



LIKE & FOLLOW US

ISSN 0856 - 5434 ISSUE No. 8397

PRICE: Tsh 1,000, Kenya sh100

TANZANIA

MONDAY 13 DECEMBER, 2021

National 3

IAE council chairperson challenges graduates



National Pg 5

Deputy Speaker impressed by IAA



National Pg 6

DC supports firms' public awareness drive



Opinion Pg 10

Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey



Samia lists police disciplinary gaps



President Samia Suluhu Hassan inspects a guard of honour mounted by graduating police officers course No. 1/2021 held at the Kurasini Police Academy in Dar es Salaam at the passing out ceremony yesterday. Photo: State House

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday exposed weaknesses of the police force, directing the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Simon Sirro to immediately work on them.

Officiating at a graduation ceremony for police officers at the Kurasini Police Academy in Dar es Salaam, the president

said the weaknesses include using offensive language, taking bribes and using excessive force when carrying out their duties.

"For the police force to work diligently, officers must adhere to professionalism and work ethics. Most officers violate these rules and use excessive force, which is contrary to their work principles," said Samia, appealing to the force to avoid harassments when arresting ci-

vilians. The president blamed the rampant corruption among officers, noting that some officers have been asking for bribes from visiting tourists.

"Can you imagine, some officers can even get their heads inside a car to take a bribe; what could happen if the driver had a weapon? Such incidents smear the image of the police force," she declared, charging the po-

lice with being in the forefront of violating the laws they are supposed to enforce. She similarly cautioned the officers on negligence in taking care of their work equipment including weapons.

Dwelling on offensive language, she said some words used by police officers promote racism. "You should learn to be friendly to people and use wisdom in making any decisions,"

she emphasised.

She similarly queried why all police college candidates pass their exams when they go for training at the Moshi-based Tanzania Police School, when in reality some of them do not deserve the pass marks.

Some police actions push civilians to take the law into their

TURN TO Page2

CRDB Bank wins quality achievement award 2021

By Guardian Reporter

CRDB Bank has been awarded the 2021 'Quality Choice Prize' by the European Society for Quality Research (ESQR) at an awards ceremony held late last week in Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates.

CRDB is the only bank in East and Central Africa to receive the ESQR award for 2021, presented in recognition of its exceptional success in quality management and for its efforts to maximise the full potential of its services through quality-oriented practices.

CRDB Bank business planning manager Masele Msita accepted the award for his employer, at a ceremony attended by award winners from selected organisations, public admin-

istrations and companies picked for exceptional success in quality management strategies.

Participants hailed from Africa, Europe, Asia, Americas and Australia, where the planning manager said quality is part of corporate DNA at the bank "and we are delighted to have been chosen for this award through ESQR's own research."

"This award enables the bank to reaffirm its commitment towards delivering quality service and designing innovative products to make banking more accessible, convenient and rewarding for customers," he stated.

CRDB Bank has always striven for quality and believes in working on con-

TURN TO Page2

'Stone Town tourism spot will be restored'

By Songwa wa Songwa

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Mwinyi has said that rehabilitation and restoration of properties within the Stone Town—the Isles' tourist hotspot—is not a matter of choice, but a necessity.

Addressing editors at the State House Zanzibar at the weekend, Dr Mwinyi said that property owners in the zone, rated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site have to undertake the restoration works themselves or seek investors to collaborate with

them in that task.

"As you know we rely on two main types of tourism: antiquities and beach. Yet, most houses in Stone Town are in a dilapidated condition hence the need for urgent repairs," he said.

The tricky part, especially for individual property owners, is that the rebuilding in the area is not free style. Each property must be restored to its original shape, lest it loses its allure—a source of tourist dollars," he explained.

The 'restore to original shape'

condition might compel many landlords to strike deals with investors as the government has received help from Oman in ongoing efforts to restore the landmark House of Wonders which partially collapsed on Christmas Day last year.

"Those who can afford to do it should proceed; those who cannot should seek investors so that arrangements are made for them to temporarily vacate the properties

TURN TO Page2



CRDB Bank business planning manager, Masele Msita (2nd R) receives the Quality Achievement Award from the European Society for Quality Research (ESQR) executive director Edward Ryner, at a ceremony held in Dubai over the weekend. Others showing the certificate are Mohamed Abdallah Mtonga, Tanzania's Ambassador in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, CRDB Bank senior manager for investor relations Anna Mwasha (2nd L), and the bank's senior manager for corporate social investment, Joyclean Make. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



TAHA member touts organic pest controls

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA) says its members have made a breakthrough in organic pest control for domestic and export markets.

TAHA Group CEO Dr Jacqueline Mkindi said here at the weekend that painstaking efforts to produce biological control agents have paid off, noting that some products have already been approved for export abroad.

Multiflower Ltd pioneered production and export of biological control agents, contributing to making Tanzania meet domestic consumption of organic products, she said, noting that the country is now positioned to capture

a slice of the global organic food market, when the produce of other companies are included. The organic food industry is a thriving trade, with Report Linker projecting the annual global market value growing

to \$368.94bn by 2026, up from \$167.85bn in 2020. "Our duty now is to promote application of this environment-friendly pest

TURN TO Page2

Samia lists police disciplinary gaps

FROM PAGE 1

own hands, she stated, tasking the IGP with bold action to make the police force disciplined and capable of winning the public trust.

Some police officers do not adhere to professional ethics excusing themselves with 'low pay,' while pledging to work on the matter.

President Samia said the government would continue to analyze and promote police officers in phases where satisfied as to those who deserve it, and also depending on the country's economic situation.

The police force also needs to exercise extra care during end year festivities, to oversee public gatherings and ensuring regular patrols, she affirmed, applauding the police for curtailing criminal activities on the country's borders. "Criminal acts across the

border in southern Tanzania are still a thorn to the nation," she stated, insisting on the need to intensify efforts in that direction, underlining that rising cases of child abuse, terrorism, drugs and human trafficking, the proliferation of light weapons and cybercrime need swift police action to control them.

The president asked the IGP to substantially minimize delays in case investigation by working on undisciplined police officers to restore discipline in the police force.

IGP Sirro pledged to work on the president's directives, including ensuring that the police force remains with disciplined people and not inhabited by law offenders.

The police force is committed to ensure that Christmas and New Year celebrations are carried out peacefully and in an orderly manner, with restraints on fireworks on New Year's Eve, he added.



Former President Dr Jakaya Kikwete (L) talks with Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (C) and Minister of State in Zanzibar in the President's Office Finance and Planning Jamal Kassim Ali at the climax of RewirEd meeting discussing on how to improve education sector held in Dubai yesterday. Photo: Ben Mwaipaja of MoF

TAHA member touts organic pest controls

FROM PAGE 1

management method as we seek to get a share of the global organic food market," she stated. Multiflower Ltd, based in Arusha, says that currently its installed capacity is 1,200 liters of biocontrol agents per day or 6,000 liters per week. This offers a ray of hope to horticultural growers and exporters to take advantage of the world organic food value chain, she stated. Multiflower Ltd managing director Tjerk Scheltema said that the biocontrol agents are currently supplied to local flower farms and the surplus are exported to Holland,

elevating Tanzania's profile in relation to agro-sector innovation. The biological control agents include predator mites such as Phytoseiulus persimilis, Amblyseius swirkii, Amblyseius montdorensis, Neoseiulus californicus and Stratiolaelaps scimitus. Biological control application in agriculture proves to be beneficial to the environment and human health as it eliminates toxicity by conventional pesticides on the plants, soil and water. The agents multiply easily in the soil and leave no residual problem, he stated. The biocontrol agents not only control the disease,

but also enhance the root and plant growth by way of encouraging beneficial soil microflora and increasing the crop yield, he said, expressing his being elated at Tanzania for the first time exporting biological control agents to international markets. The success story wouldn't be possible without painstaking efforts by TAHA, working with the Ministry of Agriculture to streamline policies, regulations and procedures to facilitate the production, registration and export of these natural enemies of pests that cause losses in the horticulture industry, he affirmed. It was difficult to import or

export biocontrol agents as the registration procedures under the Pesticides Act (Plant Protection Regulations), 1998 were silent on the process of its registration and exportation. "The tight and silent regulations made it challenging for horticulture companies to produce, register, import or export plant protection substances even though the companies have the requisite capacity, skills and technology to do so," he explained. TAHA in collaboration with the ministry pursued efforts to strengthen pest control, organising strategic discussions to tap

the potential of producing these important agents to meet local and international demand, he elaborated. Through technical expertise from the biological control agents sub-committee, plant health services and parliamentary committee members for Agriculture, Livestock and Water pushed to revise the regulations and come up with an up-to-date regulatory framework incorporating modern technologies, he further stated. These engagements facilitated a legal structure easing the production, registration and exportation of biological control agents under the Plant Protection Act, 2020

and guidelines for the export, shipment, import and release of biological control agents and other beneficial organisms. Kelvin Remen the TAHA business enabling environment manager, said that all these efforts have started paying dividends as they have encouraged Multiflowers Ltd to produce and export the biocontrol agents for the first time. Currently, horticulture earns the economy around \$779m annually, up from \$100m in 2004, despite that the industry is still in its early stages in its potential for creating jobs, wealth and health, he added.



Chancellor of Hubert Kairuki Memorial University (HKMU) Anna Makinda confers Masters degree of Medicine to Kamesh Kara during the 19th graduation ceremony held at the University premises over the weekend. Left is HKMU Vice Chancellor Professor Charles Mgone. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

'Stone Town tourism spot will be restored'

FROM PAGE 1

while restorations works take place," he elaborated. The unique buildings in Stone Town, executed mostly in coral lime ragstone and mangrove timber, set in a thick lime mortar and then plastered and lime-washed. It reflect a complex fusion of Swahili, Indian, Arab and European influences in building traditions and town planning, experts say.

The major buildings date from the 18th and 19th centuries and include monuments such as the Old Fort, built on the site of an earlier Portuguese church; the House of Wonders, the Old Dispensary; St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Cathedral; Anglican Cathedral commemorating abolishment of the slave trade and built on the site of the last slave market.

It also features the residence of ivory and slave trader Tippu Tip, the Malindi Mosque; the Jamaat Khan for the Ismailia community and other monuments.

With alleys meandering to and from different directions, Stone Town is a beehive of activity with owners of commercial and residential properties earning tidy amounts of money, thanks to the purchasing power of tourists who throng Zanzibar to see this unique enclave or bathing in the Isles' sandy beaches.

The partial collapse of the House of Wonders, here two people died, was a wakeup call for authorities to act, leading to the systematic project for dilapidated buildings to be restored.

Home to the Museum of History and Culture, it is not only the largest but also the tallest building in Stone Town. Built in 1883, the palace was the first building on the island to have electricity and the first in the region to have a working elevator, chroniclers affirm.

CRDB Bank wins quality achievement award 2021

FROM PAGE 1

tinuously developing its services in order to facilitate the customer at every step, he asserted, elaborating that the bank does this by focusing on internal operations and processes.

Dr A. Arista, the ESQR executive director, said the award is an independent assurance for an organization's stakeholders and customers, and motivates the organizations strive for sustainable

excellence.

"This award recognizes CRDB Bank's pioneering and ethical business practices alongside visionary thinking and business excellence. It acknowledges the bank's distinctive success in business management and continued efforts in delivering innovative banking solutions through quality-oriented and sustainable practices," he declared.

ESQR awards recognise organizations' distinctive performance

improvement, organizational excellence and customer focus, encouraging them to share their best practices, experience and knowledge with other organizations, he stated.

Award winners are chosen on the basis of the results of surveys, user opinion polling and market research, together with a selection process which includes an analysis of socially responsible projects implemented and an analysis of public information

sources, he specified.

Based in the Swiss city of Lausanne, ESQR handles strategic questions in quality management and promotes quality culture and continuous improvement in quality through annual conventions. They serve as a global forum to perfect quality management techniques and provide an excellent networking opportunity for participants, he explained.

Through its recognition pro-

grams and awards, ESQR makes quality a top priority for the recognized organisations, regardless of their sector, size and location, he said.

The business promoting NGO hosts associates from academia, industry and international organizations, partnering with corporate executives, academic experts, manufacturing specialists, engineers, scientists and technicians around the world to carry out its activities and projects.



Zanzibar Chief Secretary Eng. Zena Ahmed Said (C) talks on the contribution of Blue Economy policy at the ministers' meeting in Unguja yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

IAE council chairperson challenges graduates to be good citizens and best performers and role models

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

INSTITUTE of Adult Education (IAE) council chairperson Dr Naomi Katunzi has challenged graduates to be good citizens, best performers and role models in their working places.

Speaking yesterday during the institute's 57th graduation ceremony Dr Katunzi insisted that their workmates as well as those at home will be looking up to them to see what has exactly changed.

"I have been informed that you were good students dedicated to improving your career. With the same mindset, kindly go and be good leaders at your respective working places," she noted, calling upon them to work professionally and avoid negligence, acts of fraud and corruption.

She said since the institute has shaped and trained them accordingly, it is their responsibility to use the gained knowledge to better themselves and the society at large.

It will be heartbreaking to hear that any graduate here is doing things unethical, she said.

Dr Katunzi added that IAE has impacted graduates with knowledge and skills necessary for personal improvement. She urged them to use the acquired knowledge diligently to benefit themselves as well as the nation.

She said the institute will continue to develop, design and deliver accessible and quality lifelong education programs in which through collective learning, students will be able to use the skills to work for sustainable social economic development individually and the country.

IAE Director, Dr Michael Ngumbi said that graduates should use all they have been taught for the betterment of the society and should not be selfish in sharing the knowledge with the co-workers.

He said by sharing the knowledge they can create a platform for people with skills that are vital for the country's development.

Kenya sets up website for promoting tourism

By Guardian Reporter

THE Kenyan embassy in Tanzania has opened a special website dedicated to promoting home tourism industry.

Kenyan High Commissioner to Tanzania Dau Kazungu told journalists over the weekend that the website is part of the embassy's initiatives of promoting tourism through information and communication technology (ICT).

"I am glad to officiate this crucial platform that will promote Kenya's tourism industry. Our intention is not only to attract tourists from the East African region but also convince the rest of the world to opt for Kenya as their tourism destination," said the Ambassador.

He said all information about the tourist attractions will be available on the website in a large context. Ambassador Kazungu said the website has been designed by the Kenyan Tourism Fund. He said the website will provide information suitable for different stakeholders including tourist agents, hotels and other service providers.

"This is a unique opportunity for us in promoting not only tourism but a way of strengthening diplomacy with the people from other countries who visit Kenya," he added.

Since the majority of the people of Kenya and Tanzania interact in many different ways, this initiative can be used in accelerating business ties," he added.

The website comes at a time when the two East African countries are paving ways for their diplomatic and economic relationship.

On Friday last week, Tanzania and Kenya reached another milestone in the journey of strengthening relations between the two countries.

During their meeting at the State House in Dar es Salaam, President Samia Suluhu and Kenya's Uhuru Kenyatta noted the increased volume of trade between the two countries followed the successful resolution of 46 out of the 64 non-tariff barriers (NTBs) that were identified as hampering trade and investment between the two countries.

The heads of state signed a raft of agreements on immigration issues, prisons and prisoners exchanges, border veterinary control, health, housing and housing development, and an agreement on investment issues.

Signing of the contracts are a result of an August meeting by the Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC), a bilateral organ comprising officials from the two countries created to resolve issues affecting areas of cooperation.




Advertisement

BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below goods/service package at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/service packages.

No.	Reference no.	Description of services to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-21-12-01	SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF FULLY AUTOMATIC CONTAINERIZED 30,000 LPH ULTRA – FILTRATION PLANT (POTABLE WATER)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contractor specialised in supply & installation of potable water plant with minimum Class 5 CRB registration Experience working with similar works in last 2 years Competence in UF System design and fully conversant with the risks and control measures of working in Mining industry Team with multi discipline members (Mainly – Supervisors / Safety officer / QA&QC officer / E&I Engineer /Multi skilled) should have sound Knowledge of Mine Health & Safety acts. QA / QC officer should be NACE certified or equivalent List of equipment's - Resource list – specifying quantities - List of all tools and tackles (with detailed specifications of important equipment).

The above Services/goods are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable pre-qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. Please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead If your company qualify as per the **pre-qualification criteria** together with the following additional information and/or documentation:


- Full company profile;
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business licence, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.;
- BRELA – Register of Companies detailed information certificate
- Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registration
- Years' service and experience of key personnel to be assigned to project
- Required equipment availability to perform the specific work
- A copy of current local content plan approval or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner

Indicate reference number **BUL-21-12-01** and description on your Expression of interest submission.

Kindly send your response by email to bulytender@barrick.com by latest 18:00 on the 20th Dec 2021. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered. Please quote reference number **BUL-21-12-01** in the subject line of your email.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of **BGML**.

For and on behalf of **BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED**



CHRISTIAN SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION (CSSC)

TOR (Dynamics NAV/BC Upgrade)

Background

The Christian Social Services Commission (CSSC) is an ecumenical body established in 1992 by the Christian Council of Tanzania and the Tanzania Episcopal Conference, to coordinate and facilitate the delivery of social services (health and education) by the member churches in Tanzania. In addition, CSSC coordinates a network of more than 1,000 church owned education facilities. Majority of these church health and education facilities are located in remote and rural areas where 70% of the Tanzanian population reside in those areas.

Christian Social Services Commission (CSSC) is using Dynamics NAV 2017 version currently, CSSC would like to upgrade the ERP to latest Dynamics 365 Business central on-premises version.

Introduction

Upgrading the Dynamics NAV ERP application to the latest version Dynamics NAV/Business central On-premises.

Why Upgrade

Microsoft's direction for Dynamics 365 Business Central is clear and significant changes have already found their way to recent product releases. This means that any business currently using NAV and wanting to use Dynamics 365 Business Central in the future will eventually need to make the move to the Microsoft Cloud.

Scope of Work

1. Assessment
2. Implementation of the Upgrade
3. Testing
4. Training
5. Go-Live
6. Post Go-live Support

1. Assessment:

MS Partner should consult the client to do the assessment for the upgrade the ERP application. Collect the data required to do the upgrade plan and estimate the cost and time. Collect the Technical information like current system version & build, customizations, add-ons, Database size, Number of users and any integrations. Collect the functionality information like no of modules and functionalities currently are being used and any challenges that users facing and performance issues.

2. Implementation of the upgrade.

Based the current Dynamics NAV version it will be required to update two or more times. Example: Client is using Dynamics NAV 2017 so it will be required to upgrade to Dynamics BC 14 and from BC14 to latest version Dynamics business central 2021 Wave2.

Each time of the Upgrade consists of the two parts – Technical and data upgrade.

Technical: Identifying the customized objects and converting the CAL version modifications into the AL extensions. Convert the standard (base) object modifications into the table, page extensions and event subscribers. Third party add-ons should be procured from the add-on company since these add-ons were built in specialized object number series.

Data Upgrade: Assess the data in old version database any data inconsistency or errors in data. Do the Mock data upgrade and test the system with latest database. Verify the setups and configuring the workflows for testing.

3. Testing.

All module, functionality to be tested, and reports to be tested. Prepare the document for the errors solving or fixing issues while data upgrade and testing. Test sheets for UAT. The new test database should be prepared for user training including new setup configurations.

4. Training.

Prepare the User manuals for each work instructions in each module wise. User training will be conducted and give some practice exercise. System personalization and administration training will be given.

5. Go-live

Prepare the database for final upgrade (which includes the solving data and technical issues raised on mock upgrade process and testing). Mostly this update will be done weekend to make user continues system access to the uses on workdays. Several backups to be taken to make sure the database and data should not be lost. Configurations and setups will be done in the system as per client requirement or existing old system. like approval workflow, email notifications, account schedules etc.

6. Post Go Live Support:

Monitor system access and performance, assist the users on new system if any issues raised.

Submission of Applications

A soft copy of expression of interest both technical and financial should be submitted through email at director@cssc.or.tz copying procurement@cssc.or.tz. Kindly note that the subject of the email must be Dynamics NAV/BC Upgrade. Should you wish for further clarification kindly send an e-mail to procurement@cssc.or.tz.

The closing date for receiving the application is **17th December 2021 at 1600hrs**. Any application received after the stipulated closing date will not be accepted.

This advert can also be accessed through <https://cssc.or.tz/>



VACANCIES ANNOUNCEMENT

Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) is making reforms in its structure, internal operations and staffing to accommodate business needs. Therefore, applications are invited from qualified Tanzanians to fill the following vacant positions:

1. POSITION: TRAFFIC LIAISON OFFICER (1 POST)

1.1. MINIMUM ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS AND WORKING EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelor Degree or relevant Aviation related Diploma/Certificate from a recognized Training Institution
- Proven relevant working experience of not less than 3 in Airport Ground Operations
- Must be computer literate
- Background in Air Transport Management and possession of IATA/UFTAA Diploma or equivalent will be an added advantage
- Experience in delivering service in demanding consumer environment
- Fluency in appropriate foreign languages is an added advantage

1.2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Supervise and ensure efficient and effective check in and boarding of passengers in compliance with carrier's policy/procedures and customer expectations
- Supervise baggage handling and prepare weekly baggage handling report.
- Liaise with the GHA to ensure lost baggage is communicated, traced, and delivered to affected passenger
- Audit, review and report on service delivery to monitor compliance on SLAS's availed to GHA
- Strict control of excess baggage collection and remittance
- Record all flight movements as per company requirement
- Any other duties as may be assigned by your supervisor
- Ensure the application of the Ground Handling Manual, ATCL rules and Regulations as well as other regulatory authorities' guidance amid operations
- Ensure Operations are performed safely and on time in line with applicable regulations and guidance
- Timely report incidents, accidents, delays, disruptions as observed during operations for further analysis and investigation
- Complete investigation as assigned and share findings within the time frame allocated
- Plan the resources to ensure that every shift and flight is sufficiently covered
- Make decision over the ground operations after consultation with other parties and approval from the manager or as per the written procedure
- Act as a link between ATCL and other service providers.
- Deliver on the OTP and Safety KPIs for ATCL

2. POSITION: CARGO SALES OFFICER (2 POSTS)

2.1 MINIMUM ENTRY QUALIFICATION AND WORKING EXPERIENCE:

- Must have a Degree in Business Administration/Air Transport Management or its equivalent from a recognized institution
- Must have two years (2) working experience in sales in highly competitive business environment
- Background in aviation industry and/or possession of aviation related certification will be an added advantage

2.2 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Coordinate and supervise cargo sales activities from all stations
- Verify and sign cargo damage reports.
- Oversee Ramp staff are advised on the cargo to be uplifted on each flight
- Supervise the Handling agent (at some stations) performs all activities as per TC recommended procedures.
- Prepare periodical reports
- Assist in preparation of budget inputs
- Handle general cargo and Post Office mail bags at point of origin
- Check incoming cargo and mail against the cargo manifest
- Prepare arrival advices for all received cargo as per cargo manifest
- Accept cargo from shippers and prepare for carriage all shipments from agents.
- Investigate and respond to customer complaints and restore customer confidence where there has been service failure
- Handle acceptance of coffins, perishables and courier shipments
- Monitor market trends, competitors' activities and special deals and recommend strategies and marketing activities to counter the competition
- Maintain sales call records and statistics (rates, volumes, revenues, yield, seasonal variations) and produce periodic performance reports on existing accounts, including recommendations to maximise client support
- Forward invoicing particulars to Finance department.
- Manifest all shipments accepted

3. POSITION: SALES EXECUTIVE (1 POST)

3.1 MINIMUM ENTRY QUALIFICATION AND WORKING EXPERIENCE

- Must have Bachelors' Degree preferably in Commerce, Business Administration or relevant discipline.
- Must have at least three years' experience in airline sales working directly for an airline, or within a Travel Agency will be an added advantage
- Must be computer literate.
- A background in Air Transport Management and possession of aviation related certification will be an added advantage

3.2 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ensure that set revenue targets are achieved within prescribed time limits and contribute to total area achievement.
- Enhance relationships with the entire Travel Trade in the assigned territory
- Contributes to the formulation and implementation of ATCL sales strategy to maximise short- and long-term revenue opportunities, reduce cost of sales and generating channel shift where appropriate
- Resolve operational and reservations issues from travel agents and other corporate clients
- Develops tactical sales and marketing activity in support of sales

- opportunities in both Trade Partners and Corporate market place
- Analyze business environment to facilitate timely response to developing market trends to maximise on opportunities that arise and minimise adverse impact on company sales.
- Monitor competitor activities, evaluate recommend competitive strategy and pricing levels to deliver expected yield, margin and revenue targets
- Ensure that all travel agents and corporates are prioritised, regularly visited and professionally handled by the sales team to increase revenue and gain market share.
- Provide input and participate in the identification and progress of new business opportunities for revenue growth (through Agents Incentives/ Corporate agreements /partnerships/ Major Events & Conference Organisers etc).

