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TANZANIA

MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER, 2020

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SUMAJKT to boost production



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Majaliwa urges parties to go to court if aggrieved



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What 'magic' decided CCM, JPM landslides?



JPM: I owe Tanzanians big debt

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

NEWLY re-elected President John Magufuli has said he owes Tanzanians a 'big debt', promising to work day and night to fulfil the pledges he made during election campaigns.

Speaking here briefly yesterday after being presented with the 2020 General Election winner's certificate in the, he said things will never be the same for him because he has to deliver on the promises in response to the massive trust that people have showed him.

He appealed to Tanzanians to put the country forward without considering inter-party differences, and work together to help bring the desired development. Elections are gone and people have to move ahead, he emphasized.

Dr Magufuli declared that, this being

“I thank you people for this historic win in the history of multiparty elections in our country and I pray that God help me fulfil the needs of Tanzanians who have demonstrated great trust and faith in me

his final term in office, he would do “everything possible” to ensure the needed development since Tanzanians need solutions to their problems.

“I thank you people for this historic win in the history of multiparty elections in our country and I pray that God help me fulfil the needs of Tanzanians who have demonstrated great trust and faith in me,” he noted.

He expressed appreciation for opposition parties for their vigorous and challenging participation in the elections, saying they have helped him realise what the Tanzanian people need, promising to work together with all the parties.

Specifically, the re-elected president applauded ten opposition presidential aspirants who attended yesterday's ceremony, noting that their presence and acceptance of defeat was a clear sign that politics does not mean bad blood or antagonism.

He elaborated: “Despite getting many votes, some voters who are members of opposition parties saw it wise to give me the votes rather than their party leaders. I cannot look down upon opposition

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National Electoral Commission chairman Judge (retired) Semistocles Kaijage presents the victory confirmation certificate to newly re-elected President Dr John Magufuli in Dodoma city yesterday. Looking on is Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan, who was his running mate. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph.

Police sound warning on opposition protests

By Guardian Reporters

SEVERAL regional police commanders have issued stern warnings against protests as some opposition leaders called on their supporters to take to the streets to contest the outcome of last week's General Election.

Speaking separately at the weekend, the RPCs appealed to citizens to abide by the law as elections were over and winners declared by relevant authorities.

Mwanza RPC Murilo Jumanne called on residents of the region to continue with their daily economic and social activities, saying peace was assured despite some opposition parties having announced plans

NCCR-Mageuzi differs with candidate on polls credibility

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

“We have received many complaints from our members over the entire election process starting from the campaign period, polling day to the announcement of results

THE opposition NCCR-Mageuzi has distanced itself from the move by its presidential candidate in the just concluded general election, Yerima Maganja, to sign a statement endorsing the results.

NCCR elections committee chairman Anthony Komu told reporters here at the weekend that the party was still evaluating

to commence nationwide protests starting today.

He told journalists that as the polls exercise has been completed, the public should now focus on building the nation.

“Do not worry about anything, we are here to ensure that peace is maintained, so go out freely and continue with your economic activities,” the police commander told the residents.

He said the police force worked hard to ensure that peace and security is maintained during the election period and thus it will continue to strengthen its surveillance to ensure that the country remains safe.

“We are well prepared to protect the country's peace and deal

effectively with anyone who will come in between and try to organize or engage in protest,” he said

He emphasized on the general public to continue protecting the country's peace as it is the only tool that will make Tanzania a better place to live.

Those who have been campaigning for the country to enter into conflict have never witnessed the impacts of war, he stated.

Last Saturday, the country's two major opposition parties—Chadema and ACT-Wazalendo called on supporters to take to the streets to protest the general election results, which they claim was fraudulent, demanding a fresh vote.

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Russia belt travellers boost Z'bar tourism

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

ANOTHER plane with hundreds of tourists on board touched down at Abeid Karume International Airport yesterday, rekindling expectations of a rebound in the tourism sector.

The group consisting of 531 visitors from Russia is the largest number of tourists to arrive from a single flight since the outbreak of Covid-19, coming slightly over a week after 215 tourists from Ukraine arrived in the Isles on October 25th.

Dr Abdallah Muhammed Juma, the Secretary for the Zanzibar Tourism Commission, said Zanzibar was also expecting to receive 100 planes of tourists that are

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JPM: I owe Tanzanians big debt

FROM PAGE 1

leaders, but will work closely with them."

Dr Magufuli also thanked religious leaders "for the commendable work they are doing that has helped the country maintain peace and harmony."

He similarly expressed gratitude to the citizenry over the peace that prevailed during campaigns and voting, saying it was all "a sign of political maturity and high regard for peace and harmony".

He called on CCM members not to celebrate the win for too long, saying elections are gone and it is time to get down to work and deliver on the election promises.

Former Burundi president Sylvestre Ntibantunganya, who headed the East African Community (EAC) observer mission during the elections, congratulated Tanzanians on their having midwived "a peaceful, free and fair General Election".

He said members of the team he headed went to various parts of the country and "the mood was mostly the same everywhere, with people voting peacefully".

"What we saw was that the elections were well organised and people voted peacefully, a sign of the togetherness of the Tanzanian people," he added.

National Electoral Commission (NEC) chairman retired Judge Semistocles Kajjaga meanwhile said Dr Magufuli was

declared winner of the just-ended presidential election after getting an overwhelming number of votes.

He thanked political parties for peaceful campaigns and elections, adding: "To formally conclude the 2020 General Election, the commission today awards the winning certificate for the presidential seat to John Magufuli."

He then handed the certificates over to the re-elected president and re-elected vice president, Samia Suluhu Hassan. Shortly thereafter, CCM Secretary General Dr Bashiru Ally Kakurwa declared that CCM members who had won various positions in the polls "ought to know that the win symbolises the great task ahead".

"We have the responsibility to stand strong and ensure that the government delivers on all promises made to the people, knowing that we shall be judged by the same, come the next General Election in 2025," he said.

He also commended the media "for their great coverage of the campaigns and voting, which ran without discrimination".

According to Government spokesman Dr Hassan Abbas, Dr Magufuli will be sworn in on Thursday at Dodoma's Jamhuri Stadium and several Heads of State and Government have confirmed their intention to attend the event.



Newly re-elected President Dr John Magufuli and Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan, who was his running mate, congratulate each other in Dodoma city yesterday moments after the National Electoral Commission presented him with the victory confirmation certificate. Photo: State House

NCCR-Mageuzi differs with candidate on polls credibility

FROM PAGE 1

the results and attaching his signature thereof does not legitimize or invalidate calls for reform, including the need for a truly independent electoral commission," he said.

"We have received many complaints from our members over the entire election process starting from the campaign period, polling day to the announcement of results."

"We also have written evidence, as the NEC commissioner displayed all signs that the election would be free and fair, but during implementation it was quite different to what they were saying, leaving many visible scars," he declared.

There were numerous shortcomings, and those who claimed to have won have the obligation to sit with those who were claimed to have lost in order to maintain peace among

Tanzanians, he stated.

Asked whether his party will join a mass protest called by the two main opposition parties Chadema and ACT-Wazalendo against official election results, Komu said he had no mandate to speak on that issue as higher party organs were the ones to decide.

Chadema and ACT-Wazalendo have declared last Wednesday's general election and announcement of CCM candidate John Magufuli

as the winner a fraudulent process, calling for new elections managed by a new body.

CCM also bagged a record 264 parliamentary seats, leaving only Nkasi - won by Aida Kenani of Chadema - and Mtwara Rural, going to Shamsia Mtamba of the Civic United Front (CUF).

Chadema said at the weekend that because there were no credible polls, it does not recognise its so-called one member of Parliament.

Asked by this paper yesterday about how the party has taken her sole win and whether she accepts it, Mtamba said she has not faced any objections from the party leadership.

"Nothing has been discussed or conveyed to me to that effect; all I know is that I have been duly elected by my people and next is for me to serve them," she added.



Russian tourists pictured at Zanzibar's Abeid Amani Karume International Airport at the weekend shortly after disembarking from an Azur Airline flight. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

More Russia belt travellers boost Zbar's tourism

FROM PAGE 1

currently in queue, with the latest batch arriving in an Azur Airline plane from Russia.

"In the next six months starting December, 100 planes are expected to make trips to Zanzibar originating from the new tourist markets in Eastern Europe," he said.

After Tanzania started being free of Covid-19, tourism has opened up and many hotels will be opened to assimilate an expected influx of tourists.

"Zanzibar is nice...I should say that youths whose jobs in hotels were terminated due to the pandemic should now prepare to get their jobs back as an influx of tourists is in the pipeline," he said.

Apart from the arrival of the Azur plane, four bigger planes brought in tourists last week from new tourist markets in Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan, he said, elaborating that in the past Zanzibar depended on traditional tourist markets of Italy, France, UK, the United States and Germany.

As the world remained idle in the tourism business due to the pandemic, Zanzibar was making considerable efforts and since the skies were reopened, the fruits are being discerned, he said.

Isles officials are in contact with Turkish business groups to receive another planeload of tourists this month with more than 500 visitors from Russia.

For the first time a German airline is expected to fly tourists directly to Zanzibar on December 31, he added.

Police sound warning on opposition protests

FROM PAGE 1

In the election, Dr John Magufuli (CCM) was declared winner with a crushing 84 percent of votes, while the ruling party took 97 percent of the 264 elective parliamentary seats.

In a joint press conference held in Dar es Salaam, the two parties denounced the election and called their supporters to action.

"Firstly, we call for fresh elections as soon as possible. Whatever happened this is not an election," said the Chadema chairman, Freeman Mbowe.

Meanwhile, the Geita Regional Interreligious Peace Committee also warned political parties from organizing protests.

Alhaj Yusufu Kabaju, the Geita regional sheikh, urged those who are not satisfied with the general election results to opt for legal procedures, including objecting to the results, procedures in court.

"We have heard some politicians emphasizing the public to go for protest. This is not fair and it threatens the country's peace. Young people should not support these things, let the political leaders and their families be the first in the rally lines," the priest intoned.

Coast RPC Wankyo Nyigesa warned political parties' followers from coordinating and engaging in any unlawful protests.

The RPC's statement followed an

announcement by Chadema and ACT-Wazalendo urging its members to stage peaceful demonstrations from today.

They made the call on Saturday at Chadema headquarters in Dar es Salaam, a day after NEC announced presidential poll results in the October 28th General Election.

Wankyo suggested that opposition leaders who were not satisfied with the General Election results contest them in court instead of encouraging their followers to protest.

"We will take measures against anyone attempting to protest. The police force is determined to ensure no citizen stages the so-called peaceful protests," he emphasized, underlining that

such gatherings threaten the country's peace.

"We are sure that their intentions are to disrupt the country's prevailing peace. I urge them to stop all the protest arrangements because they do not have permits from relevant authorities."

At the joint press conference, Mbowe announced not to recognize the presidential results.

Opposition leaders also demanded the disbanding of NEC and the Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC) and the creation of independent electoral commissions to oversee a repeat of the general election.

The parties called on their members

and the public to participate in endless peaceful protests from November 2, 2020 until the demands are met.

Tanga Regional Commissioner Martine Shigella also reacted to the call for protests by banning demonstrations by political parties in the region, saying they could cause breach of the peace.

Shigella's banning order follows the decision by leaders of opposition parties urging mass protests to oppose the results of the general election conducted last week, demanding that it is rerun.

Shigella was firm that what the country wants is peace. "The election is over; what remains is to continue with other development activities, we

should remain calm."

He said he does not want to see any gatherings in the region because those who won have already been announced, urging losers to accept the results.

NEC on Friday announced President John Magufuli as having won the poll after garnering 84 per cent of the votes, while his main opponent, Tundu Lissu obtained 13.04 per cent.

Mbowe reacted at the press conference to say what happened on October 28 was not an election, but destruction of democracy.

Out of 256 parliamentary seats, ACT-Wazalendo won four seats, CUF three seats and CHADEMA one seat.

Air Tanzania Airbus lands at Dodoma Airport for first time

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

AN Airbus A220-300 airliner over the weekend landed for the first time at Dodoma Airport following extension to its runway to 2.8 km.

The plane, christened Ngorongoro Hapa Kazi Tu was received by Dodoma regional Commissioner Dr Binlith Mahenge in company with various government leaders and other Dodoma residents.

Speaking at the event, Dr Mahenge said the plane's landing is part of government's efforts to speed up development for Tanzanians by improving the country's air services.

He said the improvement of air transport in Dodoma Region has brought relief in regard to transport costs to Dodoma residents.

"In 2017 there was only one plane run by Auric carrying 12 passengers and whose fare was 530,000/- Dodoma-Dar one way but after the Bombardier and now Airbus, the fare has gone down greatly, as the 530,000/- enables one to make Dodoma-Dar round trip," he said.

The RC said Dodoma is the hub for economic activities as well as the nation's capital and the expanded airport would woo investors in the

tourism sector.

"It is easy for a tourist going to Man-yara or Ruaha from Dodoma instead of from Dar es Salaam. In addition, the government is building a big international Airport at Msalato to cost USD 30 million after completion and will have two runways," he added.

Earlier, giving report on expansion of Dodoma Airport, the Director of Tanzania Roads Agency (TANROADS) Patrick Mfugale said its only runway was 2.5 km long, but now it has been extended to 2.8 km to enable bigger aircraft like the Airbus A220-300 to land.

He said expansion work begun in July this year and completed on October 15 at a cost of 3.06bn/- while 5.8bn/- was paid to former owners of the land as compensation, and added that what remained was the installation of runway lights for night landing.

Dr Leonard Chamuriho, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications said the runway was extended in two phases: in the first phase it was extended to cater for the 76-passenger Bombardier aircraft, and the second phase to allow it to cater for the 132-passenger Airbus A220-300



World Vision Tanzania's north zone manager, Mkama Nangu (L), pictured at an Endabash hospital in Karatu District at the weekend presenting medical equipment and supplies worth 87m/- to Karatu District Medical Officer Dr Lucas Juma to support the improvement of maternal and infant health - as Karatu Integrated Health and WASH project coordinator Dr Flavian Ngeni (3rd-L) looks on. Photo: Correspondent Daniel Sabuni

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

A HERD of elephants has invaded human settlements, causing panic after killing one resident at Kwakoa village in Mwanza District, Kilimanjaro Region.

The elephants whose total number is yet to be identified are to have killed Kwangu Secondary School teacher, Rodgers Wilson.

Dr Maurus Msuha, director of Wildlife department told The Guardian that efforts were ongoing to control and chase away elephants from people's settlements in the area.

According to him, the depart-

ment has been informed about the incident and it was taking immediate measures to ensure that the animals do not cause more harm.

Kwakoa Ward Executive Officer (WEO), Dadi Khamis said that elephants' invasion has been a chronic challenge in the area despite various strides done by the responsible authorities to fight the vice.

"I have been reporting to the relevant authorities however the animals invade our areas but the problem has been here for years, this calls for coordinated and more innovative ways to fight these regular invasions," he said.

Panic as elephants kill villager in Mwanza

According to him, there is a need for the authorities to change fighting techniques because the elephants seem to have been used to the methods like explosions and noises and they no longer fear them.

Some of the residents expressed their concern on their safety calling on the government to hire more practical measures to address the invasion.

Nassoro Lucas, one of the residents at the village said that elephants' invasion in the village

have caused a lot of destruction for years including farm produce, settlements and people's lives. Nassoro said that he was with the deceased a few hours before the elephants took his life.

"I was with teacher Rodgers watching football and left at around 21hrs, his death has saddened me a lot, elephants' invasion in our area has become a big problem," he said.

Kiende Mvungi, the newly elected ward councillor said that after being informed of the pres-

ence of the elephants he made follow-up and found that the animals killed a person in the village. "We went and found that body of the teacher with several injuries, we also found his shoes as well as food and soft drink which it seems the teacher took for his dinner," Mvungi asserted.

Responding, headmaster at Kwangu Secondary School Augustino Manento said the teacher was working as a volunteer at the school teaching mathematics.

"We have been saddened with

the death of our teacher, he was a very good teacher, he was volunteering for one year, this is a huge tragedy to us and the students," he said.

According to him, there is a time when the elephants invade the school area and the school management decides to bar children from going out of their classrooms until the animals are controlled.

As per the village's leaders, the elephants have been invading the area every year during dry sea-

son, destroying people's farms, properties and settlements. Recently, the Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA) said that it was finalizing a strategic plan which is aimed to strengthen security in villages surrounding reserve forests and national parks so as to reduce human deaths caused by wild animals.

TAWA acting conservation commissioner Mabula Nyanda said the number of people killed by wildlife in the country has increased from 48 in 2017/18 to 96 in 2018/19 following increase of human settlements and human activities in the reserves.

Jafo directs RMOs to assist medical students on practical training

By Guardian Reporter

THE Minister of state in the President's Office (Regional Administration and local Government) Seleman Jafo has instructed his Permanent Secretary, Joseph Nyamhanga to issue directives to Regional Medical Officers to provide appropriate supervision and assistance as and when needed to medical students readying for practical training.

Jafo issued the instructions at the weekend when laying the cornerstone for the City Health and Science Constituent College, Chanika Branch, after receiving reports on obstacles faced by the City College students when they were in practical training.

He called on Nyamhanga to make sure he issues the directives as early as possible to let students go for practical training at various hospitals and health centres.

"These students need assistance in the areas they will go so that when they become employed, they should be well trained both theoretically and practical-

ly," he said.

He said he would deal with the issue expenses charged to students when doing practical training at hospitals and health centres.

City College Principal, Fei Diwani said in a statement the branch was established in September this year as part of its strategies to increase students' enrolment.

He said the new branch would be providing medical and pharmacy fields at diploma level.

He enlisted some of obstacles faced as including some of health centres refusing their medical staff to teach the students in their centres during practical training despite the existence of agreements to do so.

Diwani said another obstacle was the high cost of the practical training at government hospitals as a student was supposed to contribute 50,000/-.

Shaban Mwanza, the College's Director of Training and research requested the government to provide loans to the students doing practical training at health centres.



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

TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE
CALL FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICE TO RE-EVALUATE UNHCR Tanzania Contribution towards Partner Personnel Costs
Ref. No: UNHCR/2020/PR1 - Tanzania;

Reference is made to the above subject Call for Consultancy Service to Re-Evaluate.

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 UNHCR/2020/PR1 for "Consultancy Service to Re-Evaluate UNHCR Tanzania Contribution toward Partner Personal Costs" 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.

TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
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CONGRATULATIONS



Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) join hands with all Tanzanians to Congratulate His Excellency, Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli for being re-elected President of United Republic of Tanzania for the next five years, 2020-2025.

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AU chief wary of COVID-19 impact on continent's youth

By Special Correspondent

THE youth are among the hardest-hit group by the COVID-19 pandemic in Africa, according to the African Union Commission Chairman Moussa Faki Mahamat.

Mahamat made the remarks in a statement on Sunday as the continent marked the 2020 Africa Youth Day.

He called for greater involvement of the youth in any responses to the pandemic as well as the continent's health strategies.

"The youth are among the hardest hit by the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic, and their participation and voices must be part of the solutions to a healthier, safer Africa," the AU chief said.

The AUC chairperson's statement comes as the number of COVID-19 infections in Africa surpassed the 1.78 million mark with a death toll exceeding 42,000.

Mahamat also urged the continent not to let the pandemic derail its commitment to the plight of the youth.

"As the continent strives to ensure that this pandemic does not reverse the hard-won developmental gains of the past three decades, a commitment to improving the lives, access to education and opportunity for the Youth remains paramount to our goal of achieving the aspirations of Agenda 2063," he said.

"I also take this opportunity to encourage the Member States to accelerate and intensify investments in Youth and increase Youth engagement, to ensure a future where every young African has agency, hope and dignity," he added.

The 2020 Africa Youth Day was held under the theme: Youth Voices, Actions, Engagement: Building A Better Africa.



Radegunda Kessy (L), an assistant researcher with the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture, conducts a study in a beans farm invaded by caterpillars at Kuru Six in Babati District at the weekend. He is with farmer John Nchimwa (C) and Shida Nestori, an assistant researcher with the Selian centre of Arusha's Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute. Photo: Correspondent Daniel Sabuni

SUMA JKT gets agro machines for boosting food crop production in next five years

By Francis Kajubi

THE commercial wing of the National Service—SUMA JKT has procured new agricultural machines to boost food production in the next five years.

With the new tractors, the force is expected to produce some 28,000 tonnes of food crops within the specific period.

Speaking at an occasion to launch the agricultural machines over the weekend in Dar

es Salaam, Head of the National Service, Major General Charles Mbuge said that to start with, they will cultivate 12,345 acres of food crops in the year 2020/2021.

Maj General Mbuge noted that of the 12,345 acres, Suma-JKT will utilize 6,600 acres for maize cultivation at its farms in Milundikwa and Mlale in Ruvuma Region and Mgambo command in Tanga Region. He said beans will be cultivated at the Oljoro farm and paddy in Chita, Morogoro

Region.

He said the force is constructing an irrigation scheme in Chita which will be specifically for paddy cultivation.

"To meet our food crops production, we have procured nine tractors of which four are John Deere. Two of them have engines with 135 horsepower and the remaining have engines with 110 horsepower," he noted.

The other procured agricultural machines include disk

plough, seed drill, boom sprayer and tractors worth 1.33bn/-.

So far Suma-JKT has procured 26 tractors, 27 Lorries, 7 machineries and 12 motorcycles worth 5.49bn/-, he clarified.

Immediately after he was elected to the position, he formed a special committee which was tasked to work on how to improve the agricultural sector as well as boosting food crops production. The framework also featured livestock

and fisheries sectors. To implement the framework, Suma-JKT started with a pilot project in 2019/2020 by cultivating 2,200 acres at Milundikwa camp in Ruvuma Region whereas 1,000 acres were for maize, 200 acres for beans and 1,000 acres of rice at its Chita farm in Morogoro Region.

