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MORTALITY



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Vegan, vegetarian diets enhance risk of stroke - journal

By Guardian Reporter

VEGANS and vegetarians have a lower risk of coronary heart disease than meat-eaters but a greater risk of having a stroke, researchers have found.

The study, conducted by the University of Oxford, analysed data from more than 48,000 adults who signed up to a wider study between 1993 and 2001, and who had no history of heart disease or stroke.

The participants were asked questions on lifestyle, medical history and diet, allowing the team to classify individuals as meat-eaters (24,428 people), vegetarians and vegans (16,254 people) or fish eaters (7,506 people).

Some of these questions were asked again in 2010 and participants were re-classified if they had switched diet.

The health of participants was followed through medical records until March 2016, during which time there were 2,820 cases of coronary heart disease and 1,072 cases of stroke.

After adjusting for factors that might influence the results, including age, sex, smoking status and socioeconomic status, researchers found that fish eaters had a 13 per



For those who eat meat, cutting back to less than 90g of red or processed meat a day is advised

cent reduced risk of heart disease than meat eaters, while vegetarians and vegans had a 22 per cent lower risk.

Meanwhile, vegetarians had a 20 per cent higher risk of having a stroke than meat-eaters. There was no clear effect for fish-eaters.

Overall, the findings showed that over a 10-year period, there would be 10 fewer cases of coronary heart disease in vegans and vegetarians than in meat eaters per 1,000 people, but three more cases of stroke.

The team said the increased risk of stroke could be down to lower levels of vitamins among the vegetarians and vegans in the study.

"We observed lower rates of ischaemic heart disease in fish eaters and vegetarians than in meat eaters, which appears to be at least partly due to lower body mass index and lower rates of high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, diabetes associated with these diets," the researchers explained.

The team acknowledged that the study, which was published in the British Medical Journal, had limitations, including the fact that it is based on self-reporting and mainly involved white people living in the UK.

Tracy Parker, senior dietitian at the British

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Govt suspends ATCL flights to SA over xenophobic violence



Home Affairs deputy minister Hamad Yussuf Masauni (R) receives a gift for President John Magufuli from Mahant Swami Maharaj (L), president of international Hindu socio-spiritual organisation BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha, in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The religious leader is on an official tour of Tanzania. Photo: Home Affairs ministry

Although Tanzanian authorities acknowledged that the farmer is owed money by the government, their lawyer successfully argued in court that South African courts are not empowered to adjudicate over the dispute

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has temporarily suspended flights by Air Tanzania Corporation (ATCL) to South Africa until xenophobic violence going on in the country stops.

Works, Transport and Communications minister Isack Kamwelwe made the announcement in Dar es Salaam, saying all ATCL scheduled flights have been put off, with passengers who had already booked relocated to other airlines.

This comes a day after ATCL CEO Ladislaus Matindi declared that the national carrier will continue flying the South African route despite a court case that led to seizure of its plane there more than a week ago.

Speaking to The Guardian on Wednesday after news broke that a court in Gauteng province had ordered the release of Airbus A220-300, Matindi said the court case was not levelled against ATCL and therefore could not affect its operations in the southern African country.

The plane was scheduled to leave today for OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg.



We have temporarily suspended flights until calm is restored because we wouldn't want to fly passengers to a chaotic destination

Kamwelwe said however that the plane will not fly to South Africa until the South African authorities commit to assure the safety of the equipment and passengers.

"We have temporarily suspended flights until calm is restored because we wouldn't want to fly passengers to a chaotic destination," said Kamwelwe who was addressing a gathering at the Julius Nyerere International Airport.

In the meantime the plane will continue plying domestic routes such as Mwanza, Songwe and Dodoma by normal schedule, he said.

He said the suspension has nothing to do with the recent seizure of the aircraft as that is something that is now in the past.

The plane was prevented from taking off at the OR Tambo International Airport on August 24 due to a court injunction pertaining to a debt that the Tanzania government reportedly owes.

Lawyers for Hermanus Steyn had argued in court that the retired farmer was owed at least USD13 million in compensation after his land was seized by the Tanzania government in the 1980s.

Although Tanzanian authorities acknowledged that the farmer is owed money by the government, their lawyer successfully argued in court that South African courts are not empowered to adjudicate over the dispute.

TAZARA to transport maize for Zimbabwe

By Guardian Reporter

THREE railway systems, namely the Tanzania-Zambia Railway (TAZARA), Zambia Railways (ZRL) and the National Railways of Zimbabwe (NRZ) yesterday signed a contract with the Grain Marketing Board (GMB) of Zimbabwe to transport 17,000 metric tonnes of maize from Tanzania.

On the basis of the agreement, TAZARA will load the consignment from Makambako in Njombe Region and Vwawa in Songwe Region destined to Bulawayo in Zimbabwe.

It would then relay it to ZRL at New Kapiri Mposhi who would in turn pass it to NRZ at Livingstone,



As TAZARA and speaking for the two sister railways, we are delighted to be given this opportunity and are up to the challenge to move the maize

for final delivery to various destinations in Zimbabwe.

The entire tonnage is expected to be transported within three months, starting early next week.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Bruno Ching'andu, the TAZARA Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer said the railways were delighted to be given the opportunity to transport the maize on behalf of GMB.

"As TAZARA and speaking for the two sister railways, we are delighted to be given this opportunity and are up to the challenge to

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Women traders decry teasing and bribery at border points

By Henry Mwangonde

WOMEN engaged in cross border trade face a litany of hindrances including demand for bribes and sexual harassment by customs officials, it emerged yesterday.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam at a press conference during a forum on prospects and challenges for cross border women traders between Uganda and Tanzania, participants appealed for immediate action to remove bottlenecks they said hinder



them from expanding their activities.

Paskazia Sebastian (pictured), secretary for the Tanzania Women Chambers of Commerce Mtukula platform, said that women traders are not informed of cross border trade regulations and thus end up being frustrated upon reaching border points.

Reports of sexual harassment on women by customs officials keep surfacing but it was hard to prove anything as it requires a string of

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President John Magufuli pictured yesterday consoling former Tanzania Intelligence and Security Services director general Apon Mwang'onda, who is undergoing treatment in Dar es Salaam. Photo: State House

TAZARA to transport maize for Zimbabwe

FROM PAGE 1

move the maize."

He said that to move the consignment timely, TAZARA had allocated 100 wagons while the other two railways had also allocated another 100 wagons, in which case they were confident of moving the cargo in the given timeframe.

The cargo was sensitive as it involved the staple food of Zimbabwe and therefore failure to work as arranged was not an option, he remarked.

"We will move the cargo in the required timeframe," assured Ching'andu, who also thanked the governments of Tanzania and Zimbabwe for supporting TAZARA by showing confidence in its ability to handle the sensitive consignment.

The Zimbabwe delegation leader, Major General William Dube, the vice board chairman of NRZ, said that the people of Zimbabwe were highly expectant of the maize delivery and nothing short of rapid delivery would be accepted.

The 17,000 MT contract could be

extended to 83,000 MT if successfully executed, the TAZARA CEO intoned.

During his state visit to Zimbabwe in May, President John Magufuli said that Tanzania would sell Zimbabwe 700,000 tonnes of maize to ease the country's food shortage, a move announced shortly before holding talks with his host, President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

He said last season Tanzania harvested 16.8 million tonnes while its actual needs are 13.5 million tonnes, leaving it with 3.3 million tonnes of excess maize.

Zimbabwe has experienced intermittent food shortages since the government began a land-reform programme in 2000 that resulted in the seizure of mostly white-owned commercial farms.

A report by the Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee in February indicated that the number of people facing hunger in Zimbabwe surged because of economic shocks including rising food prices and a shortage of cash.

Women traders decry teasing and bribes at border points

FROM PAGE 1

individuals to be involved, she stated. "These reports go unattended to as even the victims are not willing to go further with the cases given their discomfort with such cases," she elaborated.

The dialogue took place ahead of a high-level business forum between Uganda and Tanzania today, to be attended by President John Magufuli and his Ugandan counterpart Yoweri Museveni.

United Nations Women Organisation (UN-Women) representative Hodan

Addou said the forum was aimed at sharing ideas and forming interventions that can make Tanzania-Uganda border posts woman friendly and promote trade and investment in the two countries.

"Women cross border traders' vulnerability to sexual exploitation also means they are at risk of getting infected with HIV and other sexually transmitted infections," she said.

Despite the introduction of Simplified Trade Regimes (Stars) and other related regulatory innovations

in the East African Community (EAC) area, most informal women traders still lack information on provisions related to free movement of goods and services, along with elimination of internal customs border controls.

She said women informal cross-border trade is the face of the sector, which provides employment opportunities for women to be able to look after their families.

Stella Manyanya, the Deputy Minister for Trade and Investment said the government was aware of the

challenges that women traders face, noting that multiple solutions are being pursued to address the matter.

Currently the government is reviewing various policies to ensure they facilitate ease of doing business and allow each group of traders to conduct business easily, she told the gathering.

"Sometimes it is difficult to handle some of these reports owing to their social sensitivity because we know it is happening. But how do you prove when the need arises?" she demanded.

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Heart Foundation, said the study provides further evidence that eating more plant-based foods can help lower the risk of heart disease.

"However, it also found that vegetarians, including vegans, are at a higher risk of stroke than meat eaters - potentially due to lack of certain nutrients.

"Whilst this is an interesting finding, this study is observational and doesn't provide us with enough evidence, so more research in this area would be needed," she stated.

Parker explained that one way people can reduce their risk of heart and circulatory diseases is to ensure

they are eating a balanced diet, packed with plenty of fruit and vegetables, whole grains, beans, lentils, nuts and seeds.

"For those who eat meat, cutting back to less than 90g of red or processed meat a day is advised," the dietician added.



For those who eat meat, cutting back to less than 90g of red or processed meat a day is advised

South African consulate, shops in DRC attacked

KINSHASA

PROTESTERS have smashed the windows of the South African consulate in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's second-largest city and attacked South African-owned stores in reprisal for assaults on foreigners in Johannesburg.

A demonstration called by a campaign group outside the consulate in Lubumbashi, southeastern DRC, spiralled out of control and protesters shattered the building's windows, an AFP news agency photographer reported.

They then attacked and looted a store owned by the South African retail group MRP before police intervened, injuring some rioters.

The campaign group Lucha tweeted its disapproval. "You do not condemn violence by violence! We call on the police to stop the looters, without using excessive/legal force," it said.

Attacks broke out in and around Johannesburg this week, killing seven people while dozens of shops were destroyed, mostly foreign-owned. More than 400 people have been arrested.

Foreign workers are often victims of anti-immigrant sentiment in South Africa, where they compete against locals for jobs, particularly in low-skilled industries.

The violence has led to angry demonstrations in Nigeria and expressions of concern in countries around Southern Africa, many of which have citizens working in South Africa, the continent's biggest economy.

Tanzania's national carrier suspended its flights from the commercial capital Dar-es-Salaam to Johannesburg on Thursday, saying the violence there was a risk to its passengers.

"You are aware that there is ongoing violence in South Africa whereby the youth have taken laws in their hands," Tanzania's Transport Minister Isack Kamwelwe told journalists in Dar-es-

Salaam.

"Due to that, we have decided not to transport passengers to the destination where their lives will be in jeopardy."

South African Foreign Minister Naledi Pandor said her government was aware of a resentment-driven "Afrophobia" and was working to restore calm. It was also in constant contact with Nigerian authorities.

"There is a targeting of Africans from other parts of Africa, we can't deny that," Pandor said.

"But, there is also criminality ... because a lot of this is accompanied by theft," she said, describing the attacks as a complex phenomenon whose root causes were not easy to define.

Police said they found two burned bodies on Thursday in the Gauteng township of Katlehong, but the incident could not be immediately linked to anti-immigrant violence.

The violence in South Africa had largely fizzled out on Wednesday with only a handful of looting incidents reported by police, mainly targeting shopping centres.

In 2008, xenophobic violence killed 62 people, while in 2015 seven were killed in attacks in Johannesburg and Durban.

The latest violence has soured ties between the continent's biggest powers, with Nigeria boycotting the World Economic Forum on Africa in Cape Town this week.



You do not condemn violence by violence! We call on the police to stop the looters, without using excessive/legal force



Kenyan National Assembly Speaker Justin Muturi (R) presents a gift to the former Assistant Secretary of the Commonwealth Parliament Association (CPA) Africa Region, Demetrius Mgalami, for his contribution to the development of the association. This was shortly after the closure of 50th CPA conference in Zanzibar yesterday. Looking on is the association's Africa Region secretary, Stephen Kagaigai, who is Clerk of Tanzania's National Assembly. Photo: National Assembly

FAO launches project to strengthen Rwanda's water governance

KIGALI

FOOD and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has launched a project aiming to strengthen Rwanda's water governance process to ensure food security.

Dubbed "Knowing water better: Towards fairer and more sustainable access to natural resources for greater food security," the project was launched at a stakeholders workshop

organized by FAO in Kigali, capital city of Rwanda.

The three-year project to be implemented in three countries including Rwanda, Sri Lanka, and Senegal will conduct water accounting and auditing, train technical staff on the collection and use of data and evaluate different water management and allocation options in view of the multiple needs of water users especially for small-scale farmers,

pastoralists and fishers.

The project seeks to strengthen water governance processes so that they are better prepared to ensure food security and adapt to climate change, water scarcity and increased competition for water resources in an equitable and sustainable manner, FAO representative in Rwanda Gualbert Gbehounou said at the launching ceremony during the workshop.

"This project will contribute to

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in different ways such as ending hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition, access to water, among others. It is very important to our lives," Gbehounou said.

Prime Ngabonziza, director general of Rwanda Water and Forest Authority, said the project comes at an opportune time, adding that water is one important social component of developments in agriculture, tourism and industries.



National Environment Management Council director general Dr Samuel Gwamaka speaks at a one-day meeting for scrap metal dealers held in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. It was chaired by George Simbachawene, Minister of State Office of the Vice President's (Union and the Environment), and discussed challenges experienced in the management of scrap metal and hazardous waste in the country. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Find out why Lake zone is leading in cancer cases, Ndugulile orders NIMR

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

DEPUTY Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Dr Faustine Ndugulile has ordered the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) to do research on why there is an increasing cancer cases in Lake Zone regions and provide the findings before the end of this year.

Dr Ndugulile made the directives here yesterday when opening health research stakeholders' meeting that involved experts in Southern Highlands regions.

He said the president had issued the order for a long time but it has not yet been implemented and he

wanted them to speed up the exercise so that the people over the area can be educated.

Dr Ndugulile said NIMR has been conducting numerous studies over human diseases but that it does not help Tanzania and instead benefits other countries in the world because of the lack of transparency of those researches.

He referred to some of the studies conducted by the Institute including II studies on Aids vaccines, Ebor, Cancer and other diseases, but those experts do not make it known by other stakeholders including policy makers.

Dr. Ndugulile told researchers that no much resources needed to

implement the exercise in Lake Zone, he asked them to start it immediately and deliver the report.

For his part, NIMR Director General Prof Yunus Mgaya assured the Deputy Minister that his directives will be implemented as soon as possible.

Prof Mgaya said: "We've realized that most of information is available at the hospitals, health centers and clinics, but had not yet been touched. So, we'll make sure they use the information for the research purposes."

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Mbeya Zonal Referral Hospital, Dr Godlove Mbwani advised researchers to ensure that their reports are written in friendly language that can be easily understood by the end users.

Religious leaders motivate women to contest for leadership posts in forthcoming elections

By Getrude Mbago

THE Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) Secretary General Fr. Dr. Charles Kitima has encouraged women in the country to work hard, be confident and not hesitate to vie for leadership positions in the forthcoming elections so as to bring out their personal best to serve the public.

In his remarks at the leadership training in Dar es Salaam yesterday Fr Kitima pointed out that despite their massive contributions to the national economy, women have remained sidelined in decision making due to different reasons including low knowledge and awareness.

The training which is co-organised by co-sponsored by the Muslim Council of Tanzania (Bakwata) and the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT) brought together women including leaders of women groups and unions from across the country to capacitate them with right knowledge and skills on leadership issues as well as confidence for them to be ready to vie for various leadership positions in the country.

According to him, women also have legal rights to vie for any leadership position from grass root to national level, what is needed is for them to be ready to contest.

He called upon the government and other relevant actors to inspire, motivate, mobilise and

facilitate women to take leadership positions in different spheres be it in the government, politics and the private sector.

Fr. Dr Kitima further urged political parties to stop giving hard times women who are interested in leadership but rather support them to realise their goals.

He noted that political parties are the major gatekeepers in determining which candidates have qualifications to vie for election. They play a critical role in enabling or blocking women's participation in decision-making processes, so they must ensure they increase number of women in those positions.

"Top leaders in political parties have a big role to play to make sure that women are given opportunity without facing any kind of setbacks, because for long time women have been complaining of being mistreated or given fewer chances to vie for leadership positions," he said.

He also urged political parties to stop preaching on political issues alone but rather penetrate and start helping members on how to get out of poverty by providing training and awareness to promote individual or household economic growth.

He further called on the government to come up with more innovative programmes that will enable majority of women (petty traders) improve their business and get out

of poverty, given their role as key social and economic drivers.

Hajjiat Shamim Khan, the chairperson of the National Muslim Council of Tanzania (Bakwata)-Women Wing urged women to come out and show how they have been blessed to take lead of various positions.

She wanted women who have received the training to go back and be good ambassadors in their society by encouraging other women to vie for leadership positions for the country's development.

For his part, Bishop Method Kilaini, the Auxiliary Bishop of Catholic Diocese of Bukoba said that the training stands as a catalyst to draw more women contestants in

the forthcoming elections but also in various public and leadership top positions. "Men as well should support women in this...They have to make sure that they walk with them in the whole journey of elections to give them confidence," he added.

Martha Mariki, member of elections secretariat from the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government commended the religious institutions for organising the training saying that the move is going to encourage women to wake up and contest for leadership positions in the coming elections.

She assured the general public that the forthcoming elections will be free and fair.

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Police impound 480 litres of 'gongo', distillation tools

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

POLICE in Kilimanjaro region have impounded 480 litres of illicit alcohol famously known as 'gongo' and 40 tools used in the distillation of the same in Hai District.

Speaking to reporters here yesterday, the Kilimanjaro Regional Police Commander Hamisi Issah explained that law enforcers in the district in collaboration with Hai District Commissioner Lengai Ole Sabaya impounded the illicit liquor and the equipment in the afternoon yesterday at Mtakuja village.

During the special operation which is part of measures to control the production, sale, distribution and consumption of the liquor, the team also arrested one Zaituni Juma, a resident of Mtakuja village in KIA ward within the district for suspected production of gongo as other suspects fled and escaped the arrest, the RPC said.

"We had taken different measures of controlling the illicit brew including conducting operations always to curb the problem..." the Kilimanjaro Police chief explained.

According to RPC Issah, preliminary investigations shows that the illicit liquor which was produced in the area were transported to Mirerani in manyara region, some parts of Arusha region, Bomang'ombe township and some parts of Moshi,

Kilimanjaro region.

Commenting on the incident, some residents of Bomang'ombe in Hai district said they support the efforts by the District Commissioner Lengai Ole Sabaya in collaboration with police force because

the illicit brew had become a contributing factor to the moral degeneration of the youth.

Daudi Kihundwa from the area said illicit alcohol consumption was being taken lightly by society, yet it was causing lots of misery to

the community.

"Alcohol has affected our society as currently there are occurrences of brutal incidents of gender abuse and humiliation. All this, it because of excessive consumption of alcohol..." he said.

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'Zero rate application a threat to life-saving drugs availability'

By Guardian Reporter

THE government should remove life saving imports from items requiring application for exemption to zero rate in a bid to ensure that medical drugs and equipment are made available all the time in health facilities, experts have urged.

Speaking to journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the Executive Director of Health Promotion Tanzania (HDT), Dr Peter Bujari said that maternal and child health life saving products are exempted from value added tax (VAT) but are not zero-rated.

"So, at the port of entry, the importer (Medical Stores Department) must seek exemption. We see this as a challenge that slows the process of ensuring drugs are available in the country's health facilities, hence putting lives of women at risk," he said, describing it as policy barrier that needs to be addressed.

Dr Bujari said life-saving imports are still in a group of items requiring application for exemption through VAT 220 A forms as provided for under the VAT Act 2014.

But the procedure of acquiring VAT exemption has been complicated a bit further through banning the use of VAT 220A forms and introducing the Government Notices (GN) number requirement for all commodities through Treasury circular number 6 of 2018," he elaborated.

He suggested special treatment for zero rating Reproductive and Child Health Section (RCHS) imports as proposed by HDT 2017, but has not been implemented by the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), hence complicating its clearance process and availability.

The medical specialist unveiled that the government through Treasury circular number 6 of 2018 has complicated the matter by changing the system for accessing VAT exemption from the use of the common VAT

220A forms to the introduction of GN number. This has to be applied for in order to acquire exemption for hospital equipment and drugs.

This has resulted into difficulties in clearance of health commodities from point of entry due to a lengthy and bureaucratic procedure for acquiring the GN number, he stated.

Reports have it that some items have remained at the port of entry for over four months due to GN number complications for those attracting storage, demurrage and other charges due to over staying at the port.

This ultimately affects the total cost of ownership and availability of these health provision requirements, he emphasized.

He appealed to the Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children and the Minister for Finance and Planning to chip-in and remove life saving imports from items requiring application for exemption to zero rate.

Citing some of the benefits of the policy change, he said that clearing of life saving imports will be faster from the entry points to MSD, without storage cost or demurrage charges payable by importers.

"And there will likely be no stock-outs and thus increased access to life saving drugs and equipment," he said.

The Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey 2016 report says Tanzania loses about 15,017 women patients annually in birth related complications, as about 1,250 women die every month or 41 per each day from pregnancy and delivery complications.

Most of the deaths are caused by eclampsia (34 percent), obstetric haemorrhage (24 percent) and maternal sepsis (16.7 percent).

"These three account for 74 percent of all causes. If we prevent these, we can save up to 11,113 mothers every year. Consistent availability of Oxytocin and Misoprostol alone can save up to 3,694 expectant mothers," he added.



Hai district commissioner Lengai ole Sabaya carries one of the 42 iron barrels alleged to have been used in the production of illegal alcohol commonly known as gongo, whose seizure he is credited with having facilitated at Mtakuja village in Kia ward, Kilimanjaro Region, yesterday. Photo: Godfrey Mushi

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

AN inspector with the Iringa Municipal Council was yesterday arraigned in court charged with soliciting bribe amounting to 100,000/-

Briefing reporters here yesterday, the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) regional commander Mweli Kilimali said charges against Shaibu Mapembe were read before Iringa District Court by PCCB prosecutor Fuja Ngaro.

PCCB told the court that Mapembe solicited and received 100,000/- as

Municipal inspector in court charged with 100,000/- bribe

bribe from municipal resident Abbasi Lupenza so that legal action is not taken against him for building a house without a permit.

The prosecution argued that the suspect contravened section 15 (1) (a) and section 2 of the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau Act number 11 of 2007.

Kilimali urged the public, political leaders and government officials not to indulge in corrupt practices during the forthcoming local government elections.

The regional PCCB boss called on voters to be vigilant against bribery and enticement to the same, and give proper information to the relevant

authorities if such a situation comes up so that appropriate action can be taken.

PCCB is an independent body under Section 5 of the PCCA. The mandate of the PCCB applies only to Mainland Tanzania. In Zanzibar, corruption is investigated by the police under the direction of the Attorney General.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister William Lukuvi (R) and Jenista Mhagama (2nd-R), Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament, Employment, Youth and Persons with Disabilities), pictured yesterday presenting a gift to Mara Region Special Seats legislator Agnes Marwa and her husband, Arnold Nyambelwa (L), whose son Luna had just been baptised at the Catholic Church parish located at the National Assembly grounds in Dodoma. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Museveni to grace bilateral business forum in Dar today

By Aisia Rweyemamu

PRESIDENT Yoweri Museveni is today expected to grace a business forum for Tanzania and Uganda following an invitation from President John Magufuli.

Over 1600 delegates have registered and confirmed to attend the forum which is scheduled to begin today in the country's commercial capital, Dar es Salaam.

Addressing reporters yesterday in Dar es Salaam, the Minister for Industry and Trade Innocent Bashungwa said that among the 1683 registered delegates 426 are from Uganda.

"Apart from business people, government officials from both countries will attend the forum which is expected to open business opportunities between the two countries," the minister said.

During the meeting, various issues will be discussed including policy bottlenecks and how to sort out regulatory and tariff barriers, he said.

Business to business meetings are part of the meeting agenda where traders from the two countries will have ample opportunity of sharing experience and networking to develop

business linkages.

"We have started with Uganda as Tanzania has great opportunities to do business with Uganda. I urge Tanzanians to make full use of the existing opportunities," he urged.

A series of other bilateral forums will be organized and the ministry shall work with business and private sector organizations to make sure that Tanzania becomes a hub of trade and investment in the region, he said.

The forum will bring together business leaders, policymakers and stakeholders to explore businesses and investment opportunities and cement trade relations between the two countries.

The forum is expected to create platform for the traders to meet and exchange views, but also for the government to listen to the challenges impeding trade growth and see how to resolve them for mutual benefit.

Uganda has for a long time been a major market for Tanzania's food products and manufactured goods, so the forthcoming forum provides an additional opportunity for local traders to expand their market reach, he added.

Simbachawene assures scrap metal exporters of support

By Guardian Correspondent

THE government said yesterday it had no qualms with honest and keen scrap metal dealers because they are stakeholders in creating many jobs, earning foreign currency and in preserving the environment.