4. POSITION: MARKETING OFFICER (1 POST)

4.1. MINIMUM ENTRY QUALIFICATION AND WORKING EXPERIENCE

- Must have at least a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing, Business Administration/Air Transport Management or its equivalent from a recognized institution.
- Must have at least 3 years working experience in a similar function
- Possession of a Master Degree/Aviation related certification and/or background in aviation will be an added advantage

4.2 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Identify marketing opportunities by identifying consumer requirements; defining market, and competitor's strengths and weaknesses; forecasting projected business; and establishing targeted market share
- Prepare the marketing plan/activities to actively promote brand awareness
- Lead the communication plan, including traditional media activation as well digital tactical strategies
- Maximize the image and the reputation of the transportation group by establishing credibility and maintaining good working relationships with customers' management team and the aviation community
- Oversee the company's marketing budget
- Coach and develop members of marketing team as required
- Monitor and report effectiveness of marketing communications
- Develop and implement effective promotion and trade incentive programs

5. POSITION: SENIOR ACCOUNTANT (3 POSTS)

5.1. MINIMUM ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS AND WORKING EXPERIENCE

- Must have Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Finance or relevant qualifications from a recognized institution
- Must have at least five (5) years working experience
- Must have relevant certification ie CPA or ACCA) and registered with NBAA
- Experience in airline accounting (BSP and ICH transactions) will be preferred.
- Advanced MS Excel skills including VLOOKUP and pivot tables will be preferred

5.2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Verify, allocate, post and reconcile accounts payable, receivable, revenue, fixed assets and inventory.
- Produce weekly and monthly report of revenue, payable, receivable, fixed assets and inventory
- Summarize and analyses financial information
- Participate in financial standards setting and forecast process
- Prepare financial statements timely and submit to finance manager for review
- Design the frame-work of cost and financial accounts and prepare reports for routine financial and operational decision-making
- Prepare routine reports as well as reports for long-term decision-making and forward to Finance manager to take corrective action at the right time.
- Prepare management report timely and submit to Finance manager for review
- Ensure Compliance with tax related issues, tax audits and tax returns
- Provide support to internal and external audit assignments assign
- Prepare and update cash flows projection
- Support month-end and year-end close process
- Provide input into department's goal setting process
- Supervise, train and coach Assistant accountants reporting to you.
- Participate in department's goal setting process
- Advise Finance Manager on financial related issues, internal controls and reporting.
- Review and recommend modifications to accounting systems and procedures
- Develop and document business processes and accounting policies to maintain and strengthen internal controls
- Ensure compliance with GAAP principles, IASs, IFRSs and IPSAs.

6. POSITION: ACCOUNTANT GRADE 1 (2 POSTS)

6.1. MINIMUM ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS AND WORKING EXPERIENCE

- Must have Bachelor Degree in Accounting, Finance, Banking or its equivalent from recognized academic institutions
- Must have Professional Qualifications (CPA, ACCA or equivalent)
- Must have at least three (3) years working experience in a competitive business environment
- Knowledge in the accounting information system, experience in inventory accounting and relevant airline experience will be an added advantage

6.2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Record inventories (spare parts) in the accounting system
- Reclassify inventories to match with company chart of accounts
- Reconcile accounting records against store physical inventories
- Reconcile accounting records against procurement records

- Undergo monthly inventories stock taking, reconciliation, and valuation
- Advise Finance manager on the provision of obsolete stocks and pass appropriate adjustments
- Analyze business risks associated with inventory management and proposed remedial actions to financial manager
- Support internal and external auditing on inventory accounting
- Comply with financial regulations and accounting standard in reporting, classifying, and disclosure of inventory accounting
- Verify and process invoices into the system
- Perform monthly suppliers' reconciliation
- Review invoices and requisitions for satisfactory payment approval
- Calculate, post business transactions, process invoices, verify financial data for use in maintaining accounts payable records, and provide other clerical support necessary to pay the obligations of the organization
- Maintain copies of vouchers, invoices or correspondence necessary for files
- Prepare vouchers listing invoice number, date, vendor address, item description, amounts and coding per accounting policies and procedures
- Keeping track of all payments and expenditures, including payroll, purchase orders, invoices, statements, etc.
- Maintaining historical records by handling accruals and prepayments
- Paying vendors by scheduling pay checks and ensuring payment is received for outstanding credit; generally responding to all vendor enquiries regarding finance
- Perform any other duties may be assigned by the supervisor.

7. POSITION: ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT (1 POST)

7.1. MINIMUM ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS AND WORKING EXPERIENCE

- Holder of Bachelor Degree in Accountancy, Finance, Commerce/Business Administration (majoring in Accountancy or Finance) or equivalent qualifications from a recognized institution.
- Must have at least two (2) years working experience in a competitive business environment
- Must be Computer literate
- Knowledge in the accounting information system, experience in inventory accounting and relevant airline experience will be an added advantage

7.2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Receives cash and cheques, keeps and makes payments to authorized persons against approved documents;
- Collect and keeps petty cash for payment and for other official use
- Prepare petty cash, cash receipts and maintains petty cash book and passes journal entries
- Prepare and maintain accounting records as per Company Financial regulation
- Ensure that the Agency's cash and cheques are duly deposited and recommends the best way of handling cash to and from the bank
- Prepare payments by verifying documentation, and requesting disbursements;
- Document financial transactions by entering account information
- Post suppliers' invoices and prepare payment vouchers
- Prepare revenue accounts schedules and reconciliation
- Prepare monthly payroll slips for each employee, and keeping records and pay-roll registers
- Remit net salaries to the employee' respective banks Accounts or preparations of authorized lists for those employees to be paid in cash
- Maintain the employees' ledger for staff advances, loans and duty travel imprests
- Monitor, process and reconcile all inter-billing sales
- Preparation of various accounting schedules as directed by supervisor and
- Perform any other official duty as may be assigned by your supervisor.

8. EMPLOYMENT TERMS:

Five (5) years contract with remuneration and fringe benefits as per ATCL Scales and Incentive Scheme

9. MODE OF APPLICATION FOR ALL APPLICANTS:

Interested applicants must submit a dully signed letter for consideration of the application attached with the following: -

- A detailed curriculum vitae (CV),
- Certified copies of all certificates (including secondary school), birth certificate and other relevant certificates/licenses. Applicants who have studied outside Tanzania should have their certificates approved by relevant authorities Tanzania Commission for University (TCU) or National Examination Council- NECTA)
- Two recent passport size photographs
- Name and address of at least two reputable referees;
- Applicant's reliable contact address, email address and telephone number.

Note: Misrepresentation of qualifications or any other information on application shall warrant legal consequences

10. CLOSING DATES:

The application letters should reach the undersigned within fourteen (14) days from the first date of this announcement.

The application letters should be directed to the following address: -

**MANAGING DIRECTOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
AIR TANZANIA COMPANY LIMITED,
P.O. BOX 543,
DAR ES SALAAM.**

13th December, 2021



NMB head of Bancassurance Martine Massawe presents certificate to Mbeya family group events chairperson Rose Mkisi during the MFG 3rd annual general meeting held in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Deputy Speaker impressed by IAA approach in training digital students

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

AMONG the 2481 students who graduated from the Institute of Accountancy Arusha over the weekend, there was a special batch which passed out in masters in information security as the college expands to cover new topics in the global digital sphere.

"We have introduced new courses and special streams in order to accommodate many Tanzanians interested in different fields as well as adopting to the ever changing digital world," stated the Chairperson of the IAA Governing Board, Dr Mwamini Tulli.

The special stream also produced 309 Masters of Business Administration (MBA) students in Information Technology Management as well as those for Masters of Science in Finance and Investments, Procurement and Supplies Management

plus Logistics Management.

The Deputy Speaker for the National Assembly, Dr Tulia Ackson was the guest of honor during the event held for the first time outside the Institute of Accountancy Arusha.

She quoted the founding father of the nation, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere in reminding the graduates that, 'Education is not a way to escape poverty, but rather a means to fight it.'

"I am impressed to learn that the Institute of Accountancy is now including competence based curricular and apprenticeship courses, which prepares students using a more practical approach," said Dr Ackson.

The Deputy Speaker pointed out that the special courses make graduates more employable and also empower them to be self-reliant. "In that way they are in a better position to create jobs instead of seeking employment."

Previously, the head of the Institute of Accountancy Arusha, Prof Eliamani Sedoyeka explained that the IAA's new approach was solution based method targeting to produce students who actually tackled issues.

The 23rd Graduation Ceremony for the IAA took place at Arusha International Conference Center (AICC)

Tanzania through the IAA has also launched strategies to safeguard the country against cases of cyber-attacks by initiating special training programs in higher institutions of learning.

The 'Bachelor of Cyber-Security' is being implemented at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha (IAA) under the efforts of the Ministry of Finance which has entered into agreement with the 'Check Point Secure Academy,' of Israel to empower Tanzanian scholars and IT experts to that end.

Health workers undergo capacity building training

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

A TOTAL of 52 health workers including 26 regional health coordinators and 26 regional school health promotion coordinators from all regions in the country have undergone capacity building training on health promotion at the University of Dodoma (UDOM).

Some other 13 national level health promotion coordinators and administrators also took part in the training, thanks to partnership between the Health Promotion and System Strengthening Project (HPSS) and UDOM that have joined hands in health promotion initiatives.

The five-days training focused on introducing participatory approaches and techniques for health promotion in community and school settings.

Speaking on behalf of participants during the closing ceremony, Dr Ndenina Swai, coordinator of school health education in Dar es Salaam region noted that the training which focused on how to provide health education at lower levels, school was very fruitful.

"The training has opened our eyes, providing more insights in implementing health promotion, especially after realizing the situation on the ground during field visits in few schools in the city," she said.

During the field work part of the training, the participants visited Ithumwa, Mkonze and Hombolo primary schools, all within Dodoma city council to witness condi-

tions of health promotion activities.

She said the three groups that visited one school each reported quite a number of health challenges that the government need to look into, saying the schools in Dodoma are just a replica of the situation in other schools across the country.

Dr Swai observed that students, just like other members of the society deserve health services even when while at schools.

HPSS-Tuimarishie Afya a Swiss-Tanzania Cooperation Project, funded by the Swiss Government through Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and implemented by Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH) in partnership with the UDOM, aimed at building the capacity of health workers from public health facilities across the country.

TPH/HPSS project manager, Ally Kebby noted that the training covered different participatory approaches that seek to empower communities to take over control of their health and wellbeing.

He said, "Now the participants are expected to have deepened their knowledge in planning, budgeting, implementing and supervising interventions for community and school health promotion".

Kebby termed the training as part of the innovative ways to improve provision of health promotion and services in general.



T-MARC TANZANIA
Tanzania Marketing and Communications
Serving Communities, Improving Lives

JOB OPPORTUNITY

OPEN POSITIONS

T-MARC Tanzania is a non-profit Tanzanian organization working to improve public health and promote social development. Our socially marketed products and behaviour change communication initiatives address pertinent health issues in family planning and reproductive health, child survival, water and sanitation, nutrition and communicable/non-communicable infections like malaria, HIV/AIDS, and cervical cancer.

The USAID/Tanzania Comprehensive Client-Centered Health Program HIV/TB Southern (C3HP HIV&TB Southern Program) is a five year project (November 2021 to September 2026) funded by the American People through USAID aiming at supporting the Government of Tanzania's (GOT) Ministry of Health Community Development Gender Elderly and Children (MOHCDGEC) and the President's Office- Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG) at the central level and in target Mainland regions to deliver high quality integrated HIV and TB prevention care and treatment services that will improve health outcomes, particularly for youth and children.

The C3HP HIV&TB Southern Program intends to increase the demand for and use of quality integrated HIV and Tuberculosis services in Iringa, Lindi, Morogoro, Mtwara, Njombe, and Ruvuma regions by improving access to quality services in both facilities and the surrounding communities, promoting positive health seeking behaviours among Tanzania's population, and enhancing the overall policy environment for HIV & TB service delivery.

The C3HP HIV&TB Southern Program is managed by Deloitte Consulting Ltd in partnership with Management and Development for Health (MDH) and T-MARC Tanzania.

T-MARC is seeking for competent candidates to join C3HP HIV&TB Southern Program team for various positions as shown below.

Position	No. of Vacancies	Office Location
SBCC Manager	1	Dar es Salaam
Senior Advisor SBCC	6	Iringa, Njombe, Morogoro, Rukwa, Lindi and Mtwara
Advisor SBCC	6	Iringa, Njombe, Morogoro, Rukwa, Lindi and Mtwara
Gender and Youth Manager	1	Dar es Salaam
Senior Advisor gender and Youth	6	Iringa, Njombe, Morogoro, Rukwa, Lindi and Mtwara
Advisor gender and youth	6	Iringa, Njombe, Morogoro, Rukwa, Lindi and Mtwara

How to Apply

Detailed job descriptions and requirements are available on organisation website at <https://tmarc.or.tz>

All applications must be received by **26th December 2021**. The subject line must mention the position and preferred region.

Send resume/CV, certificates and cover letter as **ONE PDF document** to.

Managing Director
T-MARC Tanzania
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
recruitment@tmarc.or.tz

Only short-listed applicants will be contacted
T-MARC is proud to be an EEO/AA employer M/F/D/V.



ADVERTISEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES FOR THE YEAR 2022

Relief to Development Society (REDESOS) is a national non-governmental organization, registered under the Non-Governmental Organization Act, 2002 with Certificate No. 1466 in Tanzania. The organization is engaged in Humanitarian and Community Development projects implemented under the humanitarian to development nexus concept. In the areas of our operation, Local Government has been always one of our key partners. REDESOS is a partner with UNHCR serving Burundian and Congolese refugees in North-western Tanzania and urban caseload in Dar es Salaam.

REDESOS invites interested qualified and competent Tanzanians who meet the listed criteria to apply for the following positions:

1. Project Officer, Environmental Education (1 Post)

Location: Kasulu/Kibondo - Kigoma
Reports to: Programme Coordinator

Job summary

Environment education officer will be responsible in raising awareness in environmental conservation in refugees and host community. S/he will also deal in managing and supervising environmental education activities

Minimum Qualifications

- Bachelor Degree in Environmental Science, Agriculture, Plants Science, and Conservation Biology, Ecology, Environmental Management, Forestry and Geography.

Working Experience and Skills

- At least 3 years working experience in humanitarian, emergency and development context.
- Commitment to, and enthusiasm for, environmental conservation and sustainable development.
- The ability to communicate effectively in written materials as well as presentations, workshops and guided walks.
- Interpersonal skills and an ability to relate to people of all ages.
- Excellent organisational and time management skills.
- The ability to work in a team but also on your own initiative.
- Desire and commitment to serve vulnerable groups particularly the refugees.

Key responsibilities

- Design and coordinate environmental education awareness programs activities within refugee

camp and host community.

- Assist Project Manager and other project team to ensure the sustainability of environmental protection interventions.
- Assist the Project Manager with the strategic review and development of REDESOS's environmental education programs within the camp and in host communities

2. Senior Social Counsellor (1 Post)

Location: Dar Es Salaam
Reports to: Senior Programme Manager

Job summary

Senior Social Counsellor will provide psychological and mental counselling to Persons of Concern. S/he will also act as a link between REDESOS and PoC in all social interventions such as the provision of food, housing and all travel arrangements.

Minimum qualifications, Experience and Skills

- Bachelor Degree in Social Work specialized in counselling.
- Minimum of 4 years working experience.
- Experience in working with refugee population will be an added advantage.
- Ability to use basic computer packages (Word, Excel, and Internet).
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Good report writing skills.

Responsibilities:

- Perform counselling to Persons of Concern (PoC).
- Serve as a link between REDESOS and PoC through social interventions.
- Participating in development and submission of sector budget.
- Participating in planning and implementation of program activities.
- Coordinate with Senior M & E Manager to organize data entry and analysis of monthly activities and achievements in the regular monitoring process.
- Liaise with Senior M & E Manager to prepare Counselling Indicators Report, Monthly Data Reports.
- Compile and timely submission of monthly, mid-year and annual counselling reports.

Note: REDESOS is an equal opportunity employer. Women are highly encouraged to apply.

All interested candidates should submit their applications via email: recruitment@redeso.or.tz or redeso-hq@redeso.or.tz before Friday 24th December, 2021



Works and Transport deputy minister Godfrey Kasekenya (2nd L) talks with Tanroads regional manager in Tanga region Alfred Ndumbaro (L) during his visit to inspect Tanga - Pangani road project over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchala

Mviwata earns govt's praise for supporting smallholder farmers

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

AUTHORITIES in Morogoro have applauded the National Network of Farmers' Groups in Tanzania (Mviwata) for its efforts of assuring smallholder farmers with reliable markets of their produces as well as linking them with financial institutions for them to get loans.

Regional Commissioner, Martin Shigella made the remarks recently when speaking at the 26th annual general meeting of the network. The forum brought on board 500 smallholders farmers from across the country and other stakeholders as the Eastern and Southern Africa Small scale farmers forum (ESAFF), Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, and Bizilur project technician from Spain.

RC Shigella who represented Minister for Agriculture, Prof Adolf Mkenda said that Mviwata has also created a platform that makes farmers access modern agricultural skills, and knowledge to increase productivity.

According to Shigella, Mviwata is the only sustainable institution that existed since founded in 1993, having members in all regions whose living standards have been improving on a daily basis.

Mviwata's radio station also earned government accolades for its efforts of enabling farmers to access modern agricultural skills, seed varieties, and training to

overcome climate changes as the time before farmers were not familiar with seeds that sustain in the dry season.

He further said Mviwata has managed to run annual general meetings since its inception, noting: "This reveals that there is an effective control of its income and strong leadership."

Bizilur project technician representing Africa, Maitane Vilela, also lauded Mviwata's efforts of improving the living standard of smallholder farmers, saying: "This is similar to my Spain where small-scale farmers' groups assisted in all means."

"We managed to assist them in policy making and join together farmers as to fight their rights, protecting local seed varieties, because our efforts are to support small scale farmers who have some challenges in the world."

Mviwata's chairman, Apollo Kiteto, called for the government to support smallholder's farmers against land alienation, technical means to overcome climate changes, sustainable loans to enable farmers not to depend on external support while the country has the capacity to assist them.

"There is a long-awaited outcry for members that due to financial constraints, fake companies cheated farmers through supporting free fertilizers but during the harvest, they are deducted in their yields" he said as replied to Masasi farmers who were given sulfur without any negotiation that support will be deducted after harvesting.

DC Jokate to support energy firms' public awareness drive

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TEMEKE District Commissioner Mwegelo has promised to team up with energy companies to increase public awareness on road safety issues to reduce road crashes.

DC Mwegelo said when she was launching Puma Energy annual global customer week that was held recently in Temeke district, Dar es Salaam region.

She said the road safety issue was one of the government's priorities to ensure all road users are safe from preventable crashes.

"My office is ready to collaborate with Puma Energy Tanzania Limited to increase awareness to the general public to avoid reckless and negligent accidents," she said.

Mwegelo said the statistics show that more people die or become victims of road

crashes every day, a situation that needs special attention.

She named some of the common behaviours of humans which result in accidents are speeding, drunken driving, and distractions, going over red lights, avoiding safety gear like seat belts and helmets, non-adherence to lane driving and overtaking in a wrong manner.

Also, various national and international researchers have found these as the most

common behaviours of drivers which lead to accidents.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) every year the lives of approximately 1.3 million people are cut short as a result of road traffic crashes.

Also, between 20 and 50 million more people suffer non-fatal injuries, with many incurring a disability as a result of their injury.

Road traffic injuries cause considerable economic

losses to individuals, their families, and to nations as a whole.

Mwegelo took time to welcome Dar es Salaam residents and its suburbs to attend the Independence Day ceremonies that will be held today at Uhuru stadium.

For his part, the Puma Energy Tanzania Limited operation manager Lameck Hiliyai said the customer week presents them with a great opportunity to engage retail

franchise owners, dealers and employees.

He said they have launched a one week promotion campaign aimed to celebrate customer's week by appreciating their customers by giving the ease of cost.

According to the manager, the promotion will take place at all puma energy sites across the country.

"We invest substantially to train our dealer to offer

the best services available in the market and that Puma will continue to produce the best services for its customers and continue to energize Tanzania in keeping with our purpose of energizing communities," he said.

He said in celebrating 60th years of independence, they continue to support the government's efforts to create jobs by providing opportunities to Tanzanians to operate its fuel stations.



Kilombero Sugar Company relations manager Joseph Rugaimukamu (2nd R) briefs Morogoro regional commissioner Martine Shigela (L) on the preparations of a new sugar factory when the latter visited the firm recently. Second left is Kilombero Sugar Company managing director Guy Williams and right is Kilombero district commissioner Hanji Godigodi

Zanzibar beach hotel investor arrested second time for assault

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

OWNER of Sipano Beach Lodge Kiwengwa, Peter Sipano Meelta has been allegedly arrested by the police for the second time after he was first arrested on orders from Unguja North Regional Commissioner and detained for four days without charge.

Unguja North Regional Police Commander, Martin Lotieno confirmed the second arrest of the native hotel investor on allegation of assaulting Turkish nationals to whom he rented the hotel to run and stealing their mobile phones.

"True, we have arrested him for assaulting Turkish nationals as he was with some fellow Maasai, but we are still investigating the matter," he said, adding that thereafter he would appear in court.

"We are also looking into the alleged theft of mobile phones belonging to the Turkish nationals, but regarding the issue of the conflict pitting him and those to whom he had rented the hotel does not concern us," added the RPC.

However, speaking by phone as he was under police escort, Peter denied any involvement in regard to attacking the Turkish nationals and stealing the mobile phones.

He said since he discovered the scheme to swindle his hotel, he has

been under allegations of having committed crimes, including the first one he was arrested on orders from the Regional Commissioner, Ayoub Mohamed Mahmoud.

He said on that day, the Turkish nationals were about to attack him and was forced to move out of the hotel.

"I rented the hotel to Zanfood Trading Limited to enable them operate it under the management of the Turks, but now they have turned against me saying the hotel is theirs while they have never provided even a single brick or equipment for its construction," he complained.

For his part, speaking to journalists at his Mkokotoni office, Zanzibar North Regional commissioner, Ayoub Mohamed Mahmoud, confirmed receiving a complaint from the indigenous investor and decided to bring them together for holding talks. He said after bringing both parties through their lawyers since the government cannot intervene in business disputes, "I beseeched them to avoid acts that could cause breach peace and disrupt the tourism sector in general."

He said as they were in talks, an incident was reported at Kiwengwa police station that a group of more than 13 Maasai with sharp objects invaded the hotel and begun robbing visitors of their belongings.

HKMU calls on govt to increase students loan for medical studies

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Hubert Kairuki Memorial University (HKMU) has urged the government to consider increasing loans and sponsorship to students undertaking courses for medical studies, a move that would help to fill the deficit of health professionals.

The plea was made over the weekend by HKMU council chairperson, John Ulanga during the 19th graduation ceremony that was held at the university premises in Mikochehi, Dar es Salaam. A total of

309 students graduated with diploma, degree and master's degrees.

Ulanga said that it is estimated that after 30 years, the number of Tanzanians will double, hence the need to give priorities to students undertaking medical studies because the current deficit of health professionals will become worse in coming years.

Data from the World Health Organisation (WHO) shows that in Tanzania a doctor attends over 20,000 patients annually while the organisation recom-

mends that one doctor attends to at least 1,000 patients annually.

He commended the Higher Education Students' Loans Board (HESLB) for providing loans to HKMU students and other higher learning students saying that without loans the number of graduates in the health sector could have been lower.

"I advise the government to increase loans to students undertaking medical studies. This year, the majority of students at HKMU got little loans, especially in school fees, this is not a good trend; we

must increase sponsorship" he said.

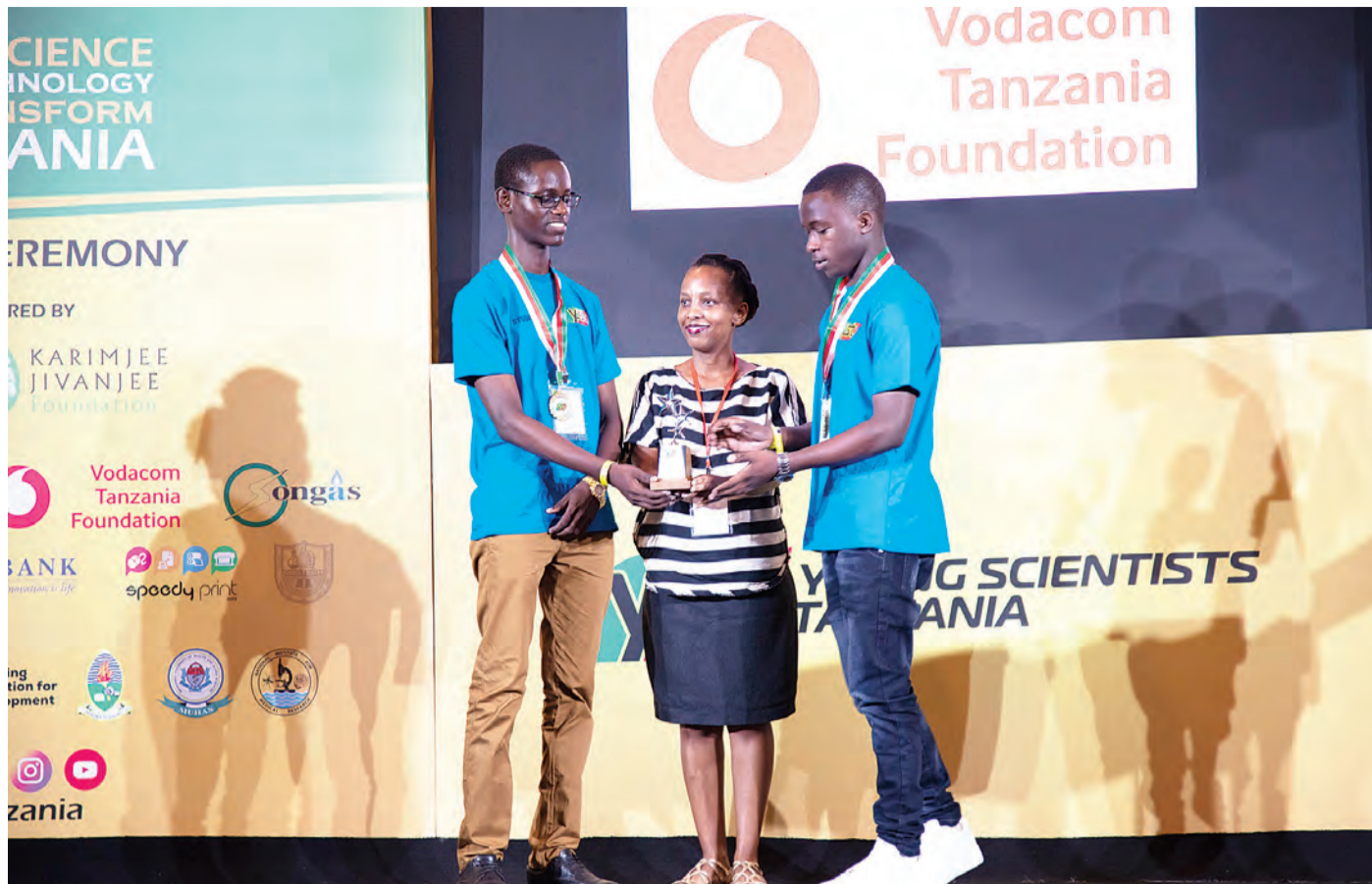
Ulanga commended the HKMU Vice Chancellor, Prof Charles Mgone for a job well done since he joined the university five years back, adding the university's academic quality is becoming better every year.

