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China offers EAC 12 cars



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Municipal council orders pregnancy testing in primary, secondary schools

He directed the Secondary Schools Education Officer to come up with a report on steps taken on the people who impregnated the students

By Guardian Correspondent, Katavi

MPANDA Municipal Council in Katavi Region has resolved that all secondary school female students within the municipality as well as those in standard five and six be subjected to mandatory pregnancy test.

The decision was made at the weekend during a council meeting after it emerged that 18 students from two secondary schools within the municipality were found to be pregnant.

Earlier, before the decision was reached, the chairman of the Council HIV/Aids Control

Committee Lucas Kanoni underlined that child pregnancy is still a big challenge in the municipality.

He said in a period of three months a total of 18 students from two secondary schools were examined and found to be three months pregnant.

Kanoni said girl students from Kashaulili and Kasimba secondary schools were examined and it was revealed that in the case of Kasimba Secondary School 15 students were pregnant while in Kashaulili three were pregnant.

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Former President Jakaya Kikwete undergoes malaria testing when he visited an Ifakara Health Institute centre in Coast Region at the weekend alongside other officials from the African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA) and the Roll Back Malaria (RBM) partnership to see how researchers are faring in the war on the killer disease in Tanzania. See Feature on Page 9. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



JPM extends tenure of ATCL board chairman

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli has appointed the chairman of the board of directors of the Air Tanzania Co. Ltd (ATCL) to serve a second term.

A statement released yesterday by the Directorate of Presidential Communications at State House Dar es Salaam said the president has appointed Emmanuel Korosso (pictured) again to the position effective from November 9.

The appointment comes at a time when

the national carrier has a fleet of seven new aircraft acquired recently and is on a mission to expand its international routes.

The role of the board chairman is to maintain focus on what is best for the company or organization. He also facilitates good leadership and company governance by setting the tone for board meetings.

Working collaboratively with the chief executive officer, the board chairman molds the company's culture and work and is thus key to the company's realization of its business plan.

ATCL is under pressure not to let down President John Magufuli who has made its revival on top of his priority list. Since he came to office four years ago, the president has overseen the purchase of the seven planes including three Bombardier Dash 8 Q-400s, two

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House committee lauds minerals sector reforms

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Parliamentary Subsidiary Legislations Committee has expressed satisfaction with the ongoing reforms aimed at improving the minerals sector, saying the country is destined to benefit a lot.

Members of the committee had a meeting with top officials of the Ministry of Minerals at the weekend where they were informed of the steps the government intends to take to ensure Tanzanians benefit from the natural resources the country is endowed with.

Speaking after the meeting, the committee Vice Chairman William Ngeleja (Sengerema, CCM) described the direction taken by the ministry as positive and aimed at making the country improve revenues through the sector.

"The committee is pleased with what the government is doing to ensure the once lagging minerals sector picks up," he said, noting that it is



The president is doing very good work that all Tanzanians should be proud of in relation to steps taken in bringing development to the people

even more pleasing to see how the government is supporting artisan miners.

Ngeleja said President John Magufuli's decision to build a wall around the Mirerani tanzanite mining site has started paying off. He stated that another step aimed at earning the country more money is the establishment gold refineries.

He also praised the decision to establish markets for minerals, affirming that it has increased revenue as well as access to markets by miners, especially artisan miners who never had the right channel to sell their products.

"The president is doing very good work that all Tanzanians should be proud of in relation to steps taken in bringing development to the people," he declared.

Earlier, Energy Minister Dr Medard Kalemami, substituting for his Minerals counterpart, said the committee had a fruitful meeting with

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Minister: JPM was misled on state of Mvomero farm

By Guardian Reporter

LAND officials are reported to have misled President John Magufuli in an assessment report on investment in a farm that they recommended be retaken by the government because it was not developed.

A statement released by the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development at the weekend quoted minister William Lukuvi (pictured) as saying that before signing the reacquisition of the 1,000-acre farm located in Mvomero District, Morogoro Region, the president



sought to establish the accuracy of the report and found out that it was misleading.

Speaking in the district yesterday, Lukuvi said the president realized that the parcel investor, one Cecilia Rusimbi is now free to continue developing it.

"The decision by President Magufuli not to retake the land comes after he realized that the recommendation made by land officers who claimed that the farm undeveloped was not true," the minister announced.

Reacting at the information, Rusimbi expressed her relief, saying the intervention by the president has prevented injustice from taking place.

"I purchased and made investments on the farm since 1987 and was shocked to learn that my parcel was lined up for retaking by the government," she said.

Lukuvi called upon land officers in the country to be prudent when assessing development on

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Municipal council orders pregnancy testing in primary, secondary schools

FROM PAGE 1

The councillors expressed utter bewilderment at the report.

Municipal Mayor Willy Mbogo said the problem of child pregnancy is serious in Mpanda Municipality, a situation that cannot be tolerated as it is shameful.

He directed the Secondary Schools Education Officer to come up with a report of steps taken on the people who impregnated the students.

Mbogo said recently teachers of Majengo Primary School discovered that one of the students was pregnant and upon questioning she said she was impregnated by her own father. Hence

they took the culprit to court, where he was found guilty and jailed for life.

Mpanda District Education Officer Emeriana Tungulu said the main challenge from students found pregnant is that they never speak the truth when called to mention persons who impregnated them, saying they do not know who it was.

In addition some of them have been saying they met only once with the persons responsible for their pregnancies and do not know where they live.

Another challenge is non-cooperation by parents when needed to do so.

609,502 students begin Form II National Mock Exams today

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

FORM Two National Mock Examinations start today countrywide and will end 22 November in which 609,502 students from 4,796 secondary schools are expected to take part.

Speaking to reporters in Mbeya, Executive Secretary of national examinations Council of Tanzania (NECTA) Dr Charles Msonde said out of these candidates, 288,925 are boys and 320,577 girls - about 52.6 percent.

He said candidates with special needs number 1,044 of whom 396 have poor sight, 70 totally blind, and 347 with hearing impairment and 231 have body disabilities.

"This year there have been an increase of 64,636 candidates or 11.6 percent compared with last year and we expect the exams will be done in accordance with the laid down rules and procedures," said Dr Msonde.

Dr Msonde also said that 1,783,638 are expected to sit for National Standard Four Mock Examinations from November 20 up to 22 this year and that the figure is the biggest of all

time.

He said out of these examinees boys number 901,786 (50.56 percent) and girls 881,852. He said the increase is due to parents mobilization to take their children to school following the government policy of free education.

He said examinees with special needs are 3,978 of whom 735 with poor sight, 102 with total blindness, 887 with hearing impairment and 2,254 with body disabilities.

Dr Msonde said the statistics show that the number of boys who will sit for the National standard Four Mock Examinations is the same to the number of all students who sat for Std 7 National examinations and this success is due to free examination in primary education.

On the national Form IV Examinations that are ongoing Dr Msonde said up to now students have done exams in 17 subjects including seven that are a must and all the remaining are not mandatory.

He said since the start of the examinations there have not been any reports on cheating, quite different as it used to be in the previous years.



These people, who were travelling from Arusha by a Loliondo Coach bus on Sunday survived, most unhurt, when the entire rear wheel axle fell off near Enkaresero in Ngorongoro District on Sunday. Photo: Correspondent Marc Nkwame

House committee lauds minerals sector reforms

FROM PAGE 1

government officials and promised to support government initiatives.

He said MPs were taken through various law and regulation reforms aimed at ensuring that ownership of minerals is in the hands of Tanzanians.

In August, the government announced the intention to start exporting fully refined gold in two months time, upon completion of a gold refinery, the first ever in the country.

Currently gold in the country is refined to between 70 and 85 percent but with the coming of refineries, one in Dodoma and another in the Lake

Zone, the mineral will now be refined up to 99.9 percent.

"According to section five of the Minerals Act 2010 as amended in 2017, minerals are in the hands of the public under the custodianship of the president," he pointed out.

The minister asserted that the management of minerals was left to the ministry and its departments but now a mining commission has been formed to oversee those duties as performed by the ministry.

The government has done a lot to empower small scale miners as in the recent past about 36 small scale miners have been connected with electricity, he added.

Minister: JPM was misled on state of Mvomero farm

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government farms that were privatized to investors. He said any bias, like the one noted by President Magufuli can lead to injustice to investors.

The performance of land officials is particularly poor in Mvomero District which is notorious for land conflicts and years of clashes between farmers and herders, he remarked.

"I am informed that some employees of the Mvomero District Council masquerade as land officers and surveyors. They sign land transfer documents and create conflicts," the minister stated.

Back in May, Lukuvi directed that

all staff of the land sector in Morogoro Region be transferred and likewise an eastern zonal land office be established in Morogoro.

The decision came following widespread land disputes in the region, despite various efforts being made by the government to end the problem.

Lukuvi issued the directive when he was addressing residents of Sokoine village in Dakawa Ward in the district, while on a tour aimed at resolving land disputes in Kilosa and Mvomero districts.

After he visited Kilosa District he learned that, like Mvomero, executives of the land sector were lax in executing their duties, the minister had stated.



Foreign Affairs, East Africa, Regional and International Cooperation minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi (C), British High Commissioner Sarah Cooke (R) and German Embassy Chargé d'Affaires Joerg Herrera proceed to lay wreaths at the War Cemetery in Dar es Salaam's Kijitonyama suburb. The cemetery is said to contain 1,764 First World War Commonwealth burials, 60 of them unidentified and 41 from the Second World War - seven of them unidentified. The 112 war graves of other nationalities, mostly Belgian and German, all date from the First World War. Photo: Foreign Affairs

JPM extends tenure of ATCL board chairman

FROM PAGE 1

Airbus 220-300s and two Boeing 787-8 Dreamliners.

The latest-Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner-arrived last month at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) in Dar es Salaam where President Magufuli officiated in the ceremony to receive it.

Speaking at the event, Dr Magufuli

challenged ATCL to utilize it according to the leasing agreement.

"These planes (which the government has been procuring) have been acquired by using public funds and not by ATCL funds. So, you should make sure that you use them commercially in order to recover the money," the president intoned.

State House said in the statement that

the president has also appointed Dr Alexander Kyaruzi as chairman of the board of directors of Tanzania Electric Supply Co. Ltd (Tanesco) for a second term, effective November 9, 2019.

President Magufuli has appointed Joseph Odo Haule as chairman of the board of directors of the Road Fund Board and Dr Felician Kilahama chairman of the board of directors

of the Tanzania Forestry Research Institute (TAFORI).

"President Magufuli has also appointed Prof Shadrack Mwakalila Chancellor of the Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy," the statement noted.

Prof Mwakalila has been appointed to the position for the second time effective November 8, 2019, it added.

Tanzania places priority on malaria interventions

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA is all out to avert deaths of thousands from malaria every year after the launch of 'Zero Malaria Starts with Me' campaign at the weekend.

Tanzania becomes the 11th nation to join the ever-growing Pan-African movement during the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Malaria Day held in Kibaha, Coast Region on Friday.

Tanzania has the third largest population at risk of malaria in Africa with over 90 per cent of population living in areas where there is malaria. Each year, 10 to 12 million people contract malaria in Tanzania out of which 80,000 die from the disease, most of them of their children.

Speaking during the launch of the campaign, Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, minister Ummu Mwalimu said the campaign builds on the country's sustained efforts to make sure that malaria prevention and treatment services reach all areas in need.

"The campaign will foster partnerships and provide for leadership and accountability including resource mobilization," she said.

However to achieve effective results and eliminate malaria we need to reach and mobilise communities to be active champions in malaria interventions, including larviciding.

Tanzania joins Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Eswatini, Niger, Uganda, Zambia, Senegal, Mauritania and Mozambique to have rolled out national Zero Malaria initiatives since the Pan-African launch led by the RBM Partnership to End Malaria and the African Union Commission in July 2018.

Started in Senegal in 2014, the Zero Malaria Movement now spans across the continent.

Dr Abdourahmane Diallo, Chief Executive Officer, RBM Partnership to End Malaria, said, "We are thrilled that Tanzania has joined the ever-growing list of nations to declare Zero Malaria Starts with Me on SADC Malaria Day.

As a high burden country, this is an

important moment for Tanzania to make progress against the disease, and ultimately end malaria.

Through this initiative, communities will be able to hold their leaders accountable in the fight against malaria, to ensure that much needed progress is driven. "We believe that we are stronger when we work together, and we hope that other high-burden nations follow Tanzania in stepping up the fight and joining our campaign to save even more lives from this deadly, but treatable disease," he said.

The Executive Secretary of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance, Joy Phumaphi said the launch of the Zero Malaria Starts With Me Campaign and the Tanzania malaria scorecard for accountability and action and accompanying app reaffirms the commitment of the Tanzanian leadership to achieve national and continental targets to eliminate malaria by 2030.

Increasing domestic investments in malaria including an increased role for the private sector to work with the public sector to mobilise ring-fenced resources for malaria will ensure that the responses are sustainable, contributing to healthier lives, human capital development and shared prosperity and economic growth.

The campaign was launched on the sidelines of the SADC health ministers meeting held in Dar es Salaam.

At the national level, the campaign seeks to mobilise political will, additional resources especially from domestic sources, and community ownership in the fight against malaria.

Significant progress has been made in Africa with a 40 per cent reduction in mortality rates and 20 per cent reduction of incidence in this decade alone.

However the World Health Organisation (WHO) World Malaria Report showed that malaria cases in the 10 highest burden countries in sub-Saharan Africa were on the rise.

Zero Malaria Starts with Me therefore aims to speed up progress by inspiring a continent-wide movement to drive malaria elimination.



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Kioo Limited human resources manager Jacob Msuya presents a certificate to one of the VETA (Vocational Education and Training) finalists in the Dar es Salaam Zone at graduation ceremony held in the city at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Speaker Ndugai calls for maximum cooperation and support for CAG

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

SPEAKER of the National Assembly, Job Ndugai has called on members of the parliamentary oversight committees to show their maximum cooperation to the newly appointed Controller and Auditor General (CAG), Charles Kichere.

The oversight committees include Public Accounts Committee (PAC), Local Authorities Accounts Committee (LAAC) and Public Investments Committee (PIC)

Speaker Ndugai made the remarks over the weekend during the official opening of a one-day workshop on 'Accountability and Transparency in Open Contracts' for Parliamentary Oversight Committee members organized by WAJIBU - Institute of Public Accountability.

In his address, Speaker Ndugai informed committee members that the new CAG, Charles Kichere, who was appointed by President John Magufuli on 3rd November, 2019 and sworn in on the next day, would be reporting to the parliamentary office on Monday, 11 November 2019 (today), for an official introduction.

"This appointment opens a new chapter between us and the office of the CAG. I know Mr. Kichere very well. I believe that he is coming do his job with open arms, and we will work together professionally. I would therefore like to request you honorable members to receive and show him you're best of support," said Speaker Ndugai.

He further commended WAJIBU Institute under the leadership of its Executive Director, Ludovick Utouh, who also happens to be a retired CAG, for organizing the timely training for members of the parliament.

"In national matters such as planning and production, the process of procurement cannot be avoided. I therefore believe that through this training on accountability and transparency in open contracts, the understanding of committee members on public procurement processes will be broadened, which will ultimately assist them in overseeing this sector appropriately," said Ndugai.

Ndugai also proposed reforms in the controlling and auditing of the public sector, insisting particularly on the timely receiving of reports and investing more on the aspect of control.

"Parliament is supposed to deal with current and hot issues. We should therefore look into how we can catch up with the circle of public expenditure so

that we are not left behind," he said.

In addition, Speaker Ndugai said that the office of the CAG and Parliament have to a large extent exhausted its auditing mandate but lag behind in the aspect of control.

"In our system, the aspect of control is not properly affixed, and so that we move into that aspect, we need to create a conducive environment through the constitution and respective legal frameworks so that our offices can have the clear mandate in doing so," Speaker Ndugai said while referring to cases of other parliaments in the world which have a 'Power to purse' system which allows parliament not only to pass budgets for public institutions but to also refer back to them when the respective institutions want to utilize the money at hand.

"Nevertheless, I understand that this kind of change has to take place gradually, so that we can all reach our targeted objectives," he said.

Meanwhile, the Chairperson for the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), Naghenjwa Kaboyoka said that the training is very beneficial for members of the committees because it allows the respective parliamentarians to understand their duty in overseeing the government.

"As you may already know, members of our committees are changed after every 2 and half years. Therefore, these kinds of workshops help new members to gain the right knowledge and experience in overseeing the government," said Kaboyoka.

Kaboyoka added that such trainings will help committee members to also understand their legal duty in performing checks and balances, doing away with the misconception that they are here to oppose the government.

"Parliament is supposed to oversee government, and not the government to oversee parliament," she emphasized.

For his part, the Executive Director of WAJIBU Institute, Ludovick Utouh, said that the among the modules that were being addressed in the workshop was transparency and accountability in public procurement act of 2011, open contracts, accountability reports and indicators of corruption in the public sector, and negotiations in procurement in the public sector.

The modules were delivered by WAJIBU Institute in collaboration with public institutions such as PPRA, PSPTB, and the non-governmental organization HIVOS. A total of 72 oversight committee members attended the conference.

China offers EAC 12 cars worth US\$400,000

By Guardian Reporter

CHINA has made a commitment to give the East African Community 12 cars worth US\$400,000 to be used in various capacity building programmes at the East African Community (EAC).

Making the announcement, Liang Lin, the Political Counselor at the Chinese embassy in Dar es Salaam, said that China was keen on working with the EAC in, among other fields, education, infrastructure development, trade, prevention of Ebola, peace and security, and capacity building initiatives.

Lin, who paid a courtesy call on the EAC Secretary General, ambassador Liberat Mfumukeko, at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, disclosed that China was working on infrastructure projects that would promote connectivity across the entire African continent including road and railway networks, adding that other areas were developing hydropower, power transmission and expansion of seaports.

The Chinese envoy further said that China would also assist in building industrial parks in the EAC Partner States, and is looking forward to more discussions on the EAC initiative on bamboo farming in the region.

He revealed that plans were underway to implement infrastructure development projects worth US\$16 billion to be implemented over a three period on the entire African continent courtesy of the 2018 Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation.

On capacity building, Lin said China would be providing 50,000 scholarships to African countries and urged EAC to tap into these study opportunities.

Lin, who represented the Chinese ambassador to Tanzania and the EAC, further presented a donation of US\$200,000 from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Secretary General, which monies will go towards capacity building programmes in the EAC.

On his part, EAC Secretary General

amb. Liberat Mfumukeko expressed his appreciation to the People's Republic of China for its generous donation towards the Community's capacity building programmes.

Amb. Mfumukeko informed Lin that the EAC integration process was well on course with consistent implementation of the EAC Customs Union, Common Market and Monetary Union Protocols.

Amb. Mfumukeko said that EAC partner states had agreed to harmonise cross-border rules and procedures and to open their borders thereby increasing intra-regional trade.

On the free movement of persons, the SG said that there were no visa fee requirements for East Africans traveling across the region with some Partner States allowing the use of national identity cards as traveling documents, adding that the countries were issuing the International East African e-Passport which enables travel within the region and beyond.

On infrastructure development, the SG informed the Chinese envoy that

the EAC partner states were jointly implementing regional infrastructure projects that had been agreed upon by the biennial infrastructure development retreats by the Summit of EAC heads of state.

He urged China to upscale multilateral financing for development projects in East Africa to complement the current bilateral financing for the same.

On the EAC political federation, the SG informed Mr. Lin that the Community's ultimate goal was to become a federation and that it would launch the national stakeholders' consultations on the Draft Constitution for the EAC political confederation before the end of the month, adding that partner states had provided a budget for the process.

Amb. Mfumukeko said that each EAC partner state had nominated two Constitution Making Experts and one Legal Draftsman to assist in drafting a basic law for the proposed Political Confederation which is a transitional model to the political federation.

Fire Brigade boss warns over risks of corruption

By Guardian Correspondent,

Mbeya

THE Commissioner General of the Fire Brigade and Rescue Services Thobias Andegenye has cautioned the firefighters to desist from corruption, saying whoever will be found receiving any amount of a bribe will be dealt with accordingly.

Andegenye issued the warning here at the weekend when speaking to firefighters of Mbeya Fire Brigade during his inspection visit, adding that corruption cannot be tolerated.

He called on the firefighters to be faithful to serve the wananchi especially when they are doing their duties, putting off fires and rescue people in danger.

He said the Brigade is faced by various challenges including inadequacy of personnel but added that it was better to remain with few faithful firefighters than having many of them who are corrupt.

He insisted that as of now the Brigade will continue to deal with the

corrupt elements because corruption denies justice to those who need it.

Meanwhile, he said the Brigade has started to build fire stations in districts that do not have them including the purchase working equipment to ease its work.

He said in Mbeya region only two districts remain without fire stations - Chunya and Kyela which had been lined up for having the same.

He said the government has already set aside funds for the purchase of fire engines and for repair of those which had broken down.

He also warned some people who misuse the Brigade's hotlines by calling to inform fake incidents of fire while it was not true.

He said such acts cause the Brigade to suffer loss in terms of its resources to rush to the 'fake' scenes of fires and also sometimes to fail to attend to genuine incidents, and added that they will continue to educate the wananchi on the proper use of the hotlines.



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Gender violence still on the rise - minister

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DESPITE the efforts to end gender-based violence (GBV) in the country, reported cases of the problem is on the rise, deputy minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Faustine Ndugulile, said here at the weekend.

He said the government is conducting a study to establish the reasons behind the vice, saying may be public awareness has increased, thus people feel free to report or it is the violence that is on the increase.

Speaking at the opening of seminar organised by the UN Women to Members of Parliament, the government efforts in collaboration with other stakeholders are yielding fruits.

He said that the ongoing implementation of a strategic plan fight against GBV was yielding positive results.

UN Women in collaboration with the government of Tanzania has helped the country in the fight against Gender Based Violence to women and children, and so far the cases have decreased significantly.

The government is currently implementing a five year strategic plan 2017/ 2018-2021/2022 which aims at seeking all possible solutions on GBV.

UN Women in Tanzania organized a three-day seminar to Members of

Parliament in the country's capital to sensitize MPs so that they can disseminate knowledge to citizens in their respective constituencies, which will get rid of the vice.

Ndugulile underscored the need for MPs to help in burying myths and negative cultural beliefs in the communities that were fueling GBV.

"At least 41,000 cases of GBV were reported in 2017 countrywide and unfortunately the cases were still on the rise especially in Dodoma region, among others" he said.

Among the key issues in the strategic plan is introduction of defence and security committees, one stop centre to deal with GBV issues whereby the centre has police officers, medical practitioners and people offering counseling services.

The minister said the government also introduced paralegals in order to provide legal aid to victims of GBV, and so far, they have helped a lot in bringing perpetrators of the vice to justice.

UN Women governance specialist advisor, Ussu Mallya said in collaboration with the Tanzanian government, said by establishing a dialogue with religious and community leaders, UN Women was determined to end GBV in the country. "UN Women work with the ministry of Justice and Constitution, ministry of Health in a bid to have a friendly environment which will help to end GBV," she said.



TBL Mwanza plant environmental manager John Lugongo (C) briefs visiting members of the National Water Board at the weekend on measures the company has been taking to promote environment-friendly production. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Five maize flour brands banned amid cancer threat fears

NAIROBI

THE Kenya Bureau of Standards (Kebs) on Saturday suspended the licences of five maize millers over the sale of substandard flour, hours before the airing of an NTV investigation that reveals how state regulators have let millers flood the market with maize meal contaminated with high levels of

cancer-causing aflatoxins.

In a statement, Kebs said it had banned Dola, Kifaru, Starehe, Jembe and 210 maize flour brands as they "do not meet the requirements of Kenyan market standards."

The announcement followed a series of calls to the Nation Media Group regarding the investigation, which is understood to have caused panic

within the maize meal supply chain. The report, by NTV investigations editor Dennis Okari, airs on Sunday evening.

Dangerous Levels

It shows how Kenyans have for decades been exposed to dangerous levels of aflatoxins in maize and maize products, and links some cancer

ailments in various parts of the country to this abetting of a wrong by State agencies. Other contaminated foods include meat and meat products, and peanuts.

Last week Kebs suspended seven peanut butter brands and instructed the manufacturers to discontinue production and recall stocks that had already been supplied for sale. The

seven were True Nuts, Fressy, Supa Meal, Nuteez, Sue's Naturals, Zesta, and Nutty by Nature.

Aflatoxins are produced by fungi and grow on grains that are not dried or stored in proper conditions. They thrive in warm and moist conditions.

When one consumes food contaminated with the fungi, the aflatoxin is incorporated into the DNA

to form complexes that colonise the liver, leading to the development of mutations that later manifest as cancer.

Aflatoxins can occur in foods such as groundnuts, tree nuts, maize, rice, figs and other dried foods, spices, crude vegetable oils and cocoa beans, as a result of fungal contamination before and after harvest. Several types of aflatoxins are produced naturally.



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Pact Tanzania is looking for an enthusiastic, creative, energetic individual to fill the following vacant positions for the Kizazi Kipya Project:

Job Title	: Senior Specialist - Grants Management (1 position)
Location	: Dar es Salaam
Reporting To	: Director of Finance and Administrations
Project	: Kizazi Kipya

Position Purpose:

The Senior Specialist -Grants Management coordinates a variety of financial analysis, and planning functions in the Tanzania office including subawards budgeting, review of subawards financial reports and liquidations, conducting financial reviews of subawards and generating a variety of project financial reports. The Senior Specialist must collaborate with a variety of other staff to be successful including Senior finance Manager, senior Program Manager, Finance Director, Accounting staff, Grants, contracts and Compliance staff, Program staff and the general accounting staff in Dar Es Salaam Office.