The Minister of State in Vice-President's Office (Union and Environment) George Simbachawene, told dealers who attended a one-day consultation meeting, organised by the

National Environment Management Council (NEMC) in Dar es Salaam, that the government had no reservations about their business as long as it was conducted in accordance with international accords which Tanzania has ratified.

Further, the government recognizes the importance of that business in the national struggle to alleviate poverty and make Tanzania a middle-income industrial country by 2025, he said.

"You are part of a big international business. The government is aware of your importance in our journey to becoming a middle-income nation; it is aware of the challenges you are facing and that you have heavily invested in this field," he declared.

"In that vein, the government has cut export levy by half, from 10m/- to 5m/-. Collectors will pay 500,000/-," he announced to cheers of delegates, further assuring them that the government was working on other

challenges they had raised.

All scrap collection and export licences have been invalidated and traders will apply for new licences, he told the gathering, elaborating that NEMC would coordinate the exercise.

NEMC Director General Dr Samuel Gwamaka said experience had shown that dealers were breaking the law unknowingly. He said NEMC has eight zonal offices countrywide and dealers need to get guidance from those offices

to stave off the danger of contravening laws governing their business as was the case at present.

"NEMC will carry out all government directives and it will not be a stumbling block as it implements government policies toward industrialisation and poverty alleviation," he pledged.

Juma Kambi, an exporter of scrap metal, said dealers received the tax cut with great relief and many thanks to the government, as most traders

have a weak capital base, hence they are unable to meet conditions set by NEMC in order to engage in that business.

"This tax cut will increase our capital and enhance productivity in our business. Therefore, more public revenue will be collected from our increased business," he told the minister.

The results of the meeting have ushered in new expectations in the scrap metal business, he added.



GF Trucks & Equipment Ltd marketing officer Jumaa Lukolo (L) briefs engineers in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the quality of the firm's products. This was at the construction sector exhibition being held in tandem with the Annual Consultative Meeting of the Architects and Quantity Surveyors Registration Board, the Contractors Registration Board, the Engineers Registration Board and construction sector stakeholders. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TASAF beneficiaries in Dodoma Region decry delayed payment

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

A CROSS section of the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) beneficiaries in Dodoma city have decry delayed payment, saying life has become extremely difficult since the government halted the process.

"We have not received payment for several months now, making life quite miserable," said Mwanahamisi Juma, adding that with the support from the fund life had really changed.

TASAF provides regular cash payments to participating households on a bimonthly basis which includes an unconditional base transfer and additional amounts conditional on health check-ups and children's school attendance.

Additional components are livelihoods training and support and a Public Works Program (PWP) to supplement household incomes during the lean season.

The Guardian has learnt that delayed payment is due to government's audit on the list of beneficiaries. Julius Daudi, TASAF's Technical Monitoring Officer (TMO) for Dodoma city and Chamwino district admitted that the government suspended payments as it was conducting audit on the list of beneficiaries.

He noted that another reason for the delay was due to preparations for the second part of third phase of TASAF-Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN) to be launched soon.

"It is true that they have not received payments for several months now but soon they will start

getting their money since all the issues have been accomplished", he said.

Speaking at Mtube ward in the city, the beneficiaries noted that through TASAF programme, they have managed to provide school needs for their children as well as family needs.

Village chairperson, John Masaka argued that beneficiaries have made positive steps in life with others coming up with small income activities.

He thanked TASAF for the rehabilitation of the village dam which serves 68 households who are beneficiaries of the fund. Through the PWP, the beneficiaries identified the project to renovate the dam, digging it deeper to hold more water.

"As you can see, we have vegetable gardens around the dam as well as a fishing project, all that have improved availability of food and income to the residents," said the chairperson.

TASAF spent 140,025,400/- in payment to beneficiaries working on the PWP and 626,750/- on equipment to repair the dam with a capacity to have 9,947 cubic litres of water.

He noted that at least 200 people got short time employment at the dam under PWP since the project was launched in the village in 2015.



We have not received payment for several months now, making life quite miserable

By Guardian Reporter

Global healthcare firm expands its wings in East Africa region

A GLOBAL healthcare company—Abbott has opened its second office in East African region in an effort to support expanded growth opportunities in the sub-Saharan Africa and Africa at large.

The new office in Kenya's capital, Nairobi will function as the headquarters for the company's operations in East Africa and is intended Abbott's other office in sub-Saharan Africa has been based in Johannesburg, South Africa, since 1940.

"The economies of Kenya and East Africa are growing rapidly and present a tremendous opportunity for global investment and partnership," said Maxwell Okello, chief executive officer, American Chamber of Commerce, Kenya.

"We are delighted to see American companies like Abbott increase their commitment to working with local governments and the private sector to accelerate the economic growth and prosperity of the region."

As the population and economies of the East African Community continue to grow, its member states are increasingly focused on strengthening their health systems in order to improve the health outcomes of their people, their most important resource and the future of Africa.

"Abbott is deepening its long-standing commitment to Kenya, and to East Africa as a whole, by increasing our resources in the region," said Damian Halloran, vice president, Infectious Disease-Emerging Markets, Rapid Diagnostics, Abbott.

"We are working with governments and stakeholders in the region to realize sustainable healthcare so that people in all places and stages of life can achieve more, and live not just longer, but better lives," said Halloran.

With more than 75 years of heritage and an ongoing commitment to Africa, Abbott is advancing science and technology to constantly shape new methods of care and improve

treatment standards across the continent.

Examples of Abbott's support of East Africa include Kenya's Abbott's diagnostics businesses have supplied millions of rapid tests for HIV, malaria and hepatitis;

Abbott core laboratory and molecular systems at multiple sites analyze high volumes of test samples that are critical to the health and wellbeing of all Kenyans.

In 2016, Abbott's established pharmaceuticals business invested in a local manufacturer, acquiring several

products developed for keeping children healthy.

Since 2009, Abbott's nutrition business has provided trusted and scientifically-proven nutrition solutions to help Kenyans of all ages live stronger and healthier lives.

Since 2001, Abbott and the Abbott Fund have worked closely with the Tanzanian government to strengthen the country's healthcare system.

With more than \$130 million invested to date and the contributions of specialized

Abbott experts, this unique public-private partnership is finding sustainable solutions to critical healthcare challenges - elevating testing, treatment and care for people across the country.

As part of this initiative, Abbott has helped upgrade patient testing and care at the country's largest public hospital and created the first emergency medical facilities and residency program in East Africa.

The company has been also collaborating with the Rwandan Ministry

of Health to establish a new model for the decentralization of healthcare to reach people in rural areas. Abbott is providing technical expertise and funding a pilot program of second-generation health posts that will deliver a wide range of primary health services for prenatal and pediatric care, testing and treatment of infectious diseases, and wound care.

Abbott's diagnostics business is playing a key role in Uganda's hepatitis C elimination program and has a presence

in large hospitals, providing results to facilitate prognosis and diagnosis of various diseases. The National Health Laboratory Service, one of the largest HIV testing laboratories in the world, operates Abbott's molecular systems, which tested more than 900,000 samples last year. Abbott's rapid diagnostic tests for HIV, syphilis and malaria are widely used for screening those diseases; several hundred PIMA analyzers do CD4 testing throughout the country.

GLOBAL HEALTH SUPPLY CHAIN PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - TANZANIA

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Demand Planning Sr. Advisor
Location:	Dar es Salaam (GHSC TA-TZ project office)
Reports to:	Chief of Party
Supervises:	NACP Advisor, NACP Lab Advisor

OVERVIEW:
The Global Health Supply Chain Program Technical Assistance - Tanzania (GHSC TA-TZ) project, supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), provides expert technical assistance to Tanzania to strengthen country supply chain systems across all health elements, e.g., malaria, family planning (FP), HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH), and essential medicines. In coordination with in-country and development partners, GHSC TA-TZ assists Government of Tanzania (GoT) by providing strategic planning and implementation assistance; improving the delivery of health commodities to service sites; providing capacity building support to broaden stakeholders' understanding and engagement of the supply chain system; and strengthening enabling environments to improve supply chain performance.

JOB SUMMARY:
The Demand Planning Specialist will provide strategic, operational and technical leadership related to demand planning; identify and encourage the adoption of leading practices for planning and quantification; mentor and build the skills of relevant stakeholders within the Government of Tanzania (GoT) to forecast demand, and monitor supply plans that will determine the availability of HIV/AIDS, MCH, FP, essential medicines and malaria commodities; and recommend interventions to improve commodity security. His / her priorities include enhancing the effectiveness of forecasting and quantification for essential medicines, leveraging techniques that have successfully been applied previously in quantification exercises conducted for vertical programs, and identifying opportunities to introduce innovations and/or continuously improve processes for all programs and essential medicines quantifications.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
Specific responsibilities will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Provide technical subject matter expertise on all areas related to demand planning:
 - Assisting PSU and MSD in conducting national essential medicines quantifications, including support of the bottom up quantification process
 - Providing expert technical assistance in forecasting of commodity needs for both vertical programs and essential drugs.
 - Coaching stakeholders from the GoT to review and analyze supply chain implications of product selection and changes in testing, treatment, and care guidelines, and adjust supply plans accordingly.
 - Providing guidance to estimate the cost of required commodities.
 - Assisting partners in identifying financial resources to meet commodity financing needs.
 - Coaching the GoT to perform pipeline analyses and monitor in-country supply levels.
 - Highlighting potential supply plan challenges, and develop recommendations to address them
 - Consulting with project team members based in field to identify issues in data quality and availability and identifying opportunities to improve data that informs quantification exercises.
- Ensure timely submissions of supply plans to GHSC-PSM for all program commodity groups that the GHSC-TA-TZ program supports.

- Participate in routine communications with GHSC-PSM, and highlight issues that should be brought to national programs for decision making.
- Supervise and support project seconded staff at NACP
- Participate in annual workplanning process and provide inputs to the operations team to budget for demand planning activities including meetings, trainings, and other activities.
- Identify lessons learned, best practices, and success stories
- Complete and submit timely written technical and trip reports.
- Prepare presentations, participate and/or represent the project in stakeholder meetings.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:
Applicants for this position should be Tanzanian nationals or lawful residents who possess the following minimum qualifications:

- Higher qualification in Laboratory technology, Pharmacy, Medical Doctor or other Public Health professions
- Demonstrated experience leading national quantifications for malaria, family planning (FP), HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH)
- Experience in and knowledge of leading practices related to strategic planning, strategic plan implementation, logistics/supply chain management and or public health commodities management desirable.
- Experience working with the Government of Tanzania and other NGOs preferred.
- Excellent written and verbal English.
- Ability to prepare and present information related to commodity availability
- Ability to coach and mentor public sector stakeholders to develop strategies and manage implementation of projects.
- Ability to work independently.
- Previous work experience with USAID-funded projects desirable.
- Proficiency in common computer packages (eg, Word, PowerPoint, Excel) relevant to the work.
- Team player.
- Able to travel for an extended period of time in country to support technical activities.
- Able to travel internationally to attend trainings and conferences as needed. Extensive experience overseeing and performing project management activities for large complex consulting engagements, preferably in the health sector

Interested candidates are invited to send their cover letters, Curriculum Vitae with names and contact details of 3 work related references, enclosing certificate copies of relevant education and training.

Submission may be sent to -
ghsc.recruitmentz@gmail.com
by 20th September, 2019

Only candidates meeting the minimum requirements will be contacted. If you have not heard from us within two weeks after the closing date, kindly assume that your application was not successful.

GHSC is an equal opportunity employer.



USAID/Tanzania Water Resources Integration Development Initiative (USAID/WARIDI)

Request for Quotations

For Drilling of Six (6) Boreholes and Pump Test of 10 Existing Boreholes

Winrock International is a sub-contractor to Tetra Tech the prime implementing partner for the USAID/Tanzania Water Resources Integration Development Initiative (USAID/WARIDI) pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and in accordance with USAID Contract No AID-OAA-I-14-00068/AID-621-TO-16-00003.

WARIDI is a USAID funded five-year activity which seeks to achieve improvements in health, water resources management, agriculture, climate change adaptation and the environment in Tanzania. WARIDI promotes state-of-the-art approaches in cross-sectoral, integrated management of water-related resources and services

Through this Request for Quotations (RFQs), USAID/WARIDI requests quotations from qualified locally registered contractors (**Registration by Contractor's Registration Board is a must**) to bid for the Drilling and Construction of 6 Boreholes, and Pump tests of 10 Existing Boreholes in the following districts;

	Drilling	Pump Tests (Existing Boreholes)
Gairo	1 Borehole	1 Borehole
Kilosa	2 Boreholes	3 Boreholes
Morogoro	1 Borehole	3 Boreholes
Ulanga	2 Boreholes	3 Boreholes

A complete set of the Bidding Documents may be obtained via email from Procurement and Contracts Manager, Winrock International, JR House, Old Dar es Salaam Road, P.O Box 768, Morogoro, Tanzania, email: waridi.procurement@winrock.org no later than Friday September 13, 2019. Any questions should be sent by Friday September 13, 2019 at 5.00 pm East Africa Time; and will be responded to in one all-inclusive written document provided to all bidders via email on Monday September 16, 2019.

Quotations must be received no later than 12:00 Noon East African Time on Friday September 20, 2019. Late submissions will not be accepted. All quotations are to be submitted following the guidelines listed in the bidding documents. Telephone requests will not be honored.

Bids shall be opened in public, in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend, at Winrock International offices, JR House, Old Dar es Salaam Road, P.O Box 768, Morogoro, Tanzania, at 2.00 pm, on Friday September 20, 2019.

Winrock International

Initiative supporting global efforts out to boost food security

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

THE Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN) has introduced new initiative driving global efforts to tackle food security by providing open data polices in agriculture and nutrition.

The UN, UK and US government supported initiative driving global efforts to tackle food security and to end world hunger by propagating open data polices in agriculture and nutrition across the world, has announced an MoU with the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) to extend capacity development efforts within countries located across Eastern and Southern Africa with the aim of promoting sustainable development.

The partnership, aimed at developing Geo-Information services and ICT products among its Member States, will see both parties work closely together on Geospatial solutions which will enhance African collaboration with both the Secretariat and its extensive Partner Network. The discussed activities include, but are not limited to, open data sourcing, working groups, and publications and research papers, with an aim to better inform the open data policy agenda.

Executive Director of GODAN, André Laperrière, signed the MOU in Nairobi on behalf of GODAN, alongside Dr. Emmanuel Nkurunziza, Director General of the RCMRD, to work closely with countries who are a part of, or wishing to join, the 2017 Nairobi Declaration. Alongside Kenya; South Africa, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Rwanda and Ghana are currently part of this 15-country agreement.

GODAN seeks to support global efforts to make agricultural and nutrition-relevant data available, accessible, and easy to use on a global scale, by building high-level policy, public and

private institutional support for open data. GODAN is a pioneer in open data advocacy, through its own policy advisory and capacity development work, but also through its network of around one thousand members, committed to the joint aim of advocating for open data principles. Increased data accessibility and access to smart technologies empowers farmers and companies - both large and small - throughout the worldwide food production chain to better plan and sustainably execute food production and farming processes, contributing to tackling global issues such as world hunger and environmental sustainability.

RCMRD, which was established in Nairobi in 1975, with the support of UNECA and the African Union, has been a key partner for GODAN in the African region and is focused on sustainable the applications of Earth observation technologies and data-driven solutions, to improve management of natural resources, infrastructure, and the environment.

Speaking about the initiative, André Laperrière, the Executive Director of GODAN said: "Africa has continued to enhance its position as an innovative region, and much of this is due to its developing framework for the gathering, managing, and analysing of data which is instrumental in helping to make smarter, more informed decisions. RCMRD has been at the forefront of this for many years, responsible for many of the open data benefits countries in the initiative have experienced."

This collaboration will provide a platform to strengthen multilateral collaboration within the region and will provide an example for the rest of the world to emulate. This is an exciting time for all parties, and we expect to see Africa becoming a hub for technological advancement with the next few years."



Works, Transport and Communications minister Isack Kamwelwe displays a picture when launching the Tanzania Meteorological Authority in Dar es Salaam yesterday. From L: the ministry's permanent secretary, Dr Leonard Chamurriho, and the authority's Director General, Dr Agnes Kijazi. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Engineers counselled on standards compliance

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

ENGINEERS have been challenged to stick to standards requirements in construction activities in order to avoid losses and long arm of the government.

Speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam at a Construction Sector Stakeholders' exhibition, Issack James a Standard Assurance Officer of Tanzania Bureau of Standards, said standards plays a crucial role in construction industry.

The two events have been organised by Contractors Registration Board (CRB), Engineers Registration Board (ERB) and Architects and Quantity Surveyors Registration Board (AQRB).

James said without engaging stand-

ards materials in construction it could cause a huge loss to them and a nation.

He said construction of high storey buildings require standards iron bars, failure to that might result in collapse and legal action to the people involved.

He asked Tanzanians who purchase construction materials such as iron bars to understand their grades in order to have permanent structures.

According to him, they will continue to provide education awareness to the community through exhibitions on the best ways to identify substandard goods.

"TBS will be participating in various exhibitions to inform community on various issues relating to standards in

order to support the industrial move initiated by President John Magufuli," he said.

He insisted local manufacturers to continue improving their goods in order to fetch markets beyond Tanzania.

"Manufacturers have a great role to play in improvement of our economy thus they need to enable our country export more," he explained.

For his part an exhibition participant identified as Santulo Kyamba, commended the bureau for participating in the event which he said would help to educate community on standards and the way they operate.

He asked Tanzanians to visit the exhibitions and get knowledge on various

issues including standards

He emphasised that standards plays a crucial role for a nation development particularly this time when Tanzania has decided to go for industrial economy few years to come so all manufacturers have to support the government by producing quality goods which can be sold at any market and beyond borders.

He asked the standards watchdog to continue participating in various public event to educate the public on its functions.

The two-day annual consultative meetings which involved three registration bodies was opened on Wednesday by President Dr Magufuli.



Freight in Time's Tanzania regional manager Fred Mlay (R) explains a point in Dar es Salaam yesterday to visitors at a construction sector exhibition being held in the city in tandem with the Annual Consultative Meeting of the Architects and Quantity Surveyors Registration Board, the Contractors Registration Board, the Engineers Registration Board and construction sector stakeholders. Photo: Guardian Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Guardian Reporter

ABOUT 2.1 million people in Somalia face acute food insecurity through to December due to severe drought that has ravaged several parts of the country, the UN has said.

According to the assessment by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU), which was managed by UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), an estimated 1 million children under the age of five were likely to be

UN says 2.1million facing starvation in East Africa

acutely malnourished through to mid-2020.

Although the 2019 Deyr/short rains (October-December) are forecast to be average to above-average, the positive impact on food security will not be realised until late 2019," the UN said in its report on 2019 post-Gu (long rains) seasonal food security and nutrition as-

essment, conducted across Somalia in June-July.

However, according to the report, which was released in Mogadishu, seasonal production activities will mitigate more severe deterioration during this period.

According to FSNAU, sustained and large-scale humanitarian as-

sistance through September, would prevent more severe outcomes in many areas.

The UN warned that food security was expected to deteriorate in the absence of humanitarian assistance from October to December.

According to the UN, the current high levels of food insecurity were exacer-

bated by below-average and erratically distributed rainfall during the 2019 Gu season (April-June), which began late and ended early.

"Many households are still recovering from the severe 2016/2017 drought or have been affected by conflict, and 2.6 million people remain displaced," the UN said.

The Gu cereal harvest failed in most regions, leaving most poor agropastoral and riverine households unable to meet their minimum food needs, it said.

"In pastoral areas, the impact of the drought on livestock led to a lack of access to milk, and many poor households have accumulated large debts while struggling to feed their families and rescue their remaining livestock," the report said.



A vendor hunts for customers for his aloe vera seed plants along Mkunguni Street in downtown Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: John Badi

A to Z introduces new mineral feed to boost dairy cattle industry

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

DAIRY cattle keepers in Dodoma and Iringa regions have every reason to smile following introduction of Josefa Frumi Plus in the two regions.

Josefa Frumi Plus is a special mineral feed made in Germany specifically for increasing milk production among dairy cows.

Introduced for the first time in Tanzania by A to Z Universal Company Limited, a subsidiary company of ASAS Group, the advanced mineral feed, among others, contains key minerals in improving dairy cows general health.

Spokesperson of Chef Asili Company Limited, a sister company of ASAS Group, Lupyana Chengula said the newly introduced product has multiple advantages to dairy cattle.

"Josefa Frumi Plus, apart from boosting milk production capacity among dairy cattle, also plays a scientific role to protect the cows from diverse diseases," he noted.

He noted that the high mineral feed was useful in helping cows avoid some common diseases after delivering, commonly, retain of placenta and

lack of calcium.

"The other advantage of the new feed is to help the cows to enter into heat period on proper time, improve the overall cattle's reproduction system as well as enabling relevant cattle to carry pregnancy in recommended cycles," Chengula expressed.

Chengula unveiled that in Dodoma the feed was marketed by Chef Asili Co. Ltd, whereby in Iringa it was distributed by A to Z Universal Co. Ltd at a friendly price of 8,000/- per 2 Kg sachet.

"Customers that have so far used the product have proved it to be of great benefit in improving milk production as they are placing endless orders," he assured.

If all goes well, according to Chengula, the plan is to ensure the product is available all over the county, in the future.

With its headquarters in Iringa region, Chef Asili Company Limited stands tall among few companies in the county for milk production. The company is also famous for production of unique breads that contain milk, grapes and other health spices.

By Sukaina Ishmail, Cape Town

Environmentalists campaign for protection of more marine areas

ONLY 5 percent of South Africa's ocean space is a marine protected area and concerned environmentalists across the Western Cape are campaigning for more marine areas to become protected due to its impact on the environment.

There are currently 22 marine protected areas around the Western Cape, including coastal and offshore areas.

A marine protected area (MPA) is a space in the ocean that receives more protection and is strictly regulated from human activities.

Co-founder of #SeaTheBiggerPicture organisation, Shamier Magmoet, said: "Marine protected areas are needed for the restoration of our oceans and planet, however, they're being fished empty and are dying from carbon emissions."

"Long line trawlers are also scraping the ocean floor dry, resulting in bycatch (catching fish unintentionally), therefore having only 5% of our ocean protected is not logical."

Maryke Musson, curator at the Two

Oceans Aquarium, said: "Areas that show significant natural and cultural importance should be very well protected to benefit the environment, the animals and people."

"In South Africa, 8% of the 1.2million km² of terrestrial area is protected and now 5% of our 1.5million km² exclusive economic zone of ocean space is protected. It would be amazing if the areas could be pushed to 10% on land and 10% in the ocean."

"We need more MPAs, because a protected ecosystem tends to be more resistant and resilient to disturbances and serves as an effective insurance policy against overfishing, loss of biodiversity and climate change."

"MPAs are key to replenishing biodiversity and nourishing the growing human population," Musson said.

Magmoet said it was essential for the public to become more aware of how important marine protected areas

were for society and the environment. Diving visuals were being used to increase awareness and educate the youth about it, he said.


The spokesperson for the Department of Environmental Affairs, Zolile Ngayi, said declaring more ocean space as MPAs means many activities in the fishing industry would be prohibited, which might be a challenge.

Musson said that humans' needs and demands on natural resources had in-

creased significantly and if they were not managed properly then we would soon reach unsustainable levels.

This could be seen clearly with South Africa's fishing stocks, where 38% of our marine resources are overexploited, which is more than the global 34%.

"Marine protected areas can act as safe nursery grounds for fish to be replenished and protected, which can then address the decline in fishery stock," she said.



Dar es Salaam Office

Call for Proposals

Description : To Promote Technical and Equipment Maintenance Proficiency for Local Radios

Ref Number : 501URT5000/19/02

Deadline : 20 September 2019

UNESCO under the support of Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC) has been implementing the project, *Empowering Local Radios with ICTs for the Promotion of Rural Citizens' Participation in Democratic Discourse*. The support to 25 local radios in Tanzania Mainland and the Zanzibar Archipelago, as well as the newly established Community Media Network, Tanzania Development and Information Organization (TADIO) aims at strengthening collaboration, advocacy and knowledge sharing amongst community media practitioners.

The project has been developing local radio stations capacities in applied journalism and the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs). More specifically, the project has been working on training radio technicians on technical & equipment maintenance proficiency as well as provision of basic radio equipment to stations in dire need. Thus, UNESCO needs to assign a consultant to establish the status of equipment for community radios under its support.

It is against this background that UNESCO is seeking for a company / consultant to conduct Needs Assessment a Needs Assessment for community radio equipment and Training of community radio technicians under its support. Interested applicants (companies or individuals registered in Tanzania) may obtain a full Terms of Reference (TOR) upon request. Only shortlisted applicants will be communicated and invited for further discussion.

Proposals may be hand delivered or posted to UNESCO Tanzania Office at the below address or emailed to: lw.madete@unesco.org on or before 20 September 2019 at 16:00pm EAT.

Head of Office and Representative,
UNESCO Dar es Salaam Office,
59 Mtwara Crescent, Oyster Bay
P.O. Box 31473, Dar es Salaam,
United Republic of Tanzania

215407001



Dar es Salaam Office

Call for Proposals

Description : Institutional Capacity for the Net Network of Community Media in Tanzania (TADIO)

Ref Number : 501URT5000/19/03

Deadline : 20 September 2019

UNESCO under the support of Switzerland Development Cooperation (SDC) has been implementing the project, *Empowering Local Radios with ICTs for the Promotion of Rural Citizens' Participation in Democratic Discourse*. The support to 25 local radios in Tanzania Mainland and the Zanzibar Archipelago, as well as the newly established Community Media Network, Tanzania Development and Information Organization (TADIO) aims at strengthening collaboration, advocacy and knowledge sharing amongst community media practitioners.