Speaking at the occasion, Prof Charles Mgone said the university has sponsored over 13 lectures for master's degree and PhD at various universities within and outside the country. He said the aim is to improve the university's academic perfor-

mance.

He said HKMU will continue to conduct different research through its academics and students, adding that this year, despite their busy schedule they have managed to publish a number of publications.

"We will continue to emphasize on research because it is one of our obligations. I would like to take this chance to commend students for all the publications produced," said Prof Mgone, noting the publications were recognized within and outside the country.



Vodacom Tanzania Foundation manager Sandra Oswald (C) presents award to Innocent Mamsery (L) and Sylvester Mulungu (R) of Mzumbe secondary school on Morogoro who were technology and computer science category winners at a prize giving ceremony organised by Young Scientists Tanzania 2021 in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'African countries have rights to choose own governance systems'

By Special Correspondent

AFRICAN nations should be allowed to develop their homegrown governance systems instead of adopting the Western-style democracy that has not yielded positive results over the years, said scholars, government representatives and diplomats as they were attending a democracy symposium on Friday.

Opening the symposium themed "Dissecting Western Democracy in Africa", Okello Oryem, Uganda's minister of state in charge of international affairs, said African people should be allowed to determine a democratic system that works best for them.

"The one-size-fits-all model of democracy cannot deliver the aspirations of the people and it's important that democratic assessment be made based on the unique and peculiar conditions and circumstances" of each country, the minister said at the half-day event.

"There is a need to respect national sovereignty and territorial integrity of each nation. The big and powerful nations should not prescribe, impose and super-impose their systems

and values that may not be tailored to local circumstances," he added, noting that there is a need for democratic adaptations based on what serves well the people.

Alemtsehay Meseret, Ethiopia's ambassador to Uganda, said that just as Africa fought for independence, it should fight neocolonialism.

"We should provide solutions to our own problems. As Africans, we fought for our independence, we shall say no to neocolonialism," Meseret said.

David Mafabi, senior presidential adviser to Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, said that no other countries can determine African countries' governance systems.

"It is not for any nation or country to tell us what to do and what not to do. It is not for them to determine how we govern ourselves. We have laws, they may be flawed but we don't have impunity," Mafabi said.

African nations need to realize that they can only defeat foreign intervention when united, and as long as Africa remains balkanized, it will be difficult to fend off interference by foreign powers, Mafabi said.

Mpanda district offers sexual and reproductive health training

By Guardian Reporter

A section of adolescent girls and young women in Mpanda district, Katavi region have been trained on sexual and reproductive health (SRH), entrepreneurship and HIV/AIDS to help them make informed decisions regarding their lives.

The training is provided by Hope Centre for Children, Girls and Women in Tanzania (HCCGWT), under the support of the Her Voice Fund, the three-day training benefited 20 adolescent girls and young women from 15 wards.

Speaking during the session recently in Mpanda, Halima Lila, co-founder and managing director of HCCGWT said the participants came from wards of Kashaulili, Mpanda hotel, Misunkumilo, Majengo, Kawajense, Nsemulwa, Makanyagio, Ilembo, Shanwe, Kakese, Mwamkulu, Uwanjawandegge, Kazima, Magamba and Kasokola.

She said the training was part of the initiative dubbed "Strengthening the Capacity and Engagement of High-Risk AGYWs in HIV and SRHR advocacy and policy processes at the local and national level in Katavi Region.

Lila said provision of sexual and reproductive health education is aimed at equipping young people with self-awareness as they grow older making them to conduct better decisions throughout their life.

"Lack of accurate and adequate information about sexual and reproductive health leads young people to engage in risky behaviors and thus expose themselves to sexually transmitted diseases, HIV, teenage pregnancy and other problems," she added.

The objective of the training was to

equip the groups with knowledge on Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR), HIV/AIDS, how to generate income hence to help them in making informed decisions on their sexual health as well as empower them with advocacy skills to cascade the knowledge to their fellow youth and other community members.

"The training content had five sessions which were COVID-19 precautions and prevention, HIV/AIDS, business and entrepreneurship, SRHR, child marriage, teenage pregnancy and child protection," she noted.

She said peer to peer education on SRHR is very important but sometimes it is misleading therefore it is important to invest in comprehensive SRHR education to youth so that they can cascade the right information to their fellows in the community

"More advocacies are needed to advocate for youth-friendly services in the health centres. Not only youth-friendly but also acceptable and free SRH services to adolescence and young people."

Rhoda Lazaro, one of the beneficiaries said: "The training has helped us understand other SRH rights including the right to have a comprehensive sexual education, right to choose a partner, right to safe sex, right to quality SRH services and rights to decide on the number and spacing of children."

Another participant, Loveness Cosmas said the training has helped them to understand safer sex, protecting themselves and partners from sexually transmitted infections as well as unplanned pregnancies through use of condoms and other safe means.

She further added that decision-making skills and confidence in their choices by saying "no" to unsafe sex no matter what the situation is will help them to convince their partners to use a condom. This is to ensure that the girls remain safe from STDs HIV AIDS and unplanned pregnancies.

Access to SRH and HIV services in Katavi among the young girls and women was still low and this is due to many reasons including stigma towards accessing the services, cowardice in receiving their health status report, unfriendly health service providers.


And this has led many youth to refrain from visiting these centres for advice and testing. After training conducted by HCCGWT, there is a positive response from the AGYW to seek advice and check their health status.

Hope Centre for Children, Girls and Women in Tanzania (HCCGWT) is a community-based, women and youth-serving human rights organization registered as a Not-for-Profit Non-Governmental Organization. HCCGWT envisions creating a platform for amplifying the voices of adolescents and young people and maximizing their level of engagement in socio-economic issues that affect their health and wellbeing in Tanzania.

The overall goal of HCCGWT is to strengthen adolescents, young women and women rights organizations capacity building, strategize alliances and engage adolescents, young women and women of reproductive age CSOs to fulfill their transformational and social action in order to advance gender equality, health, inclusion and wellbeing.

NIC Life House 4th Floor, Wing C
Sokoine Drive/Ohio Street

P. O. Box 6100, Dar es Salaam
Tel: +255 22 2112045, Fax: +255 22 2112045



SALE OF PROPERTIES COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL IN PRIME AREAS IN TANZANIA

We, DEV RECOVERIES LIMITED are inviting general public to purchase the following properties as shown in the table below; DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY AND/OR PLOT

NO	LOCATION	DETAILS OF THE PROPERTY
1.	PLOT NO. 63/27 UPANGA DAR ES SALAAM CITY	4 APARTMENTS ON 20 TH & 21 ST FLOORS AT UHURU HEIGHTS ALONG BIBI TITI MOHAMED ROAD. EACH APARTMENT HAS 4 SELF CONTAINED BEDROOM, KITCHEN, DINNING, SITTING ROOM, FULLY FURNISHED.
2.	PLOT NO. 1032, 1033, 1034 AND 1035, MAGOGONI, KIGAMBONI, DAR ES SALAAM CITY	THE PLOTS ARE SITUATED ON DAR ES SALAAM'S SOUTH BEACH ALONG THE TURMAC ROAD ABOUT 2.5KM FROM FERRY. THE PLOTS ARE COLLECTIVELY MEASURING ABOUT 6,813SQM. THE PLOTS ARE VERY IDEAL FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES INCLUDING WAREHOUSE, FACTORIES AND FUEL STATIONS AND/OR STORAGE.
3.	PLOT NO. 1 & 2 MARKET SQUARE MBEYA CITY CENTRE	COMMERCIAL BUILDING LOCATED IN THE HEART OF MBEYA CITY. THE PROPERTY HAS GROUND, FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS WITH AN OPTION TO INCREASE ANOTHER 2 OR 3 FLOOR. CURRENTLY THE GROUND FLOOR IS LEASE TO A COMMERCIAL BANK.
1.	PLOT NO. 72, BLOCK "C" UFUKONI IN MTWARA CITY CENTER.	A PLOT LOCATED AT THE PRIME AREA IN MTWARA TOWN NEAR TO THE BEACH AND CITY CENTER MEASURING ABOUT 1,862SQM. VERY IDEAL FOR RESIDENTIAL, APARTMENT BLOCK OR LODGE

For more information please contact us through: 0788438640/0712390460

GLOBAL PROGRAMS

Affiliate of the University of California, San Francisco

Plot 385 Mtitu Street, #7
PO Box 38665
Dar es Salaam
Tanzania
info.tanzania@ucglobalprograms.org

Job Opportunity – Health Information Systems Developer (C#)

Location: Dar es Salaam
Application deadline: Dec 31, 2021
Start date: February 1, 2022

Background:

The University of California San Francisco (UCSF) is engaged in a five-year Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-Tanzania (CDC-Tanzania) to provide strategic information and health information systems (HIS) technical assistance to the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MOHCDGEC) as well as the United States' President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and their implementing partners (IPs). We are recruiting an individual through our affiliated international NGO 'Global Programs' to serve as a Health Information Systems Developer with a focus on C# programming.

This is a full-time 12-month position with the possibility of extension subject to continued funding. The position is expected to start on February 1, 2022.

Main duties and responsibilities:

Under the supervision of the Health Information Systems Director, the HIS Developer shall be responsible for designing, developing, implementing, testing, maintaining, auditing, and improving new and existing health information systems and project software. The developer will also bring expertise to activities related to developing EMR (electronic medical records), Lab, and other health information systems. The developer shall also ensure that all software developed conforms to set software development standards by conducting rigorous diagnosis, tests, code debugging, and technical documentation through reference manuals.

Specific responsibilities include:

- Work with the HIS team to design software solutions by studying information needs, systems flow, data usage, and work processes while adhering to the software development lifecycle.
- Evaluate, maintain, and evolve existing health information systems such as CTC2, CTC3, CTC Analytics, and Monthly Portal.
- Assist the HIS team in designing and implementing interoperability between existing health information systems such as CTC2, CTC3, CTC Analytics, Monthly Portal, Lab Visual Tool, IQSMS, PTCQI, etc.
- Support the piloting, rollout, training, and maintenance of HIS systems to Implementing Partners.
- Investigate, analyze, and make recommendations to management regarding technology improvements, upgrades, and modifications.
- Analyze user needs and software requirements to determine feasibility of design within time and cost constraints.
- Develop and coordinate software system testing and validation procedures, programming, and documentation.
- Prepare reference materials for users by writing operating instructions, flowcharts, layouts, diagrams, charts, code comments, and clear code.
- Undertake other tasks within the scope of the role as directed by management from time to time.

Experience, skills, and minimum required qualifications:

- A Bachelor's Degree or equivalent qualification in computer science, software engineering, or information systems required. Experience working with health information systems required.
- Advanced knowledge and skill with C# programming language. Advanced knowledge in Python and other common programming languages is an added advantage.
- A minimum of 5 years of experience as a software developer or engineer; demonstrable experience in developing a variety of software systems while taking on increasing responsibility for analysis, design, implementation, and development tasks [reference required].
- Advanced experience developing data-driven applications utilizing significant relational database engines as part of the overall application architecture (experience with at least two of the following is highly desirable: MS SQL Server, PostgreSQL, MySQL, MS Access).
- Working experience using jQuery, Git, Restful web services, Agile methodology, and android SDK.
- Proficiency in developing and troubleshooting complex software systems that run in mixed environments including Windows on desktop, server, tablet, and mobile systems.
- Demonstrable skills in enterprise application integration.
- Ability to work successfully in a team.
- Fluent in written and spoken English and Swahili.

Other desired skills/qualities:

- Excellent skills in critical thinking and analysis
- Excellent organizational and oral/written communication skills
- Ability to work independently and manage various tasks under tight deadlines

To Apply:

All applicants must address each selection criterion detailed in the minimum requirements above with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item.

All applications must include the following:

- A current CV with names and telephone numbers for at least 2 referees
- Copies of academic and professional certificates

Applications and supporting documents should be sent via e-mail to info.tanzania@ucglobalprograms.org and must be received by December 31, 2021.

NOTE: Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

MONDAY 13 DECEMBER 2021

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

Sixth phase government has something to show for International Day of Neutrality

NEUTRALITY is a valued state of mind that the United Nations marks each December 12 to exercise positive influence on belligerent parties in war and pave the way to peace. It means that when neutral states are in the majority, it implies that parties adding to widening conflicts are few, with each neutral country pushing for peace. It was a core value of founding the United Nations but with a checking mechanism on naked aggression, and was at the base of the non-alignment movement at the time that most of Africa was coming to independence, after Asia.

While neutrality is basically a foreign policy maxim, there is a significant element of it that works in domestic politics, where a power that stands above two contending groups takes a neutral position, thus pushing the two subordinate or dependent parties to a better negotiating mood.

That can have different implications depending on the situation, for instance neutrality when genocide is happening - the way African countries stood aside during the Rwanda genocide of mid-1994 - was rebuked by retired President Julius Nyerere at that time. It was a moment to stand for principles, not feigning neutrality.

A generation earlier, Western countries were demanding that African states show neutrality in the contention between the black majority in Southern African states and white minority regimes, that focus on dialogue takes hold.

It meant that African countries avoid assisting liberation movements and ask those involved in the freedom struggle to talk to regimes

whose only response would be to throw them into jail if they organised a demonstration to demand freedom. Mwalimu and his Ghanaian colleague Dr Kwame Nkrumah led the refusal; Nkrumah was toppled six months after breaking ties with Britain on the issue.

Within the country, the issue of neutrality tested Union relations as Zanzibar was turbulent from the start, with Mwalimu being on record as having visited Zanzibar after the Union and strongly warned the leadership that after ending their torment of Arab citizens, they would turn their guns on themselves.

That duly happened a few years later in 1968, and in 1972 President Karume was assassinated. Mwalimu made arduous efforts to bring Afro-Shirazi Party to TANU, and when the parties fused, the feud would decline.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has kept alive that tradition, silently and without expressing herself strongly and even mildly in public. She has expressed a sort of regret on how opposition parties were whipped for minor errors in filling forms last year, and after a by-election in Konde raised question marks, the newly elected MP desisted from taking the oath and his opponent was sworn instead.

This expresses positive neutrality on elections, generating confidence in a democratic path in the next polls. Neutrality here means letting truth prevail, even if it is your party colleague who will be hurt by results, which makes some people disappointed, as they are used to one party militancy prevailing before 1992.

TIPER ready to host national strategic petroleum reserve

RECENTLY, the country was almost thrown into panic when reports from industrial leaders said there was only 15 days of petroleum products available. This is a regulatory requirement but the panic was caused by oil marketing companies warning that the country may face shortage of fuel because importation had been disrupted as they lacked money to place orders.

The Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) said that the government's decision to stop an increase of pump prices in September had created a 10bn/- hole in their finances because the fuel was sold at lower prices compared to increased global prices.

The panic was also a result of the harsh reality that consumers learnt for the first time that the nation had only two weeks of petroleum products in stock. As a net importer of petroleum products, Tanzania needs to have a strategic reserve for the product to guard against unforeseeable risks in future including supply chain disruption, war or other similar forces.

It is along such lines that we feel that the government has to make a firm decision to establish the strategic petroleum products reserve. In fact the facility is already there and is partly owned by Treasury.

Tanzania International Petroleum Reserve which was formerly known as Tanzania Italian Petroleum Refinery, had enough facilities to host the country's proposed strategic petroleum reserve for emergency use.

The TIPER facility in Dar es Salaam which is jointly owned by Treasury and Audax Oryx Geneva of Switzerland, has capacity to store 254 million litres of petroleum products after heavy investment was made since 2000.

The TIPER tank farm at Kigam-

boni which changed its function in 1999, when it became a complete storage facility after the refinery was closed down due to financial constraints, had increased its capacity from 140 million in 1999.

In fact decision was already made in 2018 that TIPER be a single receiving point for all petroleum products to also reduce leakages and demurrage charges paid to shipping liners for delays in offloading petroleum products at Dar es Salaam port.

Kigamboni TIPER tank farm stands on a 50 hectares piece of land with direct connections to Kurasini Oil Jetty and Dar es Salaam port's SPM. In addition to being connected to all oil marketing companies depots for easy transferring of petroleum products, TIPER has also invested in a facility to allow tankers to be loaded with petroleum products right within its backyard.

But by making full use of TIPER tank farm, Treasury will also be making more revenue both in terms of dividend earned as a shareholder but also in terms of reducing revenue loss caused by leakages resulting from discharging petroleum products from oil tankers to depots of various OMCs.

In his report in 2016/17, Controller and Auditor General advised in a report that TIPER be turned into a single receiving facility for all petroleum products imported into the country to save the nation demurrage charges which are paid to shipping liners for offloading delays at the port. The CAG said the country pays up to US\$25,000 per day in delaying charges to oil tanker owners per day in demurrage charges, something which can be avoided if the decision to have a single receiving point is enforced.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

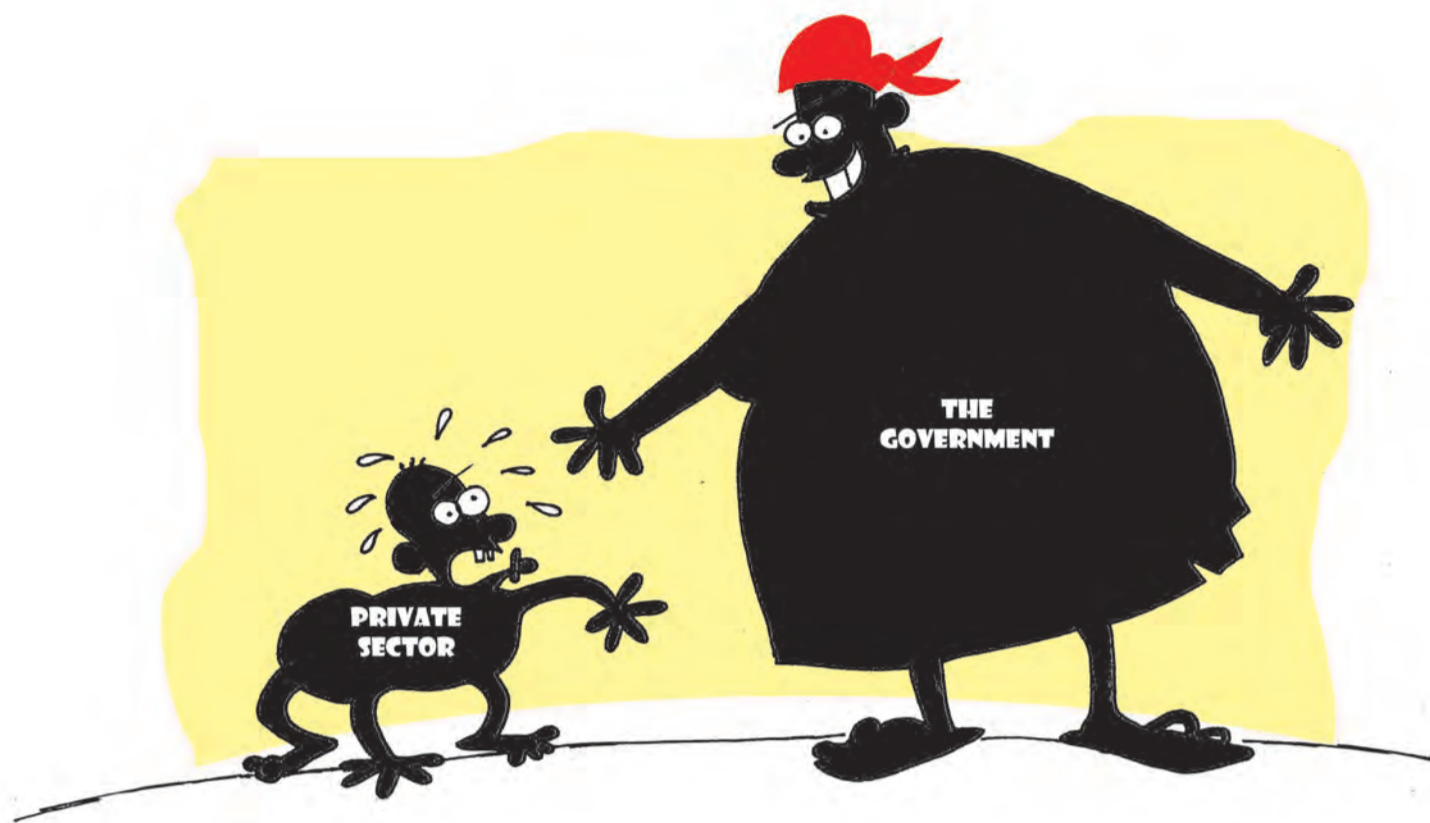
MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO
CIRCULATION MANAGER : EMMANUEL LYMO

Newsdesk

General Line: 0745 700710
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757 154767
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Cel: + 0782 253676 E-mails: Advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: lppmedia.com, epaper.ippmedia.com



Forty years of Aids: Justice and equality remain key to quelling a still-potent epidemic

By Edwin Cameron

THE past four decades have yielded enormous medical and scientific progress - but death and stigma remain. Many elude testing or die in shame, treatment does not reach all who need it, and inequality impedes our global response.

I can write this because life unexpectedly afforded me survival from AIDS.

Around Easter 1985, I became infected with HIV. There was no treatment: HIV meant certain death.

Like many, I kept my HIV status a secret. I hoped to escape death. No. Twelve years later, AIDS felled my body. I became terribly ill.

But my privileges gave me treatment and care. I had loving family and friends, and my job as a judge in South Africa. With early access to life-saving antiretroviral treatment (ARVs), I recovered.

In 1999, I spoke publicly about living with HIV and that ARVs - denied to millions in Africa - had saved me from death.

I remain one of the only public figures in Africa who speaks openly about being gay and living with HIV. I say this

because shame, fear and discrimination still silence too many.

As a judge, and from my own deepest life experience, I have witnessed three facts. First, the destructive force of stigma and shame. Second, the damage punitive and discriminatory laws inflict on public health responses. Third, how insufficient legal protections make the cruel load of HIV infinitely worse.

Thus, to overcome AIDS, we must achieve greater equality for all.

It is laudable that UNAIDS's new strategy highlights how "inequalities fuel the HIV epidemic and block progress towards ending AIDS", and ending inequality is vital.

Punitive and discriminatory laws target key populations most at risk of HIV. The criminal law clenches the throat of good AIDS work. Stigma sits as a burden on the backs of those living with and at risk of HIV. It intensifies inequalities.

Intersectionality matters as the perils of discrimination mingle. A sex worker, who has a higher risk of contracting HIV, is attacked on numerous discriminatory grounds.

These laws do not merely "leave

people behind". They push those most at risk away from health and social services, increasing HIV infections.

UNAIDS executive director, Winnie Byanyima, recounted how stigma killed her brother, who had HIV "and would be living today but he was afraid to go to the clinic to fetch his ARVs". Her conclusion? Stigma and discrimination kill.

Discrimination seeps into data and evidence collecting, where key populations are often under-represented. This is profoundly harmful. We do not know whether services are accessible and acceptable.

This reflects an extreme form of stigma - being wiped out.

How do you remove barriers to access services if you do not even see who they are crushing?

We can help by instilling and safeguarding democratic values and enabling legal environments.

The rule of law, freedom of expression, freedom to protest and other human rights matter. It means employing the law to empower rather than oppress. Fostering accountability for human rights violations,

scrapping punitive laws, implementing awareness and education campaigns, and supporting civil society.

Through the decades, activists from all over the world secured life-saving gains in treatment for AIDS. The activists' struggle was about life versus death, health versus sickness, science versus myths, discrimination versus equality - and how fair practices make sound public health sense and save lives. In South Africa, the activists challenged the denialist government in the highest Court - which ordered him to start providing ARVs.

Though there is no cure, AIDS is no longer a death sentence.

Twenty-four years after taking my first ARVs, I am living a vibrant life. Our challenge lies within ourselves, and our societies: to overcome discrimination and stigma and ensure life-saving treatments are equally and equitably accessible.

We can end AIDS by 2030. But to do so, we must respect, protect and fulfil the basic rights of those living with and at risk of HIV. With enough support, science and love, we can end AIDS.

