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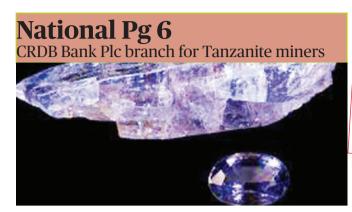
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TANZANIA

WEDNESDAY 5 AUGUST, 2020









Choppies closing outlets in several African countries

GABORONE

CHOPPIES Enterprises Ltd is shutting down its supermarkets across several African nations in a bid to concentrate on growth in Botswana, where it is listed, as well as other southern African countries Zambia, Zimbabwe and Namibia.

The giant retailer, which has since exited the South African and Mozambican markets, is also divesting operations in Tanzania and Kenya, a move initially reported by Ventures Africa last September. The loss-making markets have been funded by growth in Botswana, Chief Executive Officer Ramachandran Ottapathu (pictured) said, as reported by Gaborone-based news site Mmegionline early this week.

The company will instead focus on more profitable subsidiaries with plans to add stores in Botswana this year and explore new markets.

"Zambia is self-sustaining and growing slowly and in Zimbabwe, we'll look at the market and how it goes. (In) Namibia, we



Zambia is self-sustaining and growing slowly and in Zimbabwe, we'll look at the market and how it goes. (In) Namibia, we need to grow

need to grow," Ottapathu said.

News of Choppies' planned consolidation comes after the Botswana Stock Exchange lifted a nearly two-year suspension of its shares on the bourse late last month. Its shares plunged by more than 60 percent in September 2018 after failing to publish its financial results, leading to the suspension on both the local bourse and the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, where the company has a secondary listing.

statements were delayed The after the retailer's new auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers raised concerns with the board over accounting practices. "The company has now published all its financials up to December 2019 bringing it into compliance with the stock exchange requirements," the BSE said in a statement.

Choppies now hopes to resume trading on the South African stock exchange.

"We are hoping the JSE will soon lift the

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Fuel prices rise further, Ewura admits shortage



Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo) national Chairman Maalim Seif Shariff Hamad waves to Chadema members after attending their general meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Right is Chadema deputy secretary general Salum Mwalimu, who has been picked as the party's running-mate for the Tanzanian Presidency in the General Election slated for late October. Photo: Correspondent Anthony Siyame

By Guardian Reporter

TANCOAL Energy, with a 2.7bn/- unpaid dividends bill with the government, has lost its operating licence.

Industry and Trade minister Innocent Bashungwa has ordered the suspension of the mining licence for Tancoal Energy over the substantial unpaid dividends.

The minister instructed Permanent Secretary Prof Riziki Shemdoe to furnish the firm with a suspension notice and immediate halting of its operations.

He issued those instructions on Monday during a visit to the Ngaka coal mining project at Ruanda area in Mbinga District, Ruvuma Region.

The minister has also appointed a special

Dividends pile-up has Tancoal losing permit



innovative TB testing technique

Tancoal Energy needs to pay dividends to the government for its 30 percent shares in Ngaka mine, the minister noted

team to probe the contractual agreement between the company and the National Development Corporation (NDC).

Tancoal Energy needs to pay dividends to the government for its 30 percent shares in Ngaka mine, the minister noted..

"It's better for the coal to remain in the ground than being mined while the government does not benefit from it, and

TURN TO PAGE 2

WHO guideline takes up Ifakara was published by the WHO recently.

By Guardian Reporter

THE Ifakara Health Institute (IHI) has been featured in the latest World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines on a tuberculosis (TB) diagnostic tool.

This recognition arises from its work on new technology for testing TB called Xpert MTB/RIF. It contributed to new consolidated



guidelines on tuberculosis module three that

IHI senior researcher Dr Frederick Haraka (pictured) was amongst 12 scientists forming the WHO team which reviewed a range of new diagnostic technologies endorsed by WHO during the past 10 years.

"Our review of the impact of Xpert on patients highlighted important outcomes which contributed particularly

recommendation 1.1," said Dr Haraka. "Before our review, Xpert MTB/RIF was strongly recommended as initial diagnostic test in adults who are suspected for TB but

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By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

MOTORISTS will from today have to dig deeper into their pockets to buy fuel following the announcement of new, higher prices yesterday.

New indicative prices unveiled by the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (Ewura) show that effective today, price for petrol has increased by 139/- per litre, being 8.22 per cent push while the price for diesel rises by 69/- per litre, a four per cent

In Dar es Salaam petrol will sell at 1,832/per litre with diesel selling at 1,785/- per litre. Ewura's Communications and Public Relations manager Titus Kaguo who announced the changes admitted that there is a shortage of fuel in various regions.

However, he asserted that contrary to some reports of countrywide shortage, just some parts of the country experienced the

He explained that the July consignment was delayed due to challenges with the refinery where the petroleum cargo was sourced and a strong monsoon wind that made the ocean supertanker to travel at a low speed.

"Due to the delay of the shipment for about seven days, EWURA communicated with wholesalers to ensure availability of the



In Dar es Salaam petrol will sell at 1,832/- per litre with diesel selling at 1,785/- per litre.

products in all parts of the country," he said. There has also been a lot of movement by

various groups of people in the past month compared to two months earlier, thus raising the demand for fuel, he said. Daily demand petrol increased from

3.650m litres in June 2019 to 3.683m litres in June 2020. In July, the demand increased to 4.425m litres per day, a 21 percent addition, he pointed out.

"Despite higher demand for petrol, there is still enough stock that can last beyond one month," he said, noting that from 29th July to 31st August six ships with petroleum consignments are expected to dock.

Three of the ships with 89.564m litres, enough for 18 days had already docked while three other ships are slated for 13th August to 31st August, with 100.075m litres of petroleum, sufficient for another 22 days, he elaborated.

There is enough stock of diesel, even with a total of 193.391m litres expected to be unloaded in the course of this month, a consignment that suffices for one month, he stated.

In an effort to ensure a stable stock, EWURA has raised its estimate for daily demand for fuel from 4.812m litres to 6.082m litres for next month, September.

"The Petroleum Bulk Procurement Agency

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SIMPLY BROWSE







Industry and Trade minister Innocent Bashungwa (2nd-R) has a word with members of a women's group engaged in the preparation of coal for domestic at the Ngaka coal mining site in Mbinga District, Ruvuma Region, yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Bariadi

APART from the war against illegal fishing that has seen the increase of fish in lakes, rivers and oceans, still fish consumption in the country is still low, a senior official has said.

Stephen Lukanga, assistant director of fisheries in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries revealed this on Monday when speaking at the ongoing Nanenane Agricultural Exhibition at Nyakabindi grounds in Simiyu Region.

It is estimated that a Tanzanian consumes an average of 8.3kg of fish per year while the global average is 20.5 kgs per person per year.

Lukanga said the government's strategies at present are to mobilize Tanzanians to consume fish in big

'Tanzania's per capita fish consumption is still low'

quantities to attain the world average due to ample supply of fish.

He said the operation against illegal fishing conducted in Lake Zone regions where the practice had been flourishing had positive results after stern steps were taken against those

shifted to other areas including areas with large rivers and other lakes.

The director of marine life development in the Ministry of

Madalla said they have decided to introduce modern technology in fish farming to be used in the Tanzanian environment for the production of fish fingerlings in order to sustain fish production.

He said at the exhibition the He said as for now the operation has technology they teach includes fish farming in tanks that is used in confined, urban areas by recycling the

He said another technology is fish

Livestock and Fisheries Dr Nazael farming in large ponds of water with little cost which many Tanzanians can do especially in areas with clay soil.

> Deputy Governor of Bank of Tanzania (BoT) Bernard Kibasse who visited the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries pavilion said middle income economy can be sustained if Tanzanians engage themselves in better fish farming methods as the market thereof are readily available within and outside the country.

Dividends pile-up has Tancoal losing permit

if we get better partners who are already in waiting to pay the country its appropriate benefits according to the contractual accord, we shall do so without hesitation," he said.

He directed the probe team to start work at once - to examine the contracts signed since coal the company started operations so that the government gets its rightful revenue.

NDC's Director of Operations Prof Damian Gabagambi explained that Tancoal owed NDC 2.7bn/- dividend from its 30 percent share in the mine.

Tancoal Energy was established on 3

April 2008, as a joint venture between NDC and Intra Energy (T) Ltd, a subsidiary of Intra Energy Corporation, a publicly listed firm in Australia.

The Ngaka coal project is Tancoal's flagship project, located in the vast 2021," the firm says on its website.

coalfields of south western Tanzania. Ngaka Basin has the potential to yield up to one billion tonnes of high quality thermal coal.

The basin comprises the Mbalawala sub-basin in the south and the Mbuyura-Mkapa sub-basin to the north. Tancoal has total coal resources of 367m tonnes and expected to increase this projection with further drilling at Mbalawala and Mbuyura-Mkapa sub-basins.

Coal mining commenced at Ngaka in August 2011, with initial mining conducted by a simple, low cost "truck and shovel" operation. It currently sells up to 600,000 tonnes per annum of unwashed coal to local customers.

"As the mining rate increases, Tancoal will ramp up coal production to meet requirements for a power station expected to come on-line in

Fuel prices rise further, Ewura admits shortage

FROM PAGE 1

(PBPA) will use the new estimates when ordering fuel for the month of September," he affirmed.

Katavi region experienced some challenges but 37,000 litres were on sale since yesterday another consignment of 100,000 litres was on the way, the manager noted.

A slight shortage was noticed in Lake Zone towns of Bunda and Musoma in Mara region, following a delay in fuel tankers from Dar es Salaam reaching the region arriving on 31st July..

EWURA, admitting that there is shortage of fuel in some parts of the country after shipping delays, blamed ongoing political activities for unusually strong demand.

.......

Choppies closing shop in several African countries

FROM PAGE 1

suspension ... they have to follow what has happened in the primary market," Ottapathu said last week.

Group revenue fell by 17.5 percent in the half-year to December 2019 due to a weakening currency in

Zimbabwe against the Botswana Pula, the company said in its latest results. It recorded an \$18 million loss on discontinued operations while the gross profit margin improved from 22.5 percent a year before to 22.9 percent, indicating good performance in the local market.

WHO guideline takes up Ifakara innovative TB testing technique

also have either HIV or multi drug resistant TB (MDR). Now it is strongly recommended for all adults with signs and symptoms of TB regardless of HIV or MDR status."

A set of recommendations under Section 1 of the guideline, titled "Molecular assays intended as initial tests for TB,' provide for application of two novel technologies: Xpert MTB/RIF and Xpert Ultra as initial tests in adults and children with signs and symptoms of pulmonary TB.

IHI work contributed in the review and adoption of the first one: Xpert MTB/RIF.

In the review, Dr Haraka and other team members had shown that patients diagnosed using Xpert MTB/RIF had better chances of surviving and being cured compared to those diagnosed using the standard of care, smear

"In adults with signs and symptoms of pulmonary TB, Xpert MTB/RIF should be used as an initial diagnostic test for TB and rifampicinresistance detection in sputum rather than smear microscopy/culture and phenotypic drug susceptibility tests (DST), the recommendation specified, with remarks it is

strong recommendation, with high certainty of evidence for test accuracy; moderate certainty of evidence for patient-important outcomes"

What does this mean? Dr Haraka said that the new guidelines when adopted by national TB programs will be applied by health care personnel to improve TB diagnostics.

"The new recommendation means better

access for TB diagnostic for all." Commenting on his involvement and participation in the review of the testing technology along with top scientists from around the world, Dr Haraka said: "It was a great learning opportunity on how WHO guideline development process occurs. We are happy to have been part of this great global effort and to learn that our ten years of TB research at our Institute gets global recognition in some way."

Dr. Ally Olotu, IHI head of the interventions and clinical trials department, who is Frederick's peer, recognized and considered in the development of

international guidelines. Congratulations to the entire TB research team!"

"Great milestone," said Dr Robert Ndege, head of the chronic diseases clinic in Ifakara.

"We appreciate the effort made to contribute to the global recommendations," Dr Ester Elisaria, senior researcher at IHI.

"Great achievement," said Dr Maja Weisser, an international public health researcher with IHI.

The political declaration at the first United Nations (UN) high-level meeting on TB held on September 26, 2018 included commitments by member states to diagnose and treat 40 million people with TB in the five-year period 2018-2022. An approximate breakdown of the target is about seven million in 2018 and about eight million in

The traditional method for diagnosing TB using a light microscope, developed more than 100 years ago, has in recent years been challenged by several new methods and tools. These methods are based on either the detection of mycobacterial antigens or on the detection of mycobacterial DNA. The novel tools to detect presence of mycobacterium tuberculosis and resistance to anti-TB drugs called for evidence-based policy recommendations.

The WHO published a number of guidelines developed by WHO-convened Guideline Development Groups (GDGs), using the Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation (GRADE) approach to summarize the evidence and to formulate policy recommendations and accompanying remarks.

However, the growing number of published guidelines complicates overview recommendations for the intended audience (which includes health care personnel, national TB programs and policymakers), and WHO recognized the need to consolidate the recommendations into one document.

The recommendations in the new document, one of them being that on the use of 'Xpert MTB/ RIF' tool which IHI contributed in reviewing, have been presented in five guidelines published by WHO between 2016 and 2020. Earlier guidelines on diagnostics that were not developed according said: "It is indeed fulfilling to see your work is being to the GRADE approach have not been included in the consolidated document.



Chadema national chairman Freeman Mbowe pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday addressing the opposition party's extraordinary general meeting that was expected to endorse the party's candidate for Tanzania's Presidency during late October's General Election. Photo:

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

TOTAL number of public and private institutions participating in the ongoing 27th Agricultural, Livestock and Fisheries Exhibition (NaneNane) in the northern zone of Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara has increased from 460 participants to 560.

Arusha regional administrative secretary Richard Kwitega yesterday said apart from the increase, the biggest challenge that came up was the delay in the commencement of the exhibition due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The exhibition involves research and training institutions from the farming, livestock and fisheries sectors, processing of livestock and fisheries products, agricultural and fertilizers and pesticides as well as financial institutions.

Kwitega said yesterday minister for

Northern zone Nanenane fair records an increase number of participants

stakeholders from public and private year." institutions taking part at the fair.

He said the exhibition being held at Themi grounds in Njiro, Arusha also involves sectoral ministries including those for agriculture, livestock and fisheries, industry and trade and natural resources and tourism.

He said this year's Nanenane exhibition is the fourth to be managed by Tanzania Agricultural Support Organization (TASO).

He said: "Themi ground is among the first ones to be built with good infrastructures and from now on it will be used as an important centre for technology trainings Agriculture Japhet Hasunga met with livestock and fisheries throughout the and Fisheries.

The exhibition's coordinator Daniel Loiruki said this year the fair is unique due to better preparations that drew many participants compared to past exhibitions.

He said the exhibition's secretariat in northern zone has appealed to participants to abide by directives from the government through the Health Ministry in taking precautionary measures against Covid-19 infections.

The exhibition, whose slogan: Agricultural, Livestock and Fisheries Development Elect Better Leaders 2020" is and conduct seminars on agriculture, slated to be closed by the Minister for Livestock



Tigo's Lake Zone territory manager, Gwamaka Mwakilembo (in glasses) briefs Angellah Kairuki (3rd-R), Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Investment), and Agriculture minister Japhet Hasunga (2nd-R) at the firm's pavilion at Nane-Nane (Farmers') exhibition at Bariadi in Simiyu Region yesterday. The mobile phone service provider is offering discounts on cellular phones with free internet throughout the year, chiefly for the benefit of farmers, fishermen and pastoralists.

DC helps farmers to access 2.7bn/- in loans

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

THE Ministry of Agriculture, through Cooperatives Development Commission (CDC) and in collaboration with the country's crops board has, helped farmers selling various crops to obtain a total of 2.7bn/- loans in 2020.

Speaking during Cooperatives Mobilisation Day in Ushirika village at the ongoing Nanenane Agricultural and Livestock Exhibition at Nyakabindi Stadium in Simiyu Region, the Minister for Agriculture Japhet Hasunga said the money was a result of selling crops via the warehouse receipt system which the government has been pushing for.

He mentioned the crops sold via April 2020. cooperatives as sesame, grams, sisal, tea, cashew nuts, grapes, coffee and tobacco and added that the warehouse receipt system also enabled farmers harvest better crops.

Hasunga said the cooperatives sector has also assisted in creating jobs to the people whereas by December 2019 more than 9,000 were employed including permanent employment, compared to 32,000 by 2018,

Dr Benson Ndiege said through the implementation of the five Year cooperatives, people in the low income National Development Plan that bracket, many of who farmers were able to receive loans totaling 1.3tr/- by based factories

The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Investment) Angellah Kairuki, speaking at the event said it was clear that the development of cooperatives depends on farmers, livestock keepers and fishermen by joining cooperatives that have good leaders.

She said the aim of the government was to see cooperatives participate in the industrial development The CDC chief executive officer growth in the country as part of include the revival of cooperatives

Develop research strategies for development of livestock, agriculture, pleads minister Jafo

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has called on researchers to intensify their work to boost agriculture and livestock production in the country, saying they are key pillars in national development.

The call was made by the minister of State President's Office Regional Administration and Local Selemani Governments Jafo, noting that while a lot of research has been done, the sectors' contributing to the national economy is not

fully exploited. Speaking at the official opening of the Central Zone's agricultural exhibition famously known as Nane Nane at Nzuguni grounds in Dodoma, he urged farmers and pastoralists to utilize the event and improve

production. The minister said researchers must intensify dissemination of information to help farmers across the country improves productivity.

"Research must provide answers as to why farmers and livestock keepers still register low production and incomes and what can be done to improve yields," he said.

Jafo said the Nane Nane exhibition provides a wide range of opportunities yet there hasn't been maximum utilisation of such opportunities. He requested the beneficiaries to at least use 75 per cent of the knowledge gained to improve production in the agriculture, livestock and fisheries industry.

He also observed that East Africa and Southern African regions have all been hit by the wave of the respiratory infections disease-coronavirus pandemic thus slowing their food productions. "It's fortunate that we have defeated the pandemic and this should help us tap into market potentials in the neighbouring regions," he

He called on investors to diversify investments in other regions to ensure an is emerging the largest gratitude to experts from increased production of key cashew nut growing region, products.

minister was optimistic that should the country increase investment crop in huge volumes. The currently improving the in industries such as fish and regional beef processing factories attributed the success it would add up to job to creations thereby uplifting attained during its active the country's middle income participation in Nane Nane shortage anymore," status.

Jaffo, however, lauded initiatives that have helped intensified avocado farming charcoal producers who are nuts to be grown in other around the agriculture at risk. She said excessive regions such as Singida and Kigoma.

Singida Regional Commissioner Dr Rehema year. Nchimbi said Singida

a challenge to southern regions that have been producing the cashew commissioner practical training

some crops such as cashew that is expecting to turn putting the environment sector in the country. tree cutting in the region Farmers in the region is slowly affecting food harvest at least twice every

exhibitions.

Dr Nchimbi expressed the central zone.

agricultural Naliendere research institute for developing best seeds and extension services that is livelihood of farmers in the region. "Singida is no longer a semi-arid region.

"We have no she was quick to blame The region has so far an increasing volume of production and the region's target to be a powerhouse in

Jnited Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

Invitation to Bid: No. ITB/2020/SUP/018 **ESTABLISHMENT OF FRAME AGREEMENT(S)** FOR THE SUPPLY OF MULTIPURPOSE SOAP

Reference is made to the above subject Invitation to bid. Please note that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Representation Office in Tanzania, has decided to cancel and withdraw the tender ITB/2020/SUP/018 for Establishment of Frame Agreement(s) for the Supply of Multipurpose soap until further notice.

We appreciate your interest in the tender and your decision to work with us.

However, we remain interested in doing business together in future ventures should the occasion arise.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Four TANAPA wardens held by police over herder's death

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbarali

Four TANAPA wardens have been detained to facilitate police investigation into the death of a livestock keeper at Mwanavala village in Mbarali district.

Ulandi Dotto (28) died after he was allegedly shot by Tanzania National Parks Authority (TANAPA) wardens on claims of taking his livestock inside the Ruaha National Park.

The incident was confirmed by the Mbeya Regional Police Commander Ulrich Matei saying four TANAPA wardens from Ikoga Centre have been detained and two firearms (AK 47s) impounded. The RPC mentioned the wardens as Chamriho Higai (32), Paul Mwita (22), Godlisten Jonathan (23) and Victor Oscar (22).

The incident occurred at Ihefu area over the weekend when the deceased

Speaking to reporters, the father of the deceased, Dotto Shigela said his son was shot in the chest, saying he immediately went to the scene after his son had phoned him.

Shigela said on arrival he found his son fighting for his life whereupon with the assistance of his younger brother they took him to Mbarali district hospital for treatment.

He said while on the way the vehicle in which they were travelling broke down, but as they were repairing it Ulandi died. "I ask the government to investigate the incident, I am so saddened as there was absolutely no reason for the wardens to shoot him, instead of taking the normal court procedures against us instead of taking the law into their own hands," Dotto Shigela lamented.

The Deputy Chairman of Tanzania was taking his livestock from Mnazi Livestock Keepers Association,

village to Madibira Ward in the district. Makresia Pawa said TANAPA wardens were increasing attacking them in the district, making them live in fear.

He said during the last two years four herders had died after being shot by TANAPA wardens and no legal measures had been taken against them.

He said such incidents were a threat to the peace in the area as in case the herders also hit back there would be no peace but chaos. "Apart from the killing of our four youths, 15 head of cattle were also killed, we ask the government in Mbarali District to treat us just like it does for those in other economic sectors," he added.

Doctor in Charge of Mbarali district hospital Dr Shukuru Nyenyembe confirmed having received the body of the deceased which had been preserved at the mortuary. He said according to the postmortem the victim died of chest, back gunshot wounds.

GARDAVORLD

KENYA KAZI SECURITY (T) LIMITED

INVITATION FOR BIDS SALE OF ASSETS TENDER No: GW /FY 20/01

BIDS TO REACH US ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY 21ST AUGUST 2020

Bids are invited from interested parties for the purchase of assests as listed below

(A) MOTORVEHICLES

SNo:	REG NO:	MAKE	MODEL	cc	YEAR	LOCATION
1	T263ACX	BAJAJ BYK	CT100	100	2004	ARUSHA
2	T378CBV	FORD	RANGER	2200	2012	ARUSHA
3	T548BHA	FORD	RANGER	2500	2009	ARUSHA
4	T583ART	TOYOTA	HILUX	2986	2006	ARUSHA
5	T838BUV	FORD	RANGER	2500	2010	ARUSHA
6	T929CKQ	FORD	RANGER	2200	2013	ARUSHA
7	T 542 AHJ	MERCEDES-BENZ	SPRINTER	1997	2874	DSM
8	T 580 ART	TOYOTA	HILUX	2006	2986	DSM
9	T103BYL	FORD	RANGER	2011	2500	DSM
10	T135BQX	FORD	RANGER	2010	2500	DSM
11	T199BUT	FORD	RANGER	2011	2500	DSM
12	T224DPL	TOYOTA	VOLTZ	2003	1790	DSM
13	T238BUM	FORD	RANGER	2011	2500	DSM
14	T239CDL	FORD	RANGER	2012	2200	DSM
15	T480CGR	FORD	RANGER	2012	2500	DSM
16	T501AUF	TRAX	MCIGO700T-FORCE	2007	2596	DSM
17	T574ART	TOYOTA	HILUX	2006	2986	DSM
18	T579ART	TOYOTA	HILUX	2006	2986	DSM
19	T761CJQ	TOYOTA	HILUX	2012	2494	DSM
20	T772BBG	SUZUKI	ESCUDO	2006	1995	DSM
21	T773BQE	TOYOTA	HILUX SURF	2002	2690	DSM
22	T874BVG	TATA	ACE	2009	700	DSM
23	T889AYB	TOYOTA	COROLLA	2000	1760	DSM
24	T 939 ACX	NISSAN	PATROL	1998	4169	DSM
25	T 325 AQW	MERCEDES	AMBULANCE	1996	2875	DSM
26	T 633 CLB	FORCE	TRAX	2009	2596	DSM
27	T930CPS	TOYOTA	HILUX	2013	2494	DSM
28	T949DPK	TOYOTA	WISH	2005	1790	DSM
29	T988BYK	FORD	RANGER	2011	2500	DSM
30	T440AUF	FORCE	FORCE TRAX			MOSHI
31	T545ACJ	NISSAN	PATROL	4200	1992	MOSHI
32	T547AUF	FORCE	FORCE TRAX			MOSHI
33	T556AEM	MERCEDEZ BENZ	MERCEDEZ	7500	1991	MOSHI
34	T200BJQ	FORD	RANGER	2500	2009	MWANZA
35	T782CAX	FORD	RANGER	2500	2011	MWANZA

(A) MOTOR CYCLES

SNo:	REG NO:	MAKE	MODEL	cc	YEAR	LOCATION
1	T788CBX	BAJAJ BOXER	M/CYCLE	150	2012	ARUSHA
2	MC251AAM	SKYMARK	ARROW	125	2009	ARUSHA
3	MC254AAM	SKYMARK	ARROW	200	2011	ARUSHA
4	MC255AAM	SKYMARK	ARROW	125	2011	ARUSHA
5	MC406AAM	TVS STAR	M/CYCLE	100	2013	ARUSHA
6	MC687ACD	SKYMARK	ARROW	200	2011	ARUSHA
19	MC720BMQ	JIANSHE	CY80	80	2004	ARUSHA
27	MC789AEW	SKYMARK SUPER	M/CYCLE	125	2012	ARUSHA
30	MC836BFP	SKYMARK	ARROW	125		ARUSHA
32	MC868AEV	SKYMARK SUPER	M/CYCLE	125	2012	ARUSHA
3	MC167ANN	SKYMARK	TUKTUK	150	2016	DSM
10	MC362BWA	TVS	TVS	125	2017	DSM
12	MC387ARJ	BOXER	BAJAJ	100	2012	DSM
13	MC399AHZ	YAMAHA	YAMAHA	125	2013	DSM
16	MC692AAN	BOXER	BAJAJ	150	2016	DSM
17	MC694ABY	BOXER	BAJAJ	100	2012	DSM
18	MC704ABY	BOXER	BAJAJ	100	2012	DSM
20	MC751AAH	SKYMARK	TUKTUK	150	2016	DSM
21	MC762ABY	BOXER	BAJAJ	100	2012	DSM
22	MC764ABY	BOXER	BAJAJ	100	2012	DSM
23	MC770ABY	BOXER	BAJAJ	100	2012	DSM
24	MC772AAJ	SKYMARK	TUKTUK	150	2016	DSM
25	MC774ABY	BOXER	BAJAJ	100	2012	DSM
26	MC785AAJ	BOXER	BAJAJ	150	2012	DSM
28	MC792ADH	BOXER	BAJAJ	150	2012	DSM
29	MC802ANS	BOXER	BAJAJ	100	2012	DSM
31	MC862AGQ	SKYMARK	JIALING	150	2016	DSM
33	MC879AAM	BOXER	BOXER	100	2012	DSM
34	MC886AAM	SKYMARK	TUKTUK	150	2016	DSM
35	MC913DXG	TUKTUK	TUKTUK	150	2016	DSM
36	MC976AEM	BOXER	BAJAJ	100	2012	DSM
1	GENSET	HONDA	GX390			MWANZA
2	MC159AGN	HONDA	ACE 125	124	2012	MWANZA
4	MC171AGN	YAMAHA	CRUX 110	110	2010	MWANZA
5	MC180AGN	YAMAHA	CRUX 110	110	2010	MWANZA
6	MC181AGN	HONDA	ACE 125	124	2012	MWANZA
11	MC382AHZ	YAMAHA	YBR 125	125	2011	MWANZA

Condition of Sale:

- 1 .Vehicle are sold on "AS IS WHERE IS" basis Kenya Kazi Security (T) Ltd shall note have further liability after sale
- 2. Viewing to verify details can be done during normal working hours (8.00am -4.00pm) at the location indicated. 3. Successfull bidder will be required to pay the full bid price within 2 working days from the date of the award
- 4. Successfull bidders will be required to remove purchased vehicle from site within 7 days from the date of award
- 4. Buyers will be required to un brand / repaint the vehicle within 7 days from the date the vehicles are handed over to them.
- 5. Kenya Kazi Security (T) Ltd reserves all rights and without assigning any reasons there of not to accept the highest bid. 6. Bids can be placed in a sealed envelope marked "TENDER FOR MOTOR VEHICLE" and deposited at Kenya Kazi Security Offices Addressed to:

FINANCE DIRECTOR GARDAWORLD SECURITY P. O. BOX 12747

DAR ES SALAAM

BRANCH MANAGER GARDAWORLD SECURITY P. O. BOX 2076

BRANCH MANAGER GARDAWORLD SECURITY P. O. BOX 12747 **ARUSHA**



An Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo) delegation including national Chairman Maalim Seif Shariff Hamad (R, front row) listens as Chadema national chairman Freeman Mbowe addresses the a meeting of the former opposition party in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo:

SUA: We'll ensure all research results reach farmers

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

DEPUTY Administrative Vice Principal of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) Prof Maulid Walad Mwatawala has said the university's strategy is to ensure the results of all researches by various researchers are received in time.