Job Title	: Finance Officer- Grants (1 position)
Location	: Dar es Salaam
Reporting To	: Senior Finance Officer-Grants
Project	: Kizazi Kipya

Position Purpose:

The Finance Officer works with the Finance team to ensure that Pact's financial management, policies and procedures and those of donors are adhered to all times, safeguarding funds set aside specifically for issuance of grants and ensuring that they are used in line with the purposes intended by the donors and that accurate financial records are maintained.

Job Title	: Finance Officer- General Accounting (1 position)
Location	: Dar es Salaam
Reporting To	: Senior Finance Officer-General Accounting
Project	: Kizazi Kipya

Position Purpose:

The Finance Officer General Accounting perform functions to support Pact Tanzania in financial management in order to provide: accurate, current and complete disclosure of financial transactions; records that identify source and application of funds; effective control and accountability of funds, property and other assets; and comparison of expenditure versus budget amounts.

Job Title	: Cluster Accountant Officer (5 position)
Location	: Dar es Salaam, Mbeya, Tabora and Mwanza (2 positions)
Reporting To	: Finance Officer-Grants/Integrated Technical Cluster Manager
Project	: Kizazi Kipya

Position Purpose:

Cluster Accounting Officer works with the Finance team to ensure that Pact's financial policies and procedures and those of donors are adhered to all times and Safeguarding funds set aside specifically for insurance of grants and ensuring that they are used in line with the purpose intended by donor and accurate financial records are maintained by Implementing Partners.

Job Title	: Assistant Finance Officer-Grants (1 position)
Location	: Dar es Salaam
Reporting To	: Senior Finance Officer-Grants
Project	: Kizazi Kipya

Position Purpose:

The Assistant Finance Officer-Grants perform functions to support Pat Tanzania in financial management in order to provide: accurate, current and complete disclosure of financial transactions; records that identify source and application of funds; effective control and accountability of funds, property and other assets; and comparison of expenditure versus budget amounts

Detailed Job Description and How to Apply:

If you believe you are the ideal person we are looking for, please submit your application describing why you are the right candidate for this position and a curriculum vitae detailing your experience and three (3) professional referees from previous and current place of employment.

Please send the applications through the following links:

Senior Specialist - Grants Management:
<https://www.brightermonday.co.tz/job/senior-specialist-grants-management-5x9042>

Finance Officer- Grants:
<https://www.brightermonday.co.tz/job/finance-officer-grants-6kn96j>

Finance Officer- General Accounting:
<https://www.brightermonday.co.tz/job/finance-officer-general-accounting-0wnj2e>

Cluster Accountant Officer:
<https://www.brightermonday.co.tz/job/cluster-accountant-officer-dar-es-salaam-m-mbeya-tabora-and-mwanza-two-positions-w2g72m>

Assistant Finance Officer-Grants:
<https://www.brightermonday.co.tz/job/assistant-finance-officer-grants-rvnev8>

The closing date for applications will be Wednesday 20th November 2019

Qualified women are strongly encouraged to apply.

Please note only the applications sent to through this link will be reviewed.

(only shortlisted candidates will be contacted)

To learn more about Pact Tanzania visit:
<http://www.pactworld.org/country/tanzania>

Pact provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, age, national origin, marital status, disability status, political ideology, military or protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal, state, or local law.



Plot 254, 3rd floor, Coco Plaza Building , Toure Drive, Masaki, Dar es Salaam Tanzania, East Africa P.O Box 32605 Dar es Salaam, Tel +255-22-2923107/+255 689 103 046 Fax+255 22 2923108.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR VACANCY.

Tanzania Health Promotion Support (THPS) has been awarded by the US Centres for Diseases Prevention and Control (CDC) funds to implement the Project 'Strengthening the Quality, Accessibility, and Sustainability of the National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) in United Republic of Tanzania under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The goal of the project is empowering the National Health Laboratory System (NHLS) in the country to achieve and monitor progress towards the UNAIDS 95-95-95 goals. THPS will support national lab systems strengthening through this five-year award in the following key areas:

- Implementation of continuous quality improvement (CQI) on HIV rapid testing to increase access and improve the quality of HIV rapid testing at all levels.
- Increase access to HIV early infant diagnosis (EID) and TB testing at all levels.
- Increase availability and use of laboratory data to inform improved patient management, healthcare provision, programs and policy decision making.
- Implementation and provision of technical assistance (TA) on establishing a Laboratory Information System (LIS) and using laboratory generated data in all laboratories.

THPS is currently seeking highly experienced, committed and motivated Tanzanians to fill in the following positions:

Position title	: LIS Database Administrator and Networking Program Officer -1 Position
Reports to	: NHLS Project Principal Investigator and THPS Senior Data Manager
Location	: THPS Head Office, Dar Es Salaam (with frequent field travel)

Overall Job Description

He/She will coordinate data management within the available Laboratory Information Systems to ensure smooth data transmission from different systems to Open LDR by working closely with super users in the testing laboratory and LIS program officers at the MoHCDGEC. He/She will ensure regular data cleaning and validation and ensure all data from Open LDR is linked to CTC3. He/She will ensure weekly reports submitted to THPS by the LIS TA subs are technically sound before they shared to MoHCDGEC and other Development Partners. Develop support implementation of HelpDesk for all LIS implemented in the laboratory network.

Principal duties and responsibilities:

- o Coordinate with MoHCDGEC on Laboratory Information Systems
- o Coordinate Migration of data to Open LDR
- o Design and deploy data table structures, forms, reports, and queries.
- o Conduct research and make recommendations on database products, services, protocols, and standards in support of procurement and development efforts.
- o Applying third party upgrades to existing databases.
- o Coordinate and work with other technical staff to develop relational databases and secondary databases (i.e. Access).
- o Identify inefficiencies in current databases and investigate solutions. Diagnose and resolve database access and performance issues.
- o Plan and coordinate data migrations between systems.
- o Develop, implement, and maintain change control and testing processes for modifications to databases.
- o Development and maintenance of the database stored procedures, views and functions for hosted web applications.
- o Ensure all database systems meet business and performance requirements. Produce ad-hoc queries and develop reports to support business needs.
- o Creation and maintenance of technical documentation. Development and maintenance of Data Warehouse.
- o Implementation of data dashboards to display data in differing formats.

Requirements: Education, Experience and skills

- A degree in Computer Science or related field, such as programming, engineering or similar.

- 3 years' experience working with IT systems or in network administration.
- Computer literacy, with comfortable working experience with the basic Microsoft packages (Word, Excel & power point, and Access).
- Knowledge in various statistical data packages including Epi info, Stata, etc
- Excellent written and oral communication in English and Kiswahili
- Ability to work under pressure and timely meet deadlines
- Ability to plan, implement independently or in a team
- Analytical Skills and attention to details

Position title	: LIS Global Super User and Networking Assistant -1 Position
Reports to	: LIS Database Administrator and Networking Program Officer
Location	: THPS Head Office, Dar Es Salaam (with frequent field travel)

Overall Job Description

S/He will assist LIS Database Administrator to implement LIS in the laboratory network and develop and implement supporting structures for LIS. S/He will provide support to LIS super users in the testing laboratories network including supporting training and mentorship. Provide onsite and remote support to laboratory networking for uninterrupted data transmission to the OpenLDR. Assist the LIS Database Administrator to monitor LIS reported occurrences and promote use of LIS Helpdesk and track response times.

- o Design and deploy data table structures, forms, reports, and queries.
- o Conduct research and make recommendations on database products, services, protocols, and standards in support of procurement and development efforts.
- o Applying third party upgrades to existing databases.
- o Coordinate and work with other technical staff to develop relational databases and secondary databases (i.e. Access).
- o Identify inefficiencies in current databases and investigate solutions. Diagnose and resolve database access and performance issues.
- o Plan and coordinate data migrations between systems.
- o Develop, implement, and maintain change control and testing processes for modifications to databases.
- o Development and maintenance of the database stored procedures, views and functions for hosted web applications.
- o Ensure all database systems meet business and performance requirements. Produce ad-hoc queries and develop reports to support business needs.
- o Creation and maintenance of technical documentation. Development and maintenance of Data Warehouse.
- o Implementation of data dashboards to display data in differing formats.


Requirements: Education, Experience and skills

- A degree in Computer Science or related field, such as programming, engineering or similar.
- Experience working with IT systems or in network administration is added advantage.
- Computer literacy, with comfortable working experience with the basic Microsoft packages (Word, Excel & power point, and Access).
- Knowledge in various statistical data packages including Epi info, Stata, etc
- Excellent written and oral communication in English and Kiswahili
- Ability to work under pressure and timely meet deadlines
- Ability to plan, implement independently or in a team
- Analytical Skills and attention to details

How to apply:

Interested applicants should send their application cover letter one page maximum and CV four pages maximum to (hr.thps@gmail.com) by **November 22nd 2019** with a subject line for example: LIS Database Administrator and Networking Program Officer. Only short listed applicants will be contacted. Please do not attach any certificates when submitting online.

THPS is an equal opportunity employer; women and people living with HIV/AIDS are encouraged to apply.




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Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children minister Umyy Mwalimu speaks at a ceremony held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend to mark the 25th anniversary of Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBR). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Envoy pledges to cement ties between Tanzania and Angola

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE new ambassador of Angola to Tanzania, Sandro de Oliveira has suggested areas of cooperation for the benefits of people and economy of the two countries

Speaking in Dar es Salaam ahead of Angola's Independence Day, he said there is a need to increase people-people interaction in all spheres including sports and cultural exchanges.

Angola on today celebrates her 44th years since the country gained independence from the Portuguese.

He said on the other hand, it is also relevant to augment institutional cooperation.

"It is also necessary to help the business communities from both countries to tap into the vast universe of potentials that exist and offer them safeguards for their interests and various incentives".

According to him all of these can be achieved through formal agreements, forums and conferences.

"We will work hard to improve the already excellent ties that exist between the two brotherly countries", he said.

The envoy added Tanzania is a notable producer in the agricultural sector and a highly attractive tourism destination so naturally they are interested in bringing in Angolan tourists and investors.

"That is the reason why since my arrival we have established contacts with relevant bodies in Tanzania in order to identify areas of cooperation which might lead us towards agreements that will benefit the two countries and their peoples" he stated.

De Oliveira also said that the youth hold in their hands the power of change. "Today's generation inherited a big responsibility, our forefathers devoted themselves to achieve political freedom", he said.

According to him although many positive strides have been made for example in the matters of peace and security where it took

tremendous effort to reduce the number of armed conflicts, Africa continues to face numerous challenges, majority of which have an economic element.

"The late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere left us the gigantic challenge of realizing the economic liberation of Africa, and he emphasized that this will not be possible without unity and regional integration," he said.

The ambassador said it is only through intra-African cooperation and trade, including setting up and synergizing value chains, aligned with good governance and leadership based on vision and priorities, that we will be able to move forward and acquire the voice and respect our continent deserves in the concert of all nations and become the sole drivers of our destiny.

He said the new leadership of Angola is well focused on economic diplomacy and regional integration.

"It has been made easier to register businesses in our country, legislation has been reformed to protect foreign investors and various incentives have been put in place that will ensure profitability in different sectors such as oil and gas, agriculture, mining, construction among others", he said.

He said their embassy stands fully committed, open and ready to guide investors and tourists to Angola's blessed soil.

"I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to invite the business community to invest in our economy which offers huge margins of positive returns.

He said they have been working hand in hand with many Tanzanian companies, making sure that the whole process of setting up their business in Angola is as comfortable and as safe as possible.

He said through the new page of tangible cooperation between two countries that they hope to begin, they humbly believe that they will be contributing their part in the fulfillment of the guiding visions of our forefathers.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbarali

Govt to spend 45m/- to divert river waters and spare house

THE government intends to spend more than 45m/- to remove silt accumulated in Mbarali river to enable it to flow freely along its course instead of spreading to residences.

The river that flows to Great Ruaha River has an accumulation of sediments for more than seven kilometers in Ibohola village due to human activity along its banks including farming.

It is claimed the destruction to the river course has caused level of water in the river to rise and flow to people's homes hence threatening both their lives and property especially during the rain seasons.

A water official from Rufiji Basin Authority Id-risa Msuya said the money had been given by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and the work will

begin soon, before the start of the rain seasons. He said the for a long time wananchi have been complaining about the situation and urged for the government's help but in vain due to budgetary constraints.

Msuya called on all people on both sides of the river to stop farming within 60 meters from its banks.

The chairman of Mbarali river water users Ally Makweta, said after the river burst its banks the water flows to different directions especially in Ibohola village.

He said apart from Ibohola, Warumba village is

also affected and is in great danger of submerging if nothing is done.

He praised the intervention by the government in solving the situation.

The representative from the Mbarali District Commissioner Asheri Mwakimonga called on village government leaders to make time to time assessment on the river's banks to control environmental destruction.

He said in order to put a stop to the destruction of the environment legal steps should also be considered against all who will be found to engaging in activities along the river banks.

Two Ugandan businessmen shot dead in Rwanda

KIGALI

THE police in Rukiga District are investigating a case in which two Ugandan businessmen were allegedly shot and killed in Rwanda about 1km away from the Mpororo border post in Kamwezi Sub County on Saturday night.

The Kigezi regional police spokesperson Mr Elly Maate confirmed the incident saying that they were still compiling information about the incident.

"We have received reports about Ugandan businessmen that were allegedly shot and killed inside Rwanda and we are compiling information about the whole incident," he said. He added that the case has been recorded at Mpororo police post as SD03/10/11/2019.

Mr Ignitius Baketonda the LCII chairperson for Kyabuhangwa parish in Kamwezi Sub County identified the deceased as Job Ebyarishanga and Bosco Tuheirwe, all residents of Nyakabungo village in his parish. "One of the deceased, Tuheirwe is my nephew. I received information at around 9PM that he had been shot and killed together with a colleague inside Rwanda as they tried to smuggle raw tobacco. They were in a group of about five people and the three managed to escape back

into Uganda. They are the ones that reported the matter to us," he said.

Baketonda added that those who escaped have already recorded statements at Kamwezi Police Post as they wait for the Ugandan security personnel to help them in getting the bodies of the deceased persons for burial.

The Kamwezi LCIII Chairman Mr Tedson Niwagaba told Daily Monitor that he was in touch with some leaders in Tabagwe village, Nyagatare in Rwanda where the deceased were killed from, to have their bodies handed over to the relatives.

"When I contacted my counterparts in Rwanda they told me that they have two bodies that they found dead in their area and they were still trying to establish their identities. I have reported the matter to the police for further investigations and best way forward," he said.

Mr Niwagaba cautioned traders living along the Uganda-Rwanda border to desist from smuggling goods into Rwanda because it's against the Rwandan laws.

"About two months ago, we conducted sensitisation meetings in the border communities advising them to avoid involving themselves in illegal trade in Rwanda, I am wondering why these Ugandans did not take the advice given

to them. Whereas I sympathise with the relatives, the victims were not in order," he said.

The Rwandan ambassador to Uganda Maj Gen Frank Mugambage said on Sunday morning that he was not aware of the incident.

On May 2, 2019 a 41-year-old Rwandan businessman Innocent Ndahimana was shot and injured on the right arm by the Rwandan security officials as he tried to smuggle about 500Kgs of beans into Uganda through a porous border point in Rushaki village, Rubaya Sub County in Kabale District.

On May 24, 2019, Alex Nyesiga a resident of the same village and a Rwandan national John Batista Kyerengye, were shot and killed by Rwandan security personnel inside Rwanda as they allegedly smuggled a bale of second hand clothes into their country through Habusavu porous border entry.


On November 4, 2019 a Rwandan national Jean Piere Havugimana, 28, was shot and injured by Rwandan security personnel on the left shoulder inside Rwanda about 300 meters away from the international boundary with Uganda as he tried to smuggle about 50Kgs of Irish potato from Uganda.

AGENCIES



Leaders of cooperatives in Kahama District and Petrobena managing director Peter Kumalilwa (4th-R) pictured at the weekend inspecting a tobacco seedling nursery a resident of the area has established in preparation of the next farming season. Photo: Correspondent Shaaban Njia

AZANIA BANK LIMITED



PROVISION OF VARIOUS SERVICES FOR YEAR 2020

Azania Bank Limited invites sealed tenders from eligible tenders to provide the following services: -

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ITEM	DESCRIPTION													
23.1	Service of Printing Equipment													

- All tenderers must present their application in writing using the official letter head of the interested bidder. Payment of a Non-Refundable fee of Tshs. 50,000.00 will be required for each LOT. Payment should be made either by cash or by Bankers Cheque in the name of Azania Bank Limited at the Azania Bank. Photocopy of the receipt or Bankers cheque must be attached to the tender documents.
- Each Tenderer is required to provide the following information: -
 - Firm's track record
 - Past Experience
 - CVs of key staff
 - Evidence of being legally authorized to provide the services being tendered for.
 - Bankers of the Tenderer.
- All bids must be submitted in duplicate [original and copy] be properly filled and enclosed in a separate inner plain envelope marked with the address of the bidder.

On the outside, the envelopes must be waxed on plain envelopes indicating clearly the services being tendered for and Lot Number. For documents that will be collected at Dar es Salaam, The Envelope should be addressed to:-

The Secretary, Tender Committee,
Lot No..... Provision of.....
Azania Bank Limited,
Mawasiliano Towers-Head Office, Ground Floor, Sam Nujoma Road, P. O. Box 32089, Dar Es Salaam.
- The closing date will be 25th November 2019 at 12:00 noon. This will be followed by a bid opening on the same day at 02:30 p.m. in the presence of Bidders or their representatives who choose to attend the opening at Azania Bank Limited-Board room, located at the 3rd floor, Mawasiliano Towers, Sam Nujoma road, Dar es Salaam Bidders or their representatives must bare valid Identity card.
- The Bank is not bound to accept the lowest or any bid and reserves the right not to disclose reasons for doing so.

Bidders, who do not hear from us by 31st December 2019 should consider their bids as unsuccessful.

SPECIAL TENDER

LOT 24 BANKERS BLANKET BOND SERVICE

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
24.1	Bankers Blanket Bond Service

- The Bidder must be an insurance Company
- Should submit your proposals on Monday, 25th November 2019 before 12:00 noon

215570007

Huge chunk of Sao Hill forest destroyed by fire

By Guardian Reporter

THE Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Constantine Kanyasu, yesterday visited part of Sao Hill Forest farm in Mufindi district, Iringa Region that has been adversely destroyed by fire.

The blaze that occurred at the weekend in a span of six days has destroyed more than 1,000 hectares of the state owned forest as well as in other adjoining forests owned by other institutions and individuals.

In the state owned forest alone more than 600 hectares of cypress and other kind of trees were destroyed and it is said the fire was caused by the wananchi who were preparing land for farming, and beekeeping. The fire has

also caused injuries to one worker of Sao Hill factory as he was engaged in extinguishing the raging blaze.

The blaze also destroyed an Isuzu truck, 24 beehives, timber, logs and chainsaws that were inside the forest.

Speaking about the blaze, Kanyasu said it has caused about 5b/- loss as well making lives difficult to the wananchi who had farms in the area.

He said last year alone Sao Hill Forest fires destroyed 400 hectares of forest area causing loss of over 1b/- and called the officials of the forest to sell all trees that are 10 to 27 years old and added that this has to be done as quickly as possible.

Kanyasu also called on the leadership of Mufindi district to come up with a policy that will prevent wananchi to

prepare their farms during farming season by burning down trees to avoid fire hazards that happen every year.

He also called on Sao Hill Forest officials to come up with a strategy of creating buffer zones wide enough between on tree farm to another to avoid fires, when they occur, to engulf large areas as well as the use of new technology in firefighting.

He said even though Sao Hill Forest had acquired a fire engine that cost 800m/-, it could not be fully utilised due to the geography of the area.

The ag manager of Sao Hill Forest Sillima Kombe said in order to properly fight fire disasters in the forest area that covers 135,903 hectares, they need three drones, three helicopters and about 20 modern binoculars.



Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister Constantine Kanyasu inspects what remained of a truck that is among the items destroyed by fire in the Sao Hill forest at the weekend. Also gutted by the fire were some 1,000 hectares under eucalyptus trees, with sources putting the total damage at around 5bn/-. Photo: Natural Resources ministry



EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES

PCI is a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing diseases, improving community health, and promoting sustainable development worldwide. With support from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), PCI Tanzania will be implementing the final phase of Food for Education (FFE) programming in the Mara region (2017-2021). The goal of the program is to improve literacy among primary school students, and increased use of health and dietary practices, empower women etc.

In line with programmes objectives, growth and sustainability, PCI wishes to attract talents and professionals to help run the programme.

Position Title: Senior Program School Feeding and data management officer (1)

Location: Musoma, Mara Tanzania

Reporting Channel: The position is directly reporting to Commodities and Logistics Manager

Job Summary:

The main role of the Senior Program School Feeding Officer is to facilitate implementation of FFE III program at community level by ensuring communities (parents, guardians, teachers, local Government leaders, extension workers, farmer groups and other like-minded stakeholders) are empowered to effectively participate in the school feeding program each in their own capacity.

Data Management Support by ensuring proper data management on community contribution, agricultural inputs, community inputs are managed properly and shared on time. With support from the Database Support Officer and IT Officer, use the COMcare for tracking and monitoring community contribution for analysis for Data uses. In collaboration with MLE Department developing in need the quality School feeding checklist for proper information collection. Custodian of School feeding report and consolidation of districts reports for project reporting template. Coordinates monthly data collection through Comm care for the preparation and consolidation of commodity stock reports.

Key areas of responsibility:

1. Supervise and Facilitate communities and school committees to establish school feeding action plan. Support village, ward and schools to execute and monitor their school feeding action plans with the focus on community contribution, food production (particularly on school farms and farm groups). Support community level coordination on procuring and distribution of agriculture inputs.
2. Supervise the farming and School feeding activities of FFE III Schools at cluster level. Consistently work in collaboration with lead farmers, extension workers, garden teachers and store teachers collecting farm and store data, Support the District Council, Wards, villages and Schools in strengthening their capacity in ensuring the sustainability of School feeding commodity management and the associated activities
3. Supervise Sensitize the community on nutritious food commodities contribution for school feeding program sustainability. Liaise with other FFE sectors and the like-minded partners to ensure synergy and sustainability of field operations and benefits of school feeding at the school level.
4. Support on data collection, analysis and reporting on school Action plan and management

Required Skills & Qualifications:

- Should be a holder of Diploma or above in logistics, Agriculture, Nutrition, Community/Rural development, Public relation or any other related field, bachelor's degree in above fields is preferable
- 5 years or more experience in community mobilization, planning, food management and School feeding Project set up. Computer Skills, including experience with different MS Application Packages including relevant commodity management software packages. Good command of English and Kiswahili languages (oral and written) and Experience in supervisor role

II. Positions Title: Program School feeding officers (6)

Location: Bunda (3), Butaima (2) and Musoma (1), Mara Tanzania

Reporting Channel: The position is directly reporting to Commodities and Logistics Manager

Job Summary:

The main role of the Program School Feeding Officer is to facilitate implementation of FFE III program at community level by ensuring communities (parents, guardians, teachers, local Government leaders, extension workers, farmer groups and other like-minded stakeholders) are empowered to effectively participate in the school feeding program each in their own capacity.

Key areas of responsibility:

1. General School feeding activities: Work with relevant stakeholders in the respective Districts, Wards, Schools and communities mainly in providing support to new FFE III Schools by ensuring all relevant technical assistance and trainings as deemed possible.
2. Food Production and contribution for School Feeding: Work closely with all the program partners including the District agricultural department through linking with DASO on supporting to providing support to WAEs, VAEs and lead farmers in monitoring and supporting directly agricultural teachers and School Management Committees as per mutually agreed agreement plans
3. School Feeding Sustainability: Supervise and Support schools and school committees in calculating quantities of food items to be contributed for the whole program schools. Supervise and Support the capacity building of School feeding champions and influential leaders on key program interventions and benefits therein for better collaboration.
4. Logistic Support: Work in collaboration with the Commodities and Logistics Manager in training, planning and DIP development. Work in collaboration of Commodities and Logistics Manager in preparation of District school feeding monthly plan, cash forecast and ABP-Activity and Budget proposal, Sharing with the team the planned monthly activities for better activity management
5. Operational: Ensure district reports are delivered from School/WECs/District focal personal by 5th of each month across the FY. Facilitate schools to prepare the contribution progress report and the spending report and share with communities.
6. Technical: Support and supervisor management of school feeding activities on commodities management at a school level

Required Skills & Qualifications

- Should be a holder of Diploma or above in logistics, Agriculture, Nutrition, Community/Rural development, Public relation or any other related field, bachelor's degree in above fields is preferable
- 5 years or more experience in community mobilization, planning, food management and School feeding Project set up.
- Computer Skills, including experience with different MS Application Packages including relevant commodity management software packages. Good command of English and Kiswahili languages (oral and written). Experience in supervisor role

HOW TO APPLY:

Please visit our website at www.pciglobal.org and click on the "Careers" link under the About Us tab. This will take you to PCI's Career Portal. Click on the **employment opportunities** tab and then click on **Search Current Openings** to find and **apply for the open position** with PCI Tanzania enclosing a detailed CV together with copies of relevant testimonials and cover letter

DEADLINE:

A first review of candidates will happen after **November 22nd, 2019**. Only Successful Candidates will be contacted

PCI is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Upgrading of Mwanza Airport now at 99 per cent - Tanroads

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda,

Mwanza

THE expansion and rehabilitation of Mwanza Airport has now reached 99 per cent and is expected to be completed later this month, according to the Tanzania Roads Agency (TANROADS).

Speaking during the board's meeting here, Eng Marwa Rubirya, TANROADS manager for Mwanza region said that the renovation work is implemented by the contractor- Beijing Construction Engineering Group Company Ltd (BCEG) and supervised by consultant engineer M/s Unitec Limited from Dubai.