The competition for summits with Africa

By Vladimir Antwi-Danson

THE 21st Century seems to have ushered in a period of intense competition to woo Africa. Africa, with its vast untapped economic resources, is now the battleground for global powers, notably France, the US, and especially China. Each has established an African Forum, where African leaders are periodically invited to a discussion cocktail. They all purport to have a feeling and understanding for the African Problematique, to which they pledge support for resolution. So we have the US-Africa Summit; the Forum on Sino-African Cooperation (FOCAC); French-Africa Summit.

Not to be undone, the UK has its own version with Africa, signed into operation by Tony Blair, after the Gleneagles G8 Summit that failed to establish his dream International Finance Facility (IFF) of \$550 billion, by which he intended wiping off Africa's indebtedness.

The Russians, a few years ago, invited African leaders to a similar forum in Sochi, Russia, where President Putin offered a Russian plan for engagement with Africa. Turkey has shown strong interest in Africa and is instituting its own African platform. In all these, the three front liners are the French, the US, and the Chinese.

The Francophonie, involving France and the French-speaking former colonies had always been the platform for Franco-African relations. But since 2006, the French opened the doors to non-French-speaking countries, in-

cluding Ghana. Each American President tries to meet with African leaders, the famous one being the one with President Obama. The Chinese kicked off with the 2005 FOCAC Summit in Beijing, which was attended by Thirty Five African Heads of State. The 8th ministerial conference of the Forum on Sino-African Cooperation (FOCAC) has just ended in Dakar, Senegal. Two days of summit discussed the question of vaccines and the fight against the pandemic of Covid-19. It also touched on especially the economy within the framework of the Chinese "Belt and Road Initiative", which Eritrea and Guinea-Bissau have just joined. It is clear that the deterioration of the security situation in Ethiopia and the US sanctions imposed on Eritrea must have probably accelerated the haste to join the FOCAC.

By joining the "Belt and Road" initiative, Eritrea intends to take advantage of Chinese funding and infrastructure projects. The same goes for Guinea-Bissau, where Chinese companies are already very active in forestry or deep-sea fishing. The two countries joining the New Silk Roads on the eve of the Dakar summit was described as proof of expansion of Chinese diplomacy, a proof that is also expanding "the big family of Sino-African friendship".

Since 2009, China has consistently surpassed the United States and Europe as Africa's largest trading partner. As China has emerged as the world's 21st-century factory, its appetite for raw materials has provided a solid bedrock for relations with African nations, and

it is likely to do so for many years to come. Its investment in Africa hit \$200 billion in 2019. Indeed, its "Belt and Road" Initiative has been attractive. In response, the United States is looking to reinvigorate its engagements in the region to counter China's influence where possible. For instance, the Build Back Better World program and the Blue Dot Network are focused on countering China's ever-trumpeted Belt and Road Initiative.

This is spiced with much propaganda about a "China Scare" - a smear campaign against China, Chinese goods, Chinese labour practice and morality, indeed Chinese behaviour. China has virtually conquered Africa in mining, transport infrastructure, construction, oil and gas, and manufacturing. And while China is not very much interested in political values, the US seems to be more interested in conquering Africa as part of their politico-security calculus. They are interested in bases and lily-pads, the latter of which they have thirty-nine in Africa. They are also interested in tuning Africa to Western political orientation.

Arguably, this myopic focus by the US on countering China's economic engagements has blinded the United States to its own unique strengths. The prime example of this is the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), due to expire in 2025, a non-reciprocal trade program that gives 39 eligible African countries duty-free access to US markets. This has had catalytic effects on African industrialization, and many of the African manufacturers taking

advantage of AGOA are exporting low-tech goods, like textiles, that they could not hope to export to China, as China still has jobs to protect in those same industrial sectors. Incidentally, Chinese firms are re-locating to Africa in order to take advantage of AGOA.

It is interesting that Dakar has hosted within a period of two weeks two giant Summits - a US-Africa Forum and FOCAC. This is indicative of the importance Africa plays in the geo-political calculations of these nations.

It is clear that Africa needs to steer a course that would be advantageous towards her development. In 2009, for example, President Abdou Wade of Senegal hosted a US-African Forum on the theme "The United States of Africa and forum on the role and place of Africa in global governance". He saw an opportunity to play the African card - African Unity. He called on Africa intellectuals to help turn such fora on the immediate needs of Africa. "For far too long, African intellectuals do not come out to support African leaders on how to move the continent forward," he said. For Wade then, Africa's integration should be a priority not what the Americans wanted. The forum led to the birth of two pro pan-African associations, namely the Provisional Pan African Scientific Council on the United States of Africa, a body made up of scholars and other stakeholders in African high education and research, and a Pan African Youth Alliance on the United States of Africa, comprising youths from 15 countries in Africa, the Caribbean and Europe.

START THE WEEK WITH CYNTHIA STACEY

Safety first...but are the strategies working?

GREETINGS for the week, which finds me annoyed with myself looking at a newspaper cutting for the 13th October on my notice board..... put there so as not to forget it....which is of course exactly what I did!

.....the 13th International Day for Disaster Reduction wasn't an effective reminder if I can't recall it, but the message of public risk limitation is always relevant.

But let's check on the reality of various past disasters etc. August 2009 was a cheerless month, notorious for the appalling deaths of twelve schoolgirls, burnt to death in a boarding school inferno caused by a candle.

Such terrible events are often described as "accidents" but given the fact that the girls couldn't escape as they were locked in at night.... so what was accidental about that?

It was this aspect of the tragedy that made it even worse, rating a mention on the BBC World Service, as did the road death statistics at the time.

This shocking school fire caused speculation as to whether these increasingly frequent infernos would soon be viewed as almost inevitable as the road fatalities.

Yet, despite this unforgettable school horror which should have resulted in new legislation and safety checks, seven years later in 2016 after a wave of more school fires in the country, some due to sabotage, then Home Affairs Minister Mwigulu Nchemba challenged the operators to install alarms, saying ".....with modern security systems, it will be easier to avoid such accidents".

This surprised the public, as they automatically expected places like schools, hospitals or seminaries to have basic alarm systems as a pre-requisite of being allowed

to function and particularly in the wake of that 2009 horror.

Anyway, note the word 'accident' again, and just like the road tragedies etc. it's a misnomer, as a dictionary definition says "..... anything unexpected....or "..... occurring by chance..."

Yet, the reality as we know, is that many of the vehicle smashes, and head-on collision crashes, are often caused by reckless and unqualified drivers, employed by the profit-driven owners who hire such dangerous workers.

It is incomprehensible that a person driving a speeding passenger coach would then overtake a massive truck on a blind corner, regardless of the consequences as so often happens in Tanzania.

So, these factors certainly make the ongoing road deaths very expected indeed, as do so many other 'accident' prone sectors nationwide.

In 2015, the Tanzania Bus Owners Association suggested that buses plying long routes should have assistant drivers and fire alarms. Though it's surprising this wasn't done years ago when the nation's crater pocked roads were exhausting to drive on, requiring full time concentration.

So it was good to know that about this time, on journeys of over eight hours, this sensible system was obligatory, and not dependant on the bus companies' whims. Otherwise, it was rather like airlines proudly saying they have fully qualified pilots.....so the two driver system shouldn't have been an option..... it was a necessity!

Apart from mayhem on the roads, Tanzania had disasters aplenty, man-made and natural. So it was reassuring to remember that there was a Disaster Management Act No 9 of 1990. This



Former traffic Commander Mohamed Mpinga talks with passengers to fasten seat belts at Dar es Salaam Ubungo Bus Terminal years back. The Police are now working hard to change their past image and gain the citizens trust

came under the Prime Minister's Office where we hoped innovative strategies were being created to deal with the national calamities.

Anyone checking media articles and other sources for stories on road deaths, boats sinking etc. and going back twenty years, will usually find that these could have happened now, so similar are the circumstances behind the tragedies, and the promise from all four phase governments to reduce them.

Yet, today, the 13th of December 2021, fatalities are still taking a terrible toll, with bodaboda deaths at many hundreds a year across the country, caused by out-of-control riders, with police seemingly at a loss to halt them.

.....so it's a pity to read in a popular tourist blog..... "Tanzanialovely countrylovely beaches.....and lovely people.....but scary road safety record." This means that remedial action

is needed now.....and permanently on-going!

It seems a long time ago since mass road building took off all over the country, the population rapidly increased, cars became readily available and thousands took to the highways, causing urban traffic jams as upcountry buses plied the roads, driven like 'racing cars' "..... turning into "commuter killers".

.....And the policy planners presumably planned....but what?

In 1997, in a move way ahead of its time, the then Minister for Communications and Transport William Kusila tried to improve safety standards. He especially wanted bus operators to pay compensation and medical costs for any passengers who'd entrusted themselves to their care, but were injured if a coach crashed due to operational problems, or driver incompetence.

"Entrusting yourself to their care"....that's what

you are doing every time you board a bus, plane or boat, and especially a three wheeler "bajaj".....or a motor bike "boda boda".

But twenty one years later, is there workable legislation enforcing this rational proposal? If not, then the planners and the 'parliament people' are renegeing on their basic duties..... as are our Kenya neighbours when it comes to some aspects of their public transport sector.

Years ago when I travelled on a 'matatu,' Kenya's version of Tanzania's 'dala dala, it was the nearest I'd come to 'dancing with death'. And the pleasure from that visit was almost cancelled out by the chaotic "matatu madness" as some of the witty locals named them.

With memories of this still in my mind, a newspaper heading of..... "Body builder of killer bus probed" caught my eye.

It seemed that the Kenyan Director of Public Prosecutions had ordered investigations into the builder of a bus, and the company that insured it, after the vehicle rolled over killing 58 people and injured 15.and plans were arranged to have a stronger enforcement of the so called Michuki rules.

These rules were introduced in 2003 by then Cabinet Minister the late John Mchuki and were to be implemented with "discipline and ruthlessness" as fellow ministers said.

.....so had they lapsed in the last 15 years, or been negligently applied...it's a mystery. But it shows the uselessness of legislation if not correctly implemented, or even not at all.

Well, time to go and with the safety subject in mind, I'll close by sayingstay fit and healthy till next week.... which means don't drive or board a bus, boat or train, swim in polluted rivers, purchase fake goods, etc., or involve yourself in hazardous activities which pass for normal living in this part of the world.....actually, just build yourself a wall and stay at home.....but is your house in a safe area?

Cultural and people-to-people exchanges between China and Africa bear rich fruits

By Yang Yi, Jiao Xiang

IN recent years, cultural and people-to-people exchanges between China and Africa, both with a long history and a splendid civilization, have played an essential role in promoting exchanges, mutual learning, and harmonious co-existence between the civilizations of the two sides, bringing the two peoples closer to each other and providing rich cultural nourishment for China-Africa cooperation.

Thanks to a China-funded project named "Access to Satellite TV for 10,000 African Villages (or "Wan Cun Tong" in Chinese)," residents of a remote village in Wakiso district, Uganda, which used to have a poor TV signal, can now watch digital satellite TV programs with clear pictures for free.

Besides people's homes, local clinics, primary schools, and other public areas have also been covered by digital satellite TV signals. While enriching villagers' cultural life, the project undertaken by Chinese companies also provides technical support for schools in remote education.

So far, the project has been carried out in more than 20 African countries, under which digital TV sets have been installed in 10,000 villages.

In addition, China has also assisted with and implemented cooperation projects for radio and TV centers in Seychelles, Comoros, Tanzania, and Mauritius. Relevant projects have improved the capacity of local broadcasting systems and played important roles in local cultural communication.

Chinese people and African people share the aspiration of making their homelands beautiful places where people can live in harmony with nature. As a result, they have worked together to pursue green, low-carbon, circular and sustainable development and protect the lush mountains and lucid waters as well as living beings.

In Kenya's Nairobi National Park,



Children in a village located in a suburb of Bouake city, Cote d'Ivoire, watch Chinese martial arts, or Kung Fu, movie on television. The village got access to digital satellite television signal thanks to a project named "Access to Satellite TV for 10,000 African Villages (or "Wan Cun Tong" in Chinese)", which was funded by Chinese government and undertaken by Chinese companies. File Photo

wild animals such as giraffes, antelopes, and rhinos are often seen foraging or strolling. At the same time, advanced trains pass the park along the Chinese-built Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), which makes traveling easier for the locals.

Upholding the idea of harmonious coexistence between human and nature, a basic principle of sustainable development, Chinese constructors of the railway have, based on extensive

investigations and research into the living habits and migration routes of local wild animals, built 14 wildlife crossings for large animals and 79 bridges along the route.

The clear height of all the wildlife crossings is above 6.5 meters so giraffes can pass without lowering heads.

The constructors of the Mombasa-Nairobi SGR have also paid great attention to protecting the vegetation of the Mombasa Mangrove Wetland Park. They

have tried to ensure the normal growth of the mangroves through multiple measures, including building detours and installing pipe culverts in advance.

Covering an area of more than 2,000 square kilometers, the Mana Pools National Park and the Sapi and Chewore Safari Areas in Zimbabwe, which have been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as a single natural World Heritage site, are inhabited by various wild animals, including elephants, lions,

leopards, hippos, and crocodiles. They were also one of the famous bushmeat hunting areas in Africa and used to be disturbed by armed poachers.

Since 2015, Peaceland Foundation, a Beijing-based non-profit organization, has sent six batches of Chinese anti-poaching volunteers to the World Heritage site. These volunteers have brought advanced devices with them, such as delta-wing powered hang gliders, rubber dinghies, and night-vision devices, and led lo-

cals rangers in conducting aerial and water patrol with such devices, significantly improving the application of sci-tech in and the effectiveness of anti-poaching efforts of the locality.

Because of the joint efforts of relevant Chinese and African teams, poaching in the World Heritage site had almost been eradicated by 2019.

Next year, Chinese anti-poaching volunteers will go to Kilimanjaro region in Tanzania to carry out new tasks for animal protection and tackling climate change.

Digital journalism has transformed thanks to the Covid-19 pandemic

By James Mahon

IN the past decade, smartphones and mobile technology have altered newsrooms, transforming news gathering, live broadcasting and content distribution. Trained on an iPhone 4s at the University of Sheffield in 2011, I was one of the first mobile journalists in the UK. Over the course of my career broadcasting live, from war zones in Iraq to tornados in the US, mobile technology has been the primary vehicle for capturing, curating and distributing packaged and live content.

Now the media world has again shifted due to the Covid-19 pandemic, with new challenges, different restrictions and innovative storytelling approaches emerging.

Research by journalists and academics from around the world confirms that technology and social trends are driving changes in how and where news is created and consumed. These changes have had an impact on the way journalists operate, enabling them to work alone or remotely. Reporter requirements have also altered, with sharp social media and digital skills expected as the norm.

Some of the smartphone journalistic trends that were gaining momentum before Covid were accelerated during the pandemic. This means greater autonomy for reporters, but also more pressure and responsibility, more ways to broadcast live and greater audience involvement in the news cycle.

Autonomy and freedom

Newsrooms have been downsizing in the UK and US over the past 15 years. In newspapers, for example, publishers have had to face the spiralling decline of print sales, forcing them to embrace new platforms and technologies. With fewer specific roles and multiskilling key to surviving in the industry, many reporters find themselves becoming videographers, editors and social media producers all rolled into one.

So much more is now being asked of broadcast and digital journalists, but with that has come greater freedom to source and create stories. Fewer editors, videographers, lighting and sound technicians mean journalists are more in control of the way they weave and distribute their news. Coupled with that is the removal of traditional PR "gatekeepers" and the rise of media-savvy figures who understand the importance of being accessible via social media and directly engaging with journalists.

Dutch media scholar Mark Deuze has cautioned against this shift from specialised roles, describing it as "leaving newsrooms full of empty chairs". Deuze believes that asking more of fewer journalists results in a loss of identity, teamwork, mentoring and guidance.

In the course of my research, I interviewed more than 40 journalists in India, Switzerland, the US and the UK between 2018 and 2021. All had the same concern: while this freedom was welcomed, reporters feared the lack of support would put pressure on their ability to gather stories and create content.

Reporter skills



Some of the smartphone journalistic trends that were gaining momentum before Covid were accelerated during the pandemic.

Post-pandemic, many journalists are expected to focus on mobile journalism and develop new skills in smartphone technologies and deal with new technical and editorial challenges. In some cases, this has put older journalists under increasing pressure to get to grips with new technologies.

With the transition to remote working, Zoom interviews and mobile and app editing, younger content creators excelled during the Covid crisis while older and less tech-savvy journalists were marginalised. The National Union of Journalists (NUJ) in the UK has supported these reporters in their efforts to bridge the gap through streaming online classes. Some national broadcasters, including ITV, have provided remote and office-based workshop training in production and editing skills for new staff.

The huge demand for constant content and live streaming has turned traditional TV reporters into walking cameras.

This may enhance coverage and encourage audience engagement on social media, but it also places added strain on young, inexperienced and overworked reporters who have entered the field during a time of uncertainty, resulting in health risks and safety concerns. It is paramount that cub reporters are properly inducted, mentored and guided to pro-

duce balanced and rounded news gathering.

Engaged audiences

Whether self-shooting at home, filming video interviews on the go or making novelty content with their pets – a huge hit for sports commentator Andrew Cotter – TV, radio, podcasting and social media audiences have themselves become more creative and involved during the pandemic.

roadcasters have capitalised on user-generated content throughout Covid – video interviews on phones, tablets and laptops became the norm, as once-passive news consumers became producers.

In sports broadcasting the absence of crowds allowed for fan-generated media to bridge the gap and satisfy supporters' appetite while club media became more dynamic, offering insights into players and coaches' personal lives. These trends were already evident in my research in 2018 and 2019, but during 2020 and 2021 the landscape shifted. Media educators and news organisations now must work more closely to align teaching and work experience to support graduates into the media industry's newsrooms – whether real or remote.

Trust in news media has been in decline since the Leveson

inquiry examined the ethics, culture and practices of the British press. But data on social media journalism and trust from the latest Reuters Digital Report demonstrates that the pandemic put journalists back into a place of respect in homes and communities – where it had previously been waning.

Newsrooms need to continue the good practices established during the pandemic, which saw editors and producers supporting and harnessing the skills of younger and more dynamic reporters to create balanced and ethical content.

It is crucial good practice feeds down into higher education, so that this accelerated digital transformation of news gathering, broadcasting and content creation maintains ethical standards and ensures the well-being of reporters if young people are to be encouraged into the industry.

DM168

Busy container ports herald China's robust foreign trade

BEIJING

CHINA'S container shipping sector registered steadfast growth this year amid headwinds from the COVID-19 pandemic and container shortages, indicating the country's robust foreign trade and economic resilience.

Cargo throughput at China's ports totaled 12.87 billion tonnes in the first 10 months, up 7.8 percent year on year. During the period, container throughput reached 235 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), expanding by 8.4 percent from a year earlier.

As domestic ports have been bustling with containers, China's foreign trade in the first 11 months surged 22 percent year on year to 35.39 trillion yuan (about 5.56 trillion U.S. dollars), customs data showed.

The figure, already surpassing the 32.16-trillion-yuan total for all of 2020, marked a 24 percent increase from the pre-pandemic level in 2019.

Effective epidemic prevention and control measures adopted by the Chinese government contributed significantly to stabilizing industrial chains, boosting the overseas shipping orders of Chinese companies.

Praising the successful implementation of China's epidemic-prevention strategy, chairman of China's state-owned shipping giant China COSCO Shipping Corporation Limited (COSCO Shipping) Wan Min said the company handled around 22.45 million TEUs of containers in the first 10 months, representing year-on-year growth of 5.7 percent.

"China's potent epidemic-containment efforts and fast resumption of work and production accelerated the growth of demand for cargo transportation, and brought about hope for global shipping companies," said Liu Wen, assistant general manager of the Shanghai branch of Singapore-based Pacific International Lines (PTE) Ltd.



A ship loaded with cargoes leaves a container terminal in Lianyungang, east China's Jiangsu Province, July 13, 2021. (Photo by Wang Jianmin/Xinhua)

Most of the company's vessels were dispatched to operate in the Chinese market, Liu added.

When the container shortage hampered China's container shipping industry, government organs and businesses adopted multiple measures to boost supply and ensure the smooth flow of goods.

Under coordinated government actions led by the Ministry of Transport, shipping giant COSCO

Shipping transported 13,469 empty containers back to domestic ports in March, quenching the country's container thirst.

The supply of new containers has also been boosted by container manufacturers accelerating production. In September, the monthly container production capacity in China surged from 200,000 TEUs to a record high of 500,000 TEUs, official data showed.

The constant introduction of favorable policies also propelled China's foreign trade growth. The business environment has been optimized with a slew of reform measures including facilitating cross-border trade and promoting trade and investment in pilot free trade zones.

This has not only boosted the confidence of market players, but also helped to further strengthen

China's opening up, said Bai Ming, a researcher with the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation under the Ministry of Commerce.

In the country's southern island province Hainan, an international maritime transport and trade hub is taking shape in Yangpu Port, with favorable measures targeted at investment, administrative approvals and financial support for

small and micro-sized firms attracting more and more foreign trade companies to the area.

"The favorable policies in the Hainan free trade port, especially the value-added processing policy first implemented in the Yangpu free trade port area, have given us incredible business opportunities," said Zhang Hui, general manager of an international food company. **Xinhua**

ARIMO outlines feats earned 60 years after independence

By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro

AS Tanzania marks 60 years of independence, Ardhi Institute Morogoro (ARIMO) is proud of its graduates involving themselves in huge strategic projects in speeding up the country's industrial development to attain middle income status.

ARIMO principal, Huruma Lugalla says most of its graduates are employed in various public and private sectors to spur the country's industrialisation agenda for swift development.

In an interview, the institute's principal reveals that the graduates have been employed in ministries, public corporations, local government authorities and private urban and rural surveying and planning companies.

Other employers included construction companies for buildings, road infrastructures, airports, railways, ports, oil pipe lines, water dams and electricity and water distribution.

He says the institute has been at the fore front in implementing various government aims, policies and plans, adding that the institute provides training in two fields, geometrics and urban and regional planning.

According to him, originally, the institute was providing training on only one field - land surveying in certificate level spanning six months.

However, in 1979 the training was changed from six to one year, and added that further changes were made in 1983 when the land surveying field at certificate level was extended to two years.

The official notes that ARIMO received accreditation by the National Council of Technical Education (NACTE) in 2009, and later established new curricula for technicians in urban and rural planning beginning 2018/2019.

He also views the institute achievements by looking into the increase of students' enrolment and courses being taught and employment of its graduates as well as their contribution to the country's national development in various fields - social, economic, infrastructural and security.

The institute has increased the number of students admitted from 61 students in the 2008/2009 academic year to 554 students in the 2020/2021 academic year.

In the academic year 2021/2022, he reveals that the number of students enrolled is 501 where boys are 346 (69 per cent) and girls are 155 (31 per cent).

In 2018, ARIMO introduced diploma course in urban and regional planning and so far, there are 33 diploma graduates.

The institute has been also working closely with different public and private institutions as well as local government authorities such as surveying the area for Mkinga District Headquarters (Kasera area), Kilindi (Songea area), Mvomero (Wami Sokoine area), Chemba (Chemba town), Kalambo (Matai town), Kyerwa (Rubwera area), and Morogoro Rural (Mvuha area).

Others are surveying of residential plots in Arusha City (Burka and Lakilaki area), Tanga (Kange, Kasera, Mwakidila, Pong-



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister William Lukuvi gets a briefing from Ardhi Institute Morogoro (ARIMO) land surveyors on formalisation of unplanned settlements in Arusha city at a past event last year. File Photo.

we, Mabokweni, Amboni, Pande), Dar es Salaam and Dodoma. The institute also surveyed residential plots in Iringa, Bukoba, Shinyanga, Moshi, Singida and Morogoro municipal councils.

Others are district councils in Coast, Lindi, Mtwara, Njombe, Geita, Tabora, Songwe and Kigoma regions.

The institute also involved in surveying the Mwambani port area and port-related industries in the Mnyanjani area in Tanga city and demarcation of Mikumi National Park.

According to Lugalla, the Morogoro-based institute has been involved in formalizing unplanned settlements in Morogoro, Iringa, Moshi municipalities; Arusha and Dar es Salaam cities; and the towns of Rombo, Same, Mangaka and Nanyumbu where a total of 30,188 plots have been surveyed.

"These projects have increased government revenues, particularly when it sells surveyed land to the people and then he/she'll have deeds, which are taxed and thus increase government income," he says.

Another benefit is a citizen with a certificate to be able to get a loan using his/her certificate and thus help him/her to grow economically.

"Our graduates are also engaged in Morogoro Central construction project and that of Mafiga Bus stand in Morogoro Municipality," he says.

ARIMO recognizes the current needs of the labor market driven by changes in science and technology in day-to-day operations. In that context, the college has made several improvements to

the curriculum, teaching materials and equipment.

Lugalla says the institute's curriculum has been improved to meet current needs.

"This is evidenced by the changes made by the college, from the knowledge-based education and training system to the competence-based education and training system."

Forty years (1978 - 2018), ARIMO was teaching only one course - Land Surveying, but later in 2018, the institute rolled out a second course - urban and regional planning.

On ARIMO future plans, Lugalla says: "Based on the current trend of surveying each piece of land to facilitate industrial growth, ARIMO prepared a Five Year Strategic Plan (2017/2018 - 2021/2022) to improve infrastructure and human resources with the aim of keeping pace with growth of the country's socio-economic development."

The institute is in various stages of implementing the objectives contained in the strategic plan; where some of its goals are to increase student enrollment, increase the quality of graduates based on market demand and technology growth by conducting regular review of the teaching curricula.

