the target of 20.79 billion/- during the year.

However, there were arguments that the influx may be attributed to the decision by the government to shift its base from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma, now the official capital of Tanzania.

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

## Venture into modern farming to increase rice yields, farmers told

PADDY growers have been encouraged to venture into modern farming practices to boost rice production to meet local and international demand.

It was announced on Tuesday by Uhuru Torch leaders during a rally in Morogoro, whereby over 2bn/- worth development projects were inaugurated.

Manager of the Morogoro-based rice processing plant—MWRICE mills, Anant Panigrahi said it had encouraged farmers to increase production to meet the demand.

He said his plant needs 288 tonnes of rice per day, but end up getting below half of that quantity, "that's why there is a need for farmers to venture into intensive rice farming."

He said if farmers engage fully in modern rice farming, Tanzania will be world's rice suppliers by 2025.

Citing International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)'s report, Panigrahi said

that Tanzanian rice growers cannot produce 4.5 tonnes per acre as experts estimated, most of them produce 2.5 tonnes, which cannot meet his processing plant.

To address the lack of technical know-how challenge, the plant manager said that four Tanzanians have been sent abroad to learn on proper rice farming and marketing skills.

"The idea is that after the training, the beneficiaries will be able to teach their colleagues, hence spread the technology," he stressed.

He however commended Subira Maniyam, a Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) graduate for her spirited work at the rice processing.

The plant has employed more than 100 Tanzanians who are working in different departments of the plant, which estimated to be one of the

biggest in the country and the region at large.

The leader of national Uhuru Torch rally, Mzee Mkongwe lauded the investor for coming up with effective rice farming methods that will help to improve production in the country as well as creating job opportunities.

Launching the Uhuru Torch races in April this year, Vice President Samia Hassan Suluhu insisted on that the Uhuru Torch be used to light development projects across the country and ensure proper implementation of government policies.

She added that the race should also remind both government leaders and 'wananchi' to implement the government policies that aim at bringing development to the people.



### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Amref Health Africa is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) whose mission is "to improve the health of people by partnering with and empowering communities and strengthening health systems". Amref Health Africa has over 1000 employees throughout Africa with its headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. Amref Health Africa has offices in Tanzania, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, and South Africa, Malawi, Zambia, South Sudan and Senegal and a number of offices in Europe and North America for fundraising.

Amref Health Africa-Tanzania is largely supported by Multilateral, Bilateral and National donors, implementing several programmes including HIV/AIDS/TB/Malaria, Reproductive, Maternal, New-born and Child Health, Water and sanitation, e learning programme and clinical outreach. Amref Health Africa Tanzania has the following vacancy.

Amref Health Africa has the following vacancy based in Dar es Salaam office.

#### 1. EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (1 POSITION- BASED IN DAR ES SALAAM)

REPORTS TO: COUNTRY DIRECTOR

#### JOB PURPOSE:-

To provide high level Executive Administration support to the County Director's office; to the country programme, and support functions in a proactive and timely manner to ensure the comprehensive level of preparation required for them to fulfil their leadership and management responsibilities; through effective coordination, planning, office management; administration and logistics oversight.

#### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Responsible for overall oversight and management of the country director's office
- Management of logistics:** Responsible for overall execution of administrative and logistical activities pertaining to Amref's country office which includes organizing of CD & staff travel issues; including the accommodation bookings, tickets, transfers and VISA.
- Communications and correspondence support:** Reviews correspondence to the office, provides the relevant case history, prepares routine responses for the director or directs it to the most appropriate office. Handle routine responses to correspondence and communication (including letters, faxes, email, telephone etc)
- Support to Governance and leadership functions:** Provide unparalleled logistical and administrative support to leadership and governance functions to respective Amref bodies that include but not limited to senior leadership teams, council and board, with high integrity and confidentiality.
- Planning:** Coordinates the director's calendar of events through communications to relevant offices both Internal and external. This includes annual planning as well as adhoc planning of activities.
- Asset stewardship:** Facilitate and ensures all facilities and equipment are in order, insured and updated to avoid unnecessary inconveniences
- Organizing:** Manage the execution of events under the director's office including meetings, workshops and other work-related gathering.
- Reporting:** In charge of preparation or processing and distribution of a variety of reports including minutes, monthly work reports and annual reports from the office as required
- Information Management:** Develop and maintain relevant databases and filing system for optimal management of information and contacts.
- Liaisons:** Liaises with both external and internal contacts in coordination with the director to ensure follow-up and execution of planned activities. Liase with Key suppliers of office equipment ensuring all necessary service are provided. Also, liaise with Amref collaborators, donors, partners, managers and staff as may be relevant
- Office Management:** Maintaining the office inventory and stationary supplies and utility services maintenance
- Budget Control:** Monitor the office budget and support its preparation as needed.

#### QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Bachelor Degree in Business Administration, Public Administration or Management.
- Degree in office management will be an added advantage
- Experience in office management and Administration in a busy environment.
- Potential candidates should be matured, possess high level skills and experience of supporting top management leadership
- Experience on handling high level leadership or management meetings and conferences
- Experience of working in International organizations, international NGOs and donor funded project environment
- Knowledge of modern office procedures
- Not less than five (5) years in providing high level executive and Administrative support
- Excellent communication Skills
- Report writing
- Planning and organizing skills
- Ability to operate modern office equipment

letter and CV combined in as one document indicating your present employer and position, daytime telephone contact, names and addresses of three referees. To be considered, your application must be received by **16.30 Hours August 20, 2019**. Please mention the job title/vacancy name or use the job title as the subject line when applying for this position failure to do that your application may not be retrieved. All correspondences should be directed to: Email: [jobs.tanzania@amref.org](mailto:jobs.tanzania@amref.org). Direct application through mail or hand delivery will not be accepted.

- Only short-listed candidates will be contacted
- Amref Health Africa is an equal opportunity employer and has a nonsmoking environment policy;
- "Amref Health Africa is committed to the principles of safeguarding in workplace and will not tolerate any form of abuse, wherever it occurs or whoever is responsible"
- Amref health Africa –Tanzania regrets that only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

## Family planning services help women in Njombe to avoid series of pregnancies

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

Martha Mengele, a local beer seller in Il-embula village in Southern Tanzania, got married when she was 15 and now with 30 years she has six children, thanks to family planning services that she is able to avoid a series of pregnancies.

With funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Sauti project is working with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare in Njombe and 13 other regions to bring HIV prevention and family planning services close to where people live through community-based outreach services.

"I wanted to have a small family, three children only, but my husband wanted more children. Whenever I talked to him about using contraceptives or seeking counseling it was chaos in the family, he would become angry and threaten to go away. He would actually leave, disappearing to his other wives for weeks, all because he wouldn't want to talk with me about family planning", narrates Mengele whose first husband died not long after her first child was born.

Martha said she was re-married to a man who already had five children from his two wives.

Narrating, she said she was first attracted with a range of health services that attracted her when the Sauti project community outreach team set camp in her village, close to where she sells local beer. "My mother went there for HIV testing. When she found family planning was on the list, she remembered me and rushed back home to give me the good news. After 15 fifteen years of waiting and searching, my wish was realized and I received a contraceptive implant that will protect me from unwanted pregnancies for the next three years", she said.

The Sauti project works to bring high-quality friendly HIV and family planning services to key and vulnerable populations which have been largely underserved but at

greater risk and high unmet need.

She said: "For me, it is more than just the implant. I no longer had to worry about the family planning talk that always upsets my husband".

According to Mengele, she had previously approached a nearby faith-based hospital for help but they slammed the door on her insisting her to come with her husband.

Mengele said the nurses told her that the faith-based hospital could only 'listen' and provides family planning counseling and services to couples, not to single women and adolescents.

While family planning is essential in securing the well-being of women in terms of their ability to anticipate and attain a desired number of children, women in many communities have little say and no power in decision making on matters that affect their maternal or reproductive health.

The situation is compounded by inadequate services in rural or hard to reach communities like in Martha's village, where social cultural values and religious barriers tend to be high; and by health providers who sometimes misinterpret national family planning guidance. To achieve demographic dividend in Tanzania, use of contraceptives among sexually active young people is inevitable to control early pregnancies and high dependence ratio among youth.

Led by Jhpiego with partners including EngenderHealth, Pact International and the National Institute for Medical Research - Mwanza, Sauti project is providing an integrated package of behavior change and community mobilization, structural interventions, health promotion, and biomedical services that include sexual risk assessment and alcohol and drug abuse screening.

Other services include gender-based violence and sexual transmitted infections screening, HIV counseling and testing and accompanied-referrals to treatment centers, and family planning counseling and services.



### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER - (1 POST)

Ker & Downey Safaris (T) Ltd is registered Tanzanian Company under Companies Ordinance (Cap. 212) and also trading Hospitality and Tourism Services company with its Operations in Arusha Region.

We are currently looking for Business Development Manager to be part of our team and provide support to all our tourist facilities.

#### KEY RESULT AREAS/ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

##### 1. Real Estate Development and Management:

Oversee Ker & Downey Safaris (Tanzania) Ltd Real Estate Development and Estate Management, to include;

- The drafting and compilation of a strategy document which on approval will be incorporated into a business plan which details among other the below:
- Market analysis and feasibility studies of the options of land use under Selian City Master Plan.
- Securing tenants and lease rights to the property and land
- A plan for sustainable use of the Friedkin Recreation Centre (FRC) buildings and facilities (gym, soccer fields etc.)
- Survey and reporting of proposed land use options.
- Site plans, development plans, and building plans of planned projects.
- Infrastructure improvements required and annual Capex budgets.

##### 2. Estate Management:

- Assess current tenants and formalize legal agreements.
- Arrange executed legal contracts of new proposed tenants.
- Produce a summary of all contractual income from tenants and facility users to the Finance Department to allow invoicing and payment recovery.
- Liaise with the Finance Department to compile and submit usable reports to the BDM on status of Estate Turnover and receivables of tenants and facility users
- Include commentary in real estate monthly report on Accounts Report to Management Team.

##### 3. Project Management:

- Be part of the project management team to head up systems implementation roll outs which include Sage, ResRequest, TourPlan.
- This roll will not only be limited to the above programs and may include any other systems the company identifies that will streamline its operations.
- They may take the lead on some of the above projects and will then head up the project team and work together to plan all of the required steps and goals to ensure the company

achieves successful project conclusion.

- Propose a project team and draft a project charter, PM tools (GANTT) and time lines
- Researching, managing change, performing needs assessment, and properly sequencing tasks.
- Ensuring overall compatibility with existing IT technology (IT Dept.)

#### Execution:

- Executing the project plan to create the deliverables of the project.
- Team communication and host daily/weekly meetings to discuss status and any project bottlenecks/blockers.
- Monitor and control the work for time, scope, quality, risk, and other factors of the project.
- Controlling costs and maintaining budgets.
- Monitor and control: Use PM tools in place to monitor progress and report finding to Management Team.
- Project Closure: Draft final workflow documents and SOPs and ensure all staff are trained.
- Transfer ownership of the project team to respective department.

#### 4. Overall Strategic Company Investments:

- Assistance with any work related to new investment opportunities as identified by the company.
- Ensuring up to date market information is gathered around this so as to strategically position the company within the respective market.

#### PROFESSIONAL AND INTERPERSONAL DETAILS

##### Education:

- Bachelor Degree in Business Administration.
- An advanced level of computer literacy with special focus on hospitality data use systems, as well as, Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint and Outlook.

##### Experience and Skills:

- 5+ years' experience working in tourism hospitality.
- Project Management skills and coordination.
- Ability to effectively listen, communicate and perform diplomatically with internal and external stakeholders, agents, guests and staff in all situations.
- High level of leadership skills as well as a team player who demonstrates the ability to build and develop successful department.
- Have the ability to work through periods of high demand and ready to work on weekends.
- Be talented leader able to deal with people of different levels.

Applicants are invited to submit their CV's/Resume's and copy of certificates to HR Office through Reception (for hard copies) or via e-mail to: Recruitment@tgts.com

We offer equal employment opportunities to qualified men and women. If you are not contacted by HR Department within thirty (30) days after the closing date, you should consider your application as unsuccessful. Short listed candidates may be subjected to any of the following; competency assessment; physical capability assessment and reference checking. Please forward applications before 15th August 2019.



**What the City Fathers should fight:** Making taxis safer: managing road risks for taxi drivers and their passengers. The scene was captured along Mandela Highway Express in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: John Badi

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

STAKEHOLDERS in rice value chain have created a special forum, which is aimed at addressing challenges facing the sub-sector.

Speaking yesterday during rice stakeholders meeting, Iringa District Coordinator (FAO-Rice Project) Lefdedy Msamba said that the forum will be a platform for players in the rice value chain.

He said that the forum involves farm inputs vendors, farmers, various service providers, processors, traders, distributors, financial institutions, and research institutions.

Msamba said that the purpose of the platform was to find solutions to the challenges in the rice sub-sector and to develop ways to address social, logistical, economic and economic challenges in the rice industry.

The forum is based on activities that rice stakeholders have been doing in collaboration with the Rice Council of Tanzania since 2016.

## Rice farmers, stakeholders in Iringa form special forum to address crop challenges

Many people are unaware that the Iringa region produces rice and makes the rice produced in the region unknown so the forum will be a specialised tool for introducing rice in the markets.

Last year, over 10,000 rice farmers in Iringa region benefited from Improve Competitiveness and Increase Postharvest Management Capacity of Smallholder Farmers in the Rice Value Chain project which is aimed at equipping them with postharvest management skills to enhance their competitiveness in the market.

Jointly funded by the European Union and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) to the tune of 1,875,000 Euros (over 5.2 bn/-) the project is going to be implemented in Iringa District, Iringa region by FAO in col-

laboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Dar es Salaam-based Rural Urban Development Initiatives (RUDI)—a private sector development organisation based in Dar es Salaam Tanzania and one of the local NGOs, which is dealing with empowering micro-small enterprises (MSE) and farming communities through improved market linkage and distribution channel for their products. RUDI activities are targeted to building strategic partnership and strong business associations especially within farming communities that can formulate and advocate policy reform measures, improve market linkage through information sharing, facilitate access to credit and expand crop production through business skills management training.



Head of sales Tigo business, Kadambara Maita, welcoming Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa at Tigo pavillion during the ongoing 39th SADC exhibition in Dar es Salaam at Julius Nyerere International Conference Centre yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

OXFAM international through a Dar es Salaam-based non-governmental organisation—Relief to Development Society (REDES) has successfully initiated sisal farming in Kishapu district, Shinyanga and Meatu in Simiyu region.

The international organisation through implementation of its project to support smallholder farmers in the districts will also assist farmers to add value to its agricultural products.

Technologies to be provided by Oxfam aims at improving the use of sisal wastes, (user friendly technologies, strengthening enterprise management and leadership into more advanced stage and make them sustainable. It will also bring the market close to small holder farmers to reduce unnecessary costs.

Speaking to journalists yesterday at the ongoing agriculture trade fair at Nyakabindi grounds in Bariadi district, Simiyu region REDES Project Manager, Charles Bligea said so far they have reached 3,500 farmers. He said that farmers engaged in the project have been able to improve welfare and reduce poverty at family level.

Bligea said the farmers are from 10 villages in Meatu and 30 villages in Kishapu district.

## OXFAM introduces sisal farming in Shinyanga and Simiyu regions

He said that decisions to establish sisal farming followed the fact that Shinyanga and Simiyu regions are too dry, experiencing changes in climate resulting to other crops failure and food shortage.

"This project has been implemented since 2012 and will end on 2021. We encourage them to plant sisal because the crop is draught resistant and requires minimum amount of water to grow," said the manager noting the NGO will search for markets internally and externally.

According to Bligea, farmers were previously using sisal as boundary marker, planted along residential houses. He said the crop has now changed from being used as house fence to a commercial crop.

"Production of the crop has increased from zero to 40 tonnes annually. There are more than 200 acres of the crop planted this year," said Bligea adding the number of sisal processing machines have also increased from 20 to 50, mostly being bought by farmers themselves.

He noted that through value addition, sisal farming has provided jobs to 3,000 people, most of them women and youth. He said that a small holder farmer can get up to 200 kilogrammes of processed sisal.

A farmer, Tabu Hashimu from Kishapu district said: "We were not aware that sisal farming can change our lives. We were previously concentrating with cotton and maize farming, without knowing the commercial potential available in sisal".

Hashimu thanked Oxfam for initiating the project because she can now earn between 5 and 6m/- per year from selling sisal. She said that her annual sisal harvests have reached 5,000 kilogrammes.

Oxfam Campaign Manager said the organisation is proud to have managed to change and improve the welfare of Meatu and Kishapu districts. He said the organisation also support similar project in various regions cultivation sunflower, paddy and sisal.

# UTSS praises SADC executive secretary for condemning violence against PwA's

By Guardian Reporter

UNDER The Same Sun (UTSS) has been encouraged by the statement issued by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Tax during this year's commemoration of International Albinism Awareness Day (IAAD) which is marked annually on 13 June.

In her remarks Dr Tax said: "We recognise that persons with albinism continue to face violations of their human rights in various forms, ranging from stigma and discrimination, low access to health and education services, as well as, social and political exclusion."

These remarks comes at a time when persons with albinism in the SADC region continue to face serious human rights challenges, with SADC leaders yet to outline and commit to a comprehensive, collective and coordinated regional response to guarantee social and physical protection for this minority group.

"It is for this reason that SADC continues to condemn, in the strongest terms, all forms of violations and abuse against persons living with albinism," said Dr Tax.

At the centre of the challenges facing persons with albinism in SADC is a lack of awareness among communities which fuels discrimination and criminal justice system failures across the region which encourage impunity for attacks against persons with albinism.

In her message on International Albinism Awareness Day, Dr Tax echoed civil society call for continued public education on issues affecting

people with albinism, and called for mobilization of political will to address this regional crisis.

As SADC Heads of State and Government head to Tanzania for the 2019 SADC Summit, UTSS calls on leaders to commit to regional action for putting to an end the challenges being faced by persons with albinism in the SADC region through a resolution from the summit.

We call on SADC member states to dedicate a decade of action on albinism during which every member state will implement the necessary policy and legal reforms to ensure adequate protection for persons with albinism.

SADC countries must resource and implement national-wide campaigns on albinism to challenge and transform negative attitudes and socio-cultural beliefs that drive attacks against persons with albinism.

This is because it is alleged that the SADC region has the most affected countries with atrocities against this minority group.

Hosting the SADC Summit is a great honour to us as a nation, the last time that Tanzania hosted a SADC Summit was 16 years ago in 2003. As our country assumes the chair of SADC this August from Namibia, we look forward for continued implementation of them throughout the year 2019/2020.

Addressing this will highly support the 39th SADC Summit theme which states "A conducive environment for inclusive and sustainable industrial development, increase intra-regional trade and job creation" which also opens up the opportunities for persons with albinism to participate in industrial development.



Airtel Tanzania employee Bernad Mbisamatole (C) registers clients of Airtel through electronic system at Airtel pavilion at the SADC Industrialisation Week exhibition ongoing at Julius Nyerere International Conference Centre in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# President Shein appoints 7 high-ranking govt officials

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein yesterday appointed various leaders to fulfill a number of posts at government's institutions and ministries.

A statement by the Secretary of the Revolutionary Council and Zanzibar Chief Secretary, Dr Abdulhamid Yahya Mzee said the appointments started

with effect from August 6, 2019.

Dr Shein who is the chairman of the Revolutionary Council, named the Presidential appointees as Ali Khamis Juma who becomes the Director of Zanzibar city, in the President's Office (Regional Administration, Local Governments and Special Departments.

President Shein named Khadija Khamis Rajab as the Deputy

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Industry and Trade. Hanifa Ramadhani said has been appointed as the Director of Legal Assistance Department in the Justice and Constitutional Affairs Ministry.

Masoud Ali Mohamed becomes the Chief Evaluator in Pemba's President's Office responsible for Public Service and Good Governance while Mattar Zahor Masoud has been appointed

as the Chief Evaluator in the Justice and Constitutional Affairs Ministry in Pemba.

The list includes, Dr Haji Ali Haji who will be the Board Chairman of the Zanzibar National ICT Broadband Backbone in the Ministry of Works, Communication and Transport and Shukuru Awadh Suleiman to be the Executive Director of the Zanzibar National ICT Broadband Backbone.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development Deputy Minister Angeline Mabula addresses Dongobesh residents in Mbulu district, Manyara region during the inauguration of Lands and Housing Council meeting yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

# Women unwilling victims of radicalisation, UN report shows

By Guardian Reporter

AS Tanzania remembers victims of the August 7, 1998 bomb blast in Nairobi, global terrorism trends show that women are increasingly taking active roles in terror attacks.

But available evidence shows that a majority of women get radicalised involuntarily as opposed to men.

According to a United Nations report, there is a rise in the number of women getting recruited into terrorism globally.

The 1998 United States embassy bombings were attacks that occurred on August 7, 1998, in which more than 200 people were killed in nearly simultaneous truck bomb explosions in two East African cities, one at the United States Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, the other at the United States

Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya.

The UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) 2019 handbook on gender dimensions of criminal justice responses to terrorism notes that the roles men and women play in promotion of terror are often based on prevailing gender roles and stereotypes.

The book notes that women are often subjected to sexual and gender-based violence, forced and early marriages, sexual slavery, rape or forced domestic labour, which clearly make them victims of crime.

But they are equally dangerous as the report says they are also used as human shields during attacks as well as suicide bombers.

It also notes that forced conscripts may in the initial stages be turned into spies circulated in government

controlled areas as messengers, recruiters and smugglers before they are forced to carry ammunition or participate in operations.

This is because terrorists know that women are less likely to be stopped and searched in public because they are less often considered a threat.

For that reason alone, the book says there has been increased use of female bombers across the world in countries such as Israel, Nigeria, Iraq, the Chechen Republic and Palestine.

In Kenya, the recent terror attack at DusitD2 is partly believed to have been aided by Violet Kemunto, wife of one of the attackers, Ali Salim Gichunge.

Kemunto is believed to have fled to Somalia after the bloodletting that left

21 people dead.

A day before the attack, Kemunto, using a pseudonym, attempted to sell their home's property on Facebook.