He said that the rehabilitation involved widening of a 45- meters width runway from 3,300 meters to 3,800 meters, construction of a control tower, cargo building, upgrading of aprons, taxiways, power station and a weather forecast centre (observatory station).

"Currently, contractors are finalising the construction of a control tower and cargo terminal as well as building passengers aprons at tarmac level. The construction a power station has been completed by 98 per cent," he said.

Eng Rubirya also added said that the installation of floodlight, construction of a new general aviation apron and

modern drainage system to direct rainwater from the area to Lake Victoria had been completed by 100 per cent.

"The construction to construct connecting roads and river diversion at the airport has also reached 98 per cent."

In his remarks, Ukerewe District Commissioner (DC), Cornel Magembe urged the Tanzania Electrical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA) to address transport challenges facing the district by deploying the Mv. Sengerema Ferry to operate between Bugorola and Bwisya on Lake Victoria.

According to him, the current ferry operating in the area had a number of mechanical defects something that has been creating fear among passengers.

"The ferry is not reliable sometime the engines undergo mechanical faults even twice per trip, we are therefore requesting for the authority to address this challenge and assure our people with reliable and safe transport," Magembe noted.



The construction to construct connecting roads and river diversion at the airport has also reached 98 per cent

Dr Shein leads Zanzibaris in prayers to mark Maulid

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein on Saturday led Muslims and other wananchi in Maulid prayers to commemorate birth of Prophet Muhammad which at national level was held at Maisara grounds in Zanzibar town.

The celebrations that are conducted in Zanzibar annually are part of celebrations for Muslims and for Zanzibar which was celebrated for the first time in 1926.

Dr Shein's wife, Mwanamema Shein (pictured), government and Muslim leaders as well as national women leaders also attended.

Zanzibar deputy Chief Kadhi, Sheikh Hassan Othman Ngwali used the occasion to welcome Muslims to the prayers. Dr Shein is the patron of Milade e Nabii Community that oversees Maulid Day celebrations at national level.

At the event Muslims were reminded of the importance in the maintenance of peace and unity among themselves and to adhere to the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

Reading the Maulid sermon Sheikh Hassan Ali Kombo from Waqf and Trust Commission said every Muslim should love Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and stressed the need to develop the tradition that has existed in Zanzibar for many years.

Sheikh Hassan called on Muslims to



be one and stressed the importance to strengthen that unity so as to receive Allah's blessings.

He also used the occasion to berate all evil deeds in the society in particular abuse against women, children including sexual abuse, the deeds that are taking root and called for

concerted efforts to fight the vice.

He also explained that it is the responsibility of Muslims to celebrate Maulid Day by engaging in prayers to Allah and the Quran as well as adhering to traditions (Hadith) of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

Earlier, the chief advisor of the Milade e Nabii Community Organising Committee Sheikh Sherali Champi explained the Maulid history is now 94 old.

The Maulid celebrations began with Quran recital by Ustadhi Miraji Nyange Khamis from Kigunda Nungwi Zanzibar North Region and translated by Sheikh Ilyasa Hassan Hamad from Mazini Islamic College in Zanzibar.

The Maulid Barzanji that went in tandem with Qasweeda was read by Madras teachers (Ustadhs) from various Madrasas in Zanzibar and Pemba including Hom Mtendeni Maulid from Zanzibar West Region that was particularly applauded.

On the other hand Madras Noor El Islamiya from Stone Town recited Qiyaam Talaa, that was preceded the Fourth Chapter recited by Ustadh Juma Faki Omar from Amani, Zanzibar.

The Maulid ended by 'Dua' recited by Abubaker Said Abubaker, from Stone Town and closed by Surat-I-Fatha recited by the Deputy Mufti of Zanzibar Sheikh Mahmood Mussa Wadi while Mohammed Suleiman (Tall) was the master of ceremony of the entire event.

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

National Assembly signs MoU with UNICEF

THE National Assembly has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) to enhance knowledge and galvanise positive action of legislators on children issues to ensure child centric policies.

Speaking at the event over the weekend, Speaker of the National Assembly, Job Ndugai said under the partnership the Parliament will supervise implementation of the

objectives of the MoU with UNICEF providing financial and technical resources.

"This one year renewable agreement will see child issues included in the national budget where priority will also be on improvement of social services for the welfare of children in Tanzania", said Ndugai.

He said there will be periodic

briefing sessions for parliamentarians, field visit and an annual lecture for the lawmakers.

UNICEF representative, Rene Van Dongen said despite government progresses in improving the welfare of children, it is high time more investment is directed on social services that will impact children's welfare in future.

"We aim to increase understanding of parliamentarians on core child right issues for them to take action", said Van Dongen adding the partnership has come at a time when the globe celebrates the 39th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

Informed MPs can set strong policy directions and debate, and shape laws that protect children, he noted.

He said Tanzania's fast growing child population requires much investment in human resources for children such as health workers, teachers and social welfare officers. He said more than 50,000 pre-primary teachers are needed to cover all 5-year olds with the desired teacher-pupil ratio of 1:25.

According to him, the investment are crucial to ensure children reach their full potential, which would later

contribute to reaching broader national social and economic development goals.

Later, during a session between UNICEF, children and Members of Parliament and from Social Services and Local Government Authorities Committee, Special Seats legislator, Martha Mlata insisted that education on child rights should also be given to regional and district security committees to help reduce incidences of violation of children rights.

Chairman of the committee, Peter Serukamba said it is important to listen to children concerns as well as ensuring all their rights.

A student, Rose Mweleka said apart from recording a number of successes in the health sector, there should be investment in drugs, medical equipment and health workers. She suggested for the country to offer free medical services to children.

The number of children in Tanzania is expected to double to 58 million in next 30 years.

Among the challenges facing children in Tanzania are nutrition and early learning where most of those admitted at school do not achieve fundamental learning outcomes such as literacy, numeracy and life skills.

In Tanzania, about 34 percent of children under the age of five are stunted and 600,000 of the same age are acutely malnourished.

The 2011 findings of violence against Children (VAC) survey showed that in Tanzania, nearly one in three girls and one in seven boys experience some form of sexual violence before turning 18.

Exposure to violence while the brain is still developing leaves physical marks on the brain that can impact a person for life.



Some of the girls said to have fled their family homes to save themselves from undergoing female genital mutilation learn how to make baskets and possibly end up in self-employment, as found at the weekend. They are cared for at House of Hope, itself run by Hope for Girls and Women Tanzania of Mugumu in Serengeti District, Mara Region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Grass-making firm signs MoU with Veta to churn out more technicians

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

DAR ES SALAAM-based Glass-making Company-Kioo Limited has signed memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) (Dar es Salaam zone) aiming at producing more technicians of different fields.

Firm's human resource manager, Jacob Msuya said this over the weekend when speaking during VETA'S 49th graduation ceremony Dar es Salaam.

Msuya said the country faces shortage of technicians who are competent in different fields of work so VETA is in a good position to reduce the gap adding that the government appreciates their efforts despite challenges they face in their daily operations.

"You are doing a good job despite difficult environment but mind you that as much as you produce more technicians the country moves ahead to fulfill its dream of using its own experts and reduce foreigners dependency in

expertise," said Msuya.

"This is what makes this day be of great importance and extra ordinary not only to you but for all Tanzanians because we have witnessed the fruits of your efforts in reducing the gap of technicians in our country," he said.

Msuya said the private sector will continue working hand in hand with the government all the time and do what it can do to make sure VETA Dar es Salaam continues to be the best college among others in Dar es Salaam and Tanzania as a whole.

Also Msuya commended employers for great jobs they are doing to enroll VETA students for field training where sometimes they are also employed after the completion of their studies.

"I beg you don't be tired of helping our youth because during the field training it is the time where they sharpen their skills. We at KIOO Limited we receive many students from VETA and from other regions and majority of our technicians come from VETA," said

Msuya.

Msuya advised (VETA) Dar es Salaam zone to prepare its graduates in a way that they can employ themselves instead of moving all around to look for employment.

Msuya said the government creates good environment and directives to make sure education in the country enable people to be competent enough in their fields of work and it did not have the capacity to employ every graduate.

"The acting principle had elaborated on how you collaborate with other institutions like international Youth Foundation (IYF), to help our youth to get skills and getting employment or employ themselves, this is a great idea I congratulate you," said Msuya

Msuya explained that because of the knowledge they had acquired, he is optimistic that the graduates can do better in entrepreneurship groups, government institutions, private sector and in other companies or by establishing their own businesses.

MOGADISHU

Energy sector poised for take off

SOMALIA'S Minister of Petroleum & Mineral Resources says the upcoming offshore 15 block licensing round is a 'game-changing development' that will benefit the entire population

If you were to ask where one of the world's most significant hydrocarbon investment opportunities is located, not many would say Somalia. But, increasingly, it is recognized as a potentially huge, secure and fiscally attractive frontier prospect poised for take-off.

In a turbulent region, this game-changing development will play a key role in transforming the lives of its people. The federal government has put in place a unique revenue-sharing agreement with our member states, which are set to receive an unparalleled up to 70pc of potential future petroleum revenues.

Small but symbolically important early revenues from surface rentals paid by Shell and ExxonMobil are going to be distributed shortly for allocation under the terms of this agreement, which is helping to build a broad consensus across the country on how best to develop our hydrocarbon resources. Much needed investment in schools and healthcare are key priorities.

Over the last four years, the

government has employed Spectrum (now called TGS) the world's leading provider of subsurface data. The area evaluated by Spectrum is huge-122,000km²-and each block in the upcoming licensing round will represent up to 5,000km².

Spectrum's surveys have been hugely positive for two reasons. Firstly, there is strong evidence of 'source rock' with potential oil hydrocarbons, which de-risks development potential. And secondly, the geological strata and structures to trap oil in a subsurface reservoir were also identified.

In addition, Spectrum highlighted similar geological structures to those with proven oil and gas reserves in neighboring basins located in Madagascar, Kenya, Tanzania, and Mozambique. As a result, Spectrum stated that "offshore Somalia is about to become the hottest area offshore East Africa". These results are already proving of great interest to the global oil industry, as many look to bid in the first licensing round for 15 blocks to be held later this year.

While the subsurface data suggests huge potential, our government has also been focused on ensuring that 'above ground' work is moving forward as well. Our aim is to ensure that the regulatory and fiscal framework is fully

competitive globally and in line with international best practice, enabling Somalia to attract the investment necessary to develop its resources.

At all times, we have been fully cognisant that the production sharing agreement (PSA) we are putting in place delivers an equitable share to the Somali people for their resources, while providing the returns investors have every right to expect in a new frontier market. We believe we have got the balance right and that this will be demonstrated when we launch the license round later this year in Houston.

Security is, of course, a top priority for the federal government and all the member states. In recent years, our international partners, such as the United Nations, have recognized the progress that has been made. This has included embedding a democratic and inclusive government working in true partnership with the member states, the pre-requisite for building secure and stable civil institutions for the long-term. As recently as October, the UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed said that Somalia has made "enormous strides on its path to peace and stability... helping advance society towards an inclusive and peaceful future".

AGENCIES

Annual Program Statement

Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth

Call for Applications

Announcement Type	: Annual Program Statement
Funding Opportunity Number	: AY-APS-002
Issuance Date	: November 11, 2019
Deadline for Questions	: Ongoing basis
Deadline for Submission of Concept Papers	: See the below- Submission Deadlines
Submit Concept Papers to	: AYGrants@DAI.com

To Interested Applicants:
The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through DAI is pleased to announce applications for funding to implement Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth project. Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth (AY) aims to implement activities that will empower young people in Tanzania to enhance their employability, entrepreneurship, leadership, community engagement and healthy life skills. Interventions for this project will be implemented in Iringa (Kilolo, Iringa DC, Mafinga and Mufindi), Mbeya (Kyela and Rungwe DC) and Zanzibar (Unguja and Pemba).

This annual program statement (APS) outlines the priority areas for application, expected results, funding type, application process, procedures and format required for submitting concept notes and applications. All applicants are encouraged to propose a mix of approaches and/or activities that will achieve the results indicated under the project's objectives, outputs and technical scope.

Note that two types of grants will be awarded:

- Small grants:** An amount not exceeding \$25,000 will be awarded to small, community or youth led entities that are still in their infancy.
- Major Grants:** An amount not exceeding \$150,000 will be awarded to large organizations with previous experience in implementing projects in the related activity area and showing tangible results and impact. This category includes non-governmental organizations, faith-based organizations (FBOs), CBOs, academic institutions, private organizations, professional associations and consortiums of the above.

The grants facility will enhance income-generating potential across agricultural and other rural value chains and facilitate access to information, skills, and opportunities to ensure their success in business start-ups and sustained employment. Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth is both market and demand driven; it connects youth with opportunities while providing them with life skills, an entrepreneurial mindset, and basic job seeking capabilities and skills in areas demanded by private sector employers.

AY focuses on developing and delivering training and mentoring in the three 'L's - Life skills, Livelihoods, and Leadership - designed to offer youth choices and to facilitate their journey along a pathway to richer, fuller, healthier and productive lives. The approach capitalizes on youth's passion, energy, and positive attitude. Furthermore, the program builds youths' capacity to contribute effectively to the economic development of Tanzania by creating examples of lawful, responsible, and accountable leaders. The program is focused on increasing incomes and employability skills across agriculture value chains and includes the recently initiated industrialization program.

AY intends to achieve success through three Intermediate Results (IRs):

- IR1: Entrepreneurship and workforce-readiness skills of youth increased;
- IR2: Leadership and positive community engagement by youth strengthened; and
- IR3: Life skills for healthy living enhanced.

The program will engage a three-step process to select eligible grant applications to implement activities that will empower young people in Tanzania to enhance their employability, engage in business, learn leadership skills, health life skills, and civic engagement

Step 1; Concept Note: Interested organizations should submit concept papers, in English and with a five-page limit, summarizing proposed activities that will detail how a grant will contribute to more employability skills, actual employability, better life skills and new or expanding business opportunities.

Concept paper submission deadlines	
Round one	13th December 2019
Round two	28th February 2020

The full detailed Annual Program Statement (APS), including all terms and conditions for interested organizations can be obtained in this link <https://bit.ly/2Cr6d1r>. The detailed APS also contains more information on eligibility, direction and guidance on what is expected in the concept note.

Concept note applicants will receive confirmation of submission and responses to any questions within 24 hours of submission. Advancing Youth will provide feedback on concept note submissions within 30 days of submission deadline.

Step 2; Bidders Meeting: This stage will involve only the applicants whose concept papers have been approved to proceed to the next stage of application. AY will conduct a one-day bidders meeting for applicants. The bidder's meeting will:

- Provide feedback on the submitted concept note and highlighting areas of improvement
- Present of the project's scope and targets
- Present contractual requirements for all applicants including project branding and environmental compliance
- Provide guidance on how to complete and fill the application form
- Presentation of the budget template

Step 3; Full Application: Following the Bidders meeting, applicants will submit a full application for consideration of a grant award.

The issuance of this APS nor the request to submit a full application does not constitute an award or commitment on the part of AY nor does it commit to pay for any costs incurred in the preparation and application process. The number of awards and amount of funding available is subject to change. AY reserves the right to fully or partially fund the applications submitted. Further, AY reserves the right to make no awards from this APS.

In case you require any clarification or have any questions please send an email to AYGrants@dai.com.

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Vanilla farming is becoming popular, so let us move on...

VANILLA is the only edible fruit of the orchid family, the largest family of flowering plants in the world. There are over 150 varieties of vanilla plants. Just like grapes that make wine, no two vanilla beans are the same in flavour, aroma, or colour. Vanilla is still the most favourite ice cream flavour in the US.

Vanilla is a flavouring derived from orchids of the genus vanilla, primarily from the Mexican species, flat-leaved vanilla. The word vanilla, derived from vainilla, the diminutive of the Spanish word vaina (vainia itself meaning a sheath or a pod), is translated simply as little pod. Pre-Columbian Mesoamerican people cultivated the vine of the vanilla orchid. Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés is credited with introducing both vanilla and chocolate to Europe in the 1520s.

Pollination is required to get the vanilla fruit from which the flavouring is derived. In 1837, Belgian botanist Charles François Antoine Morren discovered this fact and pioneered a method of artificially pollinating the plant. The method proved financially unworkable and was not deployed commercially. In 1841, Edmond Albius, a slave who lived on the French island of Réunion in the Indian Ocean, discovered at the age of 12 that the plant could be hand-pollinated. Hand-pollination allowed global cultivation of the plant.

Three major species of vanilla currently are grown globally, all of which derive from a species originally found in Mesoamerica, including parts of modern-day Mexico. They are *V. planifolia* (syn. *V. fragrans*), grown on Madagascar, Réunion, and other tropical areas along the Indian Ocean; *V. tahitensis*, grown in the South Pacific;

and *V. pompona*, found in the West Indies, Central America, and South America. The majority of the world's vanilla is the *V. planifolia* species, more commonly known as Bourbon vanilla (after the former name of Réunion, Île Bourbon) or Madagascar vanilla, which is produced in Madagascar and neighbouring islands in the southwestern Indian Ocean, and in Indonesia. Combined, Madagascar and Indonesia produce two-thirds of the world's supply of vanilla.

Vanilla is the second-most expensive spice after saffron because growing the vanilla seed pods is labour-intensive. Despite the expense, vanilla is highly valued for its flavour. As a result, vanilla is widely used in both commercial and domestic baking, perfume manufacture, and aromatherapy.

Vanilla stakeholders from around the world converged in Moshi, Kilimanjaro region to ponder on how to increase production and quality of one of the most lucrative spices.

A statement released recently by Nestlé—one of the organisers of the three-day symposium—said the stakeholders also visited some vanilla farmers in the region to find out their challenges and figure out the kind of support they need.

"The meeting will focus on the future of vanilla and vanillin. Given the growing importance of Tanzania and neighbouring countries in the vanilla industry, we felt it is the right time to hold a vanilla meeting in the region," the statement noted.

Dried vanilla beans which are used as spice in food, beverages and fragrances are sold at 10,000/- to 15,000/- per kilogramme, making it the darling of farmers in regions whose weather favours its cultivation such as Kilimanjaro, Kagera and Morogoro.

Tolerance is of necessity for true peace and prosperity to take root

TOLERATION is the allowing, permitting, or acceptance of an action, idea, object, or person which one dislikes or disagrees with. Random House Dictionary defines tolerance as "a fair, objective, and permissive attitude toward those whose opinions, beliefs, practices, racial or ethnic origins, etc., differ from one's own". Tolerance may signify "no more than forbearance and the permission given by the adherents of a dominant religion for other religions to exist, even though the latter are looked on with disapproval as inferior, mistaken, or harmful."

Historically, most incidents and writings pertaining to toleration involve the status of minority and dissenting viewpoints in relation to a dominant state religion.[3] In the 20th century and after, analysis of the doctrine of toleration has been expanded to include political and ethnic groups, individuals and other minorities, and human rights embodies the principle of legally enforced toleration.

Originally from the Latin tolerans (present participle of tolerare; "to bear, endure, tolerate"), the word toleration was first used in Middle French in the 14th century and in Early Modern English in the early 15th century. The word toleration was first used in English in the 1510s to mean "permission granted by authority, licence" from the French tolération (originally from the Latin past participle stem of tolerare, tolerationem), moving towards the meaning of "forbearance, sufferance" in the 1580s. The notion of religious toleration stems from 1609.

Religious toleration has been described as a "remarkable feature" of the Achaemenid Empire of Persia. As reported in the Old Testament, King Cyrus the Great was believed to have released the Jews from captivity in 539-530 BCE, and permitted their return to their homeland. Cyrus the Great assisted in the restoration of the sacred places of various cities.

The Hellenistic city of Alexandria, founded 331 BCE, contained a large Jewish community which lived in peace with equivalently sized Greek and Egyptian populations. According to Michael Walzer, the city provided "a useful example of what we might think of as the imperial version of multiculturalism."

The Roman Empire encouraged conquered peoples to continue worshipping their own gods. "An important part of Roman propaganda was its invitation to the gods of conquered territories to enjoy the benefits of worship within the imperium." Christians were singled out for persecution because of their own rejection of Roman pantheism and refusal to honor the emperor as a god. In 311 CE, Roman Emperor Galerius issued a general edict of toleration of Christianity, in his own name and in those of Licinius and Constantine I (who converted to Christianity the following year).

In the Old Testament, the books of Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy make similar statements about the treatment of strangers. For example, Exodus 22:21 says: "Thou shalt neither vex a stranger, nor oppress him: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt". These texts are frequently used in sermons to plead for compassion and tolerance of those who are different from us and less powerful. Julia Kristeva elucidated a philosophy of political and religious toleration based on all of our mutual identities as strangers.

The New Testament Parable of the Tares, which speaks of the difficulty of distinguishing wheat from weeds before harvest time, has also been invoked in support of religious toleration. In his "Letter to Bishop Roger of Chalons", Bishop Wazo of Liege (c. 985-1048) relied on the parable to argue that "the church should let dissent grow with orthodoxy until the Lord comes to separate and judge them".



Parliament again found wanting on fulfilling its critical oversight role

By **Sivive Gwarube**

THE executive has absolutely no regard for Parliament because a culture of 'fake accountability' has been allowed to prevail. The accountability mechanisms, such as questions to the ministers, deputy president and the president are never taken seriously. Instead, every effort is made to protect the executive from accounting as they should to Parliament and by extension to the public.

The South African Parliament has consistently been found wanting when it comes to performing its critical and constitutionally enshrined role. This has been reiterated and demonstrated on numerous occasions.

One such moment was the Constitutional Court judgment handed down in 2017 on the matter between the Economic Freedom Fighters, United Democratic Movement, Congress of the People, the Democratic Alliance and the then Speaker of the National Assembly.

These parties sought the intervention of the judiciary because it became abundantly clear that Parliament was incapable of doing its job and holding the executive to account by providing mechanisms that would deal with former president Jacob Zuma for failing to implement the recommendations of the Public Protector on the Nkandla matter.

This was once again so evident during

By **Joseph Stiglitz**

AT the end of the Cold War, political scientist Francis Fukuyama wrote a celebrated essay titled 'The End of History? Communism's collapse, he argued, would clear the last obstacle separating the entire world from its destiny of liberal democracy and market economies. Many people agreed.

Today, as we face a retreat from the rules-based, liberal global order, with autocratic rulers and demagogues leading countries that contain well over half the world's population, Francis Fukuyama's essay, 'The End of History' seems quaint and naive. But it reinforced the neoliberal economic doctrine that has prevailed for the past 40 years.

The credibility of neoliberalism's faith in unfettered markets as the surest road to shared prosperity is on life-support these days. And well it should be. The simultaneous waning of confidence in neoliberalism and in democracy is no coincidence or mere correlation. Neoliberalism has undermined democracy for 40 years.

The form of globalisation prescribed by neoliberalism left individuals and entire societies unable to control an important part of their own destiny, as Dani Rodrik of Harvard University has explained so clearly, and as I argue in my recent books Globalization and

the State Capture testimonies that it prompted the Deputy Chief Justice to intimate that an investigation into Parliament's role in overlooking State Capture should be launched.

Executive shielding has been the consistent theme of our country's Parliament. It was the case in the fifth Parliament and is seemingly the case in the sixth Parliament.

There is a fundamental lack of understanding of what the role of Parliament is and how critical the principle of separation of powers is in a constitutional democracy. Instead of vigorously and jealously guarding the integrity of Parliament as an institution, the ANC often uses its numbers in the National Assembly, the National Council of Provinces and in portfolio committees to simply undermine the role of Parliament and the people who have elected Members of Parliament to serve.

The party continues to demonstrate its disdain for the institution through big and seemingly insignificant ways.

The two Houses of Parliament often – through their presiding officers and the portfolio committee chairs – refuse to hold the executive to account.

The executive has absolutely no regard for Parliament because of a culture of "fake accountability" which has been allowed to prevail. The accountability mechanisms such as questions to the ministers, deputy president and the president are never

taken seriously. Instead, every effort is made to protect the executive from accounting as they should to Parliament and by extension to the public.

When ministers and their deputies appear in portfolio committee meetings to present annual reports, strategic plans or to account on specific issues, Members of Parliament leave those meetings none the wiser. Their efforts to interrogate and demand answers are thwarted by chairs of committees and the ANC majority. This past weekend, Parliament's portfolio committee on health hosted public hearings in Mpumalanga to hear the views of ordinary citizens on the National Health Insurance Bill. This is a process critical to the work of law-making.

Instead of these hearings being used to sincerely consult, educate and obtain public sentiment, they became a "clash of the buses". The ANC packed the halls with party supporters – an act which is not only wrong, but completely distorts the findings of the process. To really demonstrate the utter disdain for the public participation process, there were fake leaflets which were distributed calling for the support of the bill, embellished with parliamentary staff details to create an impression that this was a legitimate document from Parliament.

The millions of people that we serve rely on public institutions to guard their independence, be on their side, educate and assist them to make informed

choices about legislation that will affect their lives. To mislead people for narrow political gains is, quite frankly, fraud and should be called out as such.

The ANC has over the years treated Parliament as an extension of itself. It has never truly committed to upholding the role that legislators must play. It has never demanded excellence from Cabinet ministers regarding the work they have been appointed to do. It is an indictment that a great institution that has the ability to conduct its work on behalf of the people of South Africa is reduced to some rubber-stamping desk.

One almost gets the sense that the ANC views the legislative process as its own policy wing and not an independent and credible institution of Parliament.

There are many examples around the world of how countries have in fact strengthened the arm of their parliaments or legislatures by allowing members of opposition parties to chair portfolio committee meetings, more frequent oral question sessions in parliament and far more direct accountability demanded from the executive.