ARIMO also intends to develop a 32-acre site located on Mount Kola in the outskirts of Morogoro Municipality with the aim of reducing infrastructure challenges.

The college also plans to train students and its staff at masters' level with the aim of building professional capacity.

The institute has three sets of state-of-the-art satellite surveying equipment (GNSS Receivers) used for teaching and conducting professional consulting work.

Pemba Gyms association called to take firm stand against GBV

By Guardian Correspondent, Pemba

PEMBA Gymnastics Association has been called to use the association to educate and encourage to take a strong stand against gender based violence (GBV) and child abuse and be ready to testify in court in cases involving the cases.

The call was made by Mkoani District Commissioner, Khatib Juma Mjaja during a special

bonanza held here in support of governments' and stakeholders' efforts as part of the 16-day activities against gender based violence and child abuse.

He said the issue of the lack of evidence in GBC cases was still a challenge, as many of the would-be witnesses become reluctant to testify, starting at police investigation level and court, thereby contributing to many cases being withdrawn from courts due

to lack of evidence.

He explained that the GBV issue was still a great challenge in the community and needs joint efforts from every individual to use his/her position in fighting it.

He said: "Everyone is touched by these criminal acts, if not you, your brother or your aunt, and we cannot allow them to continue as they humiliate us as human beings first and Zanzibaris second."

For his part, Wete District Commissioner Hamad Omar Bakar stressed that the situation was grave due to the increase acts of GBV from day to day.

"More than 139 GBV cases have been reported in Wete District this year alone," he said.

Meanwhile the DC praised the decision of the association to come up in raising their voices against the vice through

sports. He said: "Everyone must use his/her position to fight the vice in the community and we, as sports people have seen it necessary to also wage the war against it, as it affects us all."

The director of Tanzania Media women association for Zanzibar (TAMWA-Zanzibar) Dr Mzuri Issa Ali said the association was pleased by the gymnastics association of Pemba in the efforts to fight all acts of GBV

and child abuse.

However, she said, despite achievements gained, there are still challenges being faced, especially in regard to the members of the police not taking immediate concrete steps when these acts are reported to them, thereby letting many suspects run away.

Earlier, the Secretary of Pemba Gymnastics Association, Khalfan Amour said all gym

groups have decided to participate in the bonanza walk aimed to support the government and stakeholders' fight all forms of GBV and child abuse in the society. The bonanza against acts of GBV and child abuse was organised by the Pemba gymnastics association in collaboration with TAMWA-Zanzibar and the Zanzibar association of People with Developmental Disabilities (ZAPDD).

Grumeti Fund brings health service closer to Makundusi - Mara villagers

By Guardian Correspondent, Serengeti

GRUMETI Fund has spent 100m/- to build a modern maternal and child health building at a new dispensary located at Omahe sub-village of Makundusi village in Serengeti district, Mara region.

The non-profit organisation which supports conservation and community development activities in western Serengeti handed over the building to Serengeti district commissioner (DC) Dr Vicent Mashinji last Saturday.

Construction of the building is expected to significantly reduce if not ending maternal and child deaths at the sub -village with an estimated of over 3,000 population.

"Indeed, this is a modern building and other investors in Serengeti should emulate the good example by Grumeti Fund", Dr Mashinji remarked shortly after officiating official handing over of the building at the remote village.

The DC ordered Serengeti dis-

trict council to deploy additional medical personnel at the rural health facility successfully built by local construction company called Mulle & Company called was used to implement the project

Serengeti district council acting executive director, Dr Emiliana Donald said the dispensary will start offering basic services like vaccinations to expectant mothers.

"We are so pleased by this support from Grumeti Fund on health sector in our council. Vaccination services to mother and child will begin at this dispensary as soon as possible and it all goes well by New Year," Dr Emiliana who is also the district medical officer (DMO) in the Tanzania's wildlife -rich district said.

Grumeti Fund general manager Mathew Perry handed over the building to the Serengeti officials led by the DC in during an event also attended by beneficiary villagers.

According to Perry, construction



Serengeti district commissioner Dr Vicent Mashinji (C) cuts a ribbon to hand over a new mother and child health building worth 100m/- at Omahe sub-village at Makundusi village in Serengeti district, Mara region. The event was held last week. Looking on is Grumeti Fund general manager Mathew Perry (R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

of building has also seen contributions of building materials like stones and sand from the local communities.

"This project was initiated by citizens of Omahe and we thank them for adding a contribution of 18 million shillings on top of 100m/-

donated by Grumeti Fund," said Perry who was also accompanied by Community Development Manager at Grumeti Fund, Frida Mollel.

He said that Grumeti Fund will start continue supporting /supplementing ongoing efforts by the government to improve health sector and other social services to the citizens.

Earlier, Makundusi village government chairman, Joseph Mseti Nyaikobe said construction of the building had bring a smile to citizens who had in the past spent about six kilometres walking to seek treatment services at the nearest dispensary.

"Omahe sub-village has been leading with the problem of maternal and child deaths at our village and we thank Grumeti Fund for listening to our request. Our relationships with Grumeti are good", the village government chairman said.

The rural villagers especially women received the building with joy and happiness describing it as big relief.

"We are now going to forget the problem of mother and child deaths, many thanks to Grumeti Fund and our village government for bringing to health services that they missed for decades close to our homes", a village woman identified as Doricas Malindi said.

By Special Correspondent

Bank disburses \$3.2billion to fight coronavirus

THE African Development Bank (AfDB) has disbursed a total of US\$3.2 billion as its contribution to combat the effects of coronavirus (COVID-19) in Africa.

AfDB acting chief economist and vice president, economic governance and knowledge management, Prof. Kevin Urama, disclosed this at the opening of the 17th Africa economic conference in Cape Verde.

The figure, he said was part of a total of 7.3 billion U.S. dollars disbursed in 2020 from the COVID-19 Crisis Response Facility to support member countries in their fight against the pandemic.

"In 2020, the African Development Bank Group disbursed \$7.3 billion, a 40 per cent increase from the \$5.2 billion dis-

bursed in 2019.

"Volumes were boosted by a rapid increase in disbursements from the COVID-19 Crisis Response Facility (\$3.02 billion, or 39 per cent of the total Bank Group disbursements) as the Bank Group supported Regional Member Countries in fighting the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Over 80 per cent of the ap-

proved operations were in the form of Crisis Response Budget Support operations, prepared in response to the COVID-19 pandemic," he said.

He added that the bank was working very hard to curb looming hunger in the region, pointing out that over 40 million Africans were said to be at the risk of hunger.

Urama said the AfDB in col-

laboration with African Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission was working to provide financial and technical assistance to beef up land governance systems.

He explained that land governance was seen by many to be an influential enabler in the transformation of African food systems.

Not only would this help address concerns about hunger on the continent, but it could also contribute to the generation of higher revenues by reducing a major cost of economic activity for marginalized populations.

This is especially true for smallholder farmers, who make up more than 60% of the population of Sub-Saharan Af-

rica with about 23 per cent of GDP coming from agriculture.

Together with regional institutions, the African Development Bank Group is committed to building a resilient and forward-looking financial system for Africa.

The pandemic provides the opportunity to creatively brainstorm on ways to both improve the region's ability to access financial resources needed to build resilient African economies.

Noorjehan Niaz and Zakia Soman: Bonded to change the Trajectory of muslim women in India

NEW DELHI

DISCRIMINATED in society and concerned about the discrimination of women in their homes, the two women who co-founded the Bhartiya Muslim Mahila Andolan (BMMA) started the movement to further Muslim women's leadership and help them reclaim their rights.

In an exclusive interview with IPS, Dr Noorjehan Safia Niaz and Zakia Soman say they started the BMMA or the Indian Muslim Women's Movement to address communal tensions and prejudice within India and the inherent patriarchal prejudices faced within their homes and beyond.

Both Niaz and Soman say the 'communal' tensions, parlance for prejudice and violence against the Muslim minority in India, shaped their understandings of gender and identity. This led them to stand firmly on principles of gender justice and reforms - leading to the formation of BMMA. Since 2007 this movement has grown to more than 50,000 women.

Soman says she became conscious of her Muslim identity while interacting with women survivors of the Gujarat riots in 2002 in Ahmedabad. During these riots, many Muslim women were singled out and subjected to sexual violence.

"Gujarat riots were preceded by 9/11 (the attack on the World Trade Centre in New York in 2001) and the so-called war on terror. I felt a huge burden of my identity. My Muslim name invoked curiosity wherever I went," Soman says.

She realised she was not alone, and many Muslim women shared her feelings.

"On the one hand, there was communalism and communal violence coupled with state neglect. On the other hand, we faced discrimination at home and within the family, wrongly in the name of religion."

Soman says she was in an "abusive relationship", and she and other Muslim women "decided to join hands and take charge of our situation."

The BMMA was born out of these sentiments to change a communal, patriarchal world.

For Niaz, the journey began in 1992, just after Babri Masjid, a mosque in Ayodhya, was demolished. What followed was communal violence across the country. Eighteen Muslims were murdered in Ayodhya following the demolition and houses and shops torched. Across the country, including in Mumbai, around 2,000 people were killed.

This communal violence and insecurity were the reasons Muslim women emerged as community leaders, she said.

"By this time, there was also a deeper understanding of all issues, especially of the core basic need for education, livelihood, health, security," Niaz says. "Additionally, we also had seen from close quarters the legal discrimination that Muslim women faced because of lack of a codified Muslim family law."

This became the core demand of the BMMA because "we knew that if we don't demand it, nobody else will. 'Our Struggle, Our Leadership' became our slogan. Muslim women must lead based on the values of the



Zakia Soman and Dr Noorjehan Safia Niaz are determined to ensure Muslim women take their rightful place in society.

Holy Quran and the Indian Constitution. (She must) demand her rights which emanate from her religion and her identity as a citizen of this country," Niaz says in an exclusive interview with IPS.

"Zakia approached me with the idea of a national platform, and that is how it all began. We worked for two years on the vision, mission, objectives, values and principles that would govern the movement, with other women leaders," she said.

After speaking to other Muslim

women leaders in various states and after two years of deliberations, in 2007, BMMA was formally launched.

Since its formation, BMMA has been leading change from within on various fronts.

Soman and Niaz recall the various victories and associate these with the relentless struggle of the members who continued to fight for their rights despite little to no resources and often felt the community's ire for "daring to demand their rights".

One such victory was the Haji Ali

judgement which reversed a prohibition of women's entry into the sanctum sanctorum of the religious shrine, Dargah/Shrine. BMMA had filed the Public Interest Litigation or PIL to stop the discriminatory practice. It was a victory endorsed by the Supreme Court of India and paved the way for women from other communities to demand the end of discrimination at religious places.

Another significant achievement was the filing of a PIL against triple divorce, polygamy and halala. The BMMA was a significant group that had the practice of triple divorce, a method where Muslim men could divorce their wives by merely pronouncing the term "Talaq" or divorce, thrice to them, abolished in 2019.

Forming Darul-Uloom-e-Niswaan and training 20 women to become qazis or religious scholars is a first in India and considered by both as a major achievement.

"Some of the women whom we have trained have even performed Nikahs (religious weddings), challenging patriarchal norms," adds Niaz.

Despite the resource crunch and criticism, the leaders in the states and members continue to work with the most marginalised women, addressing issues ranging from applying scholarship schemes for their children and training them in livelihood skills to empowering them with information on Constitutional and Quranic rights

Most of the leaders run centres from their homes, many in poor ghettos to reach those in most need.

The movement and its leaders have been criticised for addressing women's rights when Islamophobia and communal violence are on the rise.

Change and reform are slow and require continuous efforts and support from the larger community and progressive forces, according to Soman.

"It is not easy to take on the patriarchal religious establishment

that has ruled over the community mindsets for decades. Neither is it easy to fight a discriminatory communal order in the face of state apathy," says Soman.

"I do not care about the opinions of vested interests. I am satisfied when I look at how dozens of the riot survivor women have turned out to be fiery activists in the last two decades," Soman says. BMMA has created leaders across the country.

"These women were voiceless in the cacophony of conservative men of religion. (The leaders) have now shown the whole world that gender justice is intrinsic to Islam. They have changed the perception about their religion in the eyes of ordinary Indians," she says.

The path chosen was never easy. They were asked why the State should be involved in matters of shariah. They were insulted and called stooges of the right-right-wing Hindutva. This criticism came from both religious groups and the so-called secular-liberal feminists

With the additional challenge of COVID-19, Niaz is confident that the path chosen is the right one.

"Amid the heightened Islamophobia, lynchings and open calls for annihilating the community by the state and state-backed Hindutva forces, how can BMMA continue to speak for family law reforms in favour of Muslim women," they were asked

"Because if we don't continue to speak and highlight the issue, nobody else will."

The two women and the leaders from the Indian states, bound by shared objectives of empowering and uplifting Muslim women, find strength in each other. Niaz reflects on this relationship.

"We bond with each other within BMMA. I would like to believe we are soul-mates born with a common divinely sanctioned purpose. Just being with each other, talking to each other gives us strength."

IPS

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 179 00--

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

3 letters RAT, EAT, BYE
4 letters MERE, MENU, OSLO, OMAN, REIN, HATE, MEED, ORES, BULL,
5 letters AMPERE, RACHIS, DINER, NOBLE
6 letters BUCKET, PLENARY, SOMALIA, TEASED
7 letters BROWSER, BULGARE, OMADHAUN
8 letters EMINENCE, DYNAMITE
9 letters CALAMITY,

- CLUES: Across**
- 1 to reprimand
 - 5 sex that fertilizes the ovum
 - 6 unkind, cruel
 - 9 Overpopulated country in Africa
 - 13 Animal of Australia
 - 14 to stay
 - 16 coloured tropical freshwater fish
 - 17 barrier constructed to hold back water
 - 19 stopped, ceased
 - 20 small flat cake
 - 22 highest point
 - 23 largest horned African antelopes
- Down:**
- 1 Italy's Capital
 - 2 bed cover
 - 3 infidel
 - 4 human beings
 - 7 Niger's capital
 - 8 chain around a prisoner's ankle as a restraint
 - 10 insect which sucks
 - 11 an Indian actor
 - 12 barbary sheep
 - 15 friendly and sociable with fellow members not outsiders
 - 17 duces
 - 18 a walking stick
 - 19 used as an expression of pain
 - 21 large tailless primate

WORD-FIT

SOLUTIONS

RIVER, ENTER, MOUSE, DEER, SPAIN, TRIBE, ANTI, ACTING, MODERN, BREAK, LIMA, ERMES, DENY, PLUNGE, KARATE, EEA, OLE, OSO, LEAVE, SER, SPELLS, EL, YES, O, MUSCAT, RARA

RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MAMBO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:15 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 -05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MAMBO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:15 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 -05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MAMBO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:15 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 -05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MAMBO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:15 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 -05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MAMBO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:15 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 -05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MAMBO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:15 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 -05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	





Joseph Nyaga, the CEO TransUnion.

CENSURE

A third of borrowers now on CRBs blacklist

NAIROBI

A third of Kenyan loan accounts are negatively listed as defaulted with the country's credit reference bureaus (CRBs) in an economy where Covid-induced job cuts and business closures have pushed thousands of people into a debt trap.

Data from the CRBs show that the accounts negatively listed stood at 4.6 million out of the 15 million accounts, reflecting a jump from 3.2 million accounts in April last year. The bulk of the new listings is for mobile digital loans despite the government having frozen the blacklisting of defaulted loans below Sh1,000 from April to December last year.

The suspension was aimed at cushioning Kenyans from the economic fallout that came with Covid-19. The defaulted loan accounts were listed this year. Workers and businesses defaulted on bank loans worth Sh93 billion in the year to February following the imposition of stringent measures to contain the spread of the coronavirus.

Data from the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) shows that non-performing loans (NPLs) rose from Sh351 billion in February 2020 to Sh444 billion at the end of February this year – the sharpest one-year increase in recent history.

But this excludes defaults from unregulated digital mobile lenders who were also barred from forwarding the names of loan defaulters to CRBs. It followed public outcry over widespread misuse of the credit information sharing (CIS) mechanism by the unregulated digital mobile lenders. Their freeze from CRBs signals that blacklisted loan accounts could have been higher.

"The number of Kenyans currently negatively listed are 4.6 million against the total records of 15 million," said Joseph Nyaga, the CEO TransUnion, one of Kenya's three CRBs. He said the majority of the negative listings were for loans tapped through mobile phones. The rising number of blacklisted loan accounts will jeopardise the chances of millions of Kenyans being able to borrow more to grow their businesses or for projects.

But the CBK has offered the blacklisted borrowers breathing space after it froze the sharing of information of those who have defaulted on loans of below Sh5 million up to end of September next year.

The CRB listing relief is part of a stimulus package to cushion distressed

businesses and households from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has hit consumer demand and forced businesses to shed jobs and cut back their operations. But the CBK reckons the move could constrict private sector lending growth.

Industries and other businesses had cut down on their activities in response to the infectious disease, leading to job cuts and unpaid leave for retained staff as profitable firms moved into losses. This saw workers who had tapped mortgages and unsecured loans for purchase of goods such as furniture and cars and expenses like school fees default. Unsecured loans are given on the strength of one's salary.

Firms that had borrowed based on the forecast of cash flows have also been struggling to repay their bank loans. Nearly 730,000 jobs were lost last year when Kenya imposed coronavirus-induced lockdowns that led to layoffs and pay cuts, but the country's economy is presently recovering. Growth slid to negative 0.3 percent last year from 5.0 percent in 2019.

Recovery has started, but there are fears the pace could be curbed by a shortage of Covid-19 vaccines and new waves of infections. Growth is expected to be 6.1 percent this year and 5.6 percent in 2022, according to the CBK. The non-performing loans dropped from Sh444.2 billion in February to Sh435 billion in September.

The CBK has warned that commercial banks could restart rationing loans following the suspension of blacklisting of defaulters with Sh5 million loans and below. The regulator says banks may shun lending to individuals and small traders at a scale last witnessed between September 2016 and November 2019 when Kenya capped interest rates.

Bankers say a lack of credit reference could contribute to soaring costs of loans and stall lending to businesses due to incomplete borrowers' information. The suspension is the second since Kenya reported the first case of Covid-19 last year.

The CBK ordered a six-month suspension of CRB listings in April last year as part of the measures to cushion borrowers hit by the pandemic. The moratorium lapsed in October, allowing financial institutions to start sending names of defaulters to the CRBs. Lenders, however, offered defaulters 90 days from October 1 to start repaying their loans or get blacklisted.

ENDORSEMENT

Minister Waitara salutes NIT for introducing new courses on railway, marine engineering



Some of the NIT graduates in various disciplines heading to the ceremony hall in Dar es Salaam on Friday. Photo courtesy of NIT.

By Guardian Reporter

INTRODUCTION of new disciplines in railways and marine engineering by National Institute of Transport has been welcomed by Deputy Minister for Communication, Transport and Works, Mwita Waitara.

Waitara said in Dar es Salaam on Friday during the 37th graduation ceremony that the introduction of new courses on naval architecture and marine engineering as well as courses on railway transport is an important milestone in the country's development. Waitara stated that the introduced courses will help foster rapid economic growth.

He noted that the three courses will help reduce the burden on the government in sending students for training abroad. "I am delight-

ed to hear that NIT has continued to expand the scope of training in this important sector including self-reliance in all modes of transport," he noted.

The Deputy Minister expressed government's commitment to address challenges facing NIT including deteriorating infrastructure and buildings, shortage of lecturers and their offices but also students dormitories.

"The government will continue working with the Institute to ensure these challenges are sorted out but I also urge NIT management to continue using its own revenue to solve some of these challenges," he said.

In remarks to welcome Waitara, NIT Rector, Professor Zacharia Mganilwa said the number of students admitted to the Institute has been increasing on annual basis leading to an increase in profes-

sionals in the transport sector. "Over the past five years, the number of students has increased by 67 percent from 7,752 in 2016/17 to 12,980 students in 2021/22," Prof Mganilwa said. He said that currently, NIT has a total of 346 staff of which 224 are academic staff.

"When compared to the actual need of the Institute, the number of staff is small especially for academic staff. The situation is compelling NIT to spend a lot of money to pay part-time lecturers to fill the gaps," Prof Mganilwa noted.

He stated that the Institute has continued to build the capacity of its lecturers and staff by sending them abroad to improve their capacity. The NIT Rector informed that in the academic year 2020/21 a total of 65 staff members were undertaking various studies of which 30 are doing doctorate

while another 30 doing master's degrees with five on undergraduate.

On aviation sector, Prof Mganilwa said the government through Tanzania Airports Authority has provided NIT with a 60-hectare site located at Kilimanjaro International Airport for the construction of a hangar.

"In the area, the Institute will build training facilities including aircraft servicing workshop, student hostels and staff houses through a project funded by the World Bank. The construction process has begun where we are currently in the process of conducting an environmental impact assessment," he said while adding that the Institute has established a Center of Excellence in Aviation and Transport Operations (CoEATO) as part of the World Bank financed project.

IMPRESSIVE

The Banker Magazine of UK names Stanbic Bank as Tanzania's Bank of the year 2021



Stanbic Bank Tanzania's CEO, Kevin Wingfield.

By Guardian Reporter

ITS almost becoming routine as Stanbic Bank Tanzania has been named for the second consecutive year as 'Bank of the year in Tanzania' by The Banker Magazine of UK.

The award recognizes financial institutions that demonstrate solid strategy and growth while catering to their customers' daily banking needs. Stanbic Bank Tanzania's CEO, Kevin Wingfield said the award is a great honour to the Dar es Salaam based lender.

"This recognition is a testament to our commitment and success in empowering dreams and driving Tanzania's growth. We thank and appreciate our clients for trusting in us, and contributing to making it possible

for Stanbic Bank to win this award," Wingfield said.

As the global economy is recovering from the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, Stanbic Bank Tanzania has been at the forefront of providing relief efforts and economic revival programs. "Like any other business, we have felt the effects of Covid-19 not only on our business but that of our clients as well. As a result, the need to raise efficiencies, strengthen client relationships, and access new revenue streams has come to the fore," he added.

The Stanbic Bank Tanzania CEO further noted that his bank had to find new ways to serve clients, including strengthening digital capabilities and taking a more personalized

approach to meet unique client needs.

"Currently we are in transition to becoming a digital, platform-enabled, services-based organisation, where we are looking to enhance our relevance to our customers and expand our revenue streams. We remain committed to supporting the country's ongoing economic growth and transformation," Wingfield stated.

The bank has received numerous accolades over the years, with the most recent being 'Best Investment Bank' in October this year. Stanbic Bank Tanzania is part of the Standard Bank Group, Africa's largest banking group by assets, is present in 20 markets across the continent and in major global financial centres.

RESISTANCE

Mozambique: Gemfields ruby auction raises record 88 million dollars

MAPUTO

The London-based mining company Gemfields on Friday announced that it had raised a record 88.4 million US dollars from a series of mini auctions of rubies from its mine in the northern Mozambican district of Montepuez.

The auctions took place online between 8 November and 9 December and customers were able to view the parcels of mixed quality

rubies through in-person and private viewings in Bangkok, Dubai, and Jaipur. Of the 107 lots offered, 104 were sold with an average price of 132.47 US dollars per carat. There have been fifteen auctions of rubies from Montepuez Ruby Mining Ltd (MRM) since June 2014, which have in total raised 731.5 million dollars.

According to Adrian Banks, Gemfields' Managing Director of Product & Sales, "this has been the strongest ruby auction in Gemfields' history and we're very pleased with the

trajectory and growth of the downstream ruby sector. Professionalised and dependable supply has always been the key to unlocking growth."

Montepuez Ruby Mining (MRM) holds a 25 year concession on an area of 340 square kilometres in Montepuez, in Cabo Delgado province. Gemfields holds a 75 per cent stake in the company with the other 25 per cent owned by the Mozambican company Mwiriti.

CHARITY

Mnazi Bay partners finance libraries at Naliendele, Mahurunga schools in Mtwara

By Guardian Reporter

TWO fully furnished libraries financed by Mnazi Bay partners which include Wentworth Gas Limited, M&P Tanzania and Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation, have been handed over to Naliendele and Mahurunga Secondary Schools in Mtwara region.

Country Manager for Wentworth Gas Limited, Richard Tainton said the Mnazi Bay partners financed the two libraries as part of corporate social responsibility. "Wentworth's CSR programs aim to invest in community projects in education and in health sectors. In 2021, Wentworth has provided funding for a rain-water-harvest system for Kitangali town in Newala district; supported the Mikindani Museum expansion work through TradeAid; and supported Muhimbili National Hospital sickle cell awareness project which was conducted at six secondary schools in Mtwara," Tainton said.

He said his company also



Country manager for Wentworth Gas Limited, Richard Tainton (R) handing over a library building to a representative of Mtwara Regional Administrative Secretary, Mohamed Longoi (C) at Naliendele Secondary School on Friday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

supported the CCBRT Hospital's fistula and cleft lip awareness project. "The CCBRT team visited six districts in Mtwara and more than 3,000 people were reached through radio broadcast and onsite visits at health centers and public places," he added.

Guest of honour at the handing over ceremony, Mohamed Longoi who was represented Mtwara

Regional Administrative Secretary commended the Mnazi Bay partners for the support to public schools.

The library project was done in collaboration with a non-government, READ (Realising Education for Development) as an implementing partner. The project provided over 2,030 books,

six computers and furniture. More than 30 Teachers were trained in library management and application of advanced teaching methods and approximately 920 students received tutorials in literacy activities to encourage and promote reading.

Commenting on the project, Managing Director of M&P Tanzania, Nicolas Engel said through the partnership with the government, M&P

is always committed in supporting local communities economically, socially and environmentally.