She indicated that she and her husband were moving out of the country.

She is also alleged to have used a courier to transport some of her personal belongings to Manderu but failed to pick them up when they arrived.

Though her role in the attack was described as key, police are yet to make it public.

And while UNODC advocates for the separation of people convicted of violent extremism from other prisoners, countries that do not have resources are yet to establish separate remands, a factor that could promote radicalisation in prisons.

# Agricultural experts, COSTECH team up for national awareness campaign on uses of the GMO

By Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Vice President's Office (Environment) in cooperation with Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) and Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) have initiated a campaign on awareness raising and opinion gathering of uses of modern biotechnology in agriculture sector, especially Genetic Modified Organism (GMO).

The national - wide move aimed to allay fears gripping local agricultural experts, leaders and the general public over uses of the advanced biotechnology within the country.

GMO are plants used in agriculture the DNA of which has been modified using genetic cases the aim is to introduce a new trait to the plant which does not occur naturally in the species.

In Tanzania, preliminary GMO researches commenced since 2011 in maize and cassava, whereby, currently the maize research is at the level of Confined Field Trials (at TARI-Makutupora center) and for cassava at laboratory level in Dar es Salaam.

TARI's Bioscience Centre Manager, Dr Miccah Songelael told this paper in an interview that the campaign focuses at public awareness, education and participation.

He added, despite being very crucial to help improve production and productivity of Tanzania's agriculture sector, the level of public awareness on biotechnology and biosafety in the country was extreme low, even amongst the scientists community.

"Possible explanations for such low awareness include recent nature of GMO technology, limited knowledge on GMO technology at all levels, as well as limited access to relevant publications," he expressed.

And he added, if Tanzania aspires to improve general performance of the sector in which the national economy hinges, adoption of GMO was the best way.

"Many countries have already adopted the biotechnology and results are fruitful," he unveiled, mentioning some of the countries as America, Brazil, Argentina, Canada, India, China, Burkina Faso, South Africa, Pakistan,

Uruguay, Bolivia, Australia and Sudan.

Moreover, he named neighbouring Kenya and Uganda as other countries continuing with GMO researches in maize, cassava and cotton, now at different levels.

For his part, Dr Justin Ringo, Agricultural Researcher (Breeder) at TARI, said GMO technology was useful in seeds innovations, but also, in solving key challenges facing the sector.

In his presentation, during a relevant workshop that attracted students from the Morogoro-based Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), and extension officers from different districts within central zone regions, Dr Ringo insisted that uses of biotechnology was meaningful in improving plants' photosynthetic efficiency and biofortification (nutritional content).

"In Tanzania, the agriculture sector is facing diverse challenges, chiefly insects, diseases, low soil infertility and drought. These challenges caused by climatic changes pushes for poor yields among farmers."

"However, most of local crop seeds are with poor nutritional content like vitamin A, protein, iron and zinc, a situation which result into increased wave of malnutrition and stunting. But GMO is a solution to all of these challenges," Dr Ringo detailed.

In his observations, Onesphory Kamukuru, an Environmental Engineer at Vice President's Office -Environment, said the government of Tanzania has developed numerous strategies to ensure for effective monitoring of GMO researches.

"First of all, its wise to understand that GMO research in Tanzania is in line with the government's plan to use science and technology (including biotechnology) as stipulated in National Biotechnology Policy (2010), National Biosafety Regulations (2009), National Policy on Research and Development (2010) and National Agriculture Policy (2013)," he inform.

To ensure for effective monitoring of GMO researches, he briefed that the country has drafted the National Biosafety Framework and the National Biosafety Guidelines.

"There's also, Laboratory Manual for

# The Guardian

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THURSDAY 8 AUGUST 2019

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Airplane accidents should not become normal

A LIGHT plane carrying nine people on Tuesday crashed in Mafia Island, on the southern part of the coastal tourism zone. Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority Director General Hamza Johari said that the pilot and nine passengers all survived, with four people severely injured and rushed to the nearby hospital. This was the good news, that no fatalities occurred in the crash, coming too soon after a worse incident in Tabora where the two people on board perished. The problem is that the two accidents were too close one from the other, as if one were to project an arc from the two incidents, it begets a plane crash per week...

Early investigations indicated that the 5H-NOW plane operated by Tropical Air crashed due to loss of power to lift the plane when the pilot was trying to take off at Mafia airstrip. This would imply that there was mechanical failure on the plane, unless there were particular wind or pressure circumstances which the technical personnel in the plane or on the ground could not tell. That is the work of specialists, but at times there are overall issues of guidelines which are literal public issues for all of us to think about, too.

The top regulator for air services said that the plane was heading to Dar es Salaam from the tourist island, where the pilot attempted several times to lift the plane, but when reached the end of the runway, the plane crashed and passengers sustained minor injuries, though four were seriously injured and rushed to Mafia District Hospital. Without seeking to second guess investigations, was the pilot merely in hurry or why did he fail to notice

that attempting to lift the plane several times is not normal? And did he start flying because he was at the end of the runway, or because the plane had earnestly taken off by then?

Definitely the public and the aviation community in particular expect that TCAA will provide detailed information once crash investigation is completed, as the director general promised. But coming a few days after another light plane, owned by a South African firm, U-Dream Global, crashed close to Tabora town shortly after take-off, killing two passengers both citizens of that country, it came as a shock. Airplane accidents are supposed to be rarer than railway accidents, and the latter, rarer than motor vehicle accidents, and suddenly we have two airplane accidents in the space of three days; is that really normal?

What was on the brighter side of things was an impression that air travel is gradually becoming part of everyday life in a way, as both these accident meeting planes were not on special missions but regular charter planes for small group activities, as it were. What isn't clear from these reports as they were about accidents rather than airplane hiring in general, is that we don't know how many such trips were being held say on the weekend of Tuesday when the other accident occurred. But even if the number of plane trips around the country would have reached a hundred or more commercial value trips, where hiring is involved and not just a private excursion aboard a personal airplane, still two accidents was a hit high. TCAA has work to do to ensure that airworthiness and take off feasibility or danger, is noticed early.

## Obesity is a growing epidemic affecting both children and adults: We can control it

OBESITY is a medical condition in which excess body fat has accumulated to an extent that it may have a negative effect on health. People are generally considered obese when their body mass index (BMI), a measurement obtained by dividing a person's weight by the square of the person's height, is over 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; the range 25-30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> is defined as overweight. Some East Asian countries use lower values. Obesity increases the likelihood of various diseases and conditions, particularly cardiovascular diseases, type 2 diabetes, obstructive sleep apnea, certain types of cancer, osteoarthritis, and depression.

Obesity is most commonly caused by a combination of excessive food intake, lack of physical activity, and genetic susceptibility. A few cases are caused primarily by genes, endocrine disorders, medications, or mental disorder. The view that obese people eat little yet gain weight due to a slow metabolism is not medically supported. On average, obese people have a greater energy expenditure than their normal counterparts due to the energy required to maintain an increased body mass.

Obesity is mostly preventable through a combination of social changes and personal choices. Changes to diet and exercising are the main treatments. Diet quality can be improved by reducing the consumption of energy-dense foods, such as those high in fat or sugars, and by increasing the intake of dietary fiber. Medications can be used, along with a suitable diet, to reduce appetite or decrease fat absorption. If diet, exercise, and medication are not effective, a gastric balloon or surgery may be performed to reduce stomach volume or length of the intestines, leading to feeling full earlier or a reduced ability to absorb nutrients from food.

Obesity is a leading preventable cause of death worldwide, with increasing rates in adults and children. In 2015, 600 million adults (12 pc ) and 100 million children were obese in 195 countries. Obesity is more common in women than men. Authorities view it as one of the most serious public health

problems of the 21st century. Obesity is stigmatized in much of the modern world (particularly in the Western world), though it was seen as a symbol of wealth and fertility at other times in history and still is in some parts of the world. In 2013, the American Medical Association classified obesity as a disease.

Obesity is a medical condition in which excess body fat has accumulated to the extent that it may have an adverse effect on health.[19] It is defined by body mass index (BMI) and further evaluated in terms of fat distribution via the waist-hip ratio and total cardiovascular risk factors. In children, a healthy weight varies with age and sex. Obesity in children and adolescents is defined not as an absolute number but in relation to a historical normal group, such that obesity is a BMI greater than the 95th percentile. Rates of overweight and obesity also rose amongst school-aged children and adults—the report finds that obesity rates in adults have reached one in eight worldwide due to improper nutrition and what is called “moderate to severe” food insecurity.

The report finds that 2 billion people worldwide fall into this category of “moderate to severe” food insecurity. Although food insecurity predominantly appears in middle and low-income countries, people in affluent countries also struggle with irregular food access—in North America and Europe, this impacts eight percent of the population. Women are more likely than men to be food insecure across every continent.

The report also focuses on the role of economic slowdowns and downturns, capturing the ways in which the root causes of hunger—poverty, inequality, and marginalization—shape food security worldwide. Máximo Torero, the Assistant Director-General of the FAO's Economic and Social Development Department, explained that between 2011 and 2017, hunger increased in countries that observed economic slowdowns or contractions. “Out of the 77 countries that experienced a rise in hunger, 65 of the countries saw their economies slow down or contract

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## Time for the ruling party to pay its debt to history

By Ishaan Haffeejee

ALEXANDRA, Kliptown and Sharpeville - three names that ring with resistance and pride in South African liberation history. Yet despite their historical importance, these are neglected places in 2019.

Why is it that historic and politically significant townships are neglected and often overlooked and excluded when the seeds of development are planted?

In the build-up to the history-making 1994 elections Nelson Mandela campaigned using the slogan of “free water, electricity, education and housing for all”, but in 2019 this is still a dream for most.

In his reply to the debate on the state of the nation address, President Cyril Ramaphosa invoked the spirit of the Freedom Charter, reminding citizens of how it was adopted more than half a century ago as a document with “our shared vision of a just and equitable South Africa.”

Ramaphosa said the document - which underpins the Constitution and, he claims, the National Development Plan (NDP) - was drawn up at a “time when a majority of South Africans lived under conditions of repression, where their rights were denied and their opportunities for economic advancement were deliberately curtailed.”

### Reality paints bleaker picture

The ugly truth is that the lived reality in many politically significant townships, including Kliptown where the Charter was signed, remains a material refutation of the speech as these townships are often left behind and almost wholly neglected in terms of development.

There has been a serious challenge in providing services and dealing with impoverishment, particularly in Sharpeville, Alexandra and Kliptown - townships which boast a rich history of resistance and political legacy.

In some instances, most residents are far from opportunities for economic advancement, and they still endure egregious living and social conditions.

Many have become disillusioned and see through the crude politicking used during elections to garner votes. Having woken up to the evident reality that their rights have not been and continue not being realised, many have lost faith in the ruling party's ability to provide for them.

Apart from sharing a painful history marked by bloodshed, neglect and maladministration, the three townships have staged shutdowns, with Kliptown most recently holding a mid-

July protest against evictions from the Kliptown Flats. This a month after ANC Secretary-General Ace Magashule had visited the township to commemorate the 64th anniversary of the signing of the Freedom Charter.

Alexandra was also the source of protests between April and June, and a shutdown was staged around issues including what some described as “the mushrooming of illegal structures”, a lack of development and poor roads, blocked sewers and potholes.

A shutdown was staged in pothole-infested Sharpeville during the Sharpeville Massacre commemorations. Votes were withheld during the general election, with residents resentful that their constitutional rights had not materialised, or had been awarded at a glacial pace, or only through extreme political expediency.

Emfuleni - under which Sharpeville falls - was excluded from the Auditor-General's 2017/2018 analysis because the audit outcome had not been finalised on time owing to safety concerns in the area.

### Past brighter than present?

Since democracy, only a few can truly say their townships have changed for the better in the face of dramatic increases in population growth. There is a chronic lack of investment, and where there has been limited commercial investment, it has scarcely benefited residents.

The bus boycott campaigns in Alexandra in the 1940s and 1950s had a profound effect on Mandela, who was living there at the time. “In a small way, I had departed from my role as an observer and become a participant. I found that to march with one's people was exhilarating and inspiring,” he said of that time.

It is extraordinary that the township that propelled him fully into activism is now so neglected that the prospect of residents receiving even basic services seems as futile as reaching for the stars with bare hands.

What possibility of the former home of struggle veteran Charlotte Maxeke being restored when Kliptown itself has not received a well-deserved makeover? Although the Maxeke house still bears a broken sign put up by the City of Johannesburg declaring it a heritage site, the ANC is yet to upgrade it. Another board outside the house proclaims that it was due for renovation as far back as 2012.

Kliptown residents rightfully lamented the renovation of one home in the face of the deplorable conditions of their own homes and of the dusty, rubbish-strewn streets of the township.

### Basics lacking

In Kliptown, the problems run beyond the aesthetics. The township has a lack of access to basic services that improve lives. Kliptown has been in existence since 1904, which means it's a terrible shame that even today it still has no library, clinic or school. Yet two huge multimillion-rand towering presences, Walter Sisulu Square and Soweto Hotel, which the community cannot access, dominate the area - and eject dirty water that carves its way through the township, leaving a foul stench.

In Sharpeville, the situation is not any better. If you are there during the annual commemorations of the massacre, you may be insulated from the dismal sight of heaps of uncollected rubbish and uncut grass on the corner of each street. If you are there at any other time of the year, when there is no celebration worthy of political expediency, you are lucky to make it through the crater-like potholes that plague the roads.

As part of Mandela month, MEC Jacob Mamabolo launched a two-week pothole-patching project in the Sedibeng District, which has had minimal success as the huge potholes are still an indelible feature of Sharpeville.

Other attempts have been made to develop townships across the province, but in addition to problems around service provision, various other issues arise including political instability, administrative lapses, poor financial management and poorly maintained and decaying infrastructure.

During his state of the province address, Premier David Makhura said MEC Lebogang Maile would present a plan on urban renewal projects in Alexandra and Kliptown, pledging to return to the townships within two months to give feedback to communities on plans to take the projects forward.

The renewal projects have often not taken off. Where they have, there has not been much fruit for those in dire need of the benefits of township revitalisation because of continuing bureaucratic delays and corruption.

### Bureaucratic ping-pong

What is evident is that people have always adapted and made means where possible. In one part of Sharpeville, residents hungry for land ended up living right on top of a gravesite.

Alexandra, established as a “native town” eight years after Kliptown, has regressed. Even politicians who grew up there have called it a place “that is not sustainable for human development.”

These are townships that house

extraordinary political history and memory, and yet there is no urgency or political will to preserve and develop them. Calling out any corruption in the renewal projects seems a futile exercise because one is often caught in a ping-pong blame game between different departments and organs of state.

Although the old houses in these townships are crumbling, they are still standing. In many townships across South Africa, RDP houses that are barely two years old are already falling apart, paint chipping, the exposed powdery cement eroding and the ceiling shaking dangerously during strong winds.

Infrastructure conditions have perhaps not improved owing to the financial state of municipalities, which has declined immensely. The latest figures from the 2017/2018 Auditor-General's local government audit reveal that clean audits are not an aspiration of many municipalities, despite the scores of people who rely on local government to govern effectively and deliver much-needed services.

Gauteng had only one municipality with a clean audit, and as President Ramaphosa noted as a concern, there is no accountability where there is corruption and no delivery.

The audit report highlighted numerous failures in development and maintenance of infrastructure: many municipalities have no existing policies on maintenance and have not assessed the conditions of their infrastructure.

### Backlogs

In a 2007 report the National Treasury stated that “today's infrastructure requirements are tomorrow's backlogs”. Today, that appears to be the case with government officials constantly using “backlogs” as the reason behind lack of decent roads, housing and electricity.

The Auditor-General's report stated that “low capital spending has potentially serious implications for the government's ability to meet targets for expanded access to water, sanitation, electricity and job creation.

“There are areas where we picked up that there was no proper supervision on projects, hence additional expenditure being incurred.”

Such is the case with the Alexandra Renewal Project that stakeholders are now scurrying to resuscitate by pumping more money into, despite the incomplete projects having been assigned budget already.

These townships are not just places with extraordinary political and historical significance. They are also home to many people. Their neglect is disgraceful and cannot be allowed to continue.



# Namibia and Tanzania: Contrasting transitions from colony to trusteeship

By Miki Tasseni

HERE is an aspect of Tanzania-Namibia relations that scarcely ever comes to the surface; the mainstay of what is recalled is where Namibian fighters of the national liberation movement SWAPO were living, and lately veterans say they opened the Kongwa camp in the hinterland. It was far inside the country as to make it impregnable save by a deeply operating sabotage group from South Africa, compared to say if it was close to the Mozambique border, where it would be easily attacked. Later this area became safe too.

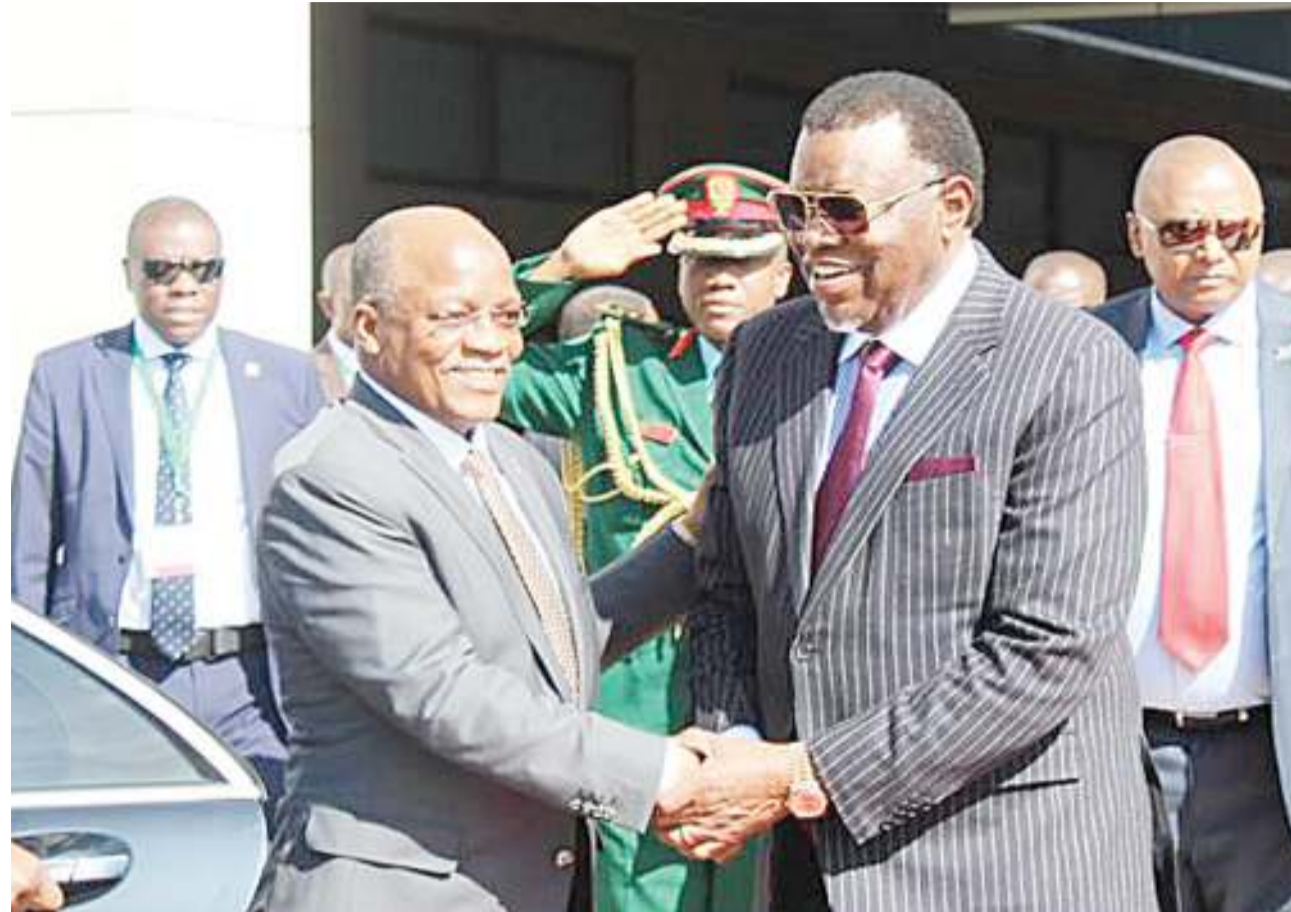
What is hidden is the transition from German colonial hold to British trusteeship, which in the case of Tanzania (earlier Tanganyika) it was Britain which took over, while in the case of Namibia, then known as South West Africa it was South Africa that was handed the reins of rule, as pseudo-trusteeship. The difference was that Britain could be trusted to take Tanganyika to independence as no British direct interests were opposed to that eventually. South Africa was strategically a totally different situation.

At the time of ending World War I when the transition took place, the differ-

ence between South Africa and Britain was already noticeable but the European powers had no reason to take a deep breath about that issue, as it was colonialism continuing all the same. For Namibia it was a continuation of nearly the same thing as earlier, that surreptitiously it was under the same power as Tanganyika but the content was onerously different. Namibia had experienced a much bitter colonial experience with Germany, far worse than anything experienced by German East Africa (Deutsch Ostafrika), for somewhat unclear reasons.

The colossal difference between the two colonial situations, which was more or less repeated in the transition to trusteeship, was that Namibia faced a far more violent colonial occupation compared to its German dominated 'sister state' on the eastern shores of the continent. When tribal chiefs were in revolt in Namibia in the late 1890s, much earlier than the Maji Maji war, the Germans sent a general to take care of rebellions, and apparently the top army officer and scion of some feudal land owning family, did not have much to bother as to accountability. He mowed down the Nama and Herero in a genocidal manner.

As this was the period



Namibian President Hage Geingob (R, front) welcomes his Tanzanian counterpart John Magufuli in Windhoek, Namibia, May 27, 2019. File photo

of initial rebellions or resistances against colonial encroachments, resistances in this part of German possession were comparable to Namibia, except that in Namibia the population was more cohesive tribally, as is the case for Botswana. In that context the Germans might have felt a rather intense challenge to have

sent a general down the continent to handle the situation, whereas in the case of Tanganyika there was no link between one tribal rebellion and another. The most intense tribal resistance came from Iringa, where Mukwava Munyigumba paralysed a detached regiment, to German incredulity.