One can only conclude that these mechanisms are available to South Africa, but can never be implemented until we elect people who will take their mandate to serve the public seriously. It is only when the interests of the people of South Africa outweigh party political interests that the legislature in our country will function optimally.

The end of neoliberalism and the rebirth of history

Its Discontents Revisited and People, Power, and Profits. The effects of capital-market liberalisation were particularly odious: If a leading presidential candidate in an emerging market lost favour with Wall Street, the banks would pull their money out of the country. Voters then faced a stark choice: Give in to Wall Street or face a severe financial crisis. It was as if Wall Street had more political power than the country's citizens. Even in rich countries, ordinary citizens were told, "You can't pursue the policies you want" – whether adequate social protection, decent wages, progressive taxation, or a well-regulated financial system – "because the country will lose competitiveness, jobs will disappear, and you will suffer."

In rich and poor countries alike, elites promised that neoliberal policies would lead to faster economic growth and the benefits would trickle down so that everyone, including the poorest, would be better off. To get there, though, workers would have to accept lower wages and all citizens would have to accept cutbacks in important government programmes.

The elites claimed that their promises were based on scientific economic models and "evidence-based research". Well, after 40 years, the numbers are in: growth has slowed and the fruits of that

growth went overwhelmingly to a very few at the top. As wages stagnated and the stock market soared, income and wealth flowed up, rather than trickling down.

How can wage restraint – to attain or maintain competitiveness – and reduced government programmes possibly add up to higher standards of living? Ordinary citizens felt like they had been sold a bill of goods. They were right to feel conned.

We are now experiencing the political consequences of this grand deception: distrust of the elites, of the economic "science" on which neoliberalism was based, and of the money-corrupted political system that made it all possible.

The reality is that, despite its name, the era of neoliberalism was far from liberal. It imposed an intellectual orthodoxy whose guardians were utterly intolerant of dissent. Economists with heterodox views were treated as heretics to be shunned, or at best shunted off to a few isolated institutions. Neoliberalism bore little resemblance to the "open society" that Karl Popper had advocated. As George Soros has emphasised, Popper recognized that our society is a complex, ever-evolving system in which the more we learn, the more our knowledge changes the behaviour of the system.

Nowhere was this intolerance greater than in macroeconomics, where the prevailing models ruled out the possibility of a crisis such as the one we experienced in 2008. When the impossible happened, it was treated as if it were a 500-year flood – a freak occurrence that no model could have predicted.

Even today, advocates of these theories refuse to accept that their belief in self-regulating markets and their dismissal of externalities as either nonexistent or unimportant led to the deregulation that was pivotal in fuelling the crisis. The theory continues to survive, with Ptolemaic attempts to make it fit the facts, which attests to the reality that bad ideas, once established, often have a slow death.

If the 2008 financial crisis failed to make us realise that unfettered markets don't work, the climate crisis certainly should: neoliberalism will literally bring an end to our civilisation. But it is also clear that demagogues who would have us turn our back on science and tolerance will only make matters worse.

The only way forward, the only way to save our planet and our civilisation, is a rebirth of history. We must revitalise the Enlightenment and recommit to honouring its values of freedom, respect for knowledge, and democracy.

Ifakara Health Institute: A world-class research institute

By Richard Mngazija

A visit to Ifakara by zoologist Dr. Rudolf Geigy from Switzerland in 1949 marked the beginning of over 50-year history of Ifakara Health Institute (IHI). Geigy (1920-1995), a scientist from the Swiss Tropical Institute in Basel, sought a fieldwork location for researching on tropical diseases. Eight years later, he opened the Swiss Tropical Institute Field Laboratory (STIFL) there.

The name "Ifakara" refers to "a place you go to die", a reflection of the historically high burden of disease in the area, before major control efforts started.

In the years after the 1961 independence, STIFL played a central role in training medical officers who could serve the country after independence. The government mandated STIFL to play the role through the Rural Aid Centre, which was designed to undertake the assignment.

Tanzania adopted the nationalisation policy in the late 1960s and early 1970s which championed transferring of public institutions into the hands of Tanzanians. The policy set the stage for the integration of STIFL into a government agency - National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) which was achieved some years later in 1990.

The following year, that's in 1991, STIFL was renamed 'Ifakara Centre' and made an affiliate of NIMR. In 1996, it was made a trust and re-named, 'Ifakara Health Research and Development Centre (IHRDC). This name lasted until 2008 when it was changed to the current one of Ifakara Health Institute.

From the 1990s onward, IHI received an influx of funding and prestigious awards for excellence in health research. In 2008, it received the Prince of Asturias Award - a series of annual prizes awarded in Spain by the Prince of Asturias Foundation to individuals, entities or organisations from around the world who

make notable achievements in the fields of sciences, humanities and public affairs. The aim is to encourage and promote scientific, cultural and humanistic values that form part of mankind's universal heritage. In 2010, IHI received the (Tanzania) National Award for Science and Technology.

The first Tanzanian science director, Dr. Andrew Kitua, was appointed in 1993. His successors: Dr. Hassan Mshinda and Dr. Salim Abdulla, built strong teams that took the institute to the high level of excellence, extending operations of the institute to other regions.

The Institute's name was simplified to "Ifakara Health Institute," abbreviated as "IHI" in 2008. The same year, Dar es Salaam office, where IHI is currently headquartered, was opened.

In 2009, the institute extended its wings by opening a new branch in the Tanzania's colonial era capital, Bagamoyo. And three years later, in 2012, Kingani Training Centre and clinical trials facilities were built.

The sitting Chief Executive Director, Dr. Honorati Masanja, was appointed in 2016.

Ifakara Health Institute (IHI) is a leading health research organisation in Africa. Ifakara town is the birth place of Ifakara Health Institute (IHI). The name 'Ifakara' refers to 'a place you go to die.' A reflection of the historically high burden of malaria disease in the area, before major control efforts started.

IHI is a health research institute. It invests in people and endeavor to build a dependable workforce of tomorrow. It is a world-class research organisation in Africa, with a strong track record in developing, testing and validating innovations for health that save lives. It aims to improve people's health and wellbeing through research, training and services. It works across biomedical and ecological sciences, interventions and clinical trials, health-systems and policy.

It has been registered in Tanzania as an independ-



The crucial challenge for Tanzania's healthcare system is to improve the access to and quality of essential health-care and prevention

ent non-profit outfit. Its history dates back to 1956. It is headquartered in Dar es Salaam, but with major branches in Bagamoyo and Ifakara - its original birthplace.

It endeavors to influencing policy: Engaging communities in research activities that has helped to improve public health around IHI sites. However, influencing the lives of more people requires translation of the Institute's findings into broader policies. It has done it done this successfully for decades in international development policy, including those formulated by the World Health Organisation (WHO) intended to double efforts to ensure that more findings are communicated widely to influence health policies domestically as well.

In the same vein, IHI works to seek to help the ministry of health implement its strategies. The institute's connections with the government since its founding over fifty years ago had helped it look beyond the policy-making community to



The sitting Chief Executive Director, Dr. Honorati Masanja, was appointed in 2016

the intended beneficiaries of the institute's efforts - that's the public.

The IHIcommunity engagement initiative, active for over a decade now, identifies issues arising from the institute's work and informs communities accordingly. Its resources, including the website, social media channels, the digital library and the data repository, now benefit the public directly.

In the years ahead, its mission remains to identify priority health needs of the Tanzanian people and to create scalable solutions for them. This is at the heart of its strategic plan 2018-2023. In the long run, IHI harbours the ambition of becoming one of the leading global think tanks and centers of excellence in public health research.

It has identified 5 imperatives to enhance its impact on health and wellbeing of people: strengthen stakeholder engagement; unlock financial resources to drive own research agenda; cultivate a world class science-enabling environment; leverage research platforms to maximise scientific discovery; and support translation of knowledge to deepen impact.

Research

IHI is best known for its work on malaria. However, its focuses on all health challenges identified as important by the government and the people living in communities near each of the IHI facilities. The institute's scientists are working on a wide range of diseases, ensuring that research translates into tangible health outcomes. Its research work is conducted in through

three research departments:

Environmental health and ecological sciences

We focus on the ecology and transmission of infectious diseases through developing and testing of surveillance and control measures. Key areas include: mosquito ecology and control, water, sanitation and hygiene research. Other areas are: statistics, mathematical modeling, health geography and social innovations.

In recent years, major activities have included research on ecology of disease-transmitting mosquitoes with special focus on malaria and now expanding to other mosquito-borne diseases, including dengue, filariasis, rift valley fever and zika.

Interventions and clinical trials

In Ifakara, Rufiji and Bagamoyo, IHI has developed platforms for surveillance, implementation science studies and clinical trials covering district hospitals and satellite clinics, providing the basis for Phase 2 and 3 clinical trials and pharmacovigilance. A new centre for clinical trials at Kingani area in Bagamoyo district was opened in 2012, and has already performed a bio-equivalence study and a malaria challenge study using fully infectious purified sporozoites.

The clinical trial facilities in Bagamoyo and Ifakara are supported by laboratory capabilities in parasitology, haematology, biochemistry, immunology, molecular biology and a bio-safety level 3 laboratories for bacteriology and virology.

IHI also provides technical

support in other countries to start and implement clinical trials. For example, It had a group based in Equatorial Guinea supporting large-scale vaccine trial programmes.

Health systems, impact evaluation and policy

IHI conducts multi-disciplinary studies of health systems performance including service delivery, quality, effectiveness and equity. It also monitors and evaluates pilot initiatives, national programmes and changes in population health status.

Social determinants of health, health impact of public policies and social health protection are recent additions to this portfolio. Lastly, the group catalyzes uptake and effective implementation of policy changes, interventions or new approaches, by devising and testing scalable, replicable implementation models and tools.

Health and demographic surveillance

IHI's health and demographic surveillance systems in Ifakara (since 1996), Rufiji (1997) and Kigoma (2009) track vital events and cause-specific mortality. Population demographic surveillance is presently being extended to a nationally-representative sample of 1,000,000 across 23 districts using Sample Vital Registration with Verbal Autopsy (SAVVY).

A second surveillance arms combined provide a rich platform for monitoring health and demographic trends of disease and service delivery, monitoring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and understanding national-scale evaluation of program implementation and impact.

HIV, TB, maternal and neonatal

The HIV clinic at Ifakara focuses on treatment adherence, treatment outcomes and PMTCT outcomes. Ongoing research, including two cohort studies (one on HIV, a second one on TB), examine comorbidities and HIV acquisition and progression; risk factors for HIV

acquisition; community perceptions on prevention, risk factors for HIV acquisition; community perceptions on prevention; HIV health-seeking and retention, testing interventions for improving diagnosis and treatment uptake, and evaluation of the impact of recently policy programme developments.

Regarding TB, IHI works with the government through the ministry of health in mapping circulating TB strains and resistance patterns and test new diagnostics for childhood TB. Ongoing studies include the rapid evaluation of high-dose rifampicin and other rifamycins, and a safety and immunogenicity evaluation of HI/IC31 - an adjuvanted TB subunit vaccine.

Research on maternal and neonatal health began with the largest-ever household survey in Tanzania to describe maternal and neonatal mortality in Mtwara and Lindi districts. Related studies examined health beliefs surrounding pregnancy and childbirth, and amenability to change hazardous practices affecting newborn children. Current research includes a range of health system-based, replicable interventions, to increase skilled birth attendance and improve the accessibility and quality of obstetric emergency care.

Emerging interests

In recently years, resurgent interest in neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) provides the opportunity to revisit and build upon IHI's historic engagement on schistosomiasis, trypanosomiasis, onchocerciasis, filariasis, chikungunya and others. It anticipates a growing body of work on the epidemiology of NTDs.

Rapid demographic and lifestyle changes in developing countries, including Tanzania, also highlight the growing importance of understanding non-communicable disease (NCD) risk factors - notably diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Pipeline projects focus on identifying and evaluating primary prevention and management approaches applicable in low-income settings.

Why you may be finding it difficult to get married

By Bishop Dr. Charles

Olowojoba

Many singles are complaining that it is getting more difficult to get married either because they are not finding the right person or because of their poor economic circumstances. But the real problem may not be what you think. There are people in the Bible who had problems getting married who otherwise would have loved to enjoy the privilege of matrimony. As I studied this, a clear pattern began to emerge. Let us look at five groups.

VICTIMS OF TRADITION

In Genesis 29:21-30, we read the account of how Jacob fell in love with Rachael, Laban's daughter and had to serve seven years for her. A wedding party was called for Jacob to receive his bride, but alas, it was her elder sister Leah that was given to Jacob. He and Rachael were swindled. Reason? The younger one



Bishop Dr. Charles Olowojoba

not sustain her in marriage nor guarantee her a happy marriage. Religious traditions kept many people single and sinning.

VICTIMS OF PARENTAL VOW

Jephthah's daughter is a good example. Her father made a vow before he went to war that he would offer unto God the first thing that comes from his house if God would help him win the war. It was rash and foolish, but a vow is a vow. We know the story. His daughter came out and had to be offered. I believe in service to the Lord, so she remained a virgin. (Judges 11:30-40).

Vows made by people who have relational authority over you could have telling effects. You must cancel every ancestral vow or pronouncements that are capable of hindering your fortunes in marriage, business or ministry. Samuel, on the other hand, was a beneficiary of a positive parental vow. (1Samuel 1:11, "And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.")

cannot marry before the elder because of tradition. Here we see tradition working against Rachael. Many are single today because tradition and culture forbid them to marry outside of the town, tribe or social class. Behind every tradition is a spirit. May God deliver you from the spirit of tradition. Tradition assisted Leah to get married but could

VICTIMS OF PARENTAL MANIPULATION

In 1Samuel 18:17-21. King Saul had promised to give his daughter Merab to David in marriage, but he failed to deliver. But he later gave Micah to David for a very interesting reason: 'to be a snare to him'. When parents insist on their children marrying a particular person without divine guidance, the devil is setting a trap. I pray the Lord will deliver you from every parental manipulation. Micah did not enjoy her marriage. There was a long interruption, but even after they got back together, she ended up being barren.

VICTIMS OF ANCESTRAL MORAL PROBLEMS

A good example of this is Tamar, Absalom's beautiful sister. She was attracted to the wrong person and raped because of ancestral moral problems dating back not only as far as her father David but as far as Judah. The Bible says she remained desolate in her brother Absalom's house 2Samuel 13:20b, "So Tamar remained desolate in her brother Absalom's

house." Read 2Samuel 13:32. Are you attracting the wrong persons in your life? Do people want you only for your body? Are you prone to immoral relationships? You will need to repent of ancestral moral sins and be delivered.

VICTIMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES

After Lot escaped with his daughters from Sodom, they went to Zoar. There, his daughters conspired to rape him one after the other to conceive by him while he was under the influence of alcohol. Terrible! Genesis 19:20-38. Their reason was "there is not a man in the earth". They were locked up in a land of 'no man'. You could be in a large church or community and still be in 'a land of no man'. Here is the danger: whenever women feel they can no longer find suitable men to marry them, they resort to ungodly means to have children and become single parents. Genesis 19:31-32, "And the firstborn said unto the younger, Our father is old, and there is not a man

in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth: [32] Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father."

The devil worked on their minds and they believed a lie. Don't believe the lie of the devil, there is someone to marry you. He will find you if you just believe God and depend on Him to connect you to him.

This is how desert spirits operate. They peddle lies. They isolate you and convince you that men are scarce and that your time is past. It makes you not to be able to see beyond your walls. You could be in the midst of a crowd and still feel isolated! Desert spirits make you feel rejected and forsaken. They make you feel inadequate. You could be pretty and feel ugly and unwanted. But you must believe God loves you and will answer your prayers and give you a husband or wife. You will also need to go for deliverance to be rid of this spirit.

Every wall of isolation is being destroyed, in Jesus

name. Bind and cast out the spirit of abandonment and loneliness in Jesus name.

NO EXCUSE

Leah was not beautiful, but she got married.

Ruth and Abigail were young widows, but they got married.

Esther was in exile in a foreign land, but she got married to the king.

Mary was pregnant with a child that did not belong to the man she was engaged to, but she got married.

What is your situation? It does not matter. God has a solution: He has a spouse for you. You are not too old or too messed up. You are God's princess. He desires to plant you in your own family. Depend on Him and serve Him wholeheartedly and He will grant you the desires of your heart. You can be set free from desert spirits and curses with targeted prayers.

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By Special Correspondent

Building upon the key drivers of tourism growth in Africa

Tourism is travel for pleasure or business; also the theory and practice of touring, the business of attracting, accommodating, and entertaining tourists, and the business of operating tours. Tourism may be international or within the traveler's country. The World Tourism Organization defines tourism more generally, in terms which go "beyond the common perception of tourism as being limited to holiday activity only", as people "traveling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure and not less than 24 hours, business and other purposes".

Tourism can be domestic or international, and international tourism has both incoming and outgoing implications on a country's balance of payments.

Tourism suffered as a result of a strong economic slowdown of the late-2000s recession, between the second half of 2008 and the end of 2009, and the outbreak of the H1N1 influenza virus, but slowly recovered. International tourism receipts (the travel item in the balance of payments) grew to US\$1.03 trillion (€740 billion) in 2005, corresponding to an increase in real terms of 3.8 pc from 2010. International tourist arrivals surpassed the milestone of 1 billion tourists globally for the first time in 2012, emerging markets such as China, Russia, and Brazil had significantly increased their spending over the previous decade. The ITB Berlin is the world's leading tourism trade fair. Global tourism accounts for ca. 8 pc of global greenhouse gas emissions.

The word tourist was used in 1772 and tourism in 1811. [12] It is formed from the word tour, which is derived from Old English *turian*, from Old French *turner*, from Latin *turnare*; 'to turn on a lathe,' which is itself from Ancient Greek.

The tourism industry, as part of the service sector, has become an important source of income for many regions and even for entire countries. The Manila Declaration on World Tourism of 1980 recognized its importance as "an activity essential to the life of nations because of its direct effects on the social, cultural, educational, and economic sectors of national societies, and on their international relations."

Tourism brings large amounts of income into a local economy in the form of payment for goods and services needed by tourists, accounting as of 2011 for 30 pc of the world's trade in services, and, as an invisible export, for 6 pc of overall exports of goods and services. It also generates opportunities for employment in the service sector of the economy associated with tourism.

The hospitality industries which benefit from tourism include transportation services (such as airlines, cruise ships, trains and taxicabs); lodging (including hotels, hostels, homestays, resorts and renting rooms); and entertainment venues (such as amusement parks, restaurants, casinos, shopping malls, music venues, and theatres). This is in addition to goods bought by tourists, including souvenirs.

On the flip-side, tourism can degrade people and sour relationships between host and guest.

Definitions

In 1936, the League of Nations defined a foreign tourist as "someone traveling



abroad for at least twenty-four hours". Its successor, the United Nations, amended this definition in 1945, by including a maximum stay of six months.

In 1941, Hunziker and Kraft defined tourism as "the sum of the phenomena and relationships arising from the travel and stay of non-residents, insofar as they do not lead to permanent residence and are not connected with any earning activity." In 1976, the Tourism Society of England's definition was: "Tourism is the temporary, short-term movement of people to destinations outside the places where they normally live and work and their activities during the stay at each destination. It includes movements for all purposes." In 1981, the International Association of Scientific Experts in Tourism defined tourism in terms of particular activities chosen and undertaken outside the home.

In 1994, the United Nations identified three forms of tourism in its Recommendations on Tourism Statistics:

- Domestic tourism, involving residents of the given country traveling only within this country
- Inbound tourism, involving non-residents traveling in the given country
- Outbound tourism, involving residents traveling in another country

The terms tourism and travel are sometimes used interchangeably. In this context, travel has a similar definition to tourism but implies a more purposeful journey. The terms tourism and tourist are sometimes used pejoratively, to imply a shallow interest in the cultures or locations visited. By contrast, traveler is often used as a sign of distinction. The sociology of tourism has studied the cultural values underpinning these distinctions and their implications for class relations.

World tourism statistics and rankings

Total volume of cross-border tourist travel

International tourist arrivals reached 1.035 billion in 2012, up from over 996 million in 2011, and 952 million in 2010. In 2011 and 2012, international travel demand continued to recover from the losses resulting from the late-2000s recession, where tourism suffered a strong slowdown from the second half of 2008 through the end of 2009. After a 5% increase in the first half of 2008, growth in international tourist arrivals moved into negative territory in the second half of 2008, and ended up only 2% for the year, compared to a 7% increase in 2007. The negative trend intensified during

2009, exacerbated in some countries due to the outbreak of the H1N1 influenza virus, resulting in a worldwide decline of 4.2% in 2009 to 880 million international tourists arrivals, and a 5.7% decline in international tourism receipts.

Travel and tourism remained one of the key growth drivers of Africa's economy, contributing 8.5% of the GDP in 2018; equivalent to \$194.2 billion.

According to the 2019 Jumia Hospitality Report Africa, this growth record placed the continent as the second-fastest growing tourism region in the world, with a growth rate of 5.6% after Asia Pacific and against a 3.9% global average growth rate.

"Our focus is to continue showcasing Africa as a continent full of beauty and opportunity. Through this report, we want to help draw attention to the vast potential of the tourism industry, that we believe is an untapped lever of economic growth," said Jumia's Head of Travel, Estelle Verdier.

She was speaking during the official release of the annual report at the Africa Hotel Investment Forum (AHIF) in Addis Ababa, ahead of the 2019 World Tourism Day.

Africa received 67 million international tourist arrivals in 2018, to record a +7% increase from 63 million arrivals in 2017 and 58 million in 2016.

This gradual increase is attributed to the affordability and ease of travel especially within the continent, with spending among domestic travellers accounting for 56% as compared to 44% international expenditure.

Additionally, leisure travel remains an important component of Africa's tourism industry, taking up a majority 71% of the tourist expenditure in 2018.

Verdier notes that the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (ACFTA) is expected to further boost domestic travel.

"To realize the full potential gains will require cooperation from all industry players. Governments have to be willing to eliminate visa requirements for African nationals traveling to their countries. Ministries and other responsible partner organizations should create campaigns that will promote their local travel destinations and tourism offerings to attract more regional travellers. At Jumia, we will continue to offer diversified products at affordable prices including resident rates for regional travelers booking through our platform."

THE report, now in its third edition, shows that while pay-at-hotel remained the most popular mode of payment

among travellers booking via Jumia's travel platform, its percentage use went down from 65% in 2018 to 62% in 2019 (down -5%). Card transactions gained popularity with +24% within the same period, "and this reflects an increased trust in our booking platform," Verdier affirmed.

On the other hand, the use of mobile money and travel agencies decreased by -11% and -20% respectively. The mobile, as a source of traffic on the Jumia Travel platform, accounted for a record 74% in 2019 from 57% in 2018, seen as a result of the increased mobile penetration in the continent. The mobile industry contributed \$144 billion to Africa's economy (8.6% of total GDP) in 2018, up from \$110 billion (7.1% of total GDP) in 2017.

Highlights from the Aviation Industry

While Africa's passenger traffic increased from 88.5 million in 2017 to 92 million in 2018 (+5.5%), its world share was only 2.1% (down from 2.2% in 2017). The report attributes this trend to high competition from other regions such as the Asia Pacific. Africa's share is however predicted to grow by 4.9% annually over the next 20 years.

Improved visa facilitation in major tourism countries in Africa remains a major boost to both the tourism and aviation industries. For instance, Ethiopia's visa relaxation policies combined with improved connectivity as a regional transport hub placed the country as Africa's fastest growing travel country, growing by 48.6% in 2018 to be worth \$7.4 billion.

"Most African government leaders are now committed to making travel between African countries easier and more affordable. An example is the creation of the East Africa Visa programme that allows travellers to apply for a visa online before visiting Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya. Such collaborations are visionary. It is when we work together, pool our resources, partner and share our best knowledge that we can do much more," stated South African Tourism's Acting Chief Executive Officer Sthembiso Dlamini through her insights on the report.

In terms of top airlines generating most revenue in the African airspace, the report sites Emirates at the top of the list; earning over \$837 million with popular flights from Johannesburg, Cairo, Cape Town and Mauritius. Africa's most profitable air route between April 2018 and March 2019 was from Johannesburg in South Africa to Dubai, generating \$315.6 million in revenue

while state-owned Angola Airlines and South African Airways were the only two African airlines that made it to the top 10 Africa's highest revenue air routes within the same period. Respectively, the two airlines generated \$231.6 million flying from Luanda to Lisbon and \$185 million flying between Cape Town and Johannesburg.

Africa is the world's second largest and second most-populous continent, being behind Asia in both categories. At about 30.3 million km² (11.7 million square miles) including adjacent islands, it covers 6 per cent of Earth's total surface area and 20 per cent of its land area. With 1.2 billion people as of 2016, it accounts for about 16 per cent of the world's human population. The continent is surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea to the north, the Isthmus of Suez and the Red Sea to the northeast, the Indian Ocean to the southeast and the Atlantic Ocean to the west. The continent includes Madagascar and various archipelagos. It contains 54 fully recognised sovereign states (countries), nine territories and two de facto independent states with limited or no recognition. The majority of the continent and its countries are in the Northern Hemisphere, with a substantial portion and number of countries in the Southern Hemisphere.

Africa's average population is the youngest amongst all the continents; the median age in 2012 was 19.7, when the worldwide median age was 30.4. Algeria is Africa's largest country by area, and Nigeria is its largest by population. Africa, particularly central Eastern Africa, is widely accepted as the place of origin of humans and the Hominidae clade (great apes), as evidenced by the discovery of the earliest hominids and their ancestors as well as later ones that have been dated to around 7 million years ago, including *Sahelanthropus tchadensis*, *Australopithecus africanus*, *A. afarensis*, *Homo erectus*, *H. habilis* and *H. ergaster*—the earliest *Homo sapiens* (modern human), found in Ethiopia, date to circa 200,000 years ago Africa straddles the equator and encompasses numerous climate areas; it is the only continent to stretch from the northern temperate to southern temperate zones.