"M&P has supported many CSR projects over the years such as construction of classrooms, school administration blocks and teachers' houses in addition to construction of maternity ward at Msimbati village," Engel said.

ADVISE

WMA manager urges business people to better package products

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

WEIGHT and Measures Agency has urged entrepreneurs and business community in the country to be smart in packaging of their products in order to capture both the local and international markets.

The call was made last week in Zanzibar by WMA Dar es Salaam Port Manager, Peter Chuwa when he visited entrepreneurs' pavilions during the ongoing exhibitions at Maisara Grounds.

Chuwa urged them to ensure their products are also in correct measurements when they packaging them to meet regulations in addition to luring customers globally. "We at WMA will continue with our obligation to provide good service to the public by protecting them from unfaithful business owners who forge measurement in order to maximize profit," he said.

Seconding Chuwa, Director of Weight and Measures Zanzibar, (ZAWEMA), Mohammed Simai said his agency will soon expand its wings to verify water and electric meters just like WMA does at Misugusugu Center in Kibaha.

Simai said verification of water meters and electric meters is very important and will start in the near future to ensure that customers get what they deserve and government get what it deserves in terms of revenue.

"Our fellow WMA on the Mainland have gone very far compared to us in Zanzibar because we are still building capacity to ensure we also get into those new areas to verify water and electric meters to ensure customers of the utilities get value of their money," he said.

He said it is important for WMA and ZAWEMA to educate citizens on the importance of accurate measurements for different products both locally produced and imported.

He urged business community from Zanzibar and from Mainland to ensure they adhere to correct measurements to avoid legal action by authorities. "Business people should not tamper with weighing and measurement machines that our agency regulates because we conduct regular inspections and those found guilty will be charged," he warned.

EMPOWERMENT

ILO wards first batch of gender entrepreneurs with virtual certificates

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

International Labour Organization (ILO) has awarded virtual certificates to 10 participants of the first virtual global Gender and Entrepreneurship Together (GET Ahead) training of trainers from different countries including Tanzania.

The virtual certificate is part of the requirements for the ILO-e-GET Ahead certification process to become trainer, and was delivered by an ILO official based in Geneva, Sierra Leal Adrian. The GET Ahead trainers will train potential or current small-scale women and men entrepreneurs.

Other countries whose participants were also conferred with the virtual certificates included Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nigeria and Uganda.

Dr Bukaza Chachage from Open University Tanzania who was among the participants said it was timely and important for the country.

The training was organized by the Lead Trainers from ILO-GET Ahead, David Katenderi and Stephen Kyalibulha through ILO-Uganda in collaboration ILO-Geneva under the Women's Entrepreneurship Programme (WEP).

Dr Chachage said that during the five days training, they were coached on business environment, business ideas, marketing and selling, mentoring entrepreneurs, product and services development, among others.

Others are bookkeeping and record keeping for entrepreneurs, leadership and setting goals, time management, risk and crisis management, family business and

decision, good negotiation skills and ethics.

The GET Ahead under WEP is intending to reach 523 entrepreneurs both women and men, that is 314 women (60 percent) and 209 men (40 percent) through global outreach. "GET Ahead aims to address some of the barriers women face in starting and running a business, including lack of entrepreneurship knowledge and skills, low confidence and gendered norms," Dr Chachage said.

To date, more than 300 GET Ahead trainer across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East have been certified by the ILO. Certified trainers are given access to the WED E-Space, a platform reserved for ILO trainers, staff and consultants working to support entrepreneurs.



Women entrepreneurs displaying their merchandise in Dar es Salaam.

GROWTH

Edtech propels Southern Africa PC market to record high

JOHANNESBURG

The upsurge in the adoption of education technologies (edtech) in Southern Africa lifted the personal computing device (PCD) market in the third quarter (Q3) of 2021, as demand reached record levels. In the quarter, the PCD market recorded a year-on-year growth of 44.4%.

The latest quarterly PCD tracker from International Data Corporation (IDC) says shipments in the market reached over 920 000 in Q3 2021, the highest volume recorded in almost five years. Southern African learners, like many across the world, had to resort to remote learning to keep up with the academic year, which IDC says prompted high demand for devices.

"A huge backlog of orders and rising adoption of education technologies to support online learning were the key commercial growth drivers, while retail sales spurred consumer growth. Demand remained high across the region but

vendors were unable to fully meet it, so they prioritised the supply of devices to commercial end-users," says Grace Munyi, a research analyst at IDC.

Munyi says despite the continued global stock supply challenges caused by a shortage of components and chipsets, the Southern Africa PCD market recorded a strong performance during the quarter.

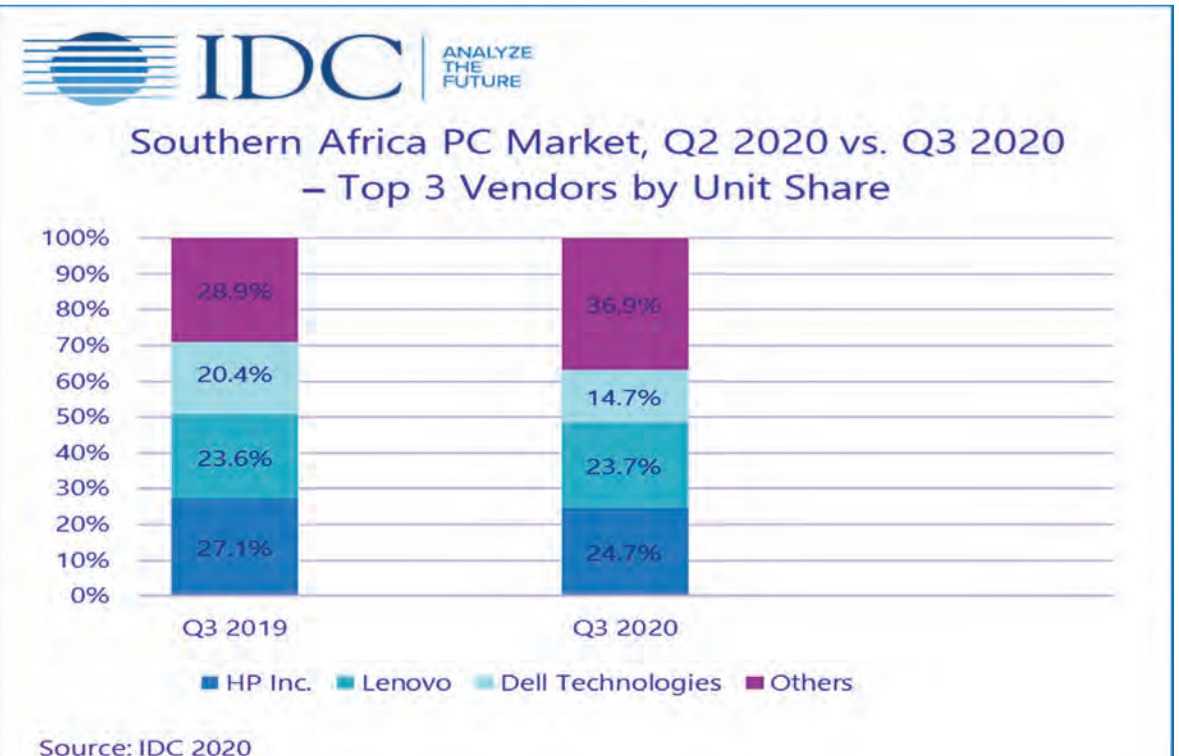
In the PC category, IDC says, HP remains the dominant player in the Southern Africa market, accounting for 27.9% of total PC shipments in the quarter, up from 24.8% a year earlier. During the same period, the IDC report says, local brand Proline moved up to second place with 18.8% share, a significant increase on the 1.3% share it gained in the third quarter the previous year.

"This strong performance by Proline was driven by the massive notebook volumes it delivered for phase two of the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) education deal in South Africa,"

says IDC. The laptops were part of COVID-19 relief efforts by government to assist students during the lockdown period.

The NSFAS contract was expected to benefit 430 000 students in 26 universities and 300 000 students in 50 TVET colleges across the country. A total of 730 000 laptops were set to be procured. Lenovo slipped from second to third in Q3 2021, with Dell falling to fourth place despite recording a slight year-on-year (YOY) increase in its share.

In the tablet category, IDC says, Samsung continued to dominate the market in the quarter. Apple moved up from third to second, while Lenovo went the other way after seeing its share decline by 4.1 percentage points. Workstations recorded the market's highest YOY growth, with shipments up 103.2% in Q3 2021. Notebook shipments increased 89.1% over the same period, while desktop shipments were up 65.2%.



An IDC Southern Africa personal computing devices market chart for 2020.

CONSTRAIN

Global farmers facing fertiliser sticker shock

ROME

Key crops, from Brazilian corn to Malaysian durians, are at risk after tight supplies and blistering prices of fertiliser have caused farmers to scrimp on vital crop nutrients, adding to global food security and inflation fears.

Fertiliser costs soared this year amid rising demand and lower supply as record natural gas and coal prices triggered output cuts in the energy-intensive fertiliser sector. Urea surged more than 200% this year while diammonium phosphate prices have nearly doubled.

With global food prices at their highest in more than a decade, rising fertiliser costs will only add to pressures on food affordability, especially in import-reliant economies, while stretched budgets leave little room for government subsidies, said Frederic Neumann, HSBC's co-head of Asian economics research.

"At a time when COVID-19 already decimated the lives and livelihoods of untold millions,

soaring food costs are hitting the poor especially hard," he said. "This raises the risk that higher fertiliser costs will not only hit farmers but will also be passed on to consumers via higher food prices."

Worse before it gets better

With the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) food price index at its highest since 2011 - when high food prices helped foment the "Arab Spring" uprisings the world's farmers are already under strain to increase food supply.

But analysts say fertiliser supply tightness will worsen early next year. European, North American and North Asian farmers all need to step up purchases ahead of spring planting, while key producers China have curbed exports to ensure domestic supplies.

"Most stockpiles of urea are now secured, meaning global producers will be 'sold out' until January 1," said US-based Josh Linville, director of fertiliser at StoneX Group Inc. "Producers start the new year very low on



Josef Schmidhuber, deputy director at FAO's trade and markets division.

unsold inventories and they will be met by sizeable global demand in Q1 as US, Canada, Brazil, Europe, Asia all step forward to purchase." In response, farmers across the world are either delaying purchases or reducing fertiliser use to save money.

India and Egypt - both major farm economies - increased government subsidies in November, with India's

fertiliser ministry boosting supplies to districts with low stocks to ensure availability for winter-planted crops.

No crop spared

So far, high crop prices have cushioned the blow for many growers, and some can switch from nitrogen-hungry wheat and corn to soybeans next season. But in 2022, few crops or farmers will be spared, sources say.

In Germany, farmers hit by price increases are likely to reduce fertiliser use, which could lower harvest volumes "depending on the scale that this takes place," said Bernhard Kruesken, secretary-general of German farming association DBV. "Crop types which achieved higher producer prices in past months will be in consideration for sowing," Kruesken added.

Brazil, the world's top soybean grower and third-largest corn producer, feeds 10% of the global population. The country has warned of a fertiliser shortage next year that is predicted to slow soy, corn and cotton farm expansions.

"Soy partially dodged it because a lot of inputs had been (already) purchased, but the second corn crop of the cycle is going to run head-on into that rise in fertiliser costs," said Andre Pessoa, partner at Brazilian agribusiness consultancy Agroconsult. "For the 2022/23 cycle, I would say we are going to have some problems. I've

told farmers the problem isn't even price anymore. Now it's guaranteeing availability." Even in North America, home to some of the world's wealthiest farmers, growers have delayed purchases they usually make ahead of spring plantings, hoping prices drop.

Smallholders suffer
Although weather conditions, disease, pests and water supply also are crucial in determining how crops develop, fertilisers are among the most potent production factors that farmers control.

But many growers, and especially the millions of smallholders who produce a third of the world's food, will have little choice but to reduce fertiliser usage in 2022. In Southeast Asia, which produces most of the world's palm oil, growers are bracing for higher output costs with industry players already seeing disruptions in fertiliser procurements and lower imports.

MILESTONE

Barrick Gold publishes human rights report

TORONTO

Barrick Gold Corporation (NYSE:GOLD) (TSX:ABX) published its report on human rights outlining the company's revised policies and standards and their implementation since the merger with Randgold Resources.

The publication of the report coincides with the United Nations' Human Rights Day, which commemorates the day, in 1948, when the UN General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The theme for this year is 'Equality.' During 2020, Barrick updated several standards including the Use of Force Standard and developed a new Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights Standard. It also revised, updated and restarted its human rights program, in which every operation conducts a human rights assessment on a two- to three-year cycle. To date, all high- and medium-risk sites have been assessed, with Kibali in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Loulo-Gounkoto in Mali completed during 2021.

Barrick trained its employees and contractors in these updated standards and policies and worked with independent human rights experts, Avanzar, to develop online modules to ensure that human rights training was not hampered by Covid-19 related travel and social distancing restrictions.

Barrick also developed 'train the trainer' programs to empower its site security leadership with the knowledge and skills to deliver

long-term training to their teams and local public security forces. These programs were successfully implemented at the North Mara and Bulyanhulu operations in Tanzania during 2021.

In the report, president and chief executive Mark Bristow said that recognizing and respecting human rights was a core value for Barrick, and its Human Rights Policy was one of the first the group updated following the merger with Randgold Resources. It is codified in Barrick's standalone Human Rights Policy and informed by the expectations of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPS) and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.

"Our policy, simply put, is to respect the human rights of all individuals impacted by our operations, including employees, contractors and external stakeholders. Wherever we operate, we seek to avoid causing or contributing to human rights violations and to facilitate remedial action. The policy is guided by our philosophy of building mutually beneficial relationships with our local communities," Bristow said.

The report also provides an insight into Barrick's salient human rights issues such as non-discrimination in the workplace, health and safety, working conditions, resettlement, security, water and the rights of indigenous people; and reflects on Barrick's legacy human rights challenges as well as the actions the company has taken to remedy these.



Barrick's president and chief executive, Mark Bristow.



MONDAY - FRIDAY
STARTING 7:30 PM



ITV

MONDAY 13 Dec

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kipindi Maalum: Wizarata ya Madini - Live
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Kipindi Maalum: Huru Talk Show rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Mjuzi Zaidi
13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt
14:10 Soap: Love to Death
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:10 Albu yako rpt
18:15 DWTW: Kesho leo
18:45 Kipindi Maalum: Nyumba ni Choo
19:00 Afiya ya Jamii
19:30 Soap: Uzalo
20:00 Habari
21:05 Dakika 45
22:00 Kipindi Maalum: Bundesliga na DW
22:15 Soap: Love to Death
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTW

TUESDAY 14 Dec

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Soap: Uzalo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto Wetu rpt
10:25 Jagina rpt
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 The Base rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Afiya ya jamii
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Ripoti Maalum rpt:
13:30 Shika Bamba rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Soap: Love to Death
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:10 Yu wapi
18:15 Kipindi Maalum: Nyumba ni Choo rpt
18:30 Uchumi na biashara

19:00 Jarida la wanawake
19:30 Soap: Uzalo
20:00 Habari
21:00 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba
21:45 Chetu ni chetu
22:20 Soap: Love to Death
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTW

WEDNESDAY 15 Dec

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Soap: Uzalo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto Wetu
10:25 Uchumi wetu
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 The Base rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jarida la wanawake
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Soap: Love to Death
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru rpt
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Soap: Rebecca rpt
18:45 Kipindi Maalum: Nyumba ni Choo
19:00 Ijue Sheria
19:30 Soap: Uzalo
20:00 Habari
21:00 Albu Yako
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
21:35 Ripoti Maalum
22:10 Soap: Love to Death
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTW

THURSDAY 16 Dec

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Soap: Uzalo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto Wetu
10:25 Shamba lulu
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 The base
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Ijue sheria rpt

12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Shamsam za pwani
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Soap: Love to Death
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Kipindi Maalum: Nyumba ni Choo rpt
18:30 Jagina
19:00 Usafiri wako
19:30 Soap: Uzalo
20:00 Habari
21:00 Malumbano ya hoja
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTW

FRIDAY 17 Dec

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Soap: Uzalo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto Wetu rpt
10:25 Usafiri wako rpt
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 The Base rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt
13:30 Chetu ni Chetu rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Chetu ni Chetu rpt
14:15 Igizo: Rebecca rpt
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base (DJ Show)
17:30 Kislam
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Korean: Jumong
19:00 Shamba lulu
19:30 Soap: Uzalo
20:00 Habari
21:05 Kipima Joto
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTW

SATURDAY 18 Dec

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera
9:00 Watoto Wetu
10:00 Shika Bamba 5
10:30 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt
11:10 Chetu ni chetu rpt

11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo
12:50 Korean: Jumong
13:30 Soap: Love to Death rpt
15:45 Igizo: Mizengwe
16:15 Igizo: Rebecca
17:00 Shamsam za Pwani
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Huru Talk Show
19:00 Jungu Kuu
19:30 Shika Bamba
20:00 Habari
21:00 Igizo: Rebecca
21:30 Art and Lifestyle
22:00 ITV TOP 10
22:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo
23:45 Soap: Uzalo rpt
01:15 DWTW

SUNDAY 19 Dec

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera
09:00 Watoto Wetu
10:00 Soap: Uzalo rpt
11:35 Bongo Movie rpt:
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:30 Mwangaza
16:30 ITV Top 10
17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Maphisi
18:30 Matukio ya wiki
19:30 Igizo: Rebecca
20:00 Habari
21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
21:10 Mizengwe
21:30 Mjuzi Zaidi
22:15 Bongo Movie:
00:00 Soap: Love to Death rpt
02:05 Al Jazeera

CAPITAL

Mon 13 Dec

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30 Tanzania Yetu rpt
17:00 Dw News Africa rpt
17:30 Meza Huru
19:00 The Décor rpt
19:30 Shamba lulu
20:00 Series: Beats of Love
20:45 The Monday Agenda
21:30 Capital Prime News
22:00 Kipima Joto
00:00 Al Jazeera

Tues 14 Dec

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)

13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30 Capchat rpt
17:30 Meza Huru
19:00 Innovation
19:30 Our Earth
20:00 Series: Beats of Love
20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love
21:30 Capital Prime
22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt
22:30 Eco@Africa
23:00 Al Jazeera

Wed 15 Dec

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 14:00
Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30 Culinary delight rpt
17:00 Innovation rpt
17:30 Meza Huru
19:00 Sports Gazette
19:30 Chetu ni chetu
20:00 Series: Beats of Love
20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love
21:30 Capital Prime News
22:00 Dakika 45:
22:45 The Décor
23:15 Al Jazeera

Thurs 16 Dec

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
12:00 Our Earth rpt
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30 Business edition rpt
17:00 In good shape
17:30 Meza Huru
19:00 Turning the spotlight
19:30 Tanzania yetu
20:00 Series: Beats of Love
20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love 21:30
Capital Prime News

Frid 17 Dec

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
12:00 Shamba lulu rpt
12:30 Dw News Africa rpt
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 14:00
Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt
17:30 17:30 Meza Huru
19:00 Rev
19:30 Eco@Africa
20:00 Albu Yako
20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition
20:45 Telenovela Laws Of love 21:30
Capital Prime News

WORLD

Support for UK PM Johnson sinking amid scandals - poll

LONDON

SUPPORT for British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and his ruling Conservative Party has plummeted after a series of scandals, with a majority of voters thinking he should now resign, according to a poll published on Saturday.

Johnson has found himself facing criticism on a number of fronts in recent weeks from the funding of the refurbishment of his Downing Street flat to a claim he intervened to ensure pets were evacuated from Kabul during the chaotic Western withdrawal in August.

The most damaging has been reports that a party was held at Downing Street during a 2020 Christmas lockdown when such festivities were banned, with a video emerging this week which

showed staff laughing and joking about

The Opinium poll for the Observer newspaper found support for the Conservatives, who have held solid leads in polls since winning a landslide victory in a 2019 election, had fallen four points to 32 percent, while backing for the opposition Labour Party rose to 41 percent, its biggest lead since 2014.

Johnson's personal ratings were also at their lowest point since the election, with his approval rating at -35 percent, down 14 points from two weeks ago. The poll also showed that 57 percent of voters thought he should resign, up from 48 percent two weeks ago.

There has been growing talk of dissatisfaction with Johnson's leadership among Conservative lawmakers according to political commentators, and it is



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson

expected dozens will vote next week against his plan for new measures to combat the spread of the Omicron variant of the coronavirus.

"The findings of our latest poll are certainly dramatic, with a devastating fall in both support for the Conservatives and approval for the prime minister," said Adam Drummond, Head of Political Polling at Opinium.

He cautioned that Johnson was the "king of comebacks" who had recovered from difficult polling situations before.

"However, unless the Conservatives can turn these numbers around quickly, backbenchers might start asking if the party is over for the prime minister," he said.

Agencies

More than 100 feared dead as tornadoes rip through US states

MAYFIELD, Ky -

AT least 100 people were feared dead in Kentucky after a swarm of tornadoes tore a 200-mile path through the US Midwest and South, demolishing homes, levelling businesses and setting off a scramble to find survivors beneath the rubble, officials said Saturday.

The powerful twisters, which weather forecasters say are unusual in cooler months, destroyed a candle factory and the fire and police stations in a small town in Kentucky, ripped through a nursing home in neighboring Missouri, and killed at least six workers at an Amazon warehouse in Illinois.

Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear said the collection of tornadoes was the most destructive in the state's history. He said about 40 workers had been rescued at the candle factory in the city of Mayfield, which had about 110 people inside when it was reduced to a pile of rubble. It would be a "miracle" to find anyone else alive under the debris, Beshear said.

"The devastation is unlike anything I have seen in my life and I have trouble putting it into words," Beshear said at a press conference. "It's very likely going to be over 100 people lost here in Kentucky."

Beshear said 189 National Guard personnel have been deployed to assist with the recovery. The rescue efforts will focus in large part on Mayfield, home to some 10,000 people in the southwestern corner of the state where it converges with Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas.

Video and photos posted on social media showed brick buildings in downtown Mayfield flattened, with parked cars nearly buried under debris. The steeple on the historic Graves County courthouse was toppled and the nearby

First United Methodist Church partially collapsed.

Mayfield Fire Chief Jeremy Creason, whose own station was destroyed, said the candle factory was diminished to a "pile of bent metal and steel and machinery" and that responders had to at times "crawl over casualties to get to live victims."

Paige Tingle said she drove four hours to the site in the hope of finding her 52-year-old mother, Jill Monroe, who was working at the factory and was last heard from at 9:30 pm.

"We don't know how to feel, we are just trying to find her," she said. "It's a disaster here."

The genesis of the tornado outbreak was a series of overnight thunderstorms, including a super cell storm that formed in northeast Arkansas. That storm moved from Arkansas and Missouri and into Tennessee and Kentucky.

Unusually high temperatures and humidity created the environment for such an extreme weather event at this time of year, said Victor Gensini, a professor in geographic and atmospheric sciences at Northern Illinois University.

"This is an historic, if not generational event," Gensini said.

Saying the disaster was likely one of the largest tornado outbreaks in US history, President Joe Biden on Saturday approved an emergency declaration for Kentucky.

He told reporters he would be asking the Environmental Protection Agency to examine what role climate change may have played in fueling the storms, and he raised questions about the tornado warning systems.

"What warning was there? And was it strong enough and was it heeded?" Biden said.

"Like A Big Bomb" About 130 miles east of May-



People survey damage from a tornado in Mayfield, Ky, on Saturday. Tornadoes and severe weather caused catastrophic damage across multiple states late Friday, killing several people overnight. AP

field in Bowling Green, Kentucky, Justin Shepherd said his coffee shop was spared the worst of the storm, which struck other businesses hard on the busy commercial strip just off the bypass to US Highway 31 West.

"We've got some siding and roof damage here, but just across the road there's a brewery that half of it is gone. It's just totally gone, like a big bomb exploded or something."

One person was killed and five seriously injured when a tornado tore through a nursing home with 90 beds in Monette, Arkansas, a small community near the border with Missouri, according to Craighead County Judge Marvin Day.

"We were very blessed that more people weren't killed or injured in that. It could have been a whole lot worse," Day told Reuters.

A few miles away in Leach-

ville, Arkansas, a tornado destroyed a Dollar General Store, killing one person, and laid waste to much of the city's downtown, said Lt Chuck Brown of the Mississippi County Sheriff's Office in Arkansas.

"It really sounded like a train roaring through town."

In Illinois, at least six workers were confirmed killed after an Amazon.com Inc warehouse collapsed in the town of Edwardsville, when the winds ripped off the roof and reduced a wall longer than a football field to rubble.

Amazon truck driver Emily Epperson, 23, said she was anxiously waiting for information on the whereabouts of her workmate Austin McEwan late Saturday afternoon to relay to his girlfriend and parents.

"We're so worried because we believe that, you know, he would have been found by now," she told Reuters.

In Tennessee, the severe weather killed at least three people, said Dean Flenner, spokesperson for the state's Emergency Management Agency. And two people, including a young child, were killed in their homes in Missouri, Governor Mike Parson said in a statement.

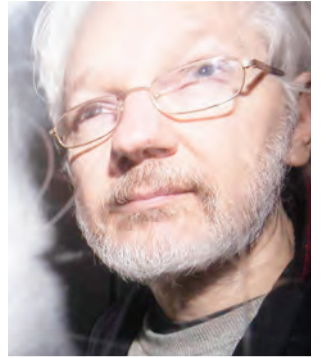
The National Weather Service's Storm Prediction Center said it received 36 reports of tornadoes touching down in Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, and Mississippi.