Chairman of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock Strategic programme, who also serves as acting Head of Administration, Colonel Hassan Mabena said the TPDF's commercial wing has embarked on production of food and cash crops to enhance food security.

"With the pilot program that lasted for eleven months we have managed to produce 10,000 tonnes of food crops namely paddy, beans, maize and sunflower. We look forward to increase productivity to 28,000 tonnes in five years," he asserted.

Chairman of the Suma-JKT Board of Directors, Retired General, Farah Mohamed, said the force has successfully managed to attract the general public's faith in terms of social services delivery, security and cleaning services, thus reaching a booming number of clients across the country. Suma-JKT was established in 2018 with the mission of increasing its revenue by provision of social services to public and private institutions.

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Procurement Opportunities Tender for Framework Agreements

Medical Teams International is Non-Government Organization (NGO) which was founded in 1979, providing life-saving medical care for people in crisis, such as survivors of natural disasters and refugees.

Medical Teams International, Kasulu Tanzania is inviting interested suppliers to express their interest to supply MTI with items per description below. All interested parties are invited to participate.

Procuring Entity:	Medical Teams International
Tender No:	MTI20/GEN PROC/001
Tender Name	Invitation to Tender for Framework Agreements
Reference Number	CATEGORY A: SUPPLY OF GOODS
PP/MTI-TAN/01/2020	Supply of general stationery.
PP/MTI-TAN/02/2020	Supply of office supplies.
PP/MTI-TAN/03/2020	Supply and maintenance of photocopiers, scanners, computers, printers, Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS), laptops, software, toners and other ICT accessories.
PP/MTI-TAN/04/2020	Supply of branded items and promotional materials.
PP/MTI-TAN/05/2020	Supply, installation and maintenance of fire and security alarms equipment and security systems.
PP/MTI-TAN/06/2020	Supply of Fuel (Diesel & Petrol)
PP/MTI-TAN/07/2020	Supply of bottled water, dispensing machines and maintenance.
PP/MTI-TAN/08/2020	Supply of motor vehicle/cycle parts and accessories.
PP/MTI-TAN/09/2020	Supply of airtime and scratch cards.
PP/MTI-TAN/010/2020	Supply of office furniture's and fixtures.
PP/MTI-TAN/011/2020	Medicines
PP/MTI-TAN/012/2020	Medical Consumables
PP/MTI-TAN/013/2020	Medical Equipments
Reference Number	CATEGORY B: PROVISION OF SERVICES
PP/MTI-TAN/014/2020	Provision of catering services.
PP/MTI-TAN/015/2020	Provision of air travel, reservations and ticketing services.
PP/MTI-TAN/016/2020	Provision of sanitary, fumigation, pest control and cleaning services.
PP/MTI-TAN/017/2020	Provision of internet services.
PP/MTI-TAN/018/2020	Provision of hotel accommodation and conference facilities.
PP/MTI-TAN/019/2020	Provision of security services (guards, dog patrols and security survey).
PP/MTI-TAN/020/2020	Servicing, repair and maintenance of vehicles and motorcycles
PP/MTI-TAN/021/2020	Vehicle Hire-minibus, pickups, hardtop Landcruiser's
PP/MTI-TAN/022/2020	Provision of printing services
Source of Fund	Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration & UNHCR
Eligible Firms	National (Registered in Tanzania)
Method of Procurement	National Competitive Bidding
Mode Application	Via Email; procurementtz@medicalteams.org (Please send an introduction email for document inquiry)
Deadline	11 th November 2020 4:30PM
Bids Submission	Effective 12 th October to 11 th November 2020

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REQUEST FOR QUOTATION RFQ 2020- 10/01

Closing Date: Tuesday 17th November 2020, 11am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

Pact Inc. is an international non-profit organization with its headquarters in Washington, DC. Pact serves communities challenged by poverty and marginalization because we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and government. Our goal is thriving, resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant.

Pact Tanzania now invites quotes from eligible, registered companies to supply education subsidies to school children and sports materials for boys and girls. Below is list of lots to be supplied and distributed. Interested vendors should request for the full Terms of Reference through email to procurementtz@pactworld.org by Friday 14th November 2020.

Lot1. Education subsidies kits for DREAMS Girls

No of kits required	Kit contents
48,847	School bag, Mathematical set, Pens, Pencils, A4 Exercise books 100pgs and school shoes for primary school girls age 10-14 in 11 DREAMS Councils

Lot2. Education subsidies for OVCs

No of kits required	Kit contents
10,000	School bag (waterproof), Mathematical set, Pens, Pencils, Eraser, A4 Exercise books 100pgs

Lot3. Sports materials for coaches, boys and girls aged 9-14

No of items required	Items description
As per TOR	Instructors Cones, Coaches Kit Bag, Boy's and Coaches' Exercise shoes, Coaches tracksuits, Boy's Exercise Books, Trophies for Football Winners-First and Second winner, Footballs, Football Jerseys and Coaches whistles

Lot4. Printing MVC -MIS tools (IEC)

No of items required	Items description
As per TOR	National MVC Registration Form, National MVC Monthly Service Delivery Tracking Form, National MVC Referral Form, Screening and Enrollment, Family and Child Asset Assessment, GBV Screening, HIV Prevention Knowledge, HIV Risks, Services and Adherence, HIV Risks Services Adherence Quarterly Monitoring Tool, Care plan, Positive Parenting Job Aid, CCWs Job Aid, GBV&VAC Incident Reporting Form, GBV&VAC Service

Interested vendors should request for the full Terms of Reference through email to procurementtz@pactworld.org by Friday 14th November 2020.

Interested, eligible vendor should deliver their quotation to:

The Tender Committee
Pact Tanzania
74 Uporoto Street, Victoria
P. O. Box 6348, Dar es salaam, Tanzania

All quotes must be in Tanzanian Shillings and enclosed in a plain sealed envelope. The deadline is 11am EAT Tuesday 17th November 2020.

Please note:

- Late or incomplete bids will not be accepted.
- The quote that complies with all the specifications/requirements and offers value for money, as well as all other evaluation criteria indicated in the TOR, shall be considered for the competition.
- Pact may cancel solicitation and not award.
- Pact may reject any or all responses received.
- Issuance of request for quotes does not constitute a contract commitment by Pact.
- Pact reserves the right to disqualify any offer based on offeror failure to follow the solicitation instructions.
- Pact reserves the right to waive minor proposal deficiencies that can be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition.
- Pact will be contacting all offerors to confirm contact person, address and that the proposal was submitted for this solicitation.

China hails Magufuli on re-electing, promising to further co-operation with Tanzania for mutual gain

BEIJING

CHINA has congratulated John Magufuli on his re-election and expects to strengthen cooperation with the new government to advance bilateral ties to a higher level.

According to the results reportedly announced by the National Electoral Commission over the weekend, Magufuli won the presidential election with 84.3 percent of the vote.

When asked to comment on the Tanzania's election, Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said: "China believes that under the leadership of President Magufuli, Tanzania will continuously make new and greater achievements in various undertakings of national development."

On October 20, Chinese Foreign

Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian expressed hope that this year's general election takes place smoothly and successfully but has been quick to caution about interference of Tanzania's internal affairs by foreign countries.

Lijian said the Asian economic giant believes that Tanzanian government and people have the wisdom and capability to organize the election.

"We wish that the election will be held in a smooth and successful manner. Non-interference in other countries' internal affairs should be a basic principle for all countries to follow," he said.

"China calls on all countries to respect this principle and all parties should support African countries' independence and safeguard their unity and stability."



China calls on all countries to respect this principle and all parties should support African countries' independence and safeguard their unity and stability



Sabina Maboto (R), a loans officer with NMB Bank Plc's Oyster Plaza branch in Dar es Salaam, speaks to children at the weekend on the importance of banking money. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

UNDP pleased with water sources protection projects in Ngorongoro

By Guardian Correspondent, Ngorongoro

A SENIOR United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) official, Stella Zaah has embarked on the inspection of water sources' protection initiatives being carried out by

various stakeholders in collaboration with the pastoral communities in Ngorongoro District, Arusha Region.

Zaah also said she was pleased on how the Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF) was working closely with the Engarasero community to protect water

sources to become sustainable at all times. "I once heard water experts saying the third world war will be over the fight for water resources, I request that we should start defending ourselves by protecting our water sources," she explained.

Giving report on the project,

TNRF Director Zacharia Faustine said they have been providing training through seminars and various campaigns calling for the communities to develop the natural tradition in protecting water sources for their own benefit.

Lebanguti Lekitoni, the Coordinator of Engarasero Eramatare

Community Development Initiative (EECDI), a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) said already they have received 8m/- sponsorship from UNDP.

"I should say that by working together with TNRF, the money has enabled to construct a 200 metre fence around Engongu

Olopiro Monic water source in our (Ngorongoro) District," he said.

More than 1,300 households including government institutions are benefitting by the water source due to its protection by the concerned communities.

Ibrahim Sakai, the Chairman of Engarasero Ward Environmental

Protection Committee thanked UNDP for their cooperation in the protection of the water source,

and called for other international institutions and other stakeholders to work together with the government in educating the communities on water sources protection.

UN TANZANIA
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)
FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKS
(Construction of Hospitals, Schools, WASH facilities, etc.)

As a part of UN Country Programme support to the government of Tanzania, various UN agencies based on Tanzania will be constructing various hospital buildings, clinical wards, blood centres, WASH facilities, school building blocks and other administrative building blocks in different parts of the country.

UN Tanzania is developing a roster of pre-qualified contractors who will be invited to participate in the competitive tendering process for the construction of the above-mentioned facilities.

Interested construction companies are hereby invited to submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) by submitting the requisite summarized documentation to support the Pre-qualification Eligibility criteria below:

- Detailed company profile including evidence and year of registration as legal entity and authorization/permit to perform such work in the main land Tanzania and Zanzibar.
- Registered professional building construction company with a minimum of 5 years' experience in the related area.
- Prove that it is tax compliant and holds valid VAT registration certificate
- Provide audited financial company accounts for two successive years.
- Provide at least two references of customers providing similar services (name and contact numbers)

For the detailed instructions including the EOI form are available on the following UNGM web portal:

<https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/XXXXXXX>

The EOI along with other mandatory documents should be submitted by 23.59 hrs (Tanzania time) on, Monday, 9 November 2020.


FSDT
FINANCIAL SECTOR DEEPENING TRUST

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
OPERATIONS CONSULTANT
TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. INTRODUCTION
The Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT) was incorporated in Tanzania on 1st July 2004. The FSDT's overall aim is to contribute to all Tanzanians to derive value from regular use of financial services which are delivered with dignity and fairness. Among its secondary objectives are:

- Advocating for an improved policy, institutional, legal, and regulatory framework at national and sub-national levels of financial services.
- Promoting more relevant market infrastructure and ways to reduce transaction costs between FSPs and potential clients.
- Stimulating improved access to financial products and services that respond to the needs of MSMEs;
- Stimulating improved access to financial products and services that respond to the needs of households and individuals.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT
FSDT seeks to commission a consultant for 6 months to assist in managing the programme operations. Terms of reference for the assignment can be found on our website www.fsd.tz/opportunities.

3. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION
If you believe you are the right consultant for this position, kindly submit your application with a detailed CV, photocopies of academic certificates, and names of three referees with their contacts, quoting OC/FSDT/11/20 on the subject of your email. Application address: procurement@fsdt.or.tz. Applications deadline is **16th November 2020**.

We will only consider applications that adhere to proposal requirements. Any queries relating to this ToR should be submitted to the procurement manager under this email; procurement@fsdt.or.tz before or by **9th November, 2020**.

Provide forecast on time, tobacco growers counsel weather experts

By Guardian Correspondent, Chunya

CHUNYA Tobacco Cooperative Union (CHUTCU) has called upon weather experts to provide weather forecasts as early as possible to enable tobacco farmers know the appropriate time to prepare their farms.

CHUTCU Acting General Manager Juma Nshishi told newsmen here at the weekend that sometimes farmers get poor harvests to lack of the correct weather forecasts.

"Among reasons for poor tobacco harvests is the issue of weather forecast, the appropriate authorities has not been providing adequate education to farmers, and our request is that they should from time to time provide us with weather reports to know which time is appropriate for

farming preparations," he said.

He said the weather for the 2018/2019 farming season was bad due to much rains that destroyed the tobacco crop in the farms.

"In that season our farmers incurred great losses, they spent a lot to purchase far inputs including fertilizer that was swept away by flood water due to too much rains," Nshishi added.

Salome Kilasi, a tobacco farmer requested the government that in the coming farming season it should increase efforts in ensuring farm inputs reach farmers in time and should severely deal with dealers of counterfeit farm inputs.

Among reasons for poor tobacco harvests is the issue of weather forecast, the appropriate authorities has not been providing adequate education to farmers, and our request is that they should from time to time provide us with weather reports to know which time is appropriate for farming preparations



NOTICE OF THE 6th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL INVESTMENTS PLC

Notice is hereby given that the 6th Shareholders' Annual General Meeting of National Investments Plc will be held on Saturday, 21st November, 2020 at the Julius Nyerere International Conference Centre (JNICC), Shaban Robert St, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania at 10:00am. The agenda will be as follows:

- 6.1. NOTICE AND QUORUM OF THE MEETING
- 6.2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR THE 6TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
- 6.3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 5TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 26TH OCTOBER 2019.
- 6.4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES.
- 6.5. TO RECEIVE, CONSIDER AND ADOPT THE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019.
- 6.6. INTERIM DIVIDEND DECLARATION FOR THE INTERIM FINANCIAL YEAR 2020.
- 6.7. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FOR DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION.
- 6.8. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2020.
- 6.9. TO RECEIVE UPDATES ON THE RECONCILIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSAL FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE SHARES REGISTER.
- 6.10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Members wishing to attend the meeting must submit the following: a copy of his/her depository receipt; National Identity Card or voters ID card or passport.

A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on his/her behalf in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of the Company. The proxy form must be deposited at the registered office of the company (physical or by email invest@nicol.co.tz) not later than 10.00 am **Friday, 20th November 2020**.

Proxy forms will be available in NICOL office or can be downloaded from NICOL's website (www.nicol.co.tz).

By Order of the Board

Arphaxad GA Masambu
CEO/ Katibu wa Kampuni

National Investments PLC
11 Serengeti Road, Mikochoeni "B"
P.O. Box 7465 Dar Es Salaam
Phone: +255 22 2701436/2701348, 0682 720 679
E-mail: invest@nicoltz.com



Bishop Sammy Severua of the Pentecostal Church speaks at a graduation ceremony at New Light School at Mirerani township in Simanjiro District at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Seek legal procedures if you aren't satisfied with election results, Majaliwa urges parties

By Francis Kajubi

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has urged political parties and their followers who are not satisfied with the general election's results to opt legal procedures instead of getting into illegal acts that might threaten the country's peace.

He made the remarks in Dar es Salaam when he graced the 'Maulid Baraza' celebrated by Muslims last Friday. The Baraza that was scheduled to be celebrated in Kagera at a national level was later relocated to Dar es Salaam.

"I am calling upon political parties aspirants who didn't win the general elections to go to court and seek justice if they are not satisfied with the results. We are determined to maintain peace and unity of the nation at any cost. We will not tolerate any criminal act coordinated by dishonest people," Majaliwa insisted.

According to him, the government

played its role to the fullest to make sure that the election is held freely and fair.

"The election was observed by both local and regional observers invited by the government to oversee the whole process from pre-election, on the polling day and post-election. So, the election is completed, and what we need to do is to come together and collaborate in building our nation" he insisted.

Speaking on the recent incidents where several Muslim learning institutions were set on fire, Majaliwa said that the government has already launched investigation to address the challenge.

"The government is conducting an intensive investigation to find out why Muslim schools are being set on fire, why only Muslim schools and who are behind the coordinated crime. I would like to assure Tanzanians that we are going to sort out this problem and the government

will soon issue a statement concerning this matter" said Majaliwa.

Tanzania Mufti, Sheikh Abubakar Zuberi, was of the view that the winner was God chosen and voters just stand to justify his will.

"We, believers understand that all the winners are as per God's will. We are done with elections so let's come together and build our nation in solidarity. We have a common responsibility of maintaining peace and unity we inherited since the existence of this nation" Sheikh Zuberi asserted.

Saleh Omar, Nida Textile Industries Group business coordinator and one of the members of the Maulid Baraza Committee said that Nida has for the past four years taken part in facilitating preparation of the ceremony.

"We have since the past four years taking part in Maulid ceremonies by facilitating its preparations and all arrangements of refreshments consumed by believers who show up to celebrate" said Omar.

NGO launches three-year programme to ensure quality services on marriages, families, childcare

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Tanzania Marriage and Child Care Foundation (TaMCare) has launched a three-year programme to ensure quality and sustainable services about marriages, families and care to the children.

Speaking over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, TaMCare Executive Director Enock Mlyuka said that the organisation works with a number of stakeholders in making the programme a reality.

"We're working in collaboration with the government, different institutions in implementing this programme," he said, noting that among the issues that will be touched in the new plan include training beneficiaries about relation and life skills.

"Our goal is to offer special training on marriage to the couples and those who intend to start married life. Furthermore, training of psychology, reproductive health care and entrepreneurship to single mothers, especially those living in vulnerable conditions," he said.

"We also conduct research, publish and distribute findings aimed to educate the society about marriage, families, care and children rights," he added.

According to him, TaMCare was also offering counselling to youths, couples, single mothers, families and individuals and conducting training on how to overcome gender harassment and early pregnancy.

"We also conduct advocacy to the government and respective organs to make amendments in the laws, policy and regulation to improve marriage, families including participate in the community activities at district, region and nation relating with NGO."

He said TaMCare had been permitted to work in regions of Tanzania mainland adding that it will later further extend its

activities to other regions.

TaMCare will use various participatory approaches in addressing these challenges and turn them into viable solutions for sustainable family and community welfare.

Through education, awareness creation, counseling and provision of supportive care to affected married couples, broken families and vulnerable children, the organization believes it will make a difference in the way Tanzania addresses social-economic hitches facing many families.

TaMCare's twin-focus beneficiaries are: married and unmarried people as well as female and male teenagers in rural and poverty stricken urban areas.

Among the married people some have remained intact as couples while others have since separated-some within just 1-12 months after their union. Some, especially women have been left to look after their off-springs as single parents.

It works closely with the central government through ministries, departments and agencies; local government authorities, ward, village, street and hamlet leaders.

It will cooperate with family and child care partners and stakeholders to ensure it contributes to remedy the seemingly problematic but important unit in the community-the family as well as children.

e also conduct advocacy to the government and respective organs to make amendments in the laws, policy and regulation to improve marriage, families including participate in the community activities at district, region and nation relating with NGO

Register your institution, REO tells education centres operators

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE government has called on education centres operators to register their institutions for smooth operations.

Dar es Salaam Regional Education Officer, Abdul Maulid made the remarks recently when speaking during the 21st Form Four graduation ceremony at Mbezi Beach secondary school.

He said that there are educa-

tion centres, which operate illegally, hence causing chaos to students and parents during national examinations.

According to him, there are mushrooming education centres which some owners call them 'schools', but they are not registered in accordance with the laws.

The REO said such centres should not enroll students because they are not registered and when it comes to national exami-

nations they cause panic to students, parents and guardians.

He said the government doors are open for anyone who needs to register his/her school, insisting there is no need for someone to hide and run a school without government accreditation.

Maulid congratulated Mbezi Beach secondary school for their excellent performance in national examinations urging the management and students to continue putting more efforts to

further improve academic performance.

"Mbezi Beach is one of the schools that we are proud of because you have been doing better every year, we value your contribution in improving the education sector, I have heard that there is no Division four or O here," he said.

He added: "I have visited academic exhibitions; the school has competent students whom we expect to be medical doctors

and engineers."

The school headmaster, Kiramu Mbowe congratulated the government on how it has been collaborating with private schools especially during the outbreak of Covid-19. He said the government has been supportive to the school provision of various facilities to ensure hygiene among students.

He also congratulated parents and guardians for cooperating with the school management in

nurturing students.

Mbowe said the school is in a good position academically because of the competent teaching staff adding that students are well prepared for the final Form Four examinations to be conducted next month.

He however appealed to the government to support the school with books as well as laboratory equipment. He said the availability of books would boost student's academic per-

formance. In their speech, the students commended the school good learning environment saying it was a secret behind their success in examinations.

Representing students, Hamidu Awadhi said: "Almost 90 percent of us did well in our Form Two national assessment examinations. This is because of the good learning environment as well as proper preparations coordinated by our teachers and the school management."

AfDB builds pool of 80 climate change experts in developing proposals for climate financing

By Special Correspondent, Abidjan

THE African Development Bank (AfDB) has designated representatives from 80 government institutions, civil society organizations and universities for training as experts in developing climate financing proposals.

The trainees will pass on their knowledge to potential beneficiaries of the Green Climate Fund, a \$10 billion endowment set up in 2010 to help countries implement their climate agenda through loans, equity, guarantees and grants.

The 120-hour training program is managed by the Climate Change and Green Growth Department of the African Development Bank, with funding from the Korea-Africa Economic Cooperation Trust Fund.

The scheme builds on ongoing work by the African Development Bank, the Green Climate Fund and other partners to support the Bank's regional member countries to directly access Green Climate Fund resources.

"The Green Climate Fund is expected to be a major source of climate finance for the African continent. Accessing finance from the Fund is challenging because of the complexities of designing climate change projects to fulfill the funding criteria. This training will boost capacity amongst Afri-

can nationally determined authorities, governments and consultants by training trainers to run future training courses," said Gareth Phillips, Manager of the Environment and Climate Finance Division in the Department of Climate Change and Green Growth at the African Development Bank.

COVID-19 has resulted in the training shifting from in-person to online. This has the advantages of making it less costly to run and more carbon efficient.