In what appears to have been a twist of fortune where those with ready-made spiritual perspectives may as well see an aspect of fate at work, not to say divinity, Germany replaced the defeated regimental commander, Captain Zelewsky with Major von Wissman, who pacified the whole southern zone and

well beyond. But an officer of that rank is likely to be conscious of accounting for how much destruction he causes around the population, as it can ignite future revolts and cause problems in sustainable colonial administration. That wasn't the case with a ranking member of the general staff hewn out

of the nobility as he has access to doors that a mere captain is unlikely to think of opening. The ranking general was the cause of Namibia's catastrophe, as he put aside careful warfare to quell rebellion - for a racist genocide.

He launched a scorched earth policy in the country that was already being encroached by desert over a century before climate change became a day to day issue, and the result was saddening and cataclysmic, with the Nama-Herero massacres being regularly compared with Belgian Congo. Here colonialism was at its worst as King Leopold II wanted the whole native population to take to the forests to tap rubber, a tree they definitely knew and may have used it for this or that purpose if they needed rubber to trap animals or anything. But laboring for a foreign warlord thirsty for vast rubber at virtually no pay was just excessive.

The killing that resulted from broad resistance to this order, where nearly half the population was killed by amputation of arms of anyone who resisted, was a calamity that has gone down the annals of colonial history and vestiges of 'the White Man's Burden,' its precise refutation. Germany went into elaborate soul searching after that event, as there

were leagues of people of conscience, democrats and social democrats though its situation was less advanced than Britain, and US sense of rights was clouded by a racially structured society. But Tanganyika may have gained in this catastrophe as when there was a wider rebellion, the MajiMaji in early 20th century, no general was sent down to exterminate a rebelling population but some scorched earth policy was conducted. Historians say it was the German governor,

Count Gustav Adolf von Gotzen who staunchly advocated the scorched earth policy to sap local energy.

In that case it was conducted quite extensively and a vast famine followed the war but with more regular rainfall the scale of devastation was more mitigated. After WW2, Tanganyika was on its way to attain independence as the British started surrendering their colonial possessions instead of confronting Indian nationalism to start with, which it couldn't contain. The following year after India became independent in 1947, South Africa shifted to apartheid to build a protective colonial state immune to nationalist and other pressures for majority rule; Namibia was no longer a trusteeship territory but largely a virtual Bantustan.

## Nyerere and Kaunda: Ethics and the transition to multiparty democracy

By Ani Jozeni

POLITICAL thinking in its classical context was always torn between morality and realism or practicality in what one is doing, that is whether it was the right thing to do morally speaking or it was the best thing to do in terms of political calculation. The former fires the idealism of mostly youthful activists and many join politics believing there is something they can achieve in influencing social and political movement - and at a certain point they start seeing hidden facets of those they trusted, and their faith is eroded. This is what can be compared to original sin in politics, and virtually everyone eventually commits the same sin.

When idealism has cooled off and realism takes over, there is a tussle between practical politics that is informed by faith, and cynical calculation where only victory matters, and one can say anything, even over a dead body - at times large numbers of dead people. It is the sort of politics that hits the headlines on a day to day basis, and engulfs more of reality the moment old structures kept in place by minimal force, cajoling and mobilization of vast portions of society afraid of change or detesting it, fail. At that point there is either brute force that will keep the people cowed or walls fall and change is at the door.

African one party states were kept together by fear of the unknown, either of a hostile tribe taking over and therefore those in power having to knit tightly around the leader, or in the case of a radical regime, a hostile major power sought ways of snipping a revolutionary experience in the bud. Then came the fall of the Berlin Wall late 1989 and the freeing



Frontline States presidents Samora Machel of Mozambique, Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia greet well wishers during one of their gatherings. File photo

of Nelson Mandela in February 1990 where the continental definition of right and wrong suddenly changed. No longer capable of citing the apartheid state as the key reason for one party states in the whole of Southern Africa, democracy started to creep in, a bit rapidly.

It is at that moment that ethical issues came in more intensely in the conduct of political authority, as those in power had to make up their minds as to how to go about the issue, with tumultuous changes in some areas and serene continuity in other areas, where the level of homogeneity was higher. Zambia and Tanzania were friendly states fired by plenty of the same goals and thinking of their founding fathers - Kenneth Kaunda and Julius Nyerere, though Nyerere was in economic policy a bit more militant, but Kaunda was perhaps more emphatic in ethical considerations. He had at times openly sobbed in distress.

The specific inclination of the two leaders helped to define not just their countries' destiny in the now unfolding multiparty era but their personal legacies as well, where it can be said that Nyerere by and large succeeded while Kaunda more or less completely failed. The reason was that Zambian politics was torn from the inside by the contention of two or so ethnic groups as in Zimbabwe and other SADC member states, and Dr Kaunda had not succeeded to build a state having personal loyalty to himself. He used a state of emergency legislation of the mid-1960s at the time of the white settler unilateral declaration of independence in 'Southern Rhodesia' to ensure he had a free hand with detentions, mild authoritarianism.

Tanzania was also in much the same situation, with sharp contrasts between the Mainland and Zanzibar where the latter had a more typical African regime, where the fear was

visible and abundant. A French academic administrator who had a spell in East Africa in the mid-1980s was telling a seminar at the University of Bordeaux I in 1987 that what distinguishes Tanzania from other African countries is that the level of fear is considerably limited. In other countries the one party state was violent, not just restraining.

That is what makes the transition to multipartism, and especially the first multiparty elections between the two countries interesting in their proximity and contrasts. In Tanzania the transition to multipartism came well after Nyerere had retired and organized the handing over of supreme political authority to someone else, though he sat in the wings, with loyalty to state institutions still in his hands as an iconic monument to those institutions, not just a retired ruler. That is where Kaunda failed as he did not decide to leave office

voluntarily and organize an election, so he wanted to govern but from an ethical basis of conduct.

In that context he submitted himself to a multiparty general election where he was a candidate of a ruling party which opponents, radicals with negative experience in government or no experience at all, and those with hidden motives saying one thing to the people in order to do another when office, were hounding him. He was earnestly defeated and accepted defeat, moved out graciously and let those hounding him take over state power, seeking to bury his name in an unmarked grave while Nyerere in contrast stood above state institutions as their guardian. But there is fate and spirituality above, so Kaunda is the grand old man of Zambian politics, off the microphone but in good health, while his opponents are mostly dead.

## Environmental migration new global challenge

UNITED NATIONS

The Atlas of Environmental Migration, which gives examples dating as far back as 45,000 years ago, shows that environmental changes and natural disasters have played a role in how the population is distributed on our planet throughout history.

However, it is highly likely that undesirable environmental changes directly created by, or amplified by, climate change, will extensively change the patterns of human settlement.

Future degradation of land used for agriculture and farming, the disruption of fragile ecosystems and the depletion of precious natural resources like fresh water will directly impact people's lives and homes.

The climate crisis is already having an effect: according to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, 17.2 million people had to leave their homes last year, because of disasters that negatively affected their lives.

Slow changes in the environment, such as ocean acidification, desertification and coastal erosion, are also directly impacting people's livelihoods and their capacity to survive in their places of origin.

There is a strong possibility that more people will migrate in search of better opportunities, as living conditions get worse in their places of origin.

There are predictions for the twenty-first century indicating that even more people will have to move as a result of these adverse climate impacts. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the main UN authority on climate science, has repeatedly said that the changes brought on by the climate crisis will influence migration patterns.

The World Bank has put forward projections for internal climate migration amounting to 143 million people by 2050 in three regions of the world, if no climate action is taken.

However, our level of awareness and understanding of how environmental factors affect migration, and how they also interact with other migration drivers such as demographic, political and economic conditions, has also changed. With enhanced knowledge, there is more incentive to act urgently, be prepared and respond.

The Global Compact for Migration: a roadmap for governments. In the past decade, there has been a growing political awareness of the issues around environmental migration, and increasing acceptance that this is a global challenge.

Herders take their animals to drink water in Niger., by FAO/Giulio Napolitano

As a result, many states have signed up to landmark agreements, such as the Paris Climate Change Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Global Compact for Migration, which marks a clear way forward for governments to address the issue of climate and migration.

The Compact contains many references to environmental migration including a whole section on measures to address environmental and climate challenges: it is the first time that a comprehensive vision has been laid out, showing how states can handle - now and in the future - the impacts of climate change, disasters and environmental degradation on international migration.

# Changing the migration horizon from North Africa to Europe

BY MATTHEW HERBERT

New leadership is coming into power at the European Union (EU). In July, newly elected and re-elected members of parliament began their work at the European Parliament. In November the top leadership will change.

The advent of the new leadership team is an opportunity to revisit and review the EU's foreign policy. This includes the issue of irregular migration of North Africans to Europe and the bloc's broader strategy towards the countries on the south-western rim of the Mediterranean. The strategy towards migration is one of the most complicated, sensitive and enduring issues faced by EU policymakers. The new leaders must avoid uncritically perpetuating their predecessors' policies.

The Maghreb is going through a particularly complex and fragile period. Economic and social challenges abound, and there is an acute sense among the largely young populations that their political leadership can't or won't solve the problems they face.

In Morocco, 43% say their quality of life has decreased. In Tunisia, limited job opportunities and spiralling inflation have imparted the sense that 'the noose is tightening.' A growing number of young people have taken to the street, protesting to change ossified political leadership, abusive or unequal treatment by security forces, or just to dem-



The new European Union leadership must rethink approaches to migration from the Maghreb. File photo

onstrate frustration with the status quo.

Others are taking to the boats, risking their lives to migrate irregularly to Europe. European states, along with Tunisia and Algeria, intercepted 38 968 Maghrebi irregular migrants in 2018, up from 15 961 in 2016.

The rising number of Maghrebi migrants has posed a political challenge to the EU. Anti-migrant populism remains a potent political force in a number of European countries, and as growing numbers of Moroccans, Algerians, and Tunisians move northwards, the ire of populist politicians has increasingly fixated on them.

Populist domestic politics have increased pressure on EU authorities to address - or

at least politically mitigate - the issue. And so the bloc has dispensed aid and exerted diplomatic pressure on Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya to halt the flow of people. But neither aid nor pressure has significantly affected migrant departures from the Maghreb nor lessened the interest in emigrating. Seventy percent of young adults in Morocco want to emigrate, with levels in Algeria and Tunisia probably similar.

So the incoming EU leadership will face immediate pressure from within the bloc to better address Maghrebi irregular migration. Any discussions around changing the EU's approach however should guard against creating yet more challenges in the Maghreb.

There are five issues EU decision makers should consider. First, structural inequality must be addressed. EU programmes aimed at migration's root causes largely don't address structural inequality, the reality that one's family, region of origin, economic status and age dictate economic options, access to public services, and the types of engagements one has with security forces.

Entrenched inequality significantly limits the impact of even well-funded and well-designed programmes on the marginalised individuals and communities likely to want to migrate. A revised EU strategy must prioritise and mainstream efforts to acknowledge and address structural inequality.

Second, emigration from the Maghreb, both legal and irregular, helps to buttress stability in the region. Migration offers an economic lifeline to populations that the region's governments either can't or won't help, in turn lessening social frustration and unrest. Absent significant changes in economic opportunity, social relations and inequality risk enflaming unrest and threatening stability in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. This instability could be far more damaging to the EU's economic and security interests than irregular migration.

Third, migration is just as significant a political issue in these three countries as it is in Europe. While transit migration and the increase in

migrants settling in the Maghreb raise some political tensions, it is irregular emigration by Moroccans, Algerians and Tunisians that has the most political impact.

Maghrebi governments know the political benefits that irregular migration of their citizens offers. Their priorities hinge on ensuring domestic stability, and hence tacitly allowing migration, even if that results in worsened relations with the EU and member states. Unless EU programming takes into account Moroccan, Algerian and Tunisian politics and political needs around migration, it will almost assuredly fail to gain significant traction in the region.

Fourth, 'enforcement first' programmes won't succeed. These are premised on the idea

that continued irregular migration from Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia is due to security force capacity gaps. But the complicated politics around migration in the three countries means that weak enforcement is as much due to political will as to security forces' materiel weaknesses.

Fifth, the current irregular and legal migration status quo works poorly for both Europe and North Africa. Irregular migration is seen as a problem by Europe, and an imperfect solution for North Africa. Europe profits from the legal emigration of highly skilled Moroccans, Algerians and Tunisians, while that very brain drain stymies the economic development of North Africa.

To move forward, a frank debate is needed between the EU and North African states on how to build an equitable, cross-Mediterranean approach to migration. This must consider how the needs of European and North African states can be reconciled.

Migration is a complicated and politically and diplomatically sensitive issue for EU policymakers. Because it is influenced by and affects a broad set of economic, social and political issues in and outside the bloc, there are no 'easy' wins when it comes to migration policy.

As the new EU leadership team takes stock of the situation, they should consider the needs and concerns of Maghreb states, address structural inequality, and must not undermine stability in the region.

Dr Matthew Herbert, Senior Research Consultant, ISS

Harare, Zimbabwe

A year ago, with Zimbabwe's longtime ruler Robert Mugabe out of the picture, the troubled African country seemed to have taken a turn for the better.

Mugabe's successor and the incumbent, Emmerson Mnangagwa, was speaking a new language.

Politically, he was breaking away from his predecessor's ruinous and often autocratic past and presenting himself as a new man, re-engaging with the international community after years of diplomatic ostracisation.

A return to democracy was expected.

Economically, the 76 year old was pursuing new policies such as opening up the country for business under the "open for business" mantra. He was also looking to abandon controversial policies such as indigenisation - a law that compelled foreign investors with businesses with a net asset value of \$1 to cede 51 percent equity stakes to indigenous Zimbabweans to right historical wealth imbalances.

Aided by various public relations gimmicks that won him admiration, Mnangagwa was set to succeed.

On one occasion, he stopped his presidential motorcade at a popular fast food outlet for a chicken meal. He is said to have waited in the queue like everyone else.

Fast forward a year, the hope for a new Zimbabwe has vanished. Mnangagwa has lost support and confirmed everyone's worst fear: there is someone who can run the country worse than Mugabe.

Innocent Zhakata, a book vendor on Harare's streets, told Al Jazeera things have gotten tougher since

## One year on: What has changed for Zimbabwe post Mugabe?



Mnangagwa gives his inaugural speech to thousands of people after his win in last year's disputed polls. File photo

Mnangagwa took over.

"Life is getting tough. Prices are going up. There is no money in the economy. During Mugabe's time, life was better. People are now realising they made a mistake [supporting the military coup that catapulted Mnangagwa to power]," Zhakata told Al Jazeera.

"In the few months we have been with these guys, things have gotten worse. Things were better. We could buy property, furniture and other things. Now, we can't even buy clothes."

Munyaradzi Mufambi, a 22-year-old beverage merchandiser in the capital, said the last year had been disillusioning for him.

"I am not sure about the future of our generation in light of the problems we face as a country. I wonder if I will ever be able to raise a family and provide for them adequately," said Mufambi.

"In all fairness, I don't know if the president has plans to fix the problems. Maybe he just hasn't communicated these plans to the nation."

Mufambi, like Zhakata, said the standards of living were much better under Mugabe. "Given a choice between Mugabe and Mnangagwa, I would choose Mugabe," said Mufambi.

"School fees was \$20 in my time. A quart of beer was \$2. I have to forego beer now, save money and buy essential things. I now buy second-hand clothing."

Promises and 'lies'

Ibbo Mandaza, a respected academic and director of a local think-tank Sapes Trust, said Mnangagwa's first year as president had been a total failure.

"Ever since that coup in November 2017, things have actually been getting worse. It's been worse than we expected. We are now faced with a far worse political and economic crisis characterised by power shortages, rising prices, currency crisis and fuel shortages," Mandaza told Al Jazeera.

"What is more worrying is that whilst we are in this crisis, there is virtual absence of government intervention. One can be forgiven for thinking there is now government. At this rate, I don't see this government getting to 2023."

"Under Mugabe, things were getting bad. It's the same group of people essentially. It's them and it appears it ends with them. This can't go on forever. I am concerned with the apparent lack of an alternative political solution in this crisis to step in and help end the crisis."

In the run-up to the elections last year,

Mnangagwa promised millions of jobs, a better life, and a better Zimbabwe.

A year later, none of the promises has been delivered.

"He lied. We thought industries were going to open and new jobs created. He lied. None of the things he promised have been delivered," Zhakata, who was laid off from one of the country's largest bakery, Lobels, pointed out.

Not many citizens will vent their anger in public.

Some said Mnangagwa is far more brutal than Mugabe and an even worse dictator.

In January, five months after being sworn in as the country's third president, more than 17 unarmed people were shot and killed by the military for protesting against high fuel prices.

Scores were wounded or arrested. Mugabe had generally been seen as a dictator, but he had never unleashed soldiers on protesters.

The US imposed sanctions as a result, saying they would only be removed if Harare showed commitment and political will to return to democracy through fostering the rule of law and holding credible elections, among other key reforms.

Just this week, Defence and War Veterans deputy minister Victor Matemadanda told a

Zimbabwe National Liberation War Collaborators conference in Gweru the army would crush any protests.

"The law says police must use minimum force when dealing with riotous people during demonstrations," he said.

"I do not know the level of the said minimum force. But if they fail to handle the demonstrations, the constitution says they must invite the military," Matemadanda added.

Opposition MDC National Youth Assembly spokesperson Steven Chuma said Mnangagwa's short reign has been a disaster.

"It's crystal clear that Mnangagwa has failed. Never in the history of Africa has any president failed in one year as he has failed."

Clampdown on dissent  
Mnangagwa's pledge to break with his predecessor's past autocratic policies and tactics, and introduce far-reaching reforms in the realms of business and safeguarding fundamental rights, has so far been a pipe dream for many Zimbabweans.

Zimbabwe experiences worst power outages in three years

Since the beginning of the year, there has been a clampdown on activists and opposition figures.

In the past few months, the government has seemingly targeted civil society activists

and workers.

State security agents arrested seven activists between May 20 and 27 at Harare's Robert Gabriel Mugabe International Airport on their return from a workshop in the Maldives.

Job Sikhala, deputy chair for the main opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), was arrested last month on charges of attempting to subvert Mnangagwa's government.

The basis of Sikhala's arrest was a video that circulated on social media in which he appears to be telling supporters at a rally: "We are going to take the fight to the doorsteps of Emmerson Mnangagwa. We are going to overthrow him before 2023 - that is not a joke."

What political reforms?

Mnangagwa has also not instituted reforms to laws seen to be unconstitutional such as the repressive Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the Public Order and Security Act.

The two laws were seen as an attack on fundamental rights such as freedom of expression and association.

Analysts say apart from his heavy-handedness and autocratic tactics, his short rule is one fraught with numerous failures.

The economy is on its knees. Inflation is ravaging. General hardships are the order of the day.

Power shortages have hit industry hard. Currency confidence is at its lowest.

A spokesman for the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union - Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF), Simon Khaya Moyo, said Mnangagwa fared pretty fairly given the myriad of challenges he faced, such as the drought and the impact it was having on the economy.

Agencies

# Why the Maasai tribe believes all cows belong to them

By Joel Savage

Even though history reveals that slavery and colonialism separated and destroyed many ethnic groups and tribes on the African continent, there are still some strong tribes in Africa, making a difference because of their strong traditions, culture, and heritage. One of the survival tribes of Africa is the Maasai.

They are one of the most popular tribes of Africa, that still preserves centuries-old traditions in Africa. The name Maasai means those who speak the Maa language. They are undoubtedly one of the most fascinating peoples on the African continent.

The Maasai originate from the Nile region in North Africa, often located in southern Kenya and northern Tanzania, along the Great Rift Valley. Today the Maasai are about one million on an area of about 160,000 square kilometers and are the very symbol of the culture of Kenya and Tanzania.

Their migration began in the fifteenth century and ended thousands of kilometers further south at the dawn of the nineteenth century. During their long journey, the Maasai faced and defeated the tribes they encountered on the road or incorporated them.

In the twentieth century, the population was decimated due to epidemics and diseases that affected the livestock. In fact, the Maasai have always been semi-nomadic shepherds and the herd is the main source of wealth and survival.

The long history and the great journey over the centuries have made the Maasai great warriors. This aspect characterizes the different phases of the life of men, women and the important passages of existence characterized by complex ceremonies and ancient rituals.

Clothing is an essential element of the Maasai culture, beginning with the traditional clothes of colors and the beautiful beads worn by women. Despite the



temptations of modernity, the Maasai still maintains their roots in the millennial history of Africa.

Meeting and getting to know them is, therefore, an integral part of every travel experience in Kenya and Tanzania.

The Maasai villages, called 'manyattas,' are composed of small, dark groups of huts made of dung cow and tree

branches. When they decide to migrate, the inhabitants burn their villages and where they decide to stay, it is the women who rebuild a new one, while the men take care of the security of the camp and take care of the cattle.

### Maasai young girls

Much of every male of the tribe has grown on the values

of fidelity, defense, and fraternal union. As soon as you reach the right age, usually eighteen, the males are sent to hunt and on this first occasion, they must show their virility.

Superstition and beliefs are very prevalent in Africa, thus; the Maasai also believe that 'Ngai,' the lord of the rain and the main deity cre-

ated the cows, especially for the Maasai. Therefore, cows, wherever they are in the world, belong to them.

Therefore, have the right to steal them if possible, since those cows were stolen from them. Thus, their entire combat experience is aimed at protecting its livestock from encroachment and trying to take possession of others.

# Wisconsin native works to save lions and livestock in Tanzania

By Joy Powers

RUAHA National Park in Tanzania may seem like a world away from Wisconsin. But Wauwatosa-native BenJee Cascio calls both of

these places home.

As the human-wildlife conflict manager for the Ruaha Carnivore Project's Lion Defenders program, Cascio is working to shift cultural attitudes around lions.

The Maasai and Barabaig tribes are nomadic pastoralists living near Ruaha. They have traditionally seen lions as predators that threaten their livestock and livelihood.