Speaking about the instructions of the Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan when opening the Nanenane Exhibitions being held at the national level at Nyakabindi Grounds in Simiyu has initiated a new diploma in seed

special for extension officers.

"The diploma in seed technology will assist extension officers results reach various researches to farmers to assist them engage in gainful farming," he

He said apart from the diploma that is expected to offered this year, SUA has also been conducting various trainings on seeds to extension officers as well as farmers from local councils and other institutions in the country. "So far local councils and private institutions have Region, Prof Mwatawala said SUA been bringing extension officers and farmers for various training seminars

technology and production that is in fruit tree grafting and how to manage seed beds," Prof Mwatawala said.

> On the issue of sprinkle farming as opposed to irrigation farming in order to reduce costs for infrastructure construction, Prof Mwatawala said SUA has Degree courses on water resources management hence there was a need see how they can change that to abandon irrigation farming.

> Early this week while in Simiyu, Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan directed researchers in the farming. livestock and fisheries sectors to ensure they disseminate results of the researches to extension officers and

other stakeholders to enable them reach the farmers.

She also instructed the Agriculture Ministry to provide training on the sustainable development of irrigation infrastructures in particular water sprinkling to reduce the high cost in the construction of irrigation infrastructures.

SUA is participating in the Nanenane Exhibition for the Eastern Zone in Morogoro, while nationally it is held in Simiyu Region with the slogan: "For Agricultural, Livestock and Fisheries Development Elect Better Leaders

Dr Shein: Without enough food, there is no guarantee of peace, tranquility

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has said without sustainable and gainful development in the agricultural sector, the existing peace and tranquility could be at stake, as the sector's decline can have adverse effects to food security.

Dr Shein was speaking at the opening of the Nanenane Agricultural Exhibition at Langoni in West B District in Urban West Region attended by various leaders of the government and political parties including the Second Vice President Amb Seif Ali Iddi and other people.

President Shein said when food security is affected inflation erupts over the little food available, hence, he added complaints, anger, and hate will prevail as hunger gives rise to many things including people's health and psychological effects.

He said lack of peace and tranquility erode even the development that had been attained just on how locusts devour crops in the fields.

He said the Zanzibar government, in recognition the importance of food security and nutrition and the sustainable development in agriculture, it has been implementing by deeds Act No 5 of 2011 on Zanzibar Food security and Nutrition.

He said during Financial Year 2020/21, the government has increased the budget for agriculture from 88.17bn/- for FY 2019/2020 to 129.86bn/- for 2020/2021.

He said the government has changed the Kizimbani Agricultural College to become the School for Agricultural of State university of Zanzibar (SUZA) whereas a total of 26 students continue with their First Degree in Agriculture.

He said the government has also

accorded priority the issue of Blue Economy whereas as for now it has been among big sources for economic development.

Dr Shein also said the government has also revived the Zanzibar Fishing Corporation (ZAFICO) to strengthen fishing activities and push for fishing revolution in the country, stressing in deep sea fishing.

He said due to Phase VII Government efforts, seaweed farming has been improved as well as its price - from 800/- per kg to 1,800/- per kg for the 'Cotonii' type of the seaweed.

In regard to livestock, he said the government is developing the sector by taking various steps including education to livestock keepers, vaccination services including the purchase by the government for the production of chicken and fish feed.

In conclusion Dr shein called on Zanzibaris to continue with their long time tradition during election campaigns that were soon to start.

The Acting Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries haji Omar Keir congratulated president Shein for his idea in initiating the exhibition,

Earlier, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Mariam Abdalla Sadalla said the Exhibition slogan for this year is "Maintain Peace and Tranquility for Agricultural development."

She said the Exhibition's apex will be December 8 this year whereas 219 institutions have participated, surpassing last year's figure of 172.

She called on those institutions given permanent areas for their pavilions to construct permanent structures to reduce annual preparations costs.

She said the Exhibition has been held simultaneously in Zanzibar and Pemba and has cost 71.1m/- while other private participants contributed 12.4m/-.

ICT experts in Dar to discuss better use of the digital space

By Guardian Reporter

A social enterprise, Paradigm Initiative (PIN), has brought together information and communication technology (ICT) stakeholders to discuss various issues on digital rights and freedom in a bid to expand the proper use of the digital space technologies for sustainable development.

The two-day workshop provided a platform for ICT players to discuss digital laws of Tanzania and Nigeria and learn from expertise on what should be improved for the betterment of the countries.

PIN's coordinator Peter Mmbando said that the discussion also aimed to exchange knowledge and expertise on the digital policies and laws between two countries.

He noted that the expansion of Africa's digital landscape means that the internet is fast becoming a human right and affects a lot more people.

"It is my plea to all internet users to ensure that they adhere to rules and laws laid by the country. But whenever there are laws reviews and changes, the public should come forward to provide their opinions,"

Paradigm Initiative's Digital Rights manager Adeboye Adegoke said: "Our firm belief that so much is possible when citizens, civil society, and government work together in shaping the future, through policy

interventions that support innovation and protect the people."

"This discussion will enable participants to be well informed on digital policies, rules and regulations and thus be able to educate the public on internet rights. We recognise the ministry's leadership roles in policy formulation, monitoring and evaluation, and regulatory and legal matters pertaining to communication, information and communications technology (ICT), science, technology, and innovation," he noted.

According to Adegoke, PIN is a social enterprise that builds ICT-enabled support systems and advocates for digital rights in order to improve the livelihoods of under-served young Africans.

"Our digital rights advocacy program is focused on the development of public policy for internet freedom in Africa, with offices in Abuja, Nigeria (covering the Anglophone West Africa region); Lome, Togo (Francophone West Africa); Yaoundé, Cameroon (Central Africa); Nairobi, Kenya (East Africa) and Lusaka, Zambia (Southern Africa)," he added.

The forum underscored the critical role of stakeholders and the government across the region in the formulation of Internet policies, regulation and legislation that are favorable and meant to transform communities.



An NMB Bank Plc senior agri-retail banking relationship manager makes remarks at a capacity building seminar for members of agricultural marketing cooperatives (AMCOs) from Simiyu, Mara, Geita and Shinyanga regions at the Nane-Nane agricultural exhibition in progress at Bariadi in Simiyu Region. Photo: Guardian

Poultry farmers complain credit facilities come too late

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

A GROUP of poultry farmers in Mbeya District have complained over slow pace in the issuance of loans to the entrepreneurs' groups claiming the situation is a great discouragement in

their efforts.

weekend at the forum for youths loans, the situation that makes other in the district that discussed the groups conduct businesses without involvement of the youths in entrepreneurship projects held in Ilembo Ward that drew youths from various o wards.

An official from the group Scholastica Malimali said out of 61 poultry groups

tangible benefits.

"We appeal to the district council's community development department to increase the pace in the issuance of loans," she said.

The veterinary officer for Ilembo They aired their complaints at the for youths, only two had received Ward, Aisha Peter, said some of the

poultry keepers fail to buy necessary inputs for their chicken due to lack of funds, as well as lack of skills in better poultry keeping.

"To make easy for these youths to engage in modern poultry keeping we have chicken feed and drugs at affordable prices, the only problem these youths lack the funds for buying

the inputs," she said.

Mbeya District William Ntinika instructed the district executive director to increase loans to the youths to motivate them in their businesses.

He said Mbeya District Council is among local councils in the country doing well in the implementation of the

law that requires councils to set aside Commissioner 10 per cent of their internal incomes for loans to small entrepreneurs, but of recent it had been slow in issuing the

He called upon all the groups who had received the loans to ensure they repay in time to enable other groups access the loans.

CRDB Bank Posts TZS 100 Billion Pre-tax Profit, Despite COVID-19 Disruptions

ar Es Salaam, Saturday August 1, 2020 - Tanzania's leading financial services provider CRDB Bank Plc has posted impressive half-year results with a 15% jump in Profit After Tax of TZS 70.4 billion, up from TZS 61.1 billion reported in the same period 2019.

Group CEO & Managing Director Abdulmajid Nsekela attributes the growth to the company's swift strategies that have enabled it to navigate the COVID-19 disruptions. The Bank Group focused on supporting businesses to wither the storm of the crisis, which continues to disrupt the global supply chains.

"We made a commitment to support our customers during the crisis period to enable them to stabilize and, in the process, launched new ventures designed to uplift the micro and small businesses across the country," says Nsekela.

The CEO commended the government for making timely interventions to mitigate the COVID-19 crisis, which have created an enabling environment for businesses to thrive. He noted that the measures implemented by BOT have played a major role in fostering stability in the market and provided a conducive environment for growth.

"To adapt to the new norm, we continue to create new and unique propositions to take advantage of emerging opportunities within different market segments and sectors. We continue to leverage digital technology to expand our reach and deliver banking to the underserved communities in remote locations," The CEO explains.

During the half-year period, the bank rolled out various digital banking solutions, to support its customers as part of the broader plan to maintain closer engagements and understand customer needs better. In May the Bank held a virtual consultative forum with stakeholders in the health sector dubbed 'Afya Forum', which explored opportunities for collaboration in terms of how the bank could support the health and

best deal with the crisis at hand. "We have seen SMEs perform better even during the crisis and we want to continue focusing this sector as well as agriculture, which have a great potential to transform our economy," he added.

"Strategically, we integrated microfinance services with the parent company to improve our capability cater to more small and medium entrepreneurs to enable them to achieve their goals by addressing capital challenges and financial literacy gaps," quips Nsekela.



Summary Highlights:

- Group profit up 15% (YoY) to TZS 70.4 billion from TZS 61.1 Billion posted in 2019
- Interest income grew by 6% to TZS 336 billion up from 315 billion in 2019
- Non-interest income grew by 7% (YoY) to TZS 129 billion from TZS 120 billion
- Non-Performing loans improved to 4.6% down from 8.7% in June 2019
- CRDB Bank Burundi SA net profit grew by 171% to TZS 4.4. billion from TZS 1.6 billion reported in 2019
- CRDB Insurance Broker Limited net profit grew by 143% TO TZS 2.6 billion, from **TZS 1.1 billion in 2019.**

The bank delivered a strong balance the same period last year, mainly driven sheet performance with a 14% growth by growth in loans and Government in total loans and advances to TZS 3.6 securities. Customer deposits grew by trillion, up from TZS 3.2 trillion reported 10% to TZS 5.5 trillion up from TZS 5.0 in 2019. Group assets grew by 10% to TZS 7 trillion reported in 2019. Net interest trillion up from TZS 6.4 trillion posted in income grew by 7% to TZS 276 billion up

from 258 billion in 2019 whereas Non-interest income increased by 7% (YoY) to TZS 129 billion, up from TZS 120 billion. The growth in non-interest income is attributed to the bank's concerted improvements on service, especially service uptime, which led to increased transactions on alternative channels (mainly digital) during the crisis period.

"We accelerated our digital solutions to give our customers convenient options for banking during the crisis, which yielded a steady flow of cash despite the prevailing challenges," Nsekela further explains.

"We are also working to improve productivity through process re-engineering, adopting a cost-serve model. We have also embarked on resource optimization and automation of our key activities to leverage staff capabilities increase efficiency," says Frederick Nshekanabo, the Group Chief Finance Officer (CFO).

"We have taken several steps to improve productivity through resource optimization and inculcating a performance culture through the adoption of an improved performance management system," Nshekanabo explains.

The CFO further notes that the Group also achieved a notable reduction in impairment charge by 24%, attributing it to the decline in the Non-Performing Loans from 8.7% in June 2019 to 4.68%.

Meanwhile, subsidiaries also made significant contributions to the Group's performance with CRDB Bank Burundi SA posting a 171% profit after tax of TZS 4.4. billion, up from TZS 1.6 billion reported in 2019. CRDB Insurance Broker Limited posted a profit of TZS 2.6 billion, representing a year on year growth of 143% from TZS 1.1 billion achieved last year.

continue to strengthen "We our subsidiaries to improve their performance leveraging transformation initiatives being done at the parent company to ensure we achieve sustainability, "Group CEO Nsekela says.

CRDB Bank profit streak has been on the rise, following a transformation exercise, which commenced early 2019. The transformation contextualized the company's medium-term strategy, focuses on building an efficient business, leveraging digital technology and culture change. The bank has rolled out various transformation initiatives, including revamping the operating model, which continues to deliver improved performance.

NATIONAL.NEWS

PETROLEUM BULK PROCUREMENT AGENCY



PRE-QUALIFICATION NO: PBPA/CPP/PQ/2021 **FOR**

SUPPLY OF BULK PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR THE **SUPPLY OF PETROLEUM PRODUCT IN THE YEAR 2021**

- 1.0 Petroleum Bulk procurement Agency (PBPA) has been established by GN. No 423 of 2015 and mandated to coordinate importation of petroleum product through the Bulk Procurement System by, G.N. 198 of 2017, under The Petroleum Act, No 21 of 2015;
- 2.0 The Petroleum Bulk Procurement Agency (PBPA) intends to Pre-qualify suppliers for Supply of Petroleum Products i.e. MOGAS, GASOIL, JET A1 & KEROSENE in Tanzania under Bulk Procurement System (BPS). It is mandatory for petroleum products in Tanzania to be procured under the Bulk Procurement System (BPS);
- 3.0 Average monthly total volume of MOGAS, GASOIL, JET A1 & KEROSENE procured under BPS is 350,000 Metric Tons. Tenders shall be floated on cargo by cargo basis whereas the estimated number of cargoes per month is 5 to 9 with estimated cargo sizes as provided below: -
 - AGO- 60,000-100,000 MT
 - b) PMS 35,000- 38,000 MT
 - c) IK AND JET 20,000-25,000 MT
 - d) Comb cargo for Tanga AGO and PMS 25,000 -38,000 MT
 - Comb cargo for Dar es salaam KOJ1 and Mtwara AGO and PMS 25,000 -38,000 MT
- 4.0 Pre-qualification will be conducted under International Competitive Bidding (ICB), through the procedures specified in the Petroleum Act Cap 392, the Petroleum (Bulk Procurement) Regulation 2017 GN. NO. 198 and Petroleum Bulk Procurement Manual of 2017.
- 5.0 Applicants shall pay a non-refundable prequalification processing fee and shall receive a complete set of pre-qualification documents in English language, the amount payable shall be USD 5000 for international/foreign companies and 5,000,000 Tanzanian shillings for local companies. The amount shall be paid by direct deposit, direct transfer or banker's cheque in favor of Petroleum Bulk Procurement Agency from Monday to Friday (Working Days) between 1000 hrs and 1600 hrs.
- 6.0 The pregualified bidders shall be eligible to participate in tenders for supply of MOGAS, GASOIL, and JET A1 & KEROSENE for three (3) years from the date of being pre-qualified their after they will be required to pay validation fees of USD 1000 for the second and third year.
- 7.0 Application for pre-qualification should be submitted in sealed envelope. delivered to the address below, before or on Tuesday O1st September 2020 from 09:00 AM to 04:00 PM and be clearly marked "Application to be Pre-qualified for the Supply of Bulk Petroleum Products for tender no. PBPA/CPP/PQ/2021";
- 8.0 Applications will be evaluated and results be announced on or before 15th November 2020 for pre-qualified suppliers to participate in tenders from January to December, 2021.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Petroleum Bulk procurement Agency (PBPA) TPA- ONE STOP CENTER BUILDING, 11TH Floor, Plot no. 1/2, SOKOINE DRIVE, P.O Box 2634 **DAR ES SALAAM** Tel: +255 22 212 9009

E-mail: info@ pbpa.go.tz Fax: +255 22 212 9009 Website: www.pbpa.go.tz

NCPDRS requests govt to introduce special number plates for vehicles driven by PwDs

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE National Committee for Persons with Disabilities on Road Safety (NCPDRS) has proposed for the government to introduce special number plates for vehicles driven by people with disabilities.

Speaking here during training on the new six traffic signs for persons with disabilities NCPDRS Chairman, Jutoram Kabatele, said the committee has already submitted recommendations to the government on the same.

"We are currently on talks with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) over the matter that we should have special number plates." he said,

the abbreviation referring to 'People with Disabilities Tanzania'.

The training which was funded by the Foundation for Civil Society brought together people with disabilities to learn on new traffic signs. The training has been offered to Dodoma, Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar.

As for the introduction of new six traffic signs, Kabatele, said the new traffic signs were introduced to protect People with Disabilities on the roads, pointing out that one of the traffic signs is for vehicles driven by People with Disabilities.

He observed that despite designing of new traffic signs, there was a need for the introduction of special adding that the vehicle number plates number plates for vehicles driven said.

numbers may be WT AZT 801, with by People with Disabilities to protect them against reckless drivers.

Kabatele said his committee had designed the traffic signs to address a number of challenges facing the People with Disabilities on roads, saying the traffic regulations stipulate that the group is entitled to a safe transport service.

He explained that the new traffic signs would help to protect the People with Albinism, deaf persons, People with mental illness and blind people.

"People with Disabilities are required to get no inconvenience while travelling in accordance with the law, but the group faces many challenges while on the trip," he



Agriculture minister Japhet Hasunga (L) and Agriculture ministry permanent secretary Gerald Kusaya (to his left) visit the Policy Analysis Group pavilion at the ongoing weeklong Nane-Nane (Farmers) exhibition being held at national level at Nyakabindi grounds in Bariadi District, Simiyu Region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TADB awarded for supporting co-operatives

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

Agricultural Tanzania Development Bank (TADB) was awarded here yesterday the strengthening cooperative movement by giving strategic loans to primary societies and cooperative unions to a tune of 100bn/- in one year

Presenting the award, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Angellah Kairuki, said TADB had strategically increased funding of primary societies and unions and therefore strengthening Tanzania's cooperative movement.

"Your contribution has ended problems and challenges which in the past were seen to be impossible of appreciation of your efforts in strengthening our cooperative movement," she said.

The minister also lauded the

participation of the bank and other institutions in the Nane Nane Fair, saying their participation motivated members of the agricultural marketing cooperative societies and other smallholder farmers. That motivation, she explained, encouraged members to take seriously agriculture and fisheries sectors as a source of employment and disposable income.

"Your participation in fairs of this nature is an encouragement to smallholders to go on with the projected reforms in agriculture and fisheries sectors. We need badly these

to overcome. This award is a sign reforms in strengthening our national industrialisation agenda," she told her audience at Nyakabindi Fair Grounds here in Bariadi District.

Contacted for comment in Dar es Salaam, the TADB Managing Director, Japhet Justine, said their bank was implementing focused strategy that contributed to national efforts in promoting agricultural and industrial efficiency.

"In this strategy we are working jointly with other banks. Our common objective is to ensure farmers and other producers get working capital and other inputs in time," he explained.

Nane Nane festivities are marked at national level in Simiyu Region, and in other selected zones.

CRDB to put up branch for tanzanite miners

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

CRDB Bank has said it wants to put up a branch within perimeter wall which surrounds the tanzanite mining quarries of Mirerani, in Simanjiro District, Manyara.

The lender says its presence within the 25 kilometer fence where the rare blue gemstones are mined is meant to serve miners operating in both large and small scale units in the area.

Speaking in Mirerani on Monday, the bank's Northern Zone Manager Chiku Issa said it was high time that financial services were taken right to the Tanzanite mining area to enable pit owners to use them for paying taxes, banking their money and securing loans to service their mining operations.

"We are also starting to give financial advice to local miners in the extractive industry, for instance the new billionaire Saniniu Laizer, who recently struck three pieces of Tanzanite that are the largest in history, is among our clients and the CRDB bank is helping him make wise investment decisions,"

Apparently the CRDB Bank wants to ensure that all payments regarding buying and selling in the mining area take place right at the quarries doorsteps in order to save time and facilitate speedy and safer transactions.

Speaking earlier, Minister for Minerals Dotto Biteko said after the erection of what is now known as Magufuli wall, the government seems to plan to convert the mining area into a special business park and export zone which now requires all the necessary establishments such as banks, insurance companies and revenue authorities.

Meanwhile, the artisan miner who has so far struck the top three largest Tanzanite Gemstones in Mirerani, Saniniu Kurian Laizer, has rexpressed hope that the biggest pieces of Tanzanite are still yet to be lifted underground.

"I am using expert surveyors and can attest that the large Tanzanite stones so far, are nothing compared to what is yet to come from down under, these first three were just found

accidentally, but with ongoing serious mining, our quarries will soon see even more wondrous miracles," maintained Laizer.

He was recently speaking in Mirerani at the ceremony to sell his third largest specimen in form of the 6.3 kilogramme heavy Tanzanite piece which was bought by the state at the cost of 4.5 billion/-.

Laizer said he was sure biggest pieces of Tanzanite are yet to be mined due to poor technology employed by miners in the past, but with advanced technical know-how, many miners are now in position to venture further underground seeking the valuable stones.

Receiving the latest piece of Tanzanite from the local miner, Biteko said the achievements registered are results of the fort erected to protect the Mirerani mines from thieves and smugglers.

"And soon all the major banks and bureau exchange facilities will be established within the Mirerani Wall to ensure that this place becomes the ultimate mineral trading center and later on export zone," said Biteko.



Zanzibar Second Vice President Seif Ali Iddi (R, foreground) hands over personal protection gear and related items to 12 schools based in Zanzibar's Mahonda constituency at a ceremony held at Kitope Secondary School yesterday. Photo:

Regular inspections prove vital in ridding market of fake seeds

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

REGULAR inspections in shops selling farm inputs has contributed to the reduction of fake seeds in the market outlets, hence assuring farmers high crop production.

John Msemwa, a senior researcher at the Tanzania Official Seed Certification (TOSCI) revealed this over the weekend when speaking at the ongoing annual Eastern Zone Nane Nane Agricultural Exhibition in Morogoro.

According to Msemwa, the agency has managed to control fake seeds in the market and this came after reinforcing the use of special TOSCI label and the use of the label offered by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) since 2017.

"The challenge of fake seeds in the

regular inspections carried out in shops that sell seeds and other farm inputs," the researcher assured farmers.

Regular inspections, according to Msemwa are ongoing and those who are found with fake seeds are taken before the court.

He said that the challenge of fake seeds happen in regions which are along the borders and those in peripherals such as Mbeya, Songwe and Rukwa. "And some of the seeds are made by some unscrupulous individuals, something which is against the law," he said, warning people who are behind that business to stop from

He said that the law gives power to the Agriculture Seeds Agency (ASA) as the sole seeds' producer, distributor and ensure that farmers have access to

market has reduced and this is due to improved seeds. According to him, ASA is also tasked to promote increased private sector participation in the seed industry development through establishment of public-private partnerships or joint ventures in seed production and distribution.

> "TOSCI chips in to certify seeds produced by ASA and its partners as well as the imported seeds," he said, calling farmers to use improved seeds to increase productivity.

also encouraged multiplication companies to adhere to rules and regulations governing seed production.

> "TOSCI chips in to certify seeds produced by ASA and its partners as well as the imported seeds"

Govt urged to ease loan conditions to farmers

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

SUPPLIERS of farm inputs have called on the government to have a suitable procedure for the issuance of loans by financial institutions that would be easy for farmers to repay the loans in time.

The call was given early this week by the Marketing Manager of Agricom Company from the Southern Highlands regions, Peter Mwita during the ongoing Nanenane Agricultural Exhibition at John Mwakangale Grounds in Mbeya.

Mwita said farming is among sectors that largely contributed to the country's

attainment of the middle economy status hence to ensure farmers remain part of that achievement, an enabling environment for them has to be put in place.

He said among issues that need to be worked upon by the government is to advise financial institutions to have a friendly environment in extending of loans to farmers which can be repaid in time.

"Being among private institutions in the country, we appeal to the government to review the procedures for dispensing loans by financial institutions to remove all conditions that undermine farmers on repayment," Mwita said.

He said Agricom that deals in selling and distribution of farming equipment has been at the fore front in recognising the plight of farmers by ensuring they sell their farming equipment at affordable prices.

He added that through the Nanenane Exhibition, they sell farming equipment including tractors at reduced price to enable many farmers to purchase.

Some farmers who visited the firm's pavilion said modern farming equipment have been a savior to them as they simplify agricultural activities from land preparation stage to harvesting.

By Guardian Reporter, Njombe

HAEMORRHAGE and eclampsia have been named as major causes of high maternal deaths in Njombe Region while asphyxia is taking its toll on perinatals.

Reproductive and child health coordinator for Njombe Region, Felisa Hyera said reasons behind escalation of cases include inadequate knowledge and skills among health care workers on basic and comprehensive emergency obstetrics and new born care.

Hyera said during a child mortality meeting of stakeholders this week that despite a big drop on recorded number of maternal deaths, haemorrhage and eclampsia still remain major courses of the few deaths existing.

"Njombe Region has low number of maternal deaths compared to other regions in the country. However, haemorrhage and pregnancy induced hypertension tend to cause most of the deaths," she said adding that for the period between January and December 2019, the region recorded 23 maternal deaths of which eight were haemorrhage related.

Apart from having low numbers of maternal deaths in the Southern Highlands region, perinatal deaths are in still big numbers, thus for 2019 the number of perinatal deaths registered about 350 in which fresh still birth were facilities. "By attending and delivering councils in Njombe region.