The project's theory of change is based on three main components, which complement ongoing work by the Bank to enhance the capacities of several African countries to access Green Climate Fund resources through small grants from the Africa Climate Change Fund (<http://bit.ly/34jgdzF>). These components include: developing training materials and an online platform to support direct access to the Green Climate Fund, training a pool of experts and certifying them to support African governments and institutions, and facilitating south-south learning.

Following a thorough independent selection process, 80 participants were chosen, with approximately 40 from English-speaking countries and 40 from French and Portuguese-speaking countries.



Uncollected garbage at a point along Dodoma city's Uhindini Streets poses a health hazard, as captured by Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph's roving camera at the weekend.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TENDER TITLE: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT PRIVATE & PUBLIC SECTOR TO COMPLY WITH STANDARDS IN HEALTH & SAFETY PROCEDURES.

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20200268

TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is an aid-for-trade organisation that was established in 2010, with the aim of growing prosperity in East Africa through increased trade. TMEA wishes to invite interested and qualified **reputable firms/consortiums** to participate in this tender for the Technical Assistance to Support private & public Sector to comply with standards in Health & Safety Procedures as per the LOTs below:

- LOT 1:** Technical Assistance to Support Private Sector Compliance to Standards, Health and Safety Procedures during Covid-19 Pandemic;
- LOT 2:** Technical Assistance for Development of Relevant Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Protocols and Procedures to minimize the Spread of Covid-19 In Priority Value Chains; and
- LOT 3:** Technical Assistance for the Development of Relevant Hygiene, Food Safety Procedures to minimize the Spread of Covid-19 In Priority Value Chains.

The Terms of Reference and the Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be obtained at <https://www.trademarka.com/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com. The closing date for submission of this tender is on or before **Friday, 20 November 2020 on or before 4.00 p.m. (Kenya Time)**.

Interested and qualified **reputable consultancy firms/consortiums MUST** submit their bids through TMEA's Procurement mail box using the email address, procurement@trademarka.com. The maximum size of each email with attachments should not exceed **5 MB**.

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



ADVERTISEMENT

INVITATION TO TENDER (ITT)

TITLE: SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING, TRAINING AND AFTER-SALES SERVICES FOR DECENTRALISED LABORATORY EQUIPMENT FOR THE UGANDA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS (UNBS)

NUMBER: PRQ20200172

The Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) with support from TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) seeks to engage the services of a firm/consortium to provide laboratory equipment divided in five (5) lots, namely:

- Lot 1:** Measurement equipment (A)
- Lot 2:** Measurement equipment (B) and weighing balances
- Lot 3:** Supporting equipment
- Lot 4:** General laboratory equipment
- Lot 5:** Consumables and accessories

The tender document can be obtained at <https://www.trademarka.com/work-with-us/>. All queries quoting the above tender title and number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com. All queries with email attachments must be 10MB or less.

Bids quoting the above tender title and number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com and email attachments must be **10MB** or less. The closing date for submission is **30th November 2020**. Only applications from **firms/consortiums** shall be accepted.

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender seven (7) working days or less prior to the submission deadline



MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2020

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

Tanzania shows affinity with the Chinese model yet again

TANZANIA'S long history of affinity with the People's Republic of China, while the West laughed at founder President Julius Nyerere for his concerns with the liberation of southern African countries, has a deeper impact than would otherwise be expected.

During the run-up to voting in the just-ended General Election, only China among the major powers showed to have sentiments close to feelings in Tanzania on the conducting of elections without outside assistance.

That chiefly related to the financing part, and perhaps a few other things on the ethos of how polls are conducted, and what outcomes would be entirely desirable.

There are voices in global communications and diplomacy that a new Cold War has come up between the Chinese model and the American model, and it takes a lot of public discussion even merely to get some clarity on the terms of that divide.

But one thing is certain from the Chinese model, and it is that the real test of legitimate governance is genuine popularity, while the Western model is based on conducting "unfettered" elections.

The reason is that in the Western model no policy or public engagement about where a country stands or its future is more important than a democratic poll.

As a matter of fact, the dispute about what is taking place in Tanzania isn't just a Cold War sort of split between democracy and variants of authoritarianism but reflects a deeper issue in the history of democracy, as to what confluence there is between culture and politics.

There is something homogenous about Tanzanian political culture since independence in 1961 where only the nationalist movement was properly cohesive as a party, and until 1965 when multiparty politics were abolished, there was only some dissent within that party (for instance, about the Preventive Detention Act in 1962). Not real opposition.

Arresting the situation in northern Mozambique is of utmost urgency

WITH major Western powers grappling with the coronavirus crisis and other agenda on the horizon, like newly unfolding threats in south-east Mediterranean Sea and in the Caucasus with the Nagorno-Karabakh flare-up again, it isn't easy to collect the willpower to deal with crises arising in this or that African country, extending beyond its borders.

That is the impression created by a recent appeal by the French oil giant Total, whose chief executive officer Patrick Pouyanne last month appealed to European states to help Mozambique eliminate an Islamic State franchise in the north. Oil, gas drilling is very much at stake.

On the basis of media reports from Maputo, insurgents have for more than a month occupied a town about 60 kilometers south of the project site for a \$20bn investment in offshore gas extraction that the company is putting up.

The company executive pointedly noted that an ISIS enclave is settling down in northern Mozambique and that poses a major problem for stability in East Africa, as without stability such vital economic activity shall suffer an interminable lockdown.

It is a matter that doesn't just concern the French company but many others as well, including Tanzania where ISIS elements attacked recently.

Obviously, the two neighbouring countries are doing what it takes to coordinate efforts against the group, and especially to reclaim territory that seems to be in the grip of insurgents, once they gun down local government officials, as they tried to do in 2017 in

In that sense, while the tone in some suggestions one gets from the regional media is that Tanzania is veering from some accepted democratic norms, the picture one gets from the just-ended General Election is that opposition parties need to work a lot harder to make an impression on the country's political landscape.

To an extent, the now seriously paled opposition prepared the ground for this change, as a range of its youthful, energetic and academic cadres shifted to the ruling party once President Dr John Magufuli moved to break citadels of graft in government institutions, earning the respect of radical local and foreign observers.

For instance, Magufuli's methodical reform of the minerals sector was similar in the manner in which the public showed adhesion to the changes.

There are other lessons about democratic elections that academia not just in Tanzania but all over Africa has failed to learn but that practical democratic performance brings it out.

One is that the more a country is anchored in capitalism, the predominance of the private sector and the absence of a pervading public sector in all major sectors of economy, the easier it can exercise democratic elections.

Removing a government and putting another in place carries implications like replacing thousands of people from their jobs because there are new political loyalties - and often just upstarts, as largely obtained at independence.

It isn't something that many would relish and, given a relatively homogenous political culture, they can do without the bluster, at the risk of tainting somewhat usual procedures of a democratic election.

Quizzed about 'forced villagisation' in 1973 by the Western media, Mwalimu Nyerere said 'it is sometimes compulsory, like vaccination'. Reaction to this was divided, which was to be expected, but the message had sunk - and it provided vital lessons for Tanzania and various other countries.

Tanzania's Coast and Lindi regions.

As Inspector General of Police Simon Sirro noted, it is the same group that was defeated while out to sow instability and it will be defeated again, even as it tries to rebuild a local network.

This effort runs into varying logistical and public confidence problems, and it is unclear if authorities have workable formulas for all of them.

At the regional level, this matter comes under efforts by the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) - whose security and intelligence network chiefly of police departments of criminal investigation is also intended for such situations.

But there are other pacts that aren't globally heralded but have at times been of benefit to countries in the region, for instance the US Africa Command, though some hold it in disdain.

In West Africa the French have led interventions in the likes of Mali, but Nigeria has never looked for external assistance with its Boko Haram insurgency - for a decade. There are no clear cut cooperation formulas about cross-border insurgencies, but cooperation is often vital.

As a matter of fact, if the Mozambican situation is not rapidly resolved and insurgents start showing that they can also conduct strikes into Tanzania if they so wish, our own oil and gas projects in southern regions will be at stake.

Radicals in our midst could then seek - and possibly find - a rope of agitation extended to them, effectively widening the influence of insurgents and ultimately wrecking investment zones with foreign interests. Hence, the need for enhanced vigilance.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

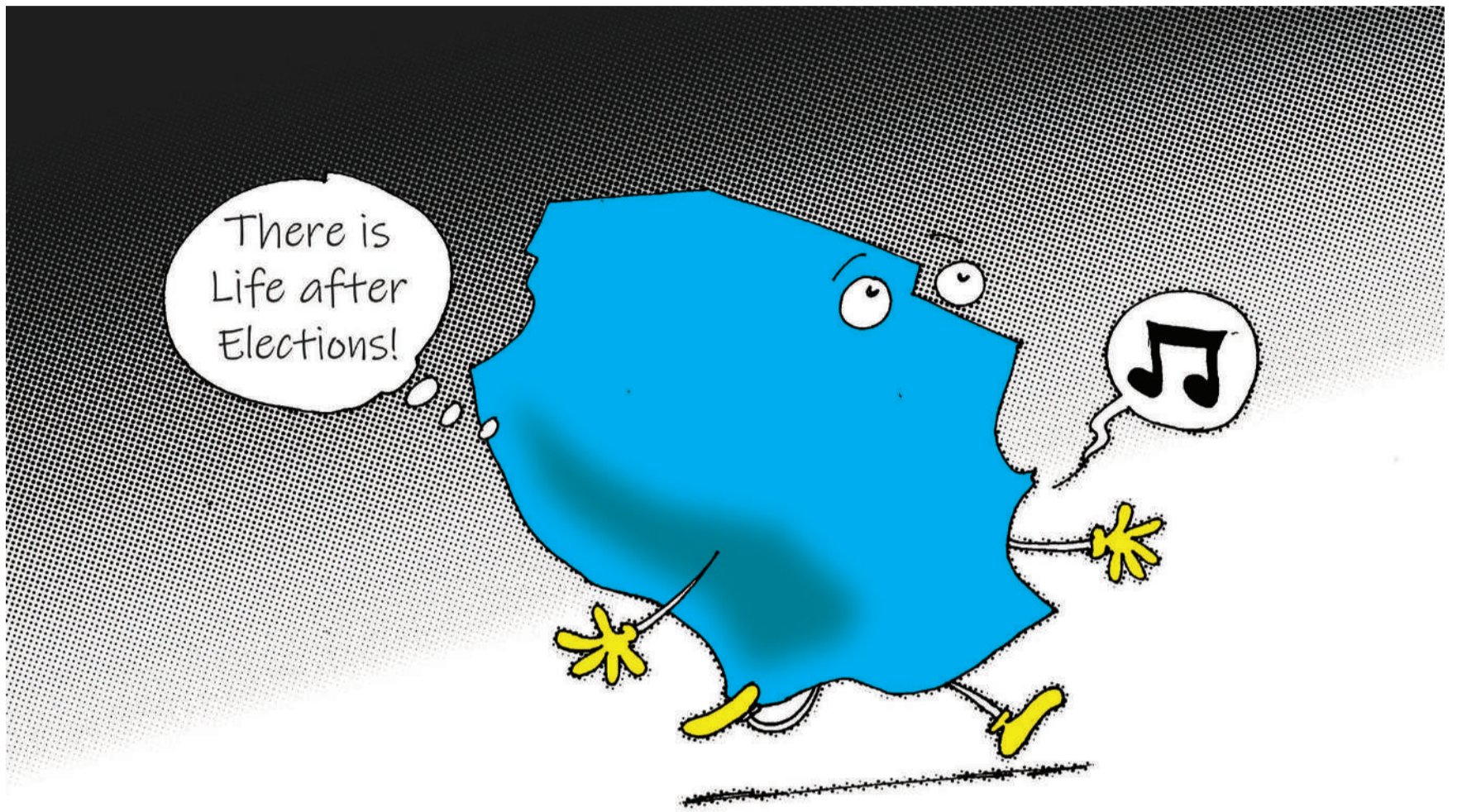
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Can solar fridges helping to vaccinate African children work for COVID-19?

By Peyton Fleming

DOZENS of children at a clinic in North Kivu, on the eastern border of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), received a measles vaccine in May. The move was made possible by a quiet revolution in refrigeration that keeps vaccines cold, even in places without reliable electric power.

The "solar direct-drive" refrigerators - plain, box-like coolers that do not require fuel or batteries - have helped boost child vaccinations in DRC's poorest rural provinces by 50 per cent in the past year, according to global vaccine alliance Gavi.

That has helped cut child mortality in DRC to half of what it was two decades ago. More than 18 million children were vaccinated last year against a deadly measles outbreak, which has slowed dramatically in recent weeks.

Now the world is looking to launch a far bigger immunisation push once vaccines for Covid-19 become available. Delivering millions of inoculations in Africa, a sprawling continent with fragile health systems and a lack of electricity to power them, will be a daunting task.

And it remains unclear whether existing off-grid fridges can keep the vaccines cold enough to help. Refrigeration is essential for vaccine distribution.

Most vaccines require cooling at between 2 and 8 degrees Celsius (35-46 degrees Fahrenheit), but nearly half of the leading Covid-19 vaccine candidates under development will require cold storage as low as minus 80C, researchers say.

In addition, a cold chain distribution network for Covid-19 vaccines will require seamlessly low temperatures from manufacturers to airports to remote rural villages.

Despite advances that have likely saved millions of lives by keeping vaccinations cold in recent years, most African countries still have enormous gaps in such networks.

"It's probably the biggest logistical challenge the world has ever faced, and it's an especially immense challenge for sub-Saharan African countries with significant rural populations," said Toby Peters, a professor specialising in cooling systems for food and medicine at Britain's University of Birmingham.

Delivery 'revolution'

When William Clemmer, a doctor with faith-based nonprofit IMA World Health, arrived in the DRC in the 1990s, many health centres were using outdated kerosene-powered refrigerators that would often break down, damaging or destroying vaccines.

First-generation solar refrigerators were an improvement, but they required storage batteries that often stopped working after two to three years and were hard to replace.

Solar direct-drive refrigerators



changed that, starting about a decade ago. Costing between \$3,500 and \$9,000, they are wired directly to solar photovoltaic panels, which provide thermal energy to freeze a thick lining of water, with the ice layer keeping the vaccines inside cool for many days, no matter the weather.

In 2016, only 16 per cent of DRC's rural health centres had working refrigerators, according to Gavi. Today close to 80 per cent are equipped, many with direct-drive solar units. They have enabled 24,000 monthly immunisation sessions in the nine poorest provinces in the past year, a 50 per cent jump from 2018.

"They have essentially revolutionised vaccine delivery for children in sub-Saharan Africa," said Clemmer.

Karan Sagar, a doctor who heads the health systems and immunisations strengthening team at Gavi, credits the off-grid equipment for achieving a 25 per cent jump in child vaccination rates in Africa from a decade ago.

Since 2017, a \$250-million effort led by Gavi has delivered more than 15,300 solar direct-drive fridges to three-dozen African countries, including nearly 3,400 units to the DRC and 5,400 to Nigeria.

Sagar said 87 per cent of children in those African countries received the first dose of a vaccine last year for diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis - or whooping cough.

"This is a testament to the ability of supply chains to reach even the most remote communities in the world," he said.

It is not only ultra-cold temperatures

for Covid-19 vaccines that Africa may need to contend with. Solar refrigerators are only the last of many steps that will be required to move the vaccines quickly and safely from centralised manufacturing sites - whether inside or outside Africa - to urban and rural destinations across the continent.

At every step along the way - airplanes, warehouses, trucks, motorbikes, bicycles, canoes and even drones - the vaccines must be kept at specific, very cold temperatures, just like other perishable products. And substantially larger volumes will be needed.

While child vaccination campaigns typically reach about 115 million infants annually worldwide, the Covid-19 vaccine will need to reach as many as 750 million people in Africa alone, health experts predict.

To prepare for this challenge, cold chain expert Peters is leading a government-backed effort to evaluate Africa's needs in delivering an eventual Covid-19 vaccine, working with nonprofit, commercial and academic partners.

They are drawing on lessons from Rwanda, a central-east African country that has made enormous progress in recent years building efficient, climate-friendly cold chains for food and vaccine delivery.

Its system evolves around one warehouse that serves as a cooling hub for vaccines that are distributed to district hospitals, health centers and remote rural health posts, of which dozens are using solar fridges.

The vaccines are reaching more than 95 per cent of the population, accord-

ing to the World Health Organisation. But replicating Rwanda's success will be a formidable task. "Rwanda is small - countries like Nigeria are much more difficult," Peters said.

Food cold chains where larger-scale commercial capacity is more established will be the kind of model needed, he added.

"We know how to move hundreds of millions of tonnes of fresh food from small farms across Africa to the fridges of consumers in Europe," Peters said, adding: "We need to take this expertise and transfer it to vaccines."

But that is before factoring in the potential ultra-cooling needs that Covid-19 vaccines may require - which solar direct-drive fridges are typically not equipped to handle.

Rwanda and the DRC do have firsthand experience of vaccines needing ultra-cold storage in the form of a new vaccine that helped end the Ebola outbreak this past summer.

"Super thermos" coolers, filled with blocks of synthetic alcohol ice, kept the vaccine at minus 60-80C for up to 6.5 days. But the amounts involved were a tiny fraction of what would be needed for an effective Covid-19 vaccine.

"Few African economies have any ultra-cold chain capacity at all," Sagar noted.

Peters is hoping that Covid-19 vaccines will require only the standard cold storage at 2-8C, which solar direct-drive refrigerators can provide at rural health centres.

"If mainstream cold chains have to get below that, we have a massive new challenge," he said.

What 'magic' decided landslides for CCM and Dr Magufuli?

By Guardian Correspondent

INTERPRETING results of general elections in Tanzania can involve a range of basic parameters, one being the traditional 'yes' and 'no' votes applicable before the resumption of multiparty politics in 1992.

During that period Founding President Mwalimu Julius K Nyerere (in the five-yearly elections stretching from 1965 to 1980), and then with President Ali Hassan Mwinyi for two polls (in 1985 and 1990) used to get around five per cent as a 'no' vote. The 'no' vote was an attempt to register discontent statistically, while abstention was more usable.

This reference is of some significance because Tanzanian politics hasn't changed much, and the resumption of multipartism in 1992 led to an array of opposition strongholds in some major urban areas - for instance, Dar es Salaam (where in 1995 election authorities simply abrogated the poll and organised a rerun, to forestall danger).

There was also Arusha (where the son of the founder president, a relative unknown, won a seat in the maverick run of a former deputy prime minister turning main opposition leader), and Moshi - both of which remained durable in opposition. Other urban centres or even rural constituencies followed suit.

That was what was generally expected in this year's polls - that the breadth of opposition success would be widened as has usually been the case since 1995 when the first modern multiparty poll was held.

This has largely been the tendency as there are two main drivers for greater opposition following, first wider access to information and an informed public where interests and loyalties are varied, which suits urban centres generally, and then the consolidation of traditional opposition to the ruling party (first as TANU-ASP and then as CCM). This element has changed over time; it has gradually become rather unworkable.

During the early days of 'yes' and 'no' voting may have been 'tinged' by grievances with TANU and specifically with President Nyerere, where the dismantling of cooperatives in 1968 led to intense discontent in some areas and touched off the parliamentary discord of rejecting party supremacy.

Eight parliamentarians were expelled from TANU and consequently lost their parliamentary seats based on party nomination, where the 1962 Preventive Detention Act was also applied.

So, in the Lake Victoria Zone in particular the 'no' votes were rather numerous, while the restart of parliamentary elections saw other strongholds emerge - among them a rather strong presence of early Sultanate culture in parts of western Tanzania, where both UMD and CUF blossomed.

By the time multipartism was being restored in 1992, another source of opposition was emerging - that of retired bureaucrats dissenting from socialism but otherwise affirmative of nationalist policies generally.

It is from this source that secular, timid opposition came up in the likes of Edwin Mtei-Bob Makani initiated group, Chadema, which was immediately shadowed by a more youthful one pursuing constitutional change, and its agenda was cut short by adoption of a multiparty state. The latter is what is popularly known as NCCR-Mageuzi but

actually National Convention for Construction and Reform.

Once a senior cabinet minister decamped from the ruling party and into opposition, alleging massive corruption between state officials and businessmen, the state was set for opposition to blossom - not just against bribes but also with a measure of what one might have been excused to refer to as mild xenophobia.

Thus, 1995 saw a beefy presence of opposition around the decamping cabinet minister, the then highly popular Augustino Lyatonga Mrema, while by 2000 that party had torn itself to shreds, leaving a vacuum that was gradually to be filled by the Civic United Front (CUF) in the country's coastal areas and parts of western Tanzania.

During the prelude to the 1995 polls, University of Dar es Salaam political science researcher Prof Gaspar Munishi published a study predicting that CCM would win by about 70 per cent in the rural areas. That is precisely what happened but, given the strong showing by opposition parties in urban areas, the overall CCM margin of victory was fairly modest - at 62.51 per cent of the vote.

This statistical impression of the level of affinity between CCM and the electorate has by and large remained the same. Only twice - in 2005 and this year - have poll results significantly veered from this margin.

In both instances this has come with peculiar circumstances, seriously impacting on opposition votes. Pivotal shifts often stem from abstention, seen especially extensively in the 2005 election after voting was postponed.

In the 2005 General Election, an instance arose of the death of the Chadema running mate for the Union presidency, Jumbe Rajab Jumbe, ordinarily resident in Bagamoyo but a bona fide Zanzibari voter.

It was decreed subsequently that the voting be postponed for two weeks so that new ballot papers could be printed where the face of the deceased would not appear, but Zanzibar went ahead and held its poll.

As Maalim Seif Shariff Hamad was "naturally" declared the loser, this let-down so disappointed most CUF supporters living on the Mainland that many absented themselves from the voting.