The project has been developing local radio stations capacities in applied journalism and the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs). More specifically, the project has been working on strengthening the network's sustainability by enhancing theory role as social services providers, increasing their geographical range of local news, and strengthening their capacity to hold the private sector and Government to account. Thus, UNESCO needs to assign a consultant build capacity for the Net Network of Community Media in Tanzania (TADIO) and increase its sustainability.

It is against this background that UNESCO is seeking for a reputable organization/ consultant to build capacity of the Net Network of Community Media in Tanzania (TADIO) and increase its sustainability. Interested applicants (companies or individuals registered in Tanzania) may obtain a full Terms of Reference (TOR) upon request. Only shortlisted applicants will be communicated and invited for further discussion.

Proposals may be hand delivered or posted to UNESCO Tanzania Office at the below address or emailed to: lw.madete@unesco.org on or before 20 September 2019 at 16:00pm EAT.

Head of Office and Representative,
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59 Mtwara Crescent, Oyster Bay
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United Republic of Tanzania

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Elevating women in elective politics is praiseworthy idea

SOMETHING is changing towards the start of a new round of our national electoral season, with local government elections due later this year and the General Election next year.

Three leading religious organisations have embarked on a campaign to address issues that lock women out of elective politics, a move that could have a positive impact in some measure.

This is what was affirmed in earnest by highly placed officials with the organisations, with Tanzania Episcopal Conference secretary general Fr Dr Charles Kitima saying the programme was co-sponsored by the Muslim Council of Tanzania (Bakwata) and the Christian Council of Tanzania.

He said the crusade would involve training meant to enhance women's interest in political leadership and advocacy to rectify policy issues hindering the participation of women.

The need to bring women more into political life constantly comes up especially with women activists in NGOs and CSOs like the Tanzania Media Women's Association (Tamwa), which has worked assiduously in past years over that point.

It must be said that the association's efforts were crowned with success to a considerable extent, though it is evident that the country has not had similar efforts in the past five or even ten years, so a gap surely exists in the level of 'awakening' in the present generation.

The committee around Fr Dr Kitima is trying to work on issues raised by a study involving experts from the three faith-based organisations, and its observation that women are commonly less interested than men in elective leadership owing to factors such as a shift in election agenda.

It is argued that many women stand disenchanted, believing that most people seek elected positions just to enrich themselves, which isn't the sort of inspiration that would fire any

morally upright person into politics.

Fr Dr Kitima said women are by nature caretakers and most of their economic activities involve caring for the family, and therefore they are less interested in leadership processes because they believe leadership has lost the path from being a service platform to a wealth accumulating platform.

That is where a new problem crops up, and it is that if more women are satisfied with the work of the current government in relation to using the political platform to advance societal welfare and national needs instead of pursuing of private wealth, should that be lead towards more activism or silent support?

It is possible that clerics feel that more women contesting in local government polls and later in parliamentary and even presidential elections shall help to clean the slate somewhat, so to speak.

Indeed, it might add to honest endeavour to do something good, and dampen discouraging voices upset by cutting off various avenues to corruption.

While the conference reminded participants of the legacy of producing strong women leaders the likes of former Foreign Minister and UN Under-Secretary General Dr Asha-Rose Migiro and former Lands minister and Pan-African Parliament President Getrude Mongella, several other names come to mind.

For instance, there was Amina Chifupa, a daring young legislator who once told the legislature that was privy to a list of top operatives in the drug trafficking trade, and stumbled into disease and death soon after.

She was truly an inspiration to young aspirants for political positions at that time, and hopefully those of the present generation can step into her shoes and those of others and start tackling difficult issues. TEC, BAKWATA and CCT deserve applause for doing what they have decided to do.

Deregistering shoddy contractors partial but still important remedy

TANZANIA stands to witness the birth of a new drive to spruce up the construction industry, what with the recent directive by President John Magufuli to ministerial bodies to deregister incompetent contractors, saying his administration would not entertain or tolerate shoddy works.

As in most reform moves in the JPM government, the order stands a big chance of being taken up with zeal, and should work.

The president issued this directive when opening a two-day joint meeting of the Contractors Registration Board (CRB), the Engineers Registration Board (ERB) and the Architects and Quantity Surveyors Registration Board (AQRB).

These are qualified supervisory agencies for the industries and are expected to serve as arms of the ministry in ensuring that the sector operates properly and diligently, as implementation of public works heavily depends on contractors' attitudes and performance. It means that contractors feel, or ought to feel, the compulsion to perform.

Dr Magufuli was emphatic that underperforming contractors should not be tolerated and should not be allowed in the country, querying how the construction of a dam in Mbeya Region has taken more than 12 years and is still incomplete.

He also cited the case of a borehole in the same region on which work has been in progress for a very long time, with public authorities having spent more than 400m/- without the job being completed.

It is quite possible that the problem is routine, if a complete register of such projects were to be prepared and made public.

But while it is true that deregistration would serve as a deterrent, it is evident that would be but a limited solution, as

what is dissolved is the company - not the professionals running it.

The men and women behind whatever mess there would be would continue being professionals and could at worst assume different capacities.

That could prove a burden if their names turned up in a contractual bid, as they would likely be turned down. But if controls are loose, they would just switch companies or rename the same firms and work as earlier, as sometime happens.

The president similarly advised the contractors to respect their professional code of ethics so as to regain the "lost glory" of their profession, which he said has been tainted by massive corruption and cheating.

He wished that the entire profession see the construction industry as a respectable and important profession impossible to twist through bribes or financial hand-outs from unscrupulous clients or investors.

Yet, given the hugely competitive world we are in, where does the buck stop but with public authorities - who ought to keep their ethical codes?

In the final analysis, the real sphere of changing ethical orientation is in the government itself, as private sector companies don't really call the shots but often capitalise on opportunities.

At most the firms can offer inducements if the contractor has any social contact with the relevant public officer, but finally it is the lack of diligence on the part of public sector supervisors that enables shoddy work to be conducted.

This is what the president found out in relation to the gold and tanzanite exports issue: that public agencies sleep on the job, especially thanks to accepting inducements. The state has control over its own employees and can do little to change behaviour in the private sector as they test sensitivity and act.


CAPE TOWN

AFRICAN business leaders are less optimistic about the strength of the global economy and their organisations' ability to grow revenues in both the short and medium term than they were a year ago. A quarter of African CEOs believe that the global economy will decline over the next 12 months.

These are some of the key findings from the 7th edition of PwC's Africa Business Agenda 2019 report, launched at the biannual World Economic Forum on Africa here on Wednesday.

The unease about global economic growth is also dampening CEOs' confidence about their own companies' outlook in the short term, with only 27 per cent of the chief executives stating they are 'very confident' in their own companies' prospects for revenue growth over the next 12 months.

Furthermore, only 39 per cent say they are 'very confident' about their organisations' growth prospects over the next three years.

Commenting on the survey findings, PwC Africa CEO Dion Shango says: "As they look forward to the year ahead, African CEOs are less confident about the prospects for the global economy than they were a year ago. The same is true when they consider the prospects for their own organisation's growth."

Elaborates Shango: "In Africa, economic and policy uncertainty, among other issues, have cast some doubt upon business leaders' hopes for immediate and future growth. Although there is a drop in optimism, African business leaders do see some opportunities on the continent - but overall, they are playing it safe."

The Agenda compiles results from a survey of 83 CEOs across 19 African countries. The results are benchmarked against the findings of PwC's 22nd Annual Global CEO survey of more than 1,300 CEOs, conducted during the 4th quarter of last year.

The Agenda provides an in-depth analysis and insights into how businesses are adapting to meet the challenges of operating in Africa.

Despite the current economic climate and other challenges, though, there is noticeable optimism among business leaders about the potential to unlock more growth on the continent.

While the US, China and the UK continue to be the most dominant traditional markets for growth opportunities, it is noted that 20 per cent of African CEOs 'don't know' where else to look for growth and 5 per cent say there is 'no other country' they would look to. The report suggests that this may reflect the current economic and political climate.

Ongoing economic, social and political uncertainty is a perennial worry for CEOs globally, not least for those in Africa. Concerns over policy uncertainty, shortage of skills, over-regulation and exchange rate volatility

Africa's CEOs continue hunt for room to grow amid uncertainties



lead the long list of risks causing anxiety for CEOs in all regions.

What stands out in these findings is that a consistently higher proportion of African CEOs say they are 'extremely concerned' about these issues compared to their global peers.

While this is troubling both for businesses and the countries in which they operate, it is noteworthy that the proportion of CEOs who are concerned has in many cases declined since the previous survey.

For instance, 39 per cent of African CEOs were concerned about social instability this year (global: 18 per cent) - this was a significant improvement on the previous year's results (50 per cent), suggesting that in many countries conditions are 'less bad' than they were before.

Africa's CEOs are mostly concerned about social, political and economic threats, with 41 per cent 'extremely concerned' about uncertain economic growth (global 24 per cent), unemployment (Africa 33 per cent; global 13 per cent; populism (Africa 33 per cent; global 28 per cent), exchange rate volatility (Africa 42 per cent; global 26 per cent) and inadequate basic infrastructure (Africa 35 per cent; global 17 per cent).

Of business threats, 43 per cent of African CEOs (compared to 35 per cent globally) said they were 'extremely concerned' about over regulation, 35 per cent (compared to 30 per cent globally) cited cyber threats, and 45 per cent (compared to 34 per cent globally) were 'extremely concerned' about the availability of key skills.

It is notable that trade conflicts and protectionism do not make the top ten list of concerns in Africa. In fact, there are a few countries in Africa that stand to benefit from trade tensions elsewhere.

While some of these issues present barriers to business and trade,

there are also fresh prospects for revenue growth because of new trade arrangements. As the rest of the world is embroiled in trade conflicts, African countries are looking at opening their markets to trade.

The African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) is at the centre of this activity. The agreement establishes the Continent Free Trade Area - the largest in the world in terms of participating countries since the formation of the World Trade Organisation in 1992.

In general, African countries don't trade much with each other. Currently, trade on the continent forms less than 3 per cent of global trade. The low trade figure is due to several issues, among them poor infrastructure on the continent, high tariff rates on imports, bureaucracy and red tape, and problems at border posts.

"To boost economic growth on the continent, it is vital that African countries improve trading with each other and invest in infrastructure to drive trade," says Shango.

A large proportion of African CEOs (93 per cent) are 'somewhat confident' or 'very confident' about their organisations' prospects for revenue growth over the next three years - higher than the global average of 85 per cent. Faced with uncertainty around current markets, CEOs are turning inwards to drive revenue growth.

African CEOs identified operational efficiencies (Africa 80 per cent; global 77 per cent), organic growth (Africa 76 per cent; global 71 per cent) and the launch of a new product and service (Africa 58 per cent; global 62 per cent) as their primary drivers of revenue growth.

Only 36 per cent of African CEOs (global 37 per cent) said they would look enter a new market in pursuit of revenue growth.

The forces of globalisation and

technology are transforming the workplace. A high percentage of African CEOs (83 per cent) ranked technological advances among the top three trends to have transformed the workplace most in the past five years.

Despite massive investments in technology, CEOs identified a vast gap between the data they need to inform decision-making and the adequacy of the data they receive. African CEOs say the primary reasons for this include data siloing ('isolation') and a lack of sharing of information (Africa 59 per cent; global 51 per cent), as well as poor data reliability (Africa 57 per cent; global 50 per cent).

Most CEOs in Africa are taking a wait-and-see approach to the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the workplace - currently 35 per cent (global 23 per cent) of CEOs have no plans in place to pursue AI initiatives right now, but 46 per cent (global 35 per cent) have plans to launch AI projects in the next three years.

African business leaders are looking to governments to assist with the management of AI. Most CEOs (Africa 76 per cent; global 65 per cent) believe that governments should incentivise organisations to retrain workers whose jobs are automated by AI.

Shango notes: "As social, political and economic events shift the boardroom, African CEOs need to step forward to make a meaningful contribution and rebuild confidence for the long term. Business has an essential role to play in building and fostering trust in society and CEOs should embrace the responsibilities and trust this brings."

PwC has a presence in 34 African countries with an office footprint covering 66 offices. With a single Africa leadership team and more than 400 partners and 9,000 professionals across the continent, it serves some of the continent's largest businesses across all industries.

What is driving sub-Saharan Africa's rapid rise in drug use?

BY ZACHARY DONNENFELD

THE number of drug users in sub-Saharan Africa is expected to increase by nearly 150% by 2050, according to new research by the ENACT programme at the Institute for Security Studies, in partnership with the Frederick S Pardee Center for International Futures.

This is just a 5% increase in the proportion of its population experimenting with illicit substances relative to today. But the projected population growth in sub-Saharan Africa means the continent will experience the largest growth in the number of absolute users of any region on the globe.

This is in contrast to a roughly 70% increase in South Asia, a developing region also set to experience a rapid escalation in the number of drug users by 2050, as illustrated by the figure below.

Research on the effects of illicit drug consumption has largely been restricted to the developed world. Some investigations into the role that developing countries play in international drug markets have been done, but there hasn't been much research into the local effects of increased drug usage in these countries. The focus has largely been on developing regions as sites of production or transportation, rather than consumption.

The new ENACT study reveals several interesting findings. For one, illicit drug consumption in sub-Saharan Africa is already quite high. At 1.6% of the adult population, drug prevalence levels are higher in sub-Saharan Africa than in Latin America and the Caribbean or South Asia, though not as high as in Europe and Central Asia.

There are many forces driving this surge in drug prevalence. Africa is persistently young, increasingly affluent and rapidly urbanising - all factors that elevate the probability that a person will decide to use illicit substances.

The continent also suffers from high levels of poverty and inequality, which



the World Health Organization has found creates additional stress factors that make a person more likely to engage in risky behaviour. There are also cultural factors that can make people more (or less) likely to use drugs.

Some traditional societies are able to rely on customs and norms to deter at-risk individuals from using drugs. But other, often more liberal, societies may be more easily influenced by a westernised culture - due to the ubiquity of the internet and social media - that is more tolerant of drug use. There is also research to suggest that the actual substance that people experiment with is highly elastic and influenced by a number of factors like availability, popularity and relative cost.

This means Africa will see roughly 14 million additional drug users on the continent in 2050, on top of the nearly 10 million using drugs today. This will obviously create new issues around law enforcement and criminal justice in many African countries, but it will also place public health systems on the continent under enormous stress.

Many countries in Africa are already experiencing a 'double burden' of disease, characterised by high rates of

More data could help curb the continent's increase in the use of illegal substances. File photo

communicable and non-communicable diseases. Adding a sudden and potentially unexpected influx of problem drug users into a health system already struggling to provide basic services like vaccinations or neonatal care could be a recipe for disaster.

African countries need additional capacity within existing health programmes to deal with this new problem, but they also need more educational programmes to make the youth aware of the dangers of drug use. There are also preventive programmes, like clean needle exchanges, decriminalisation of certain substances and universal access to modern contraception, that can help stem some of the pernicious effects of drug use.

Two of Africa's five regions are forecast to be particularly affected by the rapid rise in drug users. With nearly six million users today, West Africa accounts for the majority of drug users in Africa. While the absolute number of users is projected to balloon to over 13 million, its share as a proportion of total drug users in Africa will remain relatively constant.

East Africa is forecast to experience

the most rapid rise in the proportion of its population using illicit drugs. Compared to West Africa, where drug use is forecast to roughly double between now and 2050, in East Africa drug use is projected to nearly triple, going from about two million today to about 5.5 million in 2050.

East Africa is the continent's most rapidly urbanising region, with a large youth population that is experiencing a growth in disposable income and improved gender equality. Women in countries that enjoy greater equality across genders are more likely to use drugs than in countries where women generally lack freedom and equality, other things being equal.

While this research represents an important step forward, much remains unknown about drug use in Africa. In 2017, just one quarter of African states reported data to the UNODC, compared to more than 60% in South and East Asian countries. Only two African countries reported data on opiate use in 2017 - Tunisia and South Africa.

Zachary Donnensfeld, Senior Research Consultant, African Futures and Innovation, ISS

Another political crisis hovers over Côte d'Ivoire

BY MOHAMED M DIATTA

AS Côte d'Ivoire heads towards its 2020 presidential elections, the question facing the international community - particularly the African Union (AU), its Peace and Security Council (PSC) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) - is what role they should play in Côte d'Ivoire's peacebuilding and democratic consolidation.

The country's current political context presents major challenges in the lead-up to the elections. Political alliances between major allies are shifting, there are disagreements around the reform of the electoral commission, an apparent muzzling of dissenting (opposition and civil society) voices, and a military that doesn't seem sufficiently integrated.

The spectre of another political crisis is hovering over Côte d'Ivoire. African and international institutions should engage all Ivorian stakeholders to help them iron out their differences to ensure a peaceful electoral campaign and election.

The United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel is said to be trying to defuse political tensions while both the government and opposition have petitioned the AU. However a recent communiqué by AU Commission chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat expressing satisfaction with the new electoral commission upset the Ivorian opposition and has tainted the commission's impartiality.

Côte d'Ivoire slid into instability after the military overthrew Aimé Henri Konan Bédié in December 1999 and put General Robert Guéi in power. Despite the relative calm brought about by the Linas-Marcoussis (2003), Accra (2004) and Pretoria (2005) agreements, the country remained divided between the north and south. The 2007 Ouagadougou agreement, another peace attempt, reunited the territory and resolved the crucial question of the eligibility criteria for the presidency, which had excluded Alassane Ouattara from the race.

The disputed outcomes of the October 2010 presidential election again plunged Côte d'Ivoire into crisis,



claiming more than 3 000 lives. Laurent Gbagbo refused to yield power to Ouattara, after first one and then the other was declared the winner by key electoral management bodies (the Constitutional Council and the Independent Electoral Commission respectively).

The institutional question concerning the electoral process - and therefore the impartiality of electoral management bodies - wasn't really resolved, despite it forming an integral part of the various agreements.

Today government, opposition and some in civil society openly disagree on the Independent Electoral Commission's (CEI) latest reforms. These were recently adopted by a parliament largely dominated by the ruling party, the Rally of Houphouëtists for Democracy and Peace (RHDP).

In 2016 the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights ordered the Ivorian government to reform the CEI. The adoption of the new framework for the CEI's composition, however, was neither unanimous nor consensual. The opposition has denounced a balance of power that still favours the ruling party, which would keep control over one of the key electoral management bodies.

Mutinies in the Ivorian army in 2017 and 2018 add to the political dissension. The rumble - which also involves soldiers demobilised in 2011 - began in Bouaké, the former rebels' head-

The AU and Economic Community of West African States must prevent the country from being torn apart again. File photo

quarters. Many of these rebels have since been integrated into the Ivorian regular army. Former rebels asked the government to make bonus payments dating back to 2011, when they backed Ouattara after Gbagbo's refusal to abdicate power.

In 2010 the electoral contest revolved around three major political parties - Bédié's Democratic Party of Côte d'Ivoire - African Democratic Rally (PDCI-RDA), Gbagbo's Ivorian Popular Front (FPI) and Ouattara's Rally of the Republicans. The last two reached the second round, after which Bédié rallied behind Ouattara under the RHDP platform. The recent transformation of the RHDP into a unified political party doesn't have the approval of all members of the platform, especially the PDCI-RDA.

Bédié - who in September 2014 launched the so-called 'Daoukro call' to vote for Ouattara in the first round of the 2015 presidential election - denounced Ouattara for reneging on his promise to support a PDCI-RDA candidate in 2020. Bédié is now attempting a rapprochement with Gbagbo's FPI and other political parties ahead of the 2020 election campaign.

Guillaume Soro (National Assembly president until February 2019 and former secretary-general of the rebel Forces Nouvelles that helped bring Ouattara to power in 2011), having also refused to join the RHDP, is positioning

himself for 2020. He has rallied some support around him, and is also said to be in talks with Bédié.

An alliance among Bédié, Gbagbo and Soro for the 2020 presidential election would undoubtedly shake Ouattara's regime. Gbagbo, Ouattara, Bédié and Soro were the main signatories of the 2005 Pretoria agreement. Since then, alliances have been formed and disbanded and continue to play a major role in Ivorian political life.

The country must be prevented from being torn apart again by partisan and personal interests. While the primary responsibility for peace rests with the country's main political (and military) actors, the AU and ECOWAS could help.

The AU, in particular its PSC, is mandated to prevent conflicts in Africa. Côte d'Ivoire has had a turbulent history since the demise of Félix Houphouët-Boigny and the subsequent division of the country. The continent should have supported Côte d'Ivoire more sustainably.

When Gbagbo refused to leave power in 2011, the PSC suspended Côte d'Ivoire while ECOWAS threatened to take military action to dislodge him. These two institutions should have worked more resolutely on supporting national reconciliation to address the crisis.

Mohamed M Diatta, Researcher, PSC Report, ISS Addis Ababa

Africa rising in changing world

BEIJING

ONE year ago, at the opening ceremony of the 2018 Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, Chinese President Xi Jinping said Africa's development has great potential adding that the continent is full of hope.

In the first decade of the 21st century, six of the world's 10 fastest-growing economies were in sub-Saharan Africa. After decades of efforts to catch up, Africa now has a real chance to achieve stable development, accelerate its integration process and raise its international status.

STABILIZED POLITICS
Between 1896 and 1901, British colonists built a meter gauge railway in Kenya to link the port of Mombasa and Uganda to tighten control of the "British East Africa," a proof of the continent's history of colonial oppression.

It was only after the 1960s and 1970s that most African countries emerged from many decades of colonial rule after a long and arduous struggle.

Afterwards, however, the dark cloud of colonialism still shadowed the continent with many of these countries plunged into turbulence due to historical issues such as boundary demarcation, tribal and religious conflicts left by Western colonialists.

Such factors as the imitation of the western political system, the lack of governance capacity by various African governments, and the intervention and manipulation of foreign forces also fueled the turmoil.

Drawing on the bitter history lessons, African countries realized that development could not be achieved without a stable political environment.

Since the beginning of the 21st century, African countries have gradually embarked on the road of unity and cooperation, peace and development.

The launch of the African Union in 2002 marked a milestone in Africa's journey towards regional and continental integration, after which Africa has achieved unprecedented progress through internal cooperation and self-reliance, gradually stabilized its political situation and risen as one of the fastest-growing regions in the world.

A research book issued by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences said that electoral chaos in African countries has declined significantly since 2010. With increasing political stability, the vast majority of African countries increased their global competitiveness between 2011 and 2016.

WIN-WIN COOPERATION

On May 31, 2017, the first passenger train with a Kenyan flag painted on its front departed from Mombasa West Station amid loud whistles, signaling that the Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), designed and constructed by Chinese enterprises, was completed and opened to traffic.

Unlike the old meter gauge railway, which served the interests of colonialist powers, the 470-km SGR,

the largest infrastructure project since Kenya's independence, has created 46,000 jobs for the locals and trained 1,600 railway professionals.

The two railways across Kenya bear witness to the profound changes that Africa has been undergoing over the past century, a microcosm of the reshaping of Africa's relations with the world.

In recent years, developing countries, as a group, have risen to gain increasing prominence in the world, creating conditions for Africa to accelerate its modernization by leveraging the capability of emerging economies.

Ethiopia, the second most populous country in Africa with about 100 million inhabitants, was once one of the least developed countries in the world. But from 2005 to 2016, the country's economy grew at an average annual rate of 10.8 percent.

Such impressive achievements cannot be scored without the efforts of the Ethiopian government and people, and they also benefit from the industrial parks and infrastructure projects built with the help of China, demonstrating Ethiopia's willingness to learn from China's development experience.

China has been the largest trading partner of Africa for 10 consecutive years, with an accumulated investment of over 110 billion U.S. dollars in the continent. China's exemplary cooperation with Africa boosted other countries' cooperation with the continent whose trade with India increased from some 7 billion dollars in 2001 to more than 70 billion dollars in 2014, and volume of imports from Russia and Turkey increased by 142 percent and 192 percent, respectively, between 2006 and 2016.

PROMISING FUTURE

African leaders in July officially launched the operational phase of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement, a move aimed at charting the path of development for the continent.

Facing both challenges and opportunities brought by the future, Africa is tasked to seize the opportunity provided by the changing international circumstances to amplify Africa's voice internationally, ensure long-term social stability and sustained economic development and further improve state governance and eliminate corruption to the satisfaction of their people.

Such proposals to promote international cooperation as the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative have facilitated Africa's economic and trade relations with emerging economies. "Africa has the youngest population. It's the future of the world."

By some count, by the end of the century, one in three people will be Africans in the world," said Cobus Van Staden, a senior researcher on China-Africa at the South African Institute of International Affairs.

"Africa should have a much bigger say to where the world is going," he said. "The only way for Africa to gain more of a say is to take a large part of the economy. Growth is incredibly important." **Xinhua**

Why microeconomic policies just cannot work if macroeconomic policies are wrong

By Mark Swilling and Gael Girard

JUST because an economic policy does not refer to macroeconomic policies does not mean it isn't a macroeconomic policy.

We disagree with those who say "the problem with National Treasury's economic policy document is that it is only about microeconomics". True, the document does not explicitly refer to what most respectable economic policies address in the world today, namely the changes needed to monetary and fiscal policy in order to address the challenges of the day.