The weather forecast was broadly clear for Saturday night, but temperatures were expected to drop and thousands of residents lack power and water after the storm. As of Saturday afternoon, nearly 99,000 customers in Kentucky and more than 71,000 in Tennessee were without power, according to PowerOutage.US, a website tracking power outages.

Assange one step closer to extradition to United States

LONDON

WIKILEAKS founder Julian Assange on Friday moved a step closer to facing criminal charges in the United States for one of the biggest ever leaks of classified information after Washington won an appeal over his extradition in an English court.



US authorities accuse Australian-born Assange, 50, of 18 counts relating to WikiLeaks' release of vast troves of confidential US military records and diplomatic cables which they said had put lives in danger.

Assange's supporters cast him as an anti-establishment hero who has been persecuted by the United States for exposing US wrongdoing and double-dealing across the world from Afghanistan and Iraq to Washington.

At the Royal Courts of Justice in London, the United States won an appeal against a ruling by a London District Judge that Assange should not be extradited because he was likely to commit suicide in a US prison.

Judge Timothy Holroyde said he was satisfied with a package of assurances given by the United States about the conditions of Assange's detention, including a pledge not to hold him in a so-called "ADX" maximum security prison in Colorado and that he could be transferred to Australia to serve his sentence if convicted.

Further hurdles remain before Assange could be sent to the United States after an odyssey which has taken him from teenage hacker in Melbourne to years holed up in the Ecuadorian embassy in London and then incarcerated in a maximum-security prison.

The legal wrangling is almost certain to go to the Supreme Court, the United Kingdom's final court of appeal.

Assange's fiancée, Stella Moris, said his legal team would appeal the decision.

"How can it be fair, how can it be right, how can it be possible, to extradite Julian to the very country which plotted to kill him?" she said. "We will appeal this decision at the earliest possible moment."

Supporters of Assange gathered outside of the court after the ruling, chanting "free Julian Assange" and "no extradition". They tied hundreds of yellow ribbons to the court's gates and held up placards saying "journalism is not a crime".

Judge Holroyde said the case must now be remitted to Westminster Magistrates' Court with the direction judges send it to the British government to decide whether or not Assange should be extradited.

Helicopter attack

Assange, who denies any wrongdoing, started out as a teenage hacker with the nickname Mendax - a classical Latin word for "liar" - but a few decades later would expose some of the United States' darkest secrets.

WikiLeaks came to prominence when it published a US military video in 2010 showing a 2007 attack by Apache helicopters in Baghdad that killed a dozen people, including two Reuters news staff.

It then released thousands of secret classified files and diplomatic cables that laid bare often highly critical US appraisals of world leaders from Russian President Vladimir Putin to members of the Saudi royal family.

Assange jumped bail and was offered refuge in 2012 by Ecuador's then-president Rafael Correa. He spent seven years holed up at the embassy in London while British police spent millions of dollars watching for any sign that he would emerge.

Agencies

Venezuela receives first Sputnik Light vaccine shipments - Russian envoy

RIO DE JANEIRO

THE first shipments of the Sputnik Light Covid vaccines have been delivered to Venezuela, Russian Ambassador to the republic Sergey Melik-Bagdasarov told TASS Saturday.

"The second plane carrying the Sputnik Light has just landed in Caracas," he said. Earlier, Venezuelan media reported the arrival of the first batch of the Russian vaccine.

Venezuela approved the use of the Sputnik Light earlier in May. The vaccine will be used for revaccination of previously vaccinated patients.

"The shipments of the Russian medication are being carried in unprecedented timeframe: the ordered 7 million doses of the vaccine ordered by Caracas will be delivered in full in the upcoming days," the Russian embassy said in its press release.

According to Venezuelan authorities, over 80% of people have already been vaccinated. Since the beginning of the pandemic, 437,000 people have contracted the disease, with 5,229 deaths.

Agencies

Beijing's sub-center to embrace high-quality development

The State Council of China recently issued a guideline on supporting the high-quality development of the Beijing Municipal Administrative Center (Beijing MC), or Beijing's sub-center, in Tongzhou district of Beijing, specifying development goals of the administrative center during the country's 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025) and for the period before 2035.

The guideline put forward a package of targeted and workable policies and measures in a bid to support the high-quality development of the Beijing MC, said Cong Liang, deputy head of the National Development and Reform Commission of China, at a press conference held by the State Council Information Office on Dec. 1.

By 2025, Beijing's sub-center will

basically have the functions of a green city, forest city, sponge city, smart city, cultural city and livable city, according to the document.

By then, municipal-level Party organizations and government organs as well as administrative institutions in Beijing will be relocated to the sub-center. Meanwhile, the Beijing MC will see notable results in undertaking the non-capital functions of the city and housing new residents, and basically establish a quality system for development.

A modern sub-center of Beijing will be basically built by 2035, when its role in performing the non-capital functions of the city and helping with

population transfer will be fully demonstrated, said the document.

Besides, the sub-center's quality system for development will become mature, and important results will be achieved in the integrated high-quality development of the sub-center and its surrounding areas, according to the guideline.

To drive the sub-center's high-quality development through innovation, the guideline proposed enhancing its scientific and technological innovation through measures including supporting the implementation of suitable policies of the new round of pilot reforms of core areas of the Zhongguancun National Independent

Innovation Demonstration Zone at the sub-center.

It also called on encouraging law firms and accounting firms familiar with international laws and norms to set up offices in the sub-center to facilitate the innovative development of financial technologies in the Beijing MC.

The sub-center should be infused greater development momentum and vitality and given more autonomy in development. According to the guideline, the sub-center should promote the rational conversion of the types of land uses in different industries and try to increase the supply of mixed-use land for industries.

It should pilot policies on high-level trade and investment facilitation and carry out pilot programs for international talent service and management reforms and international vocational qualification recognition in key areas.

The sub-center and Xiong'an New Area in north China's Hebei province serve as two new "wings" of Beijing and are assigned the important task of relieving the non-capital functions of the city.

In January 2019, the first batch of 165 units of 35 departments of Beijing municipal government moved their offices to the sub-center officially.

Based on the guideline, Beijing

has listed 66 specific tasks to support the high-quality development of its sub-center, and made lists of projects and policies related to these tasks, noted Cui Shuqiang, a member of the Standing Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Beijing Municipal Committee and executive vice mayor of the municipal government of Beijing, at the press conference.

Beijing plans to relocate the second batch of administrative institutions to the sub-center by 2022 or the year after that. It means approximately 30,000 more people will move to the sub-center, which is believed to ease the population pressure on the core areas of Beijing's central urban areas, Cui said.

People's Daily

Palestinians vote in local elections in West Bank

RAMALLAH/GAZA

THE Palestinians on Saturday held the municipal elections in the West Bank despite the opposition of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), which has been ruling the Gaza Strip since 2007.

The local vote came after Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas cancelled the parliamentary and presidential elections in the Palestinian territories earlier this year.

Hana Nasser, chairman of the Palestinian Central Elections Commission (PCEC), told a news briefing that more than 405,000 Palestinians have the right to cast ballots for representatives in 154 village councils in the West Bank.

The polling stations were opened to voters in the 154 West Bank villages on Saturday morning, and closed at 7 pm local time (1700 GMT). Municipal votes in the major West Bank cities had been postponed.

Nasser called on the Palestinians, who have the right to vote, to participate in the municipal elections, saying all necessary arrangements had been made to facilitate the arrival of the voters to the polling stations.

"Around 1,600 local and international observers were watching the polling and will do the counting right after the ballots are closed in the evening," Nasser told reporters. "The results of the votes counting

will be immediately declared."

In September, the Palestinian government of Prime Minister Mohammed Ishtayeh decided to divide the municipal elections into two phases, with the first on Dec. 11 and the second in March 2022.

The first phase of the municipal vote was held in the West Bank only, excluding the Hamas-ruled Gaza. The elections won't be held in East Jerusalem either because of Israel's rejection.

Hamas and the less-influential Palestinian Islamic Jihad said in two separate statements that they reject the exclusion of the Gaza Strip from the Palestinian municipal elections.

The two Islamic groups called on President Abbas to abide by the previous understandings to hold the general elections in all the Palestinian territories, including East Jerusalem.

Agencies



Around 1,600 local and international observers were watching the polling and will do the counting right after the ballots are closed in the evening

Russia interested in implementing megaprojects in Greece, Turkey, Kremlin spokesman says

ATHENS

RUSSIA is interested in implementing megaprojects in Greece much like it does in Turkey, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said in an English-language interview with the Greek Antenna TV channel. The conversation took place before the December 8 meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis in Sochi. The full interview aired overnight on Saturday.

The Kremlin official said that Russia is interested in expanding economic cooperation with Greece. "We have lots and lots of Russian companies who are ready to invest in Greek economy. We are interested in implementing huge, mega projects like we do it in Turkey. Of course, it is not that every project is allowed [in Greece], for example, we are building a nuclear station in Akkuyu in Turkey, but, unfortunately, nuclear energy is forbidden in Greece," he explained.

Putin's press secretary noted that Russia holds the decisive role of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in high esteem. "He is the type of man that is being appreciated by President Putin because when President Putin says something he means it and he does it. This is important."

As for the differences between Russia and Turkey on a number of issues, the Kremlin official said that "it's impossible not to have them," pointing out that in Syria, the two countries used to have quite tense moments where their interests were colliding in several spheres.

"But every time the two presidents found it possible to come together, to sit for five, six, seven hours and not going in front of the press without reaching a solution. Every time they managed to do it," the spokesman noted.

In response to a question as to whom Russia would support in case of an armed incident in the Aegean Sea, the Kremlin official said that "the last thing we would like to see in the Aegean or in the Mediterranean Sea is us being closer



to a conflict.

"We were very worried in August of 2020 when there was a collision between the ships of two countries," stressing that it is desirable to avoid any repetition of similar incidents in the future.

According to him, Russia would like to support the resolution of issues between Greece and Turkey in the Aegean Sea.

"We would like to support a solution," he said, noting that Russia would like to see both sides proceed taking the reality into account "because every solution is a two-way street, with the reciprocal wish to reach the solution."

In response to a question whether Greece may expect Russia's full support against Turkey's actions in the Aegean and Mediterranean Seas, the Kremlin official said that Turkey insisted that the provisions of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and Greece's demands to establish the internationally recognized width of the continental shelf of inhabited islands in the Aegean Sea as well as the scale of the exclusive economic zone would definitely harm Turkey's national interests and deprive it of its right to use the natural resources of the region.

"So, we call for both sides to be calm and to be reasonable in solving the problem," Putin's press secretary concluded.

Notion of true democracy far beyond Western definition - analyst

ADDIS ABABA

THE notion of democracy and its true principles are far beyond its Western definition, an Ethiopian political analyst has said.

Speaking to Xinhua recently, Henok Tilahun, an independent political analyst, questioned the U.S. administration's attempt to divide the global community on the pretext of democracy through its so-called "summit for democracy."

"This summit is ... ridiculous ... how come the U.S.A. got the moral authority and moral position to invite and reject or classify nations based on their democratic, human rights efficiency? Because, both domestically and internationally, democracy is all about rule of law," Henok said.

The United States is hosting the so-called "summit for democracy" this month, in which the guests are selected according to America's definition and standards of democracy.

Describing the Western definition of democracy as "a very narrow way" of understanding true democracy, the analyst stressed that democracy is not only about human rights as the United States and other Western countries often tout.

"Western-defined democracy is based on civil and political rights, while Eastern-defined democracy is based on social and economic equality. So, it is not a universal meaning ... What the U.S.A. uses or other Western countries use of the definition of democracy is based on their interest and their understanding," he said.

He further underscored the need to realize equality of opportunities in the United States, which he labeled as the



File photo taken on Jan. 6, 2021 shows supporters of U.S. President Donald Trump gather near the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C., the United States. (Xinhua/Liu Jie)

basis for the fulfillment of true democracy.

"If you go to the U.S., a lot of people suffer from inequality of income, inequality of wealth, inequality of opportunity. So, without the equality of opportunity, how come nations talk about democracy, and human rights?" Henok said.

The analyst stressed that recent attempts by the U.S. administration in bringing together like-minded countries based on its standard of democracy will only affect genuine discussion on the issue.

"The U.S. gathered and grouped nations with the mentality of cold war based on their definition, not based on universal understanding of democracy," he said. Concerning recent negative hu-

man rights records in the United States, he said "since 2012, how many human rights violations have happened in the U.S.?"

How many American institutions systematically marginalize and violate human rights and democracy? It is a very clear and obvious sign of how the U.S. violates human rights."

The analyst pointed out that China's whole-process people-centered democracy ensures that all sectors of its society always enjoy equal democratic rights.

"Talking only about human rights or elections is not enough to meet the satisfaction of the people. So, the Chinese version of democracy is, I think, the right

version of democracy," he noted. Henok advised developing countries, Africa in particular, to take China's version of democracy as the true form of democracy. "When you think or focus on economic equality, social equality, it is all about people centered. The Chinese version of democracy is, I think, a very crucial understanding for other Africans and developing countries because the government strives to keep the safety and the convenience of people in the nation," he said.

Xinhua

Granting professional titles to self-taught experts gives impetus to rural vitalisation in China

NOT long ago, 196 folk artisans and new-type professional farmers in Luoyang city, central China's Henan province, were granted junior professional titles including assistant agronomist and junior artist by the municipal human resources and social security bureau of Luoyang.

The bureau carried out an activity to offer on-site professional title certification services to grassroots talents, allowing them to apply for the certification and receive their title certificates right in the fields.

The certification was an unexpected surprise, said these self-taught experts, who added that obtaining professional titles makes them more confident about settling in rural areas.

With the steady implementation of China's rural vitalization strategy, the country's rural talent teams have been constantly expanded and strengthened. However, the development of rural areas is still hindered by problems including the difficulty in attracting, cultivating, using, and retaining talents.

Though with rich practical experience and skills, many rural specialists have been constrained from achieving better career development by their academic background.

In an effort to address the problem, many provinces in the country have actively explored the possibility of granting professional titles to grassroots talents in rural areas for the purpose of breaking the bottleneck in their development and motivating farmers to better master techniques for agricultural production and management.

Offering professional title certification to rural talents is believed to be helpful for retaining outstanding talents and creating



A teacher of a technical school in Deqing county, Huzhou city, east China's Zhejiang province, gives a lesson to students on photography and livestreaming skills at a fruit planting base, Nov. 21, 2021. File photo

a virtuous cycle for gathering talents in the countryside.

Such certification requires special arrangements for evaluation, specially designed professional titles, specially formulated evaluation standards, specially organized certification activities, as well as special policies on the benefits for holders of professional titles.

Northeast China's Jilin province tailored nine professional titles for talents in rural areas, including agricultural economist, agro-technician, and agronomist; east China's Shandong province has piloted a professional title certification system for new-type professional farmers since 2018, which is now officially implemented across the province; in east China's Zhejiang province, new-type farmers can apply for senior professional title, which is equivalent to professorship at a university, just like personnel who work in agriculture-related public institutions and scientific research institutes.

Professional title certification has brought a sense of honor in work to talents in rural ar-

ea. Some farmers who have obtained professional title certificate can enjoy certain government subsidies, preferential policies on technical services, project cooperation, and bank loans, training in national conditions as well as special treatment including vacation and recuperation.

The implementation of a series of policies and measures has exerted considerable influence on rural areas, motivating more college graduates, ex-servicemen, people who returned to their hometowns in rural areas to start their own businesses, and individuals who play a leading role in increasing farmers' income to devote themselves to rural vitalization.

Talents hold the key to rural vitalization. To further attract and retain talents, rural areas need to consolidate the foundation of industries so that talents can put their abilities to good use.

Weak industrial foundation limits the development of talents, which is one of the reasons why some rural areas in China

failed to attract talents.

In the fight against poverty, a number of industries with distinctive rural characteristics have enjoyed rapid growth and become important magnets for talents. For example, Queshan county in Henan province has offered great support for people who returned to their hometowns to start their own businesses and encouraged people to establish violin workshops, developing violin making industry from scratch.

More than 60 luthiers have returned to their hometowns in Queshan county one after another, exerting a strong influence on local residents and the development of the violin making industry. As a result, more and more local farmers started to make violins as a sideline.

So far, there are more than 150 violin making-related enterprises in Queshan county. With an annual output of more than 400,000 violins, the industry has provided jobs for more than 2,600 local people.

While consolidating industrial foundation, rural areas also need to improve platforms and services for talents and promote the two-way flow of production factors between urban and rural areas.

Efforts should be made to set up one-stop service windows, rural industrial parks for innovation and start-up firms, incubation and training bases, among other platforms, provide high-quality services for entrepreneurs and help them formulate plans for business development and solve problems in financing, technology, and employment, so as to provide a solid guarantee of success for rural talents who try to start their own business.

People's Daily

Saudi crown prince ends fruitful Gulf tour to consolidate GCC unity

RIYADH

SAUDI Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ended on Saturday a successful Gulf tour of Oman, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait, aiming to boost cooperation in the region to face common challenges.

The visit was intended to bridge differences among members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), strengthen relations between Saudi Arabia and its neighbors, and coordinate their policies on Iran and other issues in preparation for the GCC summit to be hosted

by the kingdom on Dec. 14, Saudi officials said ahead of the trip.

The Saudi crown prince has achieved fruitful results during this round of visits. On the political level, all five leaders of the visited countries described their relations with Saudi Arabia as solid.

The joint statement issued by Saudi Arabia and the UAE vowed to strengthen their coordination to ensure security and stability in the region. The Saudi crown prince was also awarded the Zayed Medal, the UAE's highest honor.

Kuwait's Emir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah awarded Mohammed bin Salman the Order of Kuwait. Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani said the crown prince's visit would strengthen his country's ties with Saudi Arabia, which is particularly important for the current regional situation.

Analysts noted that the Qatari emir was invited to attend the 41st GCC summit hosted by Saudi Arabia in January, leading to the normalization of their ties which were cut off in 2017. During the Saudi crown

prince's visit, the two sides spoke highly of the bilateral relations, indicating that the impact of the 2017 crisis has been basically eliminated and they will return to cooperation in various fields.

On the economic level, Saudi Arabia and Oman jointly announced the opening of the first land crossing between the two countries, a 725-km road which they said "will facilitate the smooth movement of our citizens and the smooth integration of our supply chains."

Companies from the two countries signed 13 memoran-

dums of understanding for co-operation worth 30 billion U.S. dollars, while Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund announced it would invest 5 billion U.S. dollars in Oman.

During the Saudi crown prince's visit to Bahrain, the two countries announced a feasibility study on the establishment of a Saudi-Bahrain Holding Company which aims at establishing joint investment projects.

In the energy sector, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain reviewed cooperation between Bahrain's Oil and Gas Holding

Company and Saudi Aramco, with a focus on oil and gas, circular economy, and hydrogen production technology.

Meanwhile, Kuwait hailed its close cooperation with Saudi Arabia within the framework of OPEC Plus to safeguard stability of the global oil market, while highlighting the importance of continuing this cooperation and the need for all participating countries to adhere to the OPEC Plus agreement.

Analysts believe that Crown Prince Mohammed's visit to the five Gulf states reflects Sau-

di Arabia's policy direction of attaching more importance to building its ties with its neighbors.

"Neighboring countries are crucial to the revitalization of Saudi Arabia. We have to work with our neighbors to ensure their prosperity," Mohammed said during his visit to Bahrain. Li Shijun, a Chinese visiting scholar at the Saudi Center for Research & Intercommunication Knowledge, said that Mohammed's Gulf tour is a trip of "seeking friendship in proximity and seeking future in GCC countries." Xinhua

TCA hosts seminar for female cricketers in Morogoro

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Cricket Association (TCA) has stepped up efforts to promote the game after hosting a two-day seminar, which brought together female cricketers, in Morogoro recently.

The training, dubbed Criio-Gateway to Girls And Women Cricket, was held at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) ground.

Atif Salim, TCA information officer, said 15 participants from Kongwa, Gairo, and Morogoro Town turned up for the training.

The official pointed out: "This is a TCA initiative to use Criio as a tool to encourage girls and women to take part in cricket."

"This is a second seminar after TCA had successfully launched it in Dar es Salaam on November 27."

The Dar es Salaam training, which took place at the Muhimbili Cricket Academy, brought together 10 female cricketers.

Salim said despite the difficult weather condition, all participants attended and completed the course.

The official pointed out the ladies will now take the same commitment to their centers and schools and help the game grow among young girls in schools.

According to Salim, the next seminar was expected to take place in Dodoma last weekend.

In another development, Moro Women Combine suffered a four-wicket loss to Morogoro Stars as the latter stepped up their pursuit of silverware in this season's TCA Moro Men's League last weekend.



Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) official, Taheer Kitisa (L), pictured with female cricketers that took part in a seminar, known as 'Gateway to Girls and Women Cricket', which took place in Morogoro recently. TCA organized the seminar aiming at developing the game among women. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA

Experienced performer, Fatuma Omary, put a solid batting performance when Moro Women Combine had a chance to take the crease first.

Moro Women Combine's innings had the cricketers notching 107 runs for the loss of seven wickets in 20 overs.

The batting outfit showcased an encouraging start to their quest for ending with an imposing total, with openers, Mwanaid Ammy, and Malizia Salum, posting two-digit figures.

Mwanaidi posted 12 runs clearing the boundary once before she was sent back by Morogoro Stars' Johnson Owiti.

The fellow opener, Malizia, ended with 11 runs cracking a boundary.

Shufaa Hamza, who came in at number three, made her way back with a two-digit figure, notching 11 runs.

After two quick dismissals of top-order batters, Sonia Chachala and Sheila Shamte, Moro Women Combine's efforts to notch a bigger total got push once Fatuma got her hands on the bat.

The experienced cricketer's prowess came into view, posting 36 runs not out, which included five fours.

Maimuna Fikiri also enjoyed not out spell, the cricketer notched unbeaten three runs.

Youthful performer, Augustine Mwamele, stood out of the rest of Morogoro Stars' bowling unit, given the bowler ended with three wickets giving away 10 runs in four overs.

Mwamele was ably assisted by John Steven that notched two wickets in his four-wicket spell which saw the bowler post one maiden over.

Morogoro Stars smoothly got down to a successful chase, posting 108 runs losing

six wickets in 18.1 overs.

Solid showing by top-order batsmen, Kishwabi Ngozi and Mwamele, was key to Morogoro Stars' successful chase.

Ngozi was the performer with the most runs in the chase, scoring 29 runs which included four fours.

Mwamele saw to it was in control with well-executed knocks, which had the cricketer ending with 28 runs which included two fours.

Elisha Elias chipped in with 14 runs, clearing the boundary once.

Although Fatuma and Mwanaidi put stellar bowling showing, efforts by Moro Women Combine to keep Morogoro Stars' batting unit in check ended in vain.

Fatuma ended as the top wicket-taker, recording three wickets in a four-over spell, Mwanaidi had two wickets.



Kalala Junior

Kalala Junior now opens up on Tukuyu Sound Band success

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

DANCE music singer, Kalala Junior, has said that his friendship with fellow musician, Johnson Nguza 'Papy Kocha', has existed for many years, and that is why they have formed the Tukuyu Sound Band.

Junior said even when his fellow artist was serving jail term, the former was always visiting the latter.

The musician pointed out he regularly informed 'Papy Kocha' of the music genre's development.

The musician revealed: "Papy Kocha and I did not meet on the street, our friendship blossomed during childhood, our parents had a strong friendship and we also became friends."

Kalala Junior moreover clarified that

his father, dance music legend Hamza Kalala, is a friend to Nguza Mbangi, 'Papy Kocha' father.

Both Kalala and Mbangi are accomplished artists, known for their skill in singing and playing guitar.

"We are also developing our friendship within Tukuyu Sound, a band that has started rocking the oldest band with pure music led by young musicians," he said.

He said following in their fathers' footsteps was a feat they have accomplished.

Kalala revealed they have not only managed to develop a friendship but also expanded that friendship by working in the same band.

Alicia Keys' 'Keys' album returns her to her piano homebase

NEW YORK

ALICIA Keys hasn't felt completely free for much of her career. That may sound surprising, but these days the heralded musician is loving the makeup-free skin she's in and settled into a space of confidence and liberation.

That's readily apparent in her eighth studio album, "KEYS," which represents a back-to-basics approach for the classically trained pianist that heavily emphasizes the instrument that catapulted her into superstardom.

"I think it takes time to just feel good, have your confidence to learn, to grow, to have something to even share," said the

songstress, whose album arrived on Friday. "I just didn't feel comfortable in my skin in the way that I do now."

The 26-track album is broken down in two sections: "Originals" which features many piano-driven songs, followed by the "Unlocked" portion which contains more hip-hop and four-to-the-floor remixes of most of those tracks.

"There's such a power to being able to be undefinable and have different sides of yourself expressed, but all based on that original place of the keys," said the "Girl on Fire" singer who

produced on nearly every song. "That was so liberating because it felt like I'm in my lane and I'm just driving in it, you know what

I mean? It was such a comfort to kind of come back to my homebase."

"Originals" features songs like "Best of Me," a smooth, Sade-inspired love song, while the melodic singing in the atmospheric-vibed "Billions" is more aligned with today's progressive R&B. There are also records like "Dead End Road" and "Old Memories" that most embody Keys' intentions, as the piano chords are distinct, and the records swell with soul harmonies reminiscent of Aretha Franklin or Gladys Knight.