The result: CCM candidate Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete obtained 80.3 per cent of the total votes cast. For the record: Kikwete was re-elected - in 2010 - with a much lower (63.8 per cent) of the total votes cast.

Many CCM cadres seeking to make hay out of this figure willingly ignored the circumstances in which it was produced, aligning it to a completely different matrix of explanation: that in 1991 when an opinion poll was conducted among CCM members as to adoption of a multiparty structure, 80 per cent said 'no'.

The inference here was that this 80 per cent section of the population was still loyal to CCM and hence the large result, which critics dismissed as fiction, opting to ignore both 1995 results when Nyerere himself campaigned, and the 2000 poll where sympathy for CCM in the aftermath of the October 14, 1999 death of the Father of the Nation in a London hospital was still high.

In that case, it is evident that disregarding extraordinary circumstances,



President John Magufuli

the overall rightful vote for CCM largely hovers around 62.5 per cent at most - and around 70 per cent in rural areas, and this has never really changed.

Even with the shift of beleaguered CCM heavyweight Edward Lowassa to the opposition in 2015 (before he changed heart to rejoin CCM) did not alter this balance, in which case current results being announced are way off the mark of what observers expect of poll results in the country.

It follows that there are special circumstances which ought to be explained and, on the basis of what the National Electoral Commission (NEC) has been citing as figures of registered voters and those who voted, the 2005 circumstances were duplicated, albeit rather differently.

In many constituencies the numbers of registered voters and the actual voters were distinct by a half and at times two-thirds or three-quarters, translating into vast abstention amid fears from some quarters that there might not be a level playing field.

A dress rehearsal of the parliamentary elections was the civic polls in late 2019 where candidates of the opposition kept being disqualified for one reason or another, ending with Chadema boycotting the poll altogether.

This time around they didn't formally boycott even when over 100 parliamentary candidates were disqualified (around 15 approved on appeal), and more than 1,500 aspirants for posi-

tions of ward councillor. Having eliminated this link with the public, opposition supporters simply stayed back.

One may thus see reason to assume that most of those who went to vote were primarily CCM supporters, while a breadth of others came out by virtue of attachments with specific candidates - for instance, party activists wishing to vote for the opposition aspirants retained or reinstated.

In that sense, the current election is an illustration of the level of CCM support in the absence of a really level playing field, as the opposition camp would choose to put it, and it can be said that roughly anything between 30 per cent and 40 per cent of voters in many constituencies came out and cast their ballots.

As happened, not many constituencies registered more than 50 per cent of the turnout. However, even then transparency gaps could dilute the credibility of the final figures - as, for instance, the time of finishing to vote and formally starting to count is has at times raised many an eyebrow.

There is another dimension to the interpretation of the results of the elections, which relates to candidate profile and how it has the potential to alter margins for both CCM and opposition. This is a factually valid element usually tending to be absorbed into the data structure, as observed.

For instance, CCM had Mwalimu Nyerere campaigning for its

candidate in the 1995 run while the candidate himself, Benjamin Mkapa, wasn't a totally familiar name with various quarters of the voting public.

Then, in 2000, Mkapa was campaigning on his record without Nyerere - and the margins weren't too different - 61.8 per cent and 71.7 per cent, respectively.

The rest of the votes were only shared out differently among opposition parties, up or down, as CUF and Chadema went up while NCCR-Mageuzi sharply declined and remained that way.

Presidential elections that had exceptional candidates were at most three, the first being in 1995 with Augustine Mrema in opposition, but equalled by Nyerere personally campaigning against him, so no surprises were produced except that NCCR-Mageuzi scooped most opposition votes.

The 2005 poll didn't have an exceptional candidate per se but rather the best prepared CCM aspirant, as he had come first in the 1995 preliminary run in CCM, and President Mkapa did not seek to thwart his ambitions at any stage.

This was Kikwete, whose score would still have been 'normal' as in 1995 save for the retarded voting, while in 2010 no exceptional candidate changed the mark.

As happened, Kikwete won the presidency with a comfortable 80.3 per cent in 2005 and much less impressive one (63.3 per cent) in 2010.

Come the "hunt" for Kikwete's successor (in 2015), there were really no explicitly exceptional candidates, with efforts within the ruling CCM to thwart the ambitions of Edward Lowassa dividing the party to an extent and so enraging the then outgoing president's widely acknowledged ally that he decamped to the opposition Chadema.

With that, the 2015 General Election came with CCM having a compromise presidential candidate in John Pombe Joseph Magufuli - who was also to prove a massively exceptional candidate.

There was no denying that chemistry guru Magufuli by then already boasted vast experience and achievements in the government, and especially in turning around - as it were - the infrastructure sub-sector.

Rather strangely, but in part perceptibly owing to the pre-election "tempest" within his own CCM, the much he could muster was a 58.5 per cent margin.

Evidently, no party and no candidate could have found comfort in such a narrow win. No wonder it is widely believed that this served to incentivise Magufuli into working for much greater heights during the just-ended General Election so that his second and final five-year presidential term would have a much more memorable and meaningful impact.

So, is the resounding election victory for both CCM in general and Dr Magufuli in particular this time around due to some newly discovered magical concoction or advanced chemistry, if one were to put it rather figuratively?

While this is subject to debate, the answer may be a sophisticated mix of several elements, including reading the opposition parties' scripts intensively enough to implement the respective manifestos by well above 100 per cent, the Magufuli government's own record in executing development projects touching the people's lives most, and what CCM Secretary General Dr Bashiru Ally Kakurwa is on record as having referred to as the advantages of incumbency.

As noted, though, there are some reservations from various quarters - chiefly the opposition camp but also some election observers - as to the general conduct of the just-held General Election.

That is only natural - and to be expected - and should serve to ensure better elections in the future, with all sides concerned learning from one another how to win elections in dignity, the need to concede defeat with grace and prepare better for subsequent "battles", etc.



Tundu Lissu, who was the opposition Chadema's candidate for the Tanzanian Presidency



Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan, who was Dr Magufuli's running mate



CCM Secretary General Bashiru Ally Kakurwa

China's new roadmap promotes own development, propels global growth

BEIJING

CHINA has outlined the proposals of its 14th five-year plan, the latest development blueprint that sets the direction of the world's second-largest economy.

It is finishing building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, with its economic and technological strength leaping to a new level.

In its gradual and concrete approaches to modernization, China is expected to continuously share with the world its development opportunities to drive global growth hindered by the COVID-19 pandemic and the rising sentiment of protectionism and unilateralism, said experts.

STABLE DEVELOPMENT

This year marks the end of China's current five-year development plan. The country is expected to cross the 100-trillion-yuan mark in its gross domestic product and win the battle against poverty.

With 55.75 million rural residents lifted out of poverty in the past five years, China is set to meet 10 years ahead of schedule the poverty alleviation target set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Christine Pierre, editor-in-chief of France's *Nouvelle Solidarité* magazine and an expert at the Schiller France Institute, said China's remarkable achievements, especially in the areas of poverty alleviation and the Belt and Road cooperation, demonstrate the efficiency of China's policy planning.

Ronnie Lins, director of the China-Brazil Center for Research and Business, stressed that China has made such progress thanks to its appropriate plans and feasible goals formulated in advance.

The fifth plenary session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) concluded on Thursday, adopting the CPC Central Committee's proposals for the formulation of the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives Through the Year 2035,

which await deliberation and approval next year at the National People's Congress, the country's top legislature.

The 13th five-year plan "catalyzed China's transformation from high-speed growth to high-quality growth, and brought science and technology to the highest national priority," said Robert Lawrence Kuhn, chairman of the Kuhn Foundation.

In the view of Diaa Helmy, secretary-general of Cairo-based Egyptian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, the 13th five-year plan period is a "defining moment" in the history of China.

The plan "has many achievements inside and outside China and it helps the world through its contribution to poverty reduction," said Helmy.

BRIGHT PROSPECTS

With the goals and tasks set in the 13th five-year plan about to be accomplished, China is depicting a promising blueprint for the next five years and beyond to build a more open and modernized country.

In that period, China will speed up fostering a new development pattern where domestic and foreign markets can boost each other, with the domestic market as the mainstay.

China will strive to make new strides in economic development during the period. It aims to realize sustained and healthy economic development on the basis of a marked improvement in quality and efficiency.

With new steps to be taken in reform and opening up, China will further improve its socialist market economy and basically complete the building of a high-standard market system, and form the new institutions of a higher-level open economy.

Mao Xuxin, principal economist at the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, a London-based economic think tank, said the proposals "set a practical blueprint for China's economic growth and social development in the coming years."

China, he noted, will speed up the transformation from high-speed growth to high-quality development.

"The 14th five-year plan will promote China from a big manufacturing



Photo shows decorations at the west entrance of the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai) in east China's Shanghai, Oct. 23, 2020. The 3rd China International Import Expo (CIIE) will kick off on Nov. 5. (Xinhua)

country to a manufacturing and even a technology power," said Koh Chin Yee, president of Singapore's South Seas Society, which gathers scholars worldwide on research about Southeast Asia.

"This progress will not only promote China's economic and social development, but will also benefit the world as a whole," Koh said.

IMPETUS TO GLOBAL RECOVERY

A stable and consistent development plan with a pledge of further opening up by the world's second largest economy matters to the world, which is stumbling into a recession due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The rising sentiment of trade protectionism and unilateralism in some Western countries makes the crisis even worse.

After returning to growth after the COVID-19 outbreak, China has outlined a clear framework for its future devel-

opment, injecting certainty into a world where uncertainty abounds.

In its latest World Economic Outlook report, the International Monetary Fund projected the global economy to contract sharply by 4.4 percent this year, while expecting China's economy to grow by 1.9 percent for the year.

Underscoring the roles of opening up and innovation, China's new development blueprint will significantly contribute to the global synergy toward a long-awaited recovery.

In this regard, the upcoming China International Import Expo (CIIE) demonstrates China's willingness to share its development opportunities with the rest of the world.

Gu Qingyang, an associate professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy of the National University of Singapore, said against the backdrop of rising protectionism and unilateralism, the CIIE, as a state-level platform, demon-

strates China's adherence to globalization in favor of exchanges and win-win cooperation.

Chen Gang, assistant director and senior research fellow of the East Asian Institute of the National University of Singapore, spoke highly of China's efforts to share the benefits of its market.

"As the pandemic of the COVID-19 has impacted the world economy severely, China has recently proposed the dual circulation strategy, which is not only conducive to China's sustainable development, but also brings the world a more attractive and vast market," Chen said. **Xinhua**

Democracy is on the line in the United States

By Nic Dawes

LIKE South Africans did in 1994, Americans are turning out in record numbers to cast their votes in 2020. Many of the people queuing in rain and in defiance of coronavirus risks, are driven by a slow-dawning realisation of how lopsided the polling system is, how captured by local partisans, how vulnerable, how mired in a legacy of racism.

It was a Wednesday, 27 April 1994, and in Mowbray, Cape Town, it rained softly on the line that stretched along the Liesbeek parkway from the polling place at the Gordons sports center. Buses arrived from the Cape Flats, where voting was even slower, swelling the crowd.

We chatted and sheltered under bits of plastic, a game of rugby broke out in the drizzle. It was seven hours before we made it inside, and I lingered in the cardboard booth, making my mark in soft pencil, going over the lines to draw them thick and dark and unmistakable, but also to prolong the act of choice and consent that for the first time truly felt like citizenship.

In Brooklyn this week, it rained too, gentle and steady, on the socially distanced lines of early voters taking no chances with the pandemic, with the postal service, with their work schedules.

New York State is not in play in this presidential election, which means we see only a fraction of the political advertising that is bombarding Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Florida, and no visits from candidates.

Ballots are unlikely to be much contested here, as they almost certainly will be in battleground states, by Republican officials and activists anxious to exclude from the count the postal and early votes they think will favor Joe Biden and Democratic candidates down the ticket. And yet the voters of New York lined up in their thousands, damp and masked.

"Vote!" exhort the signs in my neighbours' windows. "Vote!" say the sandwich boards outside the coffee shop and the menswear boutique. "Vote!" say the skiers and cyclists in my Instagram feed, and the activists and parents, and artists. "Vote!"

Turnout in US elections has hovered around 55% of the voting-age population for a generation. The last time it nudged 60% was in 1968, the election perhaps most

like this one in terms of its stakes, and of the issues in play.

Those abysmal numbers suggest to many outside of the US a blithe carelessness with the country's democracy, a sense that Americans take for granted their rights and freedoms, or don't expect the alteration between parties to trouble their interests enough to get them to the polls.

The truth is much darker, and it is on naked display this election in a way that may at last bring sustained pressure for fundamental reforms in the voting system.

Around five million adult citizens are affected by state laws that disenfranchise convicted felons, often permanently. In the crucial battleground of Florida, where voters overwhelmingly agreed in 2018 to end the practice, Republican lawmakers gutted the change by imposing requirements that felons pay all outstanding fines and fees before they can have their rights restored. That probably leaves some 750,000 unable to vote in a state that could be decided by a much narrower margin.

These laws, of course, are the living embodiment of Jim Crow, created and now maintained in order to ensure that black voters are excluded.

There are others. Voter identification laws, on the books in 36 states, disproportionately affect people of colour and the poor. According to the American Civil Liberties Union, 25% of African Americans of voting age lack government-issued photo ID, compared to just 8% of whites.

A whole thicket of other barriers set up to limit participation was the explicit target of a 1965 voting rights act, the landmark Civil Rights Law that aimed to end racial discrimination in voting and fully realise the post-Civil War 14th and 15th Amendments to the US constitution.

Conservatives have long chafed at the law, which contained crucial provisions to increase scrutiny of states and counties with an especially egregious record of suppressing black votes. In 2013, a Supreme Court that was already leaning right struck down that part of the act, depriving advocates of crucial tools for fighting voter suppression.

There are softer measures too. Elections take place on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November, and voting day is not a public holiday. For many, that can



Voters wait in a light rain to cast their votes for the 2020 presidential election at the Fairfax County Government Center in Fairfax, Virginia USA.

mean choosing between voting and wages, or even keeping your job.

For those who make it through the doors of a polling place, the design of the senate, and above all the electoral college system, conspire to devalue votes from America's diverse cities and coasts, and to elevate those of whiter and more rural parts of the country.

Seen through that lens, turnout looks very different. And so does Donald Trump's relentless attack on the integrity of the electoral system, which is being abetted by local officials and, in some cases, courts, even as polls overwhelmingly predict a Biden victory.

Black Americans have always known the

system was rigged against them. For whites, it was easy not to know, or simply not to care very much.

Trump may have changed that for good by seeking to keep it that way.

Americans are voting right now as if their lives depended on it. And their democracy. By Wednesday, 70 million had cast ballots, more than half the total turnout in 2016. Some of that is down to the need to limit exposure to Covid-19 as cases surge to new highs in some of the most contested parts of the country.

Some of it is down to passionate commitment to Trumpism, too. But much of it is driven by a realisation, now dawning much more widely, of how lopsided the system

is, how captured by local partisans, how vulnerable, how mired in the legacy of racism.

To line up in the rain to vote in safely blue Brooklyn, or to risk infection in a swing state, is both to assert and to celebrate the unrealised idea of a full American democracy even as the president and his party strain every sinew to curtail it.

We had three days to vote in South Africa in 1994, and by the third it would be the work of five or ten minutes, but we went to queue on the first, not only because we had waited too long for democracy, but because we wanted to participate in this great national ceremony of liberation and of binding to a constitutional order.

And so I know how my US neighbours feel, in this very different moment of theirs. I hope with all my heart they get it right.

DM

IPI: crimes against journalists on the rise

By Special Correspondent

A TOTAL of 52 journalists have lost their lives globally due to their work since October 2019, says the Vienna-based organisation.

The International Press Institute (IPI) said that the impunity with which crimes against journalists are committed continued to rise as governments had failed to probe the cases.

Ahead of the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes

against Journalists on November 2, the Vienna-based IPI said in a statement that 52 journalists, including two in India, had died due to their work since October 2019, of which 24 were murdered in targeted attacks, according to the IPI's "Death Watch".

"An additional 15 cases are considered to be likely targeted attacks but remain under investigation regarding the motive.

Seven other journalists were killed in Syria and one in Iraq cover-

ing armed conflict, and two died in Iraq and one in Afghanistan reporting on civil unrest. An additional two journalists were killed while on assignment. In almost half of the cases, those responsible are still at large," the IPI statement said.

The IPI, which is an international network of editors, journalists and media executives, said its analysis of the cases had found the governments' response "alarmingly insufficient". Out of the 52 cases, arrests had been made in only 10 cases,

five each in the Americas and Asia, it said. "The unbroken cycle of impunity for crimes against journalists fuels further violence against the press at a time when the free flow of news is more valuable than ever," IPI deputy director Scott Griffen said.

The IPI statement said the Americas had the highest number of killings, like in the previous year, with 21 such cases, including eight in Mexico, five in Honduras, two each in Colombia

and Venezuela, and one each in Brazil, Guatemala, Haiti and Paraguay.

Of the 11 journalists murdered in Asia, three were in the Philippines, two each were in India, Indonesia and Pakistan, and one each were in Cambodia and Bangladesh. Two journalists were murdered in Nigeria and one each in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia in Africa.

"One journalist died in a target-

ed attack in Yemen, and another was found dead in his car in Iraq, while in Qatar, the death of an imprisoned journalist is under investigation," the IPI said.

In terms of action in the cases, the IPI said arrests were made in one of the eight killings in Mexico and the perpetrators were still at large in Brazil, Colombia and Honduras. There had been no reported progress in the investigations into the killings in Bangladesh and Cambodia and no arrests

in the seven cases in the Middle East and Africa, it said.

"Unfortunately, even the fact of arrests does not necessarily indicate genuine progress in an investigation into the killing of a journalist, given that all too often the only people who are arrested are the trigger men, while the masterminds remain free," Mr. Griffen said.

He called on the authorities to ensure that all those involved in the killing of a journalist are brought to justice.

Women use goat farming as new tool to address poverty

By Getrude Mbago

IT is around 9am and the sun is already peeking over the horizon, a 70-year-old Sikudhani Sanga is seen busy taking care of her goats near her house at Mabokweni Street on the outskirts of Tanga city in Tanga Region.

Sikudhani is one of the Tanzanian women who have lived with less than \$1 a day for several years and she couldn't think if there is a day that she can enjoy life like other people do or even be sure of getting two meals per day.

"My life became awful after my husband died and left me with three little children, he died few years after our marriage, it wasn't easy for me to overcome several challenges due to poverty a situation which sometimes forced us to sleep without having a meal," says a mother of four.

Sikudhani, who is now enjoying her life, thanks to the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) that extended financial assistance to her, pulls her out of the poverty trap.

She narrates her life story recently when journalists and officials from TASAF headquarters visited some of the beneficiaries in the district.

According to her, after she received grants from Tasaf for the first time five years ago she embarked on a small-scale goat farming project, where she started with two goats and the number has gone up to 30. To her, this is a big success as before getting into the programme, she had nothing. Simple calculations is that if she can sell the enter group of goats, Sikudhani can get an average of 3m/-, (at the price of 100,000/- each).

She opted goat farming—a business that has changed her entire life.

"The project has transformed my life," she said, adding that the secret behind this was the courage and strength she got from Tasaf officials whenever she went to collect the grants.

According to her, during grant collection, all the beneficiaries are taught on the proper use of the funds they receive by initiating small-scale projects to improve their economic well-being.

She pointed out that the project has enabled her to get additional income, part of which she has used to roof her house with corrugated iron sheets.

"Through the Tasaf programme our lives have greatly improved... we are now able to get three meals a day, provide for our children's school needs and medical treatment," she added.

She further narrates: "I remember before being enrolled in the programme I was engaging in maize and cassava farming, an activity which was also not paying me much due to poor investment, I thank God when the Tasaf programme came, trained us on various income generating activities, I then opted goat farming."

She appealed for Tasaf to train them on entrepreneurship skills, and avail them with extension officers to educate and supervise them all the time.

The journalists also visited several other beneficiaries in the area where they witnessed a number of Tasaf programme achievements while also witnessing the beneficiaries busily engaging in economic activities like livestock keeping and farming.

Most of the beneficiaries generally appealed for more entrepreneurship training and improved provision of Community Health Fund (CHF) services.

A 60-year-old Mwantumu Sarare, another beneficiary of the programme in Mabokweni area said she decided to invest the grant she got from Tasaf in poultry business and goat keeping.

"This was the only way I thought would help me raise an income for my two grandchildren to go to school and I saw its benefits," said Mwantumu.

She pointed out that there was a time when business was very good, but due to animal diseases, most of the chicken and goats perished but extension officers came to rescue her business with closer guidance.

As per World Bank report, 736 million people are living in extreme poverty globally, and these are the ones living below the poverty line. And 55 percent of all poor people are living in the African continent which translates that in every three people in Africa, one is poor.

Beatrice Machaga, Tanga city TASAF monitoring officer, said that the implementation of the programme has improved lives of thousands of poor households in the



country.

She said despite providing direct grants, Tasaf has been investing in providing entrepreneurship and financial training for the beneficiaries for them to utilise the grants in a proper way, however, adding that the programme was yet to reach some villages.

Machaga advised the grant recipients to abstain from lavish spending and instead focus on basic social needs. He said the project aims at supporting the fight against poverty at household level.

According to her, the programme's major aim is to help poor households to increase income by grabbing and opportunities for enhancement of livelihoods and community savings and investments.

"All beneficiaries should make good use of the knowledge and resources they are receiving to establish income generating activities which will assist them in the future, they have to be aware that it will reach a time when they will have to graduate from the programme paving way for other poor households to be enrolled," she said.

She narrated that through the programme poor families have received support; students are able to

attend school as well as obtain social services, including health care, while others have been able to establish small-scale projects, breaking the poverty cycle.