What it does refer to is "macro-economic stabilisation".

Buried within that seemingly logical phrase is a bold claim: our macroeconomic framework is secure and tight, all we need to worry about now are the microeconomic details. This is the formulation that lies at the heart of all our economic policies since 1994. If this was an appropriate approach, why then are there more poor South Africans today than there were in 1994? Why do over 90% of all assets remain owned by 10% of the population? Why is unemployment just as bad today as it was in 1994? When it comes to economic policy, the only lesson we South Africans seem to learn is that we don't learn from our mistakes.

What does "macroeconomic stabilisation" refer to? In essence, it refers to limiting the role of the state to ensuring that fiscal policy does not lead to the debt to GDP ratio rising above 60%. And it refers to the role of the SARB as the guarantor of a hawkish monetary policy that maintains the inflation target of around 4.5% no matter the consequences for employment levels. If these two numbers are fixed and non-negotiable, then yes, the cornerstones of macroeconomic policy are set. If macroeconomic policies cannot be discussed, then we only have microeconomic instruments to address our mega-challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality.

But is this the only way to configure our economic policy framework? Why do we assume that the debt to GDP ratio should be 60% when no developed country has achieved economic development without going way above 60%? Why do we assume that an inflation target of 4.5% prevents runaway inflation when most of our inflation is caused by global market dynamics that affect the price of stuff we import, especially oil?

Reading the National Treasury document is like arriving in Havana: everyone drives cars from a bygone era

because Cuba was isolated by the US blockade. National Treasury drives a general equilibrium model from a bygone era. Both result in cognitive dissonance. Somehow National Treasury did not notice that in the (northern) summer of 2016, the high priests of economic policy declared that general equilibrium models that everyone uses are no longer useful.

Paul Romer, Nobel Prize winner for economics and Chief Economist of the World Bank at the time, wrote a paper (that lost him his job) where he declared, "For more than three decades, macroeconomics has gone backwards..."

Olivier Blanchard, in a paper he wrote a month after resigning as Chief Economist of the IMF, said, "I see the current DSGE models as seriously flawed...."

Narayana Kocherlakota, Rochester University Professor of Economics and former President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, declared, "...we simply do not have a settled successful theory of the macroeconomy. The choices made 25-40 years ago - made then for a number of excellent reasons - should not be treated as written in stone or even in pen."

These statements from the high priests of mainstream economics are the equivalent of the pope renouncing Catholicism. And yet, reading the National Treasury document, one wonders if the National Treasury has read these papers? And if so, would it not be more honest to open up the general equilibrium model for public scrutiny? And we all need to ask whether there is an alternative non-equilibrium model that may generate more contextually appropriate results?

During the post-World War II era until the 1980s, mainstream Keynesian economics was premised on the assumption that fiscal policy must be used to stimulate investment during recessionary times (increased spend and/or lower taxes) supported by monetary policy (lower interest rates), and during growth times fiscal policy must reduce investment (less public spending and/or higher taxes) and save supported by monetary policy (higher interest rates).

The underlying assumption was that economies tend towards disequilibrium and therefore state intervention is rational.

This consensus was shattered by the rise of the neoliberals who argued that the fiscal crisis of the state after the oil crisis of the early 1970s must be resolved by shrinking the state, limiting fiscal spending, prioritising inflation



targeting using monetary policy and balancing budgets (i.e. limiting debt).

Armed with the new computing power delivered by the information technology revolution, elaborate extremely elegant mathematical general equilibrium models were built and installed by World Bank and IMF teams into the beating heart of economic policymaking in governments across the world. These "pacemakers" resulted in a kind of intellectual monocropping that allowed economists to abstract out everything about the real economy that really mattered (in particular the declining energy returns on energy invested since the 1990s).

Debate, of course, became non-essential. This Nintendo generation of econometricians gained enormous power and prestige. The end result was the financialisation of the global economy, a shift from investment-led inclusive growth over a sustained period of time to debt-funded consumer-driven volatile economic growth. Meantime, the state-driven Chinese economy became the world's producer. As banks were deregulated, the money they issued as debt massively expanded the total quantity of cash available to drive a consumer boom that made everyone think that depression was a thing of the past.

Economists claim that data matters. While we both know that the only way a bad theory is replaced is when a better theory comes along, let's take a look at the data. Take the relationship between money supply and inflation. For neoliberals, increasing money supply should trigger inflation. This never happened. The graph shows what happened in the US economy: an increase in money supply as a result of Quantitative Easing (2008, 2011 and 2013) resulted in inflation that is essentially flat (if you remove the volatility).

In orthodox models, if public debt goes up, so should the spread on treasury bonds (i.e. less demand for them pushes up the interest rate to compensate for the risk). This also did not happen. The graph shows a substantial increase in public debt in the US economy between 2005 and 2014 (itself contrary to what neo-liberals would have preferred), but the spread in the ten year Treasury bond generally declined.

According to GE models and following the anti-Keynesianism of renowned economist Alberta Alesina (whose models were later proven to be wrong), fiscal contraction should lead to economic recovery because more space is created for private sector investment. In reality, this did not happen. The table shows that during the period of fiscal tightening between 2008 and 2012, the opposite happened. According to this IMF data, the more fiscal austerity there was, the lower the growth rate, with Greece being the poster child of this fantasy.

National Treasury has launched a new austerity drive despite the call by an ex-Treasury official to do the opposite.

Even mainstream economists who are essentially neo-liberals but influenced by Keynesian thinking have broken away from Alesina's misguided notion of "contractionary expansion".

Leading economists like Larry Summers, Olivier Blanchard and Jason Furman are all calling for a return to expansionary fiscal policies precisely because the evidence now shows this "sucks in" rather than "pushes out" private sector investment. Again, is National Treasury hearing this?

So there is an alternative and it comes from so-called heterodox economists. The starting point is a shift from the supply side to demand-side economic policy thinking.

Underpinning this is an acceptance that economies tend towards disequilibrium, and therefore state-led directionality and intervention is a necessity. The focus would be aggregate demand, employment creation, and inflation targeting would be subordinated to wider economic goals. Fiscal policy would lead and monetary policy would support macro-economic goals. Investment levels would be the primary focus and measurement of progress would not be GDP per capita, but overall wellbeing (following the lead set by New Zealand).

In this configuration, the state's role as a driver of development - via, in particular, the development finance institutions - would become a reality. A new generation of coordinated institutional arrangements would be established to coordinate the deployment and allocation of public and private capital towards building and supporting a pro-

ductive, innovative economy and a revitalised socio-economic infrastructure.

This way of derisking investment holds the key to ending the private sector investment strike that persists despite words to the contrary at the Investment Summit. To respond to this by saying savings levels are too low to sustain investment-led growth is to totally miss the point. Banks create money by issuing debt. When this goes into consumption and not production, that is when things go wrong.

The state has the instruments to intervene to direct the flow of investment.

This approach would require the adequate regulation of domestic finance and management of cross-border economic flows. It would require reshaping and reforming financial markets to move away from high short-term returns and the maximisation of shareholder value that requires them to behave speculatively and exploitatively in domestic markets. Instead, the focus would be on the building of financial markets that serve the country's socio-economic developmental goals.

This alternative approach would require increased government spending and rising debt to GDP ratios to support industrial policy and the improvement of the outcomes in the education and health sectors. To prevent these funds from being depleted through rent seeking, ring-fenced institutional arrangements that blend public and private funding will be required. This will ensure that funding achieves the desired goals.

The entire macroeconomic literature has no compelling evidence on what the debt to GDP ratio should be. The famous Reinhart and Rogoff paper on this subject⁵ said that it was only at levels of debt to GDP above 90% that a negative impact on GDP growth appears. Even though the datawork in this paper was thoroughly discredited, the consensus now is that there is no universal threshold applicable to all contexts - if anything, it is higher than 90%.

Only three of the G7 countries are below 90% (Canada, UK and Germany), and none are below 60% (with Germany only coming close). In the most advanced models today, at least three other variables influence public debt levels: the employment rate, the

labour share (of the GDP) and the private debt/GDP ratio. From this perspective, the inflation-focussed National Treasury model is crude and totally inappropriate for the SA context.

Ultimately, we need to face a simple reality: given our realities, and given that austerity will not stimulate growth under these circumstances, why must monetary and fiscal policy remain sacrosanct, and therefore non-negotiable? No country achieved its development targets with low inflation and a 60% debt to GDP ratio. Why do we think we can do it? And what have we got to fear? If savings are low and we want to end the investment strike, why not increase debt to stimulate growth in ways that will make it possible to pay off the debt? Surely the alternative is worse: rising debt levels to mitigate the consequences of low growth in a high unemployment environment to stave off a revolution.

Given our challenges, the important question is not the size of the fiscal multiplier (i.e. spending to GDP growth ratio), but how the fiscal multiplier becomes a policy variable for determining how government should spend and invest. This means doing the calculations as to what investments will generate the best returns (financial, as well as developmental).

And here there is much in the National Treasury document that is useful. For example, the emphasis on removing restrictions on renewable energy in the IRP and no mention of nuclear is an obvious case in point: the returns on renewable energy investments are obvious now that it costs 60c/KWh compared to coal at R1.05 c/KWh.

These new methods for assessing the socio-economic and environmental impact of blended public and private sector investments will shape the way institutions are configured to limit rent-seeking. The role of the DFIs - the IDC, DBSA, Land Bank and NEF - will be key.

In short, microeconomic interventions cannot work if the macro-economic framework is non-aligned with what is required. By only focussing on micro-economic strategies, we may well be unwittingly endorsing intellectually indefensible and developmentally irrational macro-economic assumptions.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD = 2 =

3 Letter word: NEW, ROT, TOP, TEA, ASP
4 Letter word: ANEW, TSAR, MEAL, LIST, LIPS, SO - SO
5 Letter word: TRUST, TOTAL, DINAR, PRIDE, RACES, ACRES, SIXTE
6 Letter word: URGENT, ODENSE, REPEAT, SEVERE, ARUSHA, STARVE
7 Letter word: ANNULAR, GODDESS
8 Letter word: TANZANIA, NEGATIVE

WORD FIT

CROSSWORDS

1. Semi-autonomous part of Tanzania (8)
2. Search intrusively (4,6)
3. Honey-making insect (3)
4. Largest country in the World (6)
5. Hoofed mammal (5)
6. Be secluded (6)
7. Historic centre of Zanzibar (5,4)
8. Part of surface (4)
9. Necessary (9)
10. Letters (8)
11. Run something aground (6)
12. Colored part of flower (5)
13. US unit of weight (3)
14. Gather together (5)
15. oil-fueled ships (6)
16. Tanzania National Parks (6)
17. Simple seat (5)
18. Insect living in colonies (3)
19. Trick, deceive (6)
20. Unit of South African currency (4)
21. Modern Dahomey (5)
22. Sound made by bird (5)
23. Male child (3)
24. Item of furniture with flat top (5)
25. Scaly green monster (6)

By Magezi . sanchezdamar@gmail.com 0789437305

SMEs the major drivers of Africa's food economy

By Isaiah Eshipu

VIOLA Kiptanui, a resident of Langas estate in the outskirts of Kenya's Eldoret town, has discovered a new way of life – eating only what she knows the source – thanks to a new smallholder entrepreneurship venture.

"Given the many health problems that have emerged, there is need for one to know exactly what they are feeding their families," said Kiptanui a mother of three children.

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Within the Langas shopping centre, residents stream to a newly-established grocery called 'iAgribizAfrica' to buy fresh green vegetables and fruits that are grown by Uasin Gishu County's smallholder farmers and sold directly to the grocery. "Such entrepreneurs represent a profound turnaround from mere decades ago," said Dr. Thomas Reardon of Michigan State University, a lead author of the latest Africa Agriculture Status Report (AASR).

The report, released on Sept. 3 on the sidelines of the Africa Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) in Accra, Ghana shows that entrepreneurs from small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are the main drivers of the food economy on the African continent.

According to the 220-page document compiled by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), 64 percent of total food consumed on the continent is sourced from SMEs, with only 16 percent coming from larger enterprises, and the remaining 20 percent being grown and eaten by farming households.

"There has been a 'Quiet Revolution' in agri-food private sector value chains linking small farmers to burgeoning urban markets and grow-

ing towns in Africa. This has spurred farmers' participation in food and farm input markets," said Reardon during a media briefing prior to the launch of the report.

These SMEs, often women-led, include food processors, wholesalers, and retailers, and they provide a range of services, from transport and logistics to the sale of inputs such as fertilisers and seed to farmers – says the report.

According to Rodgers Kirwa, a 27-year-old farmer and founder of iAgribizAfrica, there is a growing demand for food whose origin can be traced. "I started this business in 2018 and so far, I have 40 smallholder farmers within my network," he told IPS at the AGRF in Ghana.

The 40 farmers were all recruited and registered by the young entrepreneur, and at some point supported for farm inputs on credit in case of a pressing need.

"The idea is to have farmers we know very well, so that we can monitor what they are growing, advise them on farm inputs, and monitor how they are using them for the safety of our customers," said Kirwa.

Besides the entrepreneurship, Kirwa is a member of another online platform known as 'Mkulima Young' (young farmer) which was started with 10 partners, among them three young agronomists, two marketers, and social media enthusiasts. The platform now has 30,000 subscribers from Kenya and Uganda, mostly seeking information about farming enterprises. It is from this platform that farmers get answers to all their questions.

"SMEs are the biggest investors in building markets for farmers in Africa today, and will likely remain so for the next 10 to 20 years," said Dr. Agnes Kalibata, President of AGRA in a statement. "They are not a 'missing middle,' as is thought, but the 'hidden middle,' ready for support and investment to thrive further. Today, we bring them out into the light."

Contrary to common belief, the report shows



Smallholder farmers in Isiolo, Kenya sorting beans before sending them to the market in Nairobi. The latest Africa Agriculture Status Report (AASR) shows that small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are the main drivers of food economy on the African continent. (File photo)

that large enterprises play a relatively minor role in directly supporting small-scale farmers, and the food value chain in Africa.

"We live in a global market," Kalibata said. "Our job today is to ensure that these SMEs are grounded enough to provide the right kind of support to family farms; and to be competitive so that they can survive and thrive in an increasingly interconnected and global market," she said noting that the smallholder entrepreneurs' success will determine the future of agriculture and food security on the African continent.

However, according to Reardon, there are challenges. "The journey has taken off, but not flying in its full potential," said the lead researcher. "We need sound policies that will support these SMEs, good infrastructure and capacity building for them," he said.

So far, governments that have invested in this have already registered a positive impact.

In Ghana, for example, the government has subsidised the cost of fertilisers by 50 percent, an intervention programme that has been in place since 2008 when the country ran into a food crisis due to poor yields,

according to Dr. Owusu Afriyie Akoto, the country's Minister of Food and Agriculture. "This has been a huge success, and farmers have more than enough produce from their farms at the moment," he told journalists at the AGRF.

According to Vanessa Adams, Vice President of Country Support and Delivery at AGRA, there is need to use appropriate technologies and available food systems to ensure that what is produced is sold at the right time.

"Bumper harvests are fantastic, but not after market crashes," she said.

Will the Uganda-Tanzania business forum boost trade?

TANZANIA and Uganda are expected to host the first ever bilateral meeting that is geared towards boosting trade and cooperation between the two countries. The two-day summit that starts today in Dar es Salaam is expected to bring together over 500 delegates representing government, private sector and international trade and business groups. Manzi Rwegasira (pictured), Head of Corporate and Investment Banking from Stanbic Bank Tanzania—one of the key partners summit, shares his views on what stakeholders from the two countries are expecting to get from the conference.

QUESTION: What is the status of trade between Uganda and Tanzania?

ANSWER: Tanzania and Uganda share long-standing relations and are very close strategic partners and as you may be aware, the two countries have a joint permanent commission that has been on session this week. This signifies how Uganda and Tanzania value cooperation and bilateral engagement. However, there is still room to expand trade. In 2016 for example, Uganda's exports to Tanzania was valued at around US\$69 million (159bn/-), this is significant, but with summits like the one tomorrow, we can boost bilateral trade to new levels.

Q: What are the current opportunities?

A: The opportunities are limitless. Tanzania has one of the largest ports in East Africa whereas Uganda is landlocked. With the upcoming Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), Uganda has a unique opportunity to tap into this and import goods through Tanzania's ports with so much more ease and convenience. Additionally, Uganda is just about to start exporting its oil and Tanzania has shown willingness to support in providing an enabling platform for this. In a few years, we expect trade volumes will have doubled.

Q: What is the role of private



sector in boosting trade?

A: Trade is largely private sector driven. It is private businesses that produce goods and services for export. It is our role in

the private sector to ensure that we financially support manufacturers and traders and for the governments to support with right infrastructure and progressive policies. That said, at Stanbic Bank, we have provided support to both the government and private sector to boost domestic and international trade. This is in the form of loans to large and medium sized businesses as well as infrastructure loans to governments. This in totality boosts productivity in the respective countries by empowering the financial success of the people and businesses. We therefore see more jobs being created and stronger efficient companies running, hence fast economic growth.

Q: What should delegates expect from the summit?

A: The summit will feature a business exhibition aimed at facilitating extensive business to business (B2B) engagement opportunities to unlock new private sector partnerships between the two countries. Participants should look forward to enlightening presentations and numerous informative plenary sessions that will help businesses understand positive policy changes that aim at improving ease of doing business. However, of most importance is the new business opportunities and deals that will be signed. Since the summit will be attended by the two heads of state, we hope that there is potential of signing

the formal Host Government Agreements for the pipeline project and other related bilateral agreements that have been in the works.

Q: What are the challenges to trade between Uganda and Tanzania?

A: One of the key challenges that I hope will be addressed during the sessions in the summit, is the education and creation of awareness around the positive trade policies that some traders are yet to fully understand. Through plenary sessions and engagement with policy-makers, traders have a unique chance to navigate key non-tariff barriers and boost cross-border trade.



Azania Bank retail banking manager Thobias Samwel (R) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday to announce winners of the second edition of the bank's 'Amsha Ndoto' raffle yesterday. Left is Tanzania Gaming Board official Humud Semvua. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Flight-shaming poses a clear danger to Africa's tourism, operators say

By Dorine Reinstein

FLIGHT-shaming has become the latest worldwide travel trend with environmental activists attempting to guilt people into taking fewer flights. As flying contributes to more than 2% of carbon emissions globally, activists urge vacationers to travel by train or boat instead. Even Britain's Prince

Harry and his wife, Meghan Markle, faced heavy criticism this month after using private jets to fly to the south of Europe.

Now, the 16-year-old Swedish climate change activist Greta Thunberg, who has been a powerful force in the flight-shaming movement, has arrived in New York for the United Nations Climate Summit – and she made the

trip by zero-emissions sailboat.

Tour operators in Africa have started to feel the impact of the flight-shaming movement. At the recent Conference of the Southern African Tourism Services Association (Satsa), tour operators reported they are receiving concerned calls from travelers who are worried about the environmental

impact of their flight and are even considering canceling their flights.

According to Colin Bell of the Conservation Action Trust, this new movement is gathering momentum and, if not handled sensitively, it could have a material impact on the conservation of Africa's wildlife places as well as the long-term conservation and prosperity of

South Africa's great parks and wildernesses, which rely so heavily on the tourist trade.

"I know of guests who have nearly canceled their travels until it was explained to them what their safari monies sustain in Africa and why Africa needs to increase tourism arrivals if we are going to effectively conserve our wild places,"

Bank announces winners of 'Amsha Ndoto' campaign

By Guardian Reporter

AZANIA Bank Limited (ABL) yesterday announced winners of the second edition of the campaign dubbed, 'Amsha Ndoto' whose aim is to enlighten and encourage its customers and Tanzanians in general to adopt a saving culture in order to have a financially-stable future.

The campaign that runs for three months started on June 27 and will last until September 27. It involves the bank's existing and new customers with the main focus being on two core saving products, namely; Ziada Account and Watoto Account.

In August, the first draw of the campaign was held by ABL and three winners were announced, winning a total of 8m/-.

Announcing this month's winners, ABL's Retail Banking Manager, Thobias Samwel, said that the bank was honoring its promise to award potential winners who participated in the promotional campaign in which they would receive personalized awards to assist them achieve their dreams.

"In last month's draw, we got winners from Arusha, Tunduma and Dar es Salaam and they were all awarded accordingly," Samwel said. According to Samwel, the winners of this month's draw are; with (amount won in brackets) Lucas Brian Temu from Mwanza (3m/-), Amos Wankara Nyansada from Geita (3m/-), and Alye Awadh from Geita (2m/-).

With one more month before the campaign comes to an end, Samwel said, those eligible to participate in the campaign are the bank's existing customers with savings not less than 1m/-.

The customers will then qualify for a draw whereby all those with the required deposits will enjoy 6 percent interest rate on their savings during the campaign period and throughout the year.

Congratulating the winners, Samwel encouraged more customers to join the competition, noting that they stand a high chance of receiving mouth-watering awards besides guaranteeing themselves a bright financial future through their savings.

According to Samwel, 'Ziada Akaunti' is designed specifically for individuals as well as small businessmen and women. The account offers very affordable rates and the holder can deposit any time while able to withdraw after three months.

He added that, 'Watoto Akaunti' is opened by parents to deposit money for the future use of their children. "We encourage all the parents and guardians to open Watoto Account for their children so as to be assured of a safe and secure future for their children. This way, they will not suffer, wondering on how to prepare their children for the future," said Samwel, noting that Watoto Account also serves as a yardstick for preparing the children to learn how to save from a tender age.

The promotion, whose tagline is: 'Fani-kisha Ndoto Yake na Weka Akiba Ushinde Tumuwezeshe ada ya shule', is communicated through different digital media channels such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google Display placement and the local websites. ABL has also created a microsite landing page for signing up of new clients and can also be accessed through the link: amshandoto.com.

Growth, distribution and race: The future of South Africa

BY JAKKIE CILLIERS

IN mid-2019 South Africa finds itself in a situation reminiscent of 13 years ago when, in largely similar conditions, the Nelson Mandela/Thabo Mbeki administration was forced to abandon the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP). The RDP was the basis for the 1994 election partnership between the African National Congress and labour.

Instead the party embarked on the Growth, Employment and Redistribution (GEAR) strategy. The policies associated with GEAR remain controversial. But the reason it worked and the RDP didn't was that it had a specific, limited focus.

Rather than complex coordination across numerous government departments, GEAR focused on a few macro-economic interventions that could be implemented by a small team in the Reserve Bank and the Treasury. The result was unprecedented economic and employment growth until party politics and Mbeki's denialism on HIV/AIDS caught up with him.

Elaborate inter-departmental cooperation again lies at the heart of two crucial pieces of proposed government legislation - that on land (reflected in the Final Report of the Presidential Advisory Panel on Land Reform and Agriculture) and health (the proposed National Health Insurance [NHI] scheme).

While the land report is an impressive document, government hasn't yet released an equivalent analysis on the NHI. The land report presents, in clear and unambiguous language, why restitution, redistribution and land tenure is needed. It sets out a 'comprehensive approach to land reform that emphasises rural-urban linkages', and the need for 'an integrated urban development framework, spatial transformation and a system based on a unitary, equitable tenure system.'

Recommendations will be implemented by 'critical levers such as coherent, co-ordinated good governance, and capable and well-resourced institutions supported by skilled and capable officials who are focused and determined to



implement policies for the benefit of the people.'

Like the National Development Plan and the proposed NHI, the problem is not their policy recommendations and compelling vision. It is that in the implementation of these ambitions South Africa is again trying to achieve complex impact that is beyond its capacity.

Few can argue that South Africa's property inequality doesn't need to change, or with the need for a national health scheme that improves health outcomes. But a reading of the land report's recommendations and a review of the centralised implementation modalities of the NHI show that we are again scouring the world for 'best practices' and applying them to South Africa as if we had a strong, capable government and a sophisticated, well-educated consumer base. South Africa has none of these.

In an era of the Zondo Commission and revelations about state capture, we tend to overestimate corruption and underestimate the state's lack of capacity and policy overreach. Much of that is due to excessive cadre deployment by the ruling party and rapid efforts at black economic empowerment without an education and skills pipeline to match.

Since the introduction of outcomes-based education in South Africa in the 1990s, government has been adept at seizing and rapidly pursuing policies that other countries with much more capacity have adopted very cautiously, or not at all. Instead of a developmental, capable state, we have a dysfunctional, inca-

New complex policies are not what SA needs. The priority is growth and fixing the basics of government. File photo

ble state at many levels, although there are important islands of competence and even excellence emerging in health, home affairs and elsewhere.

Eventually though no amount of sophisticated policy analysis and innovative packaging can compensate for a situation where burdensome legislation, administration and government interference in state-owned enterprises make it impossible to grow the economy or effectively manage it. Instead of constantly expanding the ambition of government intervention on every level of the economy and society, South Africa must prioritise.

Except for GEAR, the focus of government policy since 1994 has been on redistribution and rolling out services to needy communities. The results are impressive and often not acknowledged enough. But the country must focus on economic growth.

A recent report by the Centre for Development and Enterprise (CDE) shows the extent to which a focus on redistribution rather than growth has brought us back to the edge of a fiscal cliff. With debt and public sector payrolls expanding and an economy that consistently grows below government expectations, our options are limited.

Had growth been one percentage point higher over the past decade, CDE finds, government debt would be 44% and falling rather than 63% and rising. Investment would have flowed into the country and not outward, and our tax base would be increasing and not

shrinking.