Africa hosts a large diversity of ethnicities, cultures and languages. In the late 19th century, European countries colonised almost all of Africa; most present states in Africa originated from a process of decolonisation in the 20th century. African nations cooperate through the establishment of the African Union,

which is headquartered in Addis Ababa.

Etymology

Afri was a Latin name used to refer to the inhabitants of then-known northern Africa to the west of the Nile river, and in its widest sense referred to all lands south of the Mediterranean (Ancient Libya). This name seems to have originally referred to a native Libyan tribe, an ancestor of modern Berbers; see Terence for discussion. The name had usually been connected with the Phoenician word *afar* meaning "dust", but a 1981 hypothesis [13] has asserted that it stems from the Berber word *ifri* (plural *ifran*) meaning "cave", in reference to cave dwellers. The same word may be found in the name of the Banu Ifran from Algeria and Tripolitania, a Berber tribe originally from Yafran (also known as Ifrane) in northwestern Libya.

Under Roman rule, Carthage became the capital of the province it then named Africa Proconsularis, following its defeat of the Carthaginians in the Third Punic War in 146 BC, which also included the coastal part of modern Libya. The Latin suffix *-ica* can sometimes be used to denote a land (e.g., in *Celtica* from *Celtae*, as used by Julius Caesar). The later Muslim region of Ifriqiya, following its conquest of the Byzantine (Eastern Roman) Empire's Exarchatus Africae, also preserved a form of the name.

According to the Romans, Africa lay to the west of Egypt, while "Asia" was used to refer to Anatolia and lands to the east. A definite line was drawn between the two continents by the geographer Ptolemy (85–165 AD), indicating Alexandria along the Prime Meridian and making the isthmus of Suez and the Red Sea the boundary between Asia and Africa. As Europeans came to understand the real extent of the continent, the idea of "Africa" expanded with their knowledge.

Other etymological hypotheses have been postulated for the ancient name "Africa":

- The 1st-century Jewish historian Flavius Josephus (Ant. 1.15) asserted that it was named for Epher, grandson of Abraham according to Gen. 25:4, whose descendants, he claimed, had invaded Libya.
- Isidore of Seville in his 7th-century *Etymologiae* XIV.5.2. suggests "Africa comes from the Latin *aprica*, meaning "sunny".
- Massey, in 1881, stated that Africa is derived from the Egyptian *af-ru-ka*, meaning "to turn toward the opening of the Ka." The Ka is the energetic double of every person and the "opening of the Ka" refers to a womb or birthplace. Africa would be, for the Egyptians, "the birthplace."
- Michèle Fruyt in 1976 proposed linking the Latin word with *africus* "south wind", which would be of Umbrian origin and mean originally "rainy wind".
- Robert R. Stieglitz of Rutgers University in 1984 proposed: "The name Africa, derived from the Latin *Aphir-ic-a*, is cognate to Hebrew *Ophir*."
- Ibn Khallikan and some other historians claim that the name of Africa came from a Himyarite king called *Afrikin* *ibn Kais* *ibn Saifi* also called "Afrikus son of Abrahah" who subdued Ifriqiya.

History

Africa is considered by most paleoanthropologists to be the oldest inhabited territory on Earth, with the human species originating from the continent. During the mid-20th century, anthropologists discovered many fossils and evidence of human occupation perhaps as early as 7 million years ago (BP=before present). Fossil remains of several species of early apelike humans thought to have evolved into modern man, such as *Australopithecus afarensis* (radiometrically dated to approximately 3.9–3.0 million years BP,[25] *Paranthropus boisei* (c. 2.3–1.4 million years BP) and *Homo ergaster* (c. 1.9 million–600,000 years BP) have been discovered.

After the evolution of *Homo sapiens sapiens* approximately 150,000 to 100,000 years BP in Africa, the continent was mainly populated by groups of hunter-gatherers. These first modern humans left Africa and populated the rest of the globe during the Out of Africa II migration dated to approximately 50,000 years BP, exiting the continent either across Bab-el-Mandeb over the Red Sea, the Strait of Gibraltar in Morocco, or the Isthmus of Suez in Egypt.

Other migrations of modern humans within the African continent have been dated to that time, with evidence of early human settlement found in Southern Africa, Southeast Africa, North Africa, and the Sahara.

The size of the Sahara has historically been extremely variable, with its area rapidly fluctuating and at times disappearing depending on global climatic conditions. At the end of the Ice ages, estimated to have been around 10,500 BC, the Sahara had again become a green fertile valley, and its African populations returned from the interior and coastal highlands in Sub-Saharan Africa, with rock art paintings depicting a fertile Sahara and large populations discovered in Tassili n'Ajjer dating back perhaps 10 millennia. However, the warming and drying climate meant that by 5000 BC, the Sahara region was becoming increasingly dry and hostile. Around 3500 BC, due to a tilt in the earth's orbit, the Sahara experienced a period of rapid desertification. The population trekked out of the Sahara region towards the Nile Valley below the Second Cataract where they made permanent or semi-permanent settlements. A major climatic recession occurred, lessening the heavy and persistent rains in Central and Eastern Africa. Since this time, dry conditions have prevailed in Eastern Africa and, increasingly during the last 200 years, in Ethiopia.

The domestication of cattle in Africa preceded agriculture and seems to have existed alongside hunter-gatherer cultures. It is speculated that by 6000 BC, cattle were domesticated in North Africa. In the Sahara-Nile complex, people domesticated many animals, including the donkey and a small screw-horned goat which was common from Algeria to Nubia.

Around 4000 BC, the Saharan climate started to become drier at an exceedingly fast pace. This climate change caused lakes and rivers to shrink significantly and caused increasing desertification. This, in turn, decreased the amount of land conducive to settlements and helped to cause migrations of farming communities to the more tropical climate of West Africa.

By Guardian Reporter

Smartlab hosts 2nd edition of 'Corporate Unwind' to benefit young professionals

A DAR ES SALAAM-based technology and innovation platform—SmartLab over the weekend hosted the second episode of their eminent 'Corporate Unwind' event - targeting leaders and growth in the country's banking industry.

The move is part of the platform to increase the number of bold leaders in the Tanzanian ecosystem and the corporate in general.

Themed, "Leadership that Stimulates Growth in the Banking Industry", the event was a step towards preparing the young generation of leaders for what lies ahead in their particular professions and fields but more importantly in the banking industry and it coherently addressed the issue of gender balance and equality in work places and business arenas.

Held at Smart Lab offices in Dar es Salaam's Mikocheni, the quarter's Corporate Unwind brought on board professionals from various sectors—Mobile Telco's, tech/innovation hubs, financial institutions, industry associations, the private sector, corporate, entrepreneurs, ecosystem builders, startups, university



professors, development partners, embassy' partners and key players in the tech and innovation community and as intended created a platform for

people from diverse industries to network and learn from each other.

Speaking at the event, Chief executive officer (CEO)

of Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania, Sanjay Rughani said young people have the interest of joining the business sector by starting their own businesses

and how it will boost the economy and how it will boost the economy.

"Standard Chartered Bank is working hard towards ensuring

that the youth get equipped with the necessary skills to succeed especially financial literacy since they are the leaders of tomorrow, that's why we have programs put in place to empower the future generation starting with youth from a young age," he said.

Citing example, Rughani also shared key points one has to note as an aspiring successful leader and to how to work towards achieving that dream, he continued to express his excitement, saying: "I am very happy to be a part of Corporate unwind second edition and also thrilled to be given an opportunity to gain acquaintance with an audience which I believe consists of the people championing change in the Tanzanian economy and the innovation eco system at large."

For his part, Edwin Bruno, Smart Codes CEO explained that "Corporate unwind is a SmartLab quarterly initiative in the larger objective of building a community of stakeholders that can empower others and learn from each other with hope to bridge the gap between the growing African Innovation Ecosystem, startups, corporate and the learning institutions."

He said that SmartLab is working

hard to ensure that we have great leaders in the Ecosystem to create strong startups and in the end strong businesses, that's why we have to use our skills and resources to share and build the capacity of young people to access jobs and economic opportunities that will help close the inequality gap.

"It is important for the corporate to execute helpful initiatives supporting the disadvantaged young people from low income households particularly girls by focusing on providing education, employability skills and entrepreneurship. This will not only foster gender equality but reduce the issue of unemployment and poverty in Tanzania and Africa as a whole".

He further said: "The innovation Ecosystem needs every single stakeholder to be interested in difficult dialogue pertaining growth especially corporate leaders and other successful figures who need to come forward and be the first to empower, inspire and mentor these upcoming professionals struggling to reach their goals of solving the problems facing the community."



Mmari: A geologist who believes right decisions reward handsomely

By Guardian Correspondent

OSCAR Mmari, is a confident petroleum geologist working with Shell Tanzania who says his decision to join BG Tanzania in 2014 (now Shell Tanzania), made for his many present successes in the oil and gas industry.

Mmari believes bold and timely decisions will always reward a person big success.

"As luck would have it," Mmari recalls, "the company ran one of the best graduate programmes in the world. The programme, which ran for 2 years, strived to expose young employees to a myriad of oil and gas operations from around the world. I strongly believe that this early exposure to operations has bolstered my confidence and technical capability."

Geologists in oil companies are part of a group of strategic workers. Their job is to locate, drill and plan for safe evacuations of hydrocarbons, Oscar explains.

"The other crucial role for a geologist is to determine the amount of hydrocarbons that are found in the fields and how much can ultimately be recovered on the surface. This approximation is vital for any project execution because it informs the size of the facilities needed and the financial commitment that is affordable. There have been cases when geologists have underestimated the size of the hydrocarbons in the ground which resulted to failure to meet contractual obligation like gas delivery. To accomplish this intricate task, geologists make deliberate steps to ensure that the computer reservoir simulations, which are used for volumetric calculations, are benchmarked against known fields or analogues."

Mmari explains that when he joined the company, the company was in the middle of executing a monumental exploration campaign that led to the discovery of massive gas fields offshore Tanzania.

Mmari, as part of his role as a geolo-

gist, he was involved with planning and drilling of Kamba-1 well which was a discovery. In order to take part in the drilling of the well, Oscar had to travel to Mtwara in a helicopter, then to the drillship that was anchored in the middle of the Indian Ocean.

He recalls his experience living and working in a big drillship. And to his biggest shock, "it was surprisingly comfortable. The ship had world class amenities like swimming pool, gym and spacious accommodation. The crew was competent and friendly, and safety was always paramount. The operations worked like a Swiss clock. Every morning there was a team meeting to discuss the progress made the day before and discuss about the challenges for the day. Drilling continued day and night with shift changes every 12 hours."

He enjoyed working with the drilling and mud-logging team because, he says, they worked with modern equipment. But the best time, Oscar recalls, was with the environmental watch

team. That team was lean, made up of 2 biologists that were constantly on the alert for large sea animals like dolphins and whales.

BG merged with Royal Dutch Shell in the 2016 acquisition.

Shell, Mmari says has operations in several countries in the world. But more importantly, he explains the company has opened more doors for the Tanzania Shell staff.

In addition, he says, during his brief time in Shell, he has worked in the United Kingdom, Nigeria and Russia. In Nigeria, Mmari worked with the Bonga team in Lagos striving to extend the life of the mature fields by drilling new wells to maintain the oil production. Working in Nigeria was an eye-opening experience for Mmari in many ways, he asserts.

Firstly, was the way oil and gas has changed fortunes of Nigeria. The price of energy is affordable even though not always readily available. Shell in Nigeria also hires thousands of people,

Stakeholders launch initiative to boost Africa's coffee industry

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

AFRICA produces some of the highest-quality and much-loved coffee in the world but its contribution to the global coffee trade has declined significantly since the 1970s when nearly a third of all coffee was produced on the continent.

It is against this backdrop the Inter African Coffee Organisation (IACO) has joined forces with the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI) and the International Coffee Organization (ICO) to launch the US\$950 million 'Africa Coffee Facility' (ACF) to boost Africa's coffee industry and achieve a 40 percent increase in high-quality exports worth US\$5 billion a year.

Dr Fred Kawuma, Secretary General of the IACO, said, "The ACF is an ambitious fund which seeks to attract private and public sector investment to transform Africa's coffee industry from a subsistence to a commercial or entrepreneurial approach where millions of smallholder coffee farms will see their livelihoods significantly enhanced."

The ACF is projected to transform Africa's coffee production - currently 10 percent of the global coffee market - into a vibrant and resilient industry again. Coffee is a primary source of income for more than 12 million households in Africa and contributes a significant proportion of tax income in a number of these

countries.

The largest annual export value of African countries is recorded by Ethiopia at \$762.8m annually, followed by Uganda (\$468.4m), Kenya (US\$229.5m) and Tanzania (US\$129.2m).

Mwangi Kiunjuri, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries, said, "We need to build the capacity of our smallholder producers as well as revamp our producer organizations, empower women and the youth through entrepreneurship development. This includes a value chain transformation from a subsistence to an entrepreneurial orientation among our farmers."

This year the Government of Kenya allocated 3 billion Kenya Shillings (equivalent to USD 30 million) towards supporting coffee producers.

This first ever Donors and Partners Conference has been held under the theme "financing the African coffee value chain through the Africa Coffee Facility" and was attended by development partners, bilateral donors, banks, foundations, private sector and the coffee farming community amongst other stakeholders.

It is anticipated that the ACF, which will be hosted by Afreximbank, will also develop and promote domestic consumption of coffee set against the challenges of climate change and the need to empower more younger farmers and women into the sector.

Key aims of the ACF - over its 10-year tenure - will be to invest \$500m on building a sustainable coffee supply, \$100m on improving demand, market linkages and investments, \$200m on putting in place climate change adaptation and environmentally resilient practices and \$150m promoting knowledge management and dissemination.

Partners and potential donors at the forum heard how Africa's coffee value chain must see vast improvements in production and cooperative systems, many of which have either deteriorated or collapsed, in order to compete in the global market place.

Dr. Denis Seudieu, Chief Economist, the International Coffee Organization, said, "Although many initiatives have been taken in some countries, many challenges still hamper the achievement of a sustainable coffee sector in Africa. However, there's opportunity to move the African coffee sector from a subsistence to an entrepreneurial one. This will enable our farmers to have sustainable income generation and a long-term security of their livelihoods."

Part of the ACF's mission, in looking to improve the quality of Africa's coffee free from crop pests and diseases, making it safe to consumers - an area in which CABI specialises.

Dr. Morris Akiri, Regional Director, CABI Africa, said, "CABI is delighted to be working in partnership to help

create an African coffee industry which is resilient to climate change and strong enough to compete and succeed in a highly competitive and often volatile global market."

He added that the organization will not only work to help put the latest knowledge and skills on coffee pest management into farmers hands in the field but also to disseminate information, skills and best practice along all points of the coffee value chain.

It is expected that the initial funding of almost \$1bn will be achieved in the first five years with more to follow as the fund gains momentum.

The ACF plans to enable 50 percent of farmers to plant climate-smart materials as part of a strategy to see one out of every 5 coffee farmer adopting climate smart productive systems. By doing so it is envisaged that farmers' vulnerability to weather events, such as floods and drought, will be reduced by 25 percent.

CABI, in working as partners of the ACF, brings a range of expertise along the coffee value chain including past experience of guaranteeing credit to coffee farmers in Ethiopia and Rwanda by improving processing practices by smallholders, boosting coffee production in Kenya and Malawi through a combination of new planting materials, improved fertilizer use and better pest control measures, and helping farmers to adapt to climate change.

technical and non-technical, providing vital jobs to the local economy. But the most impressive was contribution of local content in the development and daily operations of the asset. Nigerians, he says, are responsible for planning, developing and executing of expensive wells with little support from outside. Nigeria also operates an LNG plant like the one planned for Tanzania. It was encouraging to see another African country being in complete control of such an intricate project. "This gave me hope that Tanzania will also get there one day, even though we have some soul searching before that happens."

Mmari says he is currently preparing for his next role with Shell USA in Houston. He is very excited about his next chapter of his career but also appreciative of how much Royal Dutch Shell has changed his life. "I joined the oil and gas industry to provide cheap and reliable energy to the world's poor and Shell is making my dream come true."

Tanzania is planning an LNG project

to be established in Lindi Region and hopefully with enormous involvement of Shell. In Shell Tanzania, this country has a reservoir of indigenous emerging technical and non-technical skilled hands. It is high time this nation took a pause and considered how to make the most of this natural gift as it prepares to implement the massive Lindi gas project.

Mmari, young as he is, quips that some soul searching is required before Tanzania succeeds in implementing the planned project. That is not just a conjecture. No! It is a patriotic professional contribution.

There is a Kiswahili saying: Mwenye Macho haambiwi tazama! (Literal translation: 'He who has eyes is not shown the obvious before his eyes.')

If Tanzania took unsolicited concerns and advices of her patriotic daughters and sons seriously, then she would never be at loss when implementing the proposed Lindi LNG project, intricate as it is.

By Kester Lomegah

Russia and African states have traditionally enjoyed friendly, time-tested relations, and a significant role was in the liberation of the continent, supporting the struggle of its peoples against colonialism, racism and apartheid.

Today, the development and strengthening of mutually beneficial ties with African countries and their integration associations is one of Russia's foreign policy priorities, thus on October 23-24, Sochi hosted the first Russia-Africa Summit.

The idea to organise such an event emerged quite a long time ago; however, it has taken some time and considerable preparatory work to make this summit a starting point for building fair partnership relations based on equality and mutual practical interest.

Putin has outlined a comprehensive plan and taken note of key factors that includes:

* Russia, together with the international community, renders comprehensive assistance to Africa, inter alia, by way of reducing the debt burden of its states. With a number of countries, Russia is carrying out debt-for-development swap programmes.

* As for the potential level of investment in Africa in the next five years, the figure expected to be quite high, with a number of billion-dollar investment projects with Russia's participation. Both Russia and Russian companies have substantial resources. African partners, in turn, will have create the necessary stable and predictable business environment and investment protection mechanisms and ensure favourable investment climate.

* Africa's infrastructure

needs are increasing, and African population is rapidly growing, as are its demands. All of this, in turn, calls for an expanded domestic market and greater consumption. Of course, where there are promising prospects for investment and profit, there is always competition, which, unfortunately, at times goes beyond the bounds of decency.

* Russia has certainly take note of these factors and draw conclusions. Russia is not going to participate in a new "repartition" of the continent's wealth; rather, ready to engage in competition for cooperation with Africa, provided this competition is civilized and develops in compliance with the law. Russia has a lot to offer to its African friends.

Under the headline "Russia-Africa Summit: Future-Oriented Agenda" for the Valdai Discussion Club, Deputy Director and Chief Researcher at the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Professor Vladimir Shubin, noted that one should not be surprised that the first summit bringing together Russia and the leaders of African countries should take place after almost three decades. It did due to multiple factors during the period after Soviet collapse.

Further, he mentioned that one serious obstacle to the development of comprehensive ties is the lack of objective information about Russia in Africa, and about Africa in Russia. The potential of bilateral relations can be realised only if both sides shed the stereotypes imposed from outside and develop mutually beneficial cooperation, grounded in reality.

Shubin added, regrettably that "the state of bilateral economic relations leaves much to be desired."

Russia's action plan for africa



But, Moscow seeks to create favourable conditions by writing off the debt of African countries (US\$20 billion), as well as introducing a system of preferences for traditional African export goods.

However, trade turnover remains limited, at less than 3% of Russia's total foreign trade. According to the African Development Bank, Russian investment in Africa peaked at US\$20 billion, although its flow is hardly stable. Unfortunately, in these areas Western sanctions have become an obstacle in recent years.

Russia's presence in Africa has remained marginal, but this could soon change. Several delegations from African states have visited Moscow during the past few years and the Russian government appears determined to strengthen ties with Africa.

But, Russia's intensified move to invite delegations has often been interpreted among academics and policy experts as a result of escalating competition and increasing economic influence by many foreign players in Africa.

Professor Georgy Toloraya, Chair of the Regional Projects Department, Russkiy Mir Foundation, and Executive Director, BRICS National

Research Committee in Russia, explained that in the wake of increasing conflict with the West and European Union, Russia has to turn its attention (especially in economy) elsewhere and Africa is the obvious choice. The time has come to make meaningful efforts to implement agreements on bilateral basis.

Some experts acknowledge that it is never too late for Russia to enter the business game but what it requires here is to move beyond old stereotypes, prioritise corporate projects and have a new policy strategy for the continent - a market of some 350 million middle-class Africans.

Russia has to risk by investing and recognise the importance of cooperation on key potential investment issues, work closely with African leaders on the challenges and opportunities on the continent, Andy Kwawukume, an independent policy expert told me in an emailed discussion from London, noting that Russians have been trying to restage a comeback over the past few years, which was a commendable step forward.

Kwawukume, a Norwegian trained graduate, pointed out that "there is enough room and gaps in Africa for Russians to fill

too, in a meaningful way that can benefit all parties involved. The poor and low level of infrastructural development in Africa constitutes a huge business for Russian construction companies to step in. Energy is another sector Russians can help in developing. Russian officials should consider using its Russian trained African graduates as bridges to stimulate business cooperation."

But, John Mashaka, a Tanzanian financial analyst at Wells Fargo Capital Markets in the U.S., argues that Russia is going to remain relevant in Africa if its leaders can design a policy or mechanism that will enable its people and corporations to secure credits - loans - with favourable terms including payment.

It must counter China's increasing economic influence with much better packages such as concessional and low-interest loans. There are chances to turn the business tide and if Russians can come with a different mix of economic incentives, without doubt, they will be taking off from the track where the former USSR left after the collapse of the Soviet era.

Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov reiterated that it was

to develop a trustworthy political dialogue and strengthen mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation in accordance with the declaration on strategic partnership and to forge cooperation in mutually beneficial economic spheres.

Lavrov further stressed the situation in different African regions, including to the north of the Sahara, in the region of the Horn of Africa, including the situation in Somalia, in the Republics of Sudan and South Sudan, the Central African Republic, in the Great Lakes Region, which is the key focus of attention in the foreign policy.

"We would like to contribute to the normalisation of all multifaceted ties, as well as the settlement of other problem issues in the African continent," said Foreign Minister Lavrov.

As far back as May 2014, while addressing African diplomatic representatives, Lavrov said: "We will continue to assist states of the continent in other areas both in bilateral and multilateral formats. As it is known, Russia has written off over US\$20 billion debt of African states. We are undertaking steps to further ease the debt burden of Africans, including through conclusion of agreements based on the scheme debt in exchange for development."

In an article headlined: "Russia and Sub-Saharan Africa: Time-proven Relations" published in the magazine Russian View in May, Sergey Lavrov gave additional information on gains made in policy implementation in Africa.

"Our country takes significant practical steps to assist sustainable development of African states. Russia provides African countries with extensive preferences in

trade and contributes to alleviating their debt burden - the total amount of debt relief exceeds US\$20 billion. Debt-for-development agreements for a total amount of US\$552 million were concluded with certain States," Lavrov wrote in the article.

Obviously, Russia continues providing the necessary politico-diplomatic follow-up for the African activities of leading Russian companies such as Alrosa, Gazprom, Lukoil, Rusal, Renova, Gammakhim, Technopromexport, VEB and VTB banks, which are engaged in large-scale investment projects on the continent. Positive dynamics are evident in the development of Russian-African cooperation in the minerals and raw materials, infrastructure, energy and many other spheres.

Some experts have offered both criticism and expert advice, often comparing Russia's economic investment and influence to other foreign players. As Dane Erickson, a lecturer at the Graduate School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado and formerly a visiting scholar at the Africa Studies Center at Beijing University, argues that the reality is that China is among many international players that have increased their attention to Africa in recent years.

Largely due to Africa's growing reputation as a region for commerce, over the past few years China, India, Japan, and the European Union all have hosted regional meetings similar to the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit. Africa's fractional share in global foreign direct investment (FDI) is on the rise, and trade between Africa and a multitude of nations is also increasing rapidly, according to Erickson.

Protests drowning the world after Hong Kong protesters created their own 'national anthem'

By Jen Kirby and Abiola Amin Adepajo

"Glory to Hong Kong" has become the new theme song of the months-long protests against the Hong Kong government and China.

In an online video, protesters in riot gear sing and play instruments. They have violins tucked under chins covered with masks, drumsticks swinging in black-gloved hands. And together, in Cantonese, they belt out the soundtrack to the Hong Kong resistance: a new, if unofficial, national anthem.

"Glory to Hong Kong" (Or "Glory be to thee, Hong Kong") has become the rallying cry of pro-democracy protesters in Hong Kong, one that's being sung in unison by crowds in malls and even at a soccer game this week. It's the latest act of opposition by demonstrators, who for months have been resisting creeping Chinese authority in the autonomous territory, and it may be one of the greatest signs yet of just how cohesive the resistance really is.

An anonymous user with the name "Thomas dxx yhl" posted the song and lyrics at the end of August to LIHKG, an online forum that's a bit like Reddit and a popular way for protesters to communicate. He's believed to be the composer and, accord-



Hong Kong pro-democracy protesters boo the Chinese national anthem at a soccer match on September 10, 2019

ing to the New York Times, he asked other users on the forum to record themselves singing the tune:

He collected audio versions via Google Drive, and assembled them together to make it sound as though a choir were singing. He adjusted the lyrics based on suggestions in the forum.

The anthem runs just a couple of minutes long. "We pledge: no more tears on our land," it begins. "In wrath, doubts dispell'd we make our stand. Arise! Ye who would not be slaves again:

for Hong Kong, may freedom reign!"

The song has spread since then, including that popular video of a riot-gear-clad chorus and orchestra playing the song, interspersed with scenes from the months of Hong Kong protests. (Here's the version with English subtitles.)