Managing that conflict involves many things, according to Cascio, like creating better enclosures for livestock and breaking the connection between lion spearing and prosperity in these tribes.

"We work with some of these young warriors and convert them into lion defenders. Instead of going out and traditionally spearing the lions, they now engage in activities to protect them," says Cascio.

# Smart gas cooking seeks to break African cities' dirty charcoal habit

BARCELONA

The widespread use of charcoal for cooking in African cities can cause devastating damage to forests up to 300 km away, scientist Sebastian Rodriguez-Sanchez found while working on energy and agriculture issues in West Africa.

So in 2015, he co-founded a business to try to fix the problem by weaning people off charcoal - made by smouldering wood - and onto bottled gas, a fuel common in his home country of Mexico.

So far, efforts to introduce cleaner stoves that burn less fuel have been led mainly by aid agencies working in rural parts of Africa and Asia - and have had limited success. But a new push by businesses targeting urban areas aims to shift the dial.

For families in the Tanzanian city of Dar es Salaam, where Rodriguez-Sanchez started his business, KopaGas, the \$150 cost of a gas stove and canister equals half the average monthly wage, making it hard to afford.

As a result, four out of five residents in a city generating 40% of the East African nation's GDP still depend on a fuel that damages both forests and their health to make daily meals.

"It's 2019. People have smartphones they can do everything (with), but they are still cooking with charcoal," said Rodriguez-Sanchez. That "outrageous" situation has to change to avoid environmental disaster, he said.

KopaGas hopes to spur uptake of gas cooking using a pay-as-you-go (PAYG) system it developed.

For an upfront fee of 15,000 Tanzanian shillings (\$6.50), a household gets a liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cooking kit that includes a canister fitted with a smart meter.

The gas supply is unlocked by mobile phone payments and the meter monitors consumption, feeding back data via the Internet of Things (IoT).

KopaGas has signed up 3,500 households for its PAYG service, and supplies another 20,000 with traditional gas bottles.

Its services reach about 117,000 people in total, a number it aims to boost to 1 million in Tanzania by the end of 2021.

Rodriguez-Sanchez said the PAYG model needed to be proved at a large scale to attract greater levels of investment.

Help may be at hand. In July, London-based BBOXX, one of Africa's biggest off-



grid solar energy providers, launched a pilot project for PAYG gas cooking in Rwanda's capital, Kigali.

BBOXX said the service, aimed at expanding cleaner cooking in urban areas, would harness the same mobile money and digital platform it uses for solar kits and power paid in instalments.

Mansoor Hamayun, BBOXX CEO and co-founder, said the company hoped to provide PAYG gas cooking to 10,000 homes and businesses by the end of 2020, with the aim of proving that a market opportunity exists and working out how to expand it.

Kigali intends to ban charcoal use in the early 2020s, he noted. In recent years, Kenya has slapped controls on logging in public forests and on the charcoal trade to curb its impact, but with limited success.

About 4 million people - many of them women and children - die every year from indoor air pollution mostly caused by burning smoky fuels including wood, kerosene, dung and charcoal.

Dirty cooking causes respiratory and skin ailments, among other health problems, exacting what Hamayun called a "crazy human cost".

But using natural gas - a fossil fuel - instead has not been a palatable solution to backers of renewable energy and climate change action, he told the Thomson Reuters Founda-

tion. Yet in many of Africa's fast-expanding cities, where electricity is expensive and there is little piped gas, bottled LPG may be the best available alternative to charcoal, at least in the short term, both Hamayun and Rodriguez-Sanchez said.

"LPG makes a lot of economic sense," said Hamayun, noting Kigali already has a distribution network. "It is a cleaner and better fuel, and has a lot of benefits over charcoal."

In the future, its smart LPG canisters could be filled with biogas, produced from sources like animal manure or municipal waste, once it becomes more widely available in cities, he added.

Up to now, biogas has mainly been viable for livestock farmers with a ready supply of dung, though building their own biodigester to make the gas is pricey, often costing several hundred dollars.

However, companies in Mexico and Cambodia are prefabricating biogas units and stoves, bringing down the cost, and are starting to use PAYG technology to help rural families afford them, noted an April report on the clean cooking market.

BBOXX is also launching a similar service in rural Rwanda.

The Clean Cooking Alliance, a U.N.-backed coalition that produced the report, said innovative approaches to help the poor in developing nations cook more cleanly are growing, with early indications that some can

work financially at a large scale.

Still, investment remains far below what is required to transition 3 billion people off dirty fuels, it said. About \$40 million was put toward the effort in 2017, compared with \$4 billion needed annually to meet a global goal for everyone to cook cleanly by 2030.

William Brent, director at the Power for All campaign, said international recognition that progress on clean cooking was lagging far behind electricity access worldwide was set to spark change, with U.N. summits in September expected to focus on the problem.

It made sense for companies setting up solar micro-grids in rural areas to also incorporate electric cookers into the products that run on their power, he said.

Solar-powered electric cooking was likely to be one key tool to help crack the clean cooking nut, but battery packs for stoves were still costly, he said, and a range of fuels would be needed.

BBOXX's Hamayun said electricity access had stolen the policy limelight so far because it was a "big subject" for national governments, while clean cooking remained largely invisible.

"It might have a huge impact on a particular household, but it is not glamorous externally. People talk about it less," he said.

# Stunning new wrasse species underlines need to protect deeper-lying reef

By Nalisha Adams

A STRIKING new species of wrasse discovered off the coast of Zanzibar, Tanzania, underlines how little is known about marine environments - even those relatively close to shore. Deeper-lying reefs like the one that is home to the newly described fish are ecologically connected to their shallower neighbors, and need greater protection.

Luiz Rocha and Hudson Pinheiro, from the California Academy of Sciences (CAS), were into the fourth day of a Hope for Reefs diving expedition off the coast of Zanzibar. In the dim light 70 to 80 meters (230 to 260 feet) down, the team saw rock falls, sponges, hard, pinkish-red coralline algae and soft corals; there were plenty of fish, glimpses of familiar anthias, damselfish, and other reef species.

Hope for Reefs is a five-year project aimed at better understanding and protecting reefs, and Pinheiro and Rocha's team was conducting a general biodiversity assessment of a mesophotic reef, which are found at depths of between 30 and 150 meters (100 to 500 feet), are less well-studied than shallower reefs, but are also richly diverse ecosystems.

### Then something spectacular swam by.

"When we saw the fish we stopped right away and thought 'Wow,'" Pinheiro says. "It was super beautiful. That is the first impression that we had."

The fish Rocha and Pinheiro saw was a kaleidoscope of colors: a pale yellow head, fading into white or pinkish scales, a bluish-purple dorsal fin, bright fuchsia on other parts, with almost translucent magenta pelvic fins, a transparent blue tail, and a chain link of purple markings across the rest of its body. This unique shading inspired the name the researchers gave the fish: the vibrant fairy wrasse, or *Cirrhitilabrus wakanda*, after the mythical African kingdom of Wakanda from the Marvel comic books and movies, and the miracle element from which it draws its power.

Rocha, the CAS curator of fishes and Follett Chair of Ichthyology, has discovered and described more than 30 species. "We were both 99 percent certain it was a new species. I really knew it was different though when I looked at the picture I took (with strobes) which revealed the purple markings," he tells Mongabay.

Rocha and Pinheiro sent a picture to a fish taxonomy savant in Sydney named Tea Yi-Kai. Tea, an ichthyology Ph.D. student at the University of Sydney, was aware of other fairy wrasse species in the Indian Ocean, but he knew there was a missing species.

"*Cirrhitilabrus wakanda* happens to belong to a particular group that is pretty well studied. We can predict, based on their patterns of distribution, that a species could very well occur along the East African coast - and this was it," he tells Mongabay.

The wrasse family is hugely diverse, with close to 600 species; there are nearly 60 known species of *Cirrhitilabrus* alone -

"habitat specific", Tea says, mostly living in rubble zones adjacent to coral reefs. If *C. wakanda* is like other wrasses, it lives in large groups of mostly females, juveniles and a few males.

"The bright purple markings and the overall pattern of this fish is very reminiscent of the fabric motifs and colour scheme of the clothes worn by the native Wakandans," Tea says. "The details are also similar to Black Panther's suit, which is made of a rare substance called vibranium. We thought this was a nice complement to its species name, wakanda," Tea says.

### Extend protection to deep-lying reefs

While fairy wrasses are common across a range of oceans, including the Pacific and Indian oceans and the Red Sea, the identification of a new wrasse species here is particularly significant for its habitat and future conservation.

Scientists know relatively little about mesophotic reefs as these areas are too deep for conventional diving, yet too shallow for submersible research vessels. Diving to these depths requires scientists to be trained in the rebreather method, carrying additional tanks that recycle the air they breathe as they go.

Last year, Rocha, Pinheiro and others published a report in *Science* outlining how these deeper-lying reefs are just as threatened by the climate crisis and other human impacts as shallow reefs and urging greater protection for them.

"The species that are down there are different than the shallow ones, it's a different community," Rocha says. "Think rainforests versus savanna, they share a few trees but most species are different between these two habitats, and both are threatened, so nobody claims that one is a refuge for the other. Same for deep versus shallow reefs."

Dominic Andradi-Brown, a scientist at the WWF working to support marine protected area (MPA) monitoring and evaluation activities, is familiar with the *Science* report and has collaborated with several of the scientists who produced the research.

"It's hard to truly predict what's at stake when we still have so much to learn about the biodiversity that inhabits mesophotic reefs," he tells Mongabay in an email. "Much of the unknown biodiversity that relies on these unique ecosystems could be destroyed before we discover and identify it."

He adds that the role of mesophotic reefs in supporting coastal communities is likely overlooked, as "deeper reefs could be an important and under-recognized source of fish larvae for supporting coastal fisheries."

The Hope for Reefs dive off Zanzibar found trash, abandoned fishing gear and sedimentation (likely linked to coastal soil erosion and can affect coral health). One way to better protect mesophotic reefs like the one where *C. wakanda* was discovered is to extend marine protected areas to include them.

There are currently 23 MPAs in Tanzania, including in Zanzibar, that protect mangroves, coral reefs, sea-grass beds and the open sea.

## ROME and NEW DELHI

On a cold night in December 2012, a ghastly crime was committed in New Delhi which stunned the world. Six men dragged helpless Nirbhaya-a 23-year-old female physiotherapy intern-to the back of the bus and raped her one by one. As she kept fighting off her assailants by biting them, one of the attackers inserted a rusted rod in her private part, ripping her genital organs and insides apart. She died a few days later. One of the accused died in police custody in the Tihar Jail. The juvenile was convicted of rape and murder and given the maximum sentence of three years' imprisonment in a reform facility, and subsequently released. The Supreme Court awarded the death penalty but legal complications have prevented its execution.

A gruesome case occurred in Rohtak, a town in the northern state of Haryana (India). In 2017, a 23-year-old woman was gang raped by seven men, killed and smashed in the face with stones to conceal her identity. Her mangled body was found with stray dogs picking at the remains.

In January, 2019, a 16-year-old girl had simply decided to go to her boyfriend's birthday party. A week later, her body was found along a highway, her head and one of her arms chopped off. Her face may have been burned with acid. In her small town in eastern India, it is forbidden for a teenage girl to date, and the police believe the

girl's father arranged for her to be killed – supposedly to protect the family's honour.

Just as gruesome is the story of the 30-year-old Fatima who reported to UNFPA in Cox's Bazar in southeast coast of Bangladesh in 2017. "My sister was killed after gang rape in front of me, and they threw hot water on my body. I can't sleep, my life is a nightmare, I can't bear the pain of losing my sister."

Worse, minor girls remain highly vulnerable to brutal rapes and murder. In May, the same year, a ten-month-old baby girl was allegedly raped by a family member in Jamnagar district of the western state of Gujarat. Cases of brutal rapes of minor girls abound in Bangladesh too. The rape and murder of 13-year-old Ayesha Siddiqua Sumaiya, living in Rangpur, is a case in point. A student of Class VII, she was alone in her home – her parents were at a religious function – when a gang swooped on the minor, raping and then strangling her to death.

Rapes reported to the police as sexual violence surged from 39 per day to 93 per day in India in 2013. In Uttar Pradesh alone, five rapes occurred in 36 hours. Even these are underestimations, for two reasons. One is the exclusion of marital rapes, which are not a prosecutable crime. No less important is the fact that barely 1 per cent of victims of sexual violence report the crime to the police.

Report on Violence Against Women (VAW) Survey 2015, Bangladesh, paints in vivid detail high incidence of different forms of vio-

## On brutality of violence against women



lence against women. During 2014, the most common form of partner violence was controlling behaviour, experienced by more than one third (38.8%) of ever-married women, followed by emotional violence (24.2%), physical violence (20.8%), sexual violence (13.3%) and economic violence (6.7%). Rates of lifetime partner violence (any form) were highest in rural areas (74.8% of ever-married women) and lowest in city corporation areas (54.4%). Rates in urban areas outside of city corporation areas were 71.1%, slightly lower than in rural areas.

More than one quarter (27.8%) of

women reported lifetime physical violence by someone other than the husband (non-partner) and 6.2% reported experiencing such violence during the last 12 months. Rates were highest among adolescents for both lifetime (30.9%) and last 12 months (11.2%) non-partner physical violence.

Most sexual violence in India occurs in marriage; 10 percent of married women report sexual violence from husbands. The reporting percentage is low in part because marital rape is not a crime in India. Adolescent wives (13-19 years) are most vulnerable, reporting the high-

est rates of marital sexual violence of any age group. Adolescent girls also account for 24 percent of rape cases in the country, although they represent only 9 percent of the total female population.

Barely 1 percent of victims of sexual violence report the crime to the police in India. Similar evidence is found for Bangladesh. Notions of honour are central to the discourse on rape. The rape of a daughter, sister or wife is a source of dishonour to males within the family structure. This deters the reporting of rape to the police, reinforced by a belief in the impunity of perpetrators, the

fear of retaliation, and humiliation by the police through physical and verbal abuse.

The consequences of domestic violence are grave and intergenerational: physical trauma, repeated physical assaults result in chronic disease (e.g. chronic pain); acute neurological (e.g. fainting) and cardiopulmonary (hypertension) symptoms; life-style risk behaviours (substance misuse); psychiatric disorders (depression); and children and adolescents adversely affected by witnessing domestic violence (post-traumatic stress disorder). Besides, domestic violence also re-

sults in malnutrition among women and children.

One major problem with anti-rape laws is that their enforcement is feeble and painfully slow, and thus largely inconsequential as a deterrent to sexual violence.

Dominance and control over women are set in male attributes and behaviour ("masculinity"), regarded as a shared social ideal. Violence is not necessarily a part of masculinity, but the two are often closely linked, mediated by class, caste and region.

Interventions that address masculinity seem to be more effective than those that ignore the powerful influence of gender norms and systems of inequality. Effective women-focused initiatives strengthen resilience against violence by combining economic empowerment with greater awareness of rights and women's relationship skills. Behavioural changes are, however, slower than changes in male attitudes.

In conclusion, although rise in sexual violence against women and girls is scary and abhorrent, there are grounds for optimism.

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## Rakops, Gumare Botswana

In the middle of June, armed with a pellet gun, Ngakaemang Ray Chombo found an elephant rustling about his farm in Tutume, a village on Botswana's eastern borderland, 50km from Zimbabwe.

Witnesses say the 78-year-old former wildlife ranger fired several shots to scare the animal away, but the wounded elephant charged and mauled Chombo to death.

"The elephant was shot several times, but it ran away and came back. When he shot the last bullet, the elephant came, we could no longer do anything to protect ourselves," said Julius Chiabeswahu, Chombo's friend who was with him that night, and now fears that an elephant will invade his field.

"Elephants are not good, they ruin people's fields and pastures. It destroyed the irrigation system which Chombo had just put in and no matter how we tried to chase it, it would keep coming back. What if it comes to my field, how will I defend myself? The government has to do its best to help us with this problem, it's a terrible situation."

Botswana has lifted a ban on elephant hunting, which was imposed in 2014, citing the challenges faced by small-scale farmers by a growing elephant population.

Home to Africa's largest herd of 130,000, Botswana is famed as the continent's last safe haven for the world's largest mammals, but that could change as President Mokgweetsi Masisi's administration rolls out its controversial policy, aimed at reducing human-wildlife conflict.

The idea is that allowing hunting will reduce risk to humans, essentially by reducing the population of elephants.

But Cyril Taolo, the deputy

director of the department of national parks and wildlife, explained that population control wouldn't work.

He said as elephants move into areas where people are not accustomed to dealing with them, they pose great danger.

"This is one of the reasons why we have seen an escalation in human-elephant conflict."

"We've had more than 45 mortalities over the past 10 years from human-wildlife related mortalities, but we have seen a tremendous escalation in human-wildlife conflict to more than 8,000 cases over the last year."

In the midst of a long-running drought, farmers are selling or slaughtering cows to preserve limited water reserves, reducing the total cattle population from 2.5 million in 2011 to 1.7 million in 2015.

But thirsty wildlife herds continue to wander into areas inhabited by people.

At Chombo's burial in Rakops, his rural home, a small herd of elephants walk along thorny grassland between cattle heading towards a river as his coffin lay over the grave-pit.

Villagers say in the dry season, elephants often trudge through this rural hamlet in search of water.

In recent years, increasing competition for resources between livestock and wildlife has led to more human-elephant interactions across Botswana.

In Bobirwa, in Semolale district near the eastern resort town of Maun, the Sebudubudu family is in mourning.

In June, Balisi Sebudubudu, 38, was sent to fetch a cow for slaughter during his younger brother's funeral, but tragedy struck en route when Sebudubudu was mauled by an elephant.

"We failed to dignify the burial of my nephew ... because we were busy preparing for the burial of his younger brother, when all

## In Botswana, elephant hunting divides opinion



Ontebaganye Ngoma, 10, and his grandmother in the area where Ngoma was attacked by an elephant. File photo

of a sudden this thing happened and he was just buried like a cat," said David Sebudubudu, Balisi's uncle. "If I had money I'd buy four, five or eight rifles and demolish them, you can't compare the life of a human being with that of an elephant."

The government compensated the family with 85,000 Pula (\$8,042). Sebudubudu believes hunting might be a deterrent to prevent more fatal attacks.

When President Masisi tweeted his condolences to the Sebudubudus, he faced a backlash from Western celebrities and animal lovers who condemned lifting the

hunting ban.

Masisi dismissed the backlash as privileged criticism which ignores the plight of Botswana's villagers.

"They feel that they are pets, yes, they are also our pets, but they are pets that we like to admire from afar. The problem is they want to admire the pets when they are assured of their own protection, when they are here for a short while and then admire them from afar via television," he said in an interview.

Because the hunting ban has been suspended, Botswana, which depends heavily on wildlife-based tourism, is faced with the

threat of a tourism boycott.

Edwin Tambara, a manager at the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), backs a broad, sustainable approach to ensure communities can live in a shared habitat with wildlife.

"Conservation interventions are broadly experimental and outcomes unpredictable. It is against this background that any response, in particular, trophy hunting, has to be applied with the most considerable caution and systems in place for monitoring and transparency to allow for learning and adaptation," he told Al Jazeera by email.

Renown conservationist Mike Chase, director of Elephants Without Borders (EWB), is sympathetic to the danger elephants pose, but blamed other factors including how Botswana secures animal enclosures.

"Vet fences are effective barriers to elephant movements, but many of them have not been maintained and long stretches are broken giving elephants access to new areas," he said.

"In all likelihood, the reintroduction of trophy hunting will have no impact on any of these factors."

Last year, Chase stirred controversy when EWB announced the discovery of 87 elephant carcasses in north-

ern Botswana.

The NGO alleged they had been poached, but the government refuted the claim saying that according to a survey by the Department of National Parks and Wildlife, only 53 had died and most due to natural causes.

Chase stands by his allegation and, along with other researchers, is concerned about increased poaching in recent years, which has gone up by nearly 600 percent.

For his part, President Masisi urges people to "understand the local context".

Ontebaganye Ngoma, a 10-year-old boy, narrowly survived an elephant attack in Gumare, a rural village near the Okavango Delta, a scenic wetland home to a variety of endangered species.

One afternoon, Ngoma and his grandmother were looking for firewood. An elephant scooped him up and squeezed the boy with its trunk. His grandmother, Shimwe, screamed and waved her brightly coloured letseie, a traditional cloth, at the grey giant.

Distracted by the bright colours and a couple of noisy neighbourhood dogs, the elephant threw Ngoma down and lunged for his grandmother's letseie.

The boy's leg was broken and he was bruised.

"I was so scared that day, but I thank God that my grandson was saved. I don't know if we will be safe. I've lived in Gumare for a long time, but we wouldn't normally see elephants in the village, people would be attacked near the river, but now they are coming to the people, it's scary," Shimwe told Al Jazeera.

As Botswana heads into hotter, even drier months of the El Nino-induced drought, the country's wildlife could trudge through more habitats in search for water, increasing the risk of conflict.

"I hope they won't come near us again," said Shimwe.

**Agencies**



Thursday 8 August 2019


**BILL WINTERS**  
**STANDARD CHARTERED CEO**

Standard Chartered's CEO, Bill Winters.

## Standard Chartered chief sees no easy way out of trade dispute

LONDON

Standard Chartered's chief executive warned that investor sentiment in the markets in which it operates is "delicately balanced" as it reported a 3 per cent year-on-year increase in profit for the first six months of 2019.

The lender, which specialises in emerging markets, reported a half-year profit of \$2.41 billion as operating income climbed 4 per cent higher on a constant currency basis to \$4.64 billion.

"The dispute between China and the US has moved beyond trade into areas of security and technology, which will likely prove more difficult to resolve," said chief executive Bill Winters in a statement accompanying its results.

Standard Chartered earned about 51 per cent of its underlying profit during the first six months from Greater China and North Asia, while 29 per cent came from South East Asia and the ASEAN region, its interim results showed. A further 17 per cent came from Africa and the Middle East.

Income from Africa and the Middle East fell 3 per cent overall, but was 3 per cent higher after adjusting for currency movements. The bank reported lower income in the UAE and Zimbabwe, but this was partially offset by higher income from Nigeria.