Haemorrhage major factor behind deaths among mothers in Njombe

early neonatal recorded 112 cases and the late neonatal was 26.

"In all these numbers Njombe town council shows big contribution followed by Makambako township and Wanging'ombe district," she noted adding that early attendance to antenatal services and delivery at deaths in Njombe Region. "This health facilities are among strategies programme operates in 12 regions in used to curb maternal deaths because Tanzania through the 'Naweza' adult that way the health care workers will be able to note danger signs during pregnancy early.

Hyera praised programmes like 'Naweza' which is under the 'Tulonge Afya' Project which provides health education to pregnant women and their partners on early anti-natal clinics visits and called on more partners to join hands to reduce the deaths.

Speaking at the same gathering, Njombe Regional Nursing Officer, Sophia Mfungati said during January to June 2020 period, the region had fewer cases of women who died due to pregnancy related complication (about 12 deaths) and perinatal deaths (156) compared to 2019 because of early antinatal attendance and delivery at health

109 cases, macerated still birth had 103, at health facilities, pregnant women are sensitised on how to take care of their health and that of their babies," Mfungasi noted.

In remarks at the meeting, USAID 'Tulonge Afya' Zonal Manager, Elia Ndutila said the programme has played a key role in reducing the maternal platform with the aim of promoting positive health practices in households and communities by transforming socio-cultural norms and supporting the adoption of healthier behaviours in HIV, TB, malaria, family planning, maternal and child health," Ndutila

"We are happy to see many pregnant women attend clinics at an early stage and also deliver at health facilities," Ndutila stated.

The maternal and child mortality review meeting was organised by the regional team and brought together district medical officers, district nursing officers, district reproductive and child health coordinators and district quality improvement focal persons from all

ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI **GEITA GOLD MINE**

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

PREQUALIFICATION OF CONSULTANTS TO CARRY OUT DETAILED **ELECTRICAL DESIGN WORKS & SUBSEQUENT SUB-STATION EPCM WORKS FOR GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED**

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company has just completed a preliminary study, via an external service provider, for connecting the mine to the TANESCO grid and would like to move forward with the detailed design and construction of the proposed electrical system, mitigation technology solutions and operational strategies to ensure reliable mining operations once the mine is connected to the TANESCO grid and becomes reliant on that supply. The final study report will be availed to the successful bidder.

The Company is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest to carry out the detailed electrical design work and subsequent EPCM work for the construction of a 60MVA 33/11kV substation.

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

- 1. Detailed service provider's Information with Organization structure, List of manpower with CVs of key personnel, Parent company, support agencies and other facilities and resources.
- 2. Applicable practising licences and registration status of the technical team (CRB and ERB)
- 3. Details of completion of similar type of projects in the last three years and similar projects currently under execution under headings:
 - a. Brief scope of work
 - b. Value of work in TZS
 - c. Contractual Duration d. Actual completion of Project
 - e. Clients name
 - f. Contact details of the Client (GGM may approach the client directly for the feedback on performance)
- 4. Details of Business local presence and local share-holding of the firm.
- 5. Provide details on local content, including:
 - a. Local procurement of goods and services
- b. Local employment and training practices
- c. Details of percentage of managerial and non-managerial positions held by Tanzanian citizens.
- d. Shareholding structure of the shareholders
- e. Local research and development expenditure
- f. A copy of the latest Local Content Plan and Local Content Performance Report as submitted to the Mining Commission or equivalent information if no prior reports and plans have been submitted.
- 6. List of policies, procedures and quality assurance practices currently in place for the execution of similar work.
- 7. Details of HSE management system, HSE policy and implementation procedures in line with internationally accepted practices. 8. Quality assurance & Quality control plan/procedures in place for the execution of similar type of work,
- Copy of ISO or any other certification as applicable 9. Service provider's financial performance documents (Audited Balance sheets, Profit and Loss Account
- & cash flow statement, Auditors Report and Notes to Accounts etc.) for last 3 (three) years.

III. MINIMUM PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR PROVIDERS

1. Appropriately licensed by the relevant authorities including TANESCO.

2. List of current or previous clients as references.

- 3. Evidence of ability to undertake and complete similar projects within time and budget
- 4. Prior experience on projects at 33kV or higher voltage levels.
- 5. Prior experience on substation EPCM projects including Civil, Earthworks/Structural, Electrical including 20MVA Power transformer, 15MVAR STATCOM installations.
- 6. Working knowledge of large battery energy storage (10MWh capacity) solutions connecting to the grid 7. Working knowledge of integrating site diesel generators to the grid

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letter of Interest ("LOI") together with supporting information to GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the interested bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide security services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received via e-mail at etender@geitagold.com by no later than 08:30 A.M., by 19 August 2020 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). Only interested bidders that submit LOI with the required Information by the LOI Submission Deadline shall be considered for pregualification. LOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email, please split the submissions into more than one email.

capital markets literacy amongst university students By Correspondent James Kandoya and other learning institutions in the participation has registered increased Mukama explained that this year's THE Capital Markets and Securities

CMSA in new programme to enhance financial and

Authority (CMSA) has launched the 2020 University challenge awareness programme to inculcate financial and capital markets literacy amongst students in universities and other higher learning institutions.

Speaking at the official launch of the programme in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the CMSA Executive Director Nicodemus Mukama said the idea is to increase financial inclusion and literacy for students in higher learning institutions by testing their knowledge and understanding on issues related to capital markets.

He said the challenge 2020 will be conducted in two categories namelyquiz challenge and essay competition adding that it enhances knowledge about capital markets and commodity exchange among students.

Mkama said further that CMSA conducts Capital Markets Universities and higher learning institutions challenge (CMUHLIC), a competition that was open to students in university

challenge also tests their ability to apply their knowledge of capital markets to real life situations adding that the initiative targeted the youths as an important group.

Commenting on the success, he said it has been gaining popularity since it was launched in 2014/2015 when it registered 2,000, in financial year 2015/16 registered 7,500 students whereas in 2016/17 the number increased to 7,901, in 2017/18 and in 2018/19 has increased to 15,004 and 16,275 students respectively.

Furthermore, it tests their ability to apply their knowledge of capital markets to real life situations adding that the initiative targeted youths as an important group in the population left

out on issues related to investment. "The programme is part of the implementation of strategies for the national financial inclusion framework 2018-2022 for capital markets

development in the country," he said. "The experience from the past year's

interest and awareness of capital markets to the scholars of higher learning institutions," he added.

He noted that the top winners of the competition have demonstrated notable competence in aspects of capital markets, self-confidence and exposure enabling them secure employment opportunities in different institutions.

Mkama noted that the goal for year 2020 was to reach 16,000 scholars which enabled surpassing the target of reaching out to 60,000 scholars for the period of five years.

The winners in the 2019 challenge said the CMUHLIC had impacted them saying they have become part of the investors.

Peris Legona, a fourth year at Ardhi University said she was looking forward to becoming sophisticated investors after being impacted by the CMSA.

Christopher Ngonyani, a second year student at University of Dar es Salaam said the CMUHLIC has enabled him to build a network and transform the knowledge into reality.

EDITORIALS.OPINION

Guardia.com

WEDNESDAY 5 AUGUST 2020

Taking A New Look At The News **ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

Eradicating rural poverty remains big challenge for international community

poverty in rural areas, including factors of rural society, rural economy, and political systems that give rise to the poverty found there. Rural poverty is often discussed in conjunction with spatial inequality, which in this context refers to the inequality between urban and rural areas. Both rural poverty and spatial inequality are global phenomena, but like poverty in general, there are higher rates of rural poverty in developing countries than in developed countries. Eradicating rural poverty through effective policies and economic growth remains a challenge for the international community.

The first target of the past Millennium Development Goals was to decrease the extent of extreme poverty by onehalf by the year 2015, which could not be achieved. Poverty remains a predominantly rural problem, with a majority of the world's poor located in rural areas. It is estimated that 76 per cent of the developing world's poor live in rural areas, well above the overall population share living in rural areas, which is only 58 per cent. Disparities between rural and urban areas is on the rise, particularly in many developing and transitional countries.

Globally, rural people and rural places tend to be disadvantaged relative to their urban counterparts and poverty rates increase as rural areas become more remote. Individuals living in rural areas tend to have less access to social services, exacerbating the effects of rural poverty.

Rural poverty is often a product of poor infrastructure that hinders development and mobility. Rural areas tend to lack sufficient roads that would increase access to agricultural inputs and markets. Without roads, the rural poor are cut off from technological development and emerging markets in more urban areas. Poor infrastructure hinders communication, resulting in social products, it stated.

URAL poverty refers to isolation among the rural poor, many of whom have limited access to media and news outlets.

> Such isolation hinders integration with urban society and established markets, which could result in greater development and economic security. Moreover, poor or nonexistent irrigation systems threaten agricultural yields because of uncertainty in the supply of water for crop production. Many poor rural areas lack any irrigation to store or pump water, resulting in fewer crops, fewer days of employment and less productivity. Both a lack of roads and insufficient irrigation systems result in greater Work Intensity in many rural communities

> An African Development Bank (AfDB) project to enhance market infrastructure, value addition and rural finance (MIVARF) in Tanzania has increased the incomes of rural producers and traders threefold.

> A report released recently by the project team shows that the initiative rolled out from 2012to 2017 has substantially altered income expectations of the beneficiaries.

> With \$56.8m in funding from the AfDB, the programme was undertaken in 32 districts with a population of 6.1m in 1.2m households. Around 78 per cent of beneficiaries reported improved incomes, rising from an average of \$41 in 2012 to \$133 in 2017, researchers noted.

> "Despitechallengesintermsofcoverage, the programme has worked well thanks to efficiency of communication with district and regional liaison officers, along with effective relationships with district and regional administrative structures, the report underlined. The successful implementation of the project helped rural poverty reduction and economic growth, by improving incomes and food security. The project complemented the work of government agencies by boosting access to markets and increasing the quantity of value-added agricultural

Africa must achieve universal access to clean and modern cooking fuels and technologies

considered 'clean' if its WHO meet Currently guidelines. available options that are clean at pointof-use include electricity, gas, ethanol, solar, and the highest performing biomass stoves. Universal access to clean and modern energy for cooking is integral to SDG 7 and critical for several other SDGs, particularly on good health and well-being, gender equality, climate action, and eliminating poverty.

Despite progress towards universal access to clean and modern cooking systems (more fuel efficient and/or lower emissions), 40 per cent of global households, or around 3 billion people. continue to prepare their daily meals with traditional stoves and fuels, posing risks to their health, the environment, and climate. Annually there are 4.3 million deaths (7.7 pc of total global mortality) from exposure to household air pollution. Without urgent action to scale up access to modern energy cooking solutions through policies, financing, and technology development, the world will fall short of Goal 7 and several other related

Exposure to air pollution caused by burning raw coal, kerosene or traditional biomass for cooking damages health, especially among the women and children most exposed to it.

The Covid-19 pandemic has just raised risk levels again, as the virus has a greater impact on those with respiratory illnesses prevalent among those using those cooking methods.

The pressing need to tackle this health risk - and the harmful climate change impact from cooking emissions - have long been voiced. But data showing progress makes grim reading.

In sub-Saharan Africa alone, a stagnant access rate combined with rapid population growth have led to a rise in the number of people without access to clean cooking from some 750m in 2010 to 890m in 2018, according to Tracking

NY type of cook stove is SDG 7: The Energy Progress Report, published in May 2020 by a group of organisations including the IEA, the WHO and the World Bank Group.

More people without access to clean fuels and technologies now reside in Sub-Saharan Africa than in Eastern Asia and Southeastern Asia. Globally, the figure is almost 3bn people.

If observed trends in access and population continue, it can be estimated that in 2030 sub-Saharan Africa will have the greatest access deficit, at around 44 per cent of the region's total population. This represents a substantial geographic redistribution of the global access deficit and associated health, economic, and societal burdens. Future policies should take these trends into account, the report said.

In six of the 20 "access-deficit" countries identified by the agency, 5 per cent or less of the population had access to clean fuels, and all are in Africa Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Uganda, and Tanzania.

There are many initiatives doing valuable work in this field. The Clean Cooking Alliance, for example, brings together public and private sectors to support research, clean cooking standards, and enterprise capacity

The alliance has called for clean cooking to be incorporated into pandemic emergency response plans to ensure that progress is not reversed. It cites India's plan to give away millions of cooking gas cylinders to those in need as

an example of positive actions. SEforALL, the UN-Backed initiative to drive faster action meet energy access goals, calls for a more joined up approach to tackle the clean cooking crisis. It said in response to the Tracking SDG 7 report that a lack of political urgency and sustained investment, the absence of market-enabling conditions, and poor institutional frameworks had hindered wider uptake of clean cooking.

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Washington's commitment to, partnership with, Tanzania will remain unwavering

By Dr. Donald J. Wright

first visited Tanzania over 30 years ago to serve as a volunteer physician at a public hospital in Zanzibar. During that memorable summer, I treated children with malnutrition, malaria, parasites, and tuberculosis. I also developed a deep admiration for the Tanzanian people; they were warm, generous, and treated strangers like family. In the years that followed, I worked as a physician in Texas and then as a civil servant in Washington, ultimately leading the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion for almost eight years. I never dreamed that my life would bring me back full circle to where it all began. Today, it is my honor to represent my country as the U.S. Ambassador to Tanzania. My experiences in Zanzibar as a young man had a great impact on my life. Returning now as the U.S. Ambassador, I am determined to continue strengthening the bonds between the people of Tanzania and the United States in order to bring greater peace and prosperity for both our countries.

In this spirit, I seek to foster a new era of engagement between our two countries and a partnership that will extend directly to the Tanzanian people. I look forward to visiting Tanzania's diverse cities, towns, and villages, from Kagera to Mtwara and from Kigoma to the Zanzibar Isles. I want to hear from members of the Tanzanian and American business communities, universities, and organizations about their ideas for how to expand these efforts and create new avenues for partnership that will build the next generation of leaders and create a brighter future for all Tanzanians. Since my swearingin, I have been immersed in dozens of briefings and consultations with myriad U.S. government agencies, and multilateral and civic organizations in Washington DC. In each of these meetings, the common thread was the enormous interest, support, and enthusiasm for Tanzania's future and for our bilateral relationship. As ambassador, my top priorities will be improving health outcomes, boosting economic growth, and investing in young people. Ensuring the safety and security of American citizens and U.S. Embassy staff is a top priority. The United States has provided more than \$7.5 billion total in assistance to Tanzania over the past 20 years, with nearly \$4.9 billion spent to improve the health of the Tanzanian people.



Dr. Donald J. Wright

As a doctor, I know how important these efforts are. I am committed to ensuring that the United States' partnership remains strong. This year alone, American taxpayer support will provide \$5.6 million to combat COVID-19 in Tanzania. That amounts to

12.9 billion shillings. Tanzania's challenging business environment presents both a climate of hope and hesitancy. There is hope because we all know that Tanzania is a country of unbeatable potential. At the same time, there is hesitancy on the part of prospective investors because of opaque and unpredictable policy shifts; contract law uncertainty; aggressive revenue collection tactics; unreliable and costly energy; weak infrastructure; and limited access to

The public and private sectors must partner with each other and trust each other if broad, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth to occur. Through increased private sector investment, Tanzania can address critical infrastructure demands such as affordable energy for all and public transportation networks, while simultaneously developing the local human capital necessary to build on Tanzania's recent entry into lowermiddle income status and bring even more people out of poverty.

free practices, compliance with local regulations and corporate social responsibility. I am eager to work with the Tanzanian government to strengthen ties between U.S. companies and Tanzania as we explore opportunities and expand markets to the benefit of all. By expanding our business partnerships and working together, we can make the United States Tanzania's premier trade and investment partner.

One of the driving engines of Tanzania is its youth. I believe strongly in the role that youth can and must play in leading the way to a more prosperous future. Through our many professional, cultural, and educational exchange programs, and the transformative initiatives participants implement in their communities upon their return to Tanzania, the United States continues to strengthen and empower Tanzania's next generation of civic, government, and business leaders.

Efforts to uphold the rule of law and strengthen democratic institutions undergird all these efforts. Our two constitutions acknowledge the vital role of citizen democracy with their opening words: "We the People," "Sisi Wananchi." This is one of the fundamental shared values that unite our nations. Yet, increasingly, restrictive democratic spaces and U.S. businesses throughout the erosions of democratic norms have world have exemplified corruption- constrained Tanzanian citizens'

universal rights and personal liberties, such as freedom of expression and assembly. I am committed to working with the host government, like-minded diplomatic missions, civil society, and international organizations to reverse this worrisome trend. I look forward to the realization of President Magufuli's January 21 assurances that the October 2020 elections will be free, fair, and transparent, and his invitation to international election observers. We welcome an election where all citizens and candidates from all parties are able to gather peacefully, express their opinions, and campaign on an equal

This is an exciting time and a unique opportunity - this next phase in our relationship is one that I am proud to be leading. I wish to echo the sentiments of the sixth president of the United States John Adams, when he was appointed our first ambassador to Great Britain. To paraphrase, he noted: I shall esteem myself the happiest of people if I can be instrumental in restoring confidence and affection between our nations. I can think of no greater goal, or greater honor. Working together, the United States and Tanzania can strengthen our economies, make our citizens' lives healthier, and shape the leaders of tomorrow. Kwa Pamoja Tutasonga Mbele!/ (Together we will forge ahead!)

By Dr. Donald J. Wright, Ambassador of the United States of America

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia

he 2020 State of Food Security Nutrition in the World, issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization and its United Nations partners in mid-July, reports that chronic hunger continued to increase to 690 million worldwide in 2019, 60 million more than in 2014.

Some two billion people worldwide were already experiencing some food insecurity during 2019, a number likely to spike upward due to Covid-19. Although headline hunger numbers have been significantly revised down retrospectively with better official data, the uptrend remains alarming.

The 2020 UN report continues to expand its coverage of malnutrition, going beyond the old narrow focus on dietary energy or caloric undernourishment. With its cost estimates for healthy diets much higher than for energy-based diets, as many as three billion people in the world cannot afford nutritious diets.

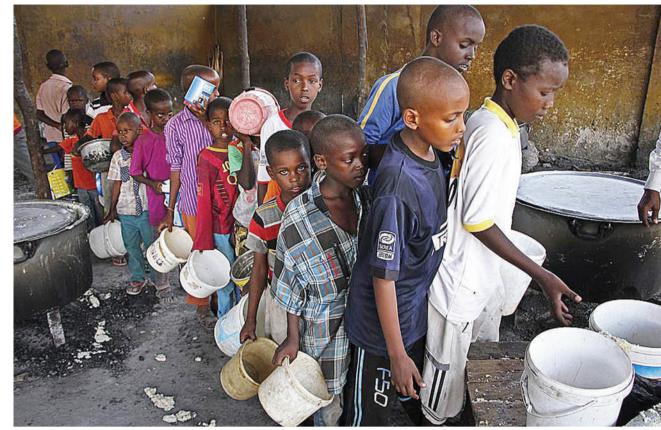
Another false start in Africa

Even progress in addressing dietary energy undernourishment in the world has been uneven, with Africa projected to overtake South Asia in a decade as the region with the most hungry people, rising to 433 million in 2030 from a quarter billion.

The report False Promises argues that despite improved understanding of malnutrition, a narrow focus on increasing caloric supply, at the expense of both crop and dietary diversity, is being promoted by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA).

AGRA promised double productivity and incomes for 30 million small-scale farming households while halving food insecurity by 2020 in the 11 remaining focus countries using high-yielding com-

Address malnutrition with food insecurity



mercial seeds, fertilizers and

Launched by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in 2006, AGRA has spent almost US\$1 billion promoting such practices. The report shows problematic outcomes, with AGRA "failing on its own terms".

Who gains from subsidies?

As most farmers cannot afford AGRA's expensive recommended commercial seeds and fertilizers, African governments subsidise them at the cost of about US\$1 billion annually.

Subsidies for commercial seeds and fertilizers have mainly promoted 'starchy' crops, such as maize and rice, resulting in much more land planted with such subsidized crops, often replacing more climateresilient, nutritious crops such as sweet potato and millet.

However, the promised productivity surge has not happened, only rising modestly, with net incomes barely increasing, if at all, despite the subsidies. Meanwhile, the number of hungry people in AGRA by 30% since 2006!

Maize production rose 87%, mainly due to more land being planted with it, while millet fell 24%, with yields falling 21% in AGRA countries. Staple root crops, including sweet potato and cassava, saw a 7% yield decline under AGRA.

As it reaches its own 2020 deadline, neither AGRA nor the Gates Foundation has published any overall evaluation of its impacts on the yields, incomes, food security and nutritional status of the smallholder households reached.

Food systems for healthy

Most African farmers are believed to be poor, growing crops for both subsistence and sale. But diverse, healthy diets for them are now less affordable as nutritious, climate-resilient, 'traditional' crops have been displaced by AGRA-promoted crops such as maize and rice.

Such Green Revolution programmes have thus undermined sustainable crop diversity supportive of dietary diversity. These generally in-

considered better for both human health and the environ-

Sustainable farming should instead promote nutritious, affordable diets for all, especially the world's half billion smallscale farmers who, along with their families, comprise many of the world's hungry.

By contrast, nearly 300 large 'ecological agriculture' projects in more than fifty poor countries apparently averaged a 79% productivity increase, with declining costs and increasing incomes, more impressive than AGRA, and with superior nutrition outcomes.

Rwanda's AGRA record

Rwanda's purported success as an AGRA focus country elevated Rwandan Agriculture Minister Agnes Kalibata to AGRA's leadership in September 2014. In late 2019, she was named to lead preparations for the UN Secretary-General's World Food Systems Summit in

Rwanda's maize production grew four-fold, with a 66% yield rise due to fertilizers and highfocus countries has increased clude more plant-based diets, yielding seeds, with the rest posed on previously rela- against malnutrition.

Rice output nearly doubled under AGRA, as planted rice land rose 147% as yields fell 19%. But this boom has come

more land under the crop.

at the expense of more nutritious and diverse smallscale agriculture, with the AGRA package imposed with a heavy hand, and the government reportedly banning cultivation of some other staple crops in some areas.

Sorghum, cassava, sweet potato, and other roots and tubers were more important food crops than maize before AGRA, providing dietary diversity and benefits to the soil. Land under cassava fell 16%, while that under sorghum declined 17%.

One step forward, two steps back

Dr Kalibata claims to have raised per capita calorie production from 1,700 to 2,700 daily. But Tim Wise's Staple Yield Index suggests a more modest overall net yield increase of 24% after 12 years of AGRAinfluenced policy.

Although maize output rose four-fold as rice harvested doubled, chronic hunger increased by over 40% between 2006 and 2019 as the number of undernourished rose by 1.3 million to 4.4 million according to the UN report.

Meanwhile, Rwandan poverty, which had fallen by half a million in the dozen years before AGRA, rose by half a million under AGRA.

The Rwandan government campaign was resisted by many farmers, eventually forcing it to relax some crop restrictions, to allow more diversity, as President Paul Kagame sought re-election in 2017. Nonetheless, maize and other favoured crops remain heavily subsidized and supported.

The AGRA model im-

presumably due to 146% tively diverse Rwanda farming almost certainly undermined its more nutritious and sustainable traditional agricultural cropping patterns, which are not easily measured using money-metric indices.

Replacing hunger with malnutrition

A popular and persistent misconception is that it is necessary to first overcome dietary energy undernourishment before addressing malnutrition. Dr Kalibata has argued that "poor, hungry countries can't think about diet diversity, it's a luxury".

While traditional and subsistence food production and consumption undoubtedly had problems, food access and dietary diversity were generally better. 'Hidden hunger' is best addressed by dietary diversity, supported by crop diversity in farming, rather than the Green Revolution's exclusive focus on raising caloric intake.

Thus, seemingly paradoxically, 'dirt-poor' subsistence farmers' children may have better diets than those of richer monocropping farmers. Monoculture's damaging impacts on biodiversity, natural resources and ecosystems are also well-known.

With growing recognition of the many problems of health, human development and wellbeing due to malnutrition, including maternal, infant and child malnutrition, it would be a major step back to singularly focus on dietary energy intake.

Food systems against malnutrition

At the mid-point of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition since 2016, it is crucial that the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit ensures that food systems do not leave anyone behind in the ongoing struggle

This could happen if micronutrient deficiencies and other health problems are ignored in singular pursuit of increasing caloric output, which may not even reduce hunger, as in Rwanda.

Clearly, progress will not be achieved by either a nostalgic return to tradition or subsistence in very changed circumstances, or blind faith in corporate profit-driven technological change, insensitive to the needs of resource and ecological sustainability, social justice, farmer welfare, food safety, human nutrition and health.

Progressively transform food systems

The July UN report, subtitled Transforming Food Systems for Affordable Healthy Diets, suggests how food systems need to be changed to enable affordable, nutritious diets for the billions who cannot afford them, thus building on the 2014 second International Conference on Nutrition.

The report recognises the fundamental importance of both the 'hidden hunger' of micronutrient deficiencies and diet-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Most fruits, vegetables and other nutrient dense foods are now beyond the reach of lowincome households.

The challenge is compounded by poor food consumption habits and bad dietary behaviour due to other influences such as advertising, markets, convenience and changing lifestyles. Policies to reduce costs and improve access to healthy diets for all clearly need urgent attention.

As developing countries reconsider food supply chains after recent disruptions due to unexpected Covid-19 contagion, containment and relief measures, the vulnerable must be prioritized, with up to 130 million more projected to go hungry due to lost in-

Agencies

KATHMANDU

he coronavirus 'pandemic was a respite everywhere. The air was cleaner, trekking trails were pristine, the summit of Mt Everest was deserted, and worldwide carbon emission dipped by -26%.

However, there are dark clouds in that silver lining. The COVID-19 crisis has unleashed a plastic pandemic, reversing the achievement of a decade of activism against single-use plastic worldwide, including Ne-

Personal protective gear (PPE) like disposable gowns are made from polyester or polyethalene. Surgical masks and N95 respirators are made from non-woven polypropylene fibre. Face shields and visors use polycarbonate or polyvinyl choloride. Coveralls are made with high-density polyethylene (HDPE). Most of these are single-use plas-

During the peak of the outbreak, hospitals in Wuhan produced more than 240 tons of waste per day against 40 tons normally - with most of the waste being plastic PPEs. The United States is projected to generate an entire year's worth of medical waste in just two months dealing with COVID-19, according to Frost & Sullivan. The Thai government has re-

The Covid-19 plastic pandemic



The COVID-19 crisis has a plastic pandemic, achievement of a decade against single use plastic including Nepal. File

ported an increase in plastic and styrofoam waste from 1,500 tons a day to 6,300 tons daily due to soaring home deliveries

In Nepal, there are no exact figures but evidence suggests there has been a big increase in plastic waste from provision stores, relief distribution to the destitute during the lockdown, and quarantine centres. For lack of better alternatives, aid workers use plastic plates and utensils for meal distribution and well as polythene bags and thin single-use plastic for relief packaging.