The anthem may have spread online, but demonstrators have blasted the resistance theme song out in public. At a World Cup qualifying soccer game on Tuesday in Hong Kong, for ex-

ample, crowds booed the Chinese national anthem and sang "Glory to Hong Kong" instead.

Crowds have also gathered in the hundreds and thousands this week to sing all over the city. In some cases it's led to conflict: At Hong Kong's busy commercial center known as the International Financial Center, or IFC, pro-Beijing counter-protesters descended on the mall, waving Chinese flags and singing the Chinese national anthem. That led to a literal sing-off, with workers and protesters drown-

ing out the pro-China activists.

"The song spells out our heartfelt feelings," a 33-year-old man who joined in the singing this week told the Guardian. "It is a song that stands for our fight."

"Glory to Hong Kong" is another rejection of China's influence. The lyrics are very national anthem-y - "For Hong Kong may freedom reign!" goes one line - but the song also speaks to the untenable situation the territory finds itself in.

After taking over Hong Kong in a war in the 1800s, Britain

returned it to China in 1997 with an important stipulation: The city would partly govern itself for 50 years before fully falling under Beijing's control. So until 2047, the expectation was that the city and the mainland would operate under the principle known as "one country, two systems."

But in recent years, Beijing has persistently tried to exert its influence over Hong Kong and control it more tightly. The controversial extradition bill that initially sparked these protests in June became an example of this.

The bill would have allowed for case-by-case extraditions to countries that lack formal extradition treaties with Hong Kong, most notably mainland China. Critics worried that Beijing would take advantage of this law to arbitrarily detain Hong Kong's citizens, such as those who openly dissent against the Chinese government or advocate for human rights.

But as protests intensified - and as the government and police cracked down on the movement - the resistance morphed into something much larger: a fight to preserve democracy in Hong Kong. Just last week, in fact, Hong Kong's Beijing-backed government formally withdrew the extradition law after months of refusing to do so. At that point, many

protesters simply said: "too little, too late."

"Glory to Hong Kong," then, is an expression of demonstrators' fight to preserve democracy and its unique status within China for as long as they possibly can. The song recognizes the tremendous challenge they face. The odds that protesters can fend off China forever or win some of their demands - such as universal suffrage - are extraordinarily low. "Though deep is the dread that lies ahead," one line reads, "Yet still, on our faith, on we tread."

The Chinese government largely ignored the Hong Kong protests when they first began in June. But its leadership has grown increasingly impatient with the continued unrest, using harsher rhetoric against demonstrators and waging a disinformation campaign via tightly controlled, state-run media to discredit the movement.

The country is also fast-approaching a hugely important date: the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1. President Xi Jinping does not want the major celebration marred by scenes of protests against his government. The increasingly tense and sometimes violent demonstrations were already testing China's resolve.

Crowds of Hong Kong's

COMPETITIVENESS

Minister promises: Govt will establish horticulture agency by February 2020

By Guardian Reporter

In a bid to boost growth of the horticulture industry by more than doubling current annual earnings by 2021, the government will establish a Horticulture Development Agency (HDA) by February next year.

Unveiling the plans in Dodoma over the weekend, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives, Hussein Bashe said several reforms geared at eliminating bottlenecks frustrating rapid growth of the horticulture industry, will also be undertaken.

Bashe said the HAD's main duty will be to oversee the rapid growth of the industry and increase annual earnings from the current US\$764 million to US\$1.85 billion by 2021 while creating jobs and wealth for youth and women in the process.

"Establishment of the Horticulture Development Agency, will completely change the business of horticulture in the country," Bashe stated after meeting with a delegation of Tanzania Horticulture Association's which attended a stakeholders' meeting convened by the Ministry in the new capital.

The meeting was also attended by Treasury's Permanent Secretary, Doto James, members of Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Water, Tanzania Investment Centre Tanzania Ports Authority, among others.

Bashe said currently, several laws and regulations are being amended to accommodate the new growth strategy of the industry towards a possible green revolution of the entire agriculture sector.

Some of the initiatives under



Agriculture deputy minister Hussein Bashe accompanied by Treasury permanent secretary Doto James (L) and TAHA Group CEO Jacqueline Mkindi at the horticulture stakeholders summit held in Dodoma over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Photographer.

the flagship plan include removal of export hurdles, review of regulatory barriers but also improve logistics and infrastructure hitches to ease importation of horticultural related inputs and technologies.

In addition, the government will also merge several regulatory agencies in a bid to ease bureaucracy and save time, a bottleneck which many stakeholders complained against for many years. The ministry will dedicate three laboratories for horticultural food testing to be certified by the Global Good Agriculture Practices to relieve exporters from testing their produces abroad.

Speaking at the same event, Treasury's James advised TAHA to lease a cargo plane for horticulture exportation while promising all necessary support from the government. "Before we get our own cargo planes in place, I would advise TAHA to lease one while the government provides any needed support," James promised. He also tasked TAHA to identify all nuisance taxes as well as levies and submits the list to the budget task force as soon as possible for action.

Formal horticultural growers are subjected to 47 different taxes, fees and levies as the industry is regulated by 20 different bodies which

added production costs on the industry, TAHA Group CEO, Jacqueline Mkindi told the meeting.

Mkindi said in order to grow the industry rapidly, the government should identify, demarcate and protect land for horticulture businesses in the country while improving the entire business environment including reviewing of Plant Protection Act, fast-tracking registration of pesticides which frustrate private investors.

"As a country we need to establish special production zones for specific crops like seedless lime, mangoes and apples. These are the products that can give us huge

volumes and competitive edge globally," she explained.

On access to markets, the TAHA boss said the government need to identify and accredit laboratories locally to meet international standards, approve and enforce a code of conduct for horticulture and develop market support infrastructure.

On skills gaps, Mkindi suggested that the government should support and provide incentives to private horticultural training institutions, improve training curriculum and strengthen Horti-Tengeru and the Horticulture Department at Sokoine University of Agriculture.



Hypoestes aristata-a-105-year-old-fern-will-be-put-on-display-next-year.

MILESTONE

90-year-old herbarium in Rwanda to be public

KIGALI

Hypoestes aristata, a 105-year-old fern that was plucked in the Usambaras in Tanzania in 1915 will be put on display next year according to University of Rwanda's Centre of Excellence for Biodiversity. It is one of the thousands of specimens of ferns and flowering plants that have been collected since 1930 to date. This collection is housed in the national herbarium located in Huye District.

Herbarium is a collection of preserved plant specimens and associated data used for scientific studies. The National Herbarium of Rwanda accommodates 17,000 types of plants that have been being collected for ninety years.

A playground for researchers

The herbarium helps in botany-related research by researchers and students from Rwanda, Nigeria, the United States, to mention but a few. Apart from being ferns and flowering plants library, the herbarium also keeps some plants that no longer exist on the IUCN red list of endangered plants.

For instance, prunus africana is described as vulnerable and pteris kivuensis as endangered. This attracts botanists from all over the world. Gorethe Ingabire, a researcher at National Industrial Research and Development Agency (NIRDA) told

Sunday Times that they moved the herbarium's management under University of Rwanda because it is a setting for researchers, botanists and students.

"The herbarium contributes a lot in research, and we wanted to make it more accessible to them," she said. Before being given to the University of Rwanda, it was managed by NIRDA when it was still the Institute of Scientific and Technological Research.

Plants and people are connected Professor Beth Kaplin, Acting Director of CoEB told Sunday Times that there are plans to expand it and make it public. She explains that there is a connection between people and plants. Some of the specimens kept at the herbarium were/are used as medicines. "We want people, not just researchers, to understand the connection between plants and people because it is there," she said.

She also emphasized that the National Herbarium of Rwanda is unique because regardless of the harsh history of Rwanda, some plants were kept for over a hundred years. Besides that, the herbarium also has some rare plants that can only be found in Rwanda. The plants are preserved in botanically approved ways to last for hundreds of years. The National Herbarium of Rwanda works in partnership with other herbariums in Burundi, Uganda,

OPTIMISM

Africa a land of opportunity once trade war ends - Bank of America

JOHANNESBURG

Africa is poised to become the "land of opportunity" for bond and equity investors should the US and China strike a trade deal, according to Bank of America.

"At a minimum, we think the removal of tariff and recession fears at least until the November 2020 US elections should lead to some restocking effect and green shoots by the first quarter," BofA strategists David Hauner and Claudio Irigoyen said in a client note.

Among the main emerging-market beneficiaries would be "some of the less loved currency and high-yield markets, the African 'China plays,'" they said. While many investors remain skeptical about the successful conclusion of the current round of trade talks, an agreement will become more likely as the US presidential election campaign approaches, Hauner and Irigoyen wrote.

President Cyril Ramaphosa said in an interview with Bloomberg TV on Wednesday that a deal between the world's two biggest economies would greatly benefit South Africa. A trade pact would reduce the risk of a strengthening dollar, supporting emerging-market currencies and high-yield debt.

Some currencies, including the rand, would also benefit from equity inflows given that stocks are the asset class most likely to profit from an economic rebound, the strategists wrote.

"We also like Africa, where several external credits have lagged amidst the global growth concerns: Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa," they said. In South Africa, local-currency bonds also provide an opportunity after being dragged down by concern over a rating downgrade by Moody's Investors Service, which they say has been fully priced in.

INVESTMENT

Iringa Hydropower wind farm project expected to be completed next month

BY Guardian Reporter

INSTALLATION of a 2.4 megawatts wind generation power plant in Iringa region's Mufindi district is due to be completed next month.

Mwenga Hydro and Rural Electrification Project Manager, Engineer Joel Gomba told members of a Parliamentary Energy and Minerals Committee who visited the site over the weekend that installation work of the wind power turbines is in the final stage.

"We have additional hydro generation facilities that we plan to develop as and when the demand from our network customers begins to outstrip the available generation capacity," Eng Gomba said while unveiling that talks are under way with Ministry of Energy on the possibility of taking over some of the remote Tanesco power lines adjacent to the project's network under some form of management contract.

He said the move could potentially allow customers to enjoy lower power tariffs, whilst also removing the (commercial and technical) burden from the struggling state utility conglomerate of supplying and servicing such rural customers.

Eng Gomba further told the law makers that Mwenga Hydro and Rural Electrification Project is now waiting for feedback from the Ministry of Energy on the concept, which has the potential to be a win-win for both parties.

Speaking on their challenges the project is facing, Eng Gomba



Members of the Parliamentary Energy Committee on a site visit to Mwenga Hydro Project in Mufindi district of Iringa Region at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Photographer.

said, "VAT refunds have been stalled for two years so far, which is affecting completion of our rural electrification projects. Is there any way that this stalled process could be concluded, so that we can deliver on our commitments?"

Temeke lawmaker, Abdallah Mtolea who is also acting

Parliamentary Energy Committee's Chairman, promised to address concerns raised by Gomba relating to the Mwenga Hydro Project. "We are going to work with you to address challenges facing Mwenga Hydro and Rural Electrification Project so as to ensure that you extend electricity supply to more

rural areas," Mtolea promised.

"We are happy to hear that the cost of your unit is 40 percent lower than that of Tanesco, but we also challenge you to keep lowering it so as to benefit more of the rural people," he added.

The lawmakers' visit to Mwenga Hydro Project was

organised by Tanzania Renewable Energy Association (TAREA) in collaboration with African Mini Grids Developers Association (AMDA) and was aimed at sensitizing the lawmakers on the potentials of renewable energy technologies in power generation.

DIVERSIFICATION

Airtel partners Mastercard to digitise payments for consumers in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

AIRTEL Tanzania announced a partnership with Mastercard through which a virtual card that will enable Airtel Money subscribers pay for goods and services to online merchants globally has been launched.

Powered by Mastercard's global-best technology, Airtel Tanzania customers will be able to enjoy private, secure and seamless digital payments through this partnership. In addition, Airtel Money customers will also be able to make in-person payments at outlets via Quick Response (QR) codes from the mobile money platform's wallet by scanning the QR code at any location that Mastercard QR is accepted.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam during the virtual card's launch, Director of Airtel Money Services, Isaack Nchuda said in a rapidly digitised world, the partnership with Mastercard will improve payment services.

"Our partnership with Mastercard will help us accomplish our vision of providing unique and affordable services and products which fit in to the daily lives of customers. The launch of this Airtel Money Mastercard virtual card shows our commitment to support the



Airtel money director Isaack Nchuda.

Government's ongoing financial inclusion initiatives," Nchuda said.

He said the virtual card allows for Airtel Money subscribers to easily make payments at any online purchase point where Mastercard is accepted

without the need for a bank account or credit card.

Speaking at the same event, Adam Jones who is Vice President and Area Business Head for East Africa at Mastercard said the partnership will en-

able financial inclusion and access for millions of consumers in the country.

"Through our digital partnerships strategy, our aim is to continue offering easy, convenient and secure payment solutions that accelerate Tanzania's digital transformation. In an evolving ecosystem, Mastercard is well positioned as a one-stop payments technology provider to lead the transition to digital for our partners across the Middle East and Africa, so that their consumers can enjoy a superior and world-class payments experience," Jones said.

"Mobile money has already helped reduce transaction costs, improve safety for individuals and businesses, and enhance the efficiency of the economy by reducing the need for users to travel long distances to bank branches to make transactions in person," he added.

In remarks during the launch, Selcom Tanzania's

Executive Director, Sameer Hirji affirmed his company's commitment to continuously enhance its infrastructure and market positioning to be able to support and offer increasingly sophisticated and relevant payment instruments to partners such as Airtel and Mastercard.

"Selcom has been one of the few constants in the payments space over the past decade, and a pivotal force in the digitization of payments in Tanzania, and as we grow stronger we leverage on partnerships like this to deliver the financial inclusion promise to every Tanzanian," Hirji said.

Airtel Money Tanzania is currently connected to over 1,000 billers including utility service providers and is also integrated with over 40 financial institutions which allow customers to make withdrawals and savings. In addition, the platform has more than 800 Airtel Money branches countrywide.

EXCELLENCE

Bima App emerges best at Insurance Agents Choice awards

NAIROBI

BIMA App has won 'Best Innovative Company' in the recently concluded Insurance Agents Choice awards 2019 beating Jubilee Insurance's, Jubicare and Jubi Agent Apps.

BIMA App, an insurance app launched in December 2018 but tested in July, beat Jubilee Insurance at the recently concluded Insurance Agents Choice awards 2019 bagging the coveted 'Best Innovative Company.' Organised annually by BIMA Intermediaries Association, the body for all insurance agents in Kenya, this year's awards were looking at rewarding key players in insurance who have disrupted the sector through adoption or introduction of novice innovation and technologies.

At present, BIMA App has 10,000 users comprising insurance agents, travel agents, insurance companies, motor dealers among other users. "Our App has seven types of users. We cater to the general public, insurance agents, insurance aggregators, insurance brokers, insurance medical insurance providers, general insurance and life insurance companies all on the same Platform," said Nancy Wangari, Head of Customer Service at BIMA App.

Further there are 10 classes on insurance available on the app including motor, domestic, travel, personal accident, golfers, life, medical, business, marine and micro insurance. "We also have the NHIF on a pilot and we forward all applications to them to handle," Ms Wangari added.

A simple interaction with the app reveals its several unique features. For instance BIMA App is the only app in Kenya that allows all insurance agents or brokers to sell any insurance product on the app without prior registration with underwriters.

Notably, all underwriters are required to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with BIMA App. The terms of the MoU bars underwriters from selling on the app unless they are registered under Insurance Regulatory Authority and have paid the annual fee. Interestingly, BIMA App is the first to provide paperless quotations, notifications, renewals and claims processes.

"Through the app users are able to generate instant insurance quotes by entering the relevant information. Moreover, users are able to take pictures of relevant documents to their insurance policy such as a car log books for motor vehicle insurance," Wallace Gichoho, BIMA App CEO said.

The users then attach and send the documents to their insurance company of choice, to get an instant quotation. The user chooses mode of payment and completes the transaction. BIMA App's Emergency and Distress button, a key feature on the app, allows a user to find the nearest police station, hospital, car garage or towing companies and ambulances countrywide.

"The panic button allows a user to send a discreet picture, voice recording, video recording or GPS location to a loved one in case they are in distress and may not be able to call. Our claims button allows users to capture details such as the date, time and location automatically," said Mr Gichoho.

He says a user is able to take relevant pictures of the scene and transmit the information to their insurance companies or agents promptly at the click of a button. Mr Gichoho advised that to facilitate quick payment of claims a user should consider sending the same report to the insurance company covering the other involved persons. During the interview, Mr Gichoho said future plans are to ensure affordable insurance coverage for the Kenyan citizenry.

INNOVATION

Bank debuts Azania Plus Digital product in crowded market

By Guardian Reporter

FOBBING off competition in a crowded banking market, Azania Bank Limited which joined the ranks of Tier 1 commercial banks after acquiring Bank M earlier this year has launched Azania Plus Digital product in the market.

Speaking during the launch in Dar es Salaam on Friday, the bank's Managing Director, Charles Itembe said in recent days the bank has been taking initiatives to make banking easier and more convenient for its customers.

"If you can recall, at some selected branches, we introduced an 8 to 8 policy for branch working hours, which allows our esteemed clients to access our branch services from 8am to 8pm during working days," Itembe said.

He stated that his management also introduced mobile banking services to allow customers access



Azania Bank's Managing Director, Charles Itembe (C) and Board's Vice Chairman, Felix Maagi (L) during the launch of Azania Plus Digital product in Dar es Salaam on Friday. Photo courtesy of Azania.

their accounts from any mobile device and conduct all transactions including making payments and check account balance.

"Azania Bank is excited to announce the launch of Azania Plus Digital Experience, a service that will enable its customers to experience banking more easily and conveniently on the go through Azania Plus Wakalas, Azania Plus mobile banking application and Azania Plus Internet Banking that will be available for 24 hours," he added.

Speaking at the same event, Azania's board of directors Vice Chairman, Felix Maagi reassured customers that Azania Plus products are indeed more than where you are, as per the product theme, 'Zaidi ya ulipo.'

The Bank's Manager for Digital Banking, Vinesh Davda backed his bosses' remarks by saying that Azania Plus Mobile App is an efficient and reliable way of transacting without limited by customers.

"The application is available to download for both android and iOS for free and internet banking can be accessed from anywhere as long as you have an internet connection. It's fast, it's flexible and most of all, convenient," Davda said.

CRISIS

Eskom: Loadshedding a last resort to avoid total blackout

JOHANNESBURG

Eskom said in a statement on Sunday morning that it wants to remind South Africans that loadshedding is a last resort to protect the power system from a total collapse or blackout.

Although the power system still remains constrained and vulnerable, Eskom does not expect to implement loadshedding on Sunday. It cautioned, however, that any change in the situation could indeed lead to loadshedding at short notice. For example, additional unplanned breakdowns or the unavailability of diesel for our open cycle gas turbines or water levels at pumped storage schemes, could result in loadshedding at short notice.

This happened on Thursday evening, for example, when Eskom had to suddenly implement stage 2 loadshedding from 22:00 until 05:00 on Friday morning. Since then no loadshedding needed to be implemented. According to

Eskom, some progress has been made in replenishing diesel for open cycle gas turbines and improving water levels for pumped storage schemes. However, given that unplanned breakdowns are above 10 500 MW the probability of loadshedding remains, but will only be implemented if absolutely necessary.

The Emergency Response Command Centre continues to monitor the system and will be in a position to give a prognosis, for the week ahead, during the course of tomorrow. Fin24 reported earlier that, after some of Eskom's generating units failed over last weekend, power supply was running dangerously low by Wednesday morning.

Unplanned outages above 9 500 MW mean Eskom has to resort to emergency power generation by using open cycle gas turbines and pumped-storage hydroelectric plants. These are very expensive ways of generating power, particularly the gas turbines, which require large quantities of diesel.



Agriculture minister Japhet Hasunga (L) has a word with NMB Bank Plc's head of agribusiness Saif Ahmed at the Tanzania 2019 African Cashew Alliance Annual Conference in Dar es Salaam last week. NMB Bank was among sponsors of the conference. Photo courtesy of NMB.

WORLD

Bloomberg faces big challenges if he leaps into White House race

WASHINGTON

FORMER New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg has the money and name recognition to shake up the Democratic presidential race, but he will face huge hurdles to the nomination if he makes the leap to become a formal candidate.

The billionaire media mogul is laying the groundwork for a possible candidacy and kept his options open by filing paperwork on Friday to run in the Democratic primary in Alabama, which has an early deadline for ballot qualification.

The decision to run would be an about-face for Bloomberg, 77, who announced in March that he would not seek the White House.

Ranked by Forbes as the eighth-richest American with an estimated worth of US\$53.4 billion, his potential bid drew immediate criticism that he was just another wealthy businessman trying to buy an election.

Bloomberg also will face questions about his record as a three-term mayor of New York, particularly from the Democratic Party's vocal progressive wing, and about why he is needed in a race that still has 17 candidates vying to challenge Republican President Donald

Trump in November 2020.

"There is no constituency for Michael Bloomberg that isn't already taken by one of the candidates who are already running," said Charles Chamberlain, chair of the Vermont-based progressive group Democracy for America.

But Bloomberg is skeptical that any of the current candidates can beat Trump, according to a spokesman.

The late entry into the race would force Bloomberg to play a quick game of catch-up to build the sort of campaign infrastructure his rivals have spent months constructing.

As a result, Bloomberg will skip early contests like the Feb 3 caucus in Iowa and emphasize later voting states where his rivals will not have as big an organizing advantage, starting with the Super Tuesday primaries in at least 15 states including Alabama on March 3.

"If we run, we are confident we can win in states voting on Super Tuesday and beyond, where we will start on an even footing," Bloomberg adviser Howard Wolfson said in a statement reported by the Washington Post.

Opinion polls show three contenders battling at the top of the Democratic race: US Senators Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and Bernie Sanders of Vermont, who lead the progressive wing, and moderate Joe Biden, the for-



Michael Bloomberg

mer vice president.

Bloomberg has been critical of Warren and her desire to institute a tax on the super-wealthy, which she would use to fund programs ranging from universal healthcare to free college tuition.

Biden, meanwhile, has turned in uneven debate performances and lagged behind his top rivals in fundraising. Bloomberg would likely seek to appeal to the same moderate voters drawn to Biden.

"It's almost like he's running because this billionaire wants to stop Elizabeth Warren," Brad Bannon, a Democratic strategist who advises progressive groups and labor unions, said of Bloomberg. "It's lousy for Joe Biden but great for Elizabeth Warren."

Public opinion polls show most Democrats do not share Bloomberg's dissatisfaction with the contenders. A Monmouth University poll taken in late October and early November found three-fourths of Democrats were satisfied with their choice of candidates and just 16% wanted someone else.

Renewed scrutiny

At 77, Bloomberg, the chief executive officer and founder of Bloomberg LP, would be the second-oldest candidate among the Democrats in a race where age has been an issue. Sanders, who took time off the campaign trail after a heart attack, is 78. Biden is 76, and Warren is 70. Trump is 73.

Bloomberg's record as a New York mayor, and for nearly 40 years running his own company, will come under renewed scrutiny in a presidential race.

He is certain to face criticism for New York's implementation of "stop and frisk," a policy that allowed police to stop and search people on the street that was decried as racist for overwhelmingly targeting black men. African-American voters are a critical Democratic voting bloc.

Bloomberg has been panned for attempting to ban sodas sold in cups larger than 16 ounces (473 milliliters), a proposal that drew national criticism for supporting a "nanny state" that was ultimately struck down by New York courts.

Bloomberg also will face questions about his decision to run for New York mayor in 2001 as a Republican. He switched to independent before he ran for a third term in 2009. In 2018, while weighing whether to run for president, he switched his party registration again and became a Democrat.

After leaving office, he emerged as one of the strongest supporters of gun-control measures, pouring millions of dollars into advocacy groups that push for measures to ban the sale of some guns and make it harder to purchase others.

"It's going to be difficult, but we've never really seen a candidate with this amount of resources at his disposal," said veteran Iowa Democratic operative Grant Woodard, an aide to Hillary Clinton in 2008.

"A lot of people here haven't made up their minds," he added. "There could still be an opening for him."

Agencies

India's top court hands bitterly disputed Ayodhya site to Hindus

By Bloomberg

INDIA'S top court handed Hindu group complete ownership of the controversial plot of land in the northern city of Ayodhya, an order that may deepen religious polarization in the South Asian country.

In an unanimous verdict, the Supreme Court's five-judge panel ruled the land where the 16th-century mosque was razed by a Hindu mob in 1992 originally belonged to Hindus and will be handed to a trust which will be managed by the federal government for now. Hindu groups believe the site is the revered birthplace of the god Ram.

Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, who heads the panel, read out the verdict to a packed courtroom on Saturday. Muslims will be given an alternate site for construction of a mosque, the court ruled.

Security was tightened across India as court to read its landmark verdict on the centuries-old religious dispute that remains at the heart of India's most politically divisive row.

At stake is control over 2.77 acres – the size of two football fields – in the northern town of Ayodhya, where the razing of a 16th-century mosque by a Hindu mob in 1992 sparked riots that killed 2,000 people, mostly Muslims. The event laid the ground-

work for the formation of the country's Hindu-nationalist government six years later.

The verdict will test secular India's ability to deal with the sensitive case at a time when Hindu hardliners are feeling increasingly empowered. The promise to build a grand temple at the Ayodhya site was a key part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist agenda that risks fueling social divisions in the country, which has a history of religious riots.

"We have left everything to the Supreme Court and the government," said Iqbal Ansari, a plaintiff in the case whose father was a custodian

of the destroyed mosque. "Whatever the court decides, we will abide by that," Ansari said, noting it was the government's responsibility to manage the situation after the decision.