"Future global growth is expected to be driven increasingly from the markets in our footprint. We remain alert to both the opportunities and the risks created by this eastward shift in the global economic centre of gravity," Mr Winters said.

Loans to customers and customer deposits both increased by 3 per cent, to \$263.6 billion and \$401.6 billion respectively. "Income growth was driven by an increase in loans to clients. Lower operating expenses and a fall in bad loans meant underlying profit before tax rose 13 per cent to \$2.6bn," Nicholas Hyett, an equity analyst at Hargreaves Lansdown said in a note.

The bank reported a return on equity of 8.4 per cent for the period. "Management remain confident that the bank can achieve a greater than 10 per cent return on equity in 2021," he added. During the half-year period, the bank received fines of \$1.1bn from US and UK regulators relating to poor money laundering controls and breaches of sanctions against a number of countries, including Iran.

Mr Winters said in the results announcement that the violations identified by authorities predated 2012 and that there had been no violations since 2014. He said the bank had "undergone a comprehensive and positive transformation as an institution" since the incidents had occurred.

## DCB Bank mulling plans to introduce municipal bonds to finance projects

By The Banker Reporter

**P**LANS to allow municipalities float bonds to raise cash from investors to finance major development projects are at an advanced stage, DCB Commercial Bank Plc, has said.

The Dar es Salaam based bank whose majority shareholders are municipalities wants them to mobilise such funding from investors other than borrowing to commercial lenders.

Speaking in Mwanza last week, DCB Managing Director, Godfrey Ndalaha said the bonds will help finance strategic projects and that negotiations with some municipalities are at advanced stage.

"The process of establishing this funding model is ongoing. We aim to identify more municipalities that have strategic projects which need financing. This is a good source of raising funds to allow both large and small investors get an opportunity to invest in municipal projects," Ndalaha said.

He said DCB has acquired vital skills and experience needed in



Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa handing over a certificate of appreciation to DCB Bank's Managing Director, Godfrey Ndalaha (R) after the bank sponsored last month's Association of Local Authorities in Tanzania annual general meeting which was held in Mwanza city. Looking on centre is Minister of State in PMO Responsible for Local Governments and Regional Administrations, Selemeni Jafo. Photo: courtesy of DCB.

mobilising capital through its rights issue share selling which ended earlier this year with an impressive 108 percent oversubscription which has contributed greatly to the bank's capital boost.

He further said DCB is sponsoring and participating in various local council meetings, including last month's annual general meeting of the Association of Local Authorities of Tanzania (ALAT) held in Mwanza, as a means of engaging with the public.

The DCB chief explained that the bank is also engaging small business owners especially women and youths to help expose their entrepreneurial skills that are greatly needed to cooperate with municipalities.

"We have been working very closely with municipalities in Dar es Salaam by providing loans to women and youth and the success is great so far when you look at the money that has been disbursed and the improvement of the beneficiaries," he added.

The bank operates across the country with eight branches mostly in Dar es Salaam and Dodoma backed by more than 1,000 agents.

## EPZA chief touts exploitation of SADC market for industrial growth

By The Banker Reporter

**L**OCAL investors should seize the vast market opportunity presented by Southern Africa Development Community by increasing quantity and quality of industrial goods.

Export Processing Zones Authority's Director General Colonel (rt) Joseph Simbakalia said this week in a presentation at the ongoing 4th SADC industrialization week and exhibition taking place in Dar es Salaam that manufactured goods have potential to sell anywhere in the bloc with limited restrictions.

"The SADC region boundless opportunities is coupled with the demographic dividend of youthful labour necessary for building robust industrialization," Simbakalia said adding that youth in the region should be given guidance to become militant in agitating for participation in the development process and not protest fueled by nihilism.

He said socio-political stability is necessary to build business confidence and motivate long term investment which is vital for industrial development. The EPZA chief further noted that the SADC region is the most politically coherent economic community with a history of solidarity forged during the liberation struggle of Southern African countries and thus cemented strong political basis and foundation for industrial development and cooperation.

Simbakalia also said the region has a home grown regional integrated strategic plan with development corridors and spatial development initiatives necessary for the establishment of the bloc's value chain.

SADC region should thus use collective regional approach to engage with China in development cooperation to establish synergy between China Belt and Road Initiative and the SADC development corridors as well as Spatial Development Initiatives.

"SADC should capture the time window opportunity of 4th global industrial relocation out of China and elsewhere," he advised. Moreover, the EPZA boss said the region should exploit megatrends in production of new products and equipment which require high value minerals namely coltan, cobalt and helium gas to be used in the state of the art manufacture.

Seconding Col Simbakalia's observation, The dz card Africa Limited's General Manager, Christiaan Wielenga said his company which is located at the Benjamin William Mkapa Special Economic Zone is planning to expand its footprint into SADC to provide end to end smart card solutions.

"This is an opportunity for our company to capitalize and capture the SADC market with over 160 million people to reach them with our products that offer solutions to various day-day payments," Wielenga said adding, "Our company has built an outstanding global reputation for manufacturing smart cards and high-end security products."



EPZA Director General, Retired Colonel Joseph Simbakalia. File photo.

## India seeks bans for Deloitte, KPMG arm for alleged lapses in auditing

NEW DELHI

The companies did not fulfil auditing duties for a unit of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services, India's corporate affairs ministry alleges.

India is seeking to ban Deloitte Haskins Sells and KPMG affiliate BSR & Associates for five years, alleging lapses in their audits of a unit of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS), which the government took control of last year.

India's corporate affairs ministry told a company law tribunal that the companies "miserably failed" to fulfil their duties as auditors for IL&FS Financial Services (IFIN), a filing seen by Reuters shows. Both auditing firms denied any wrongdoing on Tuesday.

Deloitte said it "is confident that it has been thorough and diligent in the performance of its duties as an auditor. The firm stands fully for its audit work which has been conducted in full compliance with the professional standards in India." It said it would cooperate fully with authorities.

BSR said that its "audit of IFIN was performed in accordance with the applicable auditing standards and legal framework", adding it would defend itself "in accordance with the law." The Indian government took control

of IL&FS in October after it defaulted on several debt obligations, saying it stepped in to insulate the financial system from contagion. The group has a debt of more than 910 billion rupees (\$13.1 billion).

Last month government investigators filed fraud charges against IFIN, its former management as well as the auditors. Deloitte audited IFIN from 2008-09 to 2017-18 and BSR started auditing it from 2017-18, the petition says. Both Deloitte and BSR audited IFIN in 2017-18.

Reuters reported in March that an interim report by Grant Thornton, appointed by a new IL&FS board to conduct a forensic audit, had found a third of the total outstanding loans by IFIN were either unsecured or had inadequate collateral.

Auditors have come under close scrutiny in India, where the capital market regulator last year barred all the Indian units of PwC, from auditing any listed companies for two years after a probe into a nearly decade-old accounting fraud case.

And India's central bank barred S.R. Batliboi & Co, an EY firm, from conducting statutory audit assignments in commercial banks until April 2020, citing lapses identified in its work.

## South African regulator punishes Bank of Baroda

JOHANNESBURG

A South African regulator has imposed a reduced penalty of R400,000 (\$27,000) on the local unit of India's Bank of Baroda for non-compliance with certain provisions of the Financial Intelligence Centre Act (FIC).

The Prudential Authority (PA), which supervises and enforces the FIC Act, said on Tuesday the penalty follows an on-site inspection in 2014 that found deficiencies relating to compliance, as well as weaknesses in controls to counter potential money laundering and terrorist financing.

In 2016, the PA conducted a follow-up inspection, which found that some deficiencies in controls remained. Following that, the Bank of Baroda was slapped with administrative sanctions, including a combined financial penalty of R11 million for non-compliance with the FIC Act and deficiencies in respect of money laundering controls, the PA said.

Bank of Baroda lodged an appeal and the Appeal Board reduced the R11 million financial penalty to R400,000, the PA said. It confirmed that the bank had now paid the penalty. "This statement is to notify members of the public that an administrative sanction comprising a financial penalty in the amount of R400,000 has been imposed on Bank of Baroda for failure to comply with the cash threshold reporting requirement in terms of section 28 of the FIC Act," the regulator said. There was no comment from Bank of Baroda.

Baroda's South African division was thrust into the spotlight three years ago when it started working with the Indian-born Guptas after corporate South Africa, including all four major banks, turned its back on the family's businesses due to reputational risks.

In June 2018, an elite South Africa police unit raided the offices of Bank of Baroda's local unit and seized documents as part of an investigation into alleged state corruption under former president Jacob Zuma.

# Agriculture minister urges banks to champion agrarian revolution

By The Banker Reporter, Bariadi

COMMERCIAL banks are an important group of financiers which the government is confident of investing in smallholder farmers to graduate them into commercial farmers.

Agriculture and Food Security Minister, Japhet Hasunga said earlier this week after visiting NMB Bank Plc's pavilion at the ongoing 26th Nane Nane Agriculture Fair that NMB is one such bank which the state hold high in this regard.

He said commercialization of agriculture is also crucial in ensuring that the government's ambitious blue-print to graduate the economy into middle income status comes true by 2025.

"In order to achieve all this, it is important that we add value to commodities by use of modern technologies which

then leads to finished goods being supplied to the markets," Hasunga said.

He emphasised NMB which is already in the forefront in investing in agriculture is considered as an important agro-business financier because of its extensive network covering the entire country at district level.

"Without NMB's massive investment in agriculture we may not succeed in commercialising farming which will also frustrate our efforts to industrialise," the Agriculture Minister added while insisting that the country's largest commercial bank by branch network and net asset value, should stay the course.

He further urged the bank's management to also help with sensitizing farmers and agro-dealers on the importance of use of technology in agriculture with focus on value addition to commodities before being



Minister of Agriculture Japhet Hasunga talking to NMB officials and visitors to the ongoing 26th Nane Nane Agriculture Fair being held at Nyakabindi grounds in Bariadi district of Simiyu region earlier this week. NMB is one of the main sponsors of the Nane Nane exhibitions. Photo: courtesy of NMB.

supplied to markets.

"If you continue investing heavily in agriculture, the majority of our people will also be weaned from abject poverty which then plays a role in the government's goal of becoming a middle income economy," Hasunga stressed.

Briefing the minister on NMB's agro-products, Western Zone Manager, Sospeter Magesse said the bank has continued to invest in agriculture with over 500bn/- added to an existing portfolio this year.

Magesse said apart from financing smallholder farmers, agro-dealers and processors, the bank also gives the groups regular financial management basic skills and technology use.

"As one of the biggest banks in the country, we make sure that we use the available opportunities in the market which align with the government's priorities as a means of supporting the state," he said while emphasising that NMB will continue giving agriculture priority in financing.

# Saudi British Bank posts Q2 loss as merger-related costs increase

RIYADH

Saudi British Bank (Sabb) reported a net loss of 254 million Saudi riyals in the second quarter of the year, compared to a net profit of 833m riyals during the same period last year.

The quarterly loss was mainly attributed to an increase in provision for credit losses and an increase in operating expenses, which included 75m riyals for integration planning and transaction costs relating to its 18.6-billion riyal merger with Alawwal bank.

Total operating profit for the reporting period surged 5 per cent to 1.98bn riyals, the lender said in a statement to the Tadawul stock exchange, where its shares trade. Revenues from special commissions and investments rose to 1.95bn riyals in the second quarter of this year, from 1.63bn riyals during the same period last year.

The lender also said its net profit for the first six months of 2019 dropped 52.9 per cent year-on-year to 851m Saudi riyals due to higher total operating expenses driven by an increase in provisions for credit losses.

"The first half of 2019 witnessed the historic merger of Sabb and Alawwal bank, uniting the legacies and resources of two of the oldest banks in the kingdom, with legal effect on June 16 2019," said Lubna Olayan, chairperson of Saab. "For the six-month period ending June 30, 2019, the merged bank generated a profitable return even after taking into account extraordinary costs and one-off credit losses related to the merger, all of which were in line with our expectations," she said.

Ms Olayan said the integration of the two banks was progress-

ing well, and the board and management team were focused on delivering it successfully. "Our balance sheet and capital base remain strong and will continue to underpin our lending growth capacity as we seek to support our customers," she said.

Following its merger with Alawwal bank, Sabb's customer deposits, loans and total assets grew to 196bn riyals, 158bn riyals and 270bn riyals, respectively, creating the kingdom's third-largest bank, second-largest corporate lender and fourth-largest retail lender, Saab said.



Lubna Olayan, chairperson of Saab.



Former Central Bank of Kenya governor Njuguna Ndung'u.

# Former CBK boss Ndung'u faults mobile money taxes

NAIROBI

Former Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) governor Njuguna Ndung'u has faulted Treasury's imposition of tax on mobile money services saying this could reverse financial inclusion gains Kenya is famed for.

President Uhuru Kenyatta's administration has been targeting products like mobile money consumed by a vast majority of Kenyans with new fees in an attempt to spread the burden of taxation.

Last year, Treasury raised the excise duty on fees charged on money transfer services tax by two percentage points to 12 per cent, prompting operators to increase mobile money fees.

Prof Ndung'u, under whose tenure financial inclusion grew rapidly, said several studies had shown mobile money services had increased financial inclusion, encouraged savings and credit, reduced poverty, encouraged more effective monetary policy, facilitated tax collection and enhanced public service delivery.

But in his study titled 'Taxing Mobile Phone Transactions in Africa, Lessons from Kenya', he warned the gains were likely to be erased by higher taxation of mobile money services. The Washington, DC-based think tank Brookings Institution published the study.

"The tax policy and design of taxes on retail electronic transactions as well as bank transactions have the potential to reverse the gains that technology has pushed Kenya to the frontier of electronic payments and financial inclusion and back to cash preference and financial exclusion for low-income earners," he said.

"Kenya was moving into a cashless economy. This trend is now in danger of reversal." Prof Ndung'u, the executive director of African Economic Research Consortium, said any future review of excise tax rates on airtime and financial services should be preceded with a thorough analysis of optimal taxation for an excisable product and the likely change in consumer behaviour for the financial services.

MARKETTRENDS

# Mastercard buys payment platform for 2.85 EUR in biggest deal yet

COPENHAGEN

Mastercard said it agreed to buy a payments platform owned by Denmark's Nets for €2.85 billion, using its biggest acquisition yet to help extend a push into faster payments.

With the deal, Mastercard is getting an electronic-billing platform and clearing and instant-payment services. The deal is expected

to hurt profit for as long as two years after it's completed, which is expected in the first half of 2020.

"The global opportunity for real-time payments is accelerating," said Michael Miebach, Mastercard's chief product and innovation officer. "This deal strengthens our unique position as the one-stop partner for any bank, merchant or government's payment

needs."

On Monday, the Federal Reserve announced it will build its own real-time gross settlement system for payments in the US after merchants including Amazon.com and Walmart said such a move would help improve card payments in the US. The Fed's system will compete directly with a system built by the largest US banks through an association called The Clearing

House, which used Mastercard technology to build its network.

Mastercard has already spent \$1.1bn this year on acquisitions and strategic equity investments as the firm has sought to push into new markets and develop new forms of electronic payments, Robert Napoli, an analyst at William Blair & Co., said in a note to clients on Monday.

Earlier this year, Mastercard announced its purchase of Ethoca, which helps merchants identify fraud, and Vyze, a point-of-sale payment provider. The company also acquired Transactis, which helps with bill payments, and Transfast, a cross-border payments network. Mastercard warned last week that expenses will rise more than analysts expected in the third quarter.

## CRDB investments in agro-processing factories gradually bearing fruits

By The Banker Reporter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli, a staunch advocate of industrialization may have found a trustworthy supporter in CRDB Bank Plc which has invested over 600bn/- in agriculture including agro-processing industries.

"An economy that does not have industries is a weak economy, it cannot compete globally because it exports jobs," President Magufuli said recently while on a tour of Southern Highlands where among other things, witnessed how smallholder farmers are struggling to get markets for their commodities.

"My government is putting emphasis on industrialization which needs private investments to realise. But private investors need commercial banks to get loans that they will invest in industries that will process commodities before going to the market," Dr Magufuli stated when he met representatives of the private sector at State House last month.

CRDB as one of the country's largest lenders has heavily invested in agro-processing through private players like Simiyu based entrepreneur, Emmanuel Silanga who owns Nsagali Company Limited, a cotton ginning and edible oil processing firm.

Silanga who for the past eight years or so has been ginning cotton and processing edible oil from the white gold, has engaged over 10,000 smallholder farmers through a legally binding contract to supply his factory with the raw material while he gives them agro-inputs.

"To ensure sufficient cotton supplies and cotton seeds for ginning and oil facilities, my company has been empowering these smallholder cotton grower farmers by availing them with agricultural inputs and cultivation of their plots under agreement to supply seed cotton to the ginnery," Nsagali said.

Thanks to credit financing from CRDB Bank Plc, Silanga and his company have received over 3bn/- in financing to make the value chain business sustainable. "With CRDB support, Nsagali has been able to provide cotton farmers with agricultural inputs such as fertilizers and pesticides as well as training them in modern agronomic practices," he



Nsagali Company Limited's Managing Director, Emmanuel Silanga (2nd L) briefing CRDB Bank's officials who visited cotton ginnery which was financed by the bank's credit in Bariadi district of Simiyu region. Photo: courtesy of CRDB.

added.

As the cotton farmers are facing a market crisis this year, Nsagali's contracted growers are comfortably supplying the factory and directly receiving their pay-check to the bank thanks to CRDB's loan facility.

"This ginnery is an investment made possible by CRDB Bank which has assisted me all the way from scratch to put up this plant which is not only adding value to cotton but also employing hundreds of our people who earn an income," noted Silanga.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Food Security, Hussein Bashe acknowledged the important role which banks like CRDB are playing to ensure that the government's industrialization blue-print is implemented.

"The government appreciates the important role which banks play in supporting the agriculture sector through

various products and services such agro-input credit," Bashe said last week when he visited CRDB's pavilion at the ongoing Nane Nane agriculture trade fair taking place in Bariadi, Simiyu this year.

He gave an example of CRDB and ETC Agro's collaboration to provide modern agro-inputs and equipment to farmers through soft loans targeting mainly smallholder farmers. "I am particularly impressed by your slogan this year which shows how the bank's management and staff are committed to support this important sector growth towards industrialization and middle income status," Bashe added. CRDB's latest slogan goes, 'Our farming, our industries, our economy.'

Briefing the Deputy Agriculture Minister, CRDB's Director of Retail and Wholesale Banking, Boma Raballa said the bank invests heavily in agriculture

because it is the backbone of the economy which will also support industrialization with raw materials.

Raballa said CRDB strongly support the government's efforts to modernise agriculture which is dominated by smallholder farmers with little access to mechanisation and hybrid seeds needed to produce commercially.

The CRDB Director unveiled that in general, the bank has issued 40 percent of the total credit disbursed to the agriculture sector in the country of which, during the 2018/19 season, over 650bn/- has been issued.

"Of the amount disbursed so far, 150bn/ or about 23 percent has been dedicated to cash crops, raw materials, agro-input manufacture, agro-processing and distribution such as Nsagali Company Limited.

## HSBC to axe 4,000 jobs after ousting CEO

HONG KONG

HSBC plans to axe more than 4,000 posts with senior executives a focus of the cutbacks following the abrupt ousting of its chief executive after just 18 months.

The exit of John Flint, a 51-year-old who started at HSBC as a trainee, highlights tension with chairman Mark Tucker, known to be a hard-charging executive who was the first outsider to fill the post in the bank's 154-year history.

They clashed over style - with Mr Flint focused on issues such as conduct and Mr Tucker taking a more data-driven approach - and priorities, as Mr Flint failed to address the slow-growth US business, say people familiar with the matter.

Mr Flint's departure follows exits last month of US head Patrick Burke and Greg Pierce, who ran the US markets business. The lender also said Monday it didn't expect to achieve its targeted 6 per cent return on tangible equity in the US by 2020.

HSBC expects severance costs to range from \$650 million to \$700m in 2019, with annualised savings of a similar amount, according to an investor presentation. "Our sense is the climate is getting increasingly complex, increasingly challenging, and that we both agree a change is needed to really make the most of the opportunities ahead of us," Mr Tucker said on Monday.

Mr Tucker was also increasingly at odds with Mr Flint over the CEO's focus on expanding in China, according to sources. HSBC was in an uncomfortable spot over Washington's legal and political tussle with Chinese technology company Huawei Technologies, a major client of the bank. US prosecutors drew



HSBC's CEO, John Flint.

on HSBC's relationship with Huawei to build its case against an executive at the telecom company, the Financial Times reported last month.

Mr Tucker denied any personality clash with Mr Flint or disagreement over job cuts, adding on a media call that there had been "absolutely" no pressure from China over the CEO's role. Noel Quinn, head of global commercial banking, will assume the CEO post on an interim basis, HSBC said.

During Mr Flint's short tenure, the 235,000-employee bank, Europe's biggest by market value, has grappled with a declining stock price, a

high-profile sexual harassment case at its investment bank and a failure to hit cost targets, leading to a new programme to eliminate jobs and questions from auditors about how these goals would be met.

Shares in HSBC fell as much as 2.1 per cent before recovering to trade 1.3 per cent lower at 11:03am in London. HSBC, which makes most of its money oiling the wheels of trade between East and West, has also faced repeated questions about why a business heavily skewed toward some of the world's fastest-growing economies can't make better returns.

One of Mr Flint's key promises was that revenue gains would outpace cost increases, a trend the bank refers to as "positive jaws". He failed to achieve that in his first year at the helm, although the bank said Monday that first-half adjusted jaws was a positive 4.5 per cent.

For his part, Mr Tucker, the former CEO of Prudential, rejected talk that he assume the post at HSBC. "Under no circumstances" would he take the job, he said. The CEO hiring process would take six to 12 months, and consider both internal and external candidates, he said.

HSBC faces a dilemma between the need to invest in its global businesses and the pressure to show it has costs under control. The bank had budgeted investments of \$5bn this year, but it's been measured in laying that out, spending just \$1bn in the first three months.