"From a humanitarian angle the use of plastic for medical purposes and in relief is important, but it has long term environmental impact. Which is why we need a replacement for cheap and easily accessible single-use plastic," says Shilshila Acharya of the Himalayan Climate Initiative.

She adds, "Another emerging problem is the improper disposal of face masks. These are made of polypropylene and are even worse than plastic because they are even more difficult to recycle and reuse."

Across South Asia, cities are experiencing worse floods because of waterways choked by plastic waste. Plastic pollution in Nepal has been known to worsen the impact of floods during the monsoon by clogging up drains and rivers, as happened in Bhaktapur and Thimi in 2018 after a sudden squall.

Bhaktapur Mayor Sunil Prajapati says Hanumante River in his municipality invariably bursts its banks even through it is not a big river because of blocked drainage. He told Nepali Times: "The river is like a gutter. It gets flooded every year because waste materials block the outlets and drainage."

A three-year regional study

by ICIMOD (International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development)'s SANDEE (South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics) shows that 12.7% Bharatpur and 22.3% of Sylhet in Bangladesh cities are at the risk of flooding in lack of proper solid waste management system. Unblocking drains would limit flooding to 5.5% in Bharatpur, the report

Mani Nepal, who worked on the study says: "Solid waste, including plastic, must be properly managed to reduce the risk of long-term flooding in cities. Just building sewers will not solve the problem. Plastic pollution is already a major cause of floods, it can be disastrous in future."

More than a million plastic bags are used once and thrown away in Kathmandu Valley every day, and it now forms more than 16% of the city's garbage. Of the 204 tons of plastic waste gener-

drains, rivers and some of it makes it to landfill sites. Plastics, being petroleum based, take at least 500

ated in Nepal every day, 131 tons end up in the streets,

years to biodegrade, killing aquatic and land animals, and microplastics have found their way into the human food chain. Harmful chemicals can alter hormones and chromosomes in the human body, leading to cancer and damage to the reproductive system.

The Nepal government has repeatedly tried to enforce a ban on single-use plastics, but industrialists enjoying political protection have sabotaged all previous attempts.

Former Environment Minister Ganesh Shah tried but failed to implement a plastic ban he introduced in 2008. Plastic Bag Regulation and Control Guideline introduced in 2011 was not effective either in discouraging plastic use. A Gazette notice on 14 April 2015 announced a ban on bags thinner than 30 microns, but it was overshadowed by the earthquake only 10 days later.

The ICIMOD study also revealed that the state of garbage disposal significantly affects real estate prices which are on an average 25% higher and up to 57% higher in areas with proper solid waste management system. Similarly, the price of a house with a blocked sewer is at least has been trying to reduce

An estimated 70% of the daily domestic waste in Nepal's cities are biodegradable, but it is not customary to segregate garbage. Often, organic and non-perishable waste are disposed together in plastic bags. Garbage collectors also do not sort the waste, which is why they end up directly at the landfill in Sisdole which is fast becoming a plastic mountain.

Sorting garbage at home

has been shown to significantly reduce the volume of waste, allowing households to make their own compost, recycle and reduce as well as reduce the cost of garbage collection. Pre-determining time and day and placing for communal garbage collection and placing trash cans for pedestrians are other ways to prevent haphazard disposal of solid waste.

Bharatpur residents pay Rs30-100 a month for garbage collection and say they are willing to pay up to 30% more for proper waste management. This is an additional Rs5 million more than what the municipality has been charging for waste management. "This means local governments could better manage the problem of solid waste without too much effort, this requires only the will to implement," says Mani Nepal.

Ward 10 of Bharatpur

waste at source by buying plastic waste from households at Rs9 per kg, which it then sells to plastic recycling industries. The municipality also provides subsidy to those who want to turn their organic waste into biogas.

Bharatpur has shown that if there is political will, plastic waste can be reduced. And by not dumping plastic in drains and rivers, it is also protecting wildlife along the Narayani River in Chitwan National Park directly downstream.

The good news is that the global movement against the use of plastic is also having an effect in parts of Kathmandu. Polythene are being replaced by re-usable bags in shopping malls, restaurants and hotels discourage straws and plastic wrappings, and paper plates have replaced Styrofoam at some party venues.

While plastic-based PPEs have been vital in preventing the spread of the COV-ID-19 and are life savers for frontline health workers, if the SARS-CoV-2 persists longer there may have to be a move towards paper packaging and materials.

Says Shilshila Acharya: "The prolonged lockdown has meant that people are purchasing less, and are using fewer plastic items. We can build on this momentum to reduce plastic pollution in future."

Agencies

Smoke and mirrors? Public perceptions on banning the sale of cigarettes

By Narnia Bohler-Muller, Stephen Rule, Martin Bekker and Ben Roberts

hus far, the South African courts have sided with the government when it comes to banning the sale of cigarettes. But there is cynicism about the advantages of its stance, and the matter is about to be reviewed.

Under Section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, currently Dr Nkosozana Dlamini Zuma, is empowered to make regulations concerning the movement of persons and goods. Under lockdown amendments published on 25 March 2020, only businesses involved in the provision of essential goods and services were permitted to operate during the first phase of the lockdown, Level 5. Tobacco products, including cigarettes, were not regarded as "essential", so banned.

On 25 April 2020, the minister briefed the media regarding the implementation of the Risk Based Model for Economic Activity, and advised South Africans to submit inputs for consideration. A "draft framework for consultation", made available at the end of April, proposed that the ban on tobacco products be lifted. However, when the Minister promulgated the Level 4 regulations on 29 April she omitted tobacco products from the list of "permitted" goods. There had been an about-turn, and the ban remained in place. On 28 May 2020, with the promulgation of Level 3. regulation 45 declared: "the sale of tobacco, tobacco products, e-cigarettes and related products is prohibited, except for export".



A general view of people allegedly buying and selling cigarettes illegally during lockdown level 4 on May 11, 2020 in Johannesburg, South Africa. It is reported that police had chalked up close to 200,000 lockdown infringements, including fines, arrests and warnings. Many of those arrested were people buying, selling and transporting cigarettes during the lockdown. File

In the Fair-Trade Independent Tobacco Association v President of the Republic of South Africa and Another (21688/2020) [2020] ZAGP-PHC 246 (26 June 2020) the court held that the primary reason provided by the Minister for banning the sale of tobacco products was "to protect human life and health and to reduce the potential strain on the healthcare system." (para 34). In reaching this conclusion, it applied the test of "rationality". For this, reference was made to the Constitutional Court judgement in Merafong Demarcation Forum and Others v President of the Republic of South Africa and Others, spe-

"The exercise of public power has to be rational. In a constitutional state arbitrari-

power on the basis of naked preferences cannot pass muster. Judgments of this Court suggest that, objectively viewed, a link is required between the means adopted by the legislature and the end sought to be achieved. The fact that rationality is an important requirement for the exercise of power in a constitutional state does not mean that a court may take over the function of government to formulate and implement policy. If more ways than one are available to deal with a problem or achieve an objective through legislation, any preference which a court has is immaterial."

The court held that the minister had "a firm rational basis" to include the prohibition of cigarettes in regulations designed to help curb ness or the exercise of public the spread of the coronavirus.

Mounting support for lifting the ban

However, a large and growing minority of South Africans are unconvinced by the court's conclusion. This is evident when comparing findings from Round 1 of our survey (13 April to 11 May 2020) with those from the first phase of Round 2 (3 July to 17 July). Data comes from an online questionnaire, with results weighted by race, age and education, making them broadly representative of the adult population.

The first round of the survey showed that only a fifth (20%) of adults supported lifting the ban. Since then, the figure has increased, to the extent that almost a third (31%) wanted the ban on sale of tobacco products to be lifted. Unfortunately, we do not

69% are opposed to removing the ban, or indifferent, or just do not know.

Our survey asked 13 questions about policy options. The one on tobacco products recorded the percentage-point increase. The share favouring the suspension of the ban is greater than the 20% who currently use tobacco products. The National Income Dynamics Study, a project of the South African Labour and Development Research Unit at the University of Cape Town conducted the fifth round of this panel survey in 2017, when about 24,000 adults in South Africa were surveyed. It found that 35.7% of men and This suggests a notable class 8.1% of women older than 18 effect informing patterns of smoked cigarettes.

In comparison with the know whether the remaining case of tobacco, support for reinforced by the stronger

modestly from 12% to 16% (a rise of 4 percentage points) between our survey rounds. The implication is that support for lifting the tobacco ban now stands at around double that of the support for the removal of the alcohol ban.

The changing basis of support for the ban suspension

While we find increasing support for lifting the ban across a range of socioeconomic attributes, the level of increase has been greater for some relative to others, producing clear gradients of variation in support. While men and women feel equally strongly about the issue, support for scrapping the ban increases with age. Whereas, only about one in four (25%) of those in the 18 to 24 years group want restrictions lifted, the figure rises to almost half (46%) with people aged 55 and older.

These views emerge as British American Tobacco SA (BATSA) prepares to challenge the government in the Western Cape High Court. BATSA claims that R35-million in tobacco excise taxes is being lost to the National Treasury each day. Additionally, the jobs of 8,000 tobacco farm workers are vulnerable, and the sale of illicit cigarettes is rampant.

Antipathy to the current regulations increases with level of income. It is lowest (24%) among people earning between R2,500 and R5,000 per month and highest (62%) for those with a personal monthly income above R20,000. support for suspension of the tobacco ban, which is

alcohol sales rose more than average support found in suburban areas.

> These trends indicate a hardening of attitudes among a sector of the population that was initially very willing to sacrifice some rights in order to fight the pandemic. Round 1 showed that older and wealthier people were significantly more prepared to sacrifice key rights, such as privacy, travel, attendance at religious meetings, or school attendance for their children, than were younger or less wealthy South Africans.

> Opposition to the ban on selling tobacco products is more prevalent among white (78%), coloured (59%) and Indian (40%) adults than among black Africans (19%). There is also a strong party-political dimension, with ANC supporters being far less likely (15%) to want the ban to be lifted, than those who said they would vote EFF (25%), DA (62%) or "another party" (42%) if an election were to be held.

BATSA, which sells Peter Stuyvesant and Dunhill cigarettes, says it has a 78% share of the legal market. It initiated legal proceedings alongside Japan Tobacco, which will be heard later this week. BATSA is arguing that prohibition on the sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products is unconstitutional and infringes on the right to dignity (Section 10 of the Constitution) which they argue extends to autonomy and the ability to make choices. The group also argues that the ban violates the right to privacy, the right to bodily and psychological integrity, and the rights of tobacconists and tobacco farmers to practise their

Agencies

BY LUCIA BIRD

s legal avenues migration shrunk due to COVID-19 related restrictions, movement has increasingly been facilitated by smugglers. Governments need to ensure their responses don't inadvertently make movement more dangerous for migrants and more profitable for criminals.

Although migration decreased as governments closed borders at the outset of the pandemic, it is expected to resume and grow as borders open.

The United Nations Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (UN Smuggling Protocol) defines human smuggling as enabling the illegal entry of a person into a state for financial or material gain. This distinguishes it from human trafficking, where people are moved against their will or under false pretences for the purposes of exploita-

Research by the EN-ACT organised crime programme has shown that most human smugglers in Africa are low-level operators. They often come from the same community as their clients, and their interests are aligned in the safe journey of the migrant. The industry therefore enjoys considerable local legitimacy.

Human trafficking and smuggling are distinct crimes requiring different policy responses

Movement should be safe for migrants, not profitable for smugglers



Clampdowns on low-level smugglers have helped turn the industry into business. File

But shrinking opportunities for legal migration and enhanced focus on border control have heightened demand for smugglers, and driven the market to professionalise, putting the lives of vulnerable people at risk. Between 2014 and 2019, 7 500 migrant deaths were on smugglers. More legal recorded in Africa, and Africans counted for a significant portion of the 19 000 migrants who died trying to cross the Mediterranean. These are likely to be significant underestimates.

In line with global trends, African governments tend towards a criminal justice borders is a long way from approach and focus on the national political and ecosupply side by targeting nomic realities, with most within immigration laws, the Low-level smugglers and mi- er the skills required to

well to heed lessons from the failed war on drugs, where prohibition built a booming black market and attracted organised crime.

Policies that militarise borders and close down legal routes to migration make people more reliant and safe routes would lessen the risks and harms experienced by migrants, reduce profit for human smugglers and make the industry less attractive to organised crime.

The African Union's Agenda 2063 vision of open

their frontiers. Only four states have ratified the AU's Free Movement of Persons Protocol, well short of the 15 countries required to bring it into force.

Forty African states have ratified the UN's Smuggling Protocol, but far fewer have criminalised migrant smuggling in line with the protocol's definition, which requires the intent of the smuggler to be material or financial benefit.

Ten African countries include smuggling in human trafficking laws which confuses the two offences

Human smuggling offences are typically enacted smugglers. States would do states still tightly controlling criminal code, trafficking in grants often bear the brunt evade capture, the greater

persons legislation or standalone smuggling laws. Incorporating smuggling crimes in immigration laws severs the link between smuggling and organised crime, encouraging criminalisation of the migrant rather than the smuggler.

A number of concerning trends have emerged in the approach taken by African states to the criminalisation of smuggling. First, 16 African states impose mandatory minimum sentencing for human smuggling, ranging from one to 15 years. Yet smuggling is a complex crime where too often the wrong people are targeted. avoid detection. The great-

of punitive policies, while crime bosses and corrupt officials go unpunished. This makes mandatory minimum sentences inappropriate and disproportionate.

High penalties should be reserved for aggravated smuggling offences, where smugglers endanger human lives, or subject migrants to inhuman or degrading treatment. Corrupt officials facilitating human smuggling should also receive harsh sentences.

A second worrying trend in Africa relates to one of the pillars of the Smuggling Protocol which protects migrants. It prohibits the prosecution of migrants merely for using smugglers' services. Yet most African states exclude this prohibition, risking wrongful criminalisation of the migrant.

Indiscriminate law enforcement responses to smuggling risk driving the market from an informal side business, with low risks and low profit, to a full-time criminal enterprise with profits invested back into the criminal

economy. The focus of countersmuggling responses should be on networks causing the greatest harm

More enforcement makes it harder to move people, so smugglers need to take more risks on longer and more clandestine routes to

the price for these skills, and human smuggling attracts operators with experience moving other illicit goods.

Greater enforcement prompted a five-fold increase in the price of being smuggled across the desert from Niger to Libya between 2015 and 2019. The human costs are also high the International Organization for Migration recorded a six-fold increase in desert fatalities on the roads to Algeria between 2015 and

As enforcement increases, so does the smuggling industry's reliance on state involvement to evade capture. As smuggling prices grow, so does the market's power to bribe officials. The smuggled journey thus becomes more expensive and dangerous for migrants, while higher profits make the industry more attractive to organised criminal networks.

To avoid swelling the industry's profits and fuelling corruption, African governments and destination countries should collaboratively adopt policies that recognise the benefits of migrants to their economies. The focus of counter-smuggling responses should be on networks causing the greatest harm.

This would facilitate labour migration to feed market demand, render the services of smugglers unnecessary, and lessen the exploitative nature of the smuggling industry.

Agencies





TANZANIA REVENUE AUTHORITY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all clearing & Forwarding Agencies (CFAs) dealing with transit goods

That, the under listed (CFAs) are hereby required to account for all outstanding transit transactions within twenty one (21) days from the date of this notice.

to account for the transit goods within the statutory period will lead to prosecution for undermining our taxation system and involving in tax evasion.

You are once again reminded to put more weight on this issue, as failure

Usaje B. Asubisye
COMMISSIONER FOR CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

S/N 1	101445054	CFA NAME ZAMBIA CARGO & LOGISTICS LIMITED	NO. OF SUB-
2		FREIGHT MERIDIEN CO. LTD	335
3	107438084	SKYSEA LIMITED	230
4		HORIZON FREIGHT FORWARDERS LIMITED	104
5		ORYX OIL COMPANY LIMITED UKOD INTERNATIONAL COMPANY LIMITED	99
7		BOLLORE AFRICA LOGISTICS TANZANIA L	94 85
8		PANGANI ASCENDING (EA) LTD	59
9		ACER PETROLEUM (T) LTD	53
10		TOPMAX TANZANIA LIMITED	50
11 12		EXCELLENT AFRICA TRADING AND SERVICES LIMITED ALLYVAY FARM PRODUCTS LTD.	49
13		SAID SALIM BAKHRESA & CO. LTD	49
14		KAS FREIGHT LTD	42
15		SWITCH TRADE LTD.	40
16 17		DHL TANZANIA LTD TACAS LTD	38
17 18		MALVIC LOGISTICS LIMITED	38
19		EXCELLENT CHOICE CLEARING & FORWARDING LTD	30
20		LAST CHOICE CLEARING AND FORWARDING LIMITED	29
21 22		VIVO ENERGY TANZANIA LIMITED FREDY JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT	28
22		INTERCON TRADING COMPANY (T) LIMITED	28 27
24		EDPAC COMPANY LTD	27
25		C GROUP LIMITED	26
26		A & HIS D CO LTD	26
27 28		LOBAFE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED TOTAL TANZANIA LIMITED	25 22
29		RUNGWE FREIGHT & CONSTRUCTION CO	22
30	101815579	NUTRICARE LTD.	21
31		NORTH INTER TRADE LIMITED	20
32 33		JOEM LOGISTICS LIMITED PUMA ENERGY TANZANIA LIMITED	19 18
34		FABERK ENTERPRISES LIMITED	18
35	100231794	LESHETE TRADING ESTABLISHMENT LTD,	18
36		JOVIKA INVESTMENT LTD	17
37 38		PWANI HAULIERS LIMITED E-3 FREIGHT COMPANY LTD	17 16
38		SWIFT GLOBAL LOGISTICS LIMITED	16
40	101359425	AFRO CENTRE (T) LTD	16
41		BRIGHT MINDS TRADING COMPANY LIMITED	15
42 43		OIL COM(T) LTD WAFEM TZ LIMITED	15 15
43 44		WAFEM TZ LIMITED KUEHNE+NAGEL LIMITED	15
45		SHIRE PETROLEUM	14
46		E-LECK INTERNATIONAL LTD	14
47 48		HARDMACK LOGISTICS LIMITED DAKIMP INTERNATIONAL COMPANY LIMITED	14
48 49		WORLD OIL LTD	13
50		A & O FREIGHT FORWARDERS LIMITED	13
51		R. H. G. GENERAL TRADERS LTD.	12
52 53		THE HEROES SIT TRADING CO. LIMITED SAHARA TANZANIA LIMITED	12 12
53 54		KDK CARES SERVICES AND SUPPLIES LTD	12
55	100839032	JAGUAR CARRIERS JUNIOR S. A. R. L.	12
56		BANDAWE FREIGHT COMPANY LIMITED	12
57 58		MIGHTY INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED QUALITY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS (T) LTD	11
59	104700225	LINDI MODERN CLEARING & FORWARDING CO LTD.	11
60		FIRST CHOICE C&F	11
61 62		MOGAS TANZANIA LIMITED WARREN LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED	10
63	102097637	BUSINESS INDEX LIMITED	10
64 65		MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT AFRICA LIMITED	10
65 66		KIGOMA MN ENTERPRISES LTD BRAVO LOGISTICS (T) LIMITED	9
67	107413367	OVERLAND CARRIERS & FORWARDERS (T)	9
68		GETCA INTERNATIONAL CO. LTD	9
69 70		JAMAAP CO LTD MRUHUHU FREIGHT FORWARDERS LIMITED	8
71		RUKWI HOLDINGS CO. LTD.	8
72	103045878	FUTURE CARGO FREIGHT SERVICES LIMITED	8
73 74		KISANGARA COMPANY LIMITED MAMBONA FREIGHT COMPANY LTD	8
74 75		PATTERSON FORWARDERS LTD	8
76	102875230	NAL BUSINESS COMPANYLTD.	8
77 78		CHAMPION CARGO EXPRESS LIMITED SUN FRESH LTD	7
78 79		HASS PETROLEUM (T) LIMITED	7
80	103813182	FEDROL CARGO (T) LTD	7
81 82		KEKE (T) LIMITED CURRENT FREIGHT (T) LIMITED	7
83		N & S OCEAN FREIGHTERS LTD	7
84	101007804	STEPIO FREIGHT LTD.	7
85		KURSKFREIGHT LIMITED	7
86 87		MARINAIR FREIGHT LTD LIPULI FREIGHT FORWARDERS LTD	7 6
88	106194769	UNITED GROUP LIMITED T/A UNITED PETROLEUM	6
89		SEKA COMPANY LTD	6
90 91		X-PRESS MARITIME AGENCY CO. LTD MOUNT MERU MILLERS LTD.	6
92	105671865	SMITHS FREIGHT FORWARDERS LIMITED.	6
93	131746091	TRYCE AGENCY (T) LIMITED	6
94 95		RUMA GEMS INTERNATIONAL LTD. KASESE FORWARDERS LTD	6
95 96		IRA LINKS COMPANY LIMITED	6
97	101893650	QUINCHER FREIGHT FORWARDERS COMPANY LIMITED	6
98	127182833	DOMUS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED	5
99 100		SSEVENTEEN ENTERPRISES LTD ADEL INTERNATIONAL LIMITED	5
101		ARISTEPRO INVESTMENTCO. LTD	5
102	105132115	CONTINENTAL RELIABLE CLEARING(T) CO.LTD	5
103		ADVENTURE LOGISTIC COMPANY LIMITED	5
104 105		DALBIT PETROLEUM (T) LIMITED MAMBA ENTERPRISES LTD	5
106	101896153	FULL CARGO SUPPORT LTD.	5
107	101810194	GWIHOLOTO IMPEX LTD.	5
108 109		NAM ENTERPRISES LTD AMBONI PLANTATION LTD	5
1109		TESNA QUALITY CLEARING AND FORW LTD	4
		KAHE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED	4