Amadeus Kamagenge, Tasaf's director of community support said that as per baseline survey carried by the fund recently has proved that a good number of beneficiaries have enhanced their livelihoods.

He said that at least 20 percent of the 1.1 million poor households that were registered in the TASAF's Production Social Safety Net (PSSN) programme are planned to exit from it soon.

Kamagenge said that since its commencement in the year 2000, TASAF programme has contributed immensely to the reduction of income poverty among poor households in the country.

According to him, the aim of the PSSN programme is to empower poor households to increase income but also support them to have access to social services such as food, education and health.

According to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), basic needs poverty has dropped to 26.4 percent in 2017/18 from 39 percent in 1990/91.

Armed conflicts affect environment and wildlife - experts

By Special Correspondent, Kigali

BESIDES disturbing human populations, armed conflicts are reported to have disastrous effects on the environment, as well as wild life. From the bloody Syrian war to conflicts in Africa, animals have been victims of the collateral damage.

Braving war and unrelenting bombing in the city of Aleppo in Syria in 2016, environmentalists worked overtime to rescue 13 remaining animals, including a traumatized black bear and a pregnant lioness from the city zoo. The war had claimed lives of 300 animals. Like many other Syrians, the animals initially took refuge in Turkey. Later they were shifted to a national park in Jordan.

As the world observes International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict, on Wednesday, experts believe that it was an opportunity to reflect on the role of war on damaging natural environment and discuss ways to limit environmental destruction caused by armed conflicts.

Researchers have found that wars and armed conflict have led to severe declines in large mammal populations in Africa's protected areas. "Since Somalia's civil war began in 1991 80% of country's wildlife migrated, because of the conflicts and deforestation and climate change," Zubeyr Hassan, Mogadishu based wildlife expert told Anadolu Agency.

Now with the semblance of peace returning the region, elephants have been traced in Lower Jubba forests, who may have returned from Kenya



to their original habitat.

Somalia's famed wild dog population entirely disappeared during the conflict. The armed insurgency had its impact on foxes, lions and other animals as well, according to Mohamad Ali Hussien, climate change activist and a religious leader.

"War is bad for wildlife in as many ways as for people. Conservation suffers because rangers often have to flee the fighting. Moreover, rebels and soldiers often feed their troops on bushmeat and finance their operations with ivory, timber, charcoal and minerals from protected areas," he said.

Elephants disappear in South Sudan, Angola

There are 5,000 elephants in South Sudan,

which is recuperating from a civil war. The region had more than 100,000 elephants a decade ago, before the civil war engulfed the region.

The Spokesperson of Ministry of Wildlife and Conservation, Maj. Gen. Khamis Adieng, said due to armed conflicts, around six national parks were affected. All the wild animals ran away.

Similarly, in Angola, a study revealed that only 3,400 elephants exist in Cuando-Cubango province in the southeast corner of the country. The region had 70,000 elephants 25 years ago before the war. The civil war in Angola was fought from 1975-2002.

During the Rwandan civil war almost three-quarters of a million people lived in camps on

the edge of Virunga national park. According to the Worldwatch Institute, around 1,000 tonnes of wood was removed from the park every day for two years in order to build shelters, feed cooking fires and to create charcoal for sale. "By the time the conflict ended 105 square kilometers of forest had been damaged and 35 square kilometers stripped bare," said the study.

Further, in another war-ravaged country of Afghanistan, wildlife and habitats have disappeared. The war has stripped the country of its trees, including precious native pistachio woodlands. The Costs of War Project says illegal logging by warlords and wood harvesting by refugees has caused more than one-third of Afghanistan's forests to vanish. The number of migratory birds passing through Afghanistan has fallen by 85%.

Marie Jacobsson, a special rapporteur to the UN's International Law Commission charged with assessing how legal frameworks can protect the environment from armed conflict, says the international legal protections are "rudimentary".

"Laws and codes of practice may serve to ameliorate a fraction of the damage caused by the wars waged by large armies. A far greater -- and possibly achievable -- impact would be to reduce the vast standing armies the world maintains in a time of relative global tranquility," argues Jacobsson.

Legal frameworks, however, cannot be imposed during civil wars, be that in Africa, Syria or elsewhere. Desperate people will continue to maintain their lives at the expense of all around them.

African bank approves US \$440,000 emergency relief assistance for flood victims in South Sudan and Sudan

ABIDJAN

THE African Development Bank Group (AfDB) has approved an emergency assistance relief package of \$440,000 to fund ongoing humanitarian and emergency relief efforts in areas recently hit by floods in South Sudan and Sudan.

The package, from the Bank's Special Relief Fund, will be split nearly equally between the two countries and will be used to purchase food items and water, and to cover the implementation costs to be incurred by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The funding is part of a multinational emergency response to provide relief to flood victims in both countries, where torrential rains have caused rivers to overflow their dykes and banks, disrupting trade routes, damaging crops, killing livestock and submerging houses.

By the end of September, the Food Security Technical Secretariat reported that heavy rains and flooding had affected more than 860,000 people (over 480,000 of them children) in Sudan. Over 125,000 refugees and internally displaced people are among those affected in that country since the start of the rainy season in July. The states most affected by floods are Khartoum, North Darfur, Blue Nile, West Darfur and Sennar. More than 100 people have reportedly died as a result of the flooding.

In South Sudan, the UN has estimated that more than \$80 million is needed for the overall flood response, including \$46 million for immediate assistance to 360,000 people until the end of the year.

Vast areas of the country along the River Nile are now under water, affecting more than 600,000 people since July in Jonglei, Lakes, Unity, Upper Nile, and Central and Western Equatoria. Entire communities have fled to higher ground to escape the rising waters.

African Development Bank Country Manager for South Sudan, Benedict Kanu, said more than 100 people died through the disaster in the country, with about 25,000 internally displaced.

"The situation is particularly critical given the COVID-19 preventive measures in place, insecurity in some of the affected states and the financial constraints faced by the government and humanitarian agencies, despite the growing needs of the flood-affected communities," Kanu said.

With record spending burnt, 2020 US elections remain undetermined

WASHINGTON

As the United States gets battered by COVID-19 and a deep economic slump, this year's elections have blown past previous record to become the most expensive one in U.S. history, while experts have said the results will still likely be decided by a few battleground states.

Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden is leading by 7.8 points in RealClearPolitics' average of national polls as of Saturday, but that does not guarantee he will clinch the White House. In 2016, former Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton led incumbent U.S. President Donald Trump in the national polls, but ended up losing in the Electoral College.

In the United States, the voting system assigns each state a number of Electoral College votes. Experts said just a handful of battleground states may well determine the outcome of this historic election next Tuesday.

"This race is far closer than some of the punditry ... would suggest," Biden campaign manager Jen O'Malley Dillon was quoted as saying earlier this month in U.S. media. "In a number of critical swing states we are fundamentally tied."

RECORD SPENDING AMID PANDEMIC

The total cost of the 2020 U.S. elections, including presidential and congressional, will near 14 billion U.S. dollars, a sum more than what was spent during the last two election cycles combined, according to an estimate from the Center for Responsive Politics (CRP).

Democrats have spent the lion's share of that total so far, consuming 6.9 billion dollars, compared to 3.8 billion dollars spent by Republican candidates and groups, the data showed.

"Donors poured record amounts of money into the 2018 midterms, and 2020 appears to be a continuation of that trend -- but magnified," said Sheila Krumholz, executive director of the Center for Responsive Politics.

Biden is poised to become the first candidate in history to raise 1 billion dollars from donors, after his campaign brought in a record-breaking 938 million dollars through Oct. 14. Trump raised 596 million dollars, according to the estimate.

"Ten years ago, a billion-dollar presidential candidate would have been difficult to imagine. This cycle, we're likely to see two," Krumholz said.

OpenSecrets, part of the CRP, said in a press release that the influx of political donations in the final weeks leading up to the Nov. 3 election day was driven by the partisan fight over the now successful Senate confirmation of Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court and "closely watched races for the White House and Senate."

While former President Barack Obama, when doing a phone banking for Biden, urged a mother of an eight-month-old to turn out and vote in what will be "a really close election," Trump reportedly told GOP donors that it will be "tough" for Republicans to continue holding the majority in the Senate after the congressional election.

With Trump and Biden vying for



U.S. President Donald Trump participating in a campaign rally in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, the United States. File photo

the White House, all of the 435 seats in the House and 35 of the 100 Senate seats are up for election this year.

BIDEN AHEAD IN BATTLEGROUND STATES, BUT IT'S NOT OVER

With such a historic number of Americans voting -- an estimated 90 million have already cast early ballots -- the election results may not be readily available on election night.

Clay Ramsay, researcher at the center for international and security studies at the University of Maryland, told Xinhua that the most important battleground states are North Carolina, Florida and Ohio.

The primary reason is that each of these states is organized to count rapidly and efficiently, and probably can report their complete totals before Wednesday morning. So

these states are the early indicators, Ramsay said.

As of Saturday, Biden was ahead in North Carolina by 1.2 points, in Florida by 1.2 points and the two candidates are tied in Ohio, according to RealClearPolitics' average of polls.

If North Carolina, Florida and Ohio all have majorities for Biden, the odds of a clear national Biden victory are very high. If they are a mixed bag, then Arizona -- which is also expected to count efficiently -- Iowa, and Michigan will be the next group of indicators, Ramsay said.

Trump led in Arizona by a slim margin of 0.6 percent and Biden was ahead in Iowa by a slim 1.2 percent and in Michigan by a hefty 6.5 percent.

If these too are mixed, then very late reporting states, notably Pennsylvania, will be quite important, Ramsay said.

MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN STRATEGIES

Trump's major strategy has been the traditional, door-to-door campaigning, while Biden's team has shied away from that method due to coronavirus concerns.

Since August, Trump's campaign has said its volunteers knock on more than 1 million doors per week nationwide, while the Biden campaign just launched its door-to-door campaign earlier this month.

Trump's campaign has bet that in-person contact will give the president an advantage, whereas Biden's campaign has been reluctant to put the 77-year-old out in public due to concerns over the pandemic, which disproportionately impacts the elderly.

That reflects a basic difference in philosophy over the virus, with Trump and many of his supporters believing Americans must not allow the pandemic to rule their lives, while Biden and many supporters favoring hunkering down at home.

Still, both candidates have been hitting the campaign trail in the final days of the critical race.

Biden will hit stops in Michigan and Pennsylvania on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

After a brief hospitalization earlier this month due to COVID-19, Trump has been pounding the campaign trail hard, visiting state after state.

Trump plans to make four stops in a single state on Saturday, hit five different states on Sunday, and five additional states on Monday.

Xinhua

Have you heard about Long-Covid? It sticks around for a while

By The Scientists Collective

MORE awareness is needed about those who experience prolonged symptoms of Covid-19. This long-hauler is a bona fide condition shared by many thousands across the globe.

When we first become infected with the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 'acute infection', a number of different scenarios may play out. First, approximately 40% of infected people will never experience symptoms at all. Of the remaining 60%, most will experience one or more symptoms that do not require hospitalisation and can be treated at home. A much smaller subset of symptomatic individuals: - 15-20% - will manifest 'severe Covid-19', resulting in admission to hospital mainly for pneumonia, and may need oxygen support, steroids and, less frequently, mechanical ventilation.

The length of time that people can experience Covid-19 symptoms varies a lot. Even now, Covid-19 is still a relatively new disease in terms of our experience, and we are still learning about the longer-term impact that the coronavirus may have on our bodies, the duration of symptoms and possible sequelae of the illness.

It is useful to understand the phases of SARS-CoV-2 infection, and why we are still learning about it. Initially, the virus enters the respiratory pathway, and then there is a burst of virus replication within the body. As the immune system mounts a response to the virus, it is then that symptoms begin to occur in most people.

It is the same reason we feel so sick with flu. However, the next phase seems different to flu - in some people, they get an ongoing complex and dysregulated immune activation. This can result in collateral damage to tissues of multiple organs, potentially needing to be placed on a ventilator, and also ending up with long-term symptoms.

We recognise that patients with severe acute Covid-19 who require hospital admission often have residual fatigue and shortness of breath, but as outlined above, this group constitutes only a small fraction of those infected by SARS-CoV-2.

A study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which interviewed 274 patients with proven Covid-19 who had not been admitted to hospital, showed that even in young patients, symptoms may be slow to respond; 26% of interviewees aged 18-34 years reported not having returned to their usual state of health within 14-21 days of their test, rising to 47% in those over 50 years.

The greater the number of pre-existing chronic conditions also increased the likelihood that symptom resolution was delayed. A lot of emphasis has been placed on people who died and those who have "recovered" but little recognition has been given to those with persisting symptoms, even if they were never hospitalised.

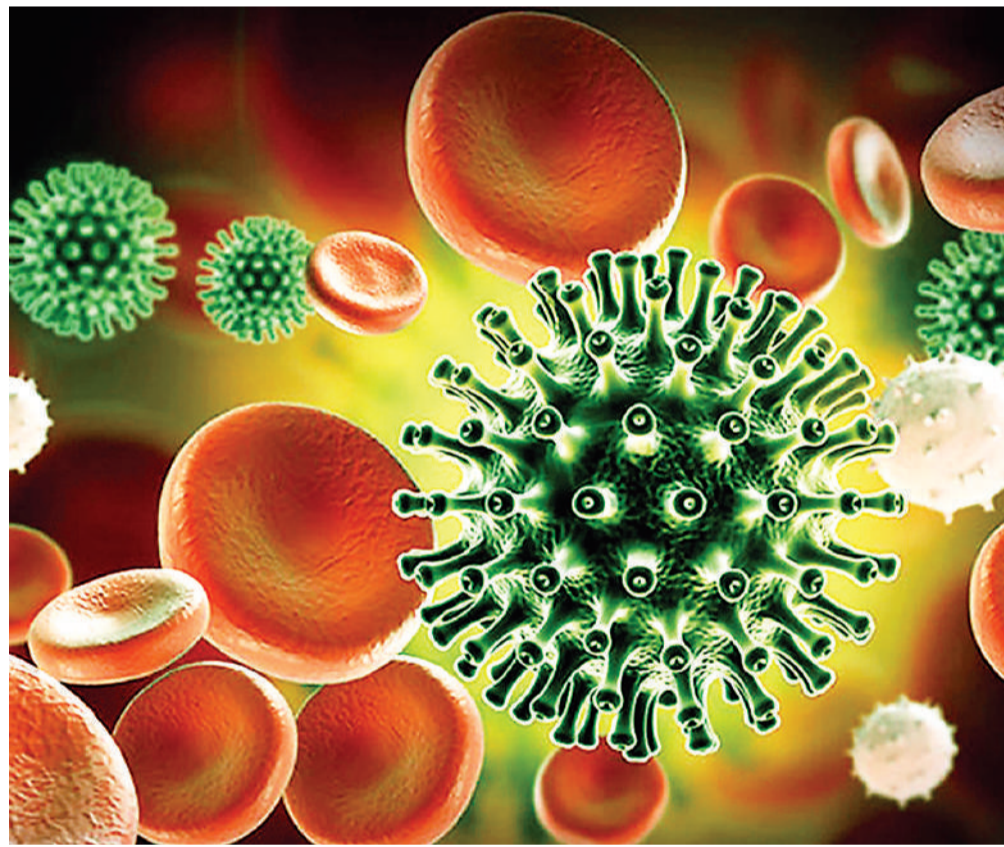
This advisory lays out what we currently know about people with Covid-19 who are experiencing prolonged symptoms - so-called "Long-Covid" or "Covid long-haulers" - and discusses an approach to managing these symptoms.

Long-Covid

There is currently no internationally recognised definition of Long-Covid. A generally accepted timeframe that differentiates the duration of the acute infection from Long-Covid is one month, i.e. those people with symptoms persisting for more than 28 days may be experiencing Long-Covid.

What is clear is that, like the acute infection, patients with Long-Covid can experience multiple symptoms that involve the lungs and other parts of the body.

These may include: fatigue, muscle pains, weakness and low-grade fever; cough, shortness of breath, chest pain (lung burn);



headaches, cognitive blunting (brain fog), pins and needles, rashes such as chilblain-like lesions (Covid toe); mental health conditions; and conditions relating to clotting in blood vessels. Some symptoms such as fatigue may be continuous while others are intermittent.

The other unknown is the proportion of people experiencing Long-Covid symptoms. This is partly due to not enough research having been undertaken to give an accurate indication.

Another reason is that a large percentage of people who had Covid-19 symptoms over the past seven months were not tested for the coronavirus and therefore have not been "officially" diagnosed with a laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection.

Due to this variance in testing, we need to accept that not having had a test for Covid-19 should not exclude a diagnosis of Long-Covid in someone who experienced acute Covid-19-compatible symptoms during this epidemic and is experiencing persisting symptoms.

In addition, many of us have experienced unprecedented stress triggered by Covid-19 and the subsequent lockdown, spanning fears about the future, anticipation anxiety, loss of jobs, and the death of loved ones from the virus. Brain fog and fatigue, as well as many other symptoms ascribed to Long-Covid, may equally be due to understandable mental health issues in dystopian times. There is no reliable test to differentiate between the two.

However, we do know that Covid-19 can result in persisting cognitive impairment. A recent study, published online in pre-print

form, looked at cognitive function in 84,285 participants in the Great British Intelligence Test.

This study showed that Covid-19 has consequences for prolonged cognitive dysfunction even in persons who had relatively mild symptoms that were managed at home. For the most severely affected participants with Covid-19, i.e. those who had been hospitalised and required mechanical ventilation, the study found a significant loss of function, equivalent to an average 10-year decline in global cognitive performance between the ages of 20-70 years, which equates to an 8.5-point difference in IQ.

Linguistic problem-solving and visual selective attention were most notably affected. Although we have known from studies pre-dating Covid-19 that people admitted to hospital who required mechanical ventilation for other causes demonstrate persisting cognitive deficit, the fact that reduced cognitive performance can be protracted in people not requiring a ventilator in this study was "unexpected". In short, Covid-19 is capable of causing persisting loss in cognitive function, even in those who were mildly affected during the acute infection. Exactly how long this may last is still to be determined.

Can we predict who will get Long-Covid?

A recent study from the UK, the US and Sweden, also published in pre-print form, has shed light on this intriguing question. The Covid Symptom Study app looked at 4,182 of their almost 4 million users who log their symptoms prospectively, fulfilled the inclusion criteria of having had a posi-

tive SARS-CoV-2 PCR test, and scored themselves as "feeling physically normal" before the illness. Of people with confirmed Covid-19, 13% had symptoms lasting more than 28 days. Of these, 4.5% had symptoms lasting more than eight weeks and 2.3% for more than 12 weeks. The research team were also able to compare symptoms and other characteristics of this Long-Covid group with 1,581 people in their database who had PCR-confirmed Covid-19 but were symptomatic for fewer than 10 days (Short-Covid).

Fatigue (98%) and headache (91%) were the commonest reported persisting symptoms in people with Long-Covid. Other common symptoms included shortness of breath (71%), loss of smell (anosmia 72%), particularly in the older age groups, persistent cough (69%), sore throat (67%), fever (63%) and unusual muscle pains (64%).

The team went on to test whether they could predict who would go on to experience Long-Covid. They found that people with more than five symptoms in the first week of their illness were four times more likely to develop Long-Covid than those with fewer symptoms. The five symptoms that were most predictive were fatigue, headache, shortness of breath, hoarse voice and muscle pains. Long-Covid was also more likely to occur in women, older people and those with obesity.

The findings of this study applied equally in each of the three countries that took part. However, that does not automatically mean that exactly the same findings would result from a similar study in South Africa, which has a very different health and socio-economic profile. Furthermore, there may be a number of biases that were introduced, for example, the results come only from people who used the app, and only reflect the experience of those who had a laboratory-confirmed diagnosis. Whether the same findings are true for those who did not have a positive confirmatory test for SARS-CoV-2 is not known. Despite these limitations, this study provides our best current evidence for predicting who will get Long-Covid and which symptoms are most likely to persist.

Why do some have prolonged symptoms with Covid-19 and others don't?

At present, we don't know the answer to this question, particularly as it may not be "one size fits all", bear-

ing in mind the multisystem nature of the symptoms experienced by different people. A study following 100 German patients 10 weeks after being diagnosed with Covid-19 found evidence of inflammation of heart muscle in 60%, irrespective of whether they had any pre-existing heart disease. Biopsies from affected heart muscle showed no signs of the coronavirus, which suggest that the longer-term damage may relate to the body's immune response to the infection, rather than the virus itself. This may also underlie damage to other systems such as the brain, gut and musculoskeletal system, but more research is urgently needed to illuminate what drives the symptoms of Long-Covid, and hence, how we might treat them.

What can be done if I discover I have Long-Covid?

First and foremost, you're not "crazy", and this is a real, bona fide problem, shared by many thousands, maybe millions, of people across the globe. It's important to know that the majority of people suffering from Long-Covid will get better in time; there is light at the end of the tunnel. Your own personal timeframe is impossible to be sure of, but there are some simple approaches that you and your healthcare providers can take.

As Long-Covid most commonly manifests with multiple different symptoms, it requires a holistic approach and support management. That may include doctors, occupational therapists who are specialists in rehabilitation medicine (for the more severely affected), physiotherapists, mental health practitioners and peer support groups, which have largely led the way in addressing Long-Covid up to now. Their importance should not be underestimated. Sharing your problems with others experiencing the same issues is a powerful supportive action in itself.

In summary

Although Long-Covid may be short on evidence to direct our response to it, this rapidly evolving clinical problem has important public health considerations as the pandemic continues apace.

An expectation of recovery and a pragmatic, holistic approach to its management is needed, and plans must be made to accommodate the needs of this group of patients in the South African health system.

DM

BUSINESS

RESTRICTION

Sportpesa return flops after betting regulator blocks use of trade name

NAIROBI

The Betting Control and Licensing Board (BCLB) has stopped Milestone Games Limited from operating under the popular Sportpesa gaming brand, saying the trade name has been appropriated from its rightful owner Pevans East Africa Limited.