Growth provides options. Without growth or with slow growth (South Africa's current outlook), our future is bleak. In the short term redistribution reduces poverty and improves many human development outcomes, but in the long term growth, if not inordinately skewed, lifts all boats. A growing economy eventually increases employment in the formal sector and the size of the economy.

There are of course few matters that are as controversial as the trade-off between growth and redistribution, with opposing sides well entrenched in their ideological and blinkered fortresses. Hans Rosling in Factfulness reminds us about 'that irresistible temptation we have to divide all kinds of things into two distinct and often conflicting groups, with an imagined gap - a huge chasm of injustice - in between'. South Africa needs both to grow the economy and build an equitable society.

South Africa suffers from extreme levels of inequality and has been caught in a middle-income (or low-growth) trap for several decades. But eventually only robust and sustained growth over several decades will allow more of its citizens to participate in that economy. And only the move towards a class-based instead of a race-based analysis of its society will allow it to shift towards the social compact that is a prerequisite for such growth.

It isn't too late. The recent discussion document released by National Treasury on economic transformation, inclusive growth and competitiveness goes some way to orientate the debate - to get South Africans to decide on the priorities for the country's future. These are growth with the option of distribution, or distribution and the inevitability of a nation that will become poorer and even more divided.

Instead of the introduction of new, complex policies and arrangements, South Africa needs to prioritise and first fix its existing systems.

Jakkie Cilliers, Head, African Futures and Innovation, ISS Pretoria



Concrete measures to strengthen the rule of law are necessary to prevent outbreaks of public violence. File photo

South Africa's problems are not caused by foreigners

BY GARETH NEWHAM

FOR more than a decade corruption, poor policy choices and deteriorating governance have weakened South Africa's criminal justice institutions and its economy. The recent outbreaks of violence, mostly against foreigners in the cities of Tshwane, Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni, are a warning sign that the government cannot afford to ignore.

Levels of public violence in general are rising, and foreign nationals living in under-developed and crowded areas are particularly vulnerable when the poor face increasing hardship and frustration. In the medium to long term, prioritising economic growth and fixing basic service delivery are key. In the meantime, government needs to act decisively to counter public violence, often directed at foreign nationals, by strengthening the rule of law.

The violence is driven by a toxic mix of increasing unemployment and inequality, deteriorating trust in government and especially the police, and growing desperation among the poor and jobless.

This situation is exacerbated by a decade of 'state capture' and high-level corruption during which law enforcement agencies were hollowed out to enable the large-scale theft of many hundreds of billions of rand meant for public upliftment.

While attempts to rebuild parts of the intelligence service and criminal justice system are under way, the going is slow and inadequate resources are proving to be a major stumbling block. The general frustration among the population is evidenced by the growth in incidents of public disruption or violence. The annual count at which the Public Order Policing Units have had to intervene in such incidents has increased by 376% in the past decade. This is almost 10 incidents every day on average, up from two per day in 2008/09.

Among this growing tide of dissatisfaction and anger are those who seek easy targets to blame. While most South Africans are not xenophobic, there are a sizable minority who are. Unscrupulous politicians, looking to distract from their failures, fuel these sentiments by blaming foreign nationals for crime, unemployment and a range of other social ills. This makes foreigners particularly vulnerable to attack.

Many police officers hold xenophobic attitudes and turn a blind eye to attacks on foreigners. This actively encourages further violence. Of course, not all victims are foreign nationals as criminals take advantage of the public chaos to loot shops and destroy property indiscriminately.

The lack of decisive action by government, especially the investigation and prosecution of suspects involved in all forms of public violence and looting, including against foreigners, ensures that the problem continues. Rebuilding the rule of law is key - not only in response to public violence but also to hold those involved in corruption account-

able. Only when politicians, government officials and business people go to prison for corruption will public trust in the criminal justice system take root.

Five areas of action are needed to reinforce the rule of law. First, the Treasury must exempt the South African Police Service (SAPS), the Hawks and National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) from planned austerity measures. These institutions must operate at full capacity as they are the bedrock of the rule of law and if they weaken further, organised crime, corruption and public violence will continue to increase.

Second, a dedicated plan is required to build public trust in the police. A National Police Board is needed to ensure that all of the 230 police generals are highly experienced, skilled persons of unquestionable integrity. Greater resources must be given to the SAPS Integrity Management component and Anti-Corruption Units to root out police involved in crime and corruption. Crime intelligence must be overhauled and a focus given to strengthening the detective service and Public Order Policing Units.

Third, the country's leadership must speak with one voice to dispel the myths that foreign nationals are the cause of various social ills in South Africa. The focus should be to acknowledge the important contribution they make to our economy, and our diverse and vibrant culture.

Fourth, in the medium term, the country needs to re-establish the peacebuilding networks that existed in the run-up to South Africa's first democratic elections in 1994. At the time political violence risked breaking the country apart and peace committees were established across the country in high-violence localities. They played an important role in preventing violence and encouraging constructive civic activism and engagement. This is one way to change mindsets that contribute to high levels of public violence.

Fifth, we need a scale-up of evidence-based violence prevention projects, particularly those that protect children and women. Most violent behaviour is learnt in the home and in communities. Children who are victims of, or are exposed to, violence are far more likely to behave violently as adults. Violence prevention work by civil society, government and some private companies needs to be prioritised and rolled out to scale.

In 2008 South Africa witnessed wide-scale public violence during which 69 people were killed and many thousands displaced. After three days of chaos the military had to be called in to quell the destruction. While the violence primarily targeted foreign nationals, one third of those who died were South Africans. Recent events show we are again heading in this direction unless clear action is taken.

Gareth Newham, Head, Justice and Violence Prevention, ISS Pretoria

Anger at xenophobic attacks spreads across Africa

By Peter Fabricius

THE backlash across Africa to xenophobic violence against Africans in South Africa is spreading and becoming more violent.

In retaliatory strikes, South African-owned chain stores and trucks have been targeted in other African countries, including Nigeria, Zambia and Mozambique. Meanwhile, the African Union and foreign governments have issued strong formal protests to Pretoria. Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari announced he was sending a special envoy to express his concerns directly to President Cyril Ramaphosa.

The presidents of Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Malawi are widely reported as having pulled out of the World Economic Forum (WEF) Africa summit in Cape Town this week in protest against xenophobic violence. But the governments of Rwanda and DRC, the WEF organisers and the South African government have all denied this was the reason for their absence.

Several South African companies with extensive African operations have temporarily shut their operations after retaliatory attacks by foreigners.

Diplomats sent Daily Maverick a video clip showing University of Zambia students entering the East Park Shopping Mall in Lusaka, threatening to attack South African-owned shops. However, they said the South African shops - including Pick n Pay, Shoprite and Edgars - and others at Manda Hill Mall shut quickly before the students could get in.

"No damage or looting occurred," said a diplomat, noting that the students were en route to the South African high commission to deliver a protest about the xenophobic violence.

The Zambian division of South African television group Multichoice said it had closed its East Park and Manda Hill branches for security reasons. Its global head of corporate affairs, Jabavu Heshu, told fin24 it had also closed its offices and branches in Nigeria after protests against them in Lagos and Lusaka.

He said the offices and branches



would remain closed until the situation stabilised.

"The ongoing violence in South Africa against foreign nationals is against the spirit of Africa, and counter-productive to the decades of work done by African leaders and well-meaning organisations to unite the continent," said Heshu.

"We are a proudly African company and although our story began in South Africa, today we represent the African continent in all its diversity through our presence across the region."

Cellphone service provider MTN confirmed that over the last day four of its outlets in Nigeria had been attacked and that it had closed its stores and service centres in the country as a precaution to protect its customers, staff and partners. It also said it had had to close some stores in Johannesburg. No injuries had been reported.

"MTN Group reiterates its stand against any form of xenophobia and damage to property and remains concerned about the situation in its markets," it said, adding that it was working with the relevant authorities and other stakeholders to stabilise the situation both in Nigeria and South Africa.

Zambian President Edgar Lungu on Wednesday condemned the xenophobic attacks in South Africa and called on Zambians to refrain from violence in their response.

He said the attacks on foreign nationals "call for urgent concerted measures by the South African government and the regional bodies...before this xenophobia degenerates into full-scale genocide."

He urged the South African Development Community and the AU to intervene "as this carnage has potential to destabilise African unity". The attacks could cause South Africa "to be isolated from the rest of the civilised world".

Lungu called on all Zambians, both locally and abroad, "to remain calm and disengage from acts of violence as they voice out their grievance". He condemned the Zambian students for their "acts of lawlessness".

Zambian Foreign Minister Joseph Malanji assured South African companies that Zambia would protect their investments.

Shoprite said a video circulating on social media purportedly showing Nigerians attacking South African chain stores and torching a branch of Shoprite had been confirmed as false.

However, the company did say that "several stores in South Africa, Nigeria and Zambia are today unable to open due to protest action, and extensive damage has been done to several supermarkets over the past 24 hours, impacting the lives of millions of law-abiding people".

The Shoprite Group "strongly con-

demned any kind of violence and intimidation against the citizens and businesses of countries on the African continent and anywhere in the world.

"We remain committed to engage with government, industry and consumer groups so that decisive action is taken against those involved in violent crimes and intimidation against foreign nationals as well as to convey our strong position against xenophobia," the group said.

Video clips on social media have shown South African trucks being attacked in Mozambique, presumably in retaliation for the scores of attacks in South Africa on foreign truck drivers this year. The scale of the attacks in Mozambique could not be verified.

However, the Mozambican national news agency, AIM, reported that some people had tried to prevent South Africans from using the Maputo-South Africa motorway, but that Mozambican police had "brought the situation swiftly under control".

The report said the attempt to stop South African trucks had been in retaliation for the torching in South Africa of seven foreign trucks - one of them Mozambican - since Sunday.

AIM quoted the deputy chairperson of the Confederation of Mozambican Business Associations (CTA), Castigo Nhenane, as saying these attacks were causing losses of about \$1-million a day to Mozambican transport companies, which had stopped driving into South Africa.

Nhenane told a press conference in Maputo this estimate only covered trucks carrying merchandise. If passenger transport was also included, the losses could rise to an average of \$3-million a day.

"Preliminary data indicated that about 300 trucks belonging to Mozambican transport operators used to enter South Africa every day to transport a variety of goods," he said.

"But since the disturbances began, they have stopped going to South Africa. That has paralysed about 2,000 Mozambican workers, with all the negative impacts this has on their families."

DM

CHINESE DEVELOPERS, OTHERS STUCK WITH PLENTY OF SPACE IN GLUTTED MARKET

By Francis Kajubi

DAR ES SALAAM has plenty of commercial space, apartments and parking lots as developers ponder their next move in glutted property market.

Chinese developers, National Housing Corporation, pension funds and other minor developers along New Bagamoyo road from Morocco to Mwenge are struggling to get tenants and outright buyers of commercial space and apartments of new buildings which were completed two years ago.

TanHouse Property Manager, Othuman Jumbe said the 20 storey office block is 60 percent vacant since last year when it was completed. The ultra modern building which also incorporates several storeys of parking lots has reduced prices to attract customers.

"The real estate market in Dar es Salaam is still a big challenge facing developers for the past four years," Jumbe said. He said despite the glutted property market, some developers are still investing in new projects because real estate is a long term investment hence many believe that things will turn around in future.

In a bid to attract clients, TANHOUSE is offering a minimum of 70 square meters and maximum of 1,000 square meters is charging US\$17.5 (over 40,222/-) per square meter for a minimum period of three months for tenants. "But if a tenants wants a whole floor which is 1,000 square meters, they can get it at a discount of US\$14.5 (over 33,335/-) per square meter," he clarified.

Net to TanHouse is an NHC Victoria Noble Center which its manager said much of the building is sold out although it remains largely unoccupied.

The new building's Sales Representative, Zenice Polycarp said there is plenty of space for rent and purchase although she did not give the exact percentages. "The three bedroom apartments include dining room and kitchen covering 184 square meters in all," Polycarp noted saying rent is US\$1,500 per month and the minimum contract is three months. The purchasing price is between 350m/- and 400m/- each.

NHC Victoria Palace Coordinator, Steven Simon said 98 percent of the twin towers at Morocco Square is sold



The TanHouse commercial building in Dar es Salaam remains largely vacant.

out. "The selling model here was pre-building hence many customers paid for their space after placing their order that's why we managed to sell al-

most all apartments," Simon said.

Many property owners in Dar es Salaam are blaming the government's decision to shift to Dodoma as the rea-

son behind the glutted property market in the commercial capital where until 2015 has a fertile ground for developers.

Songas to boost industrialisation drive with 70MW additional power

By Beatrice Philemon

GAS to power generating company, Songas Limited plans to increase generation of electricity from the current 180 megawatts to 250MW in the near future to help power the government's industrialization agenda.

Songas Managing Director, Nigel Whittaker said in Dar es Salaam this week after presenting checks worth 8.8bn/- to state utility giant, Tanesco and Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation as dividend that his company will invest in increasing power generation.

"We are waiting for regulatory approvals to start generating the power," said Whittaker whose company sells electricity to Tanesco which has the infrastructure to supply to consumers. In order to increase the generation, Songas needs Tanesco's contractual endorsement to do so.

Whittaker whose company paid 2.2bn/- to Tanesco and 6.6bn/- to TPDC as dividend further noted that since 2012, Songas has paid 121.6bn/- as dividend to the government while another 139.3bn/- has been paid as corporate tax.

Currently TPDC has 28.69 percent shares at Songas while Tanesco has 9.56 percent and TDFL has 7.6 with UK based Globeleq having a controlling stake of 54.1 percent.

Currently Songas generates the country's approximately 20 percent of electricity which is supplied to the national grid while also supplying natural gas to various manufacturing industries in Dar es Salaam since 2004, a move which has saved the more than 11trn/-. Additional the government also benefits from its 32 percent shareholding in TDFL which receives about 1.8bn/- in dividends.

On his part, Songas Chief Financial Officer, Anael Samuel said the company supports initiatives being taken by the government to lower power tariffs and spur industrialization. Samuel said decision to invest in Rufiji Hydro-electric Power Project at Stiegler's Gorge on Rufiji River is an important milestone in realizing the industrialization agenda.

"Use of natural gas has helped government reduce the fossil fuel import bill for power generation by Tanesco which is why we have saved over 11trn/- since 2004," the Songas CFO said noting that Songas is currently the cheapest thermal generator of electricity in East Africa.



Songas Limited power plant at Ubungu in Dar es Salaam. File photo.

KCB leads banks to put Sh1bn in mortgage firm

NAIROBI

EIGHT local banks led by KCB Group and Co-op Bank have committed a total of Sh1 billion in Kenya Mortgage Refinance Company (KMRC), a public-private company that will provide long term funding to financial institutions offering housing loans.

The latest KMRC's shareholding structure seen by Business Daily shows that the upcoming lender has received funding from the National Treasury, the eight banks, 11

saccos, the International Finance Corporation, Shelter Afrique and KWFT (a microfinance firm).

Among the banks, KCB has the largest capital commitment of Sh600 million that will entitle it to a 25.3 percent stake once all the shareholders pay up their capital in full. The country's biggest bank by assets has already paid Sh325 million and is set to pay the remaining Sh275 million.

KMRC has so far raised Sh1.6 billion from its shareholders but the total capital commitment stands at

Sh2.3 billion. Co-op Bank has provided Sh200 million for which it will get an 8.4 percent stake while the merged NIC/CBA, HF Group, Barclays Bank of Kenya and DTB Group will each receive a 2.1 percent equity for their capital of Sh50 million each.

Stanbic Bank and Credit Bank have invested Sh20 million and Sh10 million in KMRC respectively and will be allotted stakes of 0.8 percent and 0.4 percent. The National Treasury will be single largest shareholder of the institution

once it pays up Sh800 million in full, having made an initial payment of Sh325 million.

IFC and Shelter Afrique will each get an 8.4 percent stake for their investment of Sh200 million each. Other shareholders of KMRC include saccos such as Kenya Police, Safaricom, and Mwalimu National. Saccos which have increased their investment in the real estate sector over the past decade to generate returns and also enable their members to acquire homes.

Creation of KMRC is part of the

government's ambition to deliver 500,000 houses in major towns across the country over the next four years. Besides the capital provided by its shareholders, KMRC will also issue bonds to expand the pool of funds available to bankroll banks and saccos making housing loans. The company will be regulated by the Central Bank of Kenya as a non-deposit taking financial institution, with the Capital Markets Authority (CMA) providing oversight over its bond issuance operations.

New inclusive public buses raise optimism among disabled people

KIGALI

FOR Jean Bosco Nzaramba, a person living with disability who loves to travel, using public transportation used to be a hustle.

"It was difficult to find comfortable seats. Sometimes the last seat on the bus would be in between people. I had to seat and bare the discomfort until I got to my destination," Nzaramba said. For those more handicapped than him, he said, it was worse. "Some couldn't climb the steps so they had to get someone to carry them on to the bus."

However, the move by Rwanda Federation of Transport Cooperatives (RFTC) - one of the public transport operators - to introduce buses with provisions for people with disabilities has raised optimism. The company recently unveiled 11 new buses with provisions such as ramps that aid people with disabilities to board and disembark with ease.

The buses also have special seats reserved for people with disabilities. Innocent Twahirwa, the Public Relations Officer of RFTC, said that: "Each bus can accommodate up to six people with disabilities." The company plans to import 30 more similar buses, he said. The buses will be deployed on 11 of the 30 routes in Kigali.

RFTC staff underwent training with people from China on how to assist people with disabilities in getting bus services, Twahirwa said. Theodone Nyiringabo, also living with disability was pleased with the launch. "I complained about this but now I am happy that what I wanted was granted," he said.

Emmanuel Ndayisaba, Executive Secretary National Council of Persons with Disabilities, said the new buses were a times response to passengers with disabilities. In the past, people living with disabilities complained about difficulty in travelling. According to Ndayisaba, some were even being charged an extra fee for their wheelchairs.

"It is good that the transportation issue is being solved," he said. Clever Gatete, the Minister for Infrastructure, says the government has bigger plans to help people with disabilities.

"We are working on making better roads, investing in bus park facilities and an orderly bus system to help people with disabilities," Gatete said, adding that other transport companies in Kigali were also planning to bring similar buses. The minister said he hoped for the buses to get electric means to open the slides to make it faster. Gatete pledged that similar services will be rolled out on buses that ply the countryside.



Nyiringabo Theodone and Muhirwa Hashim board a bus at Kacyiru bus park on August 30.

TANZANIA ARDHI UNIVERSITY WING INTRODUCES DOCTORATE STUDIES TARGETING CLIMATE CHANGE

By Property Watch Reporter

LAST WEEK, Institute of Human Settlements Studies at Ardhi University organised a daylong IHSS Day to showcase to the public some of its latest research of construction and building industry but also promote its new doctorate programmes aimed at training a new cadre of experts in the field with enough understanding of the impact of climate change in the industry. **Our Correspondent PROSPER MAKENE** interviewed the Director for IHSS, DR MAKARIUS MDEMU on different issues after meeting him during the IHSS Day, read on:

What is the historical background of Institute of Human Settlements Studies (IHSS)?

The Institute of Human Settlements Studies (IHSS) is one of the academic units of Ardhi University. It was established in 1979 as the Centre for Housing Studies (CHS) at the then Ardhi Institute as a joint project between the governments of Tanzania and the Netherlands. It was tasked with conducting short courses and carrying out research on housing, planning and construction.

The CHS was renamed Institute of Human Settlements Studies (IHSS) in 1992 and in 1996 IHSS was transformed into an Institute for Housing Studies and Building Research (IHSBR), following Ardhi Institutes' affiliation to the University of Dar es Salaam. Two years later the Institute was renamed Institute of Human Settlements Studies.

Since its founding, the Institute has grown into a multidisciplinary basic and applied research academic unit of Ardhi University. It also provides postgraduate training as well as public services that cover a variety of disciplines

What are the core functions of the institute?

The institute has the following main functions: to conduct research in the fields of human settlements development; provide consultancy services in the fields of housing, building and human settlements development; organise short term tailor made and long term training courses to practitioners working in the fields of



IHSS director, Dr Makarius Mdemu briefs stakeholders on IHSS Day, held at Ardhi University in Dar es Salaam last week. Photo: Correspondent Prosper Makene.

human settlements development and management; and offer postgraduate courses leading to professional and scientific awards in the fields of human settlements development, planning and management.

Are there any ongoing researches?

Institute of Human Settlement Studies is currently conducting various research projects most of which are within the implementation period of between 2015 and 2022.

Most of our research projects are basically under the North-South collaboration because we believe that as the institute and university grow, we should be able to attract the South-South funded projects in the near future.

Do you have future research?

Significant efforts on new concept notes and proposals for externally funded research projects and currently the proposals fall under four main groups, namely: Land, Local Economic

Development and Governance; Housing, Infrastructure Development and Management; Climate Change and Environmental Risks and Natural Resources. The development of research projects involves collaboration with other academic units of the university and research institutions in Tanzania and abroad.

What postgraduate programmes do you offer at the institute?

We have two Masters Programmes which

are running, MSc Housing and MSc Public Policy Analysis and Programme Management. MSc PPA is an evening programme and therefore very ideal for people who want to pursue their postgraduate studies while at the same time working.

At the moment we are reviewing to transform Msc Housing into Msc Housing and Financing. We are also developing a new programme on MSc Urban Governance and Environmental Studies. The study period of all our master's programmes is eighteen months.

The institute has also six approved doctorate programmes which includes: Doctor of Philosophy in Built Environment Analysis (PhD BEA); Doctor of Philosophy in Climate Change Studies (PhD CCS); Doctor of Philosophy in Housing and Settlements Studies (PhD HSS); Doctor of Philosophy in Policy Analysis and Programme Management (PhD PAMP); Doctor of Philosophy in Development Studies (PhD DS); and Doctor of Philosophy in Urban Governance and Environmental Studies (PhD URGES). Application for PhD studies can be done at any time in a year.

Why have you organized an IHSS day?

We have organized an IHSS day for two main purposes. First to create awareness of IHSS activities among stakeholders within and beyond Ardhi University and secondly, to share and disseminate some of the researches and research products which we have done and also promote our postgraduate training programmes

BOC eyes piped gas to homes in revenue drive

NAIROBI

INDUSTRIAL gas manufacturer BOC Kenya says it is considering supplying homes with piped cooking gas in a race to grow and diversify its revenues.

While BOC is yet to firm up its plans, it says it sees piped gas to Kenyan homes "as the next big thing," in the industry.

The firm also wants to create solutions for agriculture and water treatment. It manufactures and markets industrial and medical gases.

"We see a lot of opportunity in LPG reticulation. We also see opportunities around water treatment, use of nitrogen for food packaging as well as agriculture," said BOC Kenya managing director Marion Mwangi at an investor briefing last week. She said, adding that the firm was engaging architects on how to roll out the programme. NSE-listed BOC reported a 66.8 percent drop in net profit to Sh19 million in the half year ended June.

It attributed the drop to higher costs. Its six-month revenue was up by 1.65 percent to Sh495.1 million compared to the same period in 2018. Ms Mwangi said rise in costs was caused by outage of a key raw material (calcium carbide) and unscheduled plant down time, which impacted availability and cost of finished goods.

"These results were also impacted by reduced supply to some public sector customers due to long overdue debts and lost sales as a result of the



BOC Kenya facilities in Nairobi.

illegal filling of the company's cylinders," Ms Mwangi added.

BOC Kenya is the second to mull a piped gas plan, after state owned oil marketer Na-

tional Oil which recently inked a deal to supply homes in a Nairobi estate owned by the National Housing Corporation by December. The tripartite deal between National Oil

and CFAO Kenya Limited (a Toyota Tshusho Group Company) and NHC will see NHC's 75 residential apartments located in Nairobi's South B estate equipped with piped gas.

World Bank debars seven Chinese construction companies in Nigeria

LAGOS

SEVEN Chinese construction companies, including major railway builders, have been debarred by the World Bank for violating its fraud and corruption policy.

The names of the seven have appeared on the banks sanction list, meaning they are ineligible to bid for World Bank-funded projects for a specified period of time. Details of infractions were not given.

The seven, all debarred for the relatively short period of 10 months to March 2020, are: China Railway Construction (International) Nigeria Co. Ltd; China Railway 18th Bureau Nigeria Engineering Co. Ltd; China Railway 18th Bureau Nigeria Co. Ltd; CCECC Nigeria Lekki (FTA) Co. Ltd; CCECC Nigeria Railway Co. Ltd; CRCC Petroleum & Gas Co. Ltd and CCECC Nigeria Co. Ltd.

Separately, on 14 August, the bank announced the 15-month debarment of Chinese firm Beijing Jingold Construction Co., Ltd in connection with fraud during the procurement process for the \$38.6m Samoa Aviation Investment Project, an airport improvement scheme. The bank found that the company had a history of contract non-performance at the time of bidding, but misrepresented this fact when it bid. The company did not win the contract.

Solidia, LafargeHolcim in commercial breakthrough for low-carbon cement

GENEVA

A venture between the Switzerland-headquartered cement giant LafargeHolcim and cement-and-concrete technology start-up Solidia Technologies has had a commercial breakthrough for its patented low-CO2 cement: it will supply that cement to EP Henry, a manufacturer of precast concrete paving slabs in the US.

In development since 2013, Solidia Concrete is produced at lower temperatures and through a different chemical reaction that generates less CO2. Solidia Cement also hardens by adding CO2 instead of water in a patented curing process that reduces the overall carbon footprint by up to 70% - achieved with a 40% reduction in carbon emissions and a 30% reduction in energy during production.