113 114		SPRINT CARGO LIMITED PENGUIN LOGISTICS TANZANIA LTD	4
115		KINYAKWE INTL LOGISTICS CO. LTD.	4
116 117		INTERLINE LOGISTICS LIMITED	4
117		BY-MA LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED HOME BASE (T) LTD.	4
119		LAKE OIL LIMITED	4
120 121		B N M COMPANY LTD. SPEDAG INTERFREIGHT TANZANIA LIMITED	4
122		DIVINE CARGO SERVICE CO. LTD	4
123		SODETRA(SPRL)LTD	4
124 125		INTERLINK COMPANY LIMITED INTERTRANS HAULAGE SERVICES LTD	4
126		YADAH FORWARDERS SERVICES LTD	4
127		THREEWAYS SHIPPING SERVICES (G) LTD	4
128 129		METEPLAN INTERNATIONAL CO. LTD ENTERPRISE LOGISTICS COMPANY LTD	4
130		EMIL & JOAS LOGISTICS (EA) LIMITED	4
131		DELTA PETROLEUM TANZANIA LIMITED	4
132 133		ZATTY & SONS FREIGHT FORWARDERS LIMITED BASIC INTRAREGION LTD	3
134	131666098	YETUAFRICA CLEARING & FORWARDING LIMITED	3
135		AFRICAN BUSINESS GLOBAL (ABG LTD)	3
136 137		NETWORK CONSUL LOGISTICS COMPANY FREIGHT FORWARDERS (T) LIMITED	3
138		MARTDAU GENERAL SUPPLIES LIMITED	3
139 140		E AND G PENUELI'S TRANS&LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED COSMOS HAULAGE CO. LIMITED	3
141		KOBIL TANZANIA LIMITED	3
142		FEDROL FREIGHTERS LIMITED	3
143 144		NEXT STAR CLEARING & FORWRDING CO. LIMITED GAPCO TANZANIA LIMITED	3
145		ALLMOL FREIGHT SERVICES LTD	3
146		BERNABEU COMPANY LIMITED	3
147 148		BLUE AXIS LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED SENKONDO'S EXPORT & IMPORT CO. LTD.	3
149	131818246	GRANDE CLEARING AND FORWARDING COMPANY LIMITED	3
150 151		RUAHA FREIGHT LIMITED COHERENT INVESTMENT LIMITED	3
151		NTALO LOGISTICS LTD	3
153		CARGO WORX (T) LTD	3
154 155		GRAND MOVERS CO. LTD RALUCOT TANZANIA LIMITED	3
156		EVERGREEN LOGISTICS (T) LTD.	3
157 158		AMANI QUICK DELIVERY(T) LIMITED EURO LOGISTICS COMPANY (T) LTD	3
158		INTERMARINE C & F AND GENERAL TRADI	3
160		ELTEX INVESTMENTS LTD	2
161 162		JASMO LOGISTICS & GENERAL SUPPLIERS LIMITED DAR ES SALAAM GLOBAL ACCESS LIMITED	2
163		TAJIRI FREIGHT CO. LIMITED	2
164 165		JOHDEN LOGISTICS LTD FREIGHT WORLD LTD	2 2
166		TANZANIA SHIPPING AGENCIES CORPORATION	2
167		CARGO CONVEYORS LIMITED	2
168 169		AFRI-TOKI ENTERPRISES CO. LTD AIR SEA C&F LTD	2
170		ABERDEEN TRAFFIC LTD	2
171 172		USANGU LOGISTICS (T) LIMITED GENERAL INDUSTRY & TRADE CO. LTD	2 2
172		RINGO LOGISTIC LIMITED	2
174		NERM (T) COMPANY LIMITED	2
175 176		FIVE WAYS CLEARING & FORWARDING LTD MIKUMI FREIGHT FORWARDERS LIMITED	2
177	135016098	IBEX LOGISTICS LIMITED	2
178 179		RAYS CARGO TRUST COMPANY LTD NM FREIGHT TANZANIA LIMITED	2
180		SHAMY INTERNATIONAL LIMITED	2
181		T&M CLEARING AND FORWARDING CO LIMITED	2
182 183		REINDEER INVESTIMENT LTD MWENDA LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED	2 2
184		MCC LIMITED	2
185		THADEO CLEARING & FORWARDING LTD	2
186 187		TRIPPLE R LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED POA AFRICA GROUP CO. LTD	2 2
188		E. M. CLEARING & FORWARDING LIMITED.	2
189 190		S.A LINK TRADERS LIMITED P & N FREIGHT FORWARDES LIMITED	2 2
191	106384738	THE CHAMPION FREIGHT FORWD. LTD	2
192		NG'ANDE INVESTMENT LIMITED	2
193 194		ADOKETHA HOLDINGS COMPANY LIMITED RICHLAND FREIGHT LIMITED	2 2
195	131610785	NAIBAC ENTERPRISES LIMITED	2
196 197		WELLFIND CLEARING AND FORWADING (T) BEAM TANZANIA LTD	2 2
198		DOLUS (T) LIMITED	2
199		SPICS INTL. CONSULTANCY SERVICES	2
200		FREIGHT 24/7 LIMITED SAMI AGENCIES LTD.	2 2
202	100149982	CARGO DELIVERY FREIGHTERS LTD	2
203		NYAKSONS FORWARDERS LTD MAYO (1999) CO. LTD.	2 2
205		GOSMI HOLDINGS COMPANY (T) LIMITED	1
206	131760817	PARK CLEARING LIMITED	1
207 208		DOW ELEF INTERNATIONAL (TANZANIA) LIMITED EARTHWAYS LOGISTICS LIMITED	1 1
209	114393096	RATEGO FREIGHT FORWARDERS COMPANY LIMITED	1
210 211		CLINTON ENTERPRISES CO. LTD; GADER HOLDINGS LIMITED	1
212		NDL LOGISTICS COMPANY LTD	1
213	134950692	EDEN GARDEN FREIGHT LOGISTICS	1
214 215		PROFESSIONAL FREIGHTFORWARDERS COMP CRYSOR COMPANY LTD	1 1
216	135064017	IYAN GROUP LIMITED	1
217		COMPLETE CUSTOMS CLEARANCE LIMITED	1 1
218 219		GULF BULK PETROLEUM (T) LIMITED HONEST INTERNATIONALFREIGHT FORWARD	1
220	110367414	TAGALILE IMPEX COMPANY LIMITED	1
221 222		NIENDIWE COMPANY LIMITED VINMART LIMITED	1 1
223	101304175	LIBERTY INTERNATIONAL LTD;	1
224		KAKAKUONA C & F LTD A3 LOGISTICS COMPANY LTD	1 1
225 226		A3 LOGISTICS COMPANY LTD DEL-EX CARGO LIMITED	1
227	138101282	LUSEKELO SERVICESN LIMITED	1
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	229		FIRST VISION (T) LIMITED NISHA CLEARING AND FORWARDING LIMITED	1
	231		EPIC CARGO LILMITED	1
	232		TEE-TE CLEARING HOUSE LTD	1
	233	100195747	OVERSEAS HITECH INDUSTRIAL CO. LTD.	1
	234		VIGU TRADING CO. LTD	1
	235		ASTHANA BROTHERS (1992) LTD	1
	236 237		GLOBAL INTELOG LIMITED MWIMADA GENERAL SUPPLIES LIMITED	1
	238		MOSTA CLEANING & SUPPLIES COMPANY LIMITED	1
	239		WHYIMBI FREIGHT CO. LTD.	1
	240		C.M. HIGHTECHNICAL BUSINESS COMPANY LIMITED	1
	241	134771100	FRANKLIN LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED	1
	242		KORU FREIGHT LTD.	1
	243		UJIJI CLEARING AND FORWARDING CO LT	1
	244		HARBIN GUOJI LOGISTICS CO. LINUTED	1
	245 246		MUCAC LOGISTICS CO LIMITED LIBYA ENTERPRISES LIMITED	1
	247		SHIPPING MANAGEMENT SERVICES	1
	248		SIM LOGISTICS (TANZANIA) LIMITED.	1
	249		MANIKO ENTERPRISES LTD	1
	250		SMART CLEARING AND FORWARDING	1
	251		EXPRESS FREIGHT FORWARDERS LTD.	1
	252		JUKAMWA INVESTMENT LITD	1
	253 254		FOURSHIZO ENTERPRISES LTD MANCHINCHI MARINE MOVERS LTD	1
	255		DOLPHIN SEA AND AIR (T) LIMITED	1
	256		PROTECTORS FREIGHT COMPANY LIMITED	1
	257		G & N LOGISTICS LIMITED	1
	258		MOGO FORWARDERS LIMITED	1
	259		SINO LOGISTICS CO.LTD	1
	260		SALSABIL INVESTMENT LIMITED	1
	261 262		MWALONI EXPEDITIONS LIMITED MWIKA FREIGHT & LOGISTICS COMPANY LTD	1
	263		NJOIRI FORWARDERS	1
	264		LEMBENI COMPLEX COMPANY LTD	1
	265		LIJEJOVI INVESTMENTS COMPANY LIMITED	1
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	267		WEST FREIGHT FORWARDERS CO. LTD	1
	268		BERO COMPANY LTD	1
	269		BREAK THROUGH HOLDINGS LTD	1
	270 271		JURDAN FORWARDERS LIMITED BOSTON FORWARDERS LTD.	1
	272		PISHON TANZANIA LIMITED	1
	273		SENJELE INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED	1
	274	138173712	MYAMI TRADING AND INVESTMENTS COMPANY LIMITED	1
	275		KANYOTE CO. LTD	1
	276		NAMANGA LOGISTICS LIMITED	1
	277		IKUMO CLEARING AND LOGISTICS LIMITED	1
	278 279		QUICK IMAGE SOLUTION LTD EDAMS HOLDINGS TANZANIA LTD	1
	280		CRUISE LOGISTICS LTD	1
	281		TRIPLE D (T) LTD	1
	282		SACLE TRADING CO LTD	1
	283	100197561	ZZOIKOS (T) LTD	1
	284		DOMIDO COMPANY LTD	1
	285		SIMBA TRAILERS MANUFACTURING LIMITE	1
	286		SKYSTARS FREIGHT LIMITED	1
	287 288		KARAKA ENTERPRISES LTD IZU FREIGHT LTD	1
	289		MECHANISED CARGO SYSTEMS,	1
	290		FERIC TRUCKING AND LOGISTICS (T) LT	1
	291		MOM CARGO COMPANY LTD	1
	292		BAFRA TANAZANIA LIMITED	1
	293		PRESS FREIGHT (T) LIMITED	1
	294		JERUSALEM FREIGHT & CO LTD. FEFA HOLDINGS COMPANY LIMITED	1
	295 296		SMILE LOGISTICS SERVICES LIMITED	1
	296		PAN ATLANTIC GEOFREIGHT LTD	1
	298		BEST OCEANAIR(T) LTD	1
	299		EFFICIENT FREIGHTERS(T) LTD.	1
	300		GLORY FREIGHT LIMITED	1
	301		OCEANAIR FREIGHT LTD	1
	302		YURA COMPANY TANZANIA LTD	1
	303 304		EPIC POINT LIMITED SECHENGA ENTERPRISES LTD	1
	305		ARUSHA CARGO C & F. LTD	1
	306		ROYAL LOGISTICS COMPANY (T) LTD	1
	307		STAR VISION LTD	1
	308		MUFINDI PAPER MILLS LTD.	1
	309		SPEEDWAYS LIMITED	1
	310		AUGUSTA ENERGY TANZANIA LIMITED	1
	311 312		PHABIAN & LUCAS LIMITED SUNRISE LOGISTICS CO.LTD	1
	312		IMAWORX (T) LTD	1
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'Charge or die': Sneak preview of 2020's Innovation in News Media World Report

While much of the world may be frozen due to the Covid-19 pandemic, media leaders should act and not wait for the crisis to pass. This is according to Juan Señor, in a preview of this year's findings at the Asian Media Leaders eSummit. **Alysha Chandra** reports:

66 Overall, the message from all the leaders we spoke to was: don't waste a good crisis," said Juan Señor, President of the Innovation Media Consulting Group.

Señor is also co-editor of this year's Innovation in News Media World Report, which is produced on behalf of WAN-IFRA and will be ready on September 1.

In this session, moderated by WAN-IFRA Director of Insights and Editor-in-Chief Dean Roper, Señor gave a sneak preview into some of the insights from

Entitled 'Reimagining the

tives from 20 leading news publishers and editors, including Mark Thompson of The New York Times and Filipino-American journalist and author Maria Ressa of Rappler.

Señor said the world may indeed be frozen owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, but media leaders should act and not wait for the crisis

"There is finally a global recognition that independent journalism is valuable and must be paid for. You stressing that the silver lining in the crisis has been a public more primed to pay for their news.

"In a pandemic, essential services are not free. People are willing to pay for medicine, water, electricity and the internet. There's no reason for reliable, independent information not to be considered essential and paid for as well," he

Therefore, Señor added, this is the moment to in-News', it contains perspecmust seize this moment or vest in newsrooms and sell

lose it forever," said Señor, journalism instead of advertisements. With many publishers left with empty advertising space on their websites, he advised that now is the time to be "relentless" on launching a brand campaign reinforc-

ing that message. "Covid-19 has accelerated not just a digital transformation, but also a revenue diversification transformation, he said.

Señor acknowledged that many publishers have been lifting paywalls for news concerning the pandemic

while making a distinction between breaking news, which he said is a publisher's responsibility to society and should be free, and deeper analytical pieces, which he said publishers should have the confidence to charge for.

He dismissed predictions that working from home would continue beyond the Covid pandemic, saying that face-to-face journalism, in which reporters meet sources and witness events, is what creates journalism worth paying for.

Señor also touched on concerns that working from home would erode work-life balance and lower productivity, noting: "Perhaps you can fact-check, or edit from home. But the craft, the profession of journalism is done on the street and is done face-toface, with editors and with vour teammates.'

Señor also said that every trend before the crisis would accelerate and become a norm, projecting that Australia's move to require Facebook and Google to share revenue might herald the end of free news for to sustain the industry, saythe social media giants.

While social media platforms are making efforts to reach out to traditional media (the Google News Initiative and Facebook Journalism Project sponsored this summit), he said their "dysfunctional' relationship" needed further mending before global media leaders find a way forward with these platforms.

He advised publishers to only serve "appetisers" on social media platforms, using them to link to their own websites.

Señor also highlighted the BBC's iPlayer as an early adopter of this method. When their content is posted on these platforms, however. Señor told publishers to demand a share of the revenue and deploy cease-and-desist notices for content posted without their permission.

Señor referred to 14 business models examined in the report, including the paid content model. He disagreed with some observers' view that reader revenue might not be enough

ing: "We think that many publishers can expect to get up to 50 per cent of their revenues from reader

revenue, and it's growing."

Non-profit journalism would come at the cost of a publication's freedom, he said, elaborating: "To be out there searching for money, every single year, perhaps only one or two brands can sustain this going forward. We don't advise it. Non-profit news means you'll just become mendicant media, which is not what anyone wants to become."

Among other business models, Señor mentioned the publisher as a data broker, an exclusive club (as Argentina's La Nacion has done), a retailer recommender (New York magazine's the Strategist site offers e-commerce opportunities) and a librarian (capitalising on nostalgia by offering readers stories and pictures from the past, as Canada's Globe and Mail

has done with success). "You must expand on three or four of these business models, but of course really focus on the primary one, which has been our consistent message of innovation to grow your reader revenue. If you don't do that, it's game over," he

Señor also listed 10 paywall models, including micro-membership models like The New York Times' cooking and crosswords verticals, the adaptive and individualised paywall used by The Wall Street Journal and Svenska Dagbladet, and the premium ad-free paywall seen in the Athletic and the Informa-

When it comes to choosing a paywall, first ask what content you have that is worth paying for and would trigger a subscription, he said, noting: "Change or die, charge or die."

• A World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA) dispatch. Alysha Chandra is a third-year student at Yale-NUS College in Singapore.

By Kristien Nel van Zyl, Wolfgang Preiser, Andrew

Whitelaw & Susan Engelbrecht

SARS-CoV-2 responsible for Covid-19 into the human population and the rapid spread of the pandemic, the general public as well as the medical and broader scientific communities have been bombarded by an extraordinary number of articles in scientific journals and on pre-publication servers, as well as in popular media, including social media. This has led to a change in publication norms, with expedited publications reaching the public within days of receipt and preprint servers being close to overwhelmed.

While this has allowed for worldwide dissemination and research efficiency on an unprecedented scale, it is no surprise that some questionable research has slipped through. As shown in the past, a single "bad" paper can overshadow many more legitimate ones. To combat this, many preprint servers and publishers now have filters - but is it too little, too late?

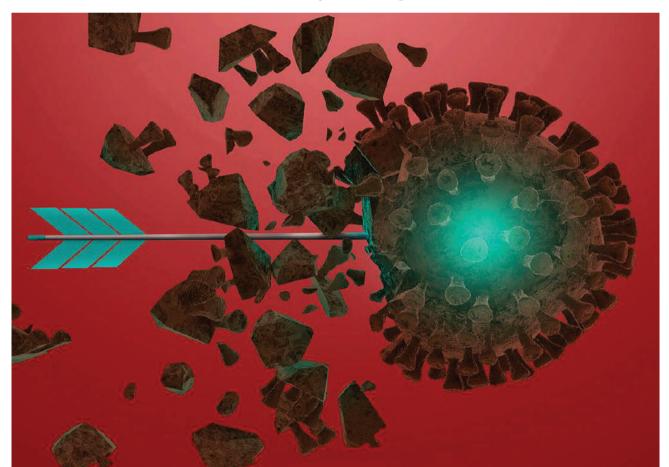
Many conspiracy theories regarding the origins of SARS-CoV-2 have taken hold, partly due to the propagation of these theories by respected professionals in both the scientific and medical fields.

We are aiming with this article to debunk some common misconceptions misrepresentation by summarising peer-reviewed, credible research showing that this novel virus has a "natural" origin and the unfortunate ability to spread further and faster than previous coronavirus-

Manufacture

A major contributor to the manufacture theory was the presence of supposedly "unnatural" DNA sequences in the novel coronavirus genome. This theory first came about in a preprint in January 2020, where the authors claimed to have found striking similarities between the novel

Covid-19 shows us yet again: Don't mess with Mother Nature



virus's spike glycoprotein and two HIV proteins, gp120 and Gag. The research was retracted less than a week later, due to the input and comments from peers that pointed out that the methods used were rushed and incomplete, and that the conclusions drawn were, at best, coincidence.

Furthermore, a comment published less than a week later thoroughly debunked every conclusion drawn by the preprint by showing how the original bioinformatics analysis was flawed.

Despite the retraction, and the evidence against the link to HIV, this question was thrown into the spotlight again by French Nobel Prize winner, Luc Montagnier, in an interview in April 2020. Claims were made that the virus was created during HIV vaccine research in Wuhan. Some people, including some scientists, used these claims to support the theory that an artificial coronavirus escaped from the Wuhan laboratory, either accidentally or by purposeful release. However, if this were the true source of SARS-CoV-2, evidence would have been found in the viral genome, since several reversegenetic systems are already available and commonly used for betacoronaviruses, such as SARS-CoV-2. No such evidence

has been found by any of the teams that conducted whole genome sequencing on various

samples from the outbreak. Another theory suggests the escape of a "natural" laboratory virus. On the face of it this may seem plausible, especially given past incidences of SARS-CoV viruses that escaped from laboratories that work with virus culture. There have been incidents of SARS-CoV-1 infection occurring in laboratories: in Singapore, in Taiwan, and two cases in China, leading to three generations of infections due to human-to-human transmission outside the laboratory. All three incidents involved SARS-CoV-1 strains from samples being used in these laboratories.

A second point brought up by some in the medical profession is that the novel virus must be human-made, as it should not be spreading so rapidly across the world. "Human" coronaviruses HCoV-OC43, HCoV-229E, HCoV-HKU1 and HCoV-NL63 are indeed seasonal. They have circulated in human populations for at least decades, if not centuries, and may have originated from an animal source originally. (Interestingly, HCoV-HKU1 and HCoV-NL63, despite having been present for decades, were discovered only after 2003 due to much

increased research interest in human coronaviruses).

While the current Covid-19 outbreak began and spread during the northern hemisphere winter months, it has continued to spread during the northern hemisphere spring and summer and also in warm climatic zones such as Brazil. While virus stability may be impaired by higher temperatures, the infection pressure during an outbreak and the fully susceptible population are likely to overcome this impediment.

This is supported by previous coronavirus outbreaks. Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) started in winter and persisted into summer. Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) was brought to Korea via a single traveller in May 2015 and caused an outbreak during warmer months.

Last, many researchers and clinicians fear that this novel virus spreads too rapidly to be a natural coronavirus. While it is indeed spreading faster than SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV, possible reasons have been found in its ribonucleic acid (RNA). SARS-CoV-2 has distinct mutations in its spike protein, specifically the receptor binding domain (RBD).

The RBD gene is the most variable part of the coronavi-

here can affect how well the virus can enter cells. Some argue that this is a reason to believe it was purposefully inserted; however, the backbone sequence of the virus does not support the genetic manipulation theory. Other mutations in this region give more credit to zoonotic transfer events, as will be explained next. **Mother Nature**

In a sense, the occurrence of this pandemic had been forewarned by the lighted here are just four of many articles that were written before the discovery of SARS-CoV-2: in September 2019, January 2019 and October 2007, and strikingly, a report written in the wake of the SARS epidemic in 2003. All suggest that future coronavirus outbreaks are likely to originate from bats or exotic animals, specifically in China. The picture painted by literature since the start of the pandemic shows how these predictions have come true.

Comparisons of the genomes of the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 with SARS-CoV, MERS-CoV and a large assortment of other coronaviruses, including many SARS-like coronaviruses found in bats, have been made in multiple publications by unrelated author groups. Genetic comparison found that the novel virus is less closely related to MERS-CoV (~50%) than to SARS-CoV (-79%). Phylogenetic analysis placed SARS-CoV-2 in the genus Betacoronavirus, subgenus Sarbecovirus and showed that it formed a distinct clade within the species Severe acute respiratory syndrome-related coronavirus; it was subsequently named SARS-CoV-2 following established naming practices.

Evolutionary analysis in early 2020 found that the closest relative of SARS-CoV-2 was a previously isolated bat coronavirus (RaTG13) from China (96% sequence homology). More recently, another coronafrom bats that were col-

rus genome and mutations lected in China in 2019 was shown to share 97% identity in the lab gene. While it is not the exact variant that caused the outbreak, it shows that the progenitor of SARS-CoV-2 probably originated in bats. Transfer events such as these have been shown before.

The major differences between SARS-CoV-2 and other SARS-like viruses were seen in the spike protein, where the previously mentioned mutations were found. Of six key residues scientific community. High- in the receptor binding domain, five were different in SARS-CoV-2 when compared to SARS-CoV-1. Interestingly, these six residues are identical to those found in a pangolin coronavirus.

The second set of muta-

tions was the insertion of

amino acids between the two subunits of the spike protein. Previous research suggests that this would allow bat viruses to infect human cells. The closely related bat-derived coronavirus, RmYNO2, also has amino acid inserts between the spike protein subunits, providing strong evidence that these events often occur naturally. These discoveries further discredit the idea that mutations in the SARS-CoV-2 genome were introduced in a laboratory and led to an unusual question: were pangolins the intermediate host for SARS-At first, this may sound

like a far-fetched theory; however, scientific evidence suggests it may be possible. Malayan pangolins illegally imported into China were found to contain coronaviruses up to 91% similar to SARS-CoV. Human-pangolin contact could have arisen by many means, as pangolin meat is considered a delicacy and the scales have been reportedly used in Chinese traditional medicine.

This, together with the discovery of the six key mutation changes in the RBD receptor supports the possibility of pangolins as the intermediate animal host. More important, even without considering pangolins virus (RmYNO2) isolated as an intermediate host, this proves that the mutations found in SARS-CoV-2 could occur naturally.

There is still the issue of exactly how and where the virus transferred between animals and humans. Unfortunately, the likely period of undetected humanto-human transmission and the lack of animal and environmental samples at the proposed origin site in Wuhan make this a difficult task that is expected to remain unsolved.

While the manufacture theory deserved investigation, genetic analysis of the virus has shown that this is highly unlikely. Scientific evidence supports the Mother Nature theory, namely that SARS-CoV-2 most likely originated through zoonotic means either by direct contact, e.g. of bats with humans, or via an intermediate host. This was likely followed by a period of undetected humanto-human transmission, during which the virus could mutate and spread rapidly enough to trigger detection by medical authorities once a number of cases of severe disease

Given the growing evidence showing that a significant proportion of people infected with SARS-CoV-2 remain asymptomatic, it is entirely plausible that there was a period of sustained, undetected human transmission following the first zoonotic transfer.

With such a large reservoir of animals untested, we may never find the true progenitor of SARS-CoV-2. However, the mutations it contains, and their similarities to those found in animal coronaviruses, such as bats and pangolins, certainly show that it is possible for the virus to adapt by natural selection to infect any species.

Given that this has been known since 2003, yet a spill-over was allowed to happen again (this time, with much worse consequences), one might just wonder whether humankind is clever enough to learn the lesson this time. Mother Nature will always find a way, particularly if humans choose to interact irresponsibly with the rest of the natural world.

Agencies

Shoprite exits Nigeria: Proof that the market there is impenetrable?

JOHANNESBURG

"Nigeria is a largely informal market and there are a lot of businesses that have gone there and thought it is a good opportunity to consolidate and introduce some formalisation because that has worked in SA, but that does not work in countries outside of SA."

These are the words of Lulama Qongqo, an investment analyst at Mergence Investment Managers who is of the view that South African companies fail in Nigeria because they do not understand the market and apply strategy that is not tailored to that market.

The continent's largest grocery retailer, Shoprite, is the latest South African player to exit Nigeria. The Christo Wiese chaired retailer, which has been in the country for 15 years, announced the move on Monday with its year-end results. Shoprite has 25 stores in Nigeria. all of which will be discontinued by a later communicated date.

Retail analyst Syd Vianello said he was impressed with this decision by Shoprite's new management. "Engelbrecht [Pieter Engelbrecht the chief executive officer of Shoprite] has taken a good decision to exit Nigeria and I think he may even exit a few other marginal operations in Africa. Nigeria has become a problem; the lines of communication are hard, and it is difficult to get goods into the country because of customs duties. The currency

"Angola is also very problematic, and I would not be surprised in time if they think of exiting Angola. We are going to see far more emphasis on the South African business rather than the African business," added Vianello.

Shoprite shares have plunged 57% since March 2018, while the JSE All Share has weakened to under 18%. Since Shoprite's first foray outside the country's borders into Zambia in 1995, the retailer once led by Whitey Basson was heralded as the most successful South African operator on the continent. But over the past 25 years, sales outside the country still

only make up 11.6% of overall sales. But why are SA companies not able

to penetrate the Nigerian market? Qongqo said South African overestimated their

capabilities and attractiveness of their product offerings moving into the Nigerian market and forgot different countries have different cultures and tastes because the strategy that worked in South Africa might not work

in Nigeria. "Companies do not do enough due diligence. Taking your same offering and going out of the country selling it at the same price point is not going to work. The thinking that people should aspire to shop our product is damaging. Even though the Nigerian economy is big and growing fast, which is usually the selling point, the GDP per capita is so low," she added.

Vianello said the culture in Nigeria was different as "people still prefer to buy from street vendors. The most difficult problem they have is the lines of communication. They have a massive but skewed population compared to SA between lowerincome and upper-income earners." He added the strategy Shoprite used to enter the Nigerian market was to appeal to the higher-end customer, but this proved challenging when they had to expand.

"They had to roll out stores in 'mainstream Nigeria' which is not Lagos or Abuja but all the other cities of the lower-end resident who earns a low salary. The average Nigerian cannot afford luxury items sold at Shoprite." Distribution in Nigeria was also a problem that might have contributed to Shoprite discontinuing its operations, said Vianello.

"Distribution is near impossible, with being far away and the problems in landing goods at the port, the bribery that takes place with payment of duties. I think that Engelbrecht has just decided that he does not need it. There are more opportunities in SA than Nigeria and that's why he is doing

Qongqo said this was the right move for Shoprite "because if you can't grow to the extent that you can get to critical mass and operate profitably in a sustainable manner then it makes for a poor investment." South African retailers have struggled in the Nigeria market. This exit follows the recent retreat of Mr Price which exited the country after Truworths pulled out as well.



Cargo trucks from Zimbabwe wait at the Beitbridge border post in Musina, which borders South Africa.

BUSINESS PM wants all farmers' transactions to be done through bank accounts



NMB Bank Plc's Western Zone manager, Sospeter Magesse, addresses representatives of cooperative societies from Geita, Mara, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions at the ongoing 'Nane Nane' agricultural exhibition being held at national level in Bariadi District, Simiyu Region. Photo courtesy of NMB.

By Guardian Reporter, Bariadi

LL transactions relating to farmers including payments for their produce should be done through formal banking services with immediate effect, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has ordered.

In a speech read on the PM's behalf, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office responsible for investment, Angela Kairuki said after touring the ongoing 'Nane Nane' Agriculture Exhibitions being held at Nyakabidi

Grounds in Bariadi District yesterday that the move will help incorporate mainly smallholder famers into the formal financial system.

"As government, we want all payments to farmers be made through their bank accounts so that it's safe and convenient," Majaliwa said after an NMB Bank Plc official raised the issue of cash payments to cotton farmers in Simiyu Region.

NMB's Western Zone Manager, Sospeter Magesse told Kairuki who visited the bank's pavilion which among other things, showcased implementation of its five-vear strategic plan to transform cotton farming in the region that was launched in March 2019.

Magesse said as part of NMB's participation in implementing the cotton farming transformation strategic mission, they have opened 86,000 banks accounts for farmers in Simiyu. "Our fear is that these accounts may end up not being used since cotton buyers here pay farmers using cash, which is not a healthy trend for our financial inclusion strategy," he

He said the bank has been playing an active role in the implementation of the Simiyu facilities in the country's top

Region Five-Year Strategic Plan (2019-2024) which has an objective of revolutionizing cotton farming through lending to the commodity's

According to him, one of the outstanding contributions of the bank in the cotton farming reform strategy has been disbursement of 1.9bn/- to rehabilitate warehouses for the crop that had deteriorated.

value chain.

Through such investment, the NMB Western Zone Manager added, the result has been creation of a robust infrastructure of cotton storage

producer of the crop.

Magesse further noted that the bank's investment has also helped sensitize smallholder management through their various Agricultural Marketing Co-operative (AMCOS) in the region.

"We have also managed to bring together and empower 26 AMCOS which are participating in this programme to revolutionize cotton farming. The successful implementation of this program will enable the bank to lend to both individual farmers and their AMCOS," he

APPRECIATION

SBL chief excited with appointment to CEOrt board

By Guardian Reporter

CEO Roundtable has announced two new appointments to its board of directors and they include Serengeti Breweries Limited's Managing Director, Mark Ocitti.

Speaking after learning of his appointment yesterday, Ocitti said it's a great honour to get the appointment to the CEOrt's board of directors. "I'm excited about the opportunity to join CEOrt's board at a time when the world is going through the biggest shift it has ever witnessed," Ocitti said.

Ocitti who is an Executive Master's of Business Administration holder from London Business School and Master of Business Administration from Herriot Watt University in Scotland, said the challenge of shaping discourse in these critical times offers exciting opportunities he is looking forward to. "I see the CEOrt as a strategic organization for the private-sector partnerships between us and the public sector and will play my part in bringing that vision to life," the SBL chief added.

Commenting on the appointments of Ocitti and Deloitte East Africa Partner, David Nchimbi, CEOrt's Chairman, Sanjay Rughani expressed confidence in the appointees saying,



New CEOrt chairman Mark Ocitti

"We are delighted to welcome Mark and David to our board. They carry decades of leadership experience and will help the organization execute its plan to accelerate sustainable socio-economic growth in Tanzania." Rughani explained that he knew

both men in person for a number of years hence looking forward to work closely with them to drive prosperity through effective engagement with the government, development partners and other private sector leaders. He also paid tribute to former director, Francis Nanai from Mwananchi Communications Limited for outstanding performance and invaluable contribution to the roundtable.

Responding to his appointment Nchimbi said, "I look forward to contributing to the growth of the CEO Roundtable within both the Tanzanian and global context. By harnessing strategic partnerships, we will enhance the organisation's brand for further reaching impact."