The decision issued on Friday unveiled major intrigues in the industry, coming the same day that Sportpesa chief executive Ronald Karauri announced the return of the brand under "a new BCLB license holder."

"According to information in our possession, the tradename 'Sportpesa' belongs to M/s Pevans East Africa Limited. The said company has filed an appeal in the Court of Appeal in Nairobi no. 471 of 2019. The matter before the Court of Appeal contests the issuance of the gaming license to Pevans East Africa t/a Sportpesa. The matter is scheduled to be heard on November 16, 2020," BCLB chairman Cyrus Maina wrote to Milestone's operations manager Bernard Chauru on Friday.

"You are therefore prohibited from using the trade name 'Sportpesa', domains www.ke.sportpesa.com, www.sportpesa.co.ke, short codes 29050 and 79079, Pay Bill numbers 521521, 9555700 and 955700 until such a time when the Court of Appeal shall make a determination on the pending appeal

and until the Board considers your request to use them."

The regulator said Milestone is free to continue trading as "Milestone Bet", through the domains www.milestonebet.co.ke, www.milestonegames.co.ke, and www.milestonegames.com. Mr Maina added that the decision to ban Milestone from using the Sportpesa brand name and technological infrastructure was made to avoid confusion among the general public. "The reason being that there is a variance in the trade name the board approved vis-à-vis the name Milestone Games Limited currently wishes to adopt," he said.

Sportpesa was the most popular betting firm in the country and its license was revoked in October last year after it was accused of not paying taxes running into Sh15.1 billion. Milestone's move to ride on Sportpesa brand and platforms is seen as a bid to access the more than 12 million customers in the database. Mr Karauri's announcement was greeted with enthusiasm on online forums.

The regulator noted that Milestone has been authorised to use the Sportpesa trademark by Sportpesa Global Holdings, a company which shares directors with Pevans East Africa. The intrigues signal a fallout among the founders and sponsors of the popular gaming platform.



Sportpesa chief executive Ronald Karauri.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Agro-college principals commend SBL for pro-poor scholarship programme

By Guardian Reporter

A scholarship program targeting students from farming communities with poor backgrounds has been hailed as a catalyst to industrialization and poverty eradication.

College principals whose students are currently benefitting from Serengeti Breweries Limited's agro-industry scholarship program, popularly known as 'Kilimo-Viwanda' Scholarship Program, said in Dar es Salaam last week that implementing the initiative that financially supports students from underprivileged families to acquire quality education in agriculture-related disciplines.

Speaking during the launch of phase two of 'Kilimo-Viwanda' Scholarship Program, the principals from Kaole Wazazi College of Agriculture in Bagamoyo, Kilacha Agriculture and Livestock Training Centre in Moshi, Saint Maria Goretti College of Agriculture in Iringa and Igabiro Training Institute of Agriculture in Bukoba said the scheme has assisted to beef up the existing pool of experts in the agricultural sector to support farmers increase productivity.

Kaole Wazazi's Principal, Sistani Simba said the SBL support was not only a much-sought-after short-in-the-arm for qualified students who could not afford college fees but also demonstrates the brewer commitment to development of the agriculture sector in the country.

"The training of agricultural experts is one of the priorities spelt out in the Agriculture Sec-



SBL's managing director, Mark Ocitti addressing the media during the launch of 'Kilimo Viwanda' Scholarship Programme phase II in Dar es Salaam. Left is principal of Kilacha Agricultural and Livestock Training Center, Benito Mwenda. Photo courtesy of SBL.

tor Development Program Phase II, as a prerequisite to increasing productivity and income generation for the farmers," Simba said. "We are very grateful to SBL because the program is among initiatives that are supporting our college to foster the growth of the agricultural sector in the country," he added.

Echoing Simba's comments was Kilacha's Principal, Benito Mwenda who noted that the brewer's generosity testifies its keenness in enhancing the training of experts in agri-

culture for supporting an initiative to have adequate experts in the agriculture sector. "This SBL scheme will help to transform the country's agriculture sector from its current subsistence production into market and industrial-orientated production," Mwenda said.

St. Maria Goretti's Principal, Isaya Kidava backed his peers by saying, "Agricultural extension officers are an important group of people needed to transform the sector hence what SBL has done is commendable." "Adoption of good

agricultural practices and intensive provision of extension services to farmers have consistently demonstrated high rates of return in various countries," Kidava added.

In remarks made during the launch, SBL Managing Director, Mark Ocitti said the brewer's main aim, among others, is to support government in building capacity of local farmers through training of experts in various disciplines of the agriculture sector.

Ocitti explained that the

brewer has committed 120m/annually to help needy students from farming communities who are studying in local colleges majoring in agriculture-related disciplines. So far, 70 students are attending the four colleges currently on SBL scholarships.

"We believe this program will go a long way in strengthening the existing pool of agricultural experts in the country which is necessary in helping farmers increase productivity and ultimately their incomes," the SBL chief noted.



YARA Tanzania managing director Winstone Odhiambo (R) briefs dealers on a new fertiliser brand known as MICROP which targets smallholder maize and rice farmers during its launch in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

MARKETING

YARA debuts fertiliser for maize, rice in market

By Guardian Reporter

NEW fertilizer brand aimed at boosting yields in maize and rice smallholder farmers has been launched in Dar es Salaam last week by YARA Tanzania Limited.

Known as MiCROP, the fertilizer brand is now available at retail agro-inputs shops in the country, said YARA Tanzania Managing Director, Winstone

Odhiambo during the launch. Odhiambo said the new blended fertilizer which targets smallholder farmers has Zinc and Sulphur micronutrients that are required for stronger and better crop yields.

"We are proud to launch MiCROP fertilizer today which will enable maize and rice smallholder farmers increase yields hence get more income and food," he said adding that

the fertilizer will be blended locally at the company's plant in Dar es Salaam.

"This is in line with the government's initiative in promoting an industrial economy at this time around we have decided to producing it locally," Odhiambo added while calling on farmers to take advantage of MiCROP for a better yields.

Meanwhile, YARA Tanzania held its annual conference

with dealers, an event where the company and its dealers reviewed progress and challenges made in the year and plan for the coming year. During the event, dealers who surpassed their targets were also rewarded and recognized.

YARA is the leading crop nutrition company in Africa and millions of farmers have undergone training on better and sustainable farming tech-

niques that have greater and profitable yields for farmers.

The company manufactures high quality fertilizer that is available all over the continent at any time and works in partnership with farmers' institutions, community based organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations in imparting knowledge and skills on nutritional solutions so as to improve livelihoods.

PLEA

Mkuranga fishermen want Feb-April season

By Beatrice Philemon

ARTISANAL fishermen in Mkuranga District of Coast Region along the Indian Ocean coastline are requesting the government to allow the fishing season to be between February and April instead of the current July to September.

The artisanal fishermen group Chairman, Said Msati from Mdimni Village last week requested the Mkuranga District Commissioner, Philberto Sanga to intervene because fishing communities are struggling to survive as the approved fishing season coincides

with storms and chilly weather.

"We can practically not do any fishing during July and September because the seas is rough with regular high speed winds which makes it difficult for us to locate and catch fish which also disappear into hibernation," Msati said.

Presenting the over 400 artisanal fishermen's complaints on the fishing restrictions, Msati said they want the district officials to allow them conduct their activities when the sea is calm and fish available easily.

The Mkuranga DC has since

said he will also consult with the District Executive Director to find out reasons behind such abnormal restrictions because fishing is one of the main sources of revenue to Indian Ocean bordering district which has limited farming activities.

"I am also aware of the impacts of climate change on fisheries and marine resources hence the fishermen's concern are very genuine and need urgent measures to address," Sanga noted while promising to also make sure that mitigation measures are taken to

reverse effects of climate change in Mkuranga. He mentioned some of the seabed villages that have been decimated by climate change effects as Nasibugani and Mavunja which are largely inhabited by fishing and farming communities.

RETURN

Telco to offer 427.5bn/- dividend payment to equity shareholders

By Guardian Reporter

EQUITY shareholders of Vodacom Tanzania Plc will share a whopping 427.5bn/- in dividend thanks to the telco's impressive performance last year.

Vodacom's interim Board Chair, Margaret Ikongo said in Dar es Salaam on Friday that operations in the country continue to add real value to both country and citizens alike. Ikongo said of the amount, 400bn/- is special dividend and 27.5bn/- is final dividend for the financial year ended 31 March 2020.

She told a shareholders' annual general meeting, that the largest telecommunication company in the market spent over 327.7bn/- on more than 120 local suppliers and partner companies and over 1.1bn/- directed towards corporate social investments.

"Vodacom closed the 2019-20 financial year on a positive note. The company also created indirect employment to over 135 000 Tanzanians through agents, service desks and freelancers among other forms," she said.

In the last financial year, Vodacom recorded growth in service revenue, which was largely driven by data and use of M-Pesa platform whose revenue grew by 74 percent contributing 358.2bn/- in total turnover

while data revenue grew by 9.8 percent to 180.8bn/-.

The Vodacom's interim Chairperson expressed optimism over the company's performance despite the barring of over 2.9 million customers in line with biometric registration requirements using National Identification Authority's identification.

"Despite a challenging year from both competitive forces in the market as well as the regulatory environment, the company recorded sound operational performance building from its commercial momentum from the previous year. We invested 154.6bn/- in our network and IT infrastructure to ensure customers benefit from superior services and network experience across the country," she noted while revealing that during the period, the telco maintained subscriber revenue and market share leadership in both GSM and mobile money, reaching a total of 15.5 million subscribers and 10.1 million customers respectively.

Speaking at the same event, Vodacom's Managing Director, Hisham Hendi attributed the company's positive results to successful execution of its strategies which enabled the telco towards achieving its vision of leading Tanzania into the digital age and changing lives through technology.

"In the last financial year, data traffic grew by 14.6 per-

cent, with significant growth coming in from 4G traffic. This reflects strong demand for mobile data services and proves our case in enhancing customers' data experience through sustained investment in network infrastructure, offering low-cost smartphones, as well as affordable data services," he said.

In addition to investing in network expansion and upgrades, Vodacom also expanded its M-Pesa ecosystem through innovative products and services, which saw an increase in both subscriber and revenue share.

Hendi told shareholders that although the business environment remains very competitive, the company remains focused on delivering great value to customers by accelerating digital innovation and enhancing financial inclusion.

"Innovation is at the heart of everything we do. We will continue to lead in innovation, bringing more Tanzanians into an inclusive digital economy, increasing the number of customers using our mobile money offerings," he added.

During the AGM, Judge (rtd) Thomas Mihayo joined the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange listed company's board as an independent non-executive director. Shareholders also elected and re-elected various non-executive directors to the company's board.



Interim board chair of Vodacom Tanzania Plc, Margaret Ikongo speaks during the AGM held in Dar es Salaam last week. Photo courtesy of Vodacom.

APPRECIATION

Strong prepaid growth, data demand lift MTN S.Africa

JOHANNESBURG

MTN South Africa delivered strong subscriber growth in the third quarter of 2020, propelled higher by an advance in prepaid users. This, coupled with surging demand for data, helped lift revenue and margins.

Total subscribers increased by 1.9 million in the quarter, to 30.9 million, with most additions in prepaid, where the total reached 24.3 million, marking the largest quarterly increase in about 18 months.

Post-paid subscriber numbers remained broadly flat at 6.6 million, primarily as a result of churn on short-term Covid-19-related deals. Excluding the net impact of these deals, the post-paid subscriber base increased 168 100 for the quarter.

Strong data traffic growth of 80.6%, coupled with a 500 000 increase in active data users to 14.7 million supported a 16% increase in mobile data revenue in the first nine months of the year. This is despite a reduction in the effective data tariff in the past year of 34.7%, demonstrating elasticity in demand as prices come down.

"Service revenue growth was supported by the strong performance in the consumer prepaid business, continued growth of the enterprise business and the resilience of the consumer post-paid business," MTN Group said on Friday.

However, the results were negatively impacted by the termination of MTN South Africa's roaming agreement with Telkom, which ended in June 2019, and the effect of accounting for Cell C's roaming revenue on a cash basis. Excluding the impact of national roaming, the company would have recorded service revenue growth of 3.4% in the first nine months of the year and 5.7% year on year in the third quarter.

Wholesale impacted
Wholesale revenue declined by 14.4%, impacted by the end of the Telkom deal. MTN South Africa recognised approximately R1.3-billion in national roaming revenue in the nine months to 30 September 2020 (taking into consideration that no Cell C revenue was recognised in the third quarter of 2019), while R698-million of Cell C revenue remained unrecognised as at September 2020.

MTN South Africa's Ebitda margin (a measure of operational profitability) expanded by 2.7 percentage points to 39.3%, aided by the reductions in device volumes and subsidies, execution of a cost-efficiency programme as well as channel optimisation. Since launching Mobile Money (MoMo) in South Africa in January 2020, this service "continues to scale," with two million registered users as of 30 September.

MTN Group, meanwhile, reported 273 million customers across its 21 markets at the end of September – 107.2 million of which were active data users. Group-wide MoMo customers climbed to 41.8 million. Group service revenue increased by 11.4% while the Ebitda margin climbed from 41.9% to 43.3%.



MTN South Africa CEO, Godfrey Motsa.

INVESTMENT

NMB fetes children at end of customer service week

By Guardian Reporter

PARENTS and guardians have been urged to open bank accounts for children as part of nurturing a culture of saving among them, NMB Bank Plc's Oyster Plaza Branch Manager, Hildegard Mung'ong'o has said.

Addressing parents, guardians and children who attended a ceremony to mark the climax of customer service week in Dar es Salaam on Friday, Mung'ong'o said opening accounts for kids also teaches them financial discipline.

"We have decided to close this year's customer service week with children because they are the future of our country but also the bank's customers," he said adding that Wajibu Scheme of NMB, there are a number of accounts targeting kids.

He named accounts under Wajibu Scheme as Chipukizi Account, Mtoto Account and Mwanachuo Account. "NMB has branches throughout the country backed by a strong digital network that can serve children and other customers from anywhere and at any time," the Oyster Plaza Branch Manager added while urging parents and guardians to exploit opportunities being provided by the bank to invest and grow. Seconding Mung'ong'o's observa-



NMB Bank Plc's CSR manager, Lilian Kisamba (L), during one of her engagements with school officials that the bank's support. File photo.

tions, NMB's Corporate Social Responsibility Manager, Lilian Kisamba said Wajibu Scheme is an umbrella platform which started in 2016 with an objective to grow children's financials knowledge and discipline while nurturing financial discipline in them.

"Since then, Wajibu through Chipukizi, Mtoto and Mwanachuo Accounts has recruited 90,000 children countrywide with NMB experts assisting the toddlers learn financial discipline and adopt a saving culture through their accounts which are supervised by parents," Kisamba said.

She explained that through Wajibu Scheme, the bank also targets to grow future customer base while ensuring the nation of responsible adults who understand how to generate and spend their income prudently.

"As a bank we understand that

grooming responsible adults financially start at tender age," she noted while stressing that parents and guardians need to work with the bank in order to succeed in building future leaders.

EXPANSION

Co-creation Hub acquires second Kenyan company

NAIROBI

Africa innovation and accelerator hub, Co-creation Hub (CCHUB) has announced the acquisition of Kenyan educational platform eLimu.

The acquisition, made through CCHUB's Nairobi-based incubator, iHub, will position the educational platform to serve as a digital education arm for the company. eLimu currently reaches 500,000 teachers

and students through its online platform.

"The goal of the acquisition is to transform eLimu into the Digital Education Platform arm of the company. eLimu will continue to focus on leveraging cutting-edge technology to create interactive and engaging learning content customised to the African context which will be initiated using the existing apps. The acquisition will enable it to scale

these apps beyond Kenya," reads a statement from the CCHUB. eLimu founder Nivi Sharma said the acquisition will see more learners from more African nations leverage digital learning on the platform.

Abiola Olaniran, founder of the Lagos-based game development platform Gamsole, is scheduled to take up the position of chief technology officer at eLimu. The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the

switch to online learning which partly informed the acquisitions, CCHUB said.

A survey carried out by eLearning Africa and EdTech Hub, show that many African educators are looking to digital tools to drive education beyond the pandemic. "They believe that Covid-19 has served as a 'wake-up call', which will encourage greater use of blended learning and new forms of technology-assisted educa-

tion and training in the continent's schools, colleges and universities," the survey stated.

Bosun Tijani, chief executive officer, CCHUB, added: "Education is the bedrock of healthy societies. As we continue to contribute to shaping the innovation ecosystem in Africa, accelerating the application of innovation and technology in improving education outcomes will be crucial to driving our overall agenda."

WORLD

AMERICA'S CHOICE 2020: Trump warns of vote count delays in US presidential election

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump claimed on Saturday that voters will have to wait for weeks after election day until they know who wins.

Campaigning in the hotly contested state of Pennsylvania, the president told supporters at a rally that they "are going to be waiting for weeks" for the election result to come, claiming that "very bad things" could happen while states are counting ballots after election day, which falls on Nov 3.

Trump's comment came as the Supreme Court ruled on Friday that Pennsylvania election officials can accept absentee ballots arriving three days after election day, handing Democrats a victory in a legal fight. A key

swing state, Pennsylvania, is considered a bellwether for the election.

"This is a horrible thing that the United States Supreme Court has done to our country," said Trump, who has long insisted on the proofless theory that universal mail-in ballots lead to voter fraud.

Trump gave the remarks in Newtown, the first of the four campaign stops during his day in Pennsylvania -- where poll suggests his rival, Joe Biden, has enjoyed a consistent lead -- trying to tear down the Democrats' Blue Wall.

Also on Saturday, former President Barack Obama and Democratic presidential nominee Biden appeared together for the first time on the campaign trail. They held two joint rallies



US President Donald Trump throws MAGA hats to supporters during a rally at Williamsport Regional Airport in Montoursville, Pennsylvania on Saturday. AFP

in Michigan, first in Flint and later in Detroit.

"He does not understand the notion that somebody would risk their life to save others without trying to make a buck," Obama said of Trump, criticizing his successor's accusation that US doctors are profiteering amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

"You know our doctors get more money if somebody dies from Covid," Trump said at a Michigan rally on Friday, provoking immediate pushback from medical professionals.

"The suggestion that doctors -- in the midst of a public health crisis -- are overcounting COVID-19 patients or lying to line their pockets is a malicious, outrageous, and completely misguided charge," Susan R. Bailey, president of the American Medical Association, said in a statement.

During the rally in Detroit, Michigan, Obama also seized on recent remarks by White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows that the United States is not able to control the virus. "We noticed!" Obama said, "but you know who will? Joe Biden will."

Biden now leads Trump by clear margins in Michigan and Wisconsin, and by slight margins in North Carolina and Arizona, CNN polls conducted between Oct. 23 and 30 showed. Trump won the four key states in 2016.

Separately, a Des Moines Register-Mediacom poll, conducted on Oct 26-29, found Trump leading Biden by 48 percent to 41 percent in Iowa, where the candidates tied 47 percent to 47 percent in September.

Xinhua

Moscow hopes common sense in ties with Russia will prevail after US elections, says diplomat

MOSCOW

MOSCOW is not losing hope that after the presidential elections the United States will realize that the anti-Russian policy harms itself, spokeswoman for the Russian Foreign Ministry Maria Zakharova told a briefing Thursday.

"We are not losing hope that common sense will slowly start prevailing after the elections. Washington will finally realize that betting on further propagation of anti-Russian myths doesn't hurt us as much as it serves to further fuel political passions and whip up atmosphere of distrust in American society," the diplomat noted.

"We also hope that the US colleagues will come to realize that the most complex modern challenges - from arms control and settlement of regional crises to the coronavirus pandemic - can be resolved only by uniting or at least combining efforts and potentials of the leading world actors."

"In this sense, sustainable and predictable cooperation between Russia and the US, as responsible guarantors of international stability and security, is in the mutual interests and meets the demands of the entire international community," she added.

At the same time, the diplomat underscored that Russia is realistic about the prospects of bilateral cooperation in the current conditions and does not raise the bar of expectations too high.

Zakharova stressed that Washington's policy is openly anti-Russian and the US, as responsible guarantors of international stability and security, is in the mutual interests and meets the demands of the entire international community, she added.

2020 US election spending tops nearly 14 bn, more than previous two election cycles combined

WASHINGTON

THE total cost of the 2020 U.S. election, including presidential and congressional, will near 14 billion U.S. dollars, a sum more than what was spent during the last two election cycles combined, a recent study found.

According to an estimate from the Center for Responsive Politics (CRP), the 2020 presidential election, slated for Nov. 3, is set to cost over 6.6 billion dollars, while donations made to the race for congressional seats will top 7.2 billion dollars.

Democrats have spent the lion's share of that total so far, consuming 6.9 billion dollars, compared to 3.8 billion dollars spent by Republican candidates and groups, the data showed.

"Donors poured record amounts of money into the 2018 midterms, and 2020 appears to be a continuation of that trend -- but magnified," said Sheila Krumholz, executive director of the Center for Responsive Politics.

Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden is poised to become the first candidate in history to raise 1 billion dollars from donors, after his campaign brought in a record-breaking 938 million dollars through Oct. 14. Incumbent President Donald Trump raised 596 million dollars, according to the estimate.

"Ten years ago, a billion-dollar presidential candidate would have been difficult to imagine. This cycle, we're likely to see two," Krumholz said.

OpenSecrets, part of the CRP, said in a press release that the influx of political donations in the final weeks leading up to the Nov. 3 election day was driven by the partisan fight over the now successful Senate confirmation of Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court and "closely watched races for the White House and Senate."