The company says its concrete is lighter and strong-



Solidia says its concrete has a 70% smaller carbon footprint.

er than normal concrete, and reaches strength in less than 24 hours compared to 28 days for precast concrete made with Portland cement. Investors in Solidia Technologies include LafargeHolcim, BP, BASF and others.

"LafargeHolcim has long been committed to bringing innovative solutions to market, and this commercial agreement with EP Henry is an important step in showing that reducing our CO2 footprint through carbon captured products is feasible," said Jamie Gentoso, CEO, US Cement, LafargeHolcim.

"It has been incredibly rewarding to see how together, we have collaborated to move this technology from the experi-

mental phase and into the US market as a viable product."

Solidia President and CEO Tom Schuler said: "By offering their technical expertise and market intelligence, LafargeHolcim helped us eliminate barriers to adoption, leading us to this first commercial traction in the US to expand our range of offerings, making sustainability business as usual across the global US\$1 trillion concrete and US\$300 billion cement markets."

Solidia Cement was first produced at the Lafarge Whitehall cement plant in Pennsylvania in 2014, and has since expanded production with additional runs at Whitehall and at its Pecs, Hungary plant.

Image:

TECHNOLOGY

EINDHOVEN UNIVERSITY UNVEILS 'GREEN ENERGY MILL' TO POWER FESTIVALS RENEWABLY



GEM-tower's turbine.

AMSTERDAM

SUMMER is the time for music festivals, but almost all of them in Europe use polluting diesel generators to pump out the beats and light the sky with lasers.

As a sustainable alternative, over the past two years researchers at Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e) and nine companies have developed a 21m-high, foldable tower festooned with solar panels, with a vertical wind turbine on top.

Easily transportable, and requiring less than a day to set up, the "Green Energy Mill" (GEM-tower) is designed to power festivals renewably. On 5 August, their prototype was fully erected on the TU/e campus for the first time, ahead of the first practical test that will take place next week at Pukkelpop music festival in Hasselt, Belgium.

For years, the polluting nature of festivals has bothered Faas Moonen, TU/e's associate professor of Innovative Structural Design. With a €2.3m subsidy from Interreg Europe, he began work in 2017 on a sustainable alternative, appointing a postdoc and three PDEng researchers to help him.

Nine companies, including the Pukkelpop festival organisers and music promoter Eurosonic

Noorderslag, joined the mission. "Eventually, a whole group of towers will have to travel around the European festivals and provide them with 100% sustainable energy," says Moonen. "I also hope that their striking appearance will make festival goers more aware of sustainability."

A portable puzzle

The team's challenge was combining different renewable power-generating techniques in a way that was effective, safe, portable and attractive. "That was quite a puzzle," said Moonen. Although the precise yield of the tower has yet to be proven through tests, it should be able to generate electricity for 261 days per year.

At the bottom is a three-metre-high battery pack that can store 90kWh of electricity. Thanks to 300 hinged joints fixed by 542 bolts, the 14-metre-high, 3500kg steel structure folds down into a mass just a metre high.

Home-grown solar collectors

Most of the energy is generated by a vertical wind turbine weighing 700kg installed at 18m height, where the wind is known to blow harder. If there's no wind, 144 flexible, thin-foil solar cells bolted all the way up each side of the tower pick up the slack.

To please the eye, TU/e developed 40 coloured Luminescent Solar Concentrator panels, which have the added benefit of generating power even in cloudy conditions, as they catch light and transfer them to the panel's edges, where solar cells convert the concentrated beams into electricity.

They were developed in the research group of Prof. Michael Debye in TU/e's Department of Chemical Engineering and Chemistry. Said Moonen: "In both the shade and in the sun, they provide energy. Even on a completely cloudy day, they continue to produce electricity."

For good measure at Pukkelpop, the research team is

supplying 72 large, flexible solar cells, which the festival organisers can put on the roofs of their food stalls and other structures, and these connect to the tower's battery pack.

Power mill in a suitcase

The team decided GEM-tower had to be foldable to make transport more sustainable. So, thanks to 300 hinged joints fixed by 542 bolts, the 14m-high, 3500kg steel structure folds down into a mass just a metre high.

It takes less than a day to assemble, and a crane is required, but the team intends for the next version to unfold automatically at the push of a button. Once extended, the tower is free standing thanks to its base comprising 2.7 cubic metres of concrete. This year GEM-tower will be tested, ahead of planned full operation at festivals in 2020.

"We will then start building a new tower which will generate even more power and can also be folded out automatically," said Moonen.

"In addition to the towers, we also want to keep our eyes open to other forms of sustainable energy generation. My dream is to eventually provide all kinds of large-scale events - in both summer and winter - with sustainable electricity through a network of batteries, towers, solar cells and other sustainable innovations."

Team credits

Project leader Faas Moonen is supported by PDEng researchers Floor van Schie, Patrick Lenaers and Marius Lazauskas, and postdoc Ester Pujadas-Gispert. Nine partners in the project include: IBIS-Power, Double2, Pukkelpop, Off Grid Energy Limited, Dour, RPS, Eurosonic Noorderslag, Flexotels and ZAP.



Dubai's Expo 2020 venue.

Effective supervision of Dubai's real estate sector a boon for emirate's economy

DUBAI

SUPERVISION by the new committee to monitor Dubai's real estate sector and restore balance in the market will prove a boon for the emirate's economy and will solidify its position as a premium global real estate market, developers and industry experts said.

The emirate, the commercial and trading centre of the Middle East, on Monday formed the "Higher Committee for Real Estate Planning" led by Deputy Ruler Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed, to achieve a balance between supply and demand.

Members of the committee include the General Secretariat of the Executive Council of Dubai and Dubai Land Department, the Dubai Media Office said late on Monday. Semi-government developers such as the emirate's sovereign wealth fund, Investment Corporation of Dubai, and major developers Emaar Properties and Nakheel will also be on the committee, the office said.

Others include Wasl Properties, Dubai Properties, Meraas, Nshama, Meydan, Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority, Dubai South and Dubai Multi Commodities Centre. The new body will avoid duplication of projects and bring forward a comprehensive plan to further develop and increase the competitiveness of the real estate sector as it works to restore the balance in the market.

"Controlling supply and demand will be the key to real estate sustainability for the coming years, along with dependence on proper planning," said Sultan bin Mejren, director general of Dubai Land Department.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, UAE Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, published an open letter at the weekend with six main points that addressed government work and ways to improve Emiratisation, services and the country's economy, of which real estate is a vital part.

"Creating a more balanced development environment is vital to the current market," said Farhad Azizi, chief executive of Azizi Developments in Dubai. "This balance can help the economy in many ways, enabling the private sector to play more of a key role in the UAE's growth and development ambitions."

"This ideology will translate into an economic environment that is conducive to business, innovation and a more

refined supply, which in turn will help with attracting investment." The UAE property market slowed after a three-year oil price slump that began in 2014.

Concerns about an oversupply of residential and commercial properties in the market also affected investor sentiment and dented real estate prices. But analysts have forecast a recovery with initiatives such as a new immigration regime offering a long-term visa to investors, the Dh50 billion Ghadan 21 economic stimulus, Expo 2020-related projects and changes to the freehold property law.

Oil prices have also rebounded and are hovering between \$50 and \$60 per barrel. "As the industry continues on its road to recovery, key initiatives will undoubtedly help in accelerating the upturn," said Niall McLaughlin, senior vice president of Damac Properties, which is listed in Dubai.

"The real estate market is maturing and as a key driver of the economy, the introduction of government initiatives such as this committee will help achieve balance and efficiency, enabling the city's progress towards its long-term goals," Lynnette Abad, director of research and data at real estate listing portal Property Finder, agreed.

"This is yet another positive advancement by the government to improve and enhance the state of the real estate market in Dubai," Ms Abad said. "By focusing on quality projects and working with developers for proper city planning, Dubai will only become more attractive to investors."

In its report last month, Property Finder said a record number of residential units are expected to come online in the second half of this year. This could push Dubai property prices lower. A total of 20,978 residential units were completed in the first half of 2019, Property Finder says.

An additional 38,426 units within 152 projects, which have at least an 85 per cent completion status as of July, are scheduled to be delivered by the end of the year. But "we desperately lack affordable housing", Ms Abad said. She said she hoped the new committee would address this issue when planning for the future with developers.

Dubai is ranked the third-most affordable city for "prime real estate", with average prices of \$600 a square foot, Savills' World Cities Prime Residential Index shows. The index tracks 25 major cities worldwide.

How a Harvard grad transitioned his family's wealth from retail to real estate

NEW YORK

NICOLAS Ibanez started at Harvard Business School with a 10-digit dilemma. It was mid-2009, and his family had just started to invest some of the \$1.6 billion that Walmart had paid earlier that year to acquire the Chilean supermarket chain his family had founded. Mr Ibanez, no longer heir to a retail empire, felt compelled to alter his MBA plans to focus more on finance.

"I completely shifted my curriculum," he said in an interview. "Suddenly, as a family, we had this big challenge of managing our liquidity." Mr Ibanez, now 36, rose to the task. Backed by his family, he set up property investment firm Drake Real Estate Partners in 2012 to target deals beyond the US's biggest cities. Today, with assets approaching \$1.5bn, the New York-based firm is seeking to raise about \$400 million by year-end for a new

fund. The Ibanez clan is putting up almost a quarter of the total, keeping a commitment that has attracted the attention of other rich families with a taste for US real estate.

"We tried our first fund just with my family's capital," he said. That was key in persuading other families to commit. "They knew that we were serious," Mr Ibanez said. The Ibanez family is well known within Chile. Their fortune traces back to the 1950s, when Nicolas's grandfather established the first supermarket in the country. His father helped expand the business into Distribucion y Servicio D&S, a publicly-traded national chain that rivalled billionaire Horst Paulmann's Cencosud to control about a third of the Chilean supermarket industry by the time Walmart took a controlling stake a decade ago, valuing the business at \$2.7bn.

Five years later, Walmart bought the Ibanez family's remaining holdings, ending their ownership of a business whose success aligned with the economic overhaul implemented under General Augusto Pinochet. D&S's old headquarters in Santiago had a stone plaque commemorating the late dictator, who remained in power until 1990. Nicolas said Pinochet's government helped restore democracy in Chile and paved the way for the country's economic transformation.

"D&S and Walmart were a natural fit," Carolina Bank Munoz, Bridget Kenny and Antonio Stecher wrote in "Walmart in the Global South", a 2018 book about the world's biggest retailer. "D&S's growth in Chile mirrors Walmart's expansion of its empire in the United States."

In addition to diversifying through real estate, the Ibanezes have invested directly into busi-

nesses through their family office, Drake Group, named after 16th century explorer Francis Drake. These companies include Spanish-speaking franchises of Papa John's International, UK private bank Hampden & Co and Glovo, a startup courier service. Direct deals make up about a third of family offices' portfolios, according to research by UBS Group and Campden Wealth published last year.

Nicolas Ibanez founded Drake Real Estate Partners with David Cotterman, a former property investor at Michael Dell's family office, as the Chilean native's family sought more US investments. Even as President Donald Trump wages a trade war with China, the economic stability of the US makes it a leading destination for foreign real estate investors. Cross-border acquisitions of US commercial property totalled \$94.9bn last year, approaching a

record, according to Real Capital Analytics.

"For Latin American families, the US has always been a haven to their wealth," said Jorge Escobar, chief executive of Miami-based property investment firm Black Salmon Capital and former global head of HSBC Holdings' private bank for the Chilean market. "Real estate is becoming the major asset class where wealthy families and all types of investors are seeking more protection."

Drake Real Estate Partners now has completed more than 40 deals, working with regional peers to source off-market properties the firm can refurbish to add value. Its strategy contrasts with that of Inditex founder Amancio Ortega, the richest investor from a Spanish-speaking nation investing in US real estate, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. Focusing on

wealth preservation, his portfolio includes landmark properties such as Manhattan's historic Haughwout Building, Miami's tallest office tower and a \$230m office block bought this month in Washington.

High prices have pushed property investors beyond metropolises such as London and New York, but many opportunities are often too small for pension funds and other institutional investors such as Blackstone Group. Private investment firms backed by rich families, though, are increasingly taking advantage. Injecting as much as \$20m into each deal, Drake Real Estate Partners has snapped up apartment blocks in US markets including North Carolina and Ohio. The firm has also acquired warehouses in Delaware, Tennessee offices and a retail property in Texas.

Mr Ibanez's firm also under-

scores the growing appetite among wealthy families for co-investing as more of them take control of their finances. Following the lead of billionaires including Dell and Bill Gates, many have family offices that act like private equity firms, buying stakes in companies or acquiring them outright.

This year, UBS's top banker to billionaires warned that more clients are sidelining financial institutions as they complete private deals without advice from investment banks.

"Our families specifically want to see investments sponsored by other families," said Roszell Mack III, founder of New York-based Mack & Co, an advisory firm to rich families and individuals - including Nicolas Ibanez on his firm's new fund.

"They see everything in the market, given they are a significant capital source."

WORLD

Nigeria tightens security around South African businesses

ABUJA

NIGERIAN security authorities have beefed up security around South African businesses in the country amid rising tension among citizens to unleash mayhem on them in reprisal of recent xenophobic attacks in South Africa.

In the Nigerian capital, Abuja, heavy security presence was seen by Xinhua crew in the vicinity of South African businesses.

The police commissioner in the Federal Capital Territory, Bala Ciroma told media he has ordered a special force to forestall any reprisal attack. "We have already deployed a significant number of our security personnel to curtail any reprisal attack," the police officer said.

The move to tighten security is aimed at preventing the breakdown of law by some Nigerian protesters who are apparently miffed by the develop-

ment in South Africa.

Renewed attacks hit Johannesburg on Monday, with some Nigerians reportedly among the victims. In retaliation against the attacks, some Nigerian protesters had reportedly taken to the streets to loot and attack known South African businesses in Nigeria, including grocery stores.

Among the South African businesses most targeted are Shoprite, which is a chain of retail stores in Africa, telecommunications giant, MTN, and DSTV, a sub-Saharan African direct broadcast satellite service owned by MultiChoice.

Stern-looking policemen were seen on the ground in parts of Abuja since Tuesday evening. The police had mounted human and vehicular barricade in one of the biggest outlets of Shoprite in the city.

South African businesses here closed earlier on Tuesday for fear of attacks by angry Nigerian mobs. "We



Nigerian police officers clear a barricaded road during a protest in Abuja, on Wednesday. South African telecommunications giant MTN ordered the closure of all its offices and service outlets in Nigeria amid rising tension to unleash mayhem on them in reprisal of xenophobic attacks in the rainbow nation. (Xinhua)

received an order from above that we must close early and vacate the businesses premises while allowing security agencies to perform their duties," one manager of Shoprite told Xinhua on Tuesday.

In Lagos, Nigeria's commercial hub, the government said it had ordered security agencies to provide stronger protection around the South African businesses.

"These attacks are condemned as they are against the Nigerian spirit of accommodation and benevolence that the country in general and Lagos State, in particular, is noted for," said the state government of Lagos.

The government's position was in response to reports about the attacks on Shoprite's complexes in parts of Lagos in which hoodlums were seen looting the retail stores on Tuesday. MTN on Wednesday ordered the closure of all its offices and service outlets in Nigeria till further notice.

According to reports by local media, in Ibadan, capital of the southwestern state of Oyo, an outlet of the MTN was burned by protesters but security agents immediately took charge of the situation at the location, preventing further breakdown of law and order.

The police in the southeastern state of Enugu

on Wednesday said they had beefed up security over possible reprisal attacks by residents on South African businesses.

A spokesman for the police Ebere Amaraizu told Xinhua that security operatives had increased patrol in the state especially within Enugu metropolis, deploying more policemen to locations where South Africa-owned businesses exist.

On its part, the Nigerian government has appealed to citizens not to attack South African companies operating in Nigeria in retaliation for the xenophobic attacks against Nigerians and other foreigners in South Africa.

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari on Tuesday appointed a special envoy to South Africa in the wake of the attacks affecting Nigerians in that country.

The special envoy dispatched by the Nigerian leader is expected to arrive in Pretoria on Thursday at the latest, to convey his concerns to the South African president and interact with him on the situation. Presidents of the two countries are scheduled to meet in October for bilateral talks and also on matters relating to the security of Nigerians in South Africa.

Xinhua

British PM's brother resigns as MP, minister

LONDON

THE brother of British Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced his resignation yesterday as an MP and as business minister.

In what was described as yet another blow for the embattled prime minister, Jo Johnson said he was unable to resolve family loyalty and the national interest.

In a message on his social media site, Jo Johnson (pictured) said: "In recent weeks I have been torn between family loyalty and the national interest - and it's an unresolvable tension, and time for others to take on my roles as MP and minister."

He said it had been an honor to represent the parliamentary seat of Orpington and to serve as a minister under three prime ministers.

The Daily Mail in London said his decision to stand down suggested he did not believe his brother was acting in the national interest.

Downing Street was said to have been taken by surprise by Jo Johnson's decision.

A spokesperson said in a brief statement: "The prime minister would like to thank Jo Johnson for his service. He has been a brilliant, talented minister and a fantastic MP." "The Prime Minister, as both a politician and a brother, understands this will not have been an easy matter for Jo."

Jo Johnson has had a much lower profile in politics than his controversial brother, and he supported Britain remaining in the European Union (EU).

He served as a minister in Theresa May's Conservative government but resigned accusing May of bungling Brexit negotiations with the EU.

He returned to frontline politics after his brother appointed him in July as a business minister.

The Daily Mail said Jo Johnson has not expanded on his reasons for resigning but is thought to have been infuriated by the way the prime minister fired 21 Conservative rebels who voted with the opposition benches this week.

Xinhua



Netanyahu opposes Iran talks as Trump moots meeting Rouhani

LOD

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged world powers yesterday not to open a dialogue with Iran, after US President Donald Trump said he may meet his Iranian counterpart to resolve a crisis over Tehran's nuclear program and sanctions against it.

"This is not the time to hold talks with Iran. This is the time to increase the pressure on Iran," Netanyahu told reporters at Ben

Gurion Airport before boarding a flight to London.

Netanyahu's comments marked rare public discord between the right-wing Israeli leader and Trump on the Iranian nuclear issue. Netanyahu had previously counselled France against its own outreach to Iran.

On Wednesday, Trump left the door open to a possible meeting with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani at the upcoming UN General Assembly in New York,



saying: "Anything's possible. They would like to be able to solve their problem." Tehran has rejected any negotiations with Washington unless Trump drops sanctions he imposed after withdrawing from the 2015 Iranian nuclear deal, an agreement Netanyahu also opposed.

Iran has said that, starting on Friday, it would begin developing centrifuges to speed up the enrichment of uranium, which can produce fuel for power plants or for

atomic bombs. The Iranians deny seeking the latter.

The centrifuge move would be Iran's latest reduction of its commitments to restrict nuclear projects under the 2015 deal.

Netanyahu called this "another violation, another provocation by Iran, this time in the realm of its quest for nuclear weaponry".

In London, Netanyahu is due to meet British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and US Defense Secretary Mark Esper. **Agencies**

Agencies

Putin says Moscow-Kiev relations will inevitably normalise in the future

VLADIVOSTOK

RELATIONS between Russia and Ukraine will inevitably normalize in the future, Russian President Vladimir Putin told a plenary session of the Eastern Economic Forum.

"I think that this will inevitably happen in historical perspective. I mean full normalization of relations, because we are two parts of the one and the same people, and I have stated this many times," Putin said.

Speaking on mending ties with Ukraine in the near future, Putin noted that this largely depends on the new Ukrainian leadership.

Putin has stated that negotiations on the exchange of detainees with Ukraine will be finalized soon.

"Out of humanitarian considerations, we are approaching the finalization of the negotiations that we are carrying out with the official authorities as well, so I think that it will become known in the near future," Putin said.

The president believes that the next prisoner exchange between Russia and Ukraine will be large-scale. He noted that it would be a positive step towards normalizing relations between the two countries.

"Regarding the exchange. I believe it will be rather large-scale, and that would be a good step forward towards normalization," Putin said.

The Russian leader suggested that head of the political council of the Ukrainian party "Opposition Platform - For Life" Viktor Medvedchuk, who is present at the Forum's plenary session will "torture" him on this issue.

"I know that he is especially concerned about several people who are staying in prisons in the Russian Federation, and it was rather difficult for us to make decisions on specific people, these specific people," the Russian president noted

Agencies



'Everything is gone' Bahamians struggle in Dorian's devastating wake

NASSAU, Bahamas

STUNNED residents of the Bahamas surveyed the wreckage of their homes and officials struggled to assess the number killed by Hurricane Dorian, as the storm bore down on the South Carolina coast, threatening record flooding yesterday.

The United Nations said 70,000 people in the Bahamas needed immediate humanitarian relief after the most damaging storm ever to hit the island nation.

Aerial video of the worst-hit Abaco Islands in the northern Bahamas showed widespread devastation, with the harbor, shops, workplaces, a hospital and airport landing strips damaged or decimated, frustrating rescue efforts.

One of the most powerful Caribbean storms on record, Dorian was rated a Category 5 hurricane when it killed at least 20 people in the Bahamas. Authorities expect that number to rise, Prime Minister Hubert Minnis said at a news briefing, as retreating floodwa-



ters revealed the scope of destruction.

"My island of Abaco, everything is gone. No banks, no stores, no nothing," said Marsh Harbour resident, Ramond A. King as he surveyed the wreckage of his home, which had its roof ripped off and debris scattered throughout. "Everything is gone, just bodies."

With telephones down in many ar-

eas, residents posted lists of missing loved ones on social media. One Facebook post by media outlet Our News Bahamas had 2,500 comments, mainly listing lost family members.

Dorian killed one person in Puerto Rico before hovering over the Bahamas for two days

with torrential rains and fierce winds that whipped up 12- to 18-foot (3.7- to 5.5-meter) storm surges.

POSSIBLE RECORD SURGE

South Carolina was preparing for a record storm surge, potentially reaching a height of 8 feet (2 meters) at the popular vacation destination of Myrtle Beach, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said in an advisory.

The storm was located about 70 miles (115 km) south-southeast of Charleston, South Carolina, at 8 a.m. EST (1200 GMT) yesterday and was headed north-northeast at about 8 miles per hour (13 kph), the NHC said. It was packing 115 mph (185 kph) winds.

About a foot (30 cm) of rain will drop on flood-prone Charleston and many parts of the coasts of the Carolinas yesterday and today, said Bob Oravec, a forecaster with the

National Weather Service's Weather Prediction Center in College Park, Maryland.

"It's pretty substantial," he said early yesterday. "It's already raining heavy in Charleston and up and down the coast."

More than 185,000 homes and businesses were without power along the South Carolina and Georgia coastal areas, according to the tracking site poweroutage.us.

The streets of downtown Charleston were all but deserted early Thursday as driving rain and strong winds lashed the city.

On South Battery Street, a block away from the water, Brys Stephens and his family worked hard to keep the water away from a large gray home with white verandas along the front, the type of home that has made Charleston famous and is a major tourist draw.

China keeps promises regarding strict control over fentanyl-related substances

RECENTLY, some US politicians have been blaming China for not fulfilling promises to stop sales of fentanyl to the US, calling China a major source of fentanyl-related substances and a cause of many deaths in the US.

Such groundless accusation only revealed their amorality - something rarely seen in this world.

Facts don't lie. Implementing very strict control over fentanyl-related substances, the Chinese government has regulated 25 variants of fentanyl and 2 precursors, more than those on the United Nations' list.

To respond to US concerns, China completed relevant legal procedures in four months and listed all fentanyl-related drugs in the country as controlled substances starting May 1. This demonstrated the sense of responsibility of the Chinese government to actively participate in global drug control and safeguard global peace and stability.

China spares no efforts to advance relevant work, including the making of legal documents, a nationwide investigation campaign on fentanyl-like substances, and a special action to crack down upon online sales of

such substances.

It has also urged logistics companies to implement necessary procedures including real-name consignment, unpacking, and machine security screening. The country is ensuring that every measure it adopts is implemented.

China has achieved fruitful results in fentanyl control and such achievement speaks for itself. Since this year, not a single case of illegally producing, selling and trafficking fentanyl-like substances has been spotted by Chinese drug control departments.

Statistics released by the US De-

partment of Justice showed that, in the first quarter this year, US Customs and Border Protection only seized 0.29 kilograms of fentanyl-like substances in 12 cases from China, down by 99 percent and 93 percent respectively compared to the same period last year. In the second quarter, 5 kilograms were seized in 4 cases, down by 78 percent and 97 percent respectively.

The fentanyl-like substances legally produced by China have never entered the US.

It is obvious that some US politi-

cians are merely labeling China by overgeneralization and extreme individual illegal acts. Their conclusion, reached upon the basis of one-sided viewpoint, is totally groundless.

China has always kept its promises and fulfilled its commitment of strictly controlling fentanyl-related substances. The US politicians should respect the facts, observe China's stand with an objective manner, and face up to China's huge efforts and achievements.

Why can't the US have "zero-tolerance" of narcotics and strictly implement its drug control policy just as China does? Why are China's fenta-

nyl control measures more strict and effective than those of the US? These questions are worth thinking of.

The US, being the largest market of narcotics, has 5 percent of the world's population, but is consuming 80 percent of opioid drugs. It's unimaginable that why the US politicians are blaming other countries rather than finding out effective solutions from themselves.

They probably don't know that the more they slander, the more they break the promises to their people.