The CEOrt is a policy dialogue forum bringing together CEOs of leading companies in Tanzania. Established in 2000, the CEOrt fosters close cooperation between the public and private sectors in the country with the view of accelerating expansion and growth of the nation's economy.

Tempers flare as bribes block border crossing between SA and Zimbabwe

JOHANNESBURG

BARRIERS

Tempers are raging at the Beitbridge border post between South Africa and Zimbabwe, where truck drivers claim that bribes of up to R1 000 are being extorted from those who want to cross the border.

The queues at the border post are now so long that some trucks are having to wait for as long as four days to get through. "You can be number 10 in the queue, but if

you or your boss don't pay a bribe, then you're not going anywhere," said a source in the road freight industry, who asked not to be identified.

Freight News reported last week that truck drivers at Beitbridge were protesting against corrupt law enforcement officials who usher certain trucks to the front of the queue. The truckers claim that this preferential treatment is being doled out because bribes are being paid. Some furious

drivers drove out of the queue and blocked access to the border post, eyewitnesses told Freight News.

the Road Freight Association and the Cross-Border Road Transportation Authority (CBRTA) have confirmed that they are aware of cases of bribery. Road Freight Association chief executive Gavin Kelly said the association sometimes receives hourly complaints about incidents where money is demanded from

truck drivers for them to move forward in the queue.

"The average waiting time at the border post is 24 hours, but truck drivers sometimes wait for up to four days before they are allowed to move through the border post," said Kelly. If you don't do it, your truck stays where it is for as long as three days while the client waits for their freight

The Beitbridge border post is notorious for long delays, but the situation has worsened

because travellers now have to be screened for the Covid-19 coronavirus and both countries have imposed curfews. In Zimbabwe, the rule applies from dawn to dusk. "Everyone knows there is corruption and bribery, especially among traffic law enforcement officials in South Africa. We report all of these cases, with comprehensive evidence," said Kelly.

Aside from officials, there are also people who pose as law

enforcement officers at the border post. Spokesperson for CBRTA, Mmenyane Seoposengwe, said the organisation was aware of the problems. Kelly said general bribery declined during the initial part of the lockdown because there were fewer trucks on the road, but "normal levels" of bribery and corruption had become the order of the day again.

One source said that corruption South African

enforcement officials was now so bad that foreign truck drivers would rather drive to "war-torn" places such as the Democratic Republic of Congo before they came to South Africa.

The bribery is not limited to the border post; it also happens at weigh bridges, where truck drivers or the companies for whom they work allege that they are forced to pay bribes to stop their trucks from being impounded.

CALL

WMA wants farmers to report cases of tampering with scales

By Guardian Reporter, Bariadi

HE public has been advised to report unfaithful business people who tamper with weighing machines to Weight and Measures Agency so that legal action should be taken against such culprits

The agency's Director of Business, Deogratias Maneno said the practice is rampant in the country and has affected badly the public including farmers who are billions of shillings annually in commodity trading. Maneno said at the ongoing 'Nane Nane' Agriculture Exhibitions here yesterday that WMA offices are available in all regions on the Mainland backed by a toll free call number 0800 11 00 97 to report such incidences.

He told visitors to the WMA pavilion at Nyakabindi Grounds in Bariadi that business owners have a responsibility to adhere to regulations that govern weights and measurements because violation of the same attracts hefty penalties including jail term and fines

"The law is very clear on people who tamper with weighing scales or official measurement machines hence let me warn cheating business people against the vice," he



Weights and Measures Agency's acting regional manager for Simiyu, Tuntufye Mkumbwa, briefs visitors on the agency's activities at the ongoing 'Nane Nane' agricultural exhibition being held at national level in Bariadi District, Simiyu Region. Photo: Guardian Photographer

warned adding that according to the law people who are found guilty of tempering with weighing machines pay fines of between 1m/- and

The WMA's Business Director further noted 100m/- or imprisonment of not less than five all aspects.

that culprits who plead not guilty will be fined between 300,000/- and 50m/- or go to jail for not less than two years or both. "Second time trywide hence encouraged people to visit its pa-20m/- if they plead guilty for a first time offence. offenders pay fines of between 500,000/- and vilion so that they can get more information on

years or both," he added. He said currently WMA experts are examining water meters coun-

COMPETITIVENESS

Konga to list on global stock markets as part of Africa expansion

LAGOS

E-commerce company Konga claims to have invested over US\$120-million since being acquired two years ago in Nigeria, and believes it is now strategically structured to engage other African countries, with plans to leverage listing on global stock markets as part of its expansion

In an interview broadcast on a programme called Kaleidoscope Co-CEO Konga Group, Prince Nnamdi Ekeh, said: "We are also keen to expand into other African markets after taking charge of the Nigerian market. The e-Commerce market in African is still a largely untapped one. Therefore, any company that makes the right in-roads will reap huge benefits from it," he said.

"We have also received enquiries from the New York Stock Exchange, the London Stock Exchange and the Nigerian Stock Exchange to list on these markets. It's something that will happen as part of our African expansion plan when Konga becomes a multi-billion-dollar business."

He added: 'Though we started with a monthly loss of N400m, but with new systems, structure and energy put in place, we have gradually been reducing losses and now about N100m loss per month. E-Commerce is an expensive project but we are best positioned to deliver as a very innovative technology company."

Ekeh described Konga as a technology company that em-



Konga Group Co-CEO Prince Nnamdi Ekeh.

ploys directly and indirectly over 150,000 Nigerians. Most of them are merchants, logistics and other service providers.

"We partner to create a trusted and sustainable digitally-driven ecosystem and working hard to scale this to about 250,000 before the end of 2020.

"We see ourselves as more than just an e-Commerce company. Konga is a technology company and as a technology company. we are positioned to leverage that status in deploying new solutions and innovations. Indeed, no one should be surprised if tomorrow, Konga starts launching space ships into orbit.

Although we have received several offers from interested investors, we are content with the group that is currently funding Konga. The group is highly ethical and want us to maintain the highest level of integrity. Our investors have assured us of enough capital to survive the next five years at least. This was why we did not accommodate a valuation of \$300m from a consortium of global investors last year.

Ekeh added: "Our strategies and tact are 21st century influenced, but also taking cognisance of deficiencies in our country and that was why we spent the first two years rebuilding technologies, setting up secure but robust warehousing facilities and delivery logistics nationwide. With these under our control and owned by us, we are driving towards profitability. It is important to note that at Konga, we do not believe in just hype

"In addition to our status as a technology company, Konga is also Nigeria's first ever marketplace and composite e-commerce group. The company is on the verge of rolling out a suite of cutting-edge solutions and services that will excite the market very soon.

Acquired by the Zinox Group in December 2018 and having achieved over 1000% growth, Konga has grown from a position of strength into arguably Nigeria's leading e-Commerce brand, with a long list of innovative strategies and solutions setting it apart in the sector. In early July 2020 the company announced that it would revive its reseller scheme YUBOSS with the launch of Konga Affiliate, targeted at Nigeria's unemployed.

GROWTH

South Africa's telecom operator Telkom takes on financial services

JOHANNESBURG

South Africa's telecom operator Telkom has branched into the competitive space of financial services by launching a life insurance business that it said will initially sell funeral insurance.

Telkom and other mobile operators in South Africa are looking to tap more than 11 million South Africans who do not have bank accounts to offer lending and other financial services, a move that is set to threaten traditional and digital banks. They are also seeking to expand their mobile payment apps into online market places to leverage their network and customer base.

"In recent years Telkom has made a strategic shift to digital distribution, which puts it in an ideal position to distribute insurance products using its considerable digital structure and intellectual property," Sibusiso Ngwenya, managing executive for Telkom Financial Services said in a joint statement on Sunday with insurer Guardrisk which will underwrite the service. Partly state-owned Telkom has been diversifying its income streams beyond the fixedline business, which now contributes just over 20 per cent to group revenue, up from 56 per cent in 2013.

Underwriter Guardrisk Life is part of JSE-listed insurer Momentum Metropolitan Holdings Limited. In a Sunday Times newspaper ad, Telkom said it will also offer business loans and soon launch a digital wallet service for customers to buy products and pay for services via its Yep! app as well as other online transacting platforms.

The battle to capture South Africa's unbanked is intensifying among mobile operators after biggest mobile operator by subscribers MTN Group relaunched its mobile money app in South Africa in February and has been building the platform to include online shopping payments and

In July Vodacom Group announced plans to create a 'super app' in partnership with digital payment provider Alipay, part of China's Alibaba group, to allow consumers in South Africa to shop online, pay bills and send money to family from next year.

Gozem comes up with e-commerce delivery service for Togo and Benin

LOME

At a time when economic activity across the continent is facing massive disruption from the global pandemic, many businesses are adopting innovative solutions to their business operations.

A good example would be ride-hailing startups that halted their logistics services during the lock-down, while others focused more on delivery of food and es-

Described as Africa's super App, Gozem the popular ride-hailing service, launched a mobile platform allowing users to order gas canisters, groceries, and other essentials. The platform is targeted at users who want to stay safe inside while accessing their basic living needs.

Users download the latest version of the Gozem app, scroll to the shopping section of its menu then pick their desired vendor or items. All desired items reflect in the shopping cart where delivery details are entered, then payment is requested through the Gozem wallet.

Gozem co-founder Emeka Ajene, described the move as a response to the challenges clients face when "navigating these unprecedented times." The startup expressed delight in accelerating their plans for "eCommerce delivery." The new service will create value for the customers in Togo and Benin.

STIMULUS

Mozambican government spends over 70 billion meticais in direct awards

MAPUTO

From April to July of this year, during which time the country was in a state of emergency, the government spent, internally, 68.22 billion meticais in the execution of 12,204 direct award processes, the report sent by President Nyusi to the Assembly of the Republic on the occasion of the end of the April 1st to July 29th State of Emergency

The report, to which 'Carta' has had access, also reveals that the government spent, by means of 110 direct awards processes, 3.32 billion meticais on the health sector. The document does not provide detailed information about the goods, services and works purchased through direct awards procedures, which were resorted to because of the state of emergency.

"Despite the suspension of the issuance of certain documents required for the registration of eligible natural and legal persons to contract with the State, 1,632 public works contractors, goods suppliers and service providers were registered in the Single Registry of natural and legal persons contracting with the State, whose target group is small and medium-sized companies," the report reads. Within the scope of

economic activities licencing, 2,824 companies with a potential 7,200 employees were licenced.

The government notes that, in order to revive the economy, it has made Value Added Tax (VAT) more flexible, as well as the payment of accounts to suppliers of goods and services to the state whose contracts are in order. The report highlights the availability of a one billion meticais credit line, granted on

concessionary terms to support cash flow and investment in micro, small and medium-sized companies.

It is noted in the report that the Administrative Tribunal issued Instruction no. 01GT / TA / 2020 of 02 April, which subjects to the regime of urgent convenience of service the administrative acts and contracts [otherwise] subject to [the general regime of] prior inspection which were signed during the State of Emergency period.

"This instruction allowed the organs and institutions of the State to continue to execute contracts for public works contracts, supply of goods and provision of services, and guaranteed an account to facilitate the accountability of funds received within the scope of Covid-19," reads the report, which is be debated and approved by parliament



Microsoft chief executive Satya Nadella addresses the company's annual conference for software

SLOWDOWN

Japan's economy shrinks in first quarter as expected

TOKYO

according to a further revision of data that continued to show the country was in a recession before the pandemic took its heavi-

Gross domestic product shrank an annualised 2.2 per cent in the first quarter compared with the final three months of 2019, the Cabinet Office reported Monday, with business investment showing more resilience than expected.

Economists had forecast a 2.8 per cent contraction following a rare finance ministry move to update capital spending data last week after initial survey results were deemed insufficient given a low response rate from companies dealing with the pandemic. An official at the Cabinet Office said the smaller-than-expected capex revision shows that the sampling issues had already been partly accounted for in the prior GDP estimate.

"What I'm seeing now is that capital investment is holding up better than I had expected," said Masaki Kuwahara, an economist at Nomura Securities. "Companies have to invest in research and development and information technology in order to deal with the coronavirus. We see a big drop in machinery investment, but long-term investments like R&D haven't fallen much."

Monday's backward-looking data comes

before another growth report due midmonth that's forecast to show Japan's econ-Japan's economy shrank at the same pace omy shrank by more than 20 per cent in the as previously estimated in the first quarter, second quarter, the most in records going

Recent gains in retail sales and industrial production suggest growth began to rebound after a nationwide state of emergency was ended in late May, but analysts caution the recovery is fragile. Widening virus outbreaks in the US and other key markets darken the trade outlook and rising case numbers in Japan's biggest cities threaten jobs and consumer spending at home.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe already faces spiraling budget deficits after pledging about \$2 trillion in stimulus, but an anemic recovery could force his administration to spend more. The government last week said it now sees no chance of balancing the budget before the year ending in March 2030.

"Japan's economy probably headed into the coronavirus crisis in worse shape than the second reading on 1Q GDP indicated - pointing to an even weaker trajectory for 2020," said Bloomberg economist Yuki Masujima. Growth in business investment was revised down to 1.7 per cent from an earlier estimate of 1.9 per cent.

On a non-annualised basis, the economy shrank 0.6 per cent in the three months through March, compared with the fourth quarter of 2019. In nominal terms, GDP grew 0.5 per cent in the first quarter, matching the



A pedestrian wearing a protective face mask walks past an empty alley in the Setagaya district of Tokyo. Japan's economy shrank at the same pace as previously estimated, according to revised data that continued to show the country was in a recession before the pandemic took its heaviest toll.

TRADE WAR

Microsoft to continue talks to buy TikTok from ByteDance

SEATTLE

icrosoft said it will continue discussions buy Tik-Tok's business in the US after its chief executive Satya Nadella held talks with US President Donald Trump on

Mr Trump, who faced pressure from some of his advisers and members of the Republican party, gave the US technology company and ByteDance, TikTok's Chinese parent company, 45 days to seal the deal, according to Reuters. TikTok, which is popular with young audiences for its short-form videos, has about one billion users worldwide.

complete the acquisition by September 15 and expects to invite other US investors to come in as minority stakeholders. "Microsoft fully appreciates the importance of addressing the president's concerns," the Redmondbased firm said in a statement, adding that it is committed to "acquiring TikTok subject to a complete security review and providing proper economic benefits to

It, however, said the discussions were "preliminary and there can be no assurance that a transaction will proceed." "We do not intend to provide further updates until there is a definitive outcome to our discussions,"

Microsoft said it intends to Microsoft said. The acquisition would result in Microsoft, the world's largest software company, owning and operating TikTok in the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Mr Trump revealed his plans to ban the social media app within the US last Friday after American officials and politicians expressed security concerns in recent weeks that it was being used by Beiiing for nefarious purposes. TikTok, however, denied having links to the Chinese government.

Microsoft pledged to strengthen the security and privacy of the app once it acquires it. "The operating model for the service would be built to ensure transparpropriate security oversight by governments," it said.

"This new structure would

build on the experience Tik-Tok users currently love, while adding world-class security, privacy and digital safety protections." The software maker said it would ensure that the private data of the app's American users is transferred to the US. "To the extent that any

such data is currently stored or backed-up outside the US, Microsoft would ensure that this data is deleted from servers outside the country after it is transferred," the company said. It, however, did not disclose the expected value of the deal. The acquisition would help

ency to users, as well as ap- Microsoft reinvigorate its advertising business through a huge supply of video con-

> The company, whose advertising-backed businesses including the Bing search engine, MSN news service and LinkedIn, disclosed last month that its search advertisement sales grew by 1 per cent to \$7.7 billion over the past year.

Microsoft purchased LinkedIn for \$26.2bn in 2016. TikTok, which was launched in China in 2016, was released in the US in 2018 after ByteDance's purchase of lip-synching app Musical.ly. It said it had hired about 1,000 people in the US this year and plans to hire another 10,000.

Turning the spotlight

Capital Prime News

07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital

09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)

Telenovela rpt: (Destino)

Club 101 (via Capital Radio)

Series rpt: Grapes of justice

Local Pgm: Business Edition

Telenovela: (Destino) Destiny

Capital Prime News

Malumbano ya hoja rpt

Turning the Spotlight rpt

Culinary delight rpt

Sports Gazette rpt

Business edition rpt

Tanzania Yetu rpt

Capchat rpt

Mizengwe

The Decor

Out n' About

Al Jazeera

In good shape

Sports Gazette rpt

13:30 Series rpt: Grapes of justce

Korean Drama rpt: Beating

Bundesligga Kick Off rpt

Turning the Spotlight rpt

Cookery pgm: Culinary

Capchat rpt

Jagina rpt

13:00 In good shape rpt

15:15 Aibu yako

15:30 Rev rpt

16:00 Dakika 45 rpt

16:45 Mizengwe rpt

17:00 The Decor rpt

Meza huru

Bundesliga kick off

Korean Drama rpt: Kimchi

Telenovela rpt: (Destino)

Korean Drama: Beating Again

Movie: Lina-the spirit of a

Series rpt: Grapes of justice

Innovation rpt

Out n'about rpt

Usafiri wako rpt

Eco@Africa rpt

Family

The Monday Agenda rpt

Meza huru

Eco@Africa

Aibu Yako

Series: Grapes of justice

Telenovela: (Destino) Destiny

Tanzania yetu

Capchat rpt

Al Jazeera

22:00

14:00

16:00

16:30

17:30

19:00

19:30

20:00

22:00

09:00

10:30

11:00

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10:00

11:00

11:30

12:00

12:30

17:30

Sun 09 Aug

08:00 Aljazeera

Sat 08 Aug

00:00 Al Jazeera

08:00 Al jazeera

Rev rpt

Frid 07 Aug

06:00 Al Jazeera



Sun 0	2 Aug
08:00	Aljazeera
09:00	In good s
10:00	Canchati

11:00 Sports Gazette rpt Korean Drama rpt: Beating

Jagina rpt Bundesligga Kick Off rpt In good shape rpt Series rpt: Grapes of justice Aibu vako

Dakika 45 rpt 16:00 16:45 Mizengwe rp 17:00 The Decor rpt

Meza huru Turning the Spotlight rpt Cookery pgm: Culinary

20:00 Korean Drama: Beating again 21:00 Shift 21:15 Capchat live

22:15 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny 00:00 Al Jazeera

Mon 03 Aug

Al jazeera Morning Jam (Via Capital

09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) Telenovela rpt: (Destino)

Club 101 (via Capital Radio) Series rpt: Grapes of justice Tanzania Yetu rpt 17:00 Eco@Africa rpt

17:30 Meza huru 19:00 The Décor rpt 19:30 Shamba lulu 20:00 Series: Grapes of justice

20:45 The Monday Agenda 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Kipima Joto Al Jazeera

Al jazeera Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)

Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Club 101 (via Capital Radio) Series rpt: Grapes of justice 16:30 Capchat rpt

19:00 19:30 Jagina rpt Series: Grapes of justice Telenovela: (Destino) Destiny

21:30 Capital Prime 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt 22:30 Eco@Africa Al Jazeera

WEDNESDAY 05 Aug

HABARI Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI

8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo

Habari za saa Watoto wetu Uchumi na biashara 10:30 10:55 Habari za saa

11:00 The Base rpt Habari za saa

Al jazeera Jarida la wanawake rpt Habari za saa Dakika 45 Kipindi Maalum rpt:

Habari za saa Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru Watoto Wetu

The Base Jiji Letu Korean drama rpt: The great queen Seonduk

19:30 20:00 Habar Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco 21:30 Kipindi Maalum: Ripoti Maalum

Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost Habari The Base

Al Jazeera

THURSDAY 06 Aug Uwania wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI

6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI Kumekucha Michezo Habariz a saa Kumekucha Kishindo Isidingo Habari za saa

10:00 Watoto Shamba lulu rnt 10:30 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 The Base rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00

Al jazeera liue Sheria Habari za saa Ripoti Maalum rpt 13:30 Tanzania yetu Habari za saa

14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base

Usafiri wako 19:30 Isidingo 20.00 Habari 21:00 Malumbano ya hoja

Jiji Letu

Mapishi

Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 DWTV

FRIDAY 07 Aug Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI Kumekucha

7:30 HABARI Kumekucha Michezo 8:00 09:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo Watoto wetu Usafiri wako rpt

The Base Al Jazeera Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco 13:00 Jagina rpt 13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt 14:15 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 15:00 Meza huru

Watoto Wetu

17:30 Ibada va kiislamu

Jiji Letu Mizengwe rpt 19:00 Shamba lulu

19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipima Joto 23:00 Habari The Base 23:30 00:30 DWTV

SATURDAY 08 Aug 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi

HABAR Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu 10:00 Shika Bamba 5

10:30 Miue Zaidi rpt 11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt The Great Queen Seonduk Korean drama rpt: Hwarang

Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe 16:20 Igizo: Mtego 17:00 Shamsham za Pwani

Korean drama: Hwarang 18:15 19:00 Jungu Kuu Shika Bamba 19:30 20:00 Habari Art and lifestyle

Jiii Letu

18:00

21:30 22:10 Hawavumi lakini wamo 22:45 Isidingo rpt 01:30 DWTV

SUNDAY 09 Aug Uwania wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI

Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al jazeera 09:00 Watoto Wetu 10:00 Isidingo Igizo: Mizengwe rpt Bongo Movie rpt: Sijapoteza Tamasha la Michezo 12:00 14:00

15:00 Mwangaza 16:00 The Great queen Seonduk ITV Top 10 Kipindi cha kikristo

18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Matukio ya wiki 19:30 Igizo: Mtego 20:00 Hahari 21:05 Mizenawe 21:20 Miue Zaidi

22:05 Bongo Movie: The heart Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost

CAPITAL

Sun 02 Aug

09:00 In good shape 10:00 Capchat rpt 11:00 Sports Gazette rpt Korean Drama rpt: Beating 11:30

12:00 Jagina rpt Bundesligga Kick Off rpt In good shape rpt Series rpt: Grapes of justice

13:30 15:15 Aibu yako 15:30 Rev rpt 16:00 Dakika 45 rpt

Mizengwe rpt

17:00 The Decor rpt Meza huru

Turning the Spotlight rpt Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights Korean Drama: Beating agai

Capchat live Telenovela rpt: (Destino)

Destiny 00:00 Al Jazeera

Mon 03 Aug 06:00 Al jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital

Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) Telenovela rpt: (Destino)

Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Grapes of justice Tanzania Yetu rpt 16:30 Eco@Africa rpt 17:00 Meza huru

17:30 The Décor rpt Shamba lulu Series: Grapes of justice The Monday Agenda 21:30 Capital Prime News

22:00 Kipima Joto 00:00 Al Jazeera Tues 04 Aug

06:00 Al iazeera Morning Jam (Via Capital 07:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio Telenovela rpt: (Destino)

Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Grapes of justice 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation Jagina rpt Series: Grapes of justice

21:30 Capital Prime Turning the spotlight rpt 22:30 Eco@Africa Al Jazeera

Wed 05 Aug 06:00 Al iazeera Morning Jam (Via Capital

Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny Club 101 (via Capital Radio) Series rpt: Grapes of justice

Culinary delight rpt 17:00 Innovation rpt Meza Huru 19:00 Sports Gazette Chetu ni chetu Series: Grapes of justice Telenovela: (Destino) Destiny 21:30 Capital Prime News

22:00 Dakika 45: 22:45 The Décor 23:15 Al Jazeera Thurs 06 Aug

06:00 Al Jazeera Morning Jam (Via Capital

Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio Telenovela rpt: (Destino) 13:00

Business edition rpt

Club 101 (via Capital Radio) Series rpt: Grapes of justice

21:00 Shift 21:15 Capchat live 22:15

Al Jazeera

Korean Drama: Beating again

Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny 00:00

WORLD

Manhattan DA probing Trump and his business over more than 'hushmoney' payments

WASHINGTON

on Monday suggested a grand jury subpoena for U.S. President Donald Trump's tax returns was part of an investigation of "possibly extensive and protracted criminal conduct at the Trump Organization," including alleged insurance and bank fraud.

Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance raised the scope of the probe in court papers filed in federal court in Manhattan on Monday. He is seeking to dismiss Trump's latest challenge to the subpoena for eight years of personal

Asked about the investigation at a coronavirus press briefing on Monday, Trump repeated that he believed he is the victim of a political "witch hunt,"

which he said was "Democrats' stuff" and started "even before I got in" to of-

"There is nothing that I know even

Vance's motion to dismiss by Aug. 10. In a court filing last week, Trump's lawyers argued the subpoena was "wildly overbroad" and issued in "bad faith."

Vance noted in the court papers that when the subpoena was issued last August, there were "public allegations of possible criminal activity" at the Trump Organization dating back a decade. He said public reports show a basis for each category and timeframe counting firm, Mazars USA.

at which the animal-human spe-

cies barrier was crossed," before

The WHO advance team that

traveled to China in preparation

for an international mission of

mission recently, according to

will build on the initial investi-

gations done by Chinese experts

around the Wuhan seafood mar-

Ryan also noted that WHO is

moving forward with agreeing

on the international team and

ensuring that right expertise will

be in place to work with the Chi-

nese counterparts to design and

implement further studies.

moving to the studies on the ani-

mal side.

from animals into humans, a sen- identifying the zoonotic source

ior World Health Organization of COVID-19 has concluded its

Dr. Michael Ryan, executive the WHO expert. Future studies



U.S. President Donald Trump

na is overbroad "rests on the false premise that the grand jury's investigation is limited to so-called 'hush-money' payments made by Michael Cohen" on Trump's behalf in 2016, Vance said.

Cohen pleaded guilty in 2018 to campaign violations tied to the payments to pornographic film actress Stormy Daniels and former model Karen McDougal, who claimed they had affairs with Trump, which he denies.

In a footnote to Monday's filing, Vance cited media reports on Trump's alleged role in the hush-money scheme and on the "unorthodox strategies" he used to expand his real estate empire.

He also cited reports of questionable financial statements by Trump, such as when he claimed 55 zoned lots ready for sale at his golf course in Southern California when there were only 31; a 2,000 acre Virginia vineyard that is really only 1,200 acres, and 68 stories at his Trump Tower, 10 higher than the Manhattan property.

Cohen testified to Congress last year that Trump inflated his assets when it served his purposes, and deflated them to reduce his real estate taxes. He called his former

boss a "con man" and "cheat." Trump has tweeted that Cohen is a "rat" who was lying to reduce his prison time.

a ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court last month that the president was not immune from state criminal probes.

Vance urged the court to dismiss Trump's latest challenge to the subpoena "without delay," arguing the complaint "merely regurgitates allegations and arguments this court has rejected before.'

Vance brought in a high-profile lawyer to assist with the case: Former acting solicitor general Walter Dellinger, onetime head of the Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel.

Last month, the DA's office warned U.S. District Court Judge Victor Marrero against allowing statutes of limitations to expire on the alleged crimes.

A spokesman for Vance declined comment on the court papers. Grand jury deliberations are secret, and the public may not learn what the subpoena uncovers until after the election.

PRESIDENT Cyril

workers who had the novel coronavirus.