While former President Barack Obama, when doing a phone banking for Biden, urged a mother of an eight-month-old to turn out and vote in what will be "a really close election,"

Trump reportedly told GOP donors that it will be "tough" for Republicans to continue holding the majority in the Senate after the congressional election. With Trump and Biden vying for the White House, all of the 435 seats in the House and 35 of the 100 Senate seats are up for election this year.

Xinhua

Ten years ago, a billion-dollar presidential candidate would have been difficult to imagine. This cycle, we're likely to see two

UK may impose new lockdown in England next week

NEW YORK / LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Boris Johnson is considering imposing a new month-long lockdown in England next week after scientists warned the coronavirus was spreading faster than their worst predictions, local media reported.

The new measures were still under discussion, and no final decision had been made, the Times said, citing a senior government source.

The UK government has significantly pared its year-end coronavirus testing target to around one million a day from nearly two million, the Financial Times reported.

The government had planned to increase testing to about 1.9 million

by end-December from 500,000 daily tests in October, the paper said, citing NHS Test and Trace documents it saw.

However, the effort has been hampered by the slower-than-expected roll-out of tests due to delays in the process for validating new technology, according to two unidentified people familiar with the matter.

Meanwhile, the UK's drug regulator has started accelerated reviews of COVID-19 vaccines under development from Pfizer Inc. and AstraZeneca Plc, as Britain gets ready to approve the first successful shot as quickly as possible.

The country's total cases reached 992,874, with 46,319 fatalities, according to data collected



Boris Johnson

by Johns Hopkins University and Bloomberg News.

US

The total number of COVID-19 cases in the United States surpassed 9 million on Friday, according to the Center for Systems

Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University.

US COVID-19 case count rose to 9,007,298, with the national death toll reaching 229,293, as of 3:24 pm local time, according to the CSSE.

The US reported 99,325 cases Friday, the most for any country in a single day as infections and hospitalizations surged in the lead up to the presidential election.

The record came in the final days of a presidential race in which Trump's management of the virus is a central issue, and infections and hospitalizations are rising especially fast in several key states, including Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan and Pennsylvania.

It was the fourth time in the last week that a national record was

broken. The first COVID-19 case in the US was reported in January in Washington State.

Meanwhile, Johnson & Johnson plans to start testing its experimental COVID-19 vaccine in youths aged 12 to 18 as soon as possible, and the company's previous experience with the same technology in a vaccine successfully used in children could give it a leg up with regulators.

"We plan to go into children as soon as we possibly can, but very carefully in terms of safety," J&J's Dr. Jerry Sadoff told a virtual meeting of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices on Friday.

Agencies

Bidencare or Trumpcare? Health plans will affect the US economy differently

WASHINGTON

DEMOCRATIC presidential candidate Joe Biden wants to expand the Affordable Care Act, President Barack Obama's signature healthcare legislation, and then name it after himself.

Republican President Donald Trump wants to end it altogether, and replace it with something that has yet to be defined.

An ongoing debate over which approach is better for the economy is partly about price tags. Bidencare is forecast to increase federal healthcare spending by \$2 trillion or more over 10 years. Trump's approach is to hold federal spending stable or reduce it.

Bidencare supporters emphasize the stimulative effects of government spending, especially in a period of economic distress,

and the benefits of insuring more people in the middle of a pandemic. Those who prefer Trump's approach say it would avoid debt or tax increases they say would drag on future economic growth.

The United States has about 30 million people without health insurance tmsnr.rs/3mzqQxC now, down from about 46.5 million in 2010, when the ACA was passed.

Bidencare would cut that figure by a further 15 million to 20 million, an analysis by the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget estimates. Trump isn't expected to try to reduce that.

Healthcare spending is equal to 17% of the U.S. economy, far more than any other industrialized country, so the Trumpcare vs. Bidencare debate is no small economic matter. It's further complicated by the fact that ex-



tra spending doesn't translate to a healthier populace than other countries.

"Improving healthcare performance is a critical part of strengthening America's health, economy and fiscal future, and should be top a priority for the next president and Congress," says Peterson Foundation CEO Michael Peterson.

BIDENCARE FOCUSES ON LOWER-INCOME AMERICANS

Bidencare would cover more Americans by increasing subsi-

dized health insurance purchases through tax credits.

It would also offer a "public option," allowing anyone who wants it to buy in, even if their job offers private insurance. Lower-income families shut out of ACA's expanded Medicaid eligibility because of where they live could get it premium-free.

Any boost to health and financial stability is likely to be biggest for millions of low-income households, particularly Latino and Black families who have been particularly hard-hit during the pandemic.

For these groups especially, says the University of Michigan School of Public Health's Helen Levy, being able to accumulate assets "is really important if you think about supporting economic mobility."

Minorities get and die from COVID-19 at higher rates than whites, data shows. Some of that is probably because Blacks and Latinos are more likely to work in jobs that put them at higher risk of transmission.

But even without COVID-19, minorities face higher rates of chronic disease and earlier death than whites. They also have lower rates of health insurance despite substantial gains since the advent of the ACA, a study by Kaiser Family Foundation shows.

Biden said he would pay for his plan through higher taxes on the wealthy, and use the clout of expanded public insurance to keep down medical costs.

Increasing the number of insured Americans could have positive economic consequences.

Agencies

World's strongest typhoon pummels Philippines, killing four

By Bloomberg

THE world's strongest storm this year killed at least four people and forced about 350,000 to flee their homes as it slammed into the eastern part of the Philippines early yesterday.

Super Typhoon Goni brought "catastrophic violent winds" when it made landfall over Catanduanes province before dawn Sunday, before weakening as it crossed the main island of Luzon. It's expected to be closest to the Philippine capital region late Sunday before exiting land the following day.

"Goni is the strongest landfall-

ing tropical cyclone" in history, said Jeff Masters, a meteorologist with Yale Climate Connections and co-founder of Weather Underground. The previous record was held by Super Typhoons Meranti and Haiyan, which hit the Philippines in 2016 and 2013 respectively.

Goni's maximum sustained winds have weakened to 175 kilometers an hour, while gusts slowed to 240 kilometers per hour after the typhoon's third landfall in Quezon province at midday, down from 310 kilometers earlier Sunday, the Philippine weather bureau said in its latest report. Dozens of areas, in-

cluding Metro Manila, have been placed under storm alert.

There have been 347,000 people evacuated, according to Ricardo Jalad, executive director of the Philippines' disaster risk-monitoring agency. Between 19 million to 31 million people could be affected by the storm, based on the population count in areas within its path, according to Mark Timbal, a spokesman at the Philippines' disaster risk-monitoring agency.

Authorities shut Manila's international airport to aircraft for 24 hours from 10 a.m. local time, prompting Philippine Airlines and Cebu Air to cancel flights.

Light railways in Manila suspended operations while Ayala Land Inc, one of the nation's biggest builders, said all its shopping malls in Luzon are shut.

Health Secretary Francisco Duque asked people to observe social-distancing measures in evacuation centers to prevent the spread of COVID-19. After Indonesia, the Philippines has the highest number of coronavirus infections in Southeast Asia.

"The pandemic has made this much more complex, but we have been preparing for this situation," Richard Gordon, a senator and chairman for Philippine Red Cross, said in a statement.

Albay province Governor Al Francis Bichara said his office has accounted four deaths so far - three, including a four-year-old child, died from swollen river, and one was pinned by a fallen tree. Fierce wind ripped off the roof of an evacuation center, he added.

Initial media reports said the typhoon destroyed houses, toppled trees and power posts in Albay province.

A male resident of Guinobatan town said a river in his town overflowed and caused flooding in nearby areas. "At the height of flood, it was 16 feet deep. Other areas fared worse," he said.

"We have not gone out yet and we expect the damage is much worse," he added.

The storm also felled power lines in Quezon, where at least one person is missing, and damage to crops could reach one billion pesos (US\$21 million), said provincial Governor Danilo Suarez.

The cyclone comes days after Typhoon Molave lashed the Southeast Asian nation, leaving at least 22 dead and causing a minimum of 1.8 billion pesos of damage to crops, before heading to Vietnam. Goni is following a similar route.

An average of 20 cyclones

pass through disaster-prone Philippines every year, which will likely complicate the nation's fight against the coronavirus as hundreds of thousands of people are evacuated from typhoon-hit areas. In 2013, Haiyan struck the Southeast Asian nation and killed more than 6,300 people.

Coconut, rice and corn plantations may suffer severe losses. Typhoon Goni could damage more than 928,000 hectares of land planted with rice and 58,431 hectares of corn, the Department of Agriculture estimates.

Agencies

China's business environment largely improved in past five years

By Du Haitao, Luo Shanshan

CHINA has largely improved its business environment during the 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-2020) period with enhanced innovation to better service efficiency.

It has continuously advanced reforms to streamline administration and delegate power, improve regulation, and upgrade services, faithfully implemented tax and fee reduction policies, greatly shortened negative lists for foreign investment market access, and made remarkable progress in building a "single-window system" for foreign trade.

These efforts further brought down the operational cost of enterprises and stimulated the energy of the market, which offered strong support for high-quality economic development.

South Korea-funded enterprise LG Display based in Yantai, east China's Shandong province, was one of the beneficiaries of these measures. The company encountered an urgent problem after COVID-19 broke out this year, which had to be solved by technicians from South Korea. Wang Fengbin, deputy director of the company's management department, resorted to a platform established by Shandong province to stabilize foreign trade and investment for help, and in less than two weeks, South Korean technicians successfully entered



Citizens experience exotic and imported products at the 2nd China International Import Expo (CIIE) on Nov. 13, 2019, the first day of the event's extension. (Photo by Chen Yuyu/People's Daily Online)

China amid the pandemic, and the problem was smoothly tackled.

In the last five years, China has constantly pressed ahead with reforms of systems and mechanisms to comprehensively expand opening-up, lower access threshold and improve service quality. According to World Bank's Doing Business report, China advanced to a global ranking of 46 this year regarding business environment, up from 78 last year. It has been included among the top 10 fastest global reformers for two years in a row.

Last year, China received 941.52

billion yuan (\$140.64 billion) in foreign investment, ranking the first among developing countries and the second of the world.

The figure stood at 619.78 billion yuan in the first 8 months this year despite the impacts of COVID-19, growing 2.6 percent from a year ago.

According to the Report on the Latest Development in IPR Protection and Business Environment in China (2019), 59,800 foreign-funded companies were newly established in China in 2019, making the total number to 627,000. Besides,

the number of foreign-funded projects with investment of at least \$100 million reached 834. Statistics from China's Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) also indicated that 22,602 foreign-funded firms started operation in China during the January-August period this year. At present, relevant departments are accelerating the revision of the industry catalogue encouraging foreign investment, so as to make the country's business environment more market-oriented, and improve its the rule of law and internationalization.



The 2nd China International Import Expo (CIIE) attracts exhibitors from the world, Nov. 7, 2019. (Photo by Weng Qiyu/People's Daily Online)

"It usually took one or two working days for customs officials to check our products at our plant, but now the procedure has been moved online and only needs half an hour," said Xie Yicai, head of a high precision thermoregulation enterprise in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong province.

Quan Yongliang, the finance supervisor of an agricultural machinery leasing firm in Wuhan, central China's Hubei province, said he finished company registration in just two hours.

During the 13th Five-Year Plan

period, China has largely reduced administrative approvals, comprehensively reformed business system, and optimized administrative services. As a result, the time needed for administrative affairs was shortened, and market vitality enhanced.

According to statistics, China had 87.05 million market entities as of the end of 2016, and the figure reached 123 million last year. By the end of July, the number of registered market entities in China had hit 132 million, with 64,000 being newly added each day in the first

seven months this year.

Informatization and intellectualization have offered strong support for China to improve its business environment.

Twenty-five port administrations are now connected with each other and share information under the "single-window system" for foreign trade, covering all ports around the country. In July this year, the country's import clearance time reached 38.5 hours, and export clearance time 2.2 hours, 60.4 percent and 82.2 percent lower than those in 2017, respectively.

China will never stop its pace of reform, opening-up

By He Yin

CHINESE President Xi Jinping recently delivered a major speech at a grand gathering marking the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in south China's Guangdong province.

He made major strategic deployment for the SEZ's reform and opening-up on a higher level for the new era, and declared China's resolution and confidence to deepen its reform and opening-up and share more development dividends with the world.

"The world economy is currently facing complicated challenges. By no means should we be stopped by the reversing trends and tides. We should choose the right side of the history to unswervingly expand opening-up in an all-round way, and promote the building of an open world economy and the building of a community with a shared future for mankind," he said at the gathering.

Shenzhen has accomplished in four decades what took other metropolises around a hundred years to complete, which marks a miracle made by the Chinese people in the history of the world's development.

Shenzhen's achievements are a reflection of the historic changes and results made by China since the reform and opening-up. During the past 40 some years, China has been pursuing development with its door wide open, and made an impressive transition from being a largely closed society to one that's open to the world in all respects. The country is always active in promoting economic globalization, and has made its due contribution to the common development of mankind.

The keen appreciation and accurate grasp of the trend of the times are a key reason for China's success. In the new era, the country will keep conforming to the trend of history, and actively respond to and seek changes to proceed with the time. At present, the world is going through changes unseen in a century, and the COVID-19 pandemic



Visitor experiences virtual-reality driving at the 2nd China International Import Expo (CIIE), Nov. 6, 2019. (Photo by Xu Congjun/People's Daily Online)

is accelerating the changes. China has been and will always maintain firm confidence and concrete actions to promote high-quality economic development and achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

China, calmly responding to the headwinds against economic globalization and the severe situation of the sluggish world economy, is taking more forceful measures to deepen its reform and opening-up with firmer confidence, which has won appreciation from the world.

Since this year, China has optimized its mechanisms and systems of market-based allocation, and issued a master plan for the Hainan free trade port. Besides, it lowered tariffs for a part of imported commodities, actively expanded imports, and further shortened its negative lists for foreign investment market access. It established new free trade pilot zones and issued a plan on

implementing pilot reforms in Shenzhen to build the city into a demonstration area of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the next five years.

The concrete steps for China to comprehensively deepen reforms and expand opening-up prove to the world that no matter how international situations change, the country will always remain firm in its commitment to pursuing development and create new space for common development.

Opening-up brings progress and cooperation leads to win-win results. China, enjoying a momentum for long-term growth and strong development resilience, is accelerating the establishment of a "dual circulation" development pattern in which domestic economic cycle plays a leading role while international economic cycle remains its extension and supplement, which has not only opened space for China's economic

development, but also injected impetus into the recovery and growth of global economy.

According to China's General Administration of Customs, China's foreign trade volume grew 0.7 percent in the first three quarters of this year compared with that in the same period in 2019, achieving positive growth for the first time this year.

The latest World Economic Outlook of the International Monetary Fund also predicted that China will be the only economy in the world to show positive growth in 2020 while forecasting a 2020 global contraction of 4.4 percent.

During the 8-day National Day Holiday, over 600 million trips were made across the country, generating tourism revenue of more than 460 billion yuan (\$68.6 billion). Chinese railways set a new record in daily passenger traffic as more than 15 million

trips were made on Oct. 1.

The resilience and energy of the Chinese economy has injected confidence for the development of the world economy. A French media outlet noted that China was leading the world after it achieved solid economic recovery. Bloomberg said that the active domestic tourism indicated the strength of China's economic recovery.

China has gained rich experiences of reform and opening-up, but it still has a long way to go. The country will remain committed to the path of deepening reforms and expanding opening-up. It will unswervingly follow a win-win strategy to draw development impetus from the world and benefit the world with its own development, explaining with concrete actions its major country responsibility that "A single flower does not make spring, while all flowers in full blossom bring spring to the garden."

CIIE brings various delicious foods from all over the world to Chinese consumers

By Ying Jian

THE China International Import Expo (CIIE) is the world's first import expo held at the national level, an innovation in the history of global trade. The event has truly enhanced consumers' sense of gain and served as a broad platform for intensifying exchanges and trade among various countries across the globe.

You can't possibly get a good understanding of a country without tasting its food. The Food and Agricultural Products exhibition area of the CIIE covers a large area and attracts nearly 2,000 food companies from more than 100 countries and regions all over the world.

As the person in charge of the area, I've got the privilege to witness how various foods turned from exhibits at the CIIE into goods and were brought to the dining tables of millions of families.

At the 1st CIIE, the sweet pineapple from Panama won favor with a lot of consumers and importers.

Not long after the expo was concluded, the governments of China and Panama officially signed a protocol on phytosanitary requirements for the import of fresh pineapples from Panama to China.

After the signing of the protocol, our CIIE team for recruitment of exhibitors traveled to the foreign land for a field visit to the orchards and relevant companies, in a bid to know better their comprehensive strength and jointly formulate a marketing plan that is suitable for the Chinese market.

Considering that unnecessarily long logistics cycle may affect the quality of the fresh products, the CIIE team put forward multiple solutions to the problem, including following strict rules in selection of products, perfecting packaging techniques, and improving transport efficiency. These solutions have effectively facilitated the entry of Panamanian pineapples into China.

In addition to recruiting exhibitors, most of the time my colleagues and I need to help solve



Visitors line up to have a taste of Spanish ham at the Food & Agricultural Products exhibition area of the 2nd China International Import Expo (CIIE), Nov. 10, 2019. (Photo by Xu Congjun/People's Daily Online)

various problems in the import of products from overseas enterprises.

It normally takes more than eight days for imported fresh milk to be put on shelves through the

traditional logistics process. However, the shelf life of milk is usually only 15 days.

Thanks to the trade facilitation measures rolled out for the CIIE, a foreign company is now able to complete the whole process from milking cows on the farm to sterilization, bottling, testing, shipping, customs clearance, and hitting the shelves online and offline simultaneously in 72 hours.

The company has joined Chinese e-commerce platforms and carried out in-depth cooperation with multiple offline shopping malls and supermarkets in China, offering consumers more choices of products.

The amazing efficiency in the import of products like the fresh milk at the CIIE has not only helped quality foreign products quickly enter Chinese homes, but also opened a highly-efficient and convenient new channel for international businesses that hope to seek trade in China.

The 3rd CIIE is slated to be held in from Nov. 5 to 10 in Shanghai. How can we achieve greater outcomes during the expo this year while continuing with COVID-19

prevention and control?

To realize this goal, we have been committed to innovating ways of recruiting exhibitors, and carried out relevant recruitment and roadshow promotion activities both online and offline.

So far, we have received a great number of applications for the expo. Companies from various countries have shown tremendous enthusiasm for the event, which has proven that the exhibitors at the previous expos have indeed found opportunities for development in China.

(Ying Jian is the head of the team in charge of the Food and Agricultural Products exhibition area of the CIIE and the senior manager of the import expo exhibition department of the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai)).



Simba SC midfielder, Clatous Chama (3rd L), dribbles past Mwadui FC defenders during the ongoing Vodacom Premier League's clash, which took place in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. Simba SC won 5-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Sean Connery, a lion of cinema whose roar went beyond Bond

BY JAKE COYLE

WRITING an appreciation of Sean Connery feels inevitably inadequate compared to experiencing the real thing. To glimpse his magnetism, you might turn to a photograph of him in a tailored suit, leaning against an Aston Martin. You'd probably get more of his menacing charisma by pulling up the "Chicago way" scene from "The Untouchables."

It might be enough simply to say: The king is dead.

As a lion of movies for half a century, Connery's talent was manifest. He was famously cast as James Bond without a screen test. It was that obvious. And from then on, in even the lesser films, Connery, who died Saturday at 90, was never out of place on screen. His presence was absolute. Noting his supreme confidence, the late film critic Pauline Kael once wrote, "I don't know any man since Cary Grant that men have wanted to be so much."

As a more earthy, macho movie-star ideal, Connery was so beloved that he was shared, like folklore, between generations. It helped that he never seemed to be appealing to the audience, or to anybody, for anything. With raised eyebrows and roguish wisecracks, there was little that Connery (nearly always the lead) didn't command. And to a certain extent, that cocksureness shaped his career, too.

Connery, 32 when "Dr. No" came out, had already lived through World War II. Born into poverty in Edinburgh, he left school at age 13 during the war and worked as a laborer and a bricklayer before he donned the tuxedo. He saw Bond, too, as a product of the war.



In this file photo dated April 11, 1988, Sean Connery holds up his best supporting actor Oscar for "The Untouchables" at the 60th annual Academy Awards in Los Angeles, Ca., USA. Scottish actor Sean Connery, considered by many to have been the best James Bond, has died aged 90, according to an announcement from his family. (AP Photo)

"Bond came on the scene after the War, at a time when people were fed up with rationing and drab times and utility clothes and a predominantly gray color in life," Connery, who served in the British Navy as a teenager, told Playboy in 1965. "Along comes this character who cuts right through all that like a very hot knife through butter, with his clothing and his cars and his wine and his women."

Long after achieving fame, Connery contentedly gave it up. He spent his final two decades cheerfully retired in the Caribbean, often playing golf with his wife, unimpressed and little tempted by more modern Hollywood productions. (He said he was "fed up with the idiots.")

There was irony in that. Connery, as the original cinema Bond, did much to make the style and tone of today's movie franchises – even if few carry a lick of Connery's danger. His Bond heir Daniel Craig on Saturday credited Connery with helping "create the modern blockbuster." It's hard to imagine the suave secret-service spy would have ever become a cultural force if the franchise hadn't from the start traded on its star's brutal charm. Connery crucially added humor to Ian Fleming's pages, along with a dash of cruelty.

Connery's Bond became etched as an icon of its era, one increasingly distant from today. He was the epitome of a dashing, womanizing, macho image that loomed over the second half of the 20th century. Connery differed from his character in many respects but not all. In that same Playboy interview, he explained why he believed hitting a woman with an open fist was justifiable.

Dar boxer wins international non-title fight

BY CORRESPONDENT NASSIR NCHIMBI

TANZANIAN professional boxer Twaha Kassim 'Kiduku' has continued excelling in Middleweight division after beating Thailand's Sirimongkhon Lamthuum by Technical Knockout (TKO) in an international non-title fight which took place in Dar es Salaam last Friday.