People's Daily



US tariffs won't stop China's development

IN the face of trade frictions escalated by certain people in the US, China has always had the sense of morality and justice, demonstrating full confidence, strength and resilience.

China resolutely defends its core interests and the fundamental interests of its people, and firmly upholds the free trade and rules-based multilateral trading system, winning wide praise from the international community.

China has a huge market of nearly 1.4 billion people, and the largest middle-income group in the world. The ongoing consumption upgrading and the huge market potential provide great impetus for the high-quality development of China's economy.

A few days ago, Costco, the largest wholesale chain in the US, opened its first store in China. The store made headlines in the Western world for its unexpected popularity among Chinese consumers.

Thanks to the strong demand from the Chinese market, Costco's total market value increased by \$7.8 billion in less than two days after it opened the Chinese store. Trade war or not, US companies follow the consumer to China, said Bloomberg.

China's economic boom has made the country a fertile ground for investment that foreign companies cannot ignore. American companies are unwilling to withdraw from China, as people inside and outside the industry believe it.

Investments by US companies in China have grown this year despite the worsening trade war between Beijing and Washington, with American businesses lured by the country's expanding consumer market, said an article published on the Financial Times.

Fortune 1000 companies in anything to do with high-end manufacturing are doing deals and expanding their China operations. They know that China will continue to be the world's most active manufacturing centre, the article continued.

China-US economic and trade coop-

People's Daily

India to provide \$1 bln credit line for development of Russia's Far East

VLADIVOSTOK

INDIA has decided to allocate a \$1 bln credit line to the Russian Federation for the development of the Far East, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi announced at a plenary meeting of the Eastern Economic Forum (EEF-2019) yesterday.

"India will provide a \$1 bln credit line. This is an unprecedented case, this is our launching pad in the Far East. The Government of India is very active in this region," he said.

Modi emphasized that this is a unique case when New Delhi provides such special credit line to another country. "I am also confident that this step will give new impetus to the development of economic diplomacy and growth of ties between the regions of our friendly states. We will remain active partners in our priority cooperation," he said.

Agencies

ROUGHLY speaking, the best-case scenario for the past 30 years occurred when blacks had about one-sixth the median wealth of whites in 1998, said a report recently released by US think tank Center for American Progress.

The black-white wealth gap has not recovered from the Great Recession in 2007, the report said. Although black wealth increased at a faster rate than white wealth in 2016, blacks still owned less than 10 percent of whites' wealth at the median.

For a variety of reasons, African Americans are more vulnerable to economic insecurity and therefore are in greater need of wealth.

They have less access to stable jobs, are more likely to be unemployed than whites, and are

particularly less likely to owe money on a mortgage or home equity line of credit. In addition, they are more likely to own costlier debt than whites.

Moreover, the disparities between white and black Americans can nearly always be traced back to policies that either implicitly or explicitly discriminate against black Americans, the report pointed out.

According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, black mothers and children die at disproportionately higher rates than their white counterparts, regardless of their income levels.

Researchers have suggested that racism—which has pro-

duced segregated neighborhoods with fewer hospitals, higher rates of chronic illnesses, and unequal access to health care—is the main culprit.

At present, American society is seeing increasing contradictions and confrontations between different ethnic groups. According to data from the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino, hate crimes in 30 cities in the US surged by 10% in 2018.

Racial hatred has already led to several mass shootings in recent months. This has generated a deep sense of unease for American society.

According to a report released

this year by the US Southern Poverty Law Center, the total number of registered hate groups in the US increased to 1,020 in 2018, a 30 percent jump from 2014, and the number of white nationalist groups surged by 50%.

US Census Bureau also pointed out that white Americans were projected to fall below half the population and lose their majority status.

It intensified fears and frustrations of the society so much that various white supremacist and white nationalist groups have recently sprung up. At least three American states have elected governors holding white supremacist views

Racial inequality is a chronic disease of American society. White supremacy, instigation of racial discrimination and hate speech have long been around in the US, according to the report of the 93rd Session of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and a report by a UN special rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, based on the resolutions of the UN General Assembly.

Gerald Early, director of the Department of African-American Studies at Washington University in St. Louis, told People's Daily that the long-standing existence of racial issues in Ameri-

can society reveals the incapability of the American system.

He explained that although apartheid and discrimination were abolished, the racial boundaries are still lingering in people's minds. In many cities, there are so-called white communities and African-American communities.

The latter are often full of dilapidated houses, and their local governments always can't afford to build quality public schools and hospitals due to limited tax bases. This has become a vicious circle.

Besides, the US political world is also experiencing an unprecedented division. It has lost the ability to reach and implement

consensus on major issues, let alone breaking the vicious circle. A senior researcher at the Hudson Institute believes that the endless racial discrimination and rising hate crimes have to some extent reflected that democracy is in crisis, and division has become a prominent feature of American politics.

In recent decades, the US congressional legislation has delegated broad powers to administrative agencies, while the Congress simply decides whether or not to pass the legislation by voting.

The administrative agencies have been manipulated by interest groups. The laws they passed were often affected by interest groups and considered "bad" in the eyes of the public.

People's Daily

Withdrawal of extradition bill paves way for dialogue, Lam says

HONG KONG

A NEWLY announced series of measures by the Hong Kong government, including the withdrawal of the extradition bill, aim to lay the groundwork for a widely engaged dialogue in society to help the city move on from its recent turbulence, Chief Executive Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor said yesterday.

The government's four-part initiative, announced on Wednesday, came after Lam's meeting with different groups to seek advice on the establishment of such a dialogue.

Speaking a day after announcing the four steps to take the city forward, Lam (pictured) said one pertinent piece of advice that she got from that meeting was that the government needs "to take the initiative to provide a basis for the dialogue".

"The withdrawal of the bill to fully allay public concerns is one of those important bases for a dialogue," she



said.

A key demand of the protesters was the withdrawal of the extradition bill, the introduction of which sparked mass protests since June 9 and plunged the Asian business hub into its biggest political crisis in decades.

The protesters' other four demands—including amnesty for all those arrested in relation to the protests—run counter to the Basic Law and the rule of law, Lam said.

The bill withdrawal will be tendered by the government when the Legisla-

tive Council resumes, with no voting and debate needed for the process.

The decision is one by the Hong Kong government, she said, adding that Beijing understands and supports her decision.

Lam said that she hopes the four actions she mentioned will be looked at "in context". "Taken together", she hopes they will form a basis for dialogue in the community, she added.

Another action the government is taking to break the impasse include the appointment of two new members of the Independent Police Complaints Council, a long-established watchdog for the city's police force, and commissioned by the government to conduct an independent fact-finding probe into the turmoil.

The new members are Barrister Paul Lam Ting-kwok, former chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association; and Helen Yu Lai Ching-ping, a senior civil servant who has served in various public offices.



Pope Francis calls on Mozambicans to secure peace

MAPUTO

POPE Francis yesterday invited Mozambicans to cherish the blessing of peace after decade-long instability in the country, in order to take good care of its citizens and drive the country out of poverty.

Pope Francis (pictured), who arrived Wednesday evening for a three day visit in Mozambique, made the remarks at the presidential palace in Maputo where he had a private meeting with President Filipe Nyusi, and other dignitaries.

Over the years, Mozambicans learned that to secure a lasting peace is a mission that involves everyone, for peace "is like a fragile flower that seeks to bloom among the stones of violence", said the Pope.

"A culture of peace implies a productive, sustainable and inclusive development, where every Mozambican can feel that this country is his own (homeland), and in which he can establish relations of fraternity and equity with his neighbor and all that surrounds him," added Francis.

Therefore, he encouraged people to "continue to affirm with determination but without fanaticism, with courage but without exaltation, with tenacity but in an intelligent way: no to violence that destroys, yes to peace and reconciliation".

He also urged those in power to recognize, ensure and rebuild the dignity of those forgotten or ignored in order for them to feel as the main actors of the destiny of the nation.

"We must not lose sight of the fact that "without equal opportunity, the various forms of aggression and war will find fertile ground that will sooner or later cause the explosion.

When society leaves a part of itself in the periphery, there will be no political programs, no forces of the order or secret services that can guarantee the tranquility indefinitely," said the Pope.

In turn, Mozambique's president told the Holy Father that "the efforts made by the Mozambicans are essentially aimed at building a nation where nonviolence becomes a culture lived by all, where politics is done through the force of argument and not the force of arms".

Mozambican government and opposition Renamo signed last month a definitive peace agreement ending a long period political instability. It was the second time for Mozambique to receive the Vatican's pontiff, the first time was in 1989 when Pope John Paul II visited the country.

Pope Francis later met with the youth and will hold on Friday a mass, before he leaves the country towards Madagascar, his second leg of the three country tour in Africa.

Xinhua

Pentagon pulls funds for military schools, daycare to pay for Trump's border wall

WASHINGTON

THE Pentagon said on Wednesday it would pull funding from 127 Defense Department projects, including schools and daycare centers for military families, as it diverts \$3.6 billion to fund President Donald Trump's wall along the U.S. border with Mexico.

Schools for the children of U.S. military members from Kentucky to Germany to Japan will be affected. A daycare center at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland - the home of Air Force One - will also have its funds diverted, the Pentagon said.

Trump declared a national emergency earlier this year to access the funds from the military construction budget. In March, the Pentagon sent to Congress a broad list of projects that could be affected.

A Pentagon official said in a briefing that the department was given a "lawful order" by Trump to divert the funds. She said the Pentagon is working closely with Congress and its allies abroad to find funding to replace money diverted for the wall, but that there are not any guarantees that those funds will come.

On Tuesday, the Pentagon said the first \$1.8 billion would come from projects outside the United States, followed by projects inside the country.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer said the Trump administra-



tion's reallocation of funds was a "slap in the face" to members of the U.S. military. The U.S. Military Academy at West Point in Schuylers state is the most expensive project impacted in the United States with \$95 million pulled from construction on its engineering center.

The list of affected projects also includes roads, maintenance shops, equipment storage buildings and hazardous material warehouses.

The wall was a central promise of Trump's 2016 campaign and remains central to his immigration policies as he aims for re-election in 2020.

Some \$30 million in funds for an equipment building at Fort Huachuca in southern Arizona will be diverted to

pay for the wall.

Republican U.S. Senator Martha McSally of Arizona said she fought to ensure no projects in her state would be affected and was guaranteed of that by former acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan. She said in a statement the Fort Huachuca project was already delayed.

House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi said in a call with fellow Democrats on Tuesday that the diversion of military funds "will undermine our national security, quality of life and morale of our troops, and that indeed makes America less safe," according to an aide.

Agencies

Improving nutrition within health services could save 3.7 m lives by 2025, says WHO

GENEVA

ENSURING optimum nutrition at each stage of a person's life should be a strong focus of health services, which, with the right investment, could save 3.7 million lives by 2025, the World Health Organization (WHO) said Wednesday in a report.

According to the report, titled "Essential Nutrition Actions: Mainstreaming Nutrition Throughout The Life Course", the world has made progress in nutrition but major challenges still exist.

There has been a global decline in stunting, or low height-for-age ratio. Between 1990 and 2018, the prevalence of stunting in children aged under five years declined from

39.2 percent to 21.9 percent, or from 252.5 million to 149.0 million children, though progress has been much slower in Africa and South-East Asia, WHO statistics show.

Obesity, however, is on the rise. The prevalence of children considered overweight rose from 4.8 percent to 5.9 percent between 1990 and 2018, an increase of over nine million children.

Adult overweight and obesity are also rising in nearly every region and country, with 1.3 billion people overweight in 2016, of which 650 million, or 13 percent of the world's population, are obese.

Obesity is a major risk factor for diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, most often heart disease and stroke, musculoskeletal disorders, and some

cancers. "In order to provide quality health services and achieve Universal Health Coverage, nutrition should be positioned as one of the cornerstones of essential health packages," said Dr. Naoko Yamamoto, assistant director-general at the WHO. "We also need better food environments which allow all people to consume healthy diets."

While calling on countries to decide which interventions best support their national health policies, strategies and plans, the WHO recommends some key intervening approaches, such as providing iron and folic acid supplements as part of antenatal care, and delaying umbilical cord clamping to ensure babies receive important nutrients they need after birth.

Xinhua

Racial inequality a sting in American society

ROUGHLY speaking, the best-case scenario for the past 30 years occurred when blacks had about one-sixth the median wealth of whites in 1998, said a report recently released by US think tank Center for American Progress.

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People's Daily



Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas during the 91st Academy Awards in Beverly Hills, California, U.S., in this February 24, 2019 file photo. REUTERS

In a first, Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas both named People's best dressed

LOS ANGELES

ACTRESS Priyanka Chopra and her pop star husband Nick Jonas were named the best dressed of 2019 by People magazine on Wednesday, marking the first time in the celebrity magazine's history that a couple has shared top style honors.

Chopra, 37, a former Miss World who became a star in both Hollywood and Bollywood, and Jonas, 26, topped People's annual best dressed list in an eclectic slate that included actor Billy Porter and tennis champion Serena Williams along with style-setting veterans such as Jennifer Lopez, Lady Gaga and Celine Dion.

"It's the first time ever that we have had a man or a couple on the Top 10 list, let alone as the best dressed. But it really felt like these two deserved it," People's style and beauty director, Andrea Laventhal, told Reuters.

"The combination of the two of them is so exciting to watch. (Jonas) is not exactly someone who just wears a black tuxedo and stands next to her on the red carpet. You can tell that he enjoys fashion as much as she does," Laventhal added.

Chopra, who became the first Indian to headline a U.S. television drama series as the star of "Quantico," married the younger of the

three Jonas Brothers musicians in New Delhi in December 2018, becoming one of the most sought-after celebrity couples in the world.

Laventhal praised Chopra and Jonas for embracing different styles and designers but always looking good.

"They don't do matchy-matchy but they still look like they go together," she said. "Even walking down the street in New York City, they are not in jeans and a T-shirt or casual pants. She is in a head to toe look, and so is he."

Porter, the Emmy-nominated star of TV series "Pose" about New York's LGBTQ ballroom culture in the 1980s, was deemed the "Disruptor" on People's Top 10 best dressed list.

Porter, 49, turned heads when he walked the Oscar red carpet in February in a black velvet tuxedo ball gown, and at the Met Gala in May dressed as a glittering Egyptian sun god with gold wings.

Laventhal said Porter's appearances "never felt like they were just for the sake of being outrageous or costumey. It was really the start of a conversation about what is considered gender appropriate."

People magazine's 20-page style feature in this week's magazine hits U.S. newsstands on Friday.

REUTERS

Ruiz targets long title reign ahead of Joshua rematch

NEW YORK

MEXICAN-AMERICAN world heavyweight champion Andy Ruiz Jr. said he will not be satisfied with "15 minutes of fame" as he prepares to fight Briton Anthony Joshua again in Saudi Arabia on Dec. 7.

Ruiz produced one of boxing's biggest upsets by beating the 29-year-old Joshua with a seventh-round stoppage at New York's Madison Square Garden on June 1.

Ahead of the rematch in Diriyah, near Riyadh, Ruiz said he hoped to inflict another painful defeat on Joshua.

"The hunger still remains. I don't want 15 minutes of fame. I want it to last. I want a generation. I want to be a champion for more years," Ruiz told reporters on Wednesday.

Joshua, previously undefeated and fighting for the first time in the United States, was defending his IBF, WBA and WBO titles but was knocked down four times in the fight.

"Two big heavyweights punching each other in the face, it's going to be exciting. I know Joshua is coming hard, he's coming strong. He's more hungry, he wants his belts back. He's preparing hard, but so am I," Ruiz added.

"There's a lot of responsibilities... I'm going to keep those belts and I'm going to have them back in Mexico. I'm going to win here in the same fashion that I won on June 1."

Joshua said Ruiz had been a tough opponent. "I was up against a good challenger. Andy is

champion now. That will last until Dec. 7 when he puts his titles in the air," Joshua added.

"Being a champion is more than the belts. It's about a championship mindset. The belts will go up in the air and we will fight for them again."

"Two warriors to go war and the best man will walk out victorious."

REUTERS



Andy Ruiz Jr. celebrates winning the fight against Anthony Joshua with his team at Madison Square Garden in New York, United States in this June 1, 2019 file photo. (Agencies)

Taifa Stars player ratings against Burundi



Senior national soccer team, Taifa Stars.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SENIOR national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' were held to draw 1-1 with Burundi in the 2022 World Cup preliminary round first leg qualifier played at the Prince Rwagasore Stadium in Bujumbura on Wednesday.

Despite the fact that the football wasn't exactly pleasing to the eyes it was a much improved performance to the one we saw in the AFCON finals in Egypt.

We take a look at individual performances of players who got enough time to make an impression.

Juma Kaseja 7

A quiet afternoon with the gloves but the veteran goalkeeper did well playing especially in initiating build ups from the back.

His distribution from the back was superb to show that over the years his passing has greatly improved. Aishi Manula, Benno Kakolanya and Metacha Mnata should take note.

Kelvin Yondani 6.5

Yondani was solid at the back and did well to nullify the threat of

Burundi forward Saido Berahino throughout the match.

His marking and tracking of Mohamed Amissi was poor. He allowed the lively Burundi winger to turn him in and out before delivering a sumptuous cross that was effectively used by Cedric Amissi to give the hosts the short-lived lead.

Erasto Nyoni 6.5

Solid enough. Like his centre-back partner, he was relatively comfortable save for his contribution in the build up to Burundi's goal.

Gadiel Michael 6.8

He had a good game defensively but did not get many chances to get forward and crossperhaps limited by the size of the pitch.

Haruna Shamte 5.5

The newly signed Simba Sports Club right-back struggled at times defensively, with most of Burundi's attacks coming down his flank. He gave away possession needlessly with the 'clearing and forwarding' style of play.

He was a surprise starter ahead of Hassan Kessy but he did not fully

grasp his big opportunity.

Jonas Mkude 6.5

He sat deep to offer protection to the defence but had a quiet game. He calmed things by holding on the ball and won a couple of tackles.

Hassan Dilunga 6

He was largely anonymous. He did nothing wrong but had little impact on the game and was replaced by Idd Selemani in the second half.

Himid Mao 7

He wasn't spectacular but was effective in his duties. He did what Ninja does, break up the opposition play and try and be a nuisance in the middle of the park. His long through ball to Samatta was one of the highlight for Tanzania in the first half.

Abubakar Salum 7

A typical Sure Boy performance. He was neat and tidy on the ball on the Prince Rwagasore artificial pitch that produce an uneven bounce.

He picked up a yellow card for a late challenge and had to be substituted for the more dynamic Frank Domayo.

Frank Domayo 7

Second-half substitute who added more dynamism in the midfield and did all the basic things right. He showed maturity by tracking back to mark inside the box and it was his long clearance shot that was awkwardly dealt by Burundi to gift Taifa Stars the equalizer.

Simon Msuwa 7

He didn't exactly sparkle even though he made the most out of Burundi defence poor communication to grab the all-important equalizer.

The Difaa Jadida forward was also guilty of missing a clear cut chance when he was put through in the first half.

Mbwana Samatta 7

To whom much is given much is expected, by his usual high standards it was a quiet afternoon for the Taifa Stars' captain though he still manage to lead the line well without much service.

Idd Selemani 6

A second half substitute who was introduced for the ineffective Dilunga but did not provide the much needed cutting edge.

Analysis: The US isn't the best team at this World Cup _ yet

By TIM REYNOLDS

THE United States does not have the best team at this World Cup.

This is not a new thing.

It's just more evident now. The Americans' edge in recent tournaments has been that they always had the best players on the court. That's not the case in this World Cup. The best player in the tournament is NBA MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo, who plays for Greece, a team that is likely waiting for the U.S. this weekend. All-NBA first-teamer Nikola Jokic plays for Serbia. The two-time reigning defensive player of the year, Rudy Gobert, plays for France.

That puts even more emphasis on teamwork.

From the early days of this team's training camp in Las Vegas last month, coach Gregg Popovich hasn't been showing highlights of how exceptional talent on recent U.S. teams – the likes of Kobe Bryant, LeBron James and Kevin Durant and Carmelo Anthony and Dwyane Wade – could put on the sort of dazzling shows typically reserved for All-Star games. Instead, he's been showing the games that the U.S. had to grind out, as if he knew daunting tests were coming.

But even those glitzy U.S. teams, gold medalists from the last two World Cups and last three Olympics, weren't great "teams."

They just had the best talent in the world, got along, and made it work.

Teams – in an ideal scenario – are put together over time, forged through bonds that sometimes take years. Serbia has six players here who were on its Olympic team three years ago and six returnees from the last World Cup team in 2014. Spain has five players back from the Olympics. Turkey's roster still has holdovers from the group that went to the World Cup final nine years ago.

"Execution-wise, we're not there yet," Popovich said.

That's reality, though it's certainly not an excuse for nearly losing to Turkey on Tuesday night. Ersan Ilyasova, Cedi Osman and Furkan Korkmaz – players with a combined zero NBA All-Star appearances, players with a combined NBA scoring average of 10 points per game – were pretty much doing whatever they wanted, but Turkey let the U.S. off the hook in a 93-92 overtime final.

Put simply, Turkey choked.

And that's what it took for the U.S., the world's No. 1-ranked program, the three-time defending Olympic champions and two-time defending World Cup champions, to win a game over a squad that isn't even ranked among the top 10 in Europe.

"Every game we learn something new about our group and what we have to do and how we have to play," Popovich said. "We already know how good the other teams are, so our respect is there for that, and that goes without saying. But, we still have to use every game kind of like a practice in a sense to try to get better in so many ways."

And while the U.S. is anything but a lock – as everyone can now plainly see – there's still time to get it right. But it is going to take a Herculean effort for this team to win gold in China.

Maybe, just maybe, Turkey provided the lesson or spark



United States' coach Gregg Popovich looks on near United States' Donovan Mitchell, left and United States' Joe Harris at right during a Group E match against Turkey for the FIBA Basketball World Cup at the Shanghai Oriental Sports Center in Shanghai on Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2019. The United States beat Turkey 93:92. (AP Photo)

that the Americans needed.

Yes, the best U.S. talent is back home but the Americans still have the most talented roster at the World Cup from top to bottom. There's no other team in China with 12 NBA players on the roster, not even close.

But they're going to execute – as a team – every second of every game. This team has very little, if any, margin for error.

"We're not going to win every game by 30 or 40," said

U.S. forward Jayson Tatum, who turned an ankle on the pass he threw to set up Khris Middleton for what became the gamewinning free throws with 2.1 seconds left. "Turkey is a great team, and they've been playing together for a while. This is good for us. It was a tough game, tough battle, a lot of guys gave second, third, fourth efforts. We learned a lot about ourselves."

The rest of the world learned a lot as well.

The Americans can be

beaten. The Australians proved that in an exhibition last month, and Turkey showed it again on Tuesday night. Any team the Americans face the rest of the way will go into that game seeing blood in the water, seeing an opportunity to beat the best basketball-playing country in the world.

"We can continue to build and get better," U.S. guard Donovan Mitchell said.

They better. Or else they're not going home with gold.

Neymar's failed PSG to Barcelona move: The definitive story of the biggest transfer that didn't happen - 2

By Julien Laurens, ESPN Correspondent

PEOPLE at the club had wondered all summer if Barcelona truly wanted their former player back, and there were still plenty of questions about how Barcelona could afford their former star. On July 14, at Griezmann's unveiling, Bartomeu explained that a €35 million loan was needed to pay the full €120 million release clause in his contract. Barcelona could barely afford the former Atletico star. How could they bring back Neymar, considering what PSG were asking?

"We are talking about one of the biggest players in the world," a source said. "If you want him and you have the money, you pay and you recruit him. If you can't afford him, you say it and you are out."

"You don't waste people's time."

The end of the Neymar saga

Two incidents complicated everything.

On Aug. 15, Bartomeu had a chance to meet with Al-Khelaifi at the European Clubs Association (the group representing clubs in UEFA) meeting in Liverpool but decided not to attend at the last minute.

Two days later, Barcelona agreed to loan Coutinho to Bayern Munich, even though he was one of the players PSG were willing to include in a deal for Neymar. This marked a huge step back in negotiations. Later on Aug. 17, the Spanish champions lost Suarez and Dembélé to injury and were beaten in their La Liga opener at Athletic Bilbao to an injury-time strike by Aritz Aduriz.

After that loan offer was quickly rebuffed by Paris, it was back to the drawing board for the Catalans, and in the background, Barca sporting advisor Eric Abidal focused on finding a solution. He tried to convince Dembélé to be part of the package, but the Frenchman and his agent, Moussa Sissoko, refused everything.

Despite little progress, there was a glimmer of hope after the second meeting in Paris on Aug. 27. Follow-

ing his return to Catalunya, one of Barca's directors, Javier Bordas, told the media waiting for him at the airport that the club was "closer" to bringing Neymar back.

Zahavi, the super-agent who tried to broker the deal, was in constant contact with the two clubs and the Neymar camp. Despite all his efforts and a final conversation between Bartomeu and Al-Khelaifi on Aug. 29 in Monaco, an agreement was never even close.

In the end, Barcelona spent a lot of time and energy chasing a player they were never capable of affording.

Will this saga begin again in 2020?

For now, the rehabilitation is ongoing in Paris. Neymar will be brought back into the squad and into the PSG first team. He has a lot of work to do to rebuild his relationship with the fans, but make no mistake: At his best, Neymar is a huge asset for this team. It is down to him now to recover his best form, to forget what could have been (or should have been), to put the injuries behind him and to finally be a real success in Paris.

For PSG, sporting-wise and marketing-wise, they are obviously better with the Brazilian than without in every sense. Their goal will be to forget what happened and make a fresh start, even if just for this season.