In a strongly worded weekly address, Ramaphosa (pic-

He was speaking following corruption allegations over COVID-19 personal protective equipment (PPE) tenders involving a number of individuals related with the ruling African National Congress (ANC), including presidential spokesperson Khusela Diko, Gauteng provincial health official

Some of South Africa's most prominent civil society organizations such as the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation and Corruption Watch, Freedom Under Law and the South African Communist Party have expressed anger and disappointment over reports of widespread corruption involving funds

Ramaphosa likened those who attempt to profit from a disaster that is claiming the lives of South Africans every day to "a pack of hyenas circling wounded prey." "As we find ourselves in the grip of the greatest health emergency our country has faced in over a century, we are witnessing theft by individuals

South Africans, he said, have heard stories of alleged corruption in the procurement and deployment of PPE to fight COVID-19, of companies hiking the prices of essential items during the lockdown and of the illegal diversion of state re-

These stories have caused outrage among South Africans, have opened up the wounds of the state capture era, where senior figures in society seemed to get away with corruption

Ramaphosa reiterated that corruption is nevertheless a far broader problem in South African and steps must be taken right now, not only to safeguard COVID-19 funds, but also to protect all public funds and all institutions from corruption

"It requires a new consciousness and new sense of accountability," he said. The battle against, and victory over, corruption is vital if public servants and political office-bearers truly care about the public whose interests they claim to

Ordinary members of the public who have an interest in doing business with the government must be allowed a fair chance to bid for such business opportunities, instead of inside information about opportunities being passed on to

"We are going to act boldly and must act together,"he said. Ramaphosa last week signed a proclamation authorizing the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) to investigate any unlawful or improper conduct in the procurement of goods and services

This enables the SIU to probe each credible allegation that is made about the theft of COVID-19 funds. The president said he intends to be closely involved and will receive interim re-

When investigations yield evidence of criminality, they will be speedily referred for prosecution, he assured South Afri-

Meanwhile, the government has adopted a "Fusion Centers" approach that draws together different agencies for better information and intelligence sharing, to pool resources

ecute COVID-19 related corruption. A special center has been established that brings together

advantage of COVID-19 **CAPE TOWN**

Prominent doctor says Russia

solved almost all coronavirusrelated healthcare problems

All-Russia People's Front central headquarters Leonid

"The state has done the colossal amount of work on

COVID-19. More than 90-95% of all issues related to COV-ID-19 have been resolved," he told a round table in the All-Russia People's Front on insurance payments to medical

Roshal stressed, however, that one should not think that

the pandemic is over, adding that it was still important to take preventive measures, for example, wear face masks.

South African president warns

against corrupt officials taking

Ramaphosa warned on Monday that corrupt officials taking advantage of the COVID-19 for personal profits will be dealt with "decisively and harshly."

MOSCOW

THE domestic healthcare system has been

able to solve almost all problems related to the novel coronavirus pandemic, head of the National Medical Chamber

and co-chairman of the

Roshal said on Monday.



tured) decried corruption during a national disaster as "a particularly heinous crime."

Bandile Masuku and even Ramaphosa's son Andile.

meant to assist with the COVID-19 pandemic.

and companies with no conscience," the president said.

sources meant for the vulnerable and destitute.

on a grand scale, he said.

now and into the future.

represent, said Ramaphosa.

families and friends of officials, the president said.

during the COVID-19 pandemic.

ports every six weeks on the cases.

and to streamline operations to detect, investigate and pros-

various law enforcement agencies such as the Financial In-

GENEVA

MANHATTAN'S district attorney

and corporate tax records.

ALTHOUGH the first clusters of

atypical pneumonia were report-

ed in Wuhan, China, it doesn't

necessarily mean that is where

the COVID-19 disease crossed

(WHO) expert said on Monday.

director of the WHO Health

Emergencies Program, said at

a routine COVID-19 briefing on

Monday that a much more "ex-

tensive retrospective epidemio-

logical study" should be taken

to fully understand the links be-

He stressed the need to start

studies on the first reported hu-

man clusters in order to system-

atically look for the "first signal

about it," he added.

Trump is scheduled to respond to

of documents sought from Trump's ac-

Trump's argument that the subpoe-

The dispute over Trump's taxes already was subject to

Michael J. Ryan

Michael Ryan (L), executive director of the World Health Organization (WHO) Health Emergencies Program, addresses a press conference in Geneva, Switzerland, Feb. 18, 2020. (Xinhua)

Why Pompeo leads Washington's China-bashing campaign

Wuhan not necessarily where coronavirus crossed from animals into humans - WHO expert

tween the cases.

AS the top diplomat of the world's sole superpower, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo ought to promote global peace and stability. Instead, he has spent much of his tenure in the past two years on bashing China and stoking division and chaos in the international community.

Pompeo is no fool. He finished top in his class from the United States Military Academy at West Point and was a rather successful businessman and lawyer before entering politics. He must have anticipated enormous benefits by launching a boisterous anti-China outbreak have led to unprecedent-

campaign, even meant sacrificing the interests of the American people.

Boosting the incumbent U.S. ad-

ministration's re-election odds in November has become an urgent task. Under the watch of the current White House, about 5 million have been infected in the pandemic and over 150,000 lost their lives in the country so far. In the meantime, the knock-on effects of the

ed job losses and a sharp economic cian, he has quite a history of stagdownturn. The result: the administration's disapproval ratings have risen sharply.

Finding a scapegoat is the most handy option for an anxious Pompeo, as well as other like-minded China hawks in the administration with elections only 90 days away. China is the target. No surprise there.

Pompeo also sees an opportunity to promote his own political ambitions by attacking China with outright lies. That's because acting tough on China can help promote his popularity among America's conservative voting base.

Being an ambitious career politi-

ing melodramatic political showmanship for personal political gain. His rise to prominence as a new political star in Washington from a freshmen congressman by sharply lambasting then U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton over the Benghazi affair is a classic example.

Pompeo's scandalous Madison Diners in 2018 and off-publicschedule meetings with conservative influentials during work trips have drawn widespread criticism in the United States that the secretary of state has been using public resources to cultivate a supporter base for his own political ambitions. He has in fact turned his office into a launchpad for just that. Underneath these political calculations lie a hegemonic thinking and Cold-War mentality ingrained in Pompeo that propel him to view

China's development in a you-win-

I-lose manner. In his Nixon library speech late last month, Pompeo sought to frame China as an ideological threat, and coax U.S. allies to form an anti-China alliance, demonstrating that some U.S. politicians are still trying to use the obsolete zero-sum logic to define America's

role in the 21st century world and its relationship with the rest of the international community in an age of globalization. Xinhua

China's manufacturing sector speeds up to become more service-oriented

SERVICE-ORIENTED manufacturing, a new model that integrates manufacturing with service, is experiencing rapid development in China in the recent years. It has driven the constant emergence of new businesses, and has propelled the transformation and upgrading of the manufac-

turing sector. Zhejiang Great Shengda Packaging Co., Ltd (Great Shengda) is a strong performer in the service-oriented manufacturing field. The company, by optimizing product design, can rials used in packaging boxes. Being able to reduce over 40 million yuan (\$5.7 million) of materials each year, the Chinese packaging enterprise has been selected as a supplier of SF Express, one of China's leading comprehensive service providers of express

As a producer of corrugated boxes, Great Shengda has a secret to its suc-

cess - digital designing of products. The company has a specially tailored design and management plat-

save more than 20 percent of mate- form where its designing personnel can start system modeling based on the primitive drawings and structural demands submitted by clients. Besides, the design will be presented to the clients in 3D form on the platform, so as to ensure that what they see is what they get.

> "By offering quality industrial designing service and letting our clients join this process, we not only shortened the R&D cycle by 80 percent, but also largely improved the satisfaction of the clients," said Sun Jun-

jun, vice president of Great Shengda. By integrating manufacturing with service, Great Shengda has extended its industrial chain to upper-stream designing and digital management services. It has transformed from a packaging producer to a service-oriented enterprise.

"Apart from industrial designing, service-oriented manufacturing also includes customized services, supply chain management, shared manufacturing, inspection, testing and certification services, energy conservation

service and whole-life cycle management," said an executive from China Service-Oriented Manufacturing Alli-

Manufacturing enterprises used to focus on production and aimed for selling their products, but serviceoriented manufacturing helps them shift their focus from production to service so that they can extend their industrial chain to R&D and design, as well as branding service. By doing this, they can constantly expand their services and raise the added

value of their products, the executive explained. Added value is more presented

on the two ends of a smiling curve - designing and sales, said Huang Qunhui, director of the Institute of Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. To transform into service-oriented manufacturing helps enterprises raise their value at the two ends, Huang, also the director of an expert committee of the China Service-Oriented Manufacturing Alli-People's Daily ance, added.



TCM doctor Li Xiaxia with Tengzhou Hospital of TCM, east China"s Shandong province weighs TCM herbs, May 7. (File photo)

TCM contributing its power to building community of common health for mankind

COVID-19, effective TCM prescrip-

tions and clinical experiences with 82

countries and regions including Italy,

Germany, Japan, South Korea and Pa-

kistan, and donated TCM products

to more than 10 countries. Besides,

it also dispatched TCM doctors to 27

countries and regions for epidemic

relief, which indicated the sense of

So far, TCM has been introduced

to 183 countries and regions around

the world, and China has signed TCM

cooperation agreements with over 40

foreign governments, regional organ-

izations and international organiza-

tions. China helped establish 30 TCM

centers in Belt and Road countries

and regions, and the "Belt and Road"

Tour of TCM Acupuncture-Moxibus-

tion has been held in 35 countries and

As of December the last year, the

overseas TCM centers and domestic

bases had carried out cooperation

with nearly 90 countries, launching a

total of 388 projects and training over

13,000 overseas professionals. Fifteen

Confucius Institutes and Classrooms

for TCM are operational around the

world, and 240 Confucius Institutes

in 78 countries offer TCM and Tai Chi

The number of registered students

have reached 35,000, and 185,000

people have participated in relevant

activities. Chinese TCM colleges also

launched proactive international ed-

ucation cooperation, enrolling over

10,000 TCM students from overseas.

Full-time TCM courses are offered in

some countries, and around 1,500

part-time TCM training institutes

have been established overseas, train-

ing 30,000 TCM personnel each year.

As a traditional major country of

medicine, China has always been

committed to leading and promoting

the global development of traditional

In May 2019, the International

Classification of Diseases 11th Revi-

sion was approved at the 72nd World

Health Assembly, which marked the

first time that TCM was included in

the ICD system. It indicated that TCM

has historically entered the classifica-

tion system of mainstream medicines.

nese side, the International Organiza-

tion for Standardization established

the Traditional Chinese Medicine

Technical Committee (ISO/TC 249),

and issued 53 international standards

The UNESCO included "Acupunc-

ture and moxibustion as part of Chi-

nese traditional medicine" on its

Representative List of the Intangible

Cultural Heritage of Humanity, and

China's Tibetan medicinal bathing

also entered the list in 2018. Ancient

Chinese medical texts Yellow Emper-

or's Inner Canon and Compendium of

Materia Medica were also included in

the Memory of the World Register by

People's Daily

Under the promotion of the Chi-

medicines.

regions along the Belt and Road.

responsibility of a major country.

THE advantages of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) have been given full play to in China's COVID-19 response as the country spares no effort to treat patients and save lives. The traditional medicine branch has been used in treating 92 percent of all confirmed COVID-19 cases across China.

The National Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine, comprehensively promoting the application of TCM in epidemic prevention and control, dispatched TCM experts to Wuhan, former epicenter in central China's Hubei province for investigation and treatment at the first opportunity. It also established TCM teams to run designated and makeshift hospitals in Wuhan, treat patients and carry out clinical research, and explore a treatment model that is characterized by TCM and the combined use of TCM and western medicine.

Over 4,900 medical workers from more than 700 TCM institutions fought the epidemic on the front line

They summarized experiences when treating patients and launched scientific research at clinics. Besides, they also enhanced efforts to select effective TCM products, timely promoted effective prescriptions, and advocated for early intervention of TCM in communities.

They constantly optimized treatment and diagnosis plans, and jointly formulated the third to seventh editions of the protocol for the diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19 together with the National Health Commission (NHC) that covered the whole process of COVID-19 treatment including medical observation, mild form, regular form, severe form, critical form and recovery phase.

The protocols effectively reduced the morbidity, worsening, and mortality of the disease, improved the cure rate and accelerated the recovery of patients. The effects of TCM on COVID-19 treatment were forcefully proved.

Meanwhile, China has actively launched international cooperation on the application of TCM in COVID-19 response, contributing wisdom and power to the global efforts against the disease.

It reinforced coordination with the World Health Organization (WHO) and included the application of TCM in epidemic response into the inspection scope of the WHO Joint Mission, so as to promote the effects of TCM and the selection of effective TCM drugs.

It also published an English-version TCM diagnosis and treatment protocol for COVID-19, introduced the application of TCM in COVID-19 response at the Global Health Forum of Boao Forum for Asia, and held nearly 40 video conferences and livestream activities about TCM for exchanges. China exchanged views on TCM diagnosis and treatment protocol for

Russian prime minister signs decree allowing entry for Swiss citizens

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin signed a decree lifting restrictions on entering Russia for Switzerland's citizens, which had been imposed over the coronavirus pandemic, the cabinet's press service said on Sunday.

"The citizens of Switzerland can arrive in Russia by planes. The flights



with this country are expected to be resumed on a mutual basis since August 15," the press service said.

The flights will be performed once per week on a route Moscow-Geneva-Moscow. The airlines will be notified on the flights' resumption.

The decision on allowing entry was made on August 1 after the meeting of the crisis center led by Deputy Prime Minister Tatyana Golikova.

Spain's former king Juan Carlos now in Dominican Republic - reports

MADRID

SPAIN'S former king Juan Carlos has gone to the Dominican Republic after leaving his home country under a cloud of scandal, La Vanguardia and ABC newspapers reported yesterday, without citing sources.

Pressure had been building on the once-popular, now divisive, former king as Spanish and Swiss prosecutors investigated allegations of bribes over a high-speed rail contract.

He decided to leave the country to allow his son Felipe to rule untroubled, a palace statement said on Monday, without saying where he had gone.

La Vanguardia said the 82 year-old went to Portugal by car on Monday morning and flew from there to the Dominican Republic, where he plans to stay for a few weeks with a family who made their wealth in sugar plantations, before looking for a new destination.

Early reactions to Juan Carlos' departure have shown Spain to be divided over whether the 82-year-old, who was a prominent figure in the transition to democracy after the death of dictator Francisco Franco, should have stayed to face justice.

Amid wide speculations over where he could have gone, Portuguese TV channel TVI24 and the Correio da Manha tabloid had said on Monday Juan Carlos was in Cascais, a resort area near Lisbon, where he spent part of his childhood. They did not cite any

His lawyer said on Monday Juan Carlos would "remain at the disposal of the prosecutors' office".

Pressure had been building for weeks on the former king and his son, King Felipe, to take action to shore up the monarchy, after Spanish and Swiss prosecutors started looking into allegations of bribes over a high-speed rail contract.

The palace statement quoted Juan Carlos' letter to Felipe as saying that he wanted to enable him to rule untroubled "amid the public repercussions that certain past events in my private life are generating".

"Guided by my desire to do what is best to serve the Spanish people, its institutions and you as king, I am inform-



ing you of my ... decision to leave Spain

King Felipe thanked Juan Carlos for his decision, underlining "the historic importance that his father's reign represents" for democracy in Spain.

Juan Carlos came to the throne in 1975 after the death of General Francisco Franco and was widely respected for his role in helping guide Spain from dictatorship to democracy.

But his popularity sank in later years due to a series of scandals, prompting him to step down in 2014.

Juan Carlos' lawyer, Javier Sanchez-Junco said in a brief statement that despite his decision to leave, the former king would "remain at the disposal of the prosecutors' office".

Amid much speculation over where he could be, Portuguese TV channel TVI24 and the Correio da Manha tabloid said Juan Carlos was in Cascais, a resort area near Lisbon, where he spent part of his childhood. They did not cite any sources.

MONARCHY IS 'COMPROMISED'

Switzerland's La Tribune de Geneve newspaper reported in March that Juan Carlos had received \$100 million from the late Saudi King over a high-speed rail contract.

That was followed by a regular dripfeed of allegations in the Spanish media, including that he gave much of the money to a former mistress.

Through Sanchez-Junco, Juan Carlos has repeatedly declined to comment on the corruption allegations. Spanish monarchs have immunity during their reign but Juan Carlos' abdication potentially leaves himself vulnerable to prosecution.

Juan Carlos' departure comes at a difficult time for Spain, hit by one of Europe's worst coronavirus outbreaks at a moment when local politics is tense and polarised.

Deputy Prime Minister Pablo Iglesias, of the leftist Podemos party, said Juan Carlos should have stayed in Spain.

"Juan Carlos de Borbon's flight abroad is an act unworthy of a former head of state and it leaves the monarchy in a very compromised position," Iglesias said on his Facebook page.

His party's parliamentary group went further, saying in a statement there was no reason to continue with a monarchy "lacking the minimum ethical values," potentially opening a rift with its government partner, the Socialist Party, which defends the monarchy.

Lao's Nam Ou River able to acquire hydrological information thanks to Chinese monitoring system

THE Nam Ou River hydrological monitoring and reporting system, a supporting project of Nam Ou River Cascade Hydropower Project invested and constructed by the Power Construction Corporation of China (PowerChina), is the first project of its kind for a river basin in Laos, as well as the largest one in the country that covers the widest area. It is hailed as an "eye" of the Nam Ou River basin.

Put into service in May 2014, the system automatically collects, transmits and processes hydrological, meteorological and project operation information in the basin. It is also able to complete hydrological forecasting and send warning alarms.

On the monitoring screen of the system in the centralized control center of the Nam Ou River Cascade Hydropower Project, thousands pieces of Chinese and English hydrological information are popping up. "The system can operate by itself 24 hours a day without human attendance," the head of the center told People's

"These science-based and reliable meteorological information help us control the water volume in each station, allocate generator load, and improve the utility rate of the water and benefits of power generation based on the water level and flow of the reservoir," the head of the center continued.

Thanks to the system, the Nam Ou River basin has effectively coped with natural disasters and extreme weathers such as floods, droughts, and typhoons, protecting the lives and property of the people, as well as the operation of the power station.

Eric is an employee of the Nam Ou Power Co., Ltd. under PowerChina. He lives in a village along the Nam Ou River, and his family has lived on fishing for generations. According to him, it was very difficult for them to deal with the sudden rise of water level in the old days. Now thanks to the hydrological monitoring and reporting system, his family feel assured when going out fishing, as they are always informed with the change of weathers.

"We are thankful that the Chinese enterprise has brought the system to Laos," said Sinava Souphanouvong, Vice Minister for Energy and Mines of Laos, adding that the system offers reliable technical support for the irrigation, fishing, navigation and tourism in the Nam Ou River basin.

Laos is exploring feasible plans to establish such system in other river basins, and is also actively launching a long-term cooperation mechanism with China's Yunnan province, so as to enrich the country's hydrological database and build new models of disaster prevention and relief.

The transcript of a July 2017 internal

People's Daily

UN staffer who complained of sexual assault appeals dismissal

GENEVA

A POLICY adviser fired by the UN agency fighting AIDS is appealing her dismissal for misconduct, saying she was actually sacked for reporting that she had been sexually assaulted by a senior colleague, her appeal documents

Martina Brostrom, from Sweden, was fired for sexual and financial misconduct in December. Her appeal, which she said was sent in April to the Global Board of Appeal of the World Health Organization (WHO), which oversees UNAIDS, has not been made public but Reuters has reviewed it.

"It becomes absurd to the point of being ironic that the one person who

filed a sexual assault complaint is the one who is found guilty of sexual misconduct," she said in an interview. The WHO declined to comment.

Then UNAIDS Deputy Executive Director Luiz Loures denies her accusation that he groped her in a hotel elevator in Thailand in 2015 and tried to drag her towards his room. Brostrom went public with her complaint in 2018.

Brostrom told Reuters an initial internal UN investigation did not substantiate her allegations but that the matter is still being investigated as part of a subsequent, wider case.

According to a UNAIDS letter to Brostrom dated April 27, 2018, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres initiated the second investigation after other sexual

harassment allegations were made against Loures, which he also denies. Guterres spokesman

Stephane Dujarric declined to give any details of the investigation, citing confidentiality. Reuters was unable to confirm whether it was still ongoing

Brostrom's appeal says her dismissal emerged from an investigation based on allegations contained in anonymous emails and initiated by Loures, then the agency's number two.

UN interview seen by Reuters cites him saying: "I trigger the investigation". Asked to comment, Loures said Brostrom was trying to distract attention from her dismissal. "I was not involved in the decision to dismiss and indeed

> ent investigation was started," he said. UNAIDS spokeswoman Sophie Barton-Knott declined to comment on the specifics of the case, citing confidential-

> had left UNAIDS before the independ-

"Comprehensive policies are in place and strictly adhered to at UNAIDS to protect whistle-blowers who report suspected wrongdoing from retaliation,"

she said. "UNAIDS does not engage in or tolerate any form of retaliation."

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned yesterday that the world faces a "generational catastrophe" because of school closures amid the coronavirus pandemic and said that getting students safely back to the classroom must be "a top priority".

Guterres (pictured) said that as of mid-July schools were closed in some 160 countries, affecting more than 1 billion students, while at least 40 million children have missed out on pre-school.

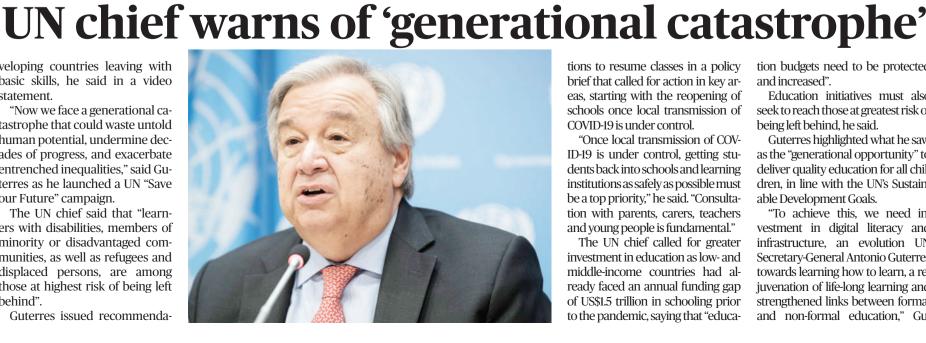
This came on top of more than 250 million children already being out of school before the pandemic and only a quarter of secondary school students in developing countries leaving with basic skills, he said in a video statement.

the UNESCO in 2011.

"Now we face a generational catastrophe that could waste untold human potential, undermine decades of progress, and exacerbate entrenched inequalities," said Guterres as he launched a UN "Save our Future" campaign.

The UN chief said that "learners with disabilities, members of minority or disadvantaged communities, as well as refugees and displaced persons, are among those at highest risk of being left behind".

Guterres issued recommenda-



tions to resume classes in a policy tion budgets need to be protected brief that called for action in key arand increased". eas, starting with the reopening of Education initiatives must also

The UN chief called for greater

seek to reach those at greatest risk of being left behind, he said. "Once local transmission of COV-

Guterres highlighted what he saw as the "generational opportunity" to deliver quality education for all children, in line with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

"To achieve this, we need investment in digital literacy and infrastructure, an evolution UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres towards learning how to learn, a rejuvenation of life-long learning and strengthened links between formal and non-formal education," Guterres said.

The UN recommendations for getting global education back on track come as US President Donald Trump pushes for schools to reopen in the face of opposition from some teachers and parents while COVID-19 is surging in many parts of the country.

The coronavirus has infected 4.7 million people in the United States and killed more than 155,000 Americans since February, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University (JHU).

Globally, the coronavirus has infected at least 18.2 million people and there have been more than 693,000 known deaths worldwide, according to JHU's tally.

Guardian www.ippmedic.com



In this Aug. 12, 2018 file photo, Brooke Koepka holds the Wanamaker Trophy after winning the PGA Championship golf tournament at Bellerive Country Clubin St. Louis. Koepka will try this week to become the first player to win three straight PGAs in stroke play. (AP Photo)

Koepka's biggest challenge is history in bid for 3 in a row

BY DOUG FERGUSON

PETER Thomson might have been up to his old tricks. He once described the Americans as the "greatest collection of golfers in the world" right before he captained an International team that annihilated the U.S. in the 1998 Presidents Cup.

So what to make of his prediction at Carnoustie nine years later? Tiger Woods was going for a third straight British Open title, a feat accomplished only six times in major championship history, most recently by Thomson in 1956.

"He has a chance to win eight in a row," Thomson replied.

It wasn't clear if Thomson was joking or trying to create even more attention for Woods. By the end of the week, it was a moot point as Woods tied for 12th. Woods won majors at a faster clip than anyone. He remains the only player to win multiple majors in consecutive years. But he never won the same major three straight times.

Neither did Jack Nicklaus. The one chance he had, Nicklaus missed the cut going for a third straight Masters. Tom Watson shared the 54-hole lead at St. Andrews in 1984 in his bid for a third straight British Open. He closed with 73 and finished two shots behind Seve Ballesteros.

Arnold Palmer. Ben Hogan. Harry Vardon. The list of failures is much longer than the six men who actually won the same major back-to-back.

That's why the biggest challenge facing Brooks Koepka as he goes for a third straight PGA Championship this week at the TPC Harding Park in San Francisco is more about history than his troublesome left knee and recent form.

It's rare.

"I just want to play good golf. It's simple," Koepka said when he went to Bay Area in February to preview a PGA Championship that was supposed to be held in May before the COVID-19 pandemic upended golf's cal-

"You start thinking about all the things that could happen, that's when nerve, everything else kind of creeps in. Just stay in the moment and keep plugging along."

Koepka already has had one crack at a three-peat and showed why he can't be overlooked. Trying to become the first player in more than a century to win the U.S. Open three straight times, he chased Gary Woodland all the way to the finish line at Pebble Beach and finished second.

Then it was all about Willie Anderson, the only player to win three straight U.S. Opens. Now it's about Walter Hagen, who won the PGA Championship four straight times (1924-27) when it was match play.

"Walter Hagen is a name every golf fan knows," Koepka said. "To even have a chance to put my name with his would be incredible and it would be super special. ... Two-time defending, it's a different feeling, and one you want to win this year."

Koepka won a thriller at Bellerive in 2018, when he set the PGA Championship scor-

ing record at 264 and matched the lowest score at any major. He nearly blew a sevenshot lead last year at Bethpage Black before winning by two. It helped that he set the 36hole record for all majors at 128 with what he calls the best golf he ever played.

But this isn't the same player. Koepka had stem cell treatment after last season because of a partially torn patella. Two weeks later, he slipped on a wet slab of concrete at the CJ Cup in South Korea and injured his left knee further, keeping him out for three months. And then he lost another three months to the pandemic.

He has gone a year without winning. Last week at the World Golf Championship, he said he is adjusting his swing to accommodate his left knee and Koepka had his best chance of winning, tied for the lead until hitting into the water off the tee on the final hole as Justin Thomas won.

For someone with this much history on the line, Koepka still has managed to avoid the spotlight in the weeks leading into the PGA Championship. Attribute that to the pandemic, and the PGA Tour's return to golf two months ago in which positive tests eight so far - get as much attention as birdies and bogeys.