Kassim stopped the Thai boxer in the seventh round of the scheduled 10-round bout at the PTA Hall, Saba Saba in the city.

Tanzanian female boxing referee Pendo Njau oversaw the bout.

The Thai boxer appeared to be out of shape in the fight after throwing very few punches from the first round of the fight.

He was also contented with a stylish approach against Kassim, who was not distracted by his opponent.

Kassim kept on throwing plenty of punches on the Thai boxer.

Pendo declared Kassim as the bout's winner by TKO after Lamthuum had refused to return to the ring in the eighth round.

Lamthuum was seen kneeling at his corner and drinking water, then got up, climbed on the ropes and bent his head while covering his face with his hands as a sign of gratitude to fans who turned up to watch the bout.

After the incident Kassim climbed on the ropes and screamed joyfully, as the fans joined him to celebrate his victory.

A few foreign boxing fans that were supporting Lamthuum were silent.

"I had to win, even though my opponent was a parody at first, but I swore I would win and I



Tanzania's female boxing referee, Pendo Njau (2nd R), declares the country's boxer, Twaha Kassim, as winner of an international non-title fight against Thailand's Sirimongkhon Lamthuum, which took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Kassim won by Technical Knockout (TKO) in the seventh round. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

would not let Tanzanians down and I have done it," Kassim said.

Despite his absence at the PTA Hall, Tanzania's other prominent boxer Hassan Mwakinyo has once again been linked to a fight with Kassim.

Kassim had disclosed his plan to trade punches with Mwakinyo.

Mwakinyo, currently the

leading professional boxer in Super Welterweight division in Tanzania, is tipped to take on Kassim in an eagerly awaited bout.

Mwakinyo had recently made a clear statement, when speaking to The Guardian, saying he is ready to fight Kassim if the bout's promoters will put on US dollars 200,000

on the table for the fight.

This is the second time in a row for Kassim to win a major bout that has been held in Tanzania.

The Morogoro-based boxer had earlier beat fellow Tanzanian boxer, Abdallah Pazi 'Dullah Mbabe', by points in a well-attended bout which also took place in Dar es Salaam.

Simba SC followers ought to adapt to difficult times in Premier League

BY CORRESPONDENT NASSIR NCHIMBI

SOCCER, unfortunately, does not provide lasting happiness for one side.

The sport's fans in Tanzania can learn this fact in the 2020/21 Vodacom Premier League season and improve their awareness of football, no matter how much one loves his or her team.

It was hard for soccer enthusiasts to believe Yanga could withstand the rigors until at least eight matches, winning seven and posting draw in one.

Yanga have posted the results after changing half of their squad and started the season with a bang.

Azam FC started much better given they recorded victory in the first seven games they participated in to stay at the top of the domestic top flight table.

The Dar es Salaam outfit, however, met a hitch last week after losing 1-0 to Mtibwa Sugar.

Yanga, placed second on the log, continued to put pressure on Azam FC with a 1-0 victory over Biashara United in Musoma last Saturday.

Defending champions, Simba SC, who boast of the best squad, have so far dropped eight points, whilst losing six points in two games in a row.

They recorded 1-1 draw with Mtibwa Sugar and later suffered two defeats, losing to Prisons and Ruvu Shooting.

Simba SC conceded



Simba SC forward, John Bocco, takes a spot kick when the side took on Ruvu Shooting in 2020/21 Vodacom Premier League duel, played at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam recently. The forward missed the penalty in the match that ended with Ruvu Shooting notching 1-0 victory over Simba SC. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

the first defeat in this season's domestic top flight, losing 1-0 to Prisons at Nelson Mandela Stadium in Rukwa.

Simba later lost 1-0 to Coast Region's Ruvu Shooting in Dar es Salaam. This teaches soccer enthusiasts that football will not give them everything they want.

The soccer followers should moreover not either be mad or quarrel with each other when their respective clubs do not record good results.

The sport of football should be enjoyed by those

who understand it.

Yanga are lately posting good results but that does not guarantee them recording victory in every match.

Soccer is a gentlemanly game in the sense of embracing realism, not hostility and hatred.

In a shocking turn of events, Simba SC striker, John Bocco, survived being stoned by the team's fans following his failure to convert a spot kick during his outfit's league match against Ruvu Shooting.

Bocco, also Simba SC skipper, missed the penal-

ty on the 78th minute after his effort hit the post.

His failure to put the ball on Ruvu Shooting's back of the net angered a handful of Simba SC fans that had turned up at Uhuru Stadium to watch the match.

A section of dismayed Simba SC fans that were outside the stadium, as witnessed by The Guardian journalist, were seen holding stones, seeking to attack Bocco.

The action forced police, deployed at the stadium, to escort Simba SC's bus, which had carried the

side's players, after the match.

The club's bus had to exit the Uhuru Stadium via one of the adjacent Benjamin Mkapa Stadium's gates.

Soccer fans in the country should learn to accept the nature of the game.

The fans should not resort to engaging in brawls whenever their respective sides lose games.

They should remember soccer constitutes both happiness and sadness. A club might today notch victory but the side may later lose a match.

'It's over', Guardiola rules out return as Barca boss

LONDON

PEP Guardiola ruled out ever taking charge of Barcelona for a second spell as the Manchester City boss insisted he retains the "desire" to succeed in England.

Guardiola is the most decorated coach in Barca's glorious history after winning 14 trophies in four years in charge between 2008 and 2012.

Josep Maria Bartomeu finally bowed to pressure to resign as president of the Catalan giants this week, with one of the leading candidates to take over, Victor Font, saying he wants to bring legends like Guardiola and his former players Xavi and Carles Puyol back to work for the club.

"I said many times, my period as a manager in Barcelona is over. I think in life there is once you have to do things," Guardiola said after City's 1-0 win over Sheffield United on Saturday.

"There are incredible people who can be in charge, now for example (Barcelona coach) Ronald Koeman is an excellent manager. It is over."

A boyhood Barca fan, Guardiola also enjoyed an illustrious playing career at the Camp Nou and still holds season tickets as a supporter.

"I will come back to my seats to see my club to watch a game. I am incredibly happy here, still I have the desire to do well and this is the most important thing."

"Now there will be elections in Barcelona. Hopefully they can choose the right board to maintain this incredible club Barcelona in the highest level."

Guardiola is already into the longest managerial spell of his career with this his fifth season at City.

His side still look a long way off the heights they reached in winning back-to-back Premier League titles between 2017 and 2019, but they are slowly getting up to speed after a start to the campaign disrupted by injuries, coronavirus cases and just a

two-week long pre-season.

Kyle Walker's long-range effort against his former club was enough to secure City's fourth win in five games in all competitions as they move up to seventh in the Premier League, just two points off the top.

Without a natural striker due to injuries to Sergio Aguero and Gabriel Jesus, City struggled to turn their dominance into goals at Bramall Lane.

"We played really well," added Guardiola. "We struggled to score goals for the chances we created, 16 shots, eight on target, is a lot against this team."

Aaron Ramsdale was busy in the Blades' goal as he twice denied Ferran Torres from close range, while he unconvincedly parried Rodrigo's long-range effort behind.

Walker finally broke the deadlock from similar range on 28 minutes as his shot arrowed low past Ramsdale's right-hand, but there was a muted celebration from the England international against his boyhood club.

"My mum and dad live here, so if I'd celebrated I'd have got a lot of stick," said Walker. "I'm a Sheffield United fan, so I couldn't celebrate."

Kevin De Bruyne flashed a shot wide following another attacking burst from Walker early in the second-half before Ramsdale produced his best save of the game from Riyad Mahrez's free-kick.

However, City's failure to kill off the game gave Chris Wilder's men chances to snatch an unlikely point.

John Lundstram had the best chance for the hosts when he side-footed Sander Berge's low cross over.

But Sheffield United have still scored just three goals in seven games to start the season and remain second bottom on just one point.

AFP

Barcelona's Koeman 'worried' by slow start to La Liga season

BARCELONA

BARCELONA'S 1-1 draw at Alaves on Saturday condemned them to their worst start in La Liga since the 2002-03 season and coach Ronald Koeman admits he's worried about recent results.

Barca are without a win in four league games, drawing two and losing two, and have registered just eight points from their opening six matches. The last time they had such a low points total at this stage of the campaign was under Louis van Gaal 18 years ago.

The Blaugrana are already eight points behind early leaders Real Madrid, although they do have a game in hand.

"I am worried by that," Koeman said in a news conference when asked about his side's winless run. "It's not normal for a team like Barca to pick up just two points from the last 12 [available]."

"But as I have said, we're changing a lot of things. I can't complain about the attitude of the team. I can be disappointed with the performances, but the season is very long."

Luis Rioja opened the scoring for Alaves at Mendizorrotza after a mix up between Gerard Pique and Neto before Antoine Griezmann levelled after the break with his first goal of the season.

Barca threw everything forward late on but were unable to find a winner despite playing with an extra man for the final 30 minutes after Jota's red card.

(Agencies)

Jota caps Liverpool fightback as Man City, Chelsea win

LONDON

DIOGO Jota capped Liverpool's dramatic fightback as the Premier League champions beat West Ham 2-1 to move three points clear at the top, while Manchester City and Chelsea both won to keep in touch with the leaders on Saturday.

Jurgen Klopp's side were rocked by Pablo Fornals' early strike at Anfield as the West Ham midfielder punished a poor header from Joe Gomez in the 10th minute.

The Reds drew level in the 42nd minute when Mohamed Salah was fouled by Arthur Masuaku and the Egyptian stepped up to convert the penalty for his eighth goal of the season.

Liverpool thought they had claimed the lead with just over 10 minutes remaining when substitute Jota turned in a loose ball.

Jota had pounced after Lukasz Fabianski saved Sadio Mane's shot but after a lengthy delay that saw referee Kevin Friend make use of the pitchside monitor, the goal was ruled out for a foul by the Senegal winger.

In the 85th minute, Jota ran onto Xherdan Shaqiri's pass to score his fourth goal since joining from Wolves in September.

It was Liverpool's fourth successive victory since influential defender Virgil van Dijk was sidelined for several months with a serious knee injury suffered against Everton.

Despite their defensive issues this term, Liverpool have opened up a three-point lead over second placed Everton, with their Merseyside rivals in action at Newcastle on Sunday.

"It's not about shining, or flying, or whatever, it's about hard work. That was absolutely necessary against this opponent," Klopp said after Liverpool equalled their club record



Liverpool's Diogo Jota (C) celebrates his goal against West Ham. (Agencies)

of 63 home league games unbeaten.

"We had a lot of good football, not 500 chances or whatever but enough. I want to see us dig in and we did that, and I'm so happy."

While Liverpool were completing their win, government officials confirmed the Premier League could continue despite a new national lockdown that will last until at least December.

"The world is in a difficult place and we are

happy to be allowed to play football," Klopp said.

Title rivals City have yet to hit the free-scoring form of Pep Guardiola's side at their best, as for the third consecutive league game they were held to a solitary goal.

But Kyle Walker's long-range strike against his former club was good enough to earn a 1-0 win at goal-shy Sheffield United.

It was his first goal for a year in his 100th Premier League appearance for City.

A fourth win in five games in all competition edges City up to eighth, five points behind Liverpool.

And there was another boost for City after the game as Guardiola ruled out a return to Barcelona despite interest from presidential candidates at the Catalan giants to bring the club's most successful ever coach back to the Camp Nou.

"I said many times, my period as a manager in Barcelona is over," said Guardiola, whose contract

at the Etihad expires at the end of the season.

"I am incredibly happy here, still I have the desire to do well and this is the most important thing."

- Chelsea hit their stride - Chelsea are also finding their form after a slow start to the season as Frank Lampard's men ran out 3-0 winners at Burnley to stretch their unbeaten run to nine games.

Hakim Ziyech was handed his first Premier League start after scoring in a 4-0 Champions League win away to Krasnodar in midweek and the Moroccan's shot wrong-footed Nick Pope to open the floodgates for the visitors on 26 minutes.

Kurt Zouma's bullet header then doubled Chelsea's advantage from Mason Mount's corner just after the hour mark.

Timo Werner was due to be rested until an injury in the warm-up to Christian Pulisic forced the German international into Lampard's line-up.

And Werner rounded off an excellent second-half performance from the Blues with a fine finish from Ziyech's pass.

After much criticism of his side's defending, Lampard will be equally delighted at a fourth straight clean sheet as Chelsea moved up to fourth place.

AFP

Barcelona held by 10-man Alaves to extend winless streak in La Liga

BARCELONA

BARCELONA made it four La Liga games without a win on Saturday after failing to beat 10-man Alaves, a 1-1 draw leaving Ronald Koeman's side sitting 12th in the table.

Luis Rioja put Alaves in front at Mendizorrotza after an error from Barca's back-up goalkeeper Neto, with Antoine Griezmann equalising in the second half, a minute after Jota Peleteiro had been sent off.

But with almost half an hour left and an extra man, Barcelona were still unable to find a winner, instead settling for a draw to go with recent defeats by Getafe and Real Madrid, and another draw against Sevilla.

It means Madrid, who had earlier won 4-1 at home to Huesca, now sit eight points clear of their Catalan rivals, having played a game more, while Atletico are six ahead after they beat Osasuna 3-1. Atletico will go top if they win their game in hand.

Even at this early stage in the title race, the gap is significant and Koeman will know the scrutiny on his position as coach will increase, particularly after the resignation of Josep Maria Bartomeu as president on Tuesday.

Bartomeu appointed Koeman coach in August and eight points from the first six league games is not the sort of form that will impress the next president and board, who should be voted in before the end of January.

"I'm very disappointed," said Koeman. "Once again we haven't played well enough to get a result. The first goal was a gift and then we created a lot of chances but didn't take them."

Koeman's decision to substitute Ansu Fati with 12 minutes left was particularly surprising given Fati had been arguably Barcelona's most dangerous player, perhaps even more threatening than Lionel Messi, who endured a frustrating night.

Messi has still not scored in open play this season and while he was at the heart of almost every Barca attack, his touch and finishing was again not as crisp as usual. He was booked in the first half for dissent.

Fati and Griezmann both missed early chances while a Messi free-kick would have gone in had Florian Lejeune not been perfectly placed on the line.



Frenkie de Jong was unlucky not to have had a penalty when nudged out of a free header by Ximo Navarro before a Barca mistake gifted Alaves the opening goal.

Gerard Pique underestimated how close Neto was to him and the defender's firmly hit backpass caught the goalkeeper by surprise. Neto failed to adjust his

feet and Rioja capitalised, robbing him of the ball and tapping into an open net.

Koeman made three changes at half-time, with Pedri, Francisco Trincao and Miralem Pjanic all coming on.

But Barca found it difficult to break down the Alaves defence until Peleteiro gave them an opening. He booted Pique in the face to earn a second

yellow card in the 62nd minute and in the 63rd, Griezmann equalised, an exquisite, lifted finish pulling Barcelona level.

It was almost 2-1 a minute later but Messi's finish was well saved while Griezmann had a second ruled out for offside. Fati fired at goal before going off and Pique's finish was cleared off the line. Alaves held on.

- Hazard ends goal drought -

Eden Hazard earlier scored his first goal for Real Madrid in over a year and his team appear to have turned a corner after their comfortable win over Huesca.

Hazard has had a terrible time with injuries since joining Madrid for 100 million euros from Chelsea in 2019 but the Belgian will hope his stunning strike from distance at the Alfredo di Stefano can kick-start his career in Spain.

"We know the quality that Eden has," Zidane said. "He scored a good goal and we needed it in the first half, because after his first goal the game was different."

Karim Benzema and Fede Valverde made the win secure before Huesca scored through David Ferreira, only for Benzema to add his second and Madrid's fourth in injury-time.

It caps an encouraging week for Zidane's side, which began with the Clasico win at Camp Nou and finishes with them top of the table, two points ahead of Real Sociedad.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Jota caps Liverpool fightback as Man City, Chelsea win

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Azam FC striker, Prince Dube (R), is presented with this season's Vodacom Premier League (VPL) Best Player of the Month award for September by an official from Vodacom Tanzania, the VPL sponsors, at Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Azam FC vows to clinch 2020/21 VPL silverware

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AZAM FC management has said that the club is in good shape for the 2020/21 Vodacom Premier League (VPL) season and will do things differently this time around.

The Dar es Salaam side finished third in the previous season's domestic top flight, failing to win any trophy in the process after having also crashed out of the Azam Sports Federation Cup.

Azam FC had, last Friday, settled for 1-1 draw with Dodoma's JKT Tanzania at the former's venue, Azam Complex, in Dar es Salaam.

The draw came hot on the heels of Azam FC's 1-0 loss to Mtibwa Sugar in a league duel, which took place at Jamhuri Stadium in Morogoro.

Forward, Jaffary Salum, netted the all-important goal for Mtibwa Sugar to hand Azam FC the first defeat this season.

Azam FC though still sits on top of the league's table with 22 points after playing nine matches, edging second-placed Yanga on goal difference.

Yanga have as well recorded 22 points after featuring in eight matches.

Yanga have scored 11 goals and shipped in two goals while Azam FC has scored 15 goals while conceding four goals.

Azam FC had played a total of seven matches without losing before tumbling to Mtibwa Sugar.

David Kissu, Azam FC's number one goalkeeper, had kept a total of six clean sheets out of the seven matches.

Thabit Zakaria, Azam FC Information Officer, said that they are still in the mood for clinching this season's league silverware.

Zakaria insisted the believe their dream will be fulfilled as the league is still in progress.

"The league is still going on and we still have work to do, we believe that we will do well in our coming matches," he noted.

"Our fans are supporting us, we will not let them down, as the players are fine and the technical bench is fine too," he said.

Azam FC's new striker, Zimbabwean Prince Dube, received the VPL Best Player of the Month award for September, which was presented at the end of last month due to delay in the start of the domestic top flight.

In addition to the award from the VPL main sponsors, Vodacom Tanzania, Dube also got cash prize amounting 1m/-.

The 23-year-old forward, who previously donned Zimbabwe's Highlanders' kits, is currently the VPL leading goal scorer with six goals after taking part in eight matches.

Simba SC trio set to miss Dar Derby



Simba SC striker, Chris Mugalu. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC head coach, Sven Vandebroek, has confirmed that the outfit's two players will not be fit in time for Saturday's Vodacom Premier League match against age-old rivals, Yanga, dubbed 'Dar derby', which will be played in Dar es Salaam.

The tactician also confirmed long term injury to defensive midfielder, Gerson Fraga.

Speaking after Simba

SC's league clash against Mwadui FC which took place in Dar es Salaam on Saturday, with the former thrashing the

latter 5-0, the Belgian coach confirmed Fraga will miss the rest of the season.

Speaking about the

current injury situation at the club, Vandebroek said forwards Meddie Kagere and Chris Mugalu are still out with injuries which rule them out of the midweek game against Kagera Sugar and the crunch match against Yanga.

Speaking to Simba SC's official website, Vandebroek said: "Meddie's will be a longer injury, unfortunately he will not be back in the first two to three weeks."

"Even Chris is still a big doubt and, about Gerson, I have very bad news, that boy will be out for the next six months. Finally we found what is wrong, so we will miss him until the end of the season."

"We came out of a difficult week, disappointing week with lots of talking outside and inside the team."

"It was good to have this score to calm down everything, especially the process from outside."

"If you look at the game, I think from from the beginning we chose to have

a bit more defensive security."

"We were not going forward with everyone like we did in the previous games and gave us more balance but also the opponent could have more possession sometimes."

"Also because their holding midfielder was dropping down between the two central defenders to create a man more to build up, we let it go, we just closed the midfield and the backline to not give away the space."

"Sometimes, I felt like I was watching futsal, we were playing in very small spaces, maybe too small spaces sometimes but in the end I think we took what we deserved and converted our chances into goals."

"Maybe sometimes we lacked enough quality but in the end I am very happy with the team's performance."

"We played as a team defensively and offensively all together and ended with a good score, which is good for confidence."



Ihefu Football Club

Mbeya City FC, Ihefu FC meet in VPL's bottom of the table clash

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

ALL eyes will be on Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya as Mbeya City FC hosts city rivals Ihefu FC in this year's Vodacom Premier League (VPL)'s bottom of the table clash.

Both sides are occupying the relegation zone in the VPL table.

Both are fighting for their dear lives as Ihefu FC languishes at the bottom of

the table whereas Mbeya City FC is just a place above.

Suffice it to say that the future is not looking bright for the two sides from Mbeya and, with the 2020/21 league campaign slowly picking up pace, either camp is in panic.

They do not want to be left behind, and they at any cost do not want to be relegated back to the dreaded First Division

League.

A win is a must at any cost for these teams, and this upcoming encounter might be the only time in this campaign, where both clubs would not be termed as a huge underdog.

Mbeya City, who broke a seven-game winless streak in the league with a 2-1 away triumph over Kagera Sugar on October 24, will be eager to get successive victories under coach,

Mathias Wandiba, who was appointed on an interim basis after the sacking of head coach, Amri Said.

Abdulrazack Mohamed and Siraji Juma netted the goals for Mbeya City FC.

Ihefu, who also oversaw a change in management as coach Zubeir Katwila came in to take over from Maka Mwalwisi, come into the clash on the back of a goalless draw with Namungo FC in their last

league outing.

The results have seen Ihefu FC stretch their winless run to six games.

The two sides will be expected to be on level footing, not only due to their proximity, but also due to their similar stats.

Both have conceded 10 goals and have kept just two clean sheets in the process.

It is not only defense, which is a huge problem

for both sides, they are also struggling to find goals, causing them to drop points in the table.

Ihefu have scored two goals, they have not found the back of net in the last six matches while Mbeya City FC had to wait until the seventh match to register their first goal of the campaign before following it with two more against Kagera Sugar.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