Earlier, the bank also said as part of its earnings that it would shortly begin a buyback of up to \$1bn. Mr Flint's short tenure as CEO is in contrast to his predecessor Stuart Gulliver, who ran HSBC between 2011 and 2018, and grappled with the impact on the bank of the global financial crisis. During Mr Gulliver's years in charge, the London-based lender faced pressure on its earnings from new regulations and low interest rates and had to navigate misconduct scandals, which revealed widespread compliance failures.



Nedbank's Group CFO Raisibe Morathi.

## South Africa's sick economy slows Nedbank in first half

JOHANNESBURG

Nedbank had the dubious distinction of being the first of the big retail banks to publish its results for the six months to end June, setting the tone for what investors can expect from the banking sector this year. Absa and Standard Bank will follow within weeks with their interim figures, and FirstRand with its annual results.

It seems the market was relieved that the figures were credible, given the extremely difficult economic environment facing business in general and banks in particular. While Nedbank could only eke out an increase of 2.6% in headline earnings in the interim period, the results did not contain any bad surprises - everybody knows the economy is performing poorly and the banking industry is one of the first to reflect this.

CEO Mike Brown is not shy to spell out the problems. "The SA economy performed worse than expected in the first six months of the year and our forecast for GDP growth has been reviewed down from 1.3% to 0.5%.

"If we are unable to do this, all the hard work done to maintain our last investment grade rating from Moody's will be in vain." Group CFO Raisibe Morathi, in an interview with Moneyweb, mentioned a few pertinent problems confronting the economy. "Policy uncertainty, the problems at Eskom and the land debate all impact on the economy."

**The Eskom effect**

In a Nedbank commentary on the trading environment during the last six months, management points out that the effect of the problems at Eskom should not be underestimated. "The decline in economic growth was largely as a result of electricity shortages and load shedding at a frequency and intensity not experienced since the 2008 electricity crisis. This impacted on the energy-intensive and export-oriented mining and manufacturing sectors."

The results for the period clearly show that households and businesses are very cautious in the current economic environment. Nedbank reported that advances increased only 6.7% in the first half of the year, while deposits increased by 8.1%.

"There are still indications of stress and many people have adopted a wait-and-see attitude," says Morathi. She adds that people tend to take smaller loans than they can afford, or choose to reduce debt rather than take out new loans. Nedbank noted a definite cut back in spending by households as increased unemployment levels, slowing growth in incomes and rising fuel prices eroded households' spending power.

Net interest income increased by a rather subdued 5.8% and non-interest revenue by 5.2%. An increase of 5.5% in operating expenses and a massive increase of 40% in provisions saw profit grow by only 2.7% to R7.2 billion for the six months. Headline earnings per share increased more, by 3.5% to R14.35 per share, partly due to a de-

crease in the number of issued shares after Nedcor completed a buyback of small parcels of shares.

It is also important to remember that the latest results come off fairly high bases after Nedbank posted a big increase in profits in its previous financial year. The large increase in provisions for bad and doubtful debt are as a result of lower-than-normal provisions in the previous period rather than a deterioration in the quality of Nedbank's advances, says Morathi. "Provisions are now within the target range."

**Stressed sectors**

However, changes in customers' credit ratings have been necessary which impacted on its corporate book. Nedbank noted that it continues to see stress in some sectors, particularly in cement, construction, retail, agriculture and selected state-owned enterprises (SOEs).

The bank maintains that its corporate book is healthy overall, and it actively worked to reduce the worst of the bad and doubtful debt. Nearly 80% of the so-called Stage 3 impairments are concentrated in 10 counters, according to Nedbank's risk analysis.

Pushed on the issue of loans to SOEs, Morathi says Nedbank has outstanding loans of R20 billion to different state companies, all covered by government guarantees. The exposure reduced from R24 billion at the end of December.

**Cost reductions**

Nedbank pulled out all stops to reduce costs. As is the case with other banks, it took a hard look at its branch network and the possibility of increasing its digital banking offering. "Nedbank differs from other banks in that we increased our footprint in cities and large towns during the era of expansion, rather than in smaller places," says Morathi. "Our efforts are concentrated on reducing our floor space within existing branches and not necessarily our staff numbers by closing branches."

A total of 1 500 employees were affected, with 1 400 moved to different positions within the group. "We are in the process of placing the remaining 100," says Morathi. She is optimistic that the second half of the financial year will again produce better results than the first half, and indicates that shareholders can expect Nedbank to reach its target of producing earnings growth in excess of the nominal growth in the economy in the current year.

Nedbank seems to feel comfortable that it will achieve good growth, measured by the board's approval of an increase of 3.7% in the interim dividend to R7.20 per share, notwithstanding the earnings growth of only 2.6%.

It is noteworthy that Nedbank has achieved growth in earnings every year over the last decade, even if only a few cents in some years. The latest results show once again the resilience of the SA banking sector and its ability to tackle challenges.

## WORLD

## Sporadic protests as Indian Kashmir under clampdown

NEW DELHI/SRINAGAR, India

Thousands of Indian security forces kept a lid on protests in disputed Kashmir yesterday, helped by the continued suspension of telephone and internet services after the Himalayan region's special status was scrapped this week.

Streets in the region's main city of Srinagar were deserted for a third day, with almost all shops shut, barring some chemists. Armed federal police manned mobile checkpoints across the city, limiting people's movement.

Knots of young protesters threw stones at soldiers, police and a witness said, amid anger over the telecoms clampdown that began on Sunday.

"These (protests) are mostly localised because of the heavy troop deployment," said a police officer who sought anonymity because he was not authorised to speak to media, adding that police used tear gas and pepper spray to scatter the protesters.

A witness described an episode of hours of stone-throwing on Tuesday in the Old Barzullah area near the city centre, saying, "I saw around 100 boys, in small groups, pelting stones."

He added, "The police fired tear gas to beat them back."

India is redrawing its political map

again.

Parliament has approved a proposal by the Hindu nationalist-led government that strips statehood from Jammu and Kashmir, its only Muslim-majority state, splitting the region into two union territories after revoking its special rights under India's Constitution.

Although India has redrawn its map many times since gaining independence from the British in 1947, the decision is likely to raise tensions in the already-volatile Himalayan region. India and Pakistan both claim the territory in full and administer portions of it. India's action will further entrench the idea of Hindu-majority rule espoused by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party.

The legislation was introduced alongside a presidential order that takes from the region and its people some political autonomy and hereditary rights by revoking Article 370 of India's Constitution.

The changes will also lift a ban on property purchases by nonresidents of Kashmir, opening the way for Indians outside the territory to invest and settle there. The local Muslim population has long feared such measures would change Kashmir's demography, culture and way of life.



Supporters of India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) light firecrackers and celebrate the government revoking Kashmir's special status, in Lucknow, India on Tuesday. (AP)

An indefinite security lockdown has kept most of the region's 7 million people in their homes and in the dark about the changes.

All telephone, television, and internet connections stayed severed. By night, police vans had patrolled the streets, with loudspeakers warning residents to stay indoors.

South Kashmir, the epicentre of the insurgency in recent years, was completely locked down, said a state government official who visited the area.

"The highway was deserted, except for some trucks and buses carrying labourers out of the valley," added the official, who asked not to be named. Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan said in an address to Parliament on Tuesday night that he feared the Kashmiri people could attack Indian security forces out of anger and New Delhi could blame Pakistan for it.

"If India attacks us, we will respond," Khan said. "We will fight until the last drop of blood."

Erasing the autonomy of the region will inflame the sentiments of most Kashmiris who demand that the territory be united either under Pakistani rule or as an independent country. Two of the three wars India and Pakistan have found since independence were over Kashmir.

More than half a million Indian soldiers are stationed in Kashmir to counter a rebellion that seeks to secede from India, and there are near-daily

demonstrations against Indian control. About 70,000 people have been killed in the uprising and the ensuing crackdown since 1989.

China, which also lays claim to a portion of Kashmir, is "seriously concerned" about the situation, foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said. The legislation introduced by Home Minister Amit Shah downgrades Jammu and Kashmir from a state to a union territory with an elected legislature. It also carves out the region of Ladakh as a separate union territory, ruled directly by the central government without a legislature of its own.

The bill has been applauded by India's Hindu nationalist parties, which have been seeking to fully integrate Kashmir since the country's partition into India and Pakistan in 1947. The Modi government's ideological mentor, the right-wing Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh organization, praised the decision, describing it as "brave" and "necessary" for the national interest.

Critics have already likened Kashmir's proposed new arrangement to the West Bank or Tibet, with settlers – armed or civilian – living in guarded compounds among disenfranchised locals.

"The decision (to split the region) will reduce Kashmir to a colony," said AG Noorani, a constitutional expert who has written extensively about Kashmir, including the 2011 book Article 370: A

## Russia calls for lifting Western sanctions against Zimbabwe, says minister

MOSCOW

RUSSIA believes that Western sanctions slapped on Zimbabwe are hindering the country's socio-economic development and is in favor of removing them, Russian Natural Resources and Environment Minister Dmitry Kobylkin stated.



"We are strongly in favor of fully removing Western sanctions against Harare, which are hampering efforts aimed at Zimbabwe's socio-economic development," the minister told a meeting of the Russia-Zimbabwe Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

Kobylkin (pictured) added that Russia and Zimbabwe would be creating conditions to diversify cooperation. Specifically, they will address enhancing the bilateral legal framework.

The European Union, the United States, Canada and Australia earlier imposed political and economic restrictions on Zimbabwe and some of its statespersons in response to human rights violations under the Mugabe administration.

Robert Mugabe agreed to step down as Zimbabwe's President in November 2017 under pressure from the military. Nevertheless, the sanctions have not been lifted to date. The EU restrictive measures, in particular, have been extended until February 2020.

## Nuclear energy cooperation with Zimbabwe

As Russian Natural Resources and Environment Minister Dmitry Kobylkin told the meeting, Russia sees the potential for intensifying cooperation with Zimbabwe for peaceful nuclear energy purposes.

"We see the potential for the development of Russian-Zimbabwean cooperation in using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Nuclear technologies could be a solution that would not only help ensure Zimbabwe's energy security but would also serve as a comprehensive driving force for economic development," he said.

The minister added that, apart from solving the power shortage problem, nuclear technologies are widely used in agriculture, medicine and industry.

Kobylkin also pointed out the potential for joint ventures in the diamond industry, specifically those involving Alrosa and Zimbabwe Consolidated Diamond Company (ZCDC).

According to the minister, Russia's Rosgeo geological holding is interested in cultivating ties in all areas related to subsurface work, including mineral exploration.

## Russian-Zimbabwean trade

The volume of Russian-Zimbabwean trade over the first five months of 2019 increased by 9.5% year-on-year to \$18.5 mln, Russian Natural Resources Minister Dmitry Kobylkin reported.

However, the overall bilateral trade in 2018 totaled \$45.9 mln, which is 13.6% less than a year earlier, he noted.

The minister added that considering the powerful and diverse potential of the African state, as well as taking into account the government's plans for attracting foreign investment, Russia hopes to boost cooperation under the auspices of the joint commission.

## Chinese most optimistic about their country's future - EIU report

CHINA is the most optimistic country in the world, with over 91.4 percent of its citizens believing their country is advancing towards a better society in the next decade, according to a report released by The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).

The report was based on a global survey of 50 countries to examine how well societies are meeting the demands of the people, how citizens feel about their countries' progress and how countries' development matches citizens' vision of society.

The survey showed that respondents in the emerging markets of Asia and Africa were more content with their countries' governance compared with the people in the OECD region. More than 70 percent of respondents in China, Indonesia and Vietnam believe that their country is moving towards a better society, while the number in the US is 38 percent, and Germany and Italy 12 percent.

The report also indicated that developing countries are embracing science and technology for better development. India and China are strongly competitive in such areas as artificial intelligence and digitalization, and leapfrog innovation is helping Africans overcome infrastructure constraints.

Moreover, healthcare is found to be citizens' priorities, followed by social protection, access to education, public order, transport infrastructure and the environment.

People's Daily

## Trump administration looks to shift billions in foreign aid

WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Donald Trump's administration has ordered a review of foreign aid that critics fear could lead to sharp cuts in funds for global health, peacekeeping, narcotics control and other programs despite their having been approved by Congress.

The review was disclosed in an administration letter and confirmed by congressional aides.

Members of Congress, including some of Trump's fellow Republicans as well as Democrats, have been pushing back against repeat-

ed Trump administration efforts to cut the amount of money Washington spends on foreign aid.

In April, Republican Senator Lindsey Graham, often a close Trump ally, called the administration's proposal for a 23percent cut in the budget for foreign aid and diplomacy "insane" and said it would not pass.

But the administration has pushed ahead, seeking to pare back funding as the fiscal year nears its end on Sept. 30 by asking for accountings of money that has not yet been spent.

One congressional aide said



the amount potentially affected ranged from US\$2 billion to US\$4 billion.

In a letter seen by Reuters on Tuesday, the White House Office of Management and Budget wrote

to the State Department and US Agency for International Development freezing funds Congress had approved for a range of programs until three business days after OMB receives an accounting of any money that has not been spent.

The letter, sent on Saturday, was first reported by the Washington Post.

The State Department and US-AID declined comment.

Programs under review, according to the letter, include contributions to international organizations; international peacekeeping; international narcotics control

and law enforcement; development assistance; assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia; economic support; foreign military financing, and global health.

Scott Paul, a humanitarian policy adviser at Oxfam America urged Congress to resist, saying the administration's action would harm vulnerable people around the globe and make the world less safe.

"Nations must work together to solve the problems they can't solve alone," Paul said in a statement.

Agencies

## Taliban claim suicide car bombing in Kabul, dozens hurt

KABUL, Afghanistan

A SUICIDE car bomber targeted the police headquarters in a minority Shiite neighborhood in western Kabul yesterday, setting off a huge explosion that wounded dozens of people, Afghan officials said. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the bombing.

Hours after the explosion, Afghan officials would not confirm if there were any deaths in the attack, which came a day after a US envoy and the Taliban reported progress in their talks on negotiating an end to the nearly 18-year war in Afghanistan.

Many Afghans worry what

will happen once the estimated 20,000 US and NATO troops in the country return home.

The car bomber detonated at a security checkpoint outside the police headquarters, police spokesman Firdaus Faramarz told The Associated Press. A military training school is located nearby. The Taliban said they had targeted a recruitment center for security forces.

Public health ministry spokesman Wahidullah Mayar (pictured) said the wounded, including women and children, were taken to local hospitals.

A large plume of smoke rose above that part of Kabul, which



is home to many of the minority Hazara community. The facade of one multi-story building had been ripped away. Shopkeepers were sweeping up broken glass.

The attack took place as many Kabul residents were busy preparing for the Muslim holiday Eid al-

Adha, which begins on Sunday.

"I was having breakfast in a restaurant when the explosion happened," said Mohammad Qasem. As windows shattered, he and others rushed into the busy street.

The police headquarters has been targeted in the past, including an attack in 2017 that left more than 20 dead.

Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah condemned Wednesday's attack, saying in a Twitter post that "the terrorists aim to disrupt the presidential election campaign."

Afghanistan's presidential election, already delayed over security and organizational concerns, is set for Sept. 28. The Taliban on

Tuesday issued a threat warning Afghans to boycott the polls and avoid campaign rallies which "could become potential targets."

The Taliban have been staging near-daily attacks against Afghan forces across the country, saying the war will continue as long as US and NATO forces are still in Afghanistan. On Tuesday a bomb targeting a van carrying employees of the Interior Ministry's counter-narcotics division killed five people and wounded seven in Kabul.

The Islamic State group's affiliate in Afghanistan also has carried out several large-scale attacks in Kabul, frequently targeting minority Shiites.

Agencies

## Australian court upholds dismissal of public servant over tweets

CANBERRA

AUSTRALIA'S highest court yesterday upheld a government decision to fire a public servant who used a pseudonym to criticize government immigration policy on Twitter.

The High Court's seven judges unanimously overturned a lower court's decision that Michaela Banerji's dismissal was not reasonable and that public service rules around the use of social media and making public comment "unacceptably trespassed on the implied freedom of political communication."

The Community and Public Sector

Union, which represents public servants, said the decision had serious implications for free speech and could potentially affect almost 2 million Australians who work for the federal, state and local governments.

Banerji used the Twitter handle "La-Legale" to send more than 9,000 tweets in six years while she was employed by what was then called the Department of Immigration and Border Protection from 2006 and 2012.

The tweets were often critical of government policies, such as banishing refugees who attempt to reach Australia by boat to camps on the poor Pacific

island nations of Papua New Guinea and Nauru. A department investigation discovered that Banerji was behind the tweets and had breached the Australian Public Service Code of Conduct, which demands civil servants appear to be politically impartial. Her job was terminated in September 2013.

The next month, she lodged a claim for workers' compensation for a post-traumatic stress disorder that she blamed on her termination. The claim was refused because her termination was deemed a "reasonable administrative action."

Banerji appealed that decision in a

public service court known as the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, arguing that her tweets were "entirely anonymous," did not disclose departmental information, were sent from her personal phone and outside office hours.

The Australian Constitution does not explicitly protect freedom of expression. But the High Court has previously ruled that an implied freedom of political communication exists in Australia because that is essential in a democracy.

The tribunal upheld her appeal and her right to political communication, but the High Court decision rules out the prospect of compensation.

A tearful Banerji said outside court that she pursued the case "to affirm the role of this freedom of speech for public servants and we failed."

"It's not just a loss for me, it's a loss for all of us and I'm very, very, very sorry," Banerji told reporters. Her lawyer Alan Anforth said outside court that he expected the decision would entitle any employer to fire an employee for criticizing the boss's stance on a political issue.

"The logic of it does not stop at the bounds of the public service," Anforth said. The Community and Public Sector Union CPSU National Secretary Nadine

Flood said her union "has always defended the rights of public servants to participate in our democracy like everyone else can." "People working in Commonwealth agencies should be allowed normal rights as citizens rather than facing Orwellian censorship because of where they work," Flood said in a statement.

The conservative government's approach to social media and the public service had become even more draconian, with a social media policy released in 2017 that meant public servants could be disciplined or fired for "liking" someone else's post or posting emojis.





US Secretary of Defense Mark Esper (left) and Japanese Defense Minister Takeshi Iwaya shake hands prior to their meeting at the Ministry of Defense in Tokyo yesterday. (AFP)

## Hormuz: Pentagon chief urges Japan to join US-led coalition

TKYO

US Defense Secretary Mark Esper urged Japan yesterday to consider joining a coalition to help monitor and protect the Strait of Hormuz.

"Any and every country that has an interest in freedom of navigation and freedom of commerce needs to really consider being involved in this type of monitoring of the strait. I think it's something that the Japanese should strongly consider," Esper said.

He said he will discuss it ahead of his meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Defense Minister Takeshi Iwaya.

Iwaya said later in the day that Japan will carefully consider the proposition and the role it could possibly play in ensuring the safety of commercial vessels in the key sea lane, based on Japan's own need for oil and its close ties with both

Tehran and Washington.

Iwaya said last month, however, that he had no plans to deploy members of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to the Middle East to protect commercial vessels in and around the Strait of Hormuz.

Amid a possible plan by the US to form a military coalition to be present in some key Middle Eastern shipping lanes, Iwaya said that diplomatic efforts to ease tensions between Washington and Tehran remained important.

In June, two oil tankers, one operated by a Japanese firm, were attacked near the Strait of Hormuz, with tensions rising further after a US military drone was downed in the region.

Esper is a veteran of the Gulf War and has taken over from his predecessor Jim Mattis who resigned seven months ago.

His Asia-Pacific tour will also see him visit Australia, New Zealand, Mongolia and South Korea. **Xinhua**

## ANC rallies behind president over election donation scandal

CAPE TOWN

SOUTH Africa's ruling African National Congress (ANC) on Tuesday threw its weight behind President Cyril Ramaphosa embroiled in an election funding scandal.

The party said in a statement that it was not aware of any acts of illegality on the part of a campaign conducted by any leader of the ANC, including Ramaphosa (pictured).

The ANC was responding to leaked emails revealing some of the donors whom the managers of Ramaphosa's election campaign had allegedly approached for election funding.

The emails were published by local news outlet News24 last week. These emails support a report released in July by Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane who accuses the president of violating the Executive Ethics Code.

The report claims that Ramaphosa received a controversial donation worth 500,000 rand (about 34,000 U.S. dollars) to the president's election campaign fund.

The donation was reportedly made by Bosasa company, also known as African Global Operations, to Ramaphosa's campaign team in 2017 to fund his ANC presidential campaign. Ramaphosa was deputy president then.

Mkhwebane found that Ramaphosa deliberately misled Parliament in November last year when he said in the House that he did not know the details of the donation his campaign office received.

Mkhwebane insists that the president did know where the donation came as



he personally attended fund-raising dinners.

"The leaks are nothing but a calculated manoeuvre to defocus and detract from the immediate task of socio-economic issues and dealing with the challenges of our economy," the ANC said.

This is an attempt to undermine public confidence in Ramaphosa whose leadership has been defined by moral and ethical conduct, the party said.

Earlier Ramaphosa said he had decided to seek an urgent judicial review of the Public Protector's report, its findings and remedial action.

Given the gravity of this matter - and appreciating the effect that these findings have on the standing and credibility of both the President and the Public Protector - it is essential that the courts be given an opportunity to review the report, Ramaphosa said.

The ANC welcomes actions taken by Ramaphosa who has acted openly and transparently by providing a detailed account to the Public Protector on these matters, ANC national spokesperson Pule Mabe said. In discharging his leadership responsibilities, Ramaphosa has always placed his reliance on the counsel he gets from his party, the ANC, Mabe said. **Xinhua**

## S. Sudan's ceasefire monitors concerned about slow implementation of cantonment sites

JUBA

SOUTH Sudan's ceasefire monitors on Tuesday expressed strong fears on the slow progress to establish 35 cantonment sites for the opposition groups in line with the implementation of the security arrangements of the revitalized peace agreement.

The monitors expressed delay concerns as the November deadline of establishing a unified army of 83,000 personnel nears.

Desta Abiche Ageno, chairperson of ceasefire and transitional security arrangements monitoring, verification

mechanism (CTSAMVM), said parties to the revitalized agreement need to urgently reassess gazetted sites for cantonment in a bid to support implementation of the peace deal.