Writing on every song, the 40-year-old also summoned the pens of R&B legend Raphael Saadiq and acclaimed country writer Natalie Hemby who's

worked with Kacey Musgraves and Miranda Lambert, as well as Lady Gaga. While the album is intentional in focusing on her masterful tickling of the ivories—as well as traditional soul music—there's also "Paper Flowers," a collaboration with country star Brandi Carlile, and the beautiful folk-styled "Daffodils."

"Soulful" is the most beautiful way for me to describe music because that can be genre-less," explained Keys, who received a song of the year Grammy nomination for "A Beautiful Noise" with Carlile, along with a best immersive audio album nod for last year's "Alicia." "It comes through because you just feel that baring of a person's experience." AP



The 2021 Familia Marathon's 21km women race winner, Aisha Ibrahim (2nd L), receives a keys of a new Toyota Passo car from KP Motorz Company's Head of Sales and Operations, Lucas Jackson (R), during presentation ceremony of the race which took place in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. KP Motorz Company was among the race's sponsors. Standig (L-R) are KP Motorz Company Corporate Sales Manager, Protas Mbeya, and Familia Marathon's Organizing Committee's Chairperson, Francisca Alphonse. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

76ers delay Curry's 3-point record bid, beat Warriors 102-93

PHILADELPHIA

STEPHEN Curry had one 3-point shot swatted away out of nowhere by Matisse Thybulle and the Philadelphia defender got him again on a block that sent the ball flying.

That left Curry with the rarest of stat lines: 3-pointers, three; shots blocked, two. Stifled by Thybulle, Curry's chase for the NBA 3-point mark goes on.

"I try to keep it out of my head and just play basketball," Curry said.

Joel Embiid had 26 points and nine rebounds and the Philadelphia 76ers delayed Curry's bid to break Ray Allen's career 3-point record in a 102-93 victory over the Golden State

Warriors on Saturday night.

"That was not happening on my court," Embiid said. "That was not happening in Philly."

Golden State dropped to 21-5, falling a half-game behind Phoenix for the NBA lead.

Curry was largely shut down over 36 minutes by Thybulle, who made just his sixth start of the season, strictly to blanket the guard. Curry was 6 of 20 from the floor and the Warriors were held under 100 points for the second time this season.

"Just having guys willing to let me take on that 1-on-1 matchup and play the rest of the team 4 on 4 ... allowed me to stay close to the body and not

let Steph get anything easy," Thybulle said.

Curry scored 18 points and shot 3 of 14 from 3-point range to move within six of matching Allen's record. Curry's next shot at the record is Monday night at Indiana in the second game of a five-game trip. He needed nine 3s against the Sixers to tie Allen's mark of 2,973 regular-season 3s from 1996-2014.

Thybulle was the first player to block multiple 3-point attempts by Curry in a single game in his NBA career.

"I give Thybulle credit. He's a rare combination of length and athleticism and brains," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "He did as good a job on Steph as anybody I've

seen in a long time."

Sixers and Warriors fans both rooted for Curry to set the mark in Philadelphia. Fans held signs asking for the record — one read, "To 2,974 and Beyond" — and they mobbed him for autographs after warmups on his way back to the locker room. Curry obliged and signed jerseys and cards, as one fan yelled, "Break the record, tonight, baby!"

Not in Embiid's house. Curry made only two 3s in the first half and one in the fourth quarter.

"I understand the opposition is not going to want that happen on their home floor," Curry said. "They defended accordingly." AP

Olympic leaders criticize FIFA as activists target meeting

LONDON

OLYMPIC leaders aimed their ire at FIFA's president over his push for staging more World Cups, during an IOC-hosted meeting that Tibetan students tried to interrupt on Saturday in a protest against the Beijing Winter Games.

FIFA president Gianni Infantino's plan to stage men's and women's World Cups every two years instead of four was previously criticized by the IOC which put it on the agenda for the annual "Olympic Summit" debate of influential sports bodies.

"The attendees voiced serious concerns over proposals from FIFA for a biennial World Cup and the impact on the worldwide sport event calendar," the International Olympic Committee said in a statement.

Before the heated words inside the online meeting that Infantino attended, several activists from the Students for a Free Tibet group tried to get into the IOC headquarters.

"We have engaged multiple times with peaceful protestors and explained our position," the IOC said in a statement, "but we will not engage with violent protestors who used force to enter the IOC building and injured a security guard badly by doing so."

Local police were called to help block the activists who continued to sit at the front doors and hold up banners including "Boycott Genocide Games" next to the iconic Olympic rings symbol outside the building.

Pro-Tibet groups are part of a wider alliance of activists fueling opposition to the Feb. 4-20 Beijing Olympics over China's human rights record, including treatment of its Muslim-minority Uyghur people, democratic rights in Hong Kong and military harassment of Taiwan.

In recent weeks, the IOC and its president Thomas Bach have been more widely criticized for seeming too close to China over the uncertain safety of tennis player Peng Shuai after she made sexual assault allegations against a former senior government official.

Bach chaired the meeting Saturday to discuss "subjects of significance for the future of the Olympic movement." It came two days after Bach said the IOC had no direct consultation with FIFA since the biennial World Cup proposal was formally announced three months ago.

Under questioning from several delegates, Infantino explained "ongoing discussions in FIFA were broader in scope than a biennial World Cup, and that what had been presented so far was only the preliminary results, which are still under discussion," according to the IOC statement.

FIFA did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The IOC has previously said doubling the number of World Cups would affect the calendar of "tennis, cycling, golf, gymnastics, swimming, athletics, Formula One and many others."

It would also potentially put a men's 2028 World Cup, likely earning FIFA billions of dollars in commercial income, almost directly against the Los Angeles Olympics which open July 21, 2028.

Momentum for FIFA's preferred plan has stalled in recent weeks after meeting resistance across European soccer and in South America.

FIFA will host its own online summit Dec. 20 from Doha, Qatar, with all 211 national member federations and continental soccer leaders due to debate future tournament options.

AP

Former Barcelona youth coach investigated for sexual abuse

BARCELONA, Spain

BARCELONA coach Xavi Hernández is "surprised and stunned" the former director of Barcelona's youth teams has been accused of sexually abusing dozens of former pupils at a public school where he also worked.

Xavi spoke on Saturday shortly after authorities in northeastern Spain said they were opening an investigation after newspaper ARA reported that over 60 of his former students accuse Albert Benaiges of having sexually abused them while he was a physical education teacher at a public school in Barcelona. ARA said Benaiges has denied any wrongdoing.

It seems none of the former players for Barcelona have joined the accusations.

The 71-year-old Benaiges was a key member of Barcelona's youth training academy from 1991-2011, coinciding with a generation of the club's best players, including Andrés Iniesta and Xavi.

After stints abroad with foreign clubs, Benaiges returned to Barcelona last year following the return of Joan Laporta to its presidency. He resigned last week for personal reasons, the club said.

"I don't have any information that there have been any type of these episodes, although that does not mean that they did not happen," Xavi said at a routine pre-match news conference. "He was my coach and I never had any suspicions. I am very surprised and stunned, I didn't expect it."

"This is a very delicate, very complicated issue," Xavi added. "I have spoken with the coaching staff because we love Albert Benaiges very much. It has surprised us a lot. We always had an excellent relationship, and he left a very good legacy. It is the justice system that will have to decide."

AP

Gerrard loses on Liverpool return, but emerges with enhanced reputation

LIVERPOOL, England

FOR the first time in his football career, Steven Gerrard kept the Liverpool crowd quiet and it was just what he wanted. In the end, it counted for little as the Aston Villa manager was unable to save his team from a 1-0 defeat against his old club at Anfield, but the absence of tribute songs will not have been lost on the former Liverpool captain.

Mohamed Salah's 65th minute penalty -- awarded after he'd been fouled by defender Tyrone Mings -- was all that separated Liverpool and Villa on a day when the Premier League's top three sides all relied on penalties to claim three points in their race for the title. Prior to that, Villa had defended stubbornly and frustrated Liverpool, displaying the same kind of tenacity and desire that typified Gerrard during his 17-year career in a red shirt. They also infuriated the crowd -- and Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp -- with some pretty blatant time-wasting which was orchestrated by goalkeeper Emi Martinez.



Steven Gerrard

Had Villa been awarded a penalty in the 85th minute, after substitute Danny Ings appeared to have been tripped by the arm of goalkeeper Alisson Becker, Gerrard may have come away from his old stamping ground with a point that would have enhanced Villa's prospects of qualifying for Europe and taken the wind out of Liverpool's attempt to keep pace with leaders Manchester City.

Even though the former Rangers manager's first competitive match as an opponent at Anfield ended in defeat, it

was a good day for the 41-year-old in terms of his reputation as a rising star in management. Villa were well organised with a clear game-plan, even if they came to Anfield to contain rather than chase victory.

It would have been an ordeal for Gerrard if Liverpool been allowed to cut loose and inflict the kind of hammering on Villa that they've subjected Watford, Everton and Manchester United to in recent weeks. Those songs that used to celebrate him as a player would have been aired by The Kop, but it would have been

humiliating for Gerrard to hear them while his new team was struggling. In the end, aside from a brief chant in the eighth minute -- Gerrard wore 8 during his pomp as Liverpool captain -- there was nothing until after the final whistle, once the game was won.

Villa had made life so difficult for Liverpool that the fans simply didn't dare to tempt fate by singing his name at a time when their own team needed their backing. Next time he returns to Anfield, however, Gerrard may need to be more animated himself in order to get something out of the game.

Klopp, the man he is widely tipped to succeed when the German leaves his post, spent the majority of the game berating officials and arguing with the fourth official about every decision that went against his team. Gerrard remained calm and composed, even when Ings was fouled by Alisson in the closing stages. Maybe next time, Gerrard will take a leaf out of Klopp's book and rant at the referee, because he certainly

believed his team should have had a penalty.

"Ultimately, the game was decided by a penalty," Gerrard said. "There were two in the game: Liverpool got theirs and we didn't get ours, and I think you can see that Salah fouled Mings before their penalty. By being fouled, he has ended up fouling Salah. If Danny Ings puts an arm anywhere near Alisson in the box, it's a foul, so if Alisson does it to Ings, why not a foul? It's an answer I don't have right now, but I am disappointed that the ref doesn't have another look, in both cases."

Although Liverpool dominated, with Villa keeper Martinez forced to produce a number of crucial saves, Ings, Ashley Young and Ollie Watkins did trouble the home side's defence and make Klopp's team work for their win.

"The opponent defended compact," Klopp said. "It looked really good, we played in the spaces we wanted to play, but we did not finish the situations which is tricky. We came out in the second half and knew we had to keep

going. We kept going.

"We scored with the penalty then the relief was obviously too big and it was an unnecessary open game. Like tooth pain! Nobody needs that."

Watching this Villa team, you can see how Gerrard has instilled organisation and discipline; a reliable goalscorer could be the difference between a mid-table finish and European qualification. Gerrard has already stabilised the team in the wake of Dean Smith's sacking, but if he is to be a front-runner to replace Klopp when he eventually leaves, he will have to turn Villa into winners on a regular basis and that will be a challenge.

The task facing Gerrard is not an easy one: Smith took Villa to promotion and a Carabao Cup Final, but it wasn't enough to save him from the sack. Emerging from a trip to Anfield with his reputation enhanced because he made life difficult for Liverpool and Klopp is certainly a good place from which to build.

ESPN

Pressure on Jorginho to keep Chelsea midfield together

By James Olley, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

AT a time when Christmas wrapping begins to take on more importance, Chelsea found a way against Leeds to paper over the cracks.

Saturday's 3-2 win at Stamford Bridge was the climax of a difficult week for Thomas Tuchel, who saw his side beaten at West Ham and then denied the top spot in Champions League Group G by conceding a stoppage-time equaliser in Wednesday's 3-3 draw at Zenit St Petersburg.

They were breached twice more here -- make that eight times in a week -- in another sloppy display at the back, which continues a gradual erosion of the remarkable defensive record upon which Tuchel has founded his success.

Ultimately, the result was paramount, especially on a day when pace-setters Manchester City and Liverpool each ground out 1-0 wins, both courtesy of a second-half penalty.

But the fact that Chelsea needed two spot-kicks to beat Leeds sums up the growing feeling they are hanging on a bit to the coattails of the top two.

"We were lucky, we needed this," Tuchel said. "We were unlucky in the last two games conceding very late goals so maybe this is exactly what we needed."

In a feisty affair that threatened to spill over at times, the Blues deserve credit for finding a way past a spirited Leeds side who took the lead against the run of play and thought they had snatched a point with an 83rd-minute equaliser.

But there was plenty

here to concern Tuchel with such a hectic period ahead. In Tuchel's first 33 Premier League games, Chelsea conceded multiple goals just once. They have now done so twice in a week -- and it almost cost them dearly.

Missing N'Golo Kante and Mateo Kovacic once again in midfield, Chelsea struggled to impose themselves in possession, even with Jorginho fit again to partner Ruben Loftus-Cheek in the middle of the pitch.

Leeds were a threat on the break and, although winger Dan James often struggles to combine his lightning speed with an end product, Marcos Alonso did it for him with a clumsy 28th-minute tackle in the box.

Raphinha converted the penalty and Chelsea looked rattled. Reece James then clattered Dan James with a late tackle as the home crowd began to sound edge -- but Leeds proved defensive mistakes are not the home side's preserve, losing the ball cheaply to give Chelsea possession on the edge high up the pitch.

Goalkeeper Illan Meslier lofted a pass towards Stuart Dallas, who allowed the ball to escape him as he chested it down, giving Alonso the chance to pounce. Timo Werner picked up the loose ball and fed Alonso, who crossed to the near post where Mason Mount met the ball with a crisp, controlled first-time finish.

The Blues finished the first half strongly and had a degree of renewed impetus after the restart but still required a penalty award to take the lead just before the hour



Jorginho

mark.

Raphinha fouled Antonio Rudiger in the box -- a decision referee Chris Kavanagh awarded on VAR review -- and Jorginho converted, sending Meslier the wrong way.

Yet Chelsea were unable to close the game out. Joe Gelhardt, on as a substitute seconds earlier, scored his first Leeds goal by turning home Tyler Roberts' 83rd-minute cross with his very first touch of the game.

It was a product of Chelsea's inability to

control central midfield. Kante's absence is an obvious loss but it continues to be noticeable how Tuchel rues Kovacic's unavailability, currently due to a positive Covid-19 test, with exasperation.

Loftus-Cheek remains a player with potential but he lacks the ability to take the sting out of matches and manage tight situations as Chelsea needed here.

The weight of responsibility on Jorginho therefore continues to be high, especially as he battles an ongoing hip

problem.

"He is super important -- Jorgi sacrifices himself for many weeks, actually," Tuchel said. "I was aware that this moment will come where he will suffer because he played a Champions League campaign with us, the Euros with Italy, all the qualifiers for the World Cup with Italy."

"There was not only physical effort for him but this was also mentally very, very demanding. He had no pre-season, started the Super Cup game [in August] straight away. I knew we will arrive at some point in the season where he feels not fully fit but Jorgi is fully away of the situation that we miss Kova and N'Golo and he sacrifices."

"He gives his very best every day and spends hours and hours with the physios and medical department to get himself in the best shape possible. It was a big reward today for him because it is not easy to score two penalties in one game."

In the end, Jorginho was on hand to make the decisive intervention. To underline how des-

perate things got for the Blues, the Italian's 94th-minute penalty was their latest winning goal in a Premier League match since September 2009.

It came after Mateusz Klich bundled over Rudiger in the box in the defender's ongoing ability to make his presence felt in an attacking sense. The same cannot necessarily be said for Romelu Lukaku, who was handed another peripheral role as an 87th minute substitute.

Tuchel has hinted Lukaku needs time to recover full fitness after suffering an ankle problem but concerns remain that rather than being the final piece in the puzzle of a title-winning team, the Belgian's presence has changed the overall picture into something else entirely.

That conundrum would not cause the same concern if Chelsea were still as defensively robust as before. Tuchel will now give his players two days off. They won here and remain well in touch of Liverpool and City, but a reset of sorts is needed.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Gerrard loses on Liverpool return, but emerges with enhanced reputation

PAGE 19

International cricket returns to Pakistan amid COVID-19 scare in WI camp

KARACHI

THE hosts will start as heavy favourites against a depleted West Indies who have been further hit by COVID-19.

West Indies will come into this T20I series hurting from how their title defense went at the T20 World Cup a month ago.

They'll have more than just hurt to deal with, given the positive COVID-19 tests for Sheldon Cottrell, Roston Chase, and Kyle Mayers, which have ruled the trio out of all three T20I.

While West Indies are dealing with that, Pakistan will come back to a format in which they might feel they ought to be world champions.

They had trampled through the group stages in the World Cup and had the semi-final all but sewn up against Australia when Matthew Wade struck.

A different 10 minutes and it might have well been Babar Azam with his hands on the trophy instead of Aaron Finch.

Their 3-0 sweep of Bangladesh in Bangladesh merely reinforced the point, winning handily in a country and against an opponent where the two finalists - Australia and New Zealand - had lost comprehensively.

In all this, the larger picture is that there is international cricket happening in Pakistan for the first time since New Zealand pulled out, and then England followed suit, just about two months back.

West Indies have already arrived, and the first T20I looks set to go ahead despite the positive COVID-19 tests.

If any team had half a mind to pull out, surely a slew of positive tests provides a readymade reason, but that West Indies are still in Karachi and preparing to play, means cricket will happen, barring the exceptionally unforeseen.

He was part of the traveling reserves in the West Indies T20 World Cup squad until Fabian Allen's injury catapulted him into the main party, and Akeal Hosein has only grown since then.

He's the complete package for T20s, able to bowl restrictively through different innings phases, handy with the bat lower down the order, and an athletic livewire in the field.

Hosein is likely to be a sure starter in the XI, and with greater responsibility in a depleted squad.

If he can step up to it, West Indies could have themselves another great T20 prospect.

The Babar Azam question will never really go away from Pakistan.

It's about whether the team is best served by Babar playing within himself and looking to bat long because the batting can be brittle, or whether it would be better than a batter with the kind of range Babar has should give it a full airing, and get the team off to dominant starts.

Even at the cost of falling early more often. So far, Babar has largely preferred the first method.

There are legitimate concerns about whether Pakistan's batting can withstand early departures for Babar in the quest for more dominance.

But until it is tried for a decent run, we'll never know. Against an already depleted West Indies further hit by Covid-19, might be the best time to try out a more aggressive approach up top.

A police convoy escorts minibusses carrying West Indies and Pakistan teams Associated Press

Team news

West Indies have got plenty of exciting new talent to call on, despite missing Kieron Pollard, Andre Russell, Jason Holder, Shimron Hetmyer, and Fabian Allen.

There's the trio of Romario Shepherd, Odean Smith, and Dominic Drakes - all fast-bowling all-rounders.

Each can hit the speed gun as well as the white ball to considerable distances, and all three could be in action in the first T20I.

AGENCIES

Mbeya soccer fans hail Serengeti Lager's 'Nje ya Ndimba na Stars' campaign



A cross-section of Taifa Stars' fans in Mbeya in a group photo with some of the squad's players when they visited the region as part of the 'Nje ya Ndimba na Stars' campaign organized by the main sponsor of the team, Serengeti Premium Lager. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

By Guardian Correspondent

TWENTY-seven-year-old Lusajo Mwanjenja, a resident of Mwanjelwa in Mbeya, could not hide his admiration when he met senior national soccer side 'Taifa Stars' midfielder, Feisal Salum, alias 'Fei Toto'.

Mwanjenja revealed: "To me, 'Fei Toto' will always remain the best player in Taifa Stars' squad."

"Despite being among the youngest players in the team, Salum is one of the greatest midfielders I have ever seen."

"He knows when to juggle the ball, when to pass and when to shoot! Meeting this prolific goal scorer and taking a 'selfie' with him has been like a dream to me!" Mwanjenja said with a smile on his face.

Mwanjenja spoke during a dinner event hosted by Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL)'s flagship beer brand, Serengeti Premium Lager, the main sponsor of Tanzanian men's national soccer team, as part of its 'Nje ya Dimba na Stars' campaign in Mbeya.

The 'Nje ya Dimba na Stars'

campaign aims to provide Taifa Stars' fans, and Serengeti Premium Lager's consumers with an opportunity to meet their star players outside the pitch in their favourite drinking outlets, ask them questions and also have a chance of taking memorable photos with them.

The three-month nationwide campaign aims to emotionally connect Taifa Stars' players with their fans via the former's main sponsor Serengeti Lager.

Mwanjenja noted: "We are grateful to Serengeti Lager for bringing to us these great players that we love and admire. For us living outside Dar es Salaam where big football clubs reside, it has always been hard to meet these players".

Anastazia Mbengenya, a resident of Jacaranda in Mbeya, said it was the first time for Mbeya soccer fans to meet Taifa Stars players outside the pitch, eat, ask questions as well as take photos with them.

She revealed: "Residents of Mbeya love football, and we also love our national team. Bringing in our midst Taifa Stars players further cement our love for the team and the brand that

has made this possible."

"We see Serengeti Lager as a brand that gives us a better reason to enjoy life beyond just the liquid", Anastazia enthused.

Speaking during the dinner event, SBL's Commercial Planning and Activation Manager, Denis Tairo, said that being the greatest fan of Taifa Stars, Serengeti Premium Lager, was proud to bring Mbeya football fans closer to the players they love to give them a unique opportunity to have a face-to-face interaction with them.

Tairo disclosed: "Serengeti Premium Lager is undeniably the biggest fan of Taifa Stars and the team's main sponsor. Taifa Stars fans indeed know quite a lot about their preferred players, but they rarely meet them outside the pitch."

"This campaign, therefore, accords them a rare opportunity of physically interacting with them," Tairo added.

He explained that besides visiting Mbeya, the campaign would also take Taifa Stars' players to Mwanza and Arusha cities.

They will have an opportunity to meet and interact directly with the fans through monthly parties and 'Nje

ya Dimba na Stars' parties.

In these engagements, fans and Serengeti Lager consumers will have an opportunity to win various prizes and also get great offers on Serengeti Lager beer.

"The players will come to your favourite bar, and while enjoying your Serengeti Premium Lager, a 100 percent malt beer with no added sugar."

"You will have an opportunity to interact with them by asking questions, taking photos, and getting their signatures," Tairo added.

He urged the fans to keep visiting Serengeti Premium Lager's social media pages and listening to radio announcements to know when and where the players would be.

SBL has been a reliable partner in the development of sports in the country. Besides supporting various sports such as athletics, golf, and others, the beer-maker, through Serengeti Premium Lager, is the main sponsor of Taifa Stars, it has been supporting the side since 2017 to date in a sponsorship deal worth more than 5.1/-bn.

Morogoro Stars maintain winning ways in TCA Moro Men's League

By Guardian Reporter

MOROGORO Stars cricketers have stretched their winning streak in this season's Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) Moro Men's League after notching a comprehensive six-wicket victory over Uluguru Stars at the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) venue in Morogoro recently.

Morogoro Stars lately lead the rest of the pack in the four-team league, boasting of victory in six matches whilst succumbing to one loss.

The league leader's 1.0263 net run rate is so far the best in the show-down, as the cricketers have amassed 940 runs and leaked 926 runs.

Uluguru Stars ended with 146 runs dropping six wickets in the allotted 20 overs when they took the crease first.

Top-order batsmen, skipper Kibwana Salum, and Salmini Yusuph

put scintillating batting displays and played a pivotal role in Uluguru Stars' ability to register the score.

Morogoro Stars' bowling unit did its best to keep Uluguru Stars' batsmen in check with quick dismissals of openers, Silasa Salum, and Erick Sata.

Salum executed a few shots, making his way back to the pavilion with 17 runs.

Fellow opener Sata had exited the crease much early, notching six runs.

Yusuph, slotted in at number three, got his squad's quest for notching a convincing total underway after notching 52 runs.

The youthful cricketer was ultimately the batsman with most runs, clearing the boundary on seven occasions.

Skipper Salum put his experience to use, boosting his squad's to-

tal with his 44 runs.

The impressive Salum cracked four fours as the cricketer ended four runs short of a half-century.

Low order batsman, Salum Juhudi, was one run short of a two-digit figure, posting nine runs not out which included two fours.

John Steven and Kishwabi Ngozi took two wickets apiece for the bowling outfit.

In Steven's three-over spell, the bowler leaked 27 runs. Ngozi gave away 29 runs in his four-over stint.

Morogoro Stars confidently mounted a successful chase after amassing 150 runs, losing four wickets in 17.2 overs.

Opener Augustine Mwamele's quick dismissal did not weaken Morogoro Stars' determination, given fellow top-order batsmen stepped up.

Mwamele made

his way back with six runs as he was caught by Uluguru Stars' wicket-keeper Sata from Silasa Salum's delivery.

Top-order batsman, Johnson Owiti, was the most impressive player at the crease, seeing to it garner victory.

Owiti ended as the batsman with the most runs, notching 61 runs which consisted of eight boundaries and a sixer.

Ngozi made his way back with the bat in hand given the cricketer notched 37

runs not out which included four fours and a six.

The other opener, Omary Ramadhani, had a two-digit figure, notching 22 runs.

Second-placed Uluguru Stars have for that matter conceded loss in three outings.

The team has emerged victorious in four fixtures, settling for a 0.7423 net run rate.



Simba SC winger, Hassan Dilunga (L), seeks to keep Yanga winger, Ducapele Moloko, in check as the clubs faced off in the 2021/22 NBC Premier League duel played in Dar es Salaam last Saturday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Flexibles by David Chikoko



I WAS NOT TELLING MA'AM. I WAS JUST TRYING TO RAISE A POINT!