At the moment, nobody inside PSG knows what Barcelona's next move might be or when it will be. Will they come back for Neymar in January? That seems unlikely to succeed with such a complicated transfer in midseason, but a return to the negotiation table seems very likely next summer. Suarez will be 33, with one year left on his contract. Messi will be a year older too, and it would make more sense for Neymar to come back then. By then, Barca might also have more cash available.

If you liked this saga, brace yourself for a repeat next summer -- only Barcelona and Neymar will be hoping for a different ending.

Solskjaer responsible if Man United do not compete for title-Matic

LONDON

OUT-OF-FAVOUR Manchester United midfielder Nemanja Matic says manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer will have to hold himself responsible if the club are not in the running for the Premier League title this season.

Serbian Matic, a fixture in United's midfield since his move from Chelsea in 2017, has played only 22 minutes this season after making one appearance as a substitute.

United, who last won the league title in 2013, are currently eighth in the table after four games and trail league leaders Liverpool by seven points.

"The coach must opt for the team that will fight for the title and if he does not win, he bears the responsibility," Matic told reporters ahead of Serbia's Euro qualifier against Portugal on Saturday.

"I have been in football for a long time, I have played almost all the games for all the clubs in the last 10

years. In order for me to play, one had to sit on the bench and accept that fact, and so do I now."

Solskjaer has picked 22-year-old Scott McTominay to partner Paul Pogba in central midfield in their first four games, from which they have one win, one loss and two draws.

Matic said he respected the decision but was determined to prove to the Norwegian manager that he belonged in the starting line-up.

"In the first two or three games he picked the team without me," Matic, 31, added.

"I work as hard as I can. We respect the decision, it's up to me to show him that he was wrong and to bring me back to where I belong."

"There is no problem. I told him I disagreed with him but that he had to decide the team."

United return to league action after the international break when they host unbeaten Leicester City on Sept. 14.

REUTERS

Kompany seeks more diversity in governing bodies after Lukaku abuse

LONDON

SOCCER governing bodies lack the diversity needed to understand the feelings of players suffering racial abuse, Anderlecht player-manager Vincent Kompany said on Wednesday.

Former Manchester United striker Romelu Lukaku, who joined Inter Milan last month, was subjected to racist abuse in a 2-1 Serie A win at Cagliari on Sunday and urged federations and social media to do more to fight racism.

His Belgian compatriot Kompany believes the problem lies with the game's governing bodies, including FIFA and UEFA.

"It goes back to who is expected to make a decision on these issues, and it's in these organisations that the problems lie," former Manches-

ter City skipper Kompany told Sky Sports.

"The real racism lies in the fact none of these institutions have representatives that can actually understand what Romelu is going through."

Kompany has previously said that diversity in club boardrooms and institutions of power can help tackle racism more effectively than just punishing individual offenders.

"If you don't have diversity in places of power like boardrooms then you can't have the right decisions in terms of sanctions -- it's as simple as that," he added.

An Inter Milan fan group, Curva Nord, said Cagliari's supporters were only showing Lukaku "respect" when they aimed monkey chants at him.

REUTERS

Summer of unwanted stars: Why the likes of Bale, Neymar and Dybala were not sold

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

ONE day, we might look back upon the 2019 summer transfer window and view it as a turning point. Maybe it will be the moment that clubs woke up to the reality of inflated contracts and fees, or perhaps realized that adding talent for the sake of it is only worthwhile if the price is right.

What is certain is that we have never had a summer like this, with a transfer market in which so many high-earning superstars were up for sale.

Gareth Bale, Paulo Dybala, Neymar, James Rodriguez, Christian Eriksen, Radja Nainggolan, Philippe Coutinho, Mario Mandzukic, Alexis Sanchez, Romelu Lukaku, Toby Alderweireld, Ivan Rakitic, Mauro Icardi, Emre Can, Chris Smalling, Ousmane Dembele, Danny Rose, Henrikh Mkhitaryan, Ivan Perisic, Jerome Boateng, Blaise Matuidi; the list of those available goes on.

Some moved, though all but Lukaku did so on loan: Icardi to Paris Saint-Germain, Sanchez to Inter, Smalling and Mkhitaryan to Roma, Nainggolan to Cagliari, Perisic and Coutinho to Bayern. All but the latter three moved in the final days of the transfer window, after their clubs spent much of the summer trying to offload them, but most stayed put, which begs the question: Why?

Why, at a time when Europe's top clubs are hugely profitable and enjoy a massive competitive advantage, would they not look to strengthen further? Why would clubs happily announce to the world that their employees are available for transfer, knowing that doing so would diminish their value?

Every case is different, both in terms of why a player became available and to what degree he was available, but each of the players above competed for a club that was willing to listen to offers and, in some cases, explicitly told their man that his services were no longer needed. Zinedine Zidane did it with James and Bale, Inter did it with Icardi, Perisic and Nainggolan, Manchester United with Lukaku. Others were more subtle, but, still, the fact that we had so many is unprecedented.

The consensus among a number of executives interviewed was that this was a "market correction." Clubs had overextended themselves; the gap between the very richest 10 or 12 had grown so large that the biggest found themselves with excess inventory.

"Most of the players you mention have very high wages and long contracts; they are simply beyond the budget of all but a handful of clubs," Umberto Gandini, former Roma chief executive and European Clubs Association vice president, said. "So it's a supply and demand situation."

When a factory has excess inventory, it can sell at a large discount. But a player is -- generally -- a sentient human being, not a crate of ball bearings, and as such can turn down a deal. Moreover, unlike the crate of ball bearings or, even, in another sport like the NFL, where unwanted personnel can be cut, footballers have to be paid. If he has a long-term contract and is unwilling to take a pay cut, buyers might be simply unable to afford him, even if there is a deep discount on the fee.

Neymar's road back from the abyss begins with Brazil

By Tim Vickery, ESPN South America correspondent

THERE is only ever one winner in the battle between an athlete and the march of time; according to those in his camp, this is a lesson Neymar has now grasped.

The Brazilian is closer to 28 than 27. He can play for another decade, but there are no more than five seasons left at or around his physical peak. If he is to make his fullest mark on the history of the game, time is running out.

But which club can offer him the platform? The simplest route from Paris Saint-Germain back to Barcelona always seemed to involve his compatriot Philippe Coutinho going in the other direction, plus cash and other players. From the moment Coutinho was loaned to Bayern Munich, it seemed clear that Neymar would be stuck in Paris for a few more months.

There are worse fates, and Neymar is surely prepared to roll up his sleeves and play for PSG. Thomas Tuchel would almost certainly welcome him back, as would almost everyone in the dressing room. Indeed, Neymar often appears highly popular among his teammates. So, then, it is up to the club. There could be resistance from the owners, but if they want to sell him, it is in their best interest to keep him active. There will certainly be resistance from the fans.

Similarly, there was some resistance from Brazil supporters when Neymar was included in the squad for this month's friendlies. Internet polls showed a majority against. But there would seem to be no doubts at all from coach Tite; Neymar has a place in his heart and a place in his team.

The last time Neymar was in action was for Brazil. He was injured on June 5 in a Copa America warm-up match against Qatar, and now he stands by to represent his country once more on Friday against Colombia in Miami and on Tuesday against Peru in Los Angeles.

The Peru match is a rerun of the recent Copa America final, won 3-1 by Brazil. The Colombia clash is more interesting, precisely because this was a meeting that did not take place in the Copa America.

Two teams appeared to have the resources to give Brazil a scare on home ground; both went out on penalties in the quarterfinals. One was Uruguay, who continue to make smooth progress in the 14th year of the reign of coach Oscar Washington Tabarez. The other was Colombia, starting a fascinating new era under African-born Portuguese coach Carlos Queiroz.



Gareth Bale looked certain to leave Real Madrid during the transfer window, but remains with the Bernabeu club. (Agencies)

Gandini added: "Maybe in the past you might have had a club in the next tier down deciding to take a risk -- and it is a risk when you consider the fee, the wages, the length of contract and the reduced resale value if it's a veteran, it's a massive risk -- but with Financial Fair Play that's not going to be possible in many cases."

Indeed, FFP has created a whole cohort of clubs just below the highest echelon who have to watch their spending like never before. The heavy investment that might have once allowed a quantum leap to the top tier is no longer possible when you are dealing with "break-even requirements."

It is not a coincidence, then, that a number of moves were loans with the loaning club subsidising the move in some cases. When a team takes a player in this way, they are either not convinced they want to invest in him or they cannot afford him.

The parent club, meanwhile, gets all or part of his wages off the books, while hoping he will have a great season and someone will want him in 12 months. It's the equivalent of those infomercials where you can try the StepMaster 3000 for free at home for three months and if you are not absolutely satisfied, simply send it back. Try before you buy, as it were.

There is another element at work, as far as the biggest clubs are concerned. While you may disagree on some of the names above, there is little question that most of them, in absolute terms, would make any club better. By how much and at what cost, though?

"Those few clubs that can afford them are already very strong and, relative to the costs involved, they don't feel that another very

expensive signing, especially a veteran with little resale value, will move the needle," Michael Emenalo, former Chelsea and Monaco technical director, said. "It might make them a little better, it could make no difference at all, but relative to the cost, it's not worth the risk."

The view is echoed by Gandini.

"The biggest clubs are entertainment brands as much as they're clubs," he said. "And I think they're being more careful about how they operate. They think more carefully about how much a player adds to the club, both on the pitch and as a brand, and they put a number on it. And if they don't think they'll get a return, they don't act."

To some that might be a little chilling, but you can see the logic. Take Neymar, whose proposed transfer from Paris Saint-Germain to Barcelona fell through. He is a massive brand and a great footballer, but how much less of a brand is Barcelona (or Manchester United or Bayern Munich) without him? If that number is substantially less than what he would cost, well, you can see why potential buyers would go in another direction.

The case of Mathijs De Ligt illustrates another factor in the window that was. The Ajax defender was on the market and Juventus eventually beat Barcelona for his signature, which cost 75m Euros (around \$80m). But there were other clubs that might have had a need for his services.

Manchester City and Liverpool, for example, enjoyed successful seasons, but both could have used a new central defender, given that Vincent Kompany left the former and Joel Matip had a year left on his deal at

the start of the summer. Neither the Premier League nor European champions showed much interest in De Ligt, though.

Why? Possibly because both have hugely powerful and successful managers with very specific ideas about what they want. Adding De Ligt makes you more talented, sure, but it can also be disruptive to bring in a player after a season in which you gained 98 (City) and 97 points (Liverpool) and combined to win three other cup competitions.

Even if he does bring about improvement, are those clubs going to surpass last season's achievements? Probably not. And because managers are evaluated not just on results but on results relative to spending, such a massive signing, coupled with only marginal improvement (or, more likely, a step backward), is not going to help.

Emenalo cites Rodri -- by no means cheap at 70m Euros (\$74m) when he moved from Atletico Madrid to Manchester City -- as the kind of signing managers such as Pep Guardiola or Jurgen Klopp are likelier to make.

"Clubs realize that you can't win everything every year and, more importantly, you don't need to win everything every year to preserve your standing as a club, the strength of your brand or the revenue you earn," Emenalo said. "If the right player comes along, who fills a specific need, then they might sign him, maybe even at great expense to get him in early. But if they are already strong and competitive, they are reluctant to go to great expense to sign even a very talented player if it means disrupting what they have. That's a relatively new phenomenon, I think."

Viewed through one lens, the "Great Correction of 2019" is a positive. Clubs are smarter about how they pay players, and are less willing to take risks and throw money around. (It is obviously due in part to Chelsea's transfer ban, but the net spend of the Premier League's six biggest clubs was the lowest it has been since 2012.)

Equally, though, if it means "doing just enough" to stay on top while also ensuring owner-investors continue to earn handsome profits, that might not sit well with everyone.

"I heard somebody say that there used to be professional clubs and amateur clubs," Gandini said.

"Now we have amateur clubs, a large group of professional clubs just trying to survive and a smaller group of professional clubs who maybe have an illustrious past and are desperately trying to move to the top tier but finding it very difficult."

"And then we have the ones at the top, which aren't clubs at all, but entertainment brands," he added. "They are made up of entertainers and they act like entertainers. It may be an exaggeration, but not by much."



Neymar

Neither Radamel Falcao nor James Rodriguez were fit enough for inclusion in this squad, and Queiroz is unlikely to lament their absences. On the evidence of the Copa, Falcao might well be coming to the end of his international career. Colombia looked far better when the hulking Duvan Zapata led the line.

With James not present, Queiroz might have more freedom to wean Colombia off their dependence on an old-school No. 10. It will be interesting to see if he can find the creativity to trouble a Brazil defence that conceded a single goal -- and that a harshly awarded penalty -- during their six-game Copa cam-

pany.

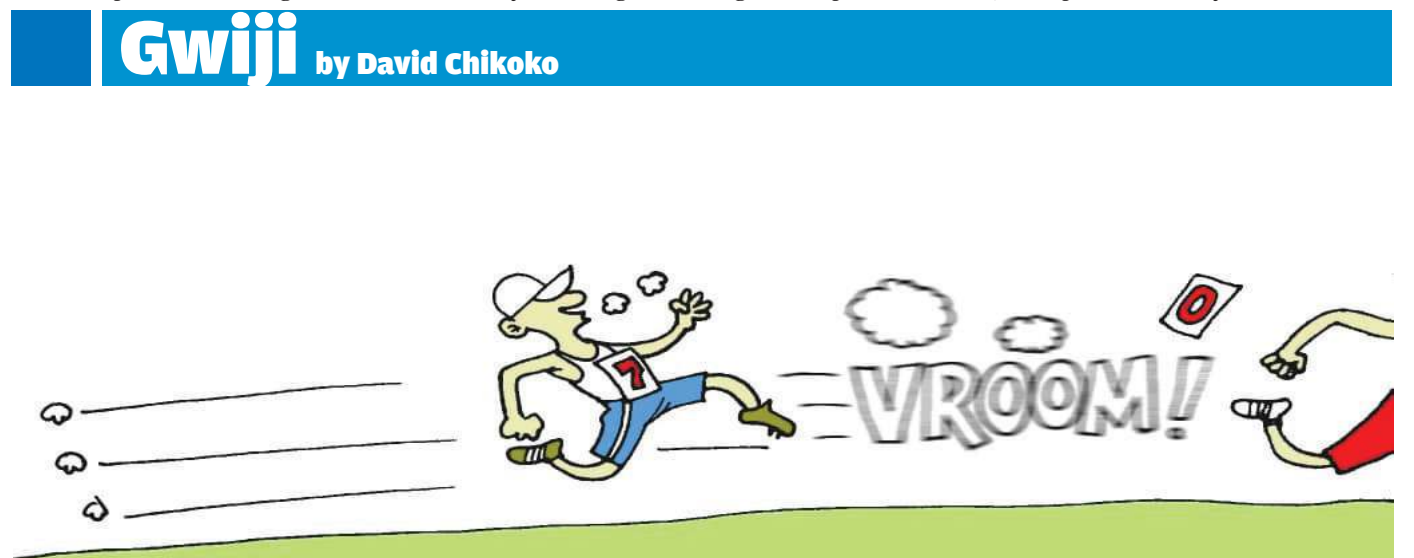
As they start building toward the 2022 World Cup, there could also be a tweak in the Brazil attack involving that man Neymar.

The waters are temporarily muddied by the absence of Everton, the hero of the Copa America.

The insane calendar of the domestic Brazilian game means that he is involved with Gremio in the semifinals of the local cup, and so he has not been selected. But he enjoyed a splendid Copa, forcing his way into the starting lineup and finishing as joint top scorer as a left-winger seeking to cut in onto his stronger right foot -- the very thing that Neymar seeks to do.

Tite is very keen to retain Everton and move Neymar into a more central role, allowing him to float around behind, and sometimes in front of, the central striker. This is the way he has often played under Thomas Tuchel, and it's a position filled for Brazil by Coutinho, who was not entirely convincing in the Copa.

Tite will have to quickly gauge the early season fitness of his players. After a long layoff, is Neymar sharp enough to start and generate ideas from the centre? Or might this be an idea better left until he is back in club action? Either way, for both Tite and Queiroz, the road to Qatar opens on Friday in Miami.



SPORT

Summer of unwanted stars: Why the likes of Bale, Neymar and Dybala were not sold

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Theofora Madilu (2nd L), Co-operative Rural Development Bank (CRDB)'s Business Manager in Morogoro Branch, pictured with the branch's staff after competing in 10km race of the Selous Half Marathon in Morogoro recently. The institution was one of the race sponsors. PHOTO: MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA

Hosts Malawi take aim at gold in COSAFA Men U-17 Championship

LILONGWE

MALAWI coach DeKlerk Msakakuona has said he expects his side to challenge for the gold medal when the country hosts the COSAFA Men's Under-17 Championships in Blantyre from October 11-20.

Malawi won the regional title the last time they hosted the event in 2001, beating South Africa 3-0 in the decider in a competition where the likes of Robert Ng'ambi shone brightly.

Msakakuona will be in charge of the side for the third year running, leading the team to bronze in 2017. They failed to make it out of the pool stages last year despite wins over Zimbabwe (5-0) and Eswatini (1-0).

He says that as the host nation, they should be challenging for top honours despite being drawn in a tough pool that includes South Africa, Zambia and Botswana, all very challenging opponents.

"It is a tough one but as hosts we need to rise above this and ensure that we make it to the semi-finals and finals to win the championship," Msakakuona said.

Malawi have appeared in all but one of the seven previous COSAFA Under-17 Championships played and were winners in 2001 as they lifted the trophy on home soil.

They breezed through their group on that occasion with wins over Botswana (2-0) and Mauritius (4-0), before defeating Zambia 5-4 in the semi-finals.

That set up a decider with South Africa and Malawi prevailed with a comfortable 3-0 score line to lift the trophy.

They had missed out on a semifinal place in 1994 as they beat Namibia 4-0 and drew with Eswatini (1-1), but lost to Zambia (0-3) and South Africa (0-4).

They skipped the 2002 tournament and reached the semi-finals again in 2007. A 6-1 hammering of Botswana was followed by a 1-1 draw with Zambia in the pool stages, before they beat Lesotho (4-0) to book their semifinal place. There they lost 1-0 to South Africa, and by the same score line to Zambia in the bronze-medal match.

Malawi were semifinalists once more in 2016, beating Madagascar (2-1) and Kenya (5-0) in the pool stages. Their result against Zambia (0-3) was annulled after the latter were found guilty of fielding two over-age players.

They were beaten by Namibia on penalties in the semifinals after a 1-1 draw, but did pick up the bronze with a 2-0 win over Kenya.

In another development, Botswana coach Tapaphiwa Gaebolae has named her provisional squad for the inaugural COSAFA Women's Under-17 Championship to be held in Mauritius from September 20-29. Gaebolae said her players will learn a lot during the competition and grow in what will for many be their introduction to international competition, though six of the squad also featured in the 2019 COSAFA Under-20 Championships. The team is currently in camp and will have a few friendly games with local teams before departing for Mauritius. The coach adds she is confident they will return home with a medal.

Botswana has been drawn in Group B at the COSAFA Women's Under-17 Championship and will take on Madagascar in their opener on September 21. After that they will face South Africa two days later, before rounding out their pool play against Seychelles on September 25. The top two teams in each group advance to the semi-finals.

Botswana senior women's football is basking in the glory after defeating heavyweights South Africa in the qualifiers for the 2020 Olympic Games, which will no doubt provide inspiration and motivation for the Under-17 group.

Botswana provisional squad:
Goalkeepers: Thobo Monageng, Gomolemo Bafore, Precautious Tabengwa, Katso Gaorelathe

Defenders: Pearl Sikwane, Keamogotse Maano, Boitshepo Lombala, Lorato Motlogelwa, Christinah Monyatsi, Katlo Marks, Desiree Kenyaditswe

Midfielders: Bofelo Rantsiho, Lone Kgalaeng, Khumo Jautse, Lesego Pineng, Setso Moshe, Maungo Maponga, Khumoetsile Jautse, Thompho Gabana, Kaone Mbongwe, Precious Tlhabi, Gabatshwane Setshwano

Strikers: One Pitso, Jessica Modise, Kwarona Kealotswe, Serati Modisenyane

Kawe, Ubena to stage Oryx Rally showdown

By Guardian Reporter

THE 2019 Oryx Rally of Tanzania was officially launched in Dar es Salaam yesterday in an occasion that also unveiled 17 drivers who will feature in the continental level racing showdown.

Organised by Automobile Association of Tanzania (AAT), Oryx Rally of Tanzania serves as the sixth round of the African Rally Championship (ARC) series, with Tanzania being one of only seven countries in Africa honoured to stage it.

The Oryx Rally Director Satinder Birdi said yesterday at Southern Sun Hotel, one of the associate sponsors of the two-day rally, preparations for the continental class event have been finalized ahead of the wheeling showdown penned for September 13-15 this year.

Oryx Rally, which is also the Tanzania's round, usually draws top drivers and navigators from all over the continent, but this year, according to Birdi there is no foreign entry among drivers but there are foreign co-drivers namely David Sihoka from Zambia and a Kenyan Absalom Swan.

Oryx Energies of Tanzania is the title sponsor while Southern Sun Hotel, Highland Estate Ubena and Knight Support, Precision Air, Utrackhave joined as co-sponsors. With safety taking the leading role, Birdi said, the rally will stage most of its actions at Highland Estate Ubena and Lugoba, about 120 kilometers west of the commercial capital, Dar es Salaam.

"The dusty roads around the sisal estate are safe for both drivers and spectators because it doesn't public roads," Birdi noted.

Safety of crews and spectators is the most serious agenda in motorsports as both the event's director, Birdi and the president of Automobile Association of Tanzania (AAT), Nizar Jivani, have issued warning to the drivers and spectators against violating safety measures in all sections of the two-day rally.

"We have been staging safe rallies for over 16 years since becoming affiliated members of the world motorsports governing body (FIA)", the AAT boss disclosed.

All Tanzania top drivers are competing for this year's rally top honour, including Randeep Birdi who is among the top contenders for the title.

Other top drivers include Dharam Pandya, Rajpar Dhani, Tufail Tufail, Gurpal Sandhu and Ajminder Singh. The list released by the Oryx Rally director has Pandya Rally team of Dharam Pandya and his navigator Veer Darba in Subaru Impreza.

The second in the list is Randeep Singh who will be co-driven by Zubayr Peredina in Mitsubishi Evo 9.

Next off ramp will be Sierra Zulu team of Nadeem Daudi who will be guided by Misam Fazal in Mitsubishi Evo X.

Harri Singh team of Rajpar Dhani and Moses Matovu is placed the top from Kilimanjaro region. The duo will be parading the power of Subaru Impreza in the two-day showdown.



TATA Tanzania cricket squad's Issa Kikasi bats against Marafiki.com outfit during a recent Advanced Players League (APL) match held in Dar es Salaam.

Kinondoni cricketers wallop Amboni in TCA Premier League

By Guardian Reporter

SEIF Khalifa recorded 46 runs as Kinondoni Development cricket team breezed past Amboni team with a seven-wicket victory over the latter in the TCA Development Premier League encounter which was played in Dar es Salaam recently.

The left-handed batsman rediscovered his batting virtuosity to see to it that his squad mounts successful chase and stretch its winning spell.

Having been presented with a chance to bat first, Amboni were less convincing with the bat, as they were skittled for 64 runs in 27.4 overs.

A 16-ball 14 by top order batsman Riziki Kisetu was by far a meaningful batting showing for the Tanga outfit.

The experienced all-rounded stepped up after the early dismissals of openers Seif

Athuman and Mohamed Yunus, as well as Alhaj Makange.

Athuman, Yunus and Makange three had managed to notch six runs, two runs and six runs respectively in a disappointing batting spell for the young batsmen.

Karim Kisetu, batting at number seven, also withstood Kinondoni Development bowlers' barrage of skillful deliveries for some time and notched 11 runs.

A batting collapse that saw three batsmen face dismissal in quick succession later on left Amboni with a challenging task of defending a modest total.

Impressive bowling showing by Kinondoni Development bowlers, Faraj Athuman and Dhurmit Mehta, was instrumental in their squad's successful attempt to frustrate Amboni's efforts to amass a bigger total.

Athuman took five wickets for 24 runs in seven overs, Mehta piled misery on Ambo-

ni, taking two wickets in four overs.

Kinondoni Development hardly drained a sweat during the chase, cruising to the win for three wickets in three overs.

Young batsman, Dhurmit Mehta, scored 13 runs to chip in handsomely in the Dar es Salaam team's successful chase.

Amiri Sadick was the only Amboni bowler with notable contribution with the ball given he posted two wickets, leaked four runs in two overs.

Six teams from Arusha, Tanga, Dar es Salaam and Morogoro are participating in the 50-over competition that has been hosted by the national cricket governing body in an effort to improve the sport.

The sides include Kilimeru of Arusha, Amboni of Tanga, Upanga Warriors, Phantom and Kinondoni Development of Dar es Salaam, and Uluguru Stars of Morogoro.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

BEHIND EVERY BEAUTIFUL WOMAN, THERE IS A MAN...



TONIGHT @ 21:00

FRIDAY

10:57 Jikoni Na Jane
11:00 DADAZ (live)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Radio:PlanetBongo Live
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Skonga
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 Friday Night Live

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE (FNL) is where EATV and East Africa Radio combine to bring you an explosion of Friday Night entertainment. The base gets louder, the fun gets addictive and the guest list is exclusive! It's a party on TV.

east africa RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

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