"Some cantonment sites will need to be reconsidered because of the wet season. We have so far assessed 33 out of 35 such sites as specified by the joint defense board (JDB) and two have been verified as unsuitable for the forces," Ageno said in a statement issued in Juba.

Cantonment sites are places where units of an army may be encamped for longer periods during a military campaign. Ageno urged parties to open can-

tonment sites and ensure that assembling points or barracks for the forces are implemented within the remaining four months of the pre-transitional extended period as agreed by the parties.

The warring parties agreed on May 3 to extend the pre-transitional period for another six months to address outstanding issues like security arrangements, which include assembling and screening of forces.

The parties to the peace pact had to disengage troops and achieve assembly and cantonment of forces within 30 days of the signing of the peace agreement. **Xinhua**



## Zelensky says he called Putin to discuss situation in Donbass

KIEV

UKRAINIAN President Vladimir Zelensky has told reporters that he held a phone conversation with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin yesterday to discuss the situation in Donbass. Russia's Kremlin confirmed that the conversation between the two leaders took place.

"This morning I spoke with Russian President Vladimir Putin," Zelensky (pictured) told a briefing following an urgent meeting with security forces, convened after four Ukrainian military were killed in the Donbass operation zone. "I called him on short notice. I said that this is not bringing us closer to peace."

Kiev claims the servicemen in Donbass came under fire launched by militias.

The Ukrainian president noted that he had asked the Russian leader to exert influence on the other party to "stop the killings."

After Wednesday's telephone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin, the Ukrainian president plans to discuss the situation in Donbass with French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

"I will make another phone call from Turkey to President Macron," Zelensky told a news briefing following an emergency meeting with key military and law enforcement officials after the death of four Ukrainian servicemen in the area of the military operation in Donbass. "Also, I plan to contact Chancellor Merkel in the near future to agree on an urgent meeting."

Zelensky believes that the Normandy quartet leaders should meet urgently "to look each other in the eye and bring this war to an end."

On Tuesday, Zelensky called on the Normandy four leaders - Russian President Vladimir Putin, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron - to convene a meeting as soon as possible to discuss the death of four Ukrainian servicemen, which Kiev blames on militias of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic.

Donetsk has rejected the claims, stressing that the incident had occurred way beyond the contact line and not within the militias' striking range.

On August 7-8, Zelensky is to pay a visit to Turkey, where he will hold talks with President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and meet with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and representatives of the Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar communities. **Agencies**

## US ready to target other countries for supporting President Maduro

LIMA

US national security adviser John Bolton on Tuesday said Washington was ready to impose sanctions on any international company doing business with Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, a sharp escalation of US pressure on the leftist leader.

Bolton, addressing a summit on Venezuela in the Peruvian capital Lima, emphasized that tougher international action was needed to speed up a transition of power in the country, where more than four million Venezuelans have fled economic collapse. "We are sending a signal to third parties that want to do business with the Maduro regime: proceed with extreme caution," Bolton said.

His speech came a day after US President Donald Trump signed an executive order that freezes the assets of the Venezuelan government and bans any transactions with it.

Bolton, one of the Trump administration's most influential hawks on Venezuela, told reporters the move forces companies around the world to choose whether to risk access to the United States and its financial system for business with Maduro.

Asked by a reporter how Venezuela would respond to the executive order, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jorge Arreaza said: "I'm going to paraphrase Donald Trump ... All options are on the table."

Venezuela's UN Ambassador Samuel Moncada asked UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and the Security Council on Tuesday to intervene.

"This is an act of war by the United States," Moncada told reporters. "Venezuela is not a threat to anyone and the United States is fabricating this aggression just to take the oil."

The 15-member UN Security Council will be unable to take any action as the United States is one of the body's five veto powers, along with Russia, China, Britain and France. It was the first US asset freeze



In this March 5, 2019 file photo, US national security adviser John Bolton adjusts his glasses before an interview at the White House in Washington. (AP)

against an entire government in the Western Hemisphere in more than 30 years. But it was also a reminder that successive rounds of US sanctions have so far failed to peel away the crucial support of Venezuela's military for Maduro, who took office in 2013 following the death of his political mentor President Hugo Chavez.

Continuing the state controls started under Chavez, Maduro has overseen one of the worst economic collapses in recent world history, leaving his nation of 30 million people with severe shortages of food and medicine despite sitting on the world's largest oil reserves.

In private, Bolton has told Peruvian officials the measure would have the effect of about tripling current sanctions related to Venezuela, a Peruvian government source said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The executive order stopped short, however, of a full US trade embargo of the kind imposed on Cuba, experts said, by excluding Venezuela's still sizeable private sector.

The order maintains some exemptions for companies that do business with state oil company PDVSA, and

licenses published on Tuesday reiterated that companies like Chevron and Halliburton can continue to do business with PDVSA in Venezuela through Oct. 25.

Some experts said the move could lead to pushback from other countries, and would require a lot of time and money to prove foreign companies are undermining sanctions.

"How much is the US government willing to spend in diplomatic capital in economic costs in the United States, in order to further its Venezuela policy?" said David Murray of the Washington-based firm Financial Integrity Network, an expert on sanctions compliance.

RUSSIA: 'ECONOMIC TERROR'

Most Western and Latin American democracies accuse Maduro of rigging elections last year and are calling for him to step down so the country can hold a fresh presidential ballot.

The summit, organized by Peru, a regional leader on demanding democratic reforms in Venezuela, had aimed to build support for new elections with Maduro's allies.

Russia's foreign ministry said on Tuesday that Washington's asset freeze was illegal and amounted to "economic terror", the RIA news agency reported. Bolton warned Russia against doubling down on its support for Caracas.

Bolton said Washington had taken steps to ensure the sanctions did not hurt Guaido and his allies, nor prevent access to humanitarian goods.

Trump's Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross also spoke to the Lima summit, promising US support and cooperation to help Venezuela rebuild its oil sector, institutions and economy once Maduro leaves office, without giving details.

The plan has a goal of reversing Venezuela's decline in oil production within a year, and calls for a long-term deal with the International Monetary Fund, Ross said. **Agencies**

## China's central SOEs running over 3,000 projects under BRI

CHINESE central government-run state-owned enterprises (SOEs) had undertaken 3,116 demonstration and influential projects under the Belt and Road Initiative, ranging from infrastructure construction to international cooperation on production capacity, the country's state asset regulator said.

The central SOEs have

taken up 50 percent of the infrastructure projects already underway or in the pipeline, with contract value of more than 70 percent, according to State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council.

According to the figures, central government-controlled SOEs had 10,791 overseas units in 185

countries and regions at the end of 2017, and their foreign assets totaled more than 7 trillion yuan (\$1 trillion) in the same period, with annual operating revenue and profit reaching 4.7 trillion yuan and 106.4 billion yuan respectively.

The SOEs are also trying to localize their operation overseas, along with protecting environment, actively serving the public, and improving local livelihoods. They've played an active role in promoting coordinated development and cultural exchanges in host countries.

About 85 percent employees working at these SOE units outside China are local citizens, with the figure increasing to over 90 percent at some enterprises. **People's Daily**

# Reform and opening up brings a great progress for China

By J. Stapleton Roy

I WORKED for the United States Liaison Office in China in 1978. From July of the same year, we started secret negotiations with the Chinese side on the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations.

After the Communist Party of China announced to convene the third plenary session of its eleventh Central Committee, I felt that this meeting would surely bring a significant change for China, but I had no idea where the country would be led by the change. Later on, China began its construction of special economic zones, arousing great interest of us. We came to realize till now that the reform

and opening up is such a huge progress for China.

Four decades of reform and opening up has totally changed this country. In world history, no other country has experienced such a big change within such a short period of time.

Economic development is the largest change. Several years ago, Dr. Henry Kissinger and I went to Dunhuang, during which we found that the ancient small city had already been linked to the highway system and built a modern airport.

On my later trips to Wuhan and Chengdu, I found that everything was different, and both cities presented obvious progress.

Taking a high-speed train to

Xuzhou, I was impressed by the advanced infrastructure in the highly-developed city.

Chinese society now has a more opening mind.

Before the reform and opening up, it was difficult for foreigners to ask about times on the streets, but when I came back to China in the 1990s, open and free communication was easy to observe.

Thanks to its own development, China has become a driving force for regional growth, and brought benefits to many economies in East Asia.

There is no doubt that China's reform and opening up has had huge influence on the US and the US-China relations.

Today, some Americans say that



the US aimed to change China by supporting China's accession to the WTO.

However, as far as I know, none of the US delegates engaged in the negotiations on China's accession to the organization held such a type of view.

The US decision was strictly based on the consideration of its own interests that China's entry to the WTO accords with the economic benefits of the US.

The theory of comparative advantages worked within the US, and also in the global context. It leads to higher production efficiency and more cost-efficient products, which is also the benefits that globalization has brought to the US.

Some Americans, though attracted by Chinese culture, are still used to treating Chinese people as "different".

My personal philosophy regarding policy issues is that the US policies shall not damage the opportunities to improve the live-

lihood of people in any country, since every country has the right to develop.

Nowadays, some Americans believe that China will overturn the current international order with its rise, and such practice is not in line with the interest of the US.

Obviously, these people must have never carefully analyzed the policies that China outlined. China has always proposed to maintain and improve the current international system.

For example, the Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank that the country has established, aims at supplement to and improvement of the existing international order.

As the emerging markets are

rising in groups, the international system needs adjustment to reflect the changes of reality. The US and China should carry out cooperation in such field and work together to improve the international system so as to better satisfy the needs of all countries.

I spent almost half a century dealing with major powers as a diplomat.

My experience taught me that cooperation and competition co-exist in all the major-power relations. Facing the future, we need a new philosophical basis to frame the US-China relations.

**J. Stapleton Roy is a former US Assistant Secretary of State and former US Ambassador to China**

The  
Guardian

# SPORT



## Federal charges ramp up pressure on R. Kelly to make deal

CHICAGO

R. Kelly couldn't be faulted if he felt some confidence he could beat the sex charges brought by Cook County prosecutors earlier this year. He had beaten them before, winning acquittal on all counts in a 2008 child pornography trial.

Any confidence the R&B star may have felt likely melted away last month, though, when he was indicted on federal charges in New York and Chicago. Federal prosecutors secure convictions more than 90% of the time, whereas their state counterparts' conviction rate hovers around 65%, court records show.

Federal prosecutors have far more resources and face less political pressure, so they can take their time building a case until they believe it is air-tight.

"Federal charges are the major leagues. It's a completely different ballgame for Kelly now," said Phil Turner, a former assistant U.S. attorney in Chicago.

The federal charges will increase pressure on Kelly to seek a plea deal, which is what the overwhelming majority of defendants in federal cases do.

The 40 counts Kelly faces, including two state counts brought this week in Minnesota, carry a combined maximum prison sentence of more than 500 years, meaning Kelly could spend the rest of his life behind bars if he loses badly at trial. A favorable deal may be the 52-year-old singer's only chance of leaving prison before he turns 70.

Federal prosecutors likely aren't in any rush to negotiate a deal so soon after filing charges, but they might eventually be open to one. Celebrity trials can be unpredictable, so there might be a greater chance of an acquittal or a hung jury. A deal would also spare Kelly's accusers the trauma having to testify and save U.S. attorneys' offices time and money.

Any negotiations would be complicated, as Kelly is charged in four jurisdictions and his lawyers would likely insist on a single deal that resolves all the cases. And prosecutors would only accept a deal that includes a lengthy prison term, said Gal Pissetzky, a Chicago trial lawyer who has represented multiple clients in plea discussions with the U.S. attorney's office.

"After so many years gone by with the allegations around Kelly, there is no way the feds are going to say, 'You know, you're right. We'll drop the most serious charges and let you plead out for a lower sentence,'" he said.

For the next few months, defense attorneys are likely to concentrate on trying to get weaker charges dismissed. They've spoken about challenging charges on double-jeopardy grounds, arguing that some are based on conduct for which Kelly was acquitted in 2008.

Kelly has pleaded not guilty to all the charges – except the new ones in Minne-

sota, where he will be arraigned later. The 21 Illinois state charges accuse him of sexually abusing three girls and a woman over a roughly 10-year period starting in the late 1990s. The two Minnesota charges, prostitution and solicitation, allege that he invited a 17-year-old girl to his hotel room in 2001 and paid her \$200 to dance naked with him.

The 13 federal counts brought in Chicago accuse him of, among other things, filming himself having sex with underage girls and of paying off potential witnesses in his 2008 trial to get them to change their stories. The New York federal charges accuse Kelly of running a racketeering enterprise that arranged for girls to have sex with the singer. Prosecutors say Kelly had a list of rules to control girls, including requiring them not to look at other men, to eat only with his permission and to call him "Daddy."

Defense attorney Douglas Anton argued in a recent filing in the New York case that Kelly's accusers were disgruntled "groupies" who "pined to be with" Kelly and "fought each other" for his attention. He said prosecutors made "the stretch of all stretches" by arguing that the efforts by Kelly and his entourage to accommodate his adoring fans amounted to racketeering.

Kelly's negotiating position doesn't seem particularly strong.

Many defendants can agree to help prosecutors take down others higher up the chain of a criminal operation in exchange for leniency. But prosecutors say Kelly was the top figure in an alleged scheme to secure girls for sex and bury evidence – a scheme that also allegedly included two former employees, who are also facing charges – so he has no one above him to cooperate against.

Pissetzky said a best case scenario for Kelly would be if prosecutors allow him to plead guilty to one or two of the most serious charges, such as child porn production, which carries a sentence of 10-20 years in prison.

But even such a deal wouldn't necessarily lead to significantly less prison time than if he was convicted at trial because federal judges, when calculating a sentence, can and usually do factor in all the crimes a defendant was accused of, not just those the defendant pleaded guilty to, he said.

"So even if Kelly pleads guilty to one count, he could still be looking at much the same time he'd get if he went to trial and lost," Pissetzky said. "And you're talking allegations of sex crimes and minors. I don't think any judge will feel any mercy."

He said even in such a scenario, Kelly still might be looking at 30 or 40 years in prison.

"That amount of time, in your 50s, means you're leaving prison in a box," he said. "If the prison time you're looking at is so high, you may as well go to trial."

AP

## After AFCON finals, East African rivalry shifts to CHAN

BY MICHAEL ENEZA

SOCCER fans and pundits have plenty to chew following Tanzania's success in the first round of what is a knock out competition at the early stages, and some of the teams graduate to group contests later. It was a two match duel between Kenya and Tanzania coming early after the Africa Nations Cup finals that are beginning to slip into memory, and as providence would have it, Taifa Stars leveled scores in a solid fashion, gaining what Kenya did not gain in their AFCON finals edge. That means we have had the last laugh in the two competitions, as they won the match against us in the AFCON finals but didn't proceed.

It means that the current win for Taifa Stars against Harambee Stars is sweeter than the latter's victory in the AFCON finals, as we both ended losers in the group, that featured big sides that went on to demolish opponents until they met again in the pinnacle encounter. That shows not just the class of the group in which Taifa Stars featured but to an extent, the quality of the team – as it didn't fall to a 0-4 score against either of the two teams which reached the final. There were good teams in the finals that were harder hit.

This time the contest between Kenya and Tanzania has come at an early stage, preliminary eliminations to form what might be described as credible groups to find entrants to the quarter finals, in which case the win is an end of the run for Harambee Stars. Were it a group match plenty would depend on what happens in other encounters, but with a knockout stage or format, or preliminary stage there are no second chances when a team slips up over a two match encounter. The question is whether this result is logical in view of what happened in the AFCON finals where Kenya put up a better performance, or there is actual change.

Recalling what was being said during the AFCON finals when the Kenya-Tanzania match was looming at the group level helps to picture what happened this time, in



Tanzania's Taifa Stars' defender, Gadiel Michael (R), challenges Samuel Onyango of Harambee Stars of Kenya in the Africa Nations Championship (CHAN) qualifiers' second leg clash of the first round, which was played in Kenya earlier this week. Taifa Stars posted 4-1 victory in the penalty shootout after the squads had been locked to a 0-0 draw after 90 minutes. PHOTO: COURTESY OF FOOTBALL KENYA FEDERATION

which case the result is more or less a continuation of the previous stage. As the AFCON encounter did not need any extras to be settled but Kenya won clean in regulation time, it means that Tanzania's win this time is scrappy, and boils down to the skills of a single individual, newly recalled goalie Juma Kaseja, who collected two penalties of theirs. Outside this performance the rest was largely normal, except that the teams were more neatly balanced.

So the first lesson is that Harambee Stars lost the slight edge in tact or skills that they had in a sense demonstrated before Taifa Stars, and the reason could be surmised in exclusion of players turning out for clubs outside their proper nations. CHAN is a competition for home-based players, a sort of window for a different kind of tournament, whose rationale is hard to map out, as if Africans will be more proud

to see their home based - and perhaps more patriotic instead of less gifted - players tussling it out for a title, that excludes those whom foreign clubs wish to see on their line ups. It takes the sting out of the tournament.

Ye this is the very design of the tournament and the fact that Tanzania is happier with this result than earlier bespeaks of the same thing - that the tournament is designed to reward countries whose national team players most play at home. In that case the difference between their proper national teams and that reserved for home based players becomes less noticeable than countries with a greater number of professional players, as is thus the difference between Kenya and Tanzania. Not only do they have more players outside the local premier league, but on the whole they play at better placed clubs than Tanzanians engaged by clubs out-

side the country, where only Mbwana Samatta features at a respected Belgian side.

Thus the CHAN tournament in this two match encounter with Kenya has amply demonstrated at least one aspect of the rationale for which it was initiated, namely an effort to make other teams shine, or for that matter providing space for other players to feature in the national team, not 'mercenaries' playing outside. That epithet is not altogether an improper concoction because one has really to look around to find at least one credible reason for a continental title for 'home based' players. It is to find a different definition of a national team in an African context, and then deciding the best definition is when the players are actually home-minded, even nationalist so to speak. It is an attempt to split loyalties from the Nations Cup spirit.



Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Tulia Akson (2nd L), poses for a photo with a section of Simba SC fans during the Simba Day celebration which was held at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## Serena, Osaka top Forbes list of best-paid female athletes

LONDON

NAOMI Osaka's exponential rise to the top of the tennis world rankings over the past year has seen her leap from relative obscurity to the second highest-paid female athlete in the world this year, trailing only Serena Williams.

Tellingly though, her \$24.3million (£20m) total earnings see her marginally miss out on the top 100 combined male and female list, as Williams remains the only woman with that honour, tied for 63rd place.

The full female list, published by Forbes on Tuesday, also showed a worrying downward trend in the earnings of elite

sportswomen. In a top 10 that exclusively featured tennis players, aside from the top three earners the rest of the field experienced a drop in income.

Osaka, 21, has seen her off-court earnings rise from \$1.5m (£1.2) to \$16m (£13.1m) in just a year by Forbes' calculations, and that does not include her multi-million dollar Nike deal which was finalised after the earnings cut-off, suggesting her total could rise further in 2020.

Becoming world No 1 after winning two grand slam titles in the calendar year up to June 1 paved the way for the Japanese breakout star's rise in fortune. She becomes only the fourth

female athlete to make \$20m in a 12-month period, joining three other tennis players: Williams, Maria Sharapova and Li Na.

But impressive as Osaka's sudden bounce in earnings is - at more than double Angelique Kerber's \$11.8m (£9.7m) in third place - the fact she remains outside of the top 100 combined list speaks volumes about the lack of parity in the value placed on female athletes. While just 15 sportswomen made \$5m (£4.1m) in 2019, roughly 1,300 male athletes achieved the same feat.

Williams, who returned from maternity leave in 2018, earned \$29.2m (£24m) to experience an \$11m (£9m) rise in earnings

compared to 2018 and retain the top spot for the fourth consecutive year. However it does not even put her in the top 60 athletes in the world, as Forbes' top 100 list revealed in June.

2019's highest overall earner, Barcelona's Lionel Messi, made almost \$100m (£82.3m) more than Williams, while the top-ranked tennis player and Williams' contemporary, Roger Federer, raked in more than three times what she did, with \$93.4m (£76.9m) placing him fifth in the rankings.

(Agencies)

## 'State clubs' Manchester City, PSG are dangers to the game - La Liga chief

MADRID

"STATE clubs" Manchester City and Paris St Germain represent a danger to football and strict financial controls are needed to prevent them from vastly outspending their rivals, La Liga president Javier Tebas said.

Tebas, who has spoken out against City and PSG before, added that a state-run club would be against financial rules in Spain and urged European football's governing body UEFA to clamp down on what he called "financial doping".

Premier League champions City are owned by City Football Group, in which the Abu Dhabi United Group has an 87 percent stake, while French title-holders PSG have been owned by the Qatar Sports Investment fund since 2011.

"State clubs... present a danger that football hasn't seen before. They're operating entirely outside of the rules and risk inflating markets to disastrous levels through their financial doping," Tebas told the Totally Football Show.

"The governors of European football need to show a much stronger commitment to healthy domestic football."

"This would include stricter financial controls that limit state clubs like City or PSG from vastly outspending rivals... it would include firmer Financial Fair Play penalties, which have been a very weak deterrent up to this point."

In June, City appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport over a UEFA investigation into potential breaches of financial fair play.

Tebas said financial rules in Spain prevent or inflating the market, although he acknowledged that La Liga giants Barcelona and Real Madrid had always spent more than their rivals.

"Barcelona and Madrid have never received state support and have always been run in a financially responsible way," the 57-year-old added.

"Big clubs have always existed across Europe... they can create distortion if there are no financial controls."

"In the case of Spain, we've spent the past years reducing levels of debt to historic lows, and we don't want our biggest clubs to have more money if others don't."

REUTERS

## Pique: Neymar must 'speak out' for Barca return

MIAMI

GERARD Pique says Neymar must speak out if he wants to push through his "complicated" return to Barcelona from Paris Saint-Germain this summer.

Sources have told ESPN FC that Barca have looked into a deal for Neymar, while PSG sporting director Leonardo has confirmed the club would sell the Brazilian forward for the right price.