Police deployed

It's a significant verdict for Modi and his ability to deliver for his base, said Akhil Bery, South Asia analyst at risk consultancy Eurasia Group. "It could be a test of India's ability to clamp down on violence and not allow this to spiral out of control. It would reflect negatively on Modi if empowered citizens used this as an excuse to enact violent measures."

Federal and local governments

deployed extra police in Ayodhya, in the state of Uttar Pradesh, while schools have been closed and restrictions put in place in the capital New Delhi, as well as other states including Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

The top court on Oct 16 concluded hearing 40 days of arguments on a series of appeals against the 2010 High Court verdict that gave the Sunni Waqf Board one-third of the land and split up the rest between two Hindu groups – Nirmohi Akhara, a group of Hindu ascetics and Ram Lalla Virajman, the presiding infant deity. The Supreme Court's earlier attempt for an out-of-court settlement through mediation failed.

Trump downplays impeachment inquiry as public hearings approach

WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump said that he's "not concerned about anything" as first public hearings in his impeachment inquiry were approaching and more transcripts of the inquiry's closed-door depositions were released.

Speaking to reporters outside the White House, Trump said he thinks the testimony "has all been fine."

"I mean, for the most part, I've never even heard of these people. I have no idea who they are.

They're some very fine people; you have some Never-Trumpers," the president said. "It seems that nobody has any firsthand knowledge."

The impeachment inquiry, initiated by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi in late September, is looking into White House's alleged efforts in pushing Ukraine to investigate former U.S. Vice President Joe Biden and his son by withholding a military aid approved by Congress.

While Trump has denied any wrongdoing or a "quid pro



quo" and the White House has called the impeachment inquiry unfair and illegitimate. House

impeachment investigators have conducted a series of closed-door interviews with former and current Trump administration and released transcripts of depositions by several witnesses.

Trump told reporters that he

believes the Democratic-controlled House Intelligence Committee "shouldn't be having" public hearings, the first of which are scheduled for next week.

"This is a hoax. This is just like the Russian witch hunt. This is just a continuation," he said.

The president, in addition to slamming Pelosi and House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, also targeted the anonymous whistleblower whose complaint this summer spurred the impeachment, and the whistleblower's lawyer, Mark

Zaid.

"When you look at the lawyer for the whistleblower, I thought it ended when they found out that the lawyer was so compromised. I mean, the lawyer is a bad guy," Trump said.

Zaid, who has fiercely defended his client as some Republicans are calling for the whistleblower's identity to be made public, lashed out at efforts to identify the whistleblower, saying in a tweet on Friday that "protecting whistleblowers is supposed to be nonpartisan issue." *Xinhua*

China praises BRICS contribution to globalisation

BRASILIA

COOPERATION between the emerging economies forming the BRICS bloc has produced positive effects and it will promote globalization for a shared future, Chinese Ambassador to Brazil Yang Wanning has said. Yang recently spoke with Chinese media outlets, including Xinhua, in the lead-up to the 11th BRICS Summit to be held in Brasilia on Nov 13-14, which will gather leaders from the BRICS economies - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

In the past 10 years, cooperation among the bloc members has helped spur development, ushering in a period of "golden decade" for BRICS countries. BRICS has served as a key mechanism for cooperation by bringing leaders together to forge consensus on important issues, said Yang.

"Especially on certain important international affairs, the BRICS countries are able to put forward a common position and to speak collectively with the global community, safeguarding the shared interests of the developing countries, particularly the emerging markets," Yang said.

The current rise of unilateralism and trade protectionism has exacerbated the global situation, injecting greater uncertainty and instability into the world economy, he said. Grappling with a volatile landscape, the BRICS countries strove for greater coordination last year, he noted.

Both at an informal gathering of BRICS leaders in Osaka in June and a meeting of the bloc's foreign ministers in Rio de Janeiro in July, the group issued joint statements to underscore its message.

"They unanimously showed the world their common position in favor of multilateralism and the authority of the United Nations, facilitating free trade and investment, and spurring the construction of an open, innovative and shared global economy," said the ambassador.

Brazil holds the rotating presidency of the bloc this year. Yang said Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro's important official visit to China in late October produced significant results.

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Bolsonaro reached new important consensus on deepening the China-Brazil comprehensive strategic partnership, to boost the pragmatic cooperation between the two countries in various fields, said Yang.

The ambassador believes the upcoming BRICS summit will mark the beginning of a new "golden decade" of cooperation, and that the bloc members will speak with a common voice calling for multilateralism and an open world economy.



Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro (left) poses with Chinese ambassador to Brazil, Yang Wanning, during a ceremony of presentation of new diplomats' credentials at Planalto Palace in Brasilia, on Friday. (AFP)

Issues with Iran's upgrade of Arak reactor due to US sanctions, says Russian diplomat

MOSCOW

TEHRAN'S possible abandonment of the JCPOA (Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action) obligations, which envision modernization of the heavy-water reactor in Iran's Arak, is caused by Washington's sanctions pressure, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told reporters on the sidelines of the fourth Moscow Nonproliferation Conference on Saturday.

"The problem with the Arak project is basically the same as with all other JCPOA elements. Particularly, how to make sure those facilities are resistant to the US' sanctions pressure. Secondary extraterritorial sanctions that Washington slaps literally paralyze normal operations in many cases," he explained.

"That is why you can of course turn your gaze to Iran in this or that situation following any signal from Tehran, though that is exactly what its enemies want. One should look in the opposite direction," Ryabkov added. "If the US did not seek to destroy and break all that so stubbornly there would be no questions regarding the implementation of the project on reconfiguration of the Arak reactor," he noted.

Iran's Atomic Energy Organization Spokesman Behrouz Kamalvandi said earlier on Saturday that Tehran is ready to return to implementation of the heavy-water reactor in Arak if necessary. *Agencies*

A sneak peek at exhibition zones of second CIIE

AS east China's Shanghai is immersed in the joyful and boisterous atmosphere of the second China International Import Expo (CIIE), let's take a sneak peek at the exhibition zones and feel the enthusiasm and expectations of the exhibitors.

At the equipment exhibition area, a table tennis robot is being tested at the booth of OMRON. The ping-pong robot was well received at the first CIIE, according to Sun Hui, public relations supervisor of OMRON (China), disclosing that they have brought an upgraded version of it to this year's event.

The upgraded robot is able to not only perform highly difficult ping-pong movements, but also provide instruction for the users. After recording the

motions of the users via sensors, the robot can compare them to those of the professionals and then give its instruction on the screen.

Sun hopes that by playing table tennis with the robot, people can realize that human beings are able to coexist with machines in harmony and grow together.

Roboy is a lovely robot displayed at the sci-tech life exhibition zone. It can laugh and crack jokes, and even blush and play cute. Besides, he can ride pedicabs, and has recently learned to sell ice cream.

Created by 3D printing technology, Roboy's limbs are similar to those of a human body, with all the bones, muscles, and tendons.

Its chest is filled with various components and parts, which, according to a staff member of Roboy's designer Infineon Technologies, are exposed particularly so that people can know the interior structure of the robot.

The staff member added that these components and parts in its chest were actually part of a neural network system composed of semiconductor devices which enables the robot to hear, see, and feel.

Taking part in the second CIIE is one of the most important activities of the company this year, noted Su Hua, president of Infineon Technologies in China, pointing out that the second CIIE boasts larger scale, higher quality, better services and more sci-tech innovation com-

pared to the previous one. It offers them a broad platform for showcasing quality products and services, Su added.

Splendid food from various countries is seen at the food and agricultural products area, such as the Mexican wine containing cactus and aloe extracts, apple juice made from high-quality apple varieties in Poland, the Hunter Beef from Australia, and olive oil from Spain.

The booth of Thai multinational Charoen Pokphand Group is both concise and modern, with distinct Thai style. The conglomerate has brought to the expo nearly 400 kinds of products, including fruit, poultry meat, seafood, convenience food, edible bird's nests, rice, and seasoning.

It's hard to get a booth at the second

CIIE, so the exhibits have to be the best of the best, said Dr. Andrzej Juchnicz, head of Polish Investment and Trade Agency's (PAIH) foreign trade offices in China, explaining that the CIIE appeals so much to enterprises around the world.

PAIH has selected more than 30 most representative companies in Poland for the second CIIE, covering such areas as food and cosmetics.

At the lifestyles exhibition area, a booth with a good number of beautiful carpets is especially eye-catching.

The first CIIE was very successful, said a woman arranging various carpets at the booth. She told People's Daily that many friends of hers have seen significant increase in their sales after partici-

pating in the event last year, which was why she had eagerly signed up for the second CIIE.

While sharing her experience with her Chinese clients, the woman, manager of an Iranian factory producing handmade Persian carpets, said she hopes to meet more dealers via the CIIE and sell her carpets to more places in China.

As one of the 15 guest countries of honors at the second CIIE, Malaysia is optimistic about the role of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in promoting international economic cooperation, which can be seen through the design of the Malaysian pavilion, said See Chee Kong, Minister Counselor of the Embassy of Malaysia in China. *People's Daily*

Foreign enterprises enjoy great opportunities at second CIIE

THE second China International Import Expo (CIIE) opened on Nov. 5 in Shanghai, attracting more than 3,000 companies from over 150 countries and regions around the world.

Ever since the first CIIE was held last November, global enterprises have reaped great fruits thanks to the constantly expanding benefits of the CIIE, with more exhibits becoming commodities, more deals closed, and more companies attaching greater importance to Chinese market.

Over the past year, companies around the world have shared opportunities generated by China's development and gained more dividends from Chinese market.

As an important decision made by China to pursue a new round of high-level opening-up, the CIIE provides a wider market access for foreign companies, said Deuk-kyu Hwang, president of Samsung China.

Samsung will showcase its newest technological achievements in such fields as virtual reality (VR), 5G, 8K resolution, Internet of Things (IoT) and semiconductors at the second CIIE, according to Hwang.

At the first CIIE, Danish toy manufacturer Lego introduced to Chinese consumers for the first time two sets of toys inspired by the traditional Chinese Lunar New Year, one depicting a Chinese family gathering for a festive Lunar New Year dinner and the other the iconic Chinese dragon dance.

The toys were officially launched on Jan. 1, 2019, and have been well received by Chinese consumers.

Paul Huang, senior vice president of Lego Group, said that the company has witnessed rapid growth in its business in Chinese market during the past year, with over 70 branded retail stores being newly set up and coopera-

tion in the click-and-mortar model of business getting closer. Huang owes the super high popularity of the toy sets to their splendid debut at the first CIIE.

After launching its earshield that helps protect against hazardous nuisance noise at the first CIIE, U.S. innovative company 3M has received many orders.

The company will release for the first time in the world its major new products including a lightweight automotive acoustic insulation set that absorbs sounds to provide superior acoustic control in vehicles at this year's CIIE, according to Wei Moline, vice present of New Economy Forum Initiative at 3M.

The CIIE is like a huge magnetic field, an important platform for companies to display their products and communicate with each other, said Moline.

The CIIE is hosted by China with the support of the WTO and other international organizations as well as a large number of participating countries.

It is not China's solo show, but rather a chorus jointly performed by countries from around the world. It witnesses great stories of the cooperation among global enterprises and partners.

Danone, a world leading food company, sealed deals worth several million U.S. dollars with its partners at the first CIIE. Its two types of baby formula became particularly popular after they were exhibited at the import expo and hit the market.

At the second CIIE this year, Danone will present 30 brands covering 10 countries and regions, with the number of its exhibits increasing by 50 percent from last year.

According to Bruno Chevot, senior



The booth of Charoen Pokphand Group at the exhibition area of food and agricultural products of the second CIIE.

vice president of Danone Early Life Nutrition Greater China, Danone expects to make full use of the CIIE and opportunities created by China's efforts to further opening-up and bring more innovative products to Chinese consumers at a faster pace.

The exhibition area of the PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), a multinational professional services network, is over 10 times larger than that the year before, said Elton Huang, China Central Markets Leader and China and Hong Kong Entrepreneurial and Private Business Co-Leader of PwC Hong Kong, adding that the expo has established important trade channels for companies from all over the world, which enables companies to provide

customized services for clients.

In the past year, China has rolled out a series of major measures to push forward with higher-level opening-up and constantly optimized its business environment for foreign companies to enter the Chinese market.

China is determined to constantly and orderly reduce tariffs, eliminate various non-tariff barriers, expand opening-up and improve business environment, which is of great significance for foreign-funded enterprises' efforts to adapt to the Chinese market and promote their business in the market, said Rachel Duan, president and CEO of the Global Growth Organization at General Electric.

Charles Kao, president of Amore-

pacific China, said that the Chinese government has introduced a series of favorable policies to optimize business environment, thus ushering in a golden age of development for foreign enterprises in China.

The company has brought nearly 400 exhibits under 11 brands to the second CIIE, with the number of exhibits doubling that of the previous expo.

China has continuously expanded its opening-up and tried to provide more opportunities for the common development of all countries. It is expected that the second CIIE will continue delivering great results.

People's Daily

FSB detains IS 'fundraisers' who amassed over \$150,000 for terrorists

MOSCOW

THE Russian Federal Security Service (FSB) has detained supporters of the international terrorist organization, the Islamic State (IS, outlawed in Russia), that had collected at least 10 million rubles (\$157,000) for the terrorists, in the Dagestan Region, the FSB Center for Public Relations (CPR) told TASS.

"The Federal Security Service in cooperation with the Investigative Committee, the Russian Interior Ministry and the Federal Service for Financial Monitoring have foiled the activity of an underground cell in the Dagestan Region that collected and transferred money for the needs of the international terrorist organization, the Islamic State," the CPR reported. According to the FSB, "they had amassed at least 10 million rubles."

"According to the assignment of these agents, members of the radical cell from among the region's residents organized resource support for the activities of the international terrorist organization, and for that purpose they collected at least 10 million rubles," the center explained. The funds were collected by way of transfers through payment systems and bank cards, and were channeled to terrorist-controlled areas in Syria.

Two members of the criminal gang were detained, and payment instruments, means of communication and fiscal receipts were confiscated along with other documents that prove their criminal activity. Those taken into custody have provided testimony to bankrolling the Islamic State, the FSB reported.

Agencies

US reports 'breakthrough' in vaping lung injury probe

CHICAGO

TESTS of lung samples taken from 29 patients with vaping-related lung injuries suggest all contained Vitamin E acetate, a discovery US officials described as a "breakthrough" in the investigation of the nationwide outbreak that topped 2,000 cases this week.

The discovery of Vitamin E acetate in lung samples offers the first direct evidence of a link with the substance and vaping-related lung injuries. The substance has also been identified in tests by US and state officials of product samples collected from patients with the vaping injury.

In a telephone briefing on Friday, Dr Anne Schuchet, principal deputy director of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), called Vitamin E acetate "a very strong culprit of concern" and referred to the discovery as "a breakthrough" in the investigation.

She cautioned that more work is needed to definitively declare it a cause, and said studies may identify other potential causes of the injuries as well.

Vitamin E acetate is believed to

be used as a cutting agent in illicit products containing THC - the component of marijuana that gets people high.

Although the substance was detected in all 29 of the lung samples, which came from patients in several different states, more testing is needed to establish a causal link between exposure and injury, Schuchet said, adding that "many substances are still under investigation."

On Thursday, the CDC reported there have been 2,051 confirmed and probable US lung injury cases associated with use of e-cigarette, or vaping, products in 49 states, the District of Columbia and the US Virgin Islands, as well as 39 deaths.

Nearly 85 percent of lung injury patients in the nationwide outbreak have reported using products containing THC.

In the CDC analysis, THC was detected in 23 of 28 patient samples of lung cells, including from three patients who said they did not use THC products. Nicotine was detected in 16 of 26 patient samples.

The results were published on Friday in the CDC's Morbidity and



In this Oct 4, 2019 photo, a woman using a vaping device exhales a puff of smoke in Mayfield Heights, Ohio.

Mortality Weekly Report.

In a separate report in the same journal, the Illinois Department of Public Health found that compared to vapers who did not get sick, those who had a lung injury were significantly more likely to use THC-containing vaping products exclusively or frequently, and were nine times more likely to have purchased products from illicit sources, such as from on-line

or off the street.

The vaping injury patients also had a higher rate of using "Dank Vapes," a class of largely counterfeit THC-containing products, according to the study.

Together, the findings reinforce public health officials' recommendation that people avoid using e-cigarettes that contain THC or any products that come from illicit sources.

Agencies

Highlights of President Xi's opening speech for the 2nd CIIE

CHINA will continue to improve the climate of doing business in China, Chinese President Xi Jinping said in a speech that announced the opening of the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) on Tuesday in Shanghai.

China has achieved major progress in expanding import to promote consumption and cutting tariffs as part of the country's efforts to further open up its market, said Xi. He added that all of the five measures to expand opening up announced at the previous CIIE have been generally implemented.

A total of 155 countries and regions and 26 international organizations are attending the second CIIE, which runs from November 5 to 10.

Xi's speech also called for global efforts for openness and cooperation and raised more measures that China will take to keep its door wider to the world. The below are highlights:

To cut tariffs, institutional costs

China will pay more attention to the role of imports and continue to open up its market.



Steps will be taken to further cut tariffs and institutional costs, nurture a batch of innovative demonstration zones for import facilitation, and expand import of high-quality products and services from other countries.

To further ease access to foreign investment

China will further ease market access for foreign investment and shorten the negative list.

China will also continue to improve the business environment to make it more market-oriented, law-based and internationalized.

Five measures to promote higher-level opening up:

-- Continue to expand market opening up;

-- Continue to optimize the framework of opening up;

-- Continue to improve the

business environment;

-- Continue to deepen multilateral and bilateral cooperation;

-- Continue to jointly build the Belt and Road.

Opposition to protectionism, unilateralism

Xi proposed continuous reduction of trade barriers and further improvement of global value and supply chains to jointly nurture market demand.

Three proposals for economic globalization:

-- Jointly building an open and cooperative world economy;

-- Jointly building an open and innovative world economy;

-- Jointly building an open and sharing world economy.

People's Daily

Burkina Faso attack threatens gold's final frontier

NAIROBI/JOHANNESBURG/LONDON

As jihadists wreaked ever more havoc in the last two years, mining firms in Burkina Faso rolled out extra security measures, from barracks for government troops protecting them to safe rooms for workers behind barbed wire and mounds.

Expatriates generally fly in and out, while local staff still drive but in guarded convoys.

That has added millions of dollars to security costs for foreign companies, mainly from Canada and Australia, operating in the West African nation where industrial miners are forecast to produce 60 tonnes of gold this year.

Yet this week's attack on a

convoy ferrying hundreds of local employees and contractors from a mine owned by Canada's Semafo (SMFTO) has exposed how vulnerable firms still are.

At least 37 civilians died, with another 60 injured and dozens more feared missing.

"This is the deadliest incident targeting the mining industry, or any private businesses, in the Sahel since the 2013 In Amenas hostage crisis," said Vincent Rouget, an analyst at Control Risks Group, referring to an attack on a gas plant in the Algerian desert that killed dozens of foreign hostages.

There has been no claim for Wednesday's ambush, but the modus operandi - a bomb attack on military escorts followed by gunmen unleashing bullets - suggested the involve-

ment of Islamist groups.

They have been pushing south from strongholds in northern Mali to carry out attacks across much of Burkina Faso and parts of western Niger.

Over 1,000 people have been killed in Burkina Faso since 2016 and nearly 500,000 more have fled their homes, mainly this year. In this time, there have been dozens of attacks on industrial and small-scale mining operations.

After Wednesday's attack Semafo said its Boungou mine site remained secured, but it suspended operations there.

It is a dilemma for miners. The region is seen as the gold industry's final frontier, with large untapped reserves.

Lured by relatively low-cost mining, Semafo and others like

Barrick, IAMGOLD, Endeavour Mining, and Resolute Mining, have invested billions there over the last decade - but expansion by al Qaeda and Islamic State-linked militants could force them to rethink.

Worth the risk?

"Because of the escalating security situation in Burkina, there are companies looking at decreasing their exposure to the country or leaving," said Bill Witham, the head of AAMEG, a body representing Australian resource companies in Africa. "But the miners still see West Africa as a whole as quite a good investment."

Semafo's Toronto-listed shares have fallen 17 percent since the attack. And major mines just over the borders in northern Ghana and Ivory

Coast are now within striking distance of Islamist strongholds, experts warn.

Last year, AQIM, the main al Qaeda affiliate in West Africa, told followers Western companies, especially from France, were "legitimate targets".

Semafo, whose staff, contractors or escorts have been attacked three times in the last 18 months, declined to comment further, saying only that it had beefed up security since those episodes.

Eight other companies contacted by Reuters around the Sahel would not give details of their extra security costs.

West Africa has long been considered a risky prospect where political instability, volatile tax regimes and tricky relations with small-scale miners

weigh heavily on boardrooms.

Yet government incentives and the potential to produce gold relatively cheaply led to over US\$7 billion invested in mining projects in the region between 2004 and 2018, according to a tally by S&P Global, a market intelligence company. This peaked at US\$1.2 billion in 2012, when gold prices were at an all-time high.

That year, al Qaeda-linked groups took over northern Mali but gold operations were unscathed as most mines are in the south, hundreds of kilometres away from militant strongholds.

Since then, France has deployed over 4,000 troops to the region, there is a 16,000-strong United Nations peacekeeping mission in Mali, and West

African leaders have launched regional security initiatives. However, local armies are losing ground.

Since 2017, researchers documented at least 28 violent incidents at mines or involving mining workers in Burkina Faso, 17 of them this year, according to a Reuters analysis of data compiled by the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project.

At least 12 of those events this year, which include attacks on workers, abductions and the use of improvised explosive devices, were linked to jihadists. Prior to Wednesday, at least 54 people had been killed in mining-related violence this year, five times as many as all of 2018.

Agencies



MultiChoice Tanzania Marketing Department's Head, Ronald Shelukindo, speaks during the launch of the firm's special festive season campaign, known as 'Shangwe za Sikukuu na DStv', in a function that had several people, including prominent local actors Ahmed Salim, popularly known as Gabo, who features in a Swahili soap opera 'Kapuni' and Faustine Charles, alias Nandy, who features in a Swahili soap opera 'HUBA', attending. The campaign, for two months, will see new DStv customers get opportunity for DStv decoders' connection and one-month Compact package for 99,000/- only. The offer will be valid until December 31. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Leave Pant alone, implores India's stand-in captain Rohit

MUMBAI

CRITICS of India's Rishabh Pant must leave the young wicketkeeper batsman alone and let him play with freedom, stand-in captain Rohit Sharma said on Saturday.

The 22-year-old has received lots of flak lately from India's coaching staff, pundits and the media after losing his wicket through loose shots and his position in the India test side has been taken by fit-again Wriddhiman Saha.

Former Australia batsman Dean Jones told Reuters this week that Pant needs to improve his off-side game if he wants to graduate from being a one-trick pony. [N3N27M0YV]

"There is a lot of talk happening about Rishabh Pant every day, every minute," Rohit, who is leading the hosts in place of rested regular captain Virat Kohli, told reporters ahead of Sunday's deciding final Twenty20 international against Bangladesh at Nagpur.

"I just feel that he needs to be allowed to do what he wants to do on the field. I would request everyone to just keep their eyes away from Rishabh Pant for a while."

Pant was perceived as Mahendra Singh Dhoni's natural successor in limited overs cricket for India when the former captain eventually hangs up his gloves and till recently was the preferred choice behind the stumps in all three formats.

He played 11 tests in the absence of the injured Saha and used his chances well, hitting

a century in an Oval test against England last year while smashing an unbeaten 159 versus Australia in Sydney in January.

His six-hitting ability makes him a limited-overs asset, but India head coach Ravi Shastri and batting coach Vikram Rathour said in recent interviews that the left-hander's shot selection has occasionally let the team down.

Pant played within himself and seemed to curb his natural instincts in his 26-ball knock of 27 during India's loss to Bangladesh in the first T20 in Delhi while he did not get a chance to bat during the series-levelling win at Rajkot.

He, however, handed a reprieve to Bangladesh opener Liton Das, who was stumped off Yuzvendra Chahal but replays confirmed Pant did not collect the ball behind the stumps, with part of his gloves jutting ahead of the line.

Pant nearly repeated the mistake when effecting a similar dismissal to send back Soumya Sarkar for 30 off Chahal.

"He is a young guy ... trying to make his mark in international cricket. Every move he makes on the field, people start talking about him. It is not fair," Rohit said.

"Focus on him a lot more when he is doing good things also, not just the bad things. He is a fearless cricketer and we want him to have that freedom. And if you guys keep your eyes little bit off him, it will allow him to perform even better."

REUTERS

Recent Samatta goals, career plans and soccer wisdom

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL ENEZA

LEGIONS of soccer analysts and betting pundits were at a loss to explain the performance put up by Belgian top club KRC Genk at the return match for the group stage of the UEFA Champions League with the focus being on the Tanzanian star forward Mbwana Samatta.

The leading KRC Genk striker actually scored in the opening tie with the current UEFA Champions League defending champions, though ruled out by VAR technicality, and ascertained his ability to score in that kind of encounter in the return match at Anfield. The match particulars didn't exactly agree with current wisdom among local soccer pundits.

One such problem was the way pundits took it for granted that KRC Genk were also-ran and not a club with 'plans' to do better or well in the Champions League, and then following up this summation with a dear wish that Samatta ought to obtain a chance with an England premier league side to enhance his career.

This observation was a bit contradictory since the sort of clubs that are seeking the signature of the Tanzanian player as reported so far are Newcastle United and West Ham - and earlier there was talk about Everton making such a bid. It implies that only playing in England matters, not a Belgian top club.

As a matter of fact that it part of the kind of sentiments that fuel club disputes and expelling coaches in the instance that a top club side loses an important game, as this counts more than losing smaller games, which the fans - and the pundits after them, if a bit more carefully - appear to take in stride.