"We're in different times now," said Curtis Strange, part of the ESPN broadcast team who had his shot at three straight U.S. Opens in 1990. "All sports have been put on the back burner just a little bit. I haven't read a lot about it, and I've talked a couple times to reporters about three in a row. ... But it would be a hell of an accomplishment."

That much is clear by the fact that no one has done it in 64 years. And when Thomson won his third straight British Open in 1956, it had been 29 years since Hagen, whose streak came 22 years after Anderson's. The other three were from the 19th century – Bob Ferguson (1880-82), Jamie Anderson (1877-79) and Young Tom Morris (1868-70) - when only about 40 players competed in

the British Open. Woods has won at least three straight

times at four PGA Tour events - three in a row at Firestone and Memorial, four in a row at Torrey Pines and Bay Hill. Just not in the majors.

He has gone back-to-back in the Masters and British Open, and twice in the PGA Championship. He tied for 29th in the 2001 PGA in Atlanta. He tied for 15th in the 2003 Masters. He tied for 12th at Carnoustie. He never got a chance in 2008 because of season-ending knee surgery.

The Masters is the one major no one has won three straight times, and Woods knew it. He also knew the opportunity was rare. "If you're ever in that position, you want to take advantage of it because it doesn't happen all the time," he said.

What happened? He went 21 holes before making his first birdie. He opened with a 76, his worst start in a major. And he never had another shot at three straight Masters.

Simba SC midfielder vouches for focus on CAF Champions League

BY CORRESPONDENT FAUSTINE FELICI-

IMBA SC midfielder, Clatous Chama, has said much as the side has had enormous success in the Vodacom Premier League and the Federation Cup, the squad must prepare adequately for the next season's CAF Champions League.

The Dar es Salaam club lifted this season's domestic top flight silverware with seven games to lay.

The side later edged fellow top flight club, Namungo FC, 2-1 in the Federation Cup final, played in Rukwa on Sunday, to lift the competition's top honour and, in the process, bag a domestic double.

Chama was of the opinion the CAF Champons League is not an easy competition and, thus, Simba SC's players and officials need to prepare well for the showpiece.

"We appreciate we have had much success this season, we are now preparing for CAF Champions League, it is a premier competition, it is not that easy," he disclosed.

"We have to prepare well, we need to have what it takes to give our all and in the end excell."

He moreover disclosed he believes his club's officials will prepare the players adequately with a view to seeing to it they perform well in the continental showdown.

assignments," he stated. "We truly thank our fans for



5imba SC midfielder, Clatous Chama (L), is presented with this season's Federation Cup's best player honour by Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Tulia Ackson, after the squad had locked horns with Namungo FC in the final, w took place in Rukwa last weekend. Simba SC emerged champions with 2-1 victory over Namungo FC in the final. PHOTO; COURTESY OF SIMBA SPORTS CLUB

Cup. They shoud continue motivating us to excel in the coming

Chama is one of Simba SC first

ings and even in the Federation greatly contributed to the club's success in the 2019/20 domestic top flight and the Federation Cup.

The Zambian midfield maetheir support in all top flight out- choice side members who have stro was moreover voted as the

Federation Cup best player.

He has as well been nominated for various honours which are, among others, this season's top flight's best midfielder and the tournament's best player.



Monday, Aug. 3, 2020 in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. Pelicans won 109-99. (AP Photo)

Lakers beat Jazz 116-108 to clinch top seed in West

LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLA.

ANTHONY Davis had 42 points and 12 rebounds, and the Los Angeles Lakers clinched the No. 1 seed in the Western Conference playoffs by beating the Utah Jazz 116-108 on Monday night.

The Lakers (51-15) own a sixgame lead over the secondplace Los Angeles Clippers and have five seeding games let before starting their first playoff run since 2013.

"If you're winning enough games to secure the No. 1 seed, you're building the right habits that are going to be necessary for you to win in the playoffs," Lakers coach Frank Vogel said. "Obviously we have bigger aspirations than the No. 1 seed, but we are proud of the accomplishment and we'll enjoy it while we're getting ready to get our group ready for the playoffs.

Utah (42-25) has clinched a playoff berth and is fifth in the West, a half-game behind Houston and a half-game ahead of Oklahoma City.

4-point play with 42 seconds left, as he sank a 3-pointer while getting fouled by Rudy Gobert and made the ensuing free throw to give the Lakers a 114-104 lead.

Utah's Donovan Mitchell answered with a 4-point play of his own that cut the margin to 114-106 with 36 seconds remaining, but the Jazz couldn't get any closer. Davis made two free throws with 5.2 seconds left to wrap up the scoring.

LeBron James scored 22 points, Dwight Howard had 11 and Kentavious Caldwell-Pope added 10 for the Lakers.

Mitchell scored 33 and Mike Conley had 24 for Utah. Gobert added 16 points and 13 rebounds for the Jazz.

The Lakers were coming off a 107-92 loss to Toronto in which Davis shot just 2 of 7 and scored 14 points. Davis was much more active Monday right from the start, as he scored 13 points and shot 6

of 14 in the first quarter alone. Davis had 24 points by halfpoints in a half.

"Coach just told me to be more aggressive," Davis said. "He felt like, and I felt like too, that I just kind of played into Toronto's defense, accepted the double-team. I was making the right plays, but I still have to be aggressive at the

same time." **Meanwhile,** Fred VanVleet made another case for a big pay-

day later this year VanVleet scored a careerhigh 36 points and made seven 3-pointers, and the defending NBA champion Toronto Raptors added to their strong restart with a 107-103 victory over the Miami

Heat on Monday. VanVleet, who is set to become an unrestricted free agent after the season, finished 7 of 12 from beyond the 3-point arc and was a perfect 13 of 13 from the foul line, topping his 34-point total against the Pelicans last December.

The 26-year-old VanVleet is in the midst of a two-year, \$18 million contract, but figures to cash time, marking the 20th time this in this coming offseason after

Davis' final basket resulted in a season he's scored at least 20 helping the Raptors win a championship and then following that up with another strong season in which he's averaging 17.5 points

and 6.7 rebounds. Pascal Siakam added 22 points and Kyle Lowry had 14 points and eight rebounds for the Raptors, who improved to 2-0 in the bubble. Toronto resumed its season by beating the Lakers and remains in second place in the Eastern Conference.

Goran Dragic had 25 points for the Heat.

Miami beat Toronto twice this season, but the Raptors avoided the season sweep behind VanVleet, who poured in deep 3s and repeatedly found his way to the foul line in the third quarter with strong drives.

The Raptors led by 17 midway through the third quarter before the Heat pulled ahead on Dragic's corner 3 with 10:11 remaining in the game. The Raptors regained command when Serge Ibaka, who had 15 points, added two dunks on back-to-back possessions

FIFA damage 'irreversible' over investigation into Infantino

running of world football being investigation." examined by a Swiss special prosecutor, FIFA's hopes of shedding the image of scandal have been derailed by its possibility that something president's secret meetings with criminal might have been authorities.

there is a criminal investigation we can't erase that," FIFA deputy secretary general Alasdair Bell told The Associated Press on damage is, to some extent, irreversible.

It is five years since Sepp Blatter was toppled by a FIFA ethics disciplined after it was revealed he verdict of financial wrongdoing which came in the fallout from a to discuss the FIFA investigations, wave of arrests of high-ranking football officials by Swiss and American authorities.

Now Infantino's talks with Swiss attorney general Michael Lauber about the sprawling investigation investigations linked to FIFA. into football corruption has put them both in the sights of a special prosecutor. There are records of what was said in the three meetings.

"It's almost preposterous to suggest that because someone doesn't remember the details of a meeting, therefore something attorney general, for which he's criminal should have been responsible, has made very little, discussed," Bell said.

not to take minutes when one with Sepp Blatter," Bell said. the FIFA president meets the attorney general of the country," Bell added. "You don't really expect when you go to meet the with the progress the authorities most senior prosecutor in the in the United States made with the country, to have a discussion cases they handled.' about governance reform at FIFA, to have a discussion about

the ongoing cases involving FIFA .. after that to end up yourself Gianni Infantino's being the subject of a criminal

But special prosecutor Stefan Keller has written to Infantino to say he cannot "exclude the discussed you can't remember," "It's a matter of record now that according to a version recounted

potential criminal charges facing Infantino could be "incitement to abuse office, Monday. "In that respect the incitement to violate secrecy, incitement to obstruct justice,' Bell said.

Lauber was recused and had three meetings with Infantino which has included at least 25 open criminal proceedings.

There is no timeframe for completing the cases in a country that has been slow to progress

A criminal proceeding against Blatter - for a \$2 million payment he authorized to then-FIFA vice president Michel Platini in 2011 for uncontracted salary - remains open after almost five years.

"It doesn't help Lauber's case that for five years the office of the if any, progress on all these FIFA "I don't really think it's reckless corruption cases, including the

"It doesn't look good at all. I think it looks particularly bad when you can see and compare it

Soccer finalists in Brazil flouting virus rules

SAO PAULO

BOTH teams in the Sao Paulo never allowed." state league final this week are accused of wilfully ignoring health recommendations to stop the

Defending Sao Paulo state champion Corinthians refused on Sanchez said Sao Paulo state Monday to be tested again, while officials did not ask the club to do archrival Palmeiras was criticized a new round of testing. "You know for releasing players and staffers to why? Because we followed all the go home after matches.

The first leg of the state final is on Wednesday, and the second on Saturday. The COVID-19 protocols of the Sao Paulo soccer body are the same ones being applied to the leg of the final, but Palmeiras was Brazilian championship starting next weekend.

Corinthians said in a statement that its refusal was in line with the health protocols of Sao Paulo athletes in isolation after the match state's soccer body. It added its players and staffers have been in isolation at the club training ground for 14 days, since the before the following match," Sao restart of the tournament after a four-month break.

The club also said it was behaving 'differently from Palmeiras, who did not comply (with health

protocols) and released its athletes after every match, which was

Palmeiras did not respond, but players said in recent interviews they have taken COVID-19 tests after returning from home.

Corinthians president Andres protocols. Talk to those that did not." he wrote on Twitter.

Later, Sao Paulo's soccer body said Corinthians was excused from COVID-19 testing before the first not. Both teams will have all of their players and staffers tested again on Thursday.

"Palmeiras chose not to keep the against Ponte Preta (on Sunday). So, following the same protocol, the squad will have to be tested Paulo officials said in a statement.

Fans of both clubs criticized their behavior on social media.

Liverpool boss Klopp has 'two faces' - Lewandowski

BAYERN Munich striker Robert Lewandowski said thinks Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp has "two faces" -- one of a coach and one of a father.

Lewandowski, 31, played for four seasons under Klopp at Borussia Dortmund before the two moved on in 2014 and 2015, respectively, and the Poland international called the German his favorite manager of all the ones he's played under during his career in an exclusive Instagram Live chat with

think...Jurgen Klopp [is my favorite] and after that Pep Guardiola. 100 percent," Lewandowski said of the Premier League and Champions League winner with Liverpool. "[Klopp] has two faces. You can see that he is kind of like a father, but the second part is like a coach, a manager. He can tell you everything -- and I'm

not speaking about the good things -- about the bad things.

"Also for [players], he is a huge motivation. He makes this perfect, because he knows where there is this line where he can [push you] more or a little bit less.

"His performance as a coach is amazing, but not only as a coach but also as a man.'

Lewandowski has continued to be one of the world's top goalscorers since joining the eighttimes Bundesliga champions, scoring 51 goals in 43 games so far this season, including 34 in Germany's top flight as Bayern won the league and cup double.

Next up for Bayern is a Champions League round of 16 second leg versus Chelsea, with Lewandowski's team holding a 3-0 advantage from the first leg before the competition was put on hold due to the coronavirus pandemic.

(Agencies)

African leagues: Tunisia resume, Zambia falter, Algeria cancel

JOHANNESBURG

UNISIA have become the second elite African league after Morocco to restart amid the coronavirus pandemic and four-time African champions Esperance stretched their lead to 12 points by winning.

But Zambia, who resumed in mid July, will end their season this Thursday due to a surge of COVID-19 cases, having completed only 27 of 34 rounds.

Algeria have cancelled their championship while Tanzania, the first Africa country to restart after shutting down in March, crowned FA Cup

Here, AFP Sport looks at the situation in five countries ahead of highly anticipated restarts in Egypt and South Africa this week.

TUNISIA

Esperance came from behind to defeat mid-table Soliman 2-1 and increase their lead to 12 points in the Tunisian Ligue Professionnelle 1 to 12 points with nine rounds to go.

All the goals came during the first half with national team forward Taha Yassine Khenissi scoring the winner for the 'Blood and Gold' 11 minutes before half-time.

CS Sfaxien from Mediterranean industrial city Sfax were held 1-1 at bottom-half Tataouine, who levelled eight minutes after falling behind during the second half.

Monastir lie third, three points behind Sfaxien, after drawing 0-0 at home to fifth-place Club Africain, who have conceded only five goals in



Simba Sports Club.

17 league matches. ZAMBIA

Napsa Stars are one victory away from a first Zambia Super League title after overcoming lowly Buildcon 2-0 through a brace from Collins Sikombe.

The Lusaka club bankrolled by the National Pension Scheme Authority and previously called Profund Warriors will seal top spot if they defeat fellow title contenders Forest Rangers.

Napsa are poised to succeed despite 19 of the staff testing positive for COV-ID-19 -- the second most affected team after Rangers with 28 cases.

of some clubs to follow health protocols resulted in officials shortening the season.

ALGERIA

The north African nation is among the hardest hit by the pandemic and has decided not to resume league and cup competitions that were shut down early in the year.

An average-points-pergame system was used to decide final placings in the Algerian Ligue Professionnelle 1 and table-topping Chabab Riadhi Belouizdad were declared winners.

It is the first time since The alarming number 2001 that the Algiers club

of cases and the failure have won the league and qualified for the CAF Champions League.

> Belouizdad will be joined in the elite African club competition by runnersup Mouloudia Alger while third-place Entente Setif go into the second-tier CAF Confederation Cup.

TANZANIA

Dar es Salaam outfit Simba SC completed a league and cup double in the east African country by defeating Namunga 2-1 in western city Sumbawanga.

Mozambican Luis Miquissone and John Bocco scored for Simba during the first half before a packed crowd that did not

practice social distancing.

Edward Manyama halved the deficit on 56 minutes, but Namunga had to settle for the consolation of competing in the Confederation Cup for the first time next season.

In mid-June, Tanzania became the first African country to restart a league halted by the coronavirus. MOROCCO

A thrilling struggle for the title is developing between arch Casablanca rivals Raja and Wydad after the season resumed last Monday behind closed doors.

Three-time African champions Raja overcame mid-table Youssoufia Berrechid 2-0 to move within two points of leaders Wydad, who have played one match more.

While Raja have collected seven points from three matches since the resumption, Wydad were held 1-1 at home by fourth-place Mouloudia Oudja in their

lone appearance. Raja and Wydad are also eyeing African glory with both clubs having reached the semi-finals of the 2019/2020 CAF Champions League along with Egyptian giants Al Ahly and Za-

AFP

European hopes could harm 2020-21 Premier League ambitions

BY JAMES OLLEY, SENIOR WRITER, ESPN FC

PREMIER League clubs often face a dilemma over whether to prioritise European competition or domestic pursuits, but it's never quite like the choice facing them now. Recent confirmation that the next English top-flight season will start on Sept. 12 has prompted a scramble to start planning for a campaign that is already less than six weeks away.

The Premier League's Project Restart was an unmitigated success and a testament to the hard work done by the league, clubs, staff and everyone associated in adapting to the coronavirus pandemic, but the inevitable cumulative fatigue among players was palpable by the end.

Yet for many of the clubs playing catch-up to Liverpool, the punishing schedule is not over yet. Following Saturday's FA Cup final win for Arsenal over Chelsea, the Blues join Manchester City, Manchester United and Wolves in European competition that could stretch until late-August.

Although the Premier League clubs have voted to give everyone a minimum 30-day break, some teams will have longer to rest and then gear up for the new campaign. Additional exertions resulting from prolonged engagement in Europe creates an imbalance among teams in preparation for a season in which City have to try and close a 33-point gap, with United and Chelsea closer to the relegation places than they were to the champions, despite finishing third and fourth, respectively.

Liverpool are already on the beach. Sources have told ESPN that Jurgen Klopp's first-team squad have been given approximately three weeks off ahead of a return to training in mid-August, giving them around four weeks to build up their sharpness for the opening day. The chasing pack already are some way behind, and going all out in Europe next month will complicate the path to bridging the gap.

UEFA did give teams a chance to mitigate their risk. Clubs were given until Monday to register three new players on their "List A," the roster comprising a maximum of 25 players selected to play in European competition. They cannot include new signings, meaning Timo Werner or Hakim Ziyech cannot be part of Chelsea's Champions League squad, but Frank Lampard could select three fringe players or academy graduates for what looks to be Mission Impossible against Bayern

The Blues are 3-0 down from the first leg of their round-of-16 clash with



Premier League clubs still in European competition have a very

the Bundesliga champions. That game is due to take place on Aug. 8, meaning Lampard will have had to keep his full squad in training for another week after the FA Cup final for what could be viewed as a meaningless game.

"List A" is then supple-

mented by "List B," comprising players born on or after Jan. 1, 1998, who have been eligible to play for the club for an uninterrupted period of two years since their 15th birthday. At the start of the season, this list included Mason Mount, Callum Hudson-Odoi, Reece James, Jamie Cumming, Marc Guehi, George McEachran and Billy Gilmour. However, Guehl and McEachran were taken off the list submitted for the knockout phase as they joined Swansea City and Cambuur, respectively. A UEFA spokesperson confirmed to ESPN that "List B" cannot be amended, meaning the only changes that

can be made are the three alterations to "List A."

Lampard would never want to give up on the Champions League without trying. It is the competition dearest to owner Roman Abramovich's heart, a Holy Grail pursuit of which Lampard was a key part as a player, eventually tasting success when the Blues lifted the trophy in 2012. But there is a point where passion meets pragmatism.

Chelsea have been aggressive in the transfer market, aiming to add Bayer Leverkusen's Kai Havertz to the acquisitions of Werner and Ziyech, with a view to competing with Liverpool for the Premier League title next season. Picking an experimental lineup for the game in Munich, while affording his senior stars the longest possible rest, would give Chelsea the best chance of doing that. They have already secured a spot in the Champions League

poignancy of returning to the Allianz Arena to face the same opponents in the same venue as 2012, it's debatable whether pursuing such a Hail Mary is worth it in the circumstances. Were they to pull off

a miracle and somehow qualify -- no team has ever recovered in a Champions League tie after losing the first leg at home by three to validate his tenure with goals -- Chelsea would join a trophy but pushing a fa-Manchester United, Wolves tigued squad to play on and Manchester City in a lengthy engagement running well into August.

United could pick almost any conceivable team against LASK at Old Trafford next Wednesday and qualify for the Europa League quarterfinals, given they lead the Austrian minnows 5-0 from the first leg. But what should Ole Gunnar Solksjaer do next?

United's remarkable late surge to finish third in the Premier League revolved around picking the same lineup for five games in a row during the run-in. Bruno Fernandes excelled, but he looked exhausted by the end of the campaign and wasn't alone in that regard. Anthony Martial, Marcus Rashford and Mason Greenwood all need a break, not to mention Harry Maguire, who started every Premier League game of the season.

United won the Europa League three years ago under Jose Mourinho and while it was the first

next season and for all the time they had won that particular trophy, the competition was still primarily a means to an end. Champions League qualification through the Premier League had passed by that point and so Mourinho focused on their insurance policy, beating Ajax convincingly in the final.

There is no such urgency now. Solskjaer will be keen into August would inevitably have consequences for the start of the 2020-21 season.

The motivations and priorities are more obvious for Wolves and Manchester

Wolves are engaged in their first European campaign for 39 years. The competition started for Nuno Espirito Santo's side in the second qualifying round on July 25 last year. They have played 15 matches to get this far and stand just four matches from a major European trophy and qualifying for the Champions League, a feat that would rank as a truly stunning achievement.

Wolves have taken it seriously every step of the way and, given how chances like this do not come around that often, they're not about to change that view now, whatever damage a 13-month campaign could inflict in future.

GWIII by David Chikoko





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Yanga now defend transfer approach

African leagues: Tunisia resume, Zambia falter, **Algeria cancel**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



A section of Yanga players feature in the squad's training at Tanganyika Law School's venue in Dar es Salaam recently to prepare for the Vodacom Premier League, which culminated in July. PHOTO; CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Michael

Information Bumbuli, has defended the club's approach of signing and releasing players without a recognized technical bench in the on-going transfer window.

After missing out on a place in next season's CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup, the club has opted for a massive clearance of the squad.

Yanga lost to Simba SC in the Azam Sports Federation Cup semi-final and the former also came out a distant second in the Premier League, won by the latter.

On Monday evening

Yanga released a list of 14 players deemed surplus to the club's requirements as rebuilding continues ahead of the new season.

Four foreign players have been released, among them, club skipper Papy Tshishimbi whose contract renewal negotiations broke down late last month.

Club top scorer, Congolese David Molinga, Rwandan winger Patrick Sibomana, Zambian winger Eric Kabamba and Ivorian attacker Yikpe Gnamien have all been shown the exit

Local players, who have been released, are Jaffary Mohamed, Mohamed Issa 'Banka', Tariq

Seif, Andrew Vincent, Muharam Issa, Ali Ali, Rafael Daud, Ali Mtoni Sonso and Mrisho Ngassa.

Fifteen players have been Farouk retained, namely Shikhalo, Metacha Mnata, Ramadhan Kabwili, Haruna Niyonzima, Lamine Moro, Bernard Morrison, Feisal Salum and Juma Mahadhi.

Adeyum Saleh, Said Makapu, Balama Mapinduzi, Deus Kaseke, Ditram Nchimbi, Abdulaziz Makame and Paul Godfrey are as well in the list.

Yanga have already landed defender Bakari Mwamnyeto from Coastal Union, striker Waziri Junior from Mbao FC, left fullback Yassin Mustapha from

Polisi Tanzania and midfielder supporters that the club is doing Zawadi Mauya from Kagera Sugar.

The GSM Group, who are Yanga's main sponsors, have declared they are ready to bankroll more deals with several foreign players on the club's wishlist.

However, Bumbuli, who is as well the club's Information Department's Head, is content that his club has gone about things the right way, saying the technical committee is made up of various members with solid coaching licences and experience.

like to assure Yanga fans and

things the right way. They should not listen to pundits and critics who are doing their job to earn money."

"We are building a squad, something that we have done before when we cleared the entire squad and still won the league within two years."

"The technical committee has solid people. You should not forget our chairman is the one who recommended the signing of Mapinduzi Balama and the player is doing well."

"We have someone like Kennedy Mwaisabula who is a Bumbuli said; " I would respected coach who knows the league very well."

VPL awards ceremony set for Saturday

THIS year's ceremony for awarding best players, coaches and referees for the just ended Vodacom Premier League will be held at Mlimani City hall in Dar es Salaam on Friday.

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) information officer, Clifford Ndimbo, said all is set for the awards and promised that the event will be more entertaining as it targets to honour and celebrate the success the players, coaches and referees have had in the 2019/20 football season.

He said a panel of judges has selected three individuals in each category of best player, best keeper, best referee, best coach, best upcoming player, most disciplined outfit, best assistant referee, best defender and best midfielder.

In the best player category, players competing for the honour are Nicholas Wadada (Azam FC), Clatous Chama (Simba SC), and Bakari Mwanyeto (Coastal

Contenders for best goal award are KMC FC's Sadallah Lipangile that netted a goal during his side's match against Mtibwa Sugar, Simba's Luis Miquissone's goal against Alliance FC and Paston Shikala of Mbeya City FC that netted a goal against JKT Tanzania.

Contenders of best goal keeper honour are Aishi Manula of Simba SC, Daniel Mgore of Biashara United and Nourdine Balora of Namungo FC.

In the best upcoming player's category, contenders are Kelvin Kijiri of KMC FC, Dickson Job of Mtibwa Sugar and Novatus Dismas of Biashara United.

Coastal Union, Kagera Sugar and Mwadui FC are competing for the award in the most disciplined team's category whereas Ahmed Arajiga from Manyara, Ramadhan Kayoko of Dar es Salaam and Abdallah Mwinyimkuu are competing for best referee of the season's honour.

In the best assistant referee's category, contenders are Frank Komba from Dar es Salaam, Abdulazziz Ally of Arusha and Hamdau Said of Mtwara.

Simba SC head coach, Sven Vandernbroeck, Thierry Hitimana of Namungo FC and Aristica Cioaba of Azam FC are competing for the best coach honour.

Those contesting for the best defender award are Mwanyeto of Coastal Union, David Luhende of Kagera Sugar and Wadada of Azam FC.

The best midfielder's category contenders are Mapinduzi Balama of Yanga, Lucas Kikoti of Namungo FC and Clatous Chama of Simba SC.

Simba SC won the Vodacom Premier League title with 88 points while their age old rivals, Yanga, finished second with 72 points.

Simba SC quashes Vandernbroeck sacking rumours

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

VODACOM Premier League Champions, Simba SC, have brushed off reports that there are plans by the side to fire head coach, Sven Vandernbroeck, and his back room staff due to unimpressive performance in local and continental matches.

Simba SC Information Officer, Haji Manara, on Monday said there are no plans to fire the Belgian tactician and his backroom staff.

Manara stated that those who are spreading the news are targeting to fuel conflict between the technical department, players, management and the club's supporters.

He asked those, who are behind the rumours, to stop forthwith.

"We don't have any plan to fire our coach and his backroom staff, I'm asking those who are spreading the news to stop forthwith," he noted.

"Those people's aim is to create confusion in our club, stop it... if you want to spread lies you better say Haji Manara has been (word withheld), not what you are spreading about our coach and his backroom staff," the highly charged Manara said.

He said the outfit is happy with the coach and his assistants' performance as they have guided the club to win the 2019/20 Vodacom Premier League and this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC).

Vanden broeck, who had in 2018

coached Zambia's national team, had also worked an assistant to coach Hugo Broos who guided Cameroon to lift the 2017 Africa Cup of Nations' trophy.

Manara also disclosed that after Simba had achieved their set goals for this season, the focus is on the CAF Champions League, insisting they want to cruise past the competition's group stage.

In a monitored radio interview, held in Rukwa on Friday, Vandenbroack said after guiding his side to 2-1 win over Namungo FC in ASFC final that he has been hearing of the rumours of his impending sack.

He said he however is focusing on building a strong Simba which can compete in the continental tourna-

"I have seen stories of my impending firing, but my focus now is on building a strong Simba which can compete well on the continental level, if I will be sacked my wish is that the one who comes after me should build a strong team," the former Zambia national team head coach stated.

Manara's remarks comes after some of domestic football lovers had said the coach and his backroom staff have failed tactically and technically to inspire confidence in the outfit.

The enthusiasts noted the results which Simba have recorded this season have come about because of individual brilliance of the side's of



Simba SC head coach Sven Vandernbroeck

Flexibles by David Chikoko