Neymar, 27, left Barca for PSG in a world record €222 million transfer two years ago and the way he forced through his exit angered some people at the Catalan club.

However, Pique says he would be delighted to welcome him back to Camp Nou but added the caveat that it will not be easy to come up with a formula to satisfy the French champions.

"I think Neymar's a great player that knows the dressing room, the city and the club," the defender said in a news conference ahead of Wednesday's game against Napoli at the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami.

"There are people that weren't happy with how he left, but there are a lot of people who were very happy with his performances. It's a complicated operation. He's a PSG player and the squad that we have is good enough to win every trophy."

"If the opportunity comes up, you know the relationship I have with him. I would be delighted if he came back, but he's a PSG player. A personal opinion doesn't change anything."

"It has to be Neymar who speaks out. Of course we speak with him, but it's not right to reveal private conversations. If he wants to speak out or give his opinion, he has to

come out and say it. He's a crack on and off the pitch and we're waiting to see what happens. I can't say anything else."

Barca had to take out a loan to finance the €120m signing of Antoine Griezmann in July so are unlikely to be able to meet PSG's asking price. Therefore, they would either have to offer players in exchange or sell before they buy. A loan with an obligatory option to buy later, and therefore defer the payment, has also been mooted.

Philippe Coutinho could be key. Barca are keen to sell their club-record signing and sources have told ESPN FC they're looking to move him to a Premier League club before the transfer window shuts in England on Thursday. Tottenham Hotspur have emerged as an option.

"I don't know what will happen with Coutinho," Pique added. "Obviously I want him to stay but at the end of the day it's what he wants and I want him to be happy. Let's see."

"Until the last day of the transfer market, we will not know if he stays or not. But it's not my decision, it's the club's and Philippe's."

If Neymar did come back to the club, he would become the fifth signing of a busy summer following a disappointing end to last season. Barca were heavily criticised for their Champions League loss to Liverpool and the Copa del Rey final defeat to Valencia.

However, they did still win the league for the second year in a row, this time by a margin of 11 points, and Pique echoed comments made by Lionel Messi earlier in the week calling for more value to be given to their domination of La Liga.

(Agencies)

## Veteran Dani Alves eyes 2022 World Cup in return to Brazil

SAO PAULO

MORE than 40,000 Brazilian fans showed up Tuesday night to see Dani Alves join his boyhood club Sao Paulo FC.

The former Barcelona, Juventus and Paris Saint-Germain defender said the move aims to keep him in shape for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, when he will be 39 years old.

The captain of Brazil's title-winning Copa America team signed a contract that runs to December 2022. He left PSG on a free transfer after his contract expired in July.

Alves has lifted 40 trophies in his professional career and is looking for more.

"I have the dream of playing the next World Cup and I need a team that believes in me, in my history in soccer," Alves said. "I am coming to Sao Paulo to bring results, I don't want anyone thinking I have come to end my career. I still have many

goals."

Alves did not play in last year's World Cup because of a knee injury. He was on Brazil's squad for the 2010 and 2014 editions of the tournament, but in both occasions he lost his place in the starting lineup to Maicon.

Alves move to midfield to help extend his career.

Another Sao Paulo historic player, 2007 FIFA Player of the Year Kaká, handed Alves his number 10 shirt in front of excited fans who haven't seen their club win major trophies since the 2012 Copa Sudamericana title. Alves did not hide his emotion when it comes to the warm reception he has received since his arrival at Sao Paulo's Congonhas airport.

"Today Sao Paulo did not sign a player, the club signed a fan like you all," the defender said during Tuesday night's presentation.

AP

# Manchester City, Liverpool ready for heavyweight Premier League battle

LONDON

MANCHESTER City have Premier League immortality in their sights as they start their title defence this weekend, but Liverpool's burning desire to get their hands on the trophy will fuel a heavyweight battle for supremacy.

In the blue corner, treble winners City are at the peak of their powers and look capable of enjoying a period of sustained dominance not seen since Manchester United earned three successive Premier League titles from 2007 to 2009.

But in the red corner, European champions Liverpool, chasing a first English title since 1990, have more than a puncher's chance of ending City's reign after pushing Pep Guardiola's side all the way to the final day last season.

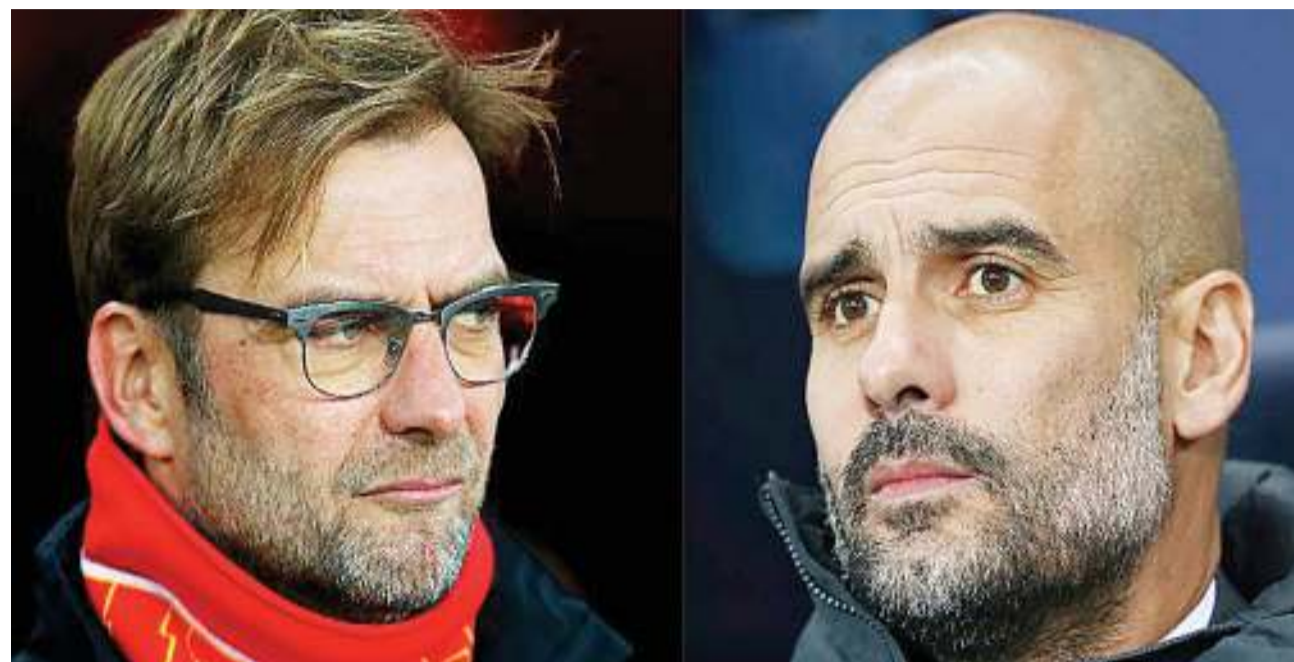
The first blows will be landed this week as Liverpool kick off the new Premier League campaign against promoted Norwich at Anfield on Friday, before City head to West Ham on Saturday.

Sunday's no-holds-barred Community Shield clash showed the growing rivalry between England's pre-eminent teams, with City beating Liverpool on penalties following a 1-1 draw that underlined how little there is to separate the sides.

Adding Atletico Madrid's Rodri for a club-record £63 million (\$77 million) gives Guardiola an even greater embarrassment of riches.

With five major trophies over the past two seasons -- including Premier League crowns clinched with unprecedented hauls of 100 and then 98 points -- City are the bookmakers' favourites to become only the second club to win a hat-trick of English titles in the past 35 years after United did it twice.

Guardiola is a keen student of football history and has revelled in City's record-breaking feats, so the



Jurgen Klopp

Pep Guardiola

opportunity to further bolster his team's credentials as one of England's all-time greats will not be lost on the Spaniard. Although City have never won the Champions League and Guardiola last lifted it back in 2011 with Barcelona, he said domestic bliss remains his preferred passion.

"To maintain the health and focus of the team, the most important thing is the Premier League," Guardiola said.

"It is the standout competition because it is every weekend. In the Champions League, many things can happen in one or two games."

"We will be closer to achieving in Europe when we have more Premier League titles. That is a nice process and the right process to do at Manchester City."

"If I could have one thing this season, right now, it would definitely be the title."

- No hangover -

It would be a surprise if Liverpool do not make City sweat right to the finish once again after bouncing back from last season's agonising near-

miss in the title race by winning their sixth European Cup.

No team has ever gathered more points without winning the Premier League than second-placed Liverpool did last season with their tally of 97.

Jurgen Klopp's side lost just once in their 38 league games -- crucially that defeat came against City -- but their 2-0 Champions League final win over Tottenham ensured there was no title hangover.

Liverpool had the Premier League's meanest defence last season and boast an attack featuring two of the campaign's three leading scorers in Mohamed Salah and Sadio Mane.

Despite that wealth of talent, Liverpool midfielder Georginio Wijnaldum admits making a fast start is essential to stop City establishing a stranglehold at the top.

"You just have to collect as many points as possible, especially in the beginning, and try to build a team who will be even better at the end of the season," Wijnaldum said.

"We can try and do even better than last season. Basically it starts

now because now we have the whole team together."

Challengers to City and Liverpool are likely to be thin on the ground.

Since winning the Europa League, Chelsea have lost star playmaker Eden Hazard to Real Madrid and hired an idolised but inexperienced new manager in Frank Lampard, who is working under the club's transfer ban.

Guardiola suggests Manchester United are contenders after making £80-million-man Harry Maguire the world's most expensive defender and landing young talents Aaron Wan-Bissaka and Daniel James.

But it is hard to imagine United, who ended 32 points adrift of City in sixth place, bridging that gap this season.

Arsenal have the look of pretenders rather than contenders, while Tottenham have not invested enough to satisfy boss Mauricio Pochettino despite a paying a club record of around £54 million for Lyon's Tanguy Ndombele.

AFP

## Top four is minimum requirement for unpredictable Arsenal

LONDON

WITH one player on strike and two more forced to fight off knife-wielding attackers on a London street, nothing that unfolds this season can top Arsenal's close season for drama.

Try as manager Unai Emery might to present a boring narrative of steady progress, it is hard to avoid the conclusion that almost anything might happen next and probably will.

Take for instance the signing of forward Nicolas Pepe for a club record 72 million pounds from Lille.

At a stroke the Ivorian's arrival has done much to lift the mood after Arsenal's abortive attempt to sign Wilfried Zaha from Crystal Palace amid supporter predictions that this was going to be a window of scrimping in the transfer market.

Pepe should provide more edge for Alexandre Lacazette and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, one of the Premier League's deadliest combinations with 50 goals between them last season.

Celtic fullback Kieran Tierney is another possible arrival at The Emirates over the coming days.

With such reinforcements pressure will ramp up on Emery to at least return Arsenal to the top four and a Champions League spot. But, with the likes of Wolverhampton Wanderers snapping at their heels, his first task will be to stay in the top six.

Nothing summed up Arsenal's problems last season more than the four goals they conceded in 22 shattering minutes during a 4-1 defeat by London rivals Chelsea in the Europa League final.

Emery has often spoken of the need for a new more resilient mentality at the club but before his eyes was the evidence of failure. This was the old, fragile Arsenal collapsing in a way their ex-manager Arsene Wenger would remember.

Arsenal conceded 50 Premier League goals for the second straight season for the first time in 35 years.



Unai Emery

Emery tried to counter such leakiness by outscoring the opposition, but the strategy did not always work and some believe more pep at the back rather than Pepe at the front should have been the priority in the transfer window.

With long-standing defender Laurent Koscielny seeking to engineer a move by refusing to go on pre-season tour, questions

remain about personnel and formation ahead of Arsenal's opening league trip to Newcastle United. At least influential full-back Hector Bellerin is close to returning after knee surgery.

**A R S E N A L ' S STRENGTHS**  
If Arsenal play to their strengths, midfielder Mesut Ozil tends to be pushed to the margins and

one of Emery's challenges will be to finally see if there is a blend of pace and possession that can link the German with his front two.

The fact that teenager Joe Willock replaced Ozil in the final minutes of the Europa League final says much about how the manager views the mercurial midfielder, whose pre-season was marred by a frightening incident when he and Sead Kolasinac were the victims of a London carjacking.

Other changes have seen one of Arsenal's 'Invincibles', Edu, brought in as technical director and another club great, Freddie Ljungberg, promoted to assistant first-team coach, appointments that hark back to their golden era under Frenchman Wenger.

With no Champions League football for a third straight season, the financial realities are starting to bite and Arsenal will be desperate for some of their talented youngsters

to come through.

Willock, Eddie Nketiah, Robbie Burton and Gabriel Martinelli all caught the eye on Arsenal's pre-season tour and the fans would love to get behind a new crop of local heroes.

The danger is that if early results go badly, the club's already restless followers may express their frustration in the way that marred Wenger's final days at The Emirates.

Last month a group of 14 leading supporters' groups and outlets issued a combined statement bemoaning the way Arsenal are being run by American owner Stan Kroenke, complaining that the club feels like an "investment vehicle".

All that suggests Emery will not be cut much slack after his initial season of transition. More mediocrity and the club may exercise his contract break clause at the end of the season.

REUTERS

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

Manchester City, Liverpool ready for heavyweight Premier League battle

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**TODAY @ 18:00**

**THURSDAY**

11:00 DADAZ (live)  
12:00 Mpya  
15:00 FUNGUKA  
16:30 Bongo Hits  
17:00 #HASHTAG  
17:00 S5ELEKT  
17:55 Kuroza  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:30 M.JADALA  
21:00 Bongo Hits

**eNewz** is your one stop show for everything entertainment. It covers celebrity interviews, gossip, what's hot, what's not, trending online and offline and what happened in history.

**eastafrica RADIO**

05:00 EA Breakfast  
09:00 Supamix  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

## New Zealand's Ko needs break from golf, says Leadbetter

LONDON

LYDIA Ko needs a break from golf to take stock of her career but if she wants to return to the peak of the women's game she has to free herself of her parents' influence, the New Zealander's former coach David Leadbetter has said.

Ko, who as a 17-year-old became the youngest player to hold the world No. 1 ranking, has slipped to 24th in the world and missed the cut at the women's British Open this month after finishing with a 12-over-par 156 for her two rounds.

Only 55-year-old Laura Davies, at 13-over, had a worse score after two rounds.

The 22-year-old also missed the cut at last month's Evian Championship in France, the tournament she won in 2015 to become the youngest woman to win a major. Her last major win came in 2016 at the ANA Inspiration.

"My advice would be look to take a break right now," Leadbetter, who worked with Ko for three years until 2016, told New Zealand's Radio Sport. "She doesn't need to play for the rest of the year."

"Just get her head together, relax, get away from the game and rethink this whole thing."

Ko has changed virtually every facet of her game in recent years, switching coach, caddy and clubs as well as reconfiguring her swing, which Leadbetter said had contributed to her becoming just an "ordinary" player.

"It really is a very sad situation to observe," he added. "The problem is when you start changing everything."

"As many changes as she's made, not only coaching, caddies and equipment, and sports psychologists and trainers, she's also changed her body type now."

"Who knows what's going on inside her head right now and obviously her team needs (to get) things together there because the longer it goes on, the tougher it is for her to get out of it."

Part of the blame, he added, lies with Ko's parents.

"Her parents have a lot to answer for - a case of unbelievable ignorance," Leadbetter said. "They tell her when to go to bed, what to eat, what to wear, when to practice and what to practice. And they expect her to win every tournament."

"They need to let her go, let her fly, let her leave the nest so to speak and find her own way. If she can do that, we could see Lydia back."

REUTERS

## Power Dynamos friendly perfect test for Simba, says Aussems



Simba Sports Club

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

**S**IMBA SC head coach Patrick Aussems has described the last Tuesday's international friendly match against Power Dynamos of Zambia as a perfect test for his charges ahead of this weekend's CAF Champions League assignment in Mozambique.

Simba will, on Sunday play away to UD Songo of Mozambique in the first leg of the preliminary stage of the premier continental tournament at the club level.

The return leg will be played at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam two weeks later.

Speaking after the international friendly against Power Dynamos, which ended with Simba cruising to 3-1 win, Aussems said he is delighted that his side played well.

He said despite the absence of more than seven first team players, his charges played well throughout

90 minutes.

Aussems also disclosed that in the remaining days he will train with the seven players who were on national team assignments.

The players are Hassan Dilunga, Gadiel Michael, Erasto Nyoni, Jonas Mkude, Aishi Manula, John Bocco and Ibrahim Ajibu.

"From tomorrow (today) I will have all the players in camp, it will be good as it will help me and my technical panel plan well ahead of the Mozambique game," the tactician noted.

"But today's game was a good, I'm very delighted that my players played well, this international friendly match was a perfect preparation for our side ahead of this weekend's game against UD Songo of Mozambique...I'm sure we will perform well in Mozambique," he said.

The coach also commented on the new players his side has signed this season, saying they

are all good especially those who have experience in African football.

"All my new players are good, but people should not expect a lot from the three Brazilians, yes Brazil is the football country, but now the guys are in a new environment, I'm sure they are very good with time they will adapt to the way African teams play," he said.

On paper, UD Songo seems pushovers, but they are not a side that should be underrated as they beat Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) giants TP Mazembe two years ago.

The aggregate winners between Simba SC and Uniao Desportiva do Songo will face the winners of the match between FC Platinum of Zimbabwe and Nyasa Bullets of Malawi with winners qualifying for the group stage of the competition.

Striker Meddie Kagere netted

the three goals for the Mainland Premier League champions in the Tuesday friendly, while Power Dynamos FC scored their solitary goal through Jimmy Dlingai.

The match was part of activities that targeted to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Simba Day.

The annual Simba Day is popular among the club's supporters and, as usual, the club used the occasion to introduce its entire squad for the forthcoming season.

But it was also the opportunity for fully packed stadium to watch such newly signed players like Deo Kanda, Sharaf Eldin Shiboub, Beno Kakolanya and Gerson Vieira in action.

Top government and private sector leaders who included Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa, graced the match.

This year's Simba Day was held on Tuesday due to the

Msimbazi Street based side's involvement in CAF Champions League games.

Meanwhile, the country's representatives in the CAF Confederation Cup Azam FC have arrived safely in Ethiopia for the preliminary round duel against Fasil Kenema FC penned for Saturday.

Azam FC information officer, Jaffary Maganga, said the team is in high spirit ahead of the encounter and he is confident the side will record good results.

"The team is here in Ethiopia for the game, all 23 players who are here are in good spirits and they are looking forward to the coming game," the official disclosed.

"I'm happy that for the first time Azam FC has started CAF Confederation Cup assignment away from home, I'm sure this will help us a lot this season," he said.

## Tanzanite face South Africa test in COSAFA U-20 Women Championship last four

By Guardian Reporter & Agencies

NATIONAL U-20 women soccer team, Tanzanite, have an opportunity to inch closer to winning the inaugural COSAFA U-20 Women Championship top honour, given they confront South Africa in the last four stage at Gelvandale Stadium in Port Elizabeth today.

The Tanzania squad, though, should brace for stiff opposition from their opponents, given they are strong favourites for silverware. The duel has been slated to start at 14h00.

Tanzanite had an impressive to their campaign in the event, notching 2-0 victory over Botswana in Group B clash at the same venue last weekend.

They, later on, walloped Eswatini 8-0 in the second game the same weekend.

Zambia, who sealed top spot in Group B with



Thelma Phiri of Zambia U-20 women team (L) tackles Pheromera Kizima of Tanzania U-20 women team during the 2019 COSAFA U-20 Women Championship match at Wolfson Stadium, Port Elizabeth, in South Africa on Tuesday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SYDNEY MAHLANGU

victory over Tanzanite on Tuesday, have set up a semi-final encounter with Zimbabwe today.

Zambia claimed a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Tanzania to take the win, as goals from Florence Kasonde and Christine

Kalange put them 2-0 up.

Eneikia Kasonga Lunyamila scored a third goal of the competition for Tanzania late on to set up a grandstand finish, but could not force home an equalizer that would have seen them seal top-spot.

Botswana cruised to a 3-0 win over Eswatini in the other fixture in the pool to earn their first points of the championship.

Thuto Radipitse, Getrude Seambala and Leungo Senwelo scored the goals for the Young Mares as they ended their tournament on a high.

Both semi-final matches will be played at the Gelvandale Stadium today, with Zambia versus Zimbabwe duel slated to kick-off at 10h00 (08h00 GMT).

The third-place play-off is on August 10 and the final will kick-off at 11h00 on August 11.

In another development, Zambia and Botswana played to a 0-0 draw in Group B at the 2019 COSAFA Women's Championship in Nelson Mandela Bay on Tuesday, a result that ensured both advanced to the semifinals.

Zambia top the pool on seven points, ahead of Botswana only on goal-

difference, with the Mares advancing as the best-placed runner-up. It means the pair will meet again in the semifinals on Thursday.

Hosts South Africa will take on Zimbabwe in the other Last 4 clash. The unlucky team to miss out are Malawi, who would have watched from their hotel as Zambia missed a host of gilt-edged chances to gain the win.

Had there been a winner in the fixture then the She-Flames would have advanced.

The best chance fell to Zambian forward Rachel Nachula, who had a penalty to put her side in front with 15 minutes to go but put the effort three metres wide of the goal in a massive miss.

Nachula's dismal effort meant she spurned the chance to move to nine goals in the tournament and take the outright leadership of the scorers' race.

In the other match in the

pool, Namibia thumped Mauritius 8-0 to end their tournament on a high.

Skipper Zenatha Coleman scored four goals as she led from the front, while there were also goals for Beverly Uezziua, Anna Shikusho and Lorraine Jossob.

The first semifinal on Thursday will see Zambia and Botswana resume their battle at the Wolfson Stadium (12h30 kick-off; 10h30 GMT).

It is a first ever semifinal appearance for the Mares, who will have to be vastly improved if they are to trouble a Zambia side who looked limp in their final pool match.

The second semi pits heavyweights South Africa against Zimbabwe (15h30; 13h30 GMT) against one-another, the only two nations to have ever lifted this trophy.

It is sure to be a titanic clash between arguably the best two teams in the competition.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