The fact that the player scored twice against Liverpool shows that he is good at dodging, beating and timing defenses at top level, the first



Mbwan Samatta

Tanzanian player to reach that level, as earlier our players turned out for relatively minor sides. This achievement is substantial, but how far necessary should it end with England clubs?

Recent experience with some Belgian players who have made names in the England premier league circuit shows that not all is well with playing for such clubs, as for once, a player like Samatta would first have to lose sight of Champions League football if he shifted.

Then, there is the whole problem of the wish to clinch trophies, and as Mathias Mnyampala said in an old poem in the 1960s, 'mother's breast is sweet even if it is buf-

falo's breast,' in which case a player dreams of titles, not in which premierships. In that case players like Romelu Lukaku or Marouane Fellaini just attained their England premier dreams.

While the fans and even pundits for that matter think first about how much they pay in English Premier League sides compared to Belgium, it is possible that other factors also come into account. Even within the English Premier League not all players rush when an opportunity to move on comes up, as there is the whole issue of whether a player is 'happy' where he is or not.

Surprisingly enough this issue doesn't come up in local disputation or shouting on

Mbwana Samatta, as everyone seems to be preoccupied with monthly or in the England premier league case, weekly salaries. It is uncertain if Mbwana feels so as well.

In any case, obtaining a place in a premier league outfit, let alone the fact that he would scarcely appear in UEFA competitions with clubs ranking from number 15 to 20 in the Premier League, he would scarcely be the happiest person.

Being a useful substitute isn't what a good player dreams of, and in many cases if a player shifts to a powerful club, chances of making it there as in the earlier club are 50-50. In such cases the best option is to seek another middle ranking club in the same premier league or get a good position in a different championship setting, as Lukaku is living his dreams at Inter Milan, not in Manchester United.

How far Mbwana is different from most other African and Afro-Latino and Afro-European players is yet to be seen but unavoidably he will be fitting somewhere. He has so far avoided being carried away with success and losing his professional devotion to austere living when it comes to drinks and other unhealthy entertainment, a malady that has taken the toll of so many Brazilian players in the European circuit, though quite a few survived well into their 30s.

But keeping his head on the ground and regularly setting his feet in the UEFA Champions League or Europe League with his KRC Genk may easily be the most telling trial of his real character, obtaining a highly placed pedestal to play soccer and be accepted, not to run after the highest bidder and be used like a spare part and cast away. It is a lesson we haven't learned.



In this June 1, 2013, file photo, Mary Cain, 17, right, reacts as coach Alberto Salazar tells her she has just broken the American high school 800-meter record during the Prefontaine Classic track and field meet in Eugene, Ore. Nike will investigate allegations of abuse by runner Mary Cain while she was a member of Alberto Salazar's training group. Cain joined the disbanded Nike Oregon Project run by Salazar in 2013, soon after competing in the 1,500-meter final at track and field's world championships when she was 17. (AP Photo)

Runner's abuse allegations embolden other female athletes

BY WILLIAM J. KOLE

TRACK and field is facing a painful and public reckoning with the treatment of some female athletes.

Former teen running star Mary Cain's account this week of alleged physical and emotional abuse at the recently disbanded Nike Oregon Project is prompting more top athletes to come forward.

Amy Yoder Begley, a 10,000-meter runner, said Friday she was told she had the "biggest butt on the starting line." Kara Goucher's husband said the Olympian endured "disgusting" comments from coaches.

Cain said the all-male staff told her the way to get faster was to get thinner and thinner. Nike says it's investigating,

but the cascade of allegations that have followed Oregon Project director Alberto Salazar's four-year doping ban have called new attention to the emphasis on weight restrictions and emotional abuse.

"It's depressing, but I'm also encouraged that this message is getting out," Dr. Kathryn Ackerman, medical director of the female athlete program at Boston Children's Hospital, said Saturday. "A lot of these athletes have been really shy to share their stories."

Questions about Salazar's methods with his top U.S. runners had swirled for years before the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency found him guilty last month of conducting experiments with supplements and testosterone that were bankrolled

and supported by Nike.

But Cain's plaintive story of harassment and abuse while she was part of Salazar's training group, which she joined as a 17-year-old phenomenon in 2013, has emboldened other former Oregon Project athletes to share their stories.

In a New York Times video essay, Cain, now 23, says: "I was emotionally and physically abused by a system designed by Alberto and endorsed by Nike."

Cain said she was harangued by the staff, which had no certified nutritionist or certified sports psychologist, to lose weight and was publicly humiliated when she didn't hit targets. She said she stopped having her period for three years and lost so much bone density she broke five bones. She said

she started cutting herself and having suicidal thoughts before leaving the program in 2016.

Salazar, who has denied any involvement in doping, issued a statement to The Associated Press on Saturday saying: "I never encouraged her, or worse yet, shamed her, to maintain an unhealthy weight. Not only did I never do such a thing, I would not tolerate anyone else on my team doing any such thing."

Nike said in a statement these are "deeply troubling allegations which have not been raised by Mary or her parents before. Mary was seeking to re-join the Oregon Project and Alberto's team as recently as April of this year and had not raised these concerns as part of that process."

The sportswear giant added

it will "take the allegations extremely seriously and will launch an immediate investigation to hear from former Oregon Project athletes."

They're already talking.

Four-time Olympian Shalane Flanagan, who retired from competitive running last month to become a coach with the Nike Bowerman Track Club, tweeted to Cain that "I had no idea it was this bad." Flanagan, the 2017 New York City Marathon champion, is a longtime Nike runner but was never part of the Oregon Project.

"I'm so sorry ... that I never reached out to you when I saw you struggling. I made excuses to myself as to why I should mind my own business. We let you down. I will never turn my head again," Flanagan tweeted.

Yoder Begley, who now coaches the Atlanta Track Club, said she was kicked out of Salazar's group after placing sixth in the 10,000 meters at the 2011 national championships.

"I was told I was too fat and 'had the biggest butt on the starting line.' This brings those painful memories back," the 2008 Olympian said.

Goucher, a former Oregon Project runner who helped provide evidence for USADA's case against Salazar, said on Twitter "the culture was unbearable."

Her husband, Adam Goucher, who also ran for the group, tweeted that after she placed fifth in the 2011 Boston Marathon in a personal best of 2 hours, 24 minutes - one of the fastest times for an American woman that year, and six

months after having a child - Salazar and a sports psychologist told her mother and sister she needed to lose her baby weight if she wanted to be fast again.

Adam Goucher said his own weight was an issue while he trained under Salazar.

"Maybe now some of you can see why I had so much anger when we left," he wrote. Ackerman, the Boston sports medicine specialist, is calling on Nike to fund research into healthy and medically sound training in the same way the NFL has started pouring money into concussion studies.

"There are so many great opportunities for Nike to be a leader in this," she said.

AP Sports Writer Pat Graham contributed to this report.

Messi 'uncontrollable' in Celta masterclass - boss

MADRID

CELTA Vigo coach Oscar Garcia said Lionel Messi is uncontrollable after the Barcelona forward's 34th La Liga hat trick spoiled his return to management.

Garcia replaced Fran Escriba as Celta coach earlier this week but was helpless on the touchline as three Messi set-piece goals helped Barca to a 4-1 win.

Messi opened the scoring from the penalty spot before scoring two free kicks as Ernesto Valverde's side returned to winning ways following defeat by Levante and a draw with Slavia Prague.

"With Messi, you never have the game under control," said Garcia, whose side had started the match brightly. "He's uncontrollable, he throws all [your] plans up in the air."

"His efficiency from free kicks is incredible, his percentages are so high. You can't avoid giving free kicks away there, either. He alone changes games."

"If he didn't play, it would have been very different. We could even have won this one. He conditions everything. You know something could happen every time he has

the ball, but when it's a set play you cannot control it."

Of Messi's nine goals in all competitions this season, four have come directly from free kicks. He has scored 22 free kicks since the 2015-16 season from 174 efforts -- an accuracy rate of 12.6 percent.

"It's impossible to not depend on Messi," said Barca coach Valverde when it was suggested his side are too reliant on the Argentine. "We depend on him as much as any team would depend on him."

"He lights everything up, what are we going to do? With Leo, anything is possible."

Goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen added: "Leo's special at free kicks. It's not normal what he does, he has an amazing talent."

Celta had cancelled out Messi's opener at Camp Nou on Saturday through a free kick of their own, scored by Lucas Olaza. Messi's two dead-ball strikes killed the game, though, with Sergio Busquets adding a late fourth.

However, there was bad news for Barca in the form of a calf injury to Nelson Semedo. The right-back will be sidelined for the next five weeks. (Agencies)

Wenger contradicts Bayern's claim they turned him down

MUNICH, GERMANY

ARSENE Wenger has contradicted a claim by Bayern Munich that they turned him down for the vacant head coach's job and accused the defending German champions of a lack of discretion.

Bayern need a new coach after Niko Kovac was sacked last Sunday with former Germany assistant Hansi Flick appointed interim boss for Wednesday's win over Olympiakos and Saturday's 4-0 rout of Borussia Dortmund in the Bundesliga.

On Thursday, Bayern put out a statement claiming Wenger had called club chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge to express interest in replacing Kovac, but said the former Arsenal boss had been turned down. However, Wenger, 70, rejected that version of events and criticised Bayern for leaking "rumours from everywhere".

"My name came out of nowhere," said Wenger in an interview with beIN Sports on Friday.

"On Wednesday, Rummenigge called me, I called back out of courtesy."

"We talked for four or five minutes, maximum, and he reported that they signed Flick (as interim coach) for the next two games."

"He asked me if I would be interested, because they are looking for a coach."

Wenger says he told Rummenigge that he would think about it and "we decided together" to talk again "next week because I am in Doha until Sunday night. This is the true story".

After a decade as Bayern's president, Uli Hoeness will step down on Friday and Wenger said Bayern are at a "turning point" with Rummenigge also set to quit as chairman within the coming year.

Between them, Hoeness and Rummenigge have helped grow Bayern into one of the most successful clubs in Europe.

"It seems that the future is uncertain," said Wenger who added that the German club had always been "very discreet and direct" in the past, "but today (they are) very exposed with rumours coming from everywhere".

Wenger wished Bayern "good luck" in finding a replacement for Kovac.

Other candidates for the vacancy, Paris Saint-Germain boss Thomas Tuchel and Ajax's Erik ten Hag, already made it clear last week that they will not join Bayern before at least the end of the season.

After Bayern thrashed Dortmund at the Allianz Arena, Rummenigge said Flick will remain in charge for their next league game on November 23 and seemed to apologise to Wenger for any "misunderstanding".

AFP

Rummenigge backs Lewandowski for Bundesliga scoring record

MUNICH, GERMANY

BAYERN Munich chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge believes Robert Lewandowski can threaten the 48-year-old Bundesliga record of 40 goals in a season after the striker netted twice in Saturday's thrashing of Borussia Dortmund.

Managerless Bayern ran riot at the Allianz Arena as Lewandowski netted a first-half header and a 76th-minute tap-in to leave him on 16 goals from just 11 league games this term.

Rummenigge thinks Lewandowski, 31, can break Gerd Mueller's record of 40 league goals for Bayern in the 1971/72 campaign.

"I thought Gerd's record would last for eternity and never be broken, but I believe he (Lewandowski) is the first who can really put it in danger," Rummenigge, a former striker, told reporters in Munich.

"It is astounding that 'Lewy' keeps scoring one or two goals in every game."

The Poland striker has now scored in all of Bayern's Champions League and Bundesliga games this season, but needs surgery for a groin injury.

"It is his decision when to have

the operation," said Bayern interim coach Hansi Flick, who has two wins since stepping in after Niko Kovac was sacked last Sunday.

"He isn't in any pain, but it is clear he needs surgery."

"I believe he is having such a run that, in his shoes, I would also have a good think about when to have it done."

"For me, he is the best striker in the world and it is crazy the way he performs for us. He is an absolute role model."

"Team worked sensationally" - Since last Saturday's 5-1 thrashing at Eintracht Frankfurt which cost Kovac his job, Flick has led Bayern to a 2-0 victory over Olympiakos to reach the last 16 of the Champions League, plus Saturday's 4-0 rout.

Lewandowski's double, plus a Serge Gnabry strike and an own goal by Dortmund captain Mats Hummels, completed the thumping.

"I had a task with these two games and the whole team worked sensationally around them, even if it wasn't that easy, because you can't bring much content to training in such a short time," said Flick.

AFP

Leicester, Chelsea leapfrog Man City as Arsenal, Tottenham fall further behind

LONDON

LEICESTER moved up to second in the Premier League as a 2-0 victory over Arsenal on Saturday further dented the Gunners' hopes of a top-four finish.

Chelsea were also 2-0 victors against Crystal Palace as they too jumped above Manchester City into third.

But it was another woeful afternoon for north London's big two as Tottenham were held 1-1 at home by Sheffield United to slip to 12th.

League leaders Liverpool host City in a highly-anticipated clash between the champions of Europe and champions of England at Anfield on Sunday.

Leicester and Chelsea took advantage of kicking off a day earlier to move a point ahead of City and close to within five of Liverpool.

The Foxes' superior goal difference takes them into second as second-half strikers from Jamie Vardy and James Maddison piled more pressure on beleaguered Arsenal boss Unai Emery.

"I'm playing probably the best that I ever have," said Vardy, one of the heroes of Leicester's remarkable 2015/16 Premier League title win.

"There's a lot of momentum round the club and everyone's enjoying themselves. That enjoyment comes with winning."

Arsenal are now eight points adrift of the top four and will fall even fur-



Jamie Vardy had fired Leicester into the lead on their home turf after dispatching beyond Bernd Leno and into the far corner. (Agencies)

ther behind should City avoid defeat at Anfield.

"We are very ambitious in our target, but we know we need time and patience," said Emery, who faces an anxious wait to see if his wish will be granted by the Arsenal board with a two-week international break coming up.

Chelsea were equally as impressive with a patient performance to break down a defensively dogged Crystal Palace at Stamford Bridge.

Tammy Abraham opened the scoring as the England striker pounced on a deft flick through by William seven minutes into the second half.

Christian Pulisic then secured all three points when the American headed home his fifth goal in his last

three Premier League games.

- Tottenham down to 12th -

Tottenham were lucky to even escape with a point as Sheffield United impressed once more to move up to fifth.

"The reality is that for different reasons we are not showing the performances that we expect," said Spurs boss Mauricio Pochettino. "We are not in a good position in the table."

A rare defensive error from the Blades set up Son Heung-min to open the scoring with his eighth goal of the season just before the hour mark.

David McGoldrick thought he had levelled almost immediately, but after a three-minute delay the goal was ruled out for John Lundstram being

millimetres offside in the build-up.

To their credit, Chris Wilder's men were not downhearted and survived another VAR review when George Baldock's cross from the right evaded everyone and found the bottom corner.

West Ham's woes continued as Manuel Pellegrini's men were beaten 3-0 at Burnley to stretch their winless streak to seven games.

Ashley Barnes opened the scoring after 11 minutes as Burnley never looked back.

Chris Wood doubled the hosts' advantage after earlier having a goal ruled out by VAR for offside and a miserable day for the visitors at Turf Moor was summed up when goalkeeper Roberto punched a corner into his own net.

Everton moved six points clear of the relegation zone thanks to a 2-1 win at Southampton to ease the pressure on Marco Silva.

Tom Davies gave the Toffees the perfect start at St Mary's before Danny Ings equalised early in the second half.

But Richarlison struck the winner 15 minutes from time to secure Everton's first away league win since March.

Newcastle are now seven points clear of the drop zone as they came from behind to beat Bournemouth 2-1 at St James' Park thanks to goals from DeAndre Yedlin and Ciaran Clark.

AFP

Messi's dead-ball hat-trick puts Barca back on top

MADRID

LIONEL Messi delivered an incredible dead-ball hat-trick on Saturday to steer Barcelona to a 4-1 victory over Celta Vigo and ease the pressure on his coach Ernesto Valverde.

Messi scored with a penalty and then a pair of sumptuous free-kicks either side of half-time after Lucas Olaza had briefly pulled Celta level with a free-kick of his own at Camp Nou. Sergio Busquets drove home to make sure of the win late on.

A 34th treble in La Liga puts Messi equal with Cristiano Ronaldo, while a much-needed win sends Barca above Real Madrid on goal difference and back to the top of the table at the end of a testing week.

"It is impossible not to depend on Messi, he illuminates everything," said Valverde. "We depend on him like any team would depend on him. He unlocked the game."

Madrid had briefly claimed first place after continuing their own goal-surge by hammering Eibar 4-0, a game in which Karim Benzema scored twice and Eden Hazard exploded into life.

But while Madrid appear to be hitting their stride, Barcelona's momentum had stalled. After losing to Levante and failing to break down Slavia Prague in the Champions League, scrutiny had again turned on Valverde and his future as Barcelona coach.

Barcelona's disgruntled fans had whistled their team against Slavia in midweek and when Olaza equalised for Celta, that tension and restlessness threatened to return.

Instead, Messi took command, this hat-trick taking his tally to nine goals in seven games, 612 in total for his club. "Obviously when it's tight we have the advantage of having the best player in the world and the best free-kick taker in the world," said Busquets.

Yet his precision from free-kicks is a skill the 32-year-old has worked on and improved in recent years, his conversion rate currently at four goals from his last seven attempts in the league.

The last time a player scored a hat-trick from set-pieces in La Liga was when Messi himself achieved the same feat in 2012 against Espanyol, albeit with two penalties and one free-kick.

There was good news for Barcelona too in the return of Luis Suarez, who came off the bench after recovering from a calf strain.

Messi scored his penalty in the



Lionel Messi scored a hat-trick as Barcelona beat Celta Vigo 4-1 on Saturday (AFP Photo)

23rd minute after Joseph Aidoo had blocked Nelson Semedo's cross with his hand.

It was Messi that conceded the foul for Olaza's curling free-kick that was well-hit enough to beat Marc-Andre ter Stegen, even if the goalkeeper might have been disappointed not to be able to get across.

There was little Celta keeper Ruben Blanco could do about Messi's efforts, the first in stoppage time before the interval and the second three minutes after the restart.

They were almost carbon copies of each other, bending over the wall and nestling in the top right-hand corner.

Celta, under their new coach Oscar Garcia, never looked like mounting a comeback and Busquets put the result beyond doubt with a low shot

five minutes from the finish.

Real's players might have been watching on their way home from Ipurua, where they went three up inside 29 minutes, Sergio Ramos scoring a penalty between two Benzema strikes, the second also a spot-kick after Ramos delegated to his teammate. Fede Valverde added a fourth in the second half.

Benzema's double takes him to 157 goals for Real Madrid, above Ferenc Puskas into sixth in the club's all-time list, but his excellent display was trumped by a creative masterclass from Hazard.

"His first half was very impressive," said coach Zinedine Zidane. "We are happy and he will be a huge player for Madrid, for sure."

- Hazard's vintage performance -

Benzema latched onto Hazard's pass in the 17th minute and after Valverde and Luka Modric missed, the ball spilled back to the Frenchman, who found the corner from an acute angle.

Three minutes later it was two, Hazard the creator again, his feet too quick for Pablo De Blasis, who caught his opponent's right leg. Ramos slid the penalty home.

Hazard sparkled, with a brilliant nutmeg, a 'rabona' cross and too many glides past defenders to count.

Ramos passed on the second Madrid penalty, awarded for a foul on Lucas Vazquez, to allow Benzema to make it three before Valverde had added a fourth, cracking in Modric's pass for his first goal in La Liga.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Leicester, Chelsea leapfrog Man City as Arsenal, Tottenham fall further behind

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TONIGHT @ 21:00

UJENZI

MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ (LIVE)
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:00 UTAKE
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 KURASA
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 SPORTS LIVE
22:30 BONGO HITS

Ujenzi Watch this informative show on the domestic construction process both on site construction and interior/exterior designing whilst using the latest technology and appliances that have made construction easier.

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

Tanzania to feature in California karate competition

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIA will be the only African state participating the forthcoming West Coast Shotokan Karate Association International (WCSKAI) USA tournament and training course, slated for December 7-7 in California.

Seven members of Tanzania Karate Federation (TKF) will head to the United States where Tanzania is the only African country invited to partake in the forthcoming two-week tournament and training course.

According to chief instructor and TKF president, Shihan Dady Kassim, the seven delegates are expected to fly from Dar es Salaam on December 4 to participate in the event.

"Karate and other forms of martial arts have been carrying the national flag at international scenes," the chief instructor said.

The official disclosed that karate, as it is the case for other little known sports, needs promotion.

Tanzania happens to be the only African country participating in the international karate event, which will be supervised by the United World Karate Federation (UWKF) and will take place at Arcadia in California.

Other countries that will be taking part in the California's karate instructors' meeting are Czech Republic, Canada, Venezuela, Mexico, Holland and Belgium.

Out of the seven instructors from Tanzania going to California, two of them, Dady Kassim and Isaack Mvarasau, are based in Arusha.

Other instructors hail from Dar es Salaam. They are Taifa Liwewa, Isaack Charo, John Edward, Katambi Mohamed, Salum Hassan and the only lady in the team, Rose Pendeza.

Meanwhile, local karate players have decided to bestow the Arusha regional karate patron title to Arumeru District Commissioner, Jerry Muro, who was awarded with certificate to that effect at his office last weekend.

According to the inscription on the document, Muro now becomes the guardian of karate and boxing federations in Arusha.

"I appreciate this honour and promise to do everything in ensuring these forms of sports get as much promotion as possible in the country," Muro said.

Ally Haniu was awarded a certificate of appreciation to hail him into board of Trustees for the Karate and Boxing Federation of Arusha.

Arusha set to host Tanzania Open 2019 golf tourney



Dar es Salaam's Lugalo Golf Club's Angel Eaton battles it out in a recent competition in Uganda.

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Open 2019 golf tournament will be held at the Kili Golf Wildlife course in Arusha from November 29 to December 1.

The competition, organized by the Tanzania Golf Union (TGU) in cooperation with VERGE AFRICA, an Event Management and Marketing Agency in Tanzania, brings together golfers within and outside the

country

According to TGU chairman, Chris Martin, the main event is a gross event to be contested by men in Division A category having club certified handicaps be-

tween 0 and 9.

He pointed out there will also be subsidiary categories involving men in Division B having club certified handicaps between 10 and 18, senior golfers above 60 years

having club certified handicaps between 0 and 18 and professional golfers.

The subsidiary events shall be contested and won on net score. According to Martin, the registration is open until 4pm on November 22.

"Registration of participants should come through their respective golf clubs within Tanzania," he insisted.

"International participants can send their names and details directly to TGU."

In another development, about 90 golfers, over the weekend, took part at a golf tournament organized by Lions Club of Dar es Salaam Mzizima and took place in the city to raise money for eye camps in Tanzania.

Lions Club of Dar es Salaam Mzizima's member, Ragib Hassanali, told journalists in the city yesterday his club has been assisting the community in different areas including health-related issues.

He urged companies and organizations to support the initiative, saying the event is aimed at alleviating the suffering of many rural people in the country.

He disclosed the initiative,

moreover, gears towards complementing government's efforts to provide good health service to citizens.

The tournament's coordinator, Shanti Shah, commended sponsors who partnered with his club to make the event a success.

He said that the tournament climaxed with presentation ceremony, which saw golfers that excelled in the competition receive prizes.

Lions Club of Dar es Salaam Mzizima's Chairman, Shabir Khanbhai, said that the outfit has been organizing free-eye screening camps four times a year across the country.

Services provided in the camps, he noted, include free eye screening, providing spectacles, medicines and eye surgeries when needed.

He urged the community to regularly check eye health and particularly when the club announces free screening camps.

In 2016, the club organized a similar event at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC), whereby over 60 golfers registered for and took part in the charity golf tournament.

Mayanja unfazed by contract termination at KMC FC



Jackson Mayanja

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

UGANDAN coach, who has parted ways with Kicondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC, has said he has accepted the decision by the outfit's management.

The Dar es Salaam club fired Mayanja on Saturday after the squad had posted poor results in the ongoing Vodacom Premier League.

In a short response, Mayanja said he has no bad feelings following the decision by the club's management to terminate his contract.

"I have heard that, but in short I have no bad feelings. I accepted the decision by the management, life has to move on," the coach, who once coached Mainland Premier League defending champions, Simba SC, noted.

KMC FC has been placed 16th in the league's standing. Mayanja has been in charge of the outfit's technical bench in eight games, winning twice and losing four games.

Unconfirmed reports say Mayanja was suspended by KMC FC a month ago and his assistant, Mrage Kabange, was in charge of the outfit's technical bench in the past three games.

KMC FC on Friday succumbed to 2-1 loss to Kagera Sugar at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Midfielders Peter Mwalyanzi and Awesu Ally netted for Kagera Sugar in either

half. Ivorian Sergei Alain drilled in KMC FC's only goal in the match.

KMC FC on Saturday released a press release saying they have parted ways with the coach on mutual agreement.

"The management of KMC FC would like to inform the media that they have parted ways with coach Mayanja," part of the press release availed to the media disclosed.

"The decision has come after the squad had posted poor results."

"We have mutually agreed with the coach to come to this decision. We thank him for the time spent with us and wish him the best."

Mayanja joined the Tanzanian side this summer after ending his stay with Uganda's Kyetume FC, a side he had led to promotion to the Uganda Premier League.

Anwar Binde, KMC FC information officer, said KMC FC is grateful to Mayanja for his services.

He said the club is looking for his replacement and once they fund the new coach, the public will be informed.

"Coach Mayanja is one of the best coaches, we are grateful for his services, the decision to part ways with him was reached after a mutual agreement."

"Once a new head coach is found, we will let the public know" he said.